



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

POINTEXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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PRICE **\$3**

ANOTHER BODY FOUND

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Ban lifted

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US
threatens
Antigua
over
unpaid
port loan



Cornell Challenger of Johnson's Point. *Story on Page 3*

Ban lifted!

The opening of the country's borders to international and regional travel now means that the ban imposed on visitors from some countries has been lifted.

This was among matters confirmed when members of the Cabinet held a virtual meeting on Monday. The post-Cabinet notes issued by Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Lionel Max Hurst, said the list of states from which citizens were previously barred from entering Antigua and Barbuda is vitiated or canceled.

"There is no restriction, given that the United States and the United Kingdom continue to be among those whose populations that reflect the highest number of coronavirus infec-

tions, and that our state is open to citizens of those two countries," the Cabinet notes stated.

The release also took note of the fact that many citizens of other states wishing to enter Antigua and Barbuda will most likely use Miami and London as transit points.

"The challenge is overcome by requiring testing of each arriving passenger, at the airport or at the safe bio-spaces created," according to the Cabinet notes.

At the earlier stages of the coronavirus outbreak, the government imposed travel bans on the People's Republic of China, where the virus was first detected, and Italy, which at the time had the highest number of cases in Europe.

Eventually, travellers from other nations were included in the ban.

Whilst the nation's borders have been opened, the government is leaving no stones unturned as it seeks to contain further spread of the virus among the local population.

It is putting in place a number of measures to reduce the risk of community spread from travellers to the country or returning nationals.

Meanwhile, those arriving by sailing craft (private yachts) are subject to the same rules as those travelling by aircraft; the protocols are to be enforced by the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, the Immigration and Customs Department, and the Ministry of Health.

There will still be only one point of entry (at the Nevis Street Pier), and testing will be undertaken at that port and could also be conducted at the MSJMC.

DAY 6/3

Max UV Index: 12 Extreme
 Wind: E at 18 km/h
 Wind Gusts: 24 km/h
 Probability of Precipitation: 43%
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 29%
 Precipitation: 0.9 mm
 Rain: 0.9 mm
 Snow: 0.0 cm
 Ice: 0.0 mm
 Hours of Precipitation: 1
 Hours of Rain: 1

31 °Hi



Mostly sunny with a shower in places

NIGHT 6/3

Wind: E at 17 km/h
 Wind Gusts: 24 km/h
 Probability of Precipitation: 55%
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 29%
 Precipitation: 0.5 mm
 Rain: 0.5 mm
 Snow: 0.0 cm
 Ice: 0.0 mm
 Hours of Precipitation: 0.5
 Hours of Rain: 0.5

26 °Lo



Partly cloudy with a passing shower late

SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST
 5:32 AM

Sunset AST
 6:39 PM



Duration
 13:07 hr

MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST
 4:38 PM

Moonset AST
 4:25 AM



Duration
 11:47 hr

US threatens Antigua over unpaid port loan

Antigua and Barbuda is under pressure from the United States for payment of an old loan dating back decades.

This was disclosed in Parliament on Tuesday by Prime Minister Gaston Browne as he reported on the reopening of the country's borders this week following several weeks of lockdown due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

"We also have a block of loans dating back about, up to, 50-plus years in which some of these countries continue to press us even though we're not in a position to pay them," the PM, who is also Minister for Finance, stated.

If anyone was in suspense about the identity of the instant demanding country, Browne did not leave them guessing for more than a few seconds.

"Up to last week, I had a call from the US ambassador, telling me that we owe them for the Port loan and they want their money."

He said by the US ambassador's reckoning, the arrears on that loan is more than US\$9 million or over EC\$25 million.

"So, I asked the distinguished ambassador, 'How do you expect us to pay that \$25 million outstanding debt, in terms of the arrears, at a time when we can't even pay salaries and wages?' And

I said, 'It's not because we don't want to pay, but we just don't have the resources'."

The Prime Minister noted the irony of the US owing Antigua and Barbuda hundreds of millions of dollars based on repeated and decisive rulings made in St. Johns' favor since 2006 by the World Trade Organization in a dispute over online gaming.

The United States has refused to pay or settle the US\$21 million in compensation that the WTO's decision said it owes Antigua and Barbuda in compensation for losses caused by its unilateral and illegal blocking of internet gaming sites operating out of the Caribbean nation.

The action caused significant job losses, the collapse

and closure of once thriving commercial enterprises and an exacerbation of the country's economic challenges.

"They owe us for the WTO debt, and even though we ask them to do a set-off against what they owe us, they are not looking at us. In fact you know what they have done during this time of COVID? The ambassador said to me the US will withdraw all military support that they give to the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force. These are the challenges that we have to deal with as a small nation."

The Prime Minister added that these were the actions which the US was prone to taking, while having difficulty understanding why states like Antigua and Barbuda had cultivated close relation-

ships with non-traditional allies and partners such as the People's Republic of China.

"And now the very Ambassador will ask me why we are so close to China. I don't know if they want us to be self-sacrificing allies to take a hostile position against China, and then to literally eliminate that source of support."

To energetic applause from his parliamentary colleagues, Browne reminded that China has for many years "been the most supportive country to the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda".

Declaring himself a realist, the Prime Minister said, "We have to work with those who help us to build capacity to get out of the difficulties that we are faced with."

Another body found

Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of 71-year-old Cornell Challenger of Johnson's Point.

Police spokesman, Inspector Frankie Thomas, said neighbours were alerted to the fact that something was awry by a foul stench that emanated from Challenger's house.

Challenger, who lived alone, was discovered inside the bathroom of his



Cornell Challenger

home around 5:30pm on Tuesday. Reports indicate that the water was still running when the body was discovered.

Thomas said he was last seen alive sometime between Friday and Saturday.

His body was discovered in early stages of decomposition. He was pronounced dead by a medical doctor at 6:35pm.

Thomas said it's too early to say whether or not police suspect foul play. It is expected that an autopsy will be conducted on the body to determine the cause of death.

PM Browne: No free 'lunches'

Antigua and Barbuda nationals who are returning to the country aboard the first international flight marking the reopening of the airport...will face a mandatory stay in the government quarantine facility....but staying there is not for free.

That's the word of Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, who updated parliament on Tuesday that the nearly 150 nationals who will arrive on the flight out of Miami will stay in the government-run facility and there is a cost that must be borne by returning nationals.

Approximately 189 passengers are expected to land in Antigua later this week on the first flight to the country on the day it re-opens its borders..

The American Airlines flight from Miami is expected to land at V.C Bird International Airport around 11pm on Thursday.

With the flight just days

away and with citizens heading into mandatory 14-day quarantine, there will be a cost applied to staying at the government facility.

"You will find that some Antigua and Barbudans may see this as an opportunity to travel to the island as a free vacation at the expense of the government.

"Under the current situation where 70 percent of our revenues have been depleted, the government just cannot afford it.

"So what we are saying, we will charge a fee to those individuals quarantined in the bio-safe spaces, and we are hoping to get the sum to about EC\$100 or less," he stated.

Prime Minister Browne has defended his government's decision to re-open for business.

"We are very vulnerable and if we keep the country's borders closed and the country closed, we are



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

going to create significant economic problems; we are going to create heightened levels or poverty and unemployment and that can never serve the best interest of the people of Antigua and Barbuda," Browne declared.

He added that as a nation Antigua and Barbuda is challenged to live and work with COVID without trans-

mitting it among the population.

The head of government is calling for increased responsibility on the part of citizens and residents.

He expressed confidence that the people of the country have the capacity to exercise that higher level of vigilance and personal responsibility that are required under the circumstances.

"That is why if we have to use the law enforcement agencies to drive home the point, we will do it! Not because we want to criminalise anyone, but we have to do so to protect the population. We are vulnerable... very vulnerable and it takes just one person who contracts COVID to infect a large section of the population if we are not careful," Browne told his fellow parliamentarians and the nation at large.

No sanctions for Pringle

Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, Jamale Pringle, received a lecture and a stern warning from the Speaker of the House....but he was not sanctioned for his walkout of parliament when it last met on May 14.

House Speaker, Sir Gerald Watt, went to lengths to explain to the relatively inexperienced member that it was he, as speaker, who interpreted the rules of the house 'and not any of your political advisers, Mr. Justin Simon, QC or Mr. Charlesworth Tabor'.

He also urged Pringle to be cognizant of the fact that he is the Leader of the Opposition, a very important position in the govern-

nance of Antigua and Barbuda, and that it is his action, that will be judged and not those of this 'advisers'.

However, despite the egregious nature of his action, the speaker felt that other circumstances ought to be borne in mind; these include the fact that there are only two members on the opposition bench and that the member for Barbuda tends to concentrate on matters affecting the island.

It is with this in mind, the speaker declined to impose a sanction at this time, but he warned Pringle that any such behavior at any time in the future will be dealt with harshly.

Greene meets staff at immigration department

All sectors of frontline staff who will have direct contact with arriving passengers when the nation welcomes the first international flight Thursday night...are being prepped for the major task at hand.

On Tuesday, Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister, E.P Chet Greene, convened a meeting with staff of the Immigration Department to discuss their role in this new arrangement.

"The meeting took place in advance of the reopening of the border and allowed



Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister, E.P Chet Greene me an opportunity to commend officers and management of the department for very outstanding work and their committed service to the country prior to the closure of the borders in March.

I also pledged mine and the government's full support as they face the challenges that lie ahead," Greene disclosed.

He revealed that the officers confirmed their individual support for and understanding of, the decision to open the borders and they pledged their commitment to managing the national borders in concert with other frontline agencies.

"I gave a commitment to ensuring all the equipment and other support required to enable effective discharge

of their duties," the minister indicated.

He also gave the commitment of his ministry - the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade - to work closely with the Ministry of Health to deliver on the national expectations of effectively managing the nation's borders in support of the decision to incrementally open up to tourism arrivals and the accruing economic benefits to the national economy which depends on the hospitality industry for more than 60% of GDP.

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 area.

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.



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.

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The deadline for applications is June 15, 2020.

NB: Only qualified applicants will be acknowledged.

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Vacancy: ABAA Senior Managers

c/o Profiles Consulting Inc.

Aflak Building, Friars Hill Road

P. O. Box 2118, St. John

Antigua and Barbuda

Email: jobs@profiles-consulting.com

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 services.
- Extensive Technical Writing and Presentations skills

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 procedures.

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 Labour Code
- Demonstrable experience with human resources metrics

SECURITY MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

Administer the security operation to ensure compliance of all stipulated regulations and standards, update policies and procedures relating 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 Standards, an asset
- Knowledge of human behavior and performance
- Team building

UNDP team heads for Barbuda

A United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) team is heading for Barbuda today for an update on the progress of work on projects it is overseeing on the island.

Office Manager of the UNDP station in Antigua, Melissa Johnson, said agency wants to get on update on the several projects that it is overseeing on the island. "Since the restriction of travel between the two islands at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic we have not been able to inspect the work that is being done on the island. We are sending over a team that will perform that task," she explained.

The UNDP is managing a number of projects on Barbuda, including the European Union-funded housing construction programme. That programme is valued at \$5 million, the first phase of which includes 20 houses and it is nearing completion.

Head of the UNDP regional office in Barbados, Magdy Martinez-Soliman, said the agency is managing



two other major programmes on the island. These include the re-roofing programme that is being funded by the People's Republic of China and the rehabilitation of the Hanna Thomas hospital, being funded by the government of India.

He revealed that work on the hospital has suffered a setback because of the pandemic.

"We were nearing completion of the Hanna Thomas hospital when the outbreak struck. All the equipment is there and the maternity ward was just about ready," he told PointeXpress newspaper.

He added that the Chinese funded project, involving reroofing of public

buildings as well as several private homes, was progressing smoothly before the coronavirus crisis.

Today's trip to the island will include an architect whose job will be to certify that the work done meets the standards laid down by the UNDP, following this, the contractors will be paid and mobilizing for the second phase will begin.

"We intend to build close to 140-homes on Barbuda; the final figure will depend on the cost. We have had to re-assess our deadlines because of the impact of COVID-19, however, it is our hope that all the houses can be completed by the end of the year," he indicated.





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MP says Revised Standing Orders erode Parliamentary Immunity

Despite commending it as an excellent job, a government backbencher still had some notable criticisms of the Revised Standing Orders for the House of Representatives that were formulated four years ago but only brought before members for debate and adoption on Tuesday 2nd June 2020.

MP for St. Peter Asot Michael felt that the draft tabled in the House did not make sufficient use of technology and it seemed as if the 20th Century was being updated in the 21st Century.

Michael noted that the

new Standing Orders did not deal with virtual sittings of Parliament – a ‘new normal’ of sorts that has emerged with regularity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. He suggested that this oversight be dealt with at committee stage, and for that he was applauded.

He also wanted to know whether there needed to be a physical quorum (minimum amount of members required for a sitting to proceed) inside the parliament for a virtual meeting to be valid.

Michael also suggested

that a system of electronic voting should be devised for such virtual sittings; instead of the traditional “ayes have it” means of determining majority assent.

“At least, let us make provision for an alternate way of voting in the House, using technology,” the former Minister stated.

He also felt that references to fax machines in Section 25 should be removed entirely as antiquated because these machines were hardly used anymore. But House Speaker Sir Gerald Watt disagreed.

“You don’t just move



MP for St. Peter Asot Michael things because you move on, because you may one day have to use fax,” Sir Gerald exhorted Michael. “Even in modern Trinidad

cont’d on pg 9

Vacancy

Our client is seeking suitable applicants for the role:

Manager - General Insurance

The General Insurance Manager will be responsible for the management and supervision of the general department's operations. Responsibilities include managing adjusters, investigators, and appraisers as well as ensuring claims are processed in a timely manner and resolving issues that arise during processing. In addition, the manager will ensure the growth of the department in line with the company's mission and vision.

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- Leadership and management skills
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
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- Organizational skills
- Analytical skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite

Qualifications:

Education

- BSc. in Management, or related field.
- ACII certification (or in pursuit of similar qualification, e.g. CII certification) or equivalent
- Five (5) years' experience in Underwriting and Claims Management
- Proficiency in Policy and Contract wording
- Risk Management

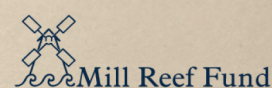
Experience and Additional Competencies

- Five (5) years' experience in Financial Services
- Knowledge in reinsurance negotiations and reinsurance contracts
- Experience in the interpretation of financial statements

All interested persons should send a copy of their application to include a CV and Cover Letter to nibbsandassociates268@gmail.com.

Deadline: June 15th, 2020

PRESS RELEASE



PARTNERSHIP

CARE PACKAGE INITIATIVE FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

The Gilbert Agricultural and Rural Development Center (GARD Center) has recognized the plight of some of our Single Mother graduates, due to this COVID-19 pandemic. A number of these ladies have been laid off from their jobs and are finding it difficult to ‘make ends meet’ particularly during these last few months.

The Center approached one of its major partners, the Mill Reef Fund, who has graciously donated US\$22,500.00, to assist 50 women who have been identified by the Center to receive Care Packages for the next 6 months.

The Board of Directors and staff of the GARD Center value this partnership and are pleased and grateful to have the Fund share their vision and passion for the vulnerable women of this Nation. The GARD Center as a non-profit, non-government organization under the auspices of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas has been empowering youth in the building of sustainable livelihoods for over 30 years.

The Mill Reef Fund is a charitable Trust founded in 1948 by members of the Mill Reef Club. Their mission is "to improve the lives of the people of Antigua and Barbuda through donations to medical, educational, general welfare, and religious institutions."

cont'd from pg 8

... they still keep fax, because they know that one day you may have to use fax because your internet [is] down. So, you [must] have Standing Orders that are wide.”

Moving on, Michael declared that he had “a very serious problem with Section 15” and was “not happy with it all” because it contained what he regarded as “a very serious erosion of parliamentary privilege”.

He felt that the section places Parliamentary immunity under threat, pointing out that it was not only an inherited privilege, but one which was upheld throughout the British Commonwealth whose member countries adhered to the Westminster system.

“I’m not saying that we are supposed to deliberately defame or libel or abuse our parliamentary immunity. Don’t get me wrong ... But this order provides that a non-member of the House who has been referred to in the House by name in such a way as to be readily identifiable may make submission to the Speaker in writing, claiming defamation, and – believe it or not – requesting that the response be incorporated into Hansard.”

To Michael’s thinking, this has the effect of elevating the Speaker to the status of a judge, instead of the Members who are elected.

“We don’t vote to decide if we defame some-

body. The Speaker, in his sole authority, is judge and jury, decides if the person has a case, and instructs the clerk to include it into Hansard. That is ludicrous! It’s unheard of. It erodes the parliamentary democracy that we inherited and are governed by. It cannot be right.”

Even more horrifying to Michael was the provision at Section 15.6 which he read: “The Speaker shall not consider or judge the truth of the reference made in the House or the response to it.”

He felt the whole of Section 15 should be deleted as “an assault on Parliamentary privilege”.

In responding to Michael, Sir Gerald Watt noted that the revision was in line with international best practice and it now the norm in other larger commonwealth jurisdictions such as Canada

and the UK.

“The modern situation the world over ... is a way of preventing Parliamentarians from saying something that seriously affects a person in his business, his reputation and otherwise. And he comes to Parliament simply to ask the Parliament to put that in the Hansard ...

I think if you look through these rules you will still see Parliamentary privilege.”

Sir Gerald added that there was “no doubt the general public – not in Antigua alone, the world over – is not happy with the fact that a parliamentarian can say whatever he likes and that’s the end of it.”

TENDER NOTICE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Contract for Project Manager
Antigua and Barbuda Social Security Board Headquarters
Reconstruction Project

The Tenders Board of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the Antigua and Barbuda Social Security Board (ABSSB), invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for the contract as Project Manager to the Antigua and Barbuda Social Security Board Headquarters, Reconstruction Project.

The scope of work and primary responsibilities for the referenced project may be obtained by making a request to the Tenders Board Office, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance, Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John’s, Antigua at tenders.board@ab.gov.ag or (268) 562-5825/26.

Two (2) original copies of the Expression of Interest must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon, Wednesday 24 June 2020 in sealed envelopes marked: “Expression of Interest - Contract as Project Manager – Antigua and Barbuda Social Security Board Headquarters, Reconstruction Project”, and addressed to: Chairman, Tenders Board, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance, Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John’s, Antigua.



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ABTB
A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

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PDO Building refurbished to better serve the public

After months of work, the PDO Building was completely refurbished and handed over to the Ministry of Agriculture's Extension Division, to better serve the growing demand of the agriculture sector.

This was underscored during the ribbon-cutting ceremony, signaling the official handover of the previously derelict, but now fully refurbished building on Kentish Road.

According to Cabinet notes on January 15th, 2020, "the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda "agreed that the old PDO Building on Kentish Road, up from the Public Market, next to the WIOC Gas Station, is not for sale. It is the property of a government-run entity and will be repaired shortly and put back to work for the Government and its agents."

This decision came to fru-



ition through the efforts of the Ministry of Works, as revealed during the brief dedication ceremony held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

According to the Structural Engineer from the Ministry of Works, Collis King, "The ministry is dedicated to working and we will continue to do regular maintenance to this facility and make modifications where necessary so that this agriculture extension could continue to function and develop its technique for the future."

The engineer emphasized

the level of hard work that was required to bring the building to a modern, operationalised standard.

Modernization and efficiency summarized the goal put forward by the Agriculture Minister, Samantha Marshall when she addressed the gathering at the official opening of the newly refurbished building.

In addressing extension officers and employees present, Minister Marshall encouraged the extension division workers to 'lift their game' as they work with renewed vigor to en-

sure a thriving agriculture industry.

"All eyes are on us now, we have asked for better working conditions, we have asked for tools, we have gotten most of what we have asked for, we now have to continue with our commitment to perform." Minister Marshall declared.

The agriculture Minister also spoke of taking a look at the legislation which deals with agriculture lands and whether it is up-to-date or requires amendments; the status quo of the relationship the ministry has with farmers and the service structure of the ministry, as part of the way forward for the ministry to modernize its operations.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Minister Marshall and the ministry technicians were taken on a tour of the facility.



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REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 17, 2020

Grenada: Cabinet shake - up to be announced

The reassigning of ministerial portfolios to Grenada's Cabinet was set to be announced in the first quarter of 2020, but the declaration by the World Health Organisation that Covid-19 had become a global public health pandemic caused Prime Minister, Dr Keith Mitchell, to put the reshuffle on hold.

"As I was going to announce, Covid-19 came so I may have to give it an additional month," Dr Mitchell said on Monday, 1 June 2020 when asked about the pending announcement.

Since returning to government following the March 2018 General Elections in which the ruling New National Party (NNP) won all 15 constituency seats in the House of Representatives, there was 1 minor change to the cabinet.

That small change was removing the ministerial portfolio of Information from Senator Winston Garraway and reassigning it to Minister Emmalin Pierre who already held the ministries of Education, Human Resource Development and Religious Affairs.

Senator Garraway is a junior minister with responsibility for Disaster Management. He is expected to be featured in the press prominently for the 2020 hurricane season which officially commenced on 1 June and which will conclude on 30 November.

It is understood that the pending reshuffle which is seen as a mid-term political assessment for the government, will affect more than 4 ministers. Some will be moved to new ministries while others will be getting additional tasks or reduced responsibilities.

It is believed that the shake-up will also have implications for the Upper House which will be having 3 new opposition senators the next time it holds a session. These 3 new senators will be representing Tobias Clement who recently was appointed to the fill the vacant post of Leader of the Opposition.

Government has 7 appointed senators including the President in the 13-member senate. Three of six on the floor hold government ministerial portfolios while the other 3 are only described as members. These 3, support and always vote in favour of government matters.

However, it is anticipated that the new senators who will be representing Clement will be astute and aggressive in submitting advance questions to the Leader of Government Business in the house and by allowing more senators to serve in ministerial portfolios, the young members will gain ministerial experience and at the same time bring "more debate weight" to the house.



Ministerial Complex, Botanical Gardens, Tanteen, St George

Jamaica: Tourists have choice to test for COVID-19

There will be no pretesting or quarantining of visitors to Jamaica when the island reopens its borders for international travel on Monday, June 15.

Jamaica closed its borders on March 24 to flatten the curve of the coronavirus disease, which has infected 586 nationals, nine fatally. The travel restrictions have shuttered scores of hotels and guest houses locally and haemorrhaged an estimated 300,000 direct and indirect tourism-related jobs.

Disclosing new protocols on entry into the island, Prime Minister Andrew Holness, during a press conference at Jamaica House on Sunday evening, said that the country did not have the human-resource and fiscal capacity to carry out testing for the virus at its three international airports and several seaports.

“It will place a strain on the public-health system. It is just not feasible to test flights with 200-300 passengers coming in at the same time,” he said in response to a question posed by *The Gleaner*.

However, the prime minister said that there would be provisions for persons who wished to be tested voluntarily.

According to the prime minister, passengers will go through temperature checks and a process of sensitisation.

Both visitors and staff who display temperatures higher than 100.3 degrees Fahrenheit and/or flu-like symptoms



will be flagged by airport, hotel, attraction, and transportation staff for secondary health checks in designated spaces, which may be referred for review to the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Both the prime minister and Health Minister Dr Christopher Tufton warned that the reopening of borders might trigger a surge in COVID-19 cases.

Having learnt of the new protocols, a few hoteliers expressed concerns on Sunday night, stating that they would have preferred a pretesting regime before boarding a flight to the island.

Their argument follows proposals made by the umbrella group, the Jamaica Hotel and

Tourist Association (JHTA), which had asked for a 72-hour negative test result by all visitors to the island.

“The testing capacity in the USA, however, is proving to be highly unavailable, and I think the risk is too high without it,” said a hotelier, who requested anonymity, who operates a resort in Ocho Rios.

Another hotelier, who also asked not be identified, said that she understood that the airlines were not in agreement with the idea of pretesting, owing to the burden they would bear in providing proof that a passenger had a negative result from a credible source.

In the meantime, Jamaicans who have been shut out for

the last two months will be allowed to return to the island today, June 1.

During the period June 1-14, all persons entering the country will be subject to testing except for those entering from a country designated as a “travel bubble” – nations with management and profile results for COVID-19 similar to Jamaica’s regarding spread, death rate, infection prevention, and control measures, contact-tracing protocols, and other such criteria.

Persons seeking to enter Jamaica from countries within this travel bubble may not need to be tested on arrival. They would, however, be subject to health status screening (including temperature checks and symptom observation).

Everyone is required to go through a sensitisation programme with a public-health official using flyers and audio-visuals.

“We are also considering including a pledge document, which will need to be signed,” the prime minister said.

He added that based on their health status and risk assessment by a public-health officer, Jamaicans seeking to re-enter would still be subjected to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

The full tourism protocols, *The Gleaner* understands, have been embargoed until next week.

Kingston woman allegedly killed husband with hot oil



A 32-year-old woman has been arrested and charged with murder after she allegedly poured hot oil on her common law husband during an altercation between the couple.

She has been identified as Mellisa Sinclair, a 32 year-old cashier of a Kingston address.

Reports are that on May 14, Sinclair and her husband, 38-year-old taxi operator, Orville Pitter, had a dispute during which she allegedly poured a pot of hot oil all over Pitter's body, causing severe burns.

The taxi operator reportedly ran from the house and sought assistance to the University Hospital of the West Indies where he was admitted in serious condition.

He was later transported to the intensive care unit where he died on Monday May 25, 2020 about 12.30pm, according to the police.

The accused woman was taken into custody where she reportedly gave the police a cautioned statement. She was also interviewed by the police and subsequently charged.



10 year old Jamarie Phillips

Grenada: Police investigating the death of 10yro Jamarie Phillips

Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of Jamarie Phillips, a 10 years old Student of Richland Park. According to investigations, Jamarie's motionless body was discovered with multiple chop wounds to his neck, head, and hands at his home about 12:30 pm on 29.05.2020.

The police was subsequently informed. The District Medical Officer (DMO) was summoned to the scene and pronounced the body dead. A post-mortem examination is expected to be carried out on the body to ascertain the cause of death.

Investigations are ongoing.

Venezuela Amends Gas Policy



A worker wearing a face mask amid the new coronavirus pandemic fills one of the tanks of a state oil company gas station in Caracas, Venezuela, on Sunday, May 31.

PRESIDENT NICOLÁS Maduro said that starting Monday, June 1, Venezuelans will be able to buy gasoline at international market prices, marking a historic break in the South American country's practice of having the world's cheapest fuel.

Across the nation, 200 filling stations will allow drivers to fuel up for the equivalent of 50 cents a litre, or US\$1.90 a gallon. Venezuelans will also

be able to buy a limited amount of subsidised gasoline each month, paying 2.5 cents a litre, or 9 cents a gallon.

The government will continue to pay for all fuel used by public transportation, Maduro said.

"The time has come to move toward a new policy, toward a new normality, toward a new situation," Maduro said in a Saturday state TV broadcast, calling it a step to "regularising" the costs.

Venezuela has the world's largest underground oil reserves, but it has been forced to buy fuel from Iran to bridge deep shortages, unable to pump crude from the ground and turn it into gasoline.

The last of five Iranian tankers is approaching Venezuela's coast, but experts say that even those shipments will supply the nation's drivers for only a few weeks. Venezuela's state-run oil company PDVSA is also at-

tempting to restart gasoline production with Iran's help.

Maduro accused the "imperialist" United States for leading an economic war against Venezuela, while Maduro's critics say years of corruption and mismanagement by the socialist government led to the scarcities.

Fuel shortages have plagued the nation for years, but scarcity recently has even hit the capital of Caracas, sparking mile-long lines at filling stations that last for days.

Maduro said days earlier that he had appointed a team to consider gasoline prices. Venezuela paid in dollars for the Iranian gasoline, Maduro said, asking for the nation's support in this transition. Tampering with fuel prices in the past has been an explosive subject. In 1989, riots broke out leading to nearly 300 deaths when then-President Carlos Andrés Pérez ordered an increase. It remains unclear how the new system will work and whether the government can provide enough gasoline to meet demands.

Opposition leader Juan Guaidó was among critics speaking out Sunday against the new price structure. He called it another "mockery by the dictatorship," calling on Venezuelans to "respond with force".

Guaidó, in early 2019, launched a campaign to oust Maduro with backing from the United States, among nearly 60 nations. Maduro, however, remains in power of state institutions.

Five dead in newest Ebola outbreak in Congo, UNICEF says

Five people, including a 15-year-old girl, have died of Ebola in a fresh outbreak of the virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the United Nations Children's Fund said Monday. Nine cases total have been reported, UNICEF said.

"Four additional people who contracted the virus — all contacts of the deceased and including the child of one of the fatal cases — are being treated in an isolation unit at the Wangata Hospital in Mbandaka," UNICEF said in a statement.

"The deaths occurred between the 18th and 30th of May but they were only confirmed as Ebola-related yesterday." Earlier Monday, World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus tweeted news that six cases had been reported in Mbandaka, in the country's northwest Equateur province. It's the country's 11th outbreak of the potentially deadly virus, which is passed by bodily fluids and has a fatality rate of anywhere between 25% and 90%, depending on the outbreak. The Democratic Republic of Congo is still struggling to end an outbreak that started in 2018 in the eastern part of the country, in which 3,406 cases have been reported, with 2,243 deaths, according to WHO. There has not been a new case in the past 21 days in that outbreak. Because Ebola has an incubation period of 21 days, that suggests the outbreak may be under control but WHO waits for two full



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.

incubation periods, or 42 days, to be sure before determining that an outbreak has ended. "The announcement comes as a long, difficult and complex Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo is in its final phase, while the country also battles COVID-19 and the world's

largest measles outbreak," WHO said in a statement. The central African country has reported 3,195 cases of coronavirus and 72 deaths. By far the worst epidemic affecting the DRC is measles, which has infected nearly 370,000 people and killed 6,779 since 2019.

The Ebola virus lives in bats,

and WHO says new outbreaks can be expected in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

By far the largest epidemic of Ebola was in 2014-2016 in the West African countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. More than 28,000 people were them died.

Facebook's Zuckerberg accused of setting dangerous precedent over Trump

Their statement followed a video call with the social media giant's founder.

The US president's post, about the widespread protests following the death of George Floyd, was hidden by Twitter last week for "glorifying violence".

Facebook staff also voiced their anger at their employer, with some staging a "virtual walkout".

In the post, the president wrote he would "send in the National Guard", and warned that "when the looting starts, the shooting starts".

Mr Trump shared the same message on Twitter, where it was hidden behind a warning label, prompting an escalating row between Twitter and the White House.

Mr Zuckerberg had previously defended his decision to leave the same post up on Facebook, saying he disagreed with Mr Trump's words but that people "should be able to see this for themselves".

After meeting Mr Zuckerberg, three civil rights leaders responded that he was wrong.

"We are disappointed and stunned by Mark's incomprehensible explanations for allowing the Trump posts to remain up," they said in a joint statement. "He did not demonstrate understanding of historic or modern-day voter suppression and he refuses to acknowledge how Facebook is facilitating Trump's call for



Mark Zuckerberg is setting a "dangerous precedent" by allowing a post by Donald Trump to remain on Facebook, a group of civil rights leaders has warned.

violence against protesters.

"Mark is setting a very dangerous precedent for other voices who would say similar harmful things on Facebook."

Mr Zuckerberg defended his judgement to Facebook staff in a virtual question-and-answer session on Tuesday, according to the New York Times.

It reported the chief executive had said he had made a "tough decision" but the social network's free speech principles meant that "the right action" was to leave President Trump's post up.

The newspaper added, however, that some employees had claimed he was acting out of fear of what Republicans might do if Facebook acted otherwise.

The joint statement, released on Monday night, was signed by Vanita Gupta, president of

the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; Sherrilyn Ifill, director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund; and Rashad Robinson, president of Color of Change. It has been published online by Axios.

A Facebook spokesman said: "We're grateful that leaders in the civil rights community took the time to share candid, honest feedback with Mark and Sheryl [Sandberg, Facebook's COO]. "It is an important moment to listen, and we look forward to continuing these conversations." Online therapy firm TalkSpace has pulled out of talks about a partnership deal with the social media giant over its decision to leave the post up.

"We will not support a platform that incites violence, racism, and lies," chief executive

Oren Frank tweeted.

The deal would have been worth "hundreds of thousands of dollars" to TalkSpace, Mr Frank told CNBC.

Former Facebook executive Barry Schnitt wrote an open letter to current staff saying he believed he had been wrong to defend the firm's approach to freedom of speech in the past.

"Promoting free speech shouldn't be used as a get-out-of-tough-choices card," said Mr Schnitt, who was director of corporate communications and public policy for four years.

In leaked audio, Mr Zuckerberg said his initial reaction to the Trump post was "disgust", reports The Verge.

"This is not how I think we want our leaders to show up during this time," he is heard to say.

US cities gird for more violence as Trump decries 'lowlifes'



Ericka Ward-Audena, of Washington, puts her hand on her daughter Elle Ward-Audena, 7, as they take a knee in front of a police line during a protest of President Donald Trump's visit to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine, Tuesday, June 2, 2020, in Washington.

President Donald Trump on Tuesday turned up the pressure on governors to quell the violence set off by the death of George Floyd, demanding New York call up the National Guard to stop the "lowlifes and losers."

As more demonstrations began taking shape around the country during the afternoon, and cities girded for another round of scattered vio-

lence after dark, the president amplified his hard-line calls of a day earlier, in which he threatened to send in the military to restore order if governors didn't do it.

"NYC, CALL UP THE NATIONAL GUARD," he tweeted. "The lowlifes and losers are ripping you apart. Act fast! Don't make the same horrible and deadly mistake you made with the

Nursing Homes!!!" Protests were held in such places as Orlando, Florida, where more than 1,000 people gathered in the afternoon to decry the killings of black people. "This has to change," said 39-year-old Aisxia Batiste, an out-of-work massage therapist. "Something has to give. We're done. This is the beginning of the end of something. It has to be."

In New York, where crowds of people on Monday night smashed store windows and police made nearly 700 arrests, Mayor Bill de Blasio extended an 8 p.m. curfew all week.

"We're going to have a tough few days," he warned, but added: "We're going to beat it back." He pleaded with community leaders to step forward and "create peace."

More than 20,000 National Guard members have been called up in 29 states to deal with the violence. New York is not among them. De Blasio has said he does not want the Guard, and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said he will not send it into the city against the mayor's wishes.

Monday marked the seventh straight night of unrest around the country.

In Atlanta, police fired tear gas at demonstrators. In Nashville, more than 60 National Guard members put down their riot shields at the

request of peaceful protesters. At a demonstration in Buffalo, New York, an SUV plowed into a group of officers, injuring three.

An officer was shot and gravely wounded as police tried to disperse a crowd outside a Las Vegas hotel and casino. Four officers were shot in St. Louis; they were expected to recover.

Philadelphia officials described a chaotic night in which one person was killed trying to use explosives to open an ATM, a gun shop owner fatally shot a would-be thief, and a 19-year-old died of injuries during looting.

About a dozen other deaths have been reported around the country over the past week. And more than 5,600 people nationwide have been arrested for such offenses as stealing, blocking highways and breaking curfew, according to a count by The Associated Press.

"We have been sitting on a powder keg for some time and it has burst," Philadelphia Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said.

Some protesters framed the burgeoning movement as a necessity after a string of killings by police.

"I fear for my safety every time I get in the car to go for a drive. I fear of getting pulled over. I fear for all 10 of my brothers' and sisters' lives, for

my parents' lives!" 19-year-old Amari Burroughs of Parkland, Florida, said Tuesday as she prepared for another protest.

"My goal is to use my voice and my leadership to make this world safer so that one day I can bring children here and won't have to fear for their safety."

Outside the Minnesota Capitol in St. Paul, where a youth protest was held Tuesday, 18-year-old Joseph Tawah agreed.

"It's really hard not to feel afraid," he said.

Meanwhile, governors and mayors, Republicans and Democrats alike, rejected Trump's threat to send in the military, with some saying troops would be unnecessary and others questioning whether the government has such authority and warning that such a step would be dangerous.

"Denver is not Little Rock in 1957, and Donald Trump is not President Eisenhower. This is a time for healing, for bringing people together, and the best way to protect civil rights is to move away from escalating violence," Colorado Gov. Jared Polis and Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, both Democrats, said in a statement, referring to Eisenhower's use of troops to enforce school desegregation in the South.

A senior White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the president is not rushing to send in the military and that his goal was to pressure governors to deploy more National Guard members.

Such use of the military would mark a stunning federal intervention rarely seen in modern American history.

Federal law allows presidents to dispatch the military into states to suppress an insurrection or if a state is defying federal law, legal experts said. But some state officials asserted that the president does not have a unilateral right to send in troops against the will of local governments.

Minnesota, meanwhile, opened an investigation into whether the Minneapolis Police Department has a pattern of discrimination against minorities. Floyd died May 25 after a white Minneapolis officer, Derek Chauvin, pressed his knee on the handcuffed black man's neck for several minutes.

Chauvin has been charged with murder. Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison said prosecutors are working as fast as they can to determine if the three other officers at the scene should be charged too. All four have been fired.

Amid the protests, cities struggled to keep police in line and avoid instances of excessive force.

The police chief in Louisville, Kentucky, was fired after a restaurant owner was killed by police and National Guard members enforcing a curfew. In Richmond, the police chief said officers who used tear gas on a group of peaceful protesters would be disciplined. In Atlanta, six officers were charged after a video showed authorities dragging two young people from a car during protests.

Canada Extends Ban on Cruises Through October

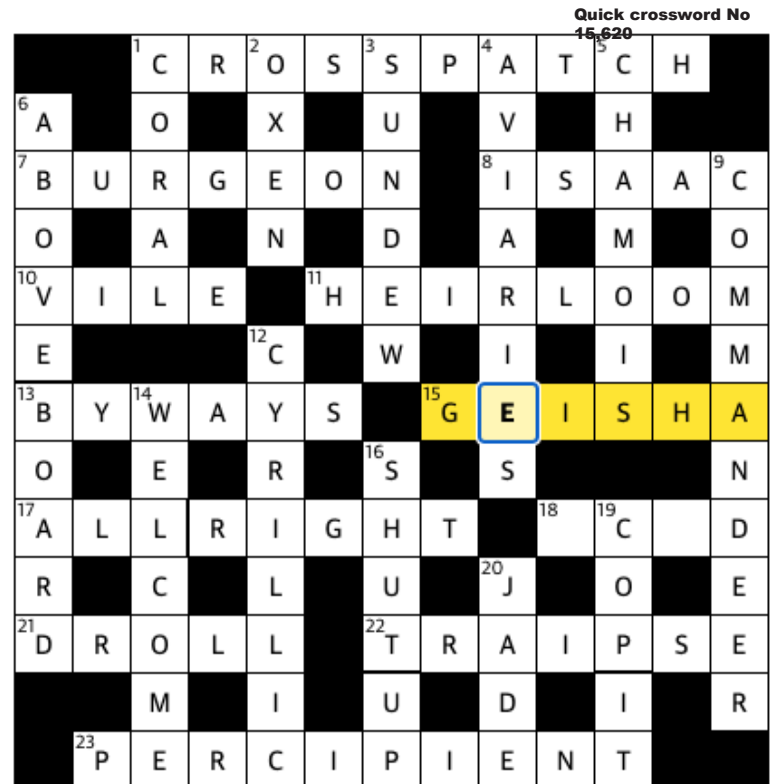
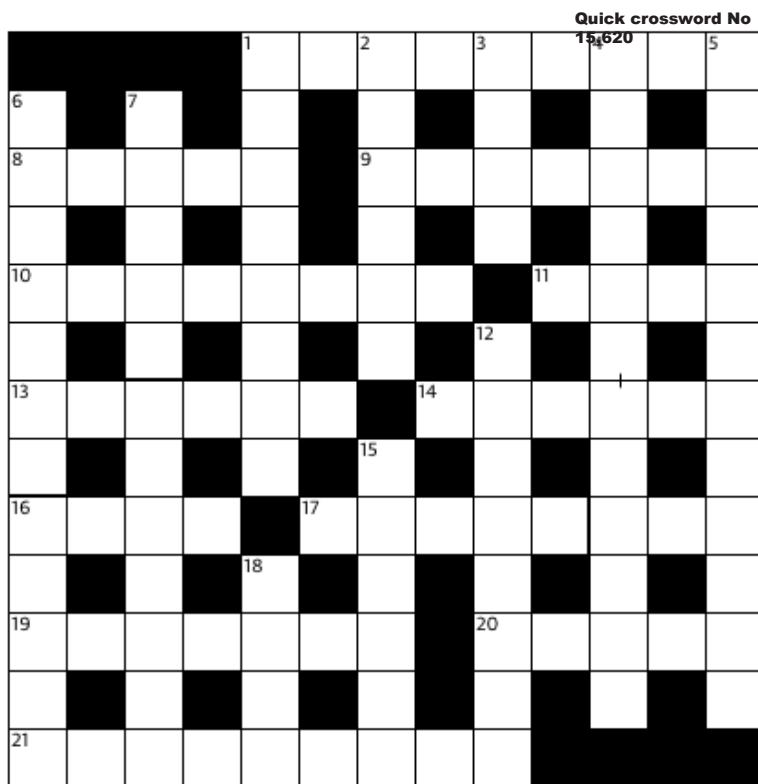
Canada has banned medium and large-sized cruise ships until at least the end of October, according to the country's federal government. The ban, which is in effect through Oct. 31, covers ships in Canadian waters that carry more than 100 people and offer overnight accommodations, Transport Canada said on Friday. Additionally, passenger ships carrying more than 12 people are banned from entering Arctic coastal waters like the Labrador Coast. "Our Government is committed to protecting Canadians, particularly during these challenging times," Minister of Transport Marc Garneau said in a statement. "Our Government continues to work with other levels of government, transportation industry stakeholders, and Indigenous peoples to re-examine measures and to ensure Canada's transportation system remains safe and secure during this time. We are all in this together."

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told CTV News the extension of the ban was to keep Canadians safe, adding COVID-10 is still "a very serious threat." While larger ships are banned, essential passenger ferries and water taxis can continue to operate, according to the government. To protect

against the spread of the coronavirus, they have to implement measures like having passengers stay in their cars. Canada first looked to ban cruise ships in March, initially deferring the start of the cruise season in the country until at least July 1. That applied to cruise ships carrying more than 500 passengers and crew. The country has recorded more than 92,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, according to Johns Hopkins University, which is tracking the spread of the virus.

The extended ban comes as several cruise lines are looking to resume sailings this summer. Carnival Cruise Line has said it intends to resume part of its North American service on August 1, heading to the Caribbean and the Bahamas. And Royal Caribbean is eyeing a potential August start date as well. Connecticut-based American Cruise Lines is looking to hit the water even sooner with plans to sail along the Columbia and Snake Rivers on June 20. Their ship, which can accommodate up to 184 guests, will be capped at 75 percent capacity. Last month, the Seychelles decided to ban all cruise ships from its shores until 2022 over fears concerning the spread of coronavirus.

QUICK CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Easy to control or influence (9)
- 8 Less common (5)
- 9 Italian 'Mrs' (7)
- 10 Half-year division of an academic year (8)
- 11 Wound, but not fatally (4)
- 13 Engraved (6)
- 14 Look sullen (6)
- 16 Heart of the matter (4)
- 17 Excluded as a possibility (5,3)
- 19 Plunge (7)
- 20 Spanish friend (5)
- 21 Money granted for a purpose (9)

Down

- 1 Beaten soundly (8)
- 2 Supermarket sections (6)
- 3 Labels (4)
- 4 Style of blues played on piano (6-6)
- 5 Hyperbole (12)
- 6 Fine porcelain from Germany (7,5)
- 7 Baked custard dessert (5,7)
- 12 Become affected by open sores — late cure (anag) (8)
- 15 Deep dish for serving soup (6)
- 18 Bird's pouch for storing food (4)

CARTOON CORNER

Dilbert



DAILY HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): Being straightforward and blunt might get the job done, but it won't endear you to those who prefer good manners. New information may force you to make last-minute changes and could put a promise at risk.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Some flirtations are just for fun and shouldn't be taken seriously. Just because a special person is paying attention to someone else doesn't mean you aren't cherished. Don't go on a spending spree.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your enthusiasm is in top form and keeping up with you could be a challenge. Since you seem to be in a hurry, it might be difficult for someone to relax in your presence. Physical exercise is a good way to let off steam.

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): Your people skills pack a punch. That is a good thing, because it's hard to get ahead without dealing with others. People may compete for your affections or money, or you may vie for someone's attention or business.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You might be tempted to mingle with others, but an outing or virtual meeting could cost more than you expected. Mutual misunderstandings could cause unpredictable results, so shelve a major discussion for a few days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.): An unforeseen shift of opinion could cause a change in your plans or daily routines. Your work team could become social friends, or you may become interested in homemade arts and crafts and related groups.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Drive with your fog lights on. You can't see as far ahead as you would like right now, and some signals may be cryptic or too good to be true. If you wait until a period of confusion clears up, you might find the facts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Loved ones could be so busy that all you do is go along for the ride. An apology might go a long way toward healing a breach, even if it might remind someone of a past situation that was already forgotten.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Any impulsive words

or sudden changes may throw a wrench into your plans, but you might find that there's a silver lining. Use your imagination and you can take advantage of a disruptive ongoing situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Wait until there's time for a more thorough investigation before you take gossip as gospel. Don't be tempted to splurge on something new unless you're sure there is room in the budget for it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You might set a pace that others find stimulating but challenging to maintain. There may be occasions when your warmth and eagerness to be friendly are mistaken for a romantic overture or aggressive behavior.

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Leeward Islands Cricket Board sign MOU with Bermuda Cricket Board

The Executive of Bermuda Cricket Board (BCB) and the Executive of the Leeward Islands Cricket Board Ltd. (LICB) are pleased to announce the signing of a MOU between both institutions.

The purpose of this memorandum is to underpin the development of what is hoped to become a long term partnership between LICB and BCB.

A joint statement said, it therefore sets out matters of an agreed principle and policy, reflecting the spirit of co-operation between LICB and BCB, but it not intended to be legally binding.

"The area of co-operation shall include, subject to mutual consent, any activity or programme considered desirable and feasible on either side to foster and de-

velop the co-operative relationship between the two institutions," the statement noted.

President of the Bermuda Cricket Board, Lloyd Smith said: "On behalf of the Bermuda Cricket Board we are privileged to be signing this MOU with the Leeward Islands Cricket Board. We hope that this sets a precedent for future opportunities for both organization, players, coaches, umpires and administrators to grow in the sport.

"The BCB finds this MOU to not only be historic, but also nostalgic, as many Bermudans are descendants of Leeward Islands ancestry. We consider it to be an honour to be able to work with our Caribbean family."

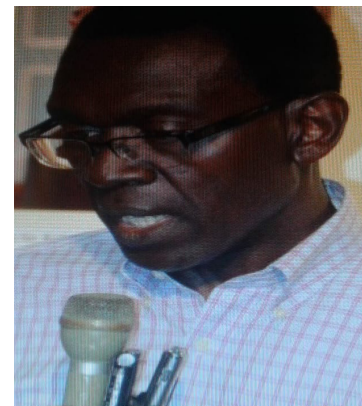
Meanwhile, President of the Leeward Island Crick-



President of the Bermuda Cricket Board, Lloyd Smith

et Board, former LI player, Enoch Lewis hails the signing of this agreement, the first of kind for the LICB, as a truly momentous occasion for the LICB and also for the BCB.

"We at the LICB are truly excited by the potential exposure that this agreement



President of the Leeward Island Cricket Board Enoch Lewis

creates for both players and officials from both organizations, and by extension the opportunity arising there-from to improve the standard of cricket being played at all levels and also the overall administration of the sport," Lewis stated.

Kick it Out chair: Footballers should feel free to protest

Footballers should feel free to protest over the death of George Floyd and "should take a knee", says Kick it Out chair, Sanjay Bhandari.

The Football Association said it would take a "common sense approach" to any such protest.

Protests have been held in the USA after Floyd, an African American and who was unarmed, died after being restrained by Minneapolis police.

Bhandari said players taking a knee would be a "very powerful image".

"The power of football can break down barriers across communities and we remain deeply committed to removing all forms of discrimination from across the game we all love," Bhandari added.

On Monday Liverpool players took a knee around the center circle at Anfield during training, while Manchester United players Paul Pogba and Marcus Rashford added their voices to worldwide protest against racism.



Sap donates packages to players

The Sap Football Club Executive on Monday along with its coaches gave out care packages to their players.

Team captain, Peter Byers, was high in praise for the executive for looking out for the players during the tough times as some members and their families have been facing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

President of the club, Akeilah Hillhouse, said the COVID-19 pandemic has affected all in many ways and the club was grateful for the financial support from local businesses and highlighted Kim and Levi Joseph of Christos Wholesale and Su-



permarket for making what was next to impossible, possible.

The former national player was

also high in praise for her executive members for their hard work and contribution towards the venture.

Head coach and former national goalkeeper, Janiel Simon, said it's a very good gesture from the executive who he supports and he hopes that other clubs will follow the lead of looking out for their members.

Sap F.C former premier league champions is second in the ABFA first division when sports was cancelled on March 13. It has what has been termed 'a great opportunity' to be promoted to the premier division.



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Dews Lumber Yard takes care of Empire players

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Dews Lumber Yard located on Old Parham Road assisted the Empire Football Club with a donation towards providing twenty five care packages to the players.

A number of the Empire players are employed at the establishment and captain, N. Starci Watkins, and star defender, Ratijah Hulk Davis, both employees at Dews collected the donation on behalf of the club.

President and coach of the Empire, Veron Epilus Edwards Jr., were high in



praise of Dews not only for the contribution but for the employment of a number of young outstanding athletes.

The former national cap-

tain outlined that his executive's main priority is its members and the community which are evident with their venture towards the players and their contribution of twenty care packages to individuals in the area.

"Our players and community are the heartbeat of our organization," Edwards Jr. explained.

Empire is the most successful football club in Antigua and Barbuda with 13 championship and they presently lead the first division before sports was cancelled on March 13.

DEWS