



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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## WE MUST SOLVE THIS CRIME: PM



*Nigel Christian, left, was killed on Friday night and Prime Minister Gaston Browne says that the government will leave no stone unturned in its efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice. **See story on Page 3***

## Pg 8 - LIAT shareholder meeting postponed

# Head of Customs 'shocked' at Christian's killing

Comptroller of Customs, Mr. Raju Boddu, has expressed shock and sadness at the tragic loss of one of the organisation's outstanding officers, Nigel Christian, of the Antigua and Barbuda Customs and Excise Division.

Boddu noted that prior to the tragic events of last Friday, Christian gave virtually all of his working life to his profession, having joined the Customs Division as an eager and enthusiastic officer fresh from the Antigua State College over 20 years ago. His climb through the ranks was steady as he repeatedly demonstrated admirable qualities as a leader, including an insatiable thirst for knowledge, a remarkable thinker and a forthright and hardworking member of the team.

"Nigel Christian was the consummate professional and a smart and intelligent



*Comptroller of Customs, Mr. Raju Boddu*

officer to whom I am deeply indebted for his sound guidance and clever leadership on a variety of matters. I am deeply disturbed and saddened that such an amazing light has been suddenly snubbed out in such tragic and painful circumstances," Boddu stated.

Christian was elevated to the rank of Principal Inspector of Customs when promotions were handed out to a number of officers last year.

"On behalf of the entire team, I wish to express my profound condolences to his mother, family and friends for their unimaginable loss. For all of us, Nigel was more than a colleague; he was a friend. He did not deserve this," Boddu expressed.

The Customs Division has committed to give its fullest cooperation to the Police in their quest to bring the perpetrators Nigel Christian's heinous slaying to justice. The Division also expressed gratitude to Prime Minister, the Hon. Gaston Browne, for committing \$50,000 as a reward for information leading to the arrest of the perpetrators.

"The next few days will be difficult. Our loss is tremendous. Every effort will be made to ensure that we get through this in faith, protected and together," Boddu concluded.

## DAY 7/13

Max UV Index: 12 Extreme  
 Wind: E at 22 km/h  
 Wind Gusts: 30 km/h  
 Probability of Precipitation: 40%  
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 24%  
 Precipitation: 0.5 mm  
 Rain: 0.5 mm  
 Snow: 0.0 cm  
 Ice: 0.0 mm  
 Hours of Precipitation: 1  
 Hours of Rain: 1

# 31° Hi



Partly sunny with a shower in spots

## NIGHT 7/13

Wind: E at 15 km/h  
 Wind Gusts: 24 km/h  
 Probability of Precipitation: 45%  
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 20%  
 Precipitation: 1.2 mm  
 Rain: 1.2 mm  
 Snow: 0.0 cm  
 Ice: 0.0 mm  
 Hours of Precipitation: 1  
 Hours of Rain: 1

# 26° Lo



Partly cloudy with a shower in spots

## SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST  
 5:41 AM

Sunset AST  
 6:45 PM



Duration  
 13:04 hr

## MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST  
 12:09 PM

Moonset AST  
 12:44AM



Duration  
 12:35 hr

## PM: We must solve this crime!

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is giving the family of customs officer, Nigel Christian, 44, who was allegedly murdered on Friday night, the assurance that the government will leave no stone unturned in its efforts to bring the perpetrators of this crime to justice.

During Saturday's special sitting of the House of Representatives, PM Browne paused to offer condolences to Christian's family on behalf of the government and the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

"The killing of this outstanding customs officer has left the entire customs department in shock. We are also aware that an attempt was made on the life of another officer, Cornell Benjamin, some months ago. We are not sure if they are related, but they are of sufficient concern for the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda," Browne emphasized.

The prime minister then issued a call to the entire nation to 'come together' to solve this heinous crime.

"We have to solve this one! The government will go all out to solve this one as all public servants are at risk when criminals can feel so emboldened that they can violate the sanctity of an individual's home, kidnap him and then murder him," he warned.

Highlighting the fact that this type of criminal behavior is new to the country,



*Nigel Christian*

Browne declared that there will be no hiding place for perpetrators of this type of crime.

"We will not run from criminals; criminals must run from us! We have the police, ONDCP, the Defense Force at our disposal, however, we must solve this one together," he proclaimed.

PM Browne further announced that the government will post a reward of \$50,000.00 for information leading to the arrest of anyone connected to this crime.

Meanwhile, the police have begun investigations into the circumstances surrounding the Christian's death.

According to preliminary information disclosed by the police, Christian was allegedly abducted from his home in McKinnons at around 5:30pm on Friday 10th July by four men. His body was later found along a dirt road at Thibou's in the vicinity of New Winthorpes Area, with what appeared to



*Prime Minister Gaston Browne*

be multiple gunshot wounds to his upper body. A medical doctor arrived on the scene and pronounced Christian dead at 9:17pm.

Both the Police and Customs have since issued ap-

peals for persons who have information that can further assist their investigations into this latest homicide to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or 462-3914.



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# Asot Michael: No politicians on new LIAT board

Parliamentary representative for St. Peter, Hon. Asot Michael, is advising the Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne, against appointing politicians to the board of directors of a restructured LIAT should the proposed new airline materialize.

Speaking at Saturday's specially sitting of the House of Representatives which was convened to debate an amendment to the Company's Act 1995, Michael said appointing politicians to the board would likely discourage private sector involvement in the project.

He continued, "It is not like the days when Mr. Aziz Hadeed took up his family's money and invested \$10-million (EC) into purchasing equity into LIAT, out of a sense of national and regional pride and duty."

This was a reference to the time in LIAT's history when

Mr. Hadeed had been appointed as Chairman of the LIAT Board of Directors.

"I don't believe that a LIAT board, even if the shareholders remain the same, should include politicians. The shareholders should appoint competent, technical and managerial personnel with aviation and business experience to run the airline. For instance, I don't believe that the Sir Robin Yearwood nor Works Minister, Hon. Lennox Weston, should be directors on the board. I would not appoint one single politician as a director!" he declared.

Addressing Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne, directly, Michael said, "If you think that any investor would want to invest in the airline with politicians on the Board of Directors, that would be a mistake. The shareholders should remain as shareholders and let proper management run the airline."



Parliamentary representative for St. Peter, Hon. Asot Michael, right, with Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley.

Michael said the prime minister already has developed in his administration, an excellent model to serve as an example. He pointed to the purchase of the West Indies Oil Company (WIOC) from the Rappaport Group several years ago.

"Prime Minister Browne said he didn't want to interfere with the management of WIOC as he wanted to run it as a private business company with no political interference. All he did was ask CEO Gregory Georges to send him the minutes," the St. Peter representative explained.

According to Michael, time has proven the decision concerning the management of WIOC to be astute as the company continues to be well managed and profitable, paying out millions of dollars in dividends and taxes to the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda annually.

He also outlined similar successes the Gaston Browne administration has achieved since coming to office six years ago.

"State Insurance, you think we are intervening and have politicians calling up management and interfering? It's the first time in their history that State Insurance is turning a profit. So too, is the Antigua Port Authority; they are turning a profit under the aegis of this government," Mr. Michael observed.

As Prime Minister Brown's model and track record of revitalizing at risk state owned enterprises without interfering in their internal operations has enjoyed several successes, Mr. Michael has forcefully recommended that a new LIAT 2020 Ltd., should it become a reality, ought to emulate this winning formula.



## Commissioner of Police Statement on Custom Officer's Death

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda is saddened and disturbed by the senseless killing of Customs Officer, Nigel Christian, on Friday 11th July.

The attack on Christian, is an attack on all law enforcement in Antigua and Barbuda. This type of behavior should never be condoned nor encouraged by any citizen or resident of this country.

The Police will spare no effort as we investigate this distasteful and cowardly act. As an organization, we are committed and determined to bring these perpetrators



*Commissioner of Police Atlee P. Rodney*

to justice.

The police will be collaborating with other local law enforcement agencies to bring about a successful closure to this matter. We are therefore calling upon

every member of the public to come forward and share whatever information they may have surrounding this incident. We have been offering our support to the Christian family, and will continue to do so, as well as to our colleagues in the Customs

Department.

The Police Force welcomes the timely injection of a reward of \$50,000.00, offered by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, for information leading to an arrest in this matter.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or 462-3914, contact any police station or reach out to any member of the police force one may feel comfortable speaking with. Any information provided will be treated with the strictest confidence.

*Atlee P. Rodney*

*Commissioner of Police*

### 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. Please note that electricity will be suppressed during period of maintenance

Date: Monday 13th July 2020  
Time: 08:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Affected areas: Section of Piccadilly overlooking Christian Hill.

Date: Tuesday 14th July 2020  
Time: 08:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Affected areas: Eastern section of Freemans Village

Date: Wednesday 15th July 2020  
Time: 08:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Affected areas: Section of Marble Hill and Paradise View

Date: Wednesday 15th July 2020  
Time: 08:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Affected areas: St. Phillips

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.



## DNA denounces killing of Customs Officer

The Democratic National Alliance (DNA) extends sincere condolences to the family, colleagues and friends of Mr. Nigel Christian who, from reports, lost his life tragically in an execution-style murder on July 10, 2020.

The DNA, like other citizens and residents, is deeply shocked and horrified that this type of brutality was meted out to an Officer attached to an important State institution.

We note with concern that since this is the second Customs Officer in recent times who has been violently assaulted with no resolution to the first incident, the authorities should immediately request support from external law enforcement agencies to assist with the investigations into these dastardly crimes and bring the perpetrators to justice.

The DNA is committed to ensuring that our beloved country does not descend into any kind of chaos and decay where the lives of our people are constantly under threat. We urge persons who may have any information to lend support to the investigation.

# National Security Minister expresses confidence in police

National Security Minister, Steadroy Benjamin, has expressed confidence that the police force will solve the country's latest homicide; that of Customs Officer, Nigel Christian, whose murder has sent shock waves through the community.

Police reports say Christian was abducted from his home at McKinnon's on Friday afternoon at about 5:30 by four armed men dressed in army fatigues. His bullet-ridden body was discovered that night near New Winthorpes.

Benjamin's comments come following a growing chorus of calls for the government to invite external law enforcement agencies to investigate



National Security Minister, Steadroy Benjamin

Christian's death.

"I am satisfied that we have a professional police department capable

of carrying out the investigation. However, should they make the request for external assistance, then the government would comply," he declared.

According to the minister, it is worthy to note the government's rapid response to addressing Christian's murder on Friday with the announcement of a \$50,000 reward which was announced by Prime Minister Browne on Saturday during a special sitting of the Parliament.

The reward was posted as the government hopes it will encourage persons with information that could lead to the arrest of those involved in Christian's tragic death to justice.



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## PM: We will save LIAT!

“We will save LIAT!”

These were the words of Antigua and Barbuda’s Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, on Saturday as he opened the debate in the House of Representatives on amendments to the Companies Act, 1995.

“We (Antigua and Barbuda) will save LIAT in the interest of the Caribbean and all we ask is for my colleagues (the other shareholders) to give us a chance,” Browne declared as he reinforced his appeals for LIAT’s major shareholders; Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica, to give the airline a final chance to survive.

Browne explained that the proposed amendments to the Companies Act provide a pathway for the reorganization of the airline. He said LIAT is too important a regional institution to let die without making a serious and concerted effort to save it.



“LIAT is a Caribbean institution that is key to the integration process and it has served the region well. It is the pride of the Caribbean and a significant part of our Caribbean civilization. Unfortunately, we have not given LIAT the support it deserves. Rather, we spend time criticizing the airline and some countries prefer to provide support for extra-regional carriers to fly into their territories but deny LIAT similar privileges,” observed the Antigua and Barbuda prime minister.

Browne, whose academic and professional background is in finance, explained that if liquidation is pursued, much of the LI-

AT’s assets will be disposed of at ‘fire sale value’ which is unlikely to raise enough money to satisfy debts to creditors, including staff.

Additionally, even the process of liquidation has several associated costs. Mr. Browne placed the pre-liquidation cost at about \$10 million but noted that it could end up being closer to \$20 million.

Commenting specifically on the amendments to the Companies Act, PM Browne pointed out that the changes to the legislation were not made as a “LIAT law”. He said it was better viewed as simply providing one way of protecting a company facing “reorgani-

sation.”

“These amendments should see Antigua and Barbuda move up the ranks on the ‘Ease of Doing Business’ survey. This law would have been very helpful if it was around when the issues of Half Moon Bay were being discussed by the government,” he noted.

Meanwhile, the Senate convened this morning to consider the amendments to the Company Act which were approved by the House on Saturday. The Upper House, originally due to meet on Saturday, had to be postponed as the meeting of the House of Representatives ran on longer than was anticipated.

## Runaway man charged for multiple drug offences

The police have slapped multiple drug charges against Al Malon Antonio, 26, of Old Runaway after they intercepted a shipment of an illegal substance at the Deep Water Harbour.

Antonio will appear in court today to face the charges of possession of forty pounds of cannabis; possession with intent to transfer; being concerned in the supplying of cannabis;

importation of cannabis and drug trafficking.

Last Thursday, law enforcement officers attached to the Police Narcotics Department and Customs conducted an Anti-Narcotics Operation at Customs Cargo at Deep Water Harbour.

During the search, forty pounds of cannabis was discovered concealed

among food items contained within a grey barrel. The barrel was subsequently seized and taken to Police Headquarters.

Further investigations into the matter led to the arrest of Antonio who was later charged in connection with the offences.

The cannabis is reported to value approximately EC\$400,000.

# Amendments to Companies Act 'good for business'

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, E.P Chet Greene, has welcomed the amendments to the Companies Act, proclaiming them 'good for all businesses operating in the country'.

The endorsement of the amendments came as MP Greene addressed the House of Representatives on Saturday in a special sitting convened to pass the amendments proposed by Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

"The adoption of this Act will modernize the framework for doing business in Antigua and Barbuda. It will also do so by giving relief to companies that might encounter difficulties providing them with the chance to re-organise in such a way that they can continue to provide goods and services to the community, retaining satisfactory employee compliments and giving them



*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, E.P Chet Greene*

time to negotiate payment to their creditors," he remarked.

Rather than abrupt liquidation, a process often accompanied by a myri-

ad of problems, Minister Greene is of the view that the amended Companies Act will now provide mechanisms which struggling companies can now avail

themselves of for the long term benefit and survivability of their operations.

The trade minister also noted that similar legislative protections in the United States have helped many well known companies including General Motors, K-Mart, JC Penney and United Airlines to navigate times of fiscal difficulty.

According to Greene, the amendments to the Companies Act will make Antigua and Barbuda more attractive to investors, employees and creditors while also bringing the domestic business climate in line with international best practices.

The immediate significance of the amendments lies in the fact that it provides the framework for debt laden LIAT 1974 Ltd. to reorganise its operations in an orderly and transparent manner.

## LIAT shareholder meeting postponed

The meeting planned today among the shareholders of LIAT 1974 Ltd. has been postponed.

This is the result of Barbados Prime Minister, Mia Mottley's claim that today's meeting, called by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, conflicts with her schedule.

PM Browne confirmed overnight that the meeting would have to be re-scheduled because of Prime Minister Mottley's unavailability.

On Saturday, Browne hinted that the meeting was in jeopardy because

one prime minister could not make it.

Sources close to the Office of the Prime Minister here at home, say that a letter was received from Prime Minister, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, of St. Vincent and the Grenadines further informed that the Barbados prime minister was unable to name a day this week when she would be available for the meeting.

Barbados is the largest single shareholder of LIAT and it is inconceivable that any serious discussion

regarding the future of LIAT will take place without its involvement.

Last month, a decision was taken to liquidate the airline, but Antigua and Barbuda has been asking the other shareholders to consider another option; reorganising the airline.

The meeting which was planned for today intended to consider a proposal from St. John's on a roadmap that could be used to restructure and revitalize LIAT. It is not clear exactly when this meeting will now take place.

## CXC exams begin today - Ministry says all's in place

Students across Antigua and Barbuda today commence CXC and CAPE examinations amidst public anxiety regarding the region-wide exam in light of COVID-19.

Director of Education, Clare Browne has indicated, however, that the Ministry of Education is satisfied that everything is in place for the start of the exams.

“The CXC Local Registrar and the ministry’s Education Officer for Examinations, Myrick Smith, assured me late Friday afternoon when we last spoke on this subject that his office has done the work to ensure that the examinations are administered seamlessly,” Browne declared.

The education director went on to state that he can assure the public that the examination process will be conducted seamlessly.

He continued that both exam supervisors and invigilators have been briefed on the procedures they must follow in this unique situation. Browne also confirmed that examination centers are prepared.



*Director of Education, Clare Browne*

“Make no mistake about it, we in the ministry are always mindful of Murphy’s Law and are prepared to take any contingency that an unexpected situation might necessitate,” the Director of Education assured.

As an additional tier of precaution intended for student safety, the Ministry of Education has announced that

they are collaborating with the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board on organising transportation for students to their exam centers.

“Arif Jonas of the Transport Board has assured me that the National School Bus Service will provide transportation for the students requiring conveyance to and from examinations beginning Monday morning. We thank the Transport Board for an eagerness always to support the children and young people of our nation,” Clare Browne stated.

The Director also revealed that all national health protocols, as they relate to COVID-19, including health and safety guidelines developed by CXC, will be rigorously applied at all examination centers for the protection of both staff and students.

According to the education ministry, CSEC (secondary school exams) will run from July 13 to August 4 while CAPE (Advanced level exams) will occur from July 13 to July 31 and CCSLC (3rd Form Exams) taking place from August 5 to 7.



# More air travel, more precautions at airport

The month of July is gearing up to be one of the most active travel periods since the country reopened its borders to international flights.

Over the weekend, several major flights arrived on the island, however, the Ministry of Health is on high alert and has implemented a number of health safety mechanisms at the airport.

According to the health ministry, additional measures in the form of more efficient screening processes for the COVID-19 were implemented last week.

The installations of nine new health declaration desks at the airport are yet another of the health and safety measures implemented by the Ministry of Health the country's sole international airport.

In a recent statement, the ministry further noted that,



Minister of Health Molwyn Joseph

“these purpose-built desks will assist health officials in carrying out the necessary screening of arriving passengers more efficiently while at the same time maintaining social distance.”

To provide an extra layer of protection the health screening desks are fitted

with plexi-glass which is a more effective barrier between the health officials. Combined with masks, face shields, and other personal protective equipment, it creates an environment which is safer for airport and health personnel and passengers.

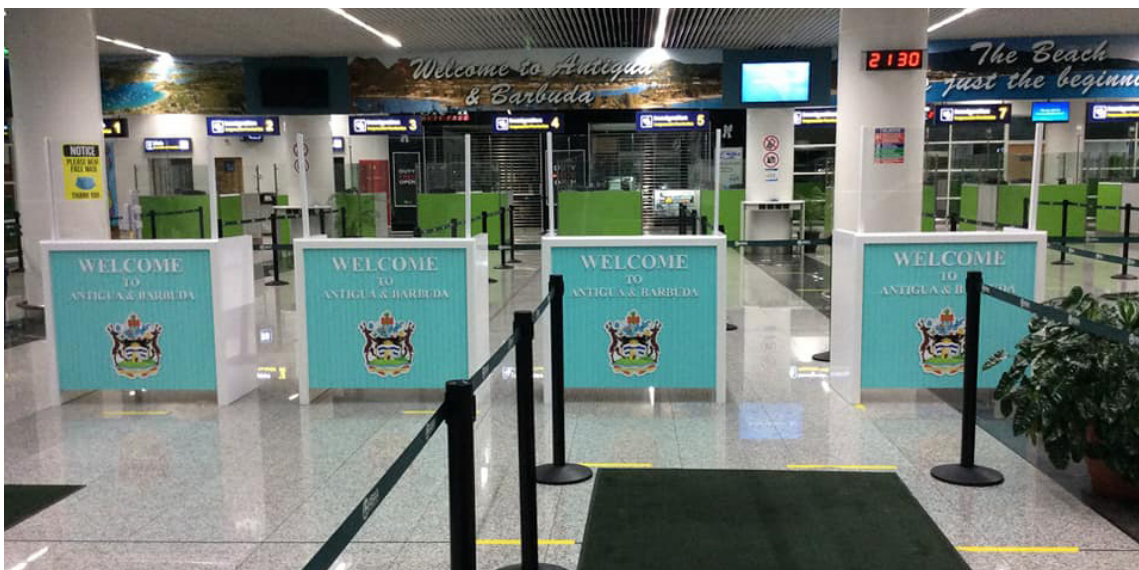
These preventative mea-

asures form part of continued attempts by the government to avoid the possible importation and spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Though these measures are in place, travelers coming into the island will still be required to present local authorities with a negative COVID-19 test that was conducted within seven days of travel.

Travelers are also mandated to wear a mask on arrival and must have their temperature checked during screening on arrival.

A recent statement from the Ministry of Health further indicated there are also plans to assign additional personnel to the airport in order to mitigate lengthy processing times.



# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

## BARBUDA ENERGY RESILIENCE PROJECT CONSULTANCIES

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority in partnership with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) wishes to invite interested eligible firms to express interest in providing consultancy services for the Barbuda Energy Resilience Project. The Authority serves as the executing agency.

### PREPARATION/SUPERVISION RECONNECTION SUPPORT PROGRAMME CONSULTANT

The objective of this consultancy is to undertake the preparation and supervision of a Reconnection Support Programme (RSP) for Barbuda. During the Preparation phase the Consultant will be expected to undertake analysis to identify the unconnected consumers on Barbuda and design the most effective RSP. During the Supervision phase the Consultant will support APUA in procurement of services or works required to deliver the RSP and supervise the implementation of the RSP. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of three (3) months.

The consultancy team should have the following qualifications and experience at a minimum:

- Bachelor's degree Social Development, Sociology, Social policy, Gender and Development Studies, International/Community Development, Public Policy or other related field with at least ten (10) years' experience
- Electrician with Level III in Electrical Installation (Caribbean Vocational Qualification) or equivalent.
- Minimum of Five (5) years directly related experience in building inspection for compliance with electrical codes or seven (7) years of experience in electrical construction or building trades including reading construction plans, estimating and commissioning of new construction.
- Prior experience on Barbuda or with APUA's electrical codes and national laws would be an advantage.
- Demonstrated capacity for strategic thinking as well as excellent communication and analytical skills.
- Individual résumés are not required at this stage of the procurement process.
- Experience in the region

### ELIGIBILITY

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) In the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) In the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) In all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of the CDB.

### Interested consulting firms must provide the following information to establish their competence in the performance of the services required:

General background of the consulting firm;  
Description of similar assignments undertaken in Engineering and Design Supervision for electrical utilities  
Experience as a consulting firm having been contracted for at least two (2) similar assignments with one (1) within the last five (5) years.

### For complete details to prepare and submit eligible expressions of interest please visit:

1. Engineering Design and Supervision Consultant:  
<https://www.caribank.org/work-with-us/procurement/procurement-notices/barbuda-energy-resilience-project>
2. Preparation/Supervision Reconnection Support Programme Consultant:  
<https://www.caribank.org/work-with-us/procurement/procurement-notices/barbuda-energy-resilience-project-0>

Deadline for the submission of expressions of interest is **Monday 15th June 2020 by 4:00pm.**

### ENGINEERING DESIGN AND SUPERVISION CONSULTANT

The objective of this consultancy is to design specifications for: the undergrounding approximately 8km of the distribution network on Barbuda; and the installation of Solar PV Hybrid systems on approximately 11 Government buildings. The consultancy must ensure the design delivers an environmentally sound, climate resilient, socially inclusive and sustainable electricity system; and second provide supervision and monitoring support to the executing agency during the procurement and implementation phase. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of six (6) months.

The consultancy team should have the following qualifications and experience at a minimum:

- Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering with at least ten (10) years' experience
- Bachelor's degree Social Development with at least ten (10) years' experience or equivalent
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance with at least five (5) years' experience or equivalent
- Demonstrated capacity for strategic thinking as well as excellent communication and analytical skills.
- Individual résumés are not required at this stage of the procurement process.
- Experience in the region



# International charity names Sir Rodney as a trustee

The West India Committee has announced the appointment of Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, as a trustee of their Royal Charter institution.

In accepting the appointment, Sir Rodney disclosed, "I have had first-hand experience of the work of this marvellous UK registered charity and the positive impact it has had in Antigua and Barbuda and elsewhere in the Caribbean over many generations and I am pleased to join its Board of Trustees."

A statement from Government House said that the West India Committee has supported recovery efforts

in Barbuda and Anguilla in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma. The central role of this organization is to improve the general welfare of the peoples of the Caribbean.

Over the next three years, the West India Committee will be working alongside the UK Government to resolve Caribbean issues such as the Windrush Scandal.

Chief Executive of the West India Committee, Blondel Cluff, CBE, said, "We, at this Royal Charter Institution are delighted to be joined by Sir Rodney as a Trustee of the Board during this seminal moment for the Caribbean community. The wisdom and guidance

which he brings to the table will add value to the organization."

The charity, based in Central London, is home of an extensive UNESCO inscribed Memory of the World library, one of the world's leading collections on the Caribbean. It is a Consulting NGO of UNESCO on heritage and small-island developing nations.

On the invitation of the Governor General, Cluff visited Antigua and Barbuda in 2018 to participate in the national celebration of the 100th anniversary of World War 1 organized by the Halo Foundation.

Cluff delivered a series



*His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams GG and Mrs Blondel Cluff Chief Executive Officer West India Committee*

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of lectures to Members of the Ex-Servicemen's Association and students which outlined the reasons to celebrate and commemorate the Caribbean's long forgotten contribution to the First World War. She also distributed books on Caribbean History, donated by the Committee to a number of local Secondary Schools.

The West India Committee has also recently produced a publication showcasing the heritage of Government House, Antigua and Barbuda.

The proceeds of sales of this publication will be used to support the restoration of the Government House.



## Water supply disrupted by traffic accident

Homeowners in the north of Antigua have suffered a severe disruption to their water supply after a traffic accident on Friday night damaged a key pump vital to the supply in the area.

Water Business Unit manager at APUA, Ian Lewis, said a repair crew spent the weekend repairing the damage caused when a Nissan Pathfinder ran off the road and destroyed a major pump at the APUA Cassada Gardens Booster Station.

“Our crew is expected to be working all day today with the expectation that the task will be completed by the end of the work day. This was a special pump as it helps APUA to supply water to these elevated areas in the north and supplying them with water via an alternative route has been a challenge,” he indicated.

Although arrangements have been made to supply affected areas with water from the Reverse Osmosis plant at Camp Blizzard, Lewis admitted that this supply option is less effective



than the Cassada Gardens Booster Station.

With the repairs expected to be completed later today, Lewis says he does not anticipate that the water situation will return to normal before tomorrow.

The affected areas include: Cassada Gardens numbers Four through Seven, Cedar Valley, Cedar Valley Gardens, Cedar Valley Springs, Mount Pleasant, Langfords, Blue Waters, Crosbies, Marble Hill, Marble Road,



Trade Winds, Halcyon Heights, McKinnons, the northern section of Friars Hill Road, Anchorage Road, Paradise View and surrounding areas.

The APUA Water Business Unit is appealing to its affected customers to exercise patience and understanding through this unexpected convenience as its engineering team works to restore service.



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## STATEMENT BY SIR SHRIDATH RAMPHAL ON THE JUDGEMENT OF THE CCJ AND THE IMPORTANCE FOR DEMOCRACY TO PREVAIL IN GUYANA

Guyana's highest Court has spoken on the March elections, and the air of all of CARICOM is purer for the CCJ's Judgement. The rule of law has prevailed, and a darkening cloud has been dissipated by the CCJ's unanimous jurisprudence. The whole Region must be grateful for the Court's authority and the calm and courageous manner of its exercise.

Now Guyana must return to its state of respect for the established will of the people; and the new Government must be declared and installed. Caribbean democracy demands no less. Our country, our region, our hemisphere, our world - will not allow less. Guyana's Elections Commission, GECOM, fortified by the Court's judgement and the people's demonstrated will, must make democracy prevail. That is its constitutional duty.

And with the exercise of that duty the process of healing must begin. When I spoke at the Inauguration of the Granger Administration in 2015, I said this:

At Independence, we aspired to Guyana's worthy destiny

through being one nation and one people.

We were one people then and have been ever since – save in our politics through which we deceive ourselves into believing that our motto of 'one people' is false.

It is not false, and we must not let the vicissitudes of politics and the discord inherent in the democratic process diminish our 'oneness'. At moments of transition like this it is the duty of all to work hard at destroying the myth of otherness and at cultivating by conscious effort the reality of oneness that is our historical birth right.

Those words are as true and as appropriate now as they were then. I urge them now, at this moment of transition, as I urged them then. Let us follow them and save ourselves.

(ends)

Note to Editors: Sir Shridath Ramphal was one of the "Three Wisemen" who brokered the *Herdmanston Accord* in 1998 to end a political impasse in Guyana. He is former Attorney-General and Minister of



By **SIR SHRIDATH RAMPHAL**

*Foreign Affairs of Guyana; Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Chairman of the West Indian Commission, Chancellor of three Universities - the University of the West Indies, the University of Guyana and the University of Warwick (UK), Head of the CARICOM Region-*

*al Negotiating Machinery. He is a celebrated international lawyer and was the lead lawyer of Guyana's legal team at the International Court of Justice that presented Guyana's case in the contention with Venezuela on June 30th, 2020.*

# GOT NEWS

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## BVI: Serious concerns! New Police Act proposing to give cops 'immunity' when operating under a warrant

The new Police Act that is to be implemented in the British Virgin Islands is proposing to give police officers immunity while acting under a warrant.

This is one of the many changes expected under the legislation, which seeks to replace the current three-decade-old Police Act (Cap 165).

In publicly reading some of the provisions outlined in the new Act, Opposition legislator Julian Fraser expressed several concerns, stating that there are too many ambiguities that will need to be addressed in the proposed legislation.

Police officers not liable under warrant. Such examples include clauses 22 and 185 of the Act. The first states that police officers are not personally liable for acts done under a warrant, while the latter clause provides immunity for police officers acting under the authority of a warrant.

“Really? Absolute immunity? That is something I have to find out — what does immunity mean here in this particular clause,” Fraser stated. “A police officer cannot have total immunity acting under a warrant. [They can] go in a person’s house and do whatever they want and say that they’re acting under a warrant and they have immunity.”

Police state

Fraser further outlined clauses 26 to 36 of the Act which deals with the powers and duties of police officers in relation to the identification of evidence.



*Officers of the Armed Response Unit in the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF.)*

“Police officers are given the power to take for use and record in the services registry any photographs, description, measurement, fingerprint, palm print, footprint, or other physical specimens of any person in lawful custody,” he said while reading verbatim from the proposed legislative document.

He continued: “A police officer has the power to seize items found during a search where he or she has reasonable grounds to believe that they were used in a commission of an offence, and where an item is computerized with information, he or she may seize the computer or have

access to and be afforded the opportunity to copy that material.”

Fraser said he believes such clauses give true meaning to the terminology of what a police state defines.

RVIPF to be renamed

In addition to these changes, the Act proposes to rename the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force to the Royal Virgin Islands Police Service.

Fraser said that a Bill that has so many significant implications to residents should be discussed at the community level before reaching the House of Assembly.

He, therefore, called on Premier Fahie to take such action

to ensure that the public gets involved with the process.

“I’m suggesting very strongly to the Premier that the direction this bill is taking right now, the form it’s taking on, to be directed to a form of public consultation. This bill belongs in the public domain for consultation [so] people can voice their opinion and offer their suggestion,” Fraser stated.

Other members of the Opposition such as its leader, Marlon Penn echoed the need for public consultation and in response, Premier Andrew Fahie pledged to “ramp up” public discourse as it relates to the proposed law.

## National Recount Is Guyana's 'Only Democratic Solution', Says OAS

The Washington-based body on Saturday noted that "the chief elections officer of Guyana, in direct opposition to the instructions of the chair of the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM), has submitted a final report which includes data compiled prior to the national recount, data which had already been deemed to be questionable".

"There can be no justification for this action," it said. "As intimated in our statement of July 10, this confirms that the chief elections officer is acting in bad faith and contrary to the interest of democracy in Guyana."

The OAS continued: "Let us be very clear: the only democratic solution for Guyana at this time is respect for the results of the national recount."

"No other figures – neither those prepared prior to the recount, nor those recently invalidated by the Caribbean Court of Justice, nor any others that may be unilaterally devised by the chief elections officer – can have any place in the final determination of results."

"A new electoral process is also an unacceptable solution," the OAS said, pointing to Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter that states that "The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it."

Time for leaders to honour their democratic obligations

"It is past time that the current leaders of Guyana comply with their democratic responsibilities and allow the newly elected gov-



*The Organization of American States (OAS) says that respect for the results of the national recount is Guyana's "only democratic solution"*

ernment to take its place," the OAS said. "In the coming days, the OAS General Secretariat will report to the OAS Permanent Council on these and other recent developments in Guyana."

On Friday, the OAS reiterated its call on GECOM to move forward in concluding Guyana's electoral process, "based on the results of the national recount, and in accordance with the will of the majority of the electorate".

The OAS noted in a statement that the decision of the Caribbean Court of Justice on July 8 confirmed that GECOM has the final authority to declare these elections, and that the chief elections officer is required to comply with the commission's directives in this regard.

"The OAS notes and com-

mends the instructions of the GECOM chair, Justice Claudette Singh (ret'd), issued on July 9 and reiterated on July 10, that the chief elections officer should prepare and submit his report using the results generated by the national recount," the statement said.

"Regrettably, developments over the last two days suggest that efforts continue to avoid compliance with these obligations and to further prolong the term of the current government," it added.

The OAS said that one of the principal obstacles to completing Guyana's current electoral process is "a person whose duty it is to defend Guyana's democracy through ensuring respect for the results of elections".

In reiterating its statement on the national recount, the OAS said: "GECOM should exclude from the current electoral process, and, indeed, from all future electoral processes, those persons whose actions display clear partisan bias, and who apply this bias unreservedly in hindering the natural unfolding of the democratic process in Guyana."

However, on Saturday, Guyana's attorney general and minister of legal affairs, Basil Williams, said GECOM's chairman, (Retired) Justice Claudette Singh, cannot direct Chief Elections Officer Keith Lowenfield, what to include in his report to the commission regarding the disputed March 2 regional and general elections.

# Jamaica: No Work For Doctors Amid Public Health Crisis

Ironically, the very health crisis that Jamaica is battling has reportedly pressured the country's resources so severely that it has caused a number of doctors to be out of work.

In spite of the country's need for healthcare workers to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, alleged budgetary constraints caused by the outbreak have forced several hospitals to not be able to employ new doctors.

Among the doctors affected are six specialists at the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI), and senior house officers (SHO), who, after completing medical school and a two-year internship, were offered posts in hospitals across the South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA).

However, The Sunday Gleaner understands that even after successful interviews at the institutions, several doctors are still awaiting confirmation of their contracts by the Ministry of Health & Wellness and SERHA, the region most affected.

Some doctors reportedly started working at hospitals but their services were later terminated and an explanation given that they could not be accommodated under current financial budgets.

The development has angered Dr Elon Thompson, president of the Jamaica Medical Doctors Association (JMDA), who, while confirming the reports reaching The Sunday Gleaner, said he was still tal-



*Dr Elon Thompson, president of the Jamaica Medical Doctors Association*

lying the growing number of formal complaints reaching his office from distressed doctors awaiting jobs. So far, at least 20 doctors have filed direct complaints, he said.

"I find this unacceptable, especially in this time where we have a pandemic, and especially for persons who would have been told that they are going to have a job," he argued, disclosing that in the SERHA area alone, 19 doctors turned up to one hospital and were turned away, while at another facility 20 doctors were sent home. "I suspect there are many more but they are still waiting to see what happens."

The Sunday Gleaner under-

stands that the Kingston Public and Spanish Town hospitals, as well as the Bustamante Hospital for Children, are among the institutions currently affected as the country battles the dreaded coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), rising shooting rates, and burgeoning motor vehicle accidents.

"There has been no discussion with the union to say there have been some challenges and there are going to be some doctors without jobs," Thompson stated. "The minister said \$1.7 billion was allocated to PPE (personal protective equipment) and that it was money well spent, although we still have a shortage of that, yet you

have the human resource out there without a job?"

He added, "They were not informed before, no dialogue with the union, and yet you are hearing that there are money problems. This is ridiculous, and it just means that the management systems we have in place are poor."

Noting that he was never copied on a letter which last month relayed the predicament to six UHWI specialists, Thompson said, "Essentially, the same (financial) challenges are being faced up at UHWI."

In the letter, UHWI's Department of Surgery outlined that: "financial constraints induced

*Cont'd on pg 19*

by COVID-19 paired with the decision of the University of the West Indies to defer May/June 2020 DM examinations have forced a change in the process of resident intake at the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI).

“Further to the appointment meetings held on June 9, the committee decided that employment contracts for the chief residents, cleared for final exams and have been assessed by their supervisors having completed their training, will not be renewed by the UHWI.”

The letter advised the affected practitioners to seek jobs at other institutions.

Only seven new residents have been taken in since this month, it continued, and “of the other residents who were accepted to the various DM programs, we are currently unable to offer jobs at the UHWI”.

One doctor lamenting her disappointment, shared a letter with The Sunday Gleaner advising her that the hospital could no longer accommodate her, days after she took up a post there.

In the letter, hospital administrators explained to the doctors at the Bustamante Hospital for Children last week that “even though the request for employment is direct replacements, same must be endorsed by the regional director before assumption of duties, in order to nullify the breaches. You will be informed of a new start date as soon as the requisite approval is received. The new start date will be communicated by the undersigned on receipt of the employment contracts in hand”.

## Rioting prisoners burn section of Lusignan prison facility in Guyana



A huge fire on Sunday destroyed a section of the Lusignan prison facility on the East Coast of Demerara, Guyana. Residents in the area say prisoners started a protest early Sunday at the penitentiary after which the facility went up in flames. Residents also said they heard prisoners screaming. Police say that following a report of narcotics found about 12:45 p.m. today, and the subsequent activation of a search by an investigative team, some prisoners from the facility began rioting. As a consequence, the relevant joint services protocol was activated. Joint services ranks were able to contain the riot and escort most prisoners from the Lusignan Prisons to nearby facilities. The situation is contained at this time and logistics and other systems are being implemented. The fire is completely extinguished and several inmates who sustained injuries are receiving medical attention. There are no reports of death or escape at this time.

## Mexico set to surpass Italy's coronavirus tally as death toll nears 35,000



*People wait in line along the street before entering the area where stores are open, during the gradual reopening of commercial activities in the city.*

Mexico's death toll from the coronavirus pandemic is poised to overtake Italy's and shoot above 35,000 on Sunday, with the Latin American nation set to post the world's fourth highest deaths total, according to Reuters data.

Mexico on Saturday recorded 539 additional fatalities to bring its coronavirus toll to 34,730, with 295,268 confirmed cases. Italy has recorded 34,945 deaths and 242,827 cases.

While Italy appears to have tamed the virus, the pandemic

is showing no signs of slowing down in Mexico, where the government has faced criticism for reopening its economy too soon.

Mexican authorities have gradually raised the projections of total fatalities and as recently as June forecast up to 35,000 deaths through October. In early May, the estimate was 6,000.

The coronavirus death toll per million residents in Mexico, whose population numbers about 120 million, is the 16th highest in the world, according to data by research firm

Statista. But Mexican officials say the true toll is likely much higher due to limited testing. A Reuters analysis of funeral homes data in May indicated a toll more than double the reported figures.

Hugo Lopez-Gatell, Mexico's deputy health minister and coronavirus czar, this week said the virus was "slowing down".

But several former officials have criticised President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's administration for its handling of the epidemic.

Former health minister Salomon Chertorivski earlier this week said the government had reopened the economy before globally-established criteria for doing so were met.

"There are three fundamental variables: a reduction in the last 14 days in the numbers of contagions, reduction in recent days in the number of deaths, and reduction in the number of hospitalized people," Chertorivski told Mexican newspaper Reforma.

"None of those three parameters were achieved."

## Iran blames bad communication, alignment for jet shootdown

A misaligned missile battery, miscommunication between troops and their commanders and a decision to fire without authorization all led to Iran's Revolutionary Guard shooting down a Ukrainian jetliner in January, killing all 176 people on board, a new report says.

The report released late Saturday by Iran's Civil Aviation Organization comes months after the Jan. 8 crash near Tehran. Authorities had initially denied responsibility, only changing course days later after Western nations presented extensive evidence that Iran had shot down the plane.

The report may signal a new phase in the investigation into the crash, as the aircraft's black box flight recorder is due to be sent to Paris, where international investigators will finally be able to examine it. It also comes as public opinion remains low over Iran's government as it faces both crushing U.S. sanctions and vast domestic economic problems.

The shootdown happened the same night Iran launched a ballistic missile attack targeting U.S. soldiers in Iraq, its response to the American drone strike that killed Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad on Jan. 3.

At the time, Iranian troops were bracing for a U.S. counterstrike and appear to have mistaken the plane for a missile. The civil aviation report does not acknowledge that, only saying a change in the "alertness level of Iran's air

defense" allowed previously scheduled air traffic to resume.

The report detailed a series of moments where the shoot-down of Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 could have been avoided.

The report said the surface-to-air missile battery that targeted the Boeing 737-800 had been relocated and was not properly reoriented.

Those manning the missile battery could not communicate with their command center, they misidentified the civilian flight as a threat and opened fire twice without getting approval from ranking officials, the report said.

"If each had not arisen, the aircraft would not have been targeted," the report said.

Western intelligence officials and analysts believe Iran shot down the aircraft with a Russian-made Tor system, known to NATO as the SA-15. In 2007, Iran took the delivery of 29 Tor M1 units from Russia under a contract worth an estimated \$700 million. The system is mounted on a tracked vehicle and carries a radar and a pack of eight missiles.

The report did not say why the Guard moved the air defense system, though that area near the airport is believed to be home to both regular military and bases of the paramilitary Guard.

The report notes that the Ukrainian flight had done nothing out of the ordinary up until the missile launch, with its transponder and other data



being broadcast.

"At the time of firing the first missile, the aircraft was flying at a normal altitude and trajectory," the report said.

The plane had just taken off from Imam Khomeini International Airport when the first missile exploded, possibly damaging its radio equipment, the report said. The second missile likely directly struck the aircraft, as videos that night show the plane exploding into a ball of fire before crashing into a playground and farmland on the outskirts of Tehran.

The report put the blame entirely on the crew of the missile battery. Already, six people believed to be involved in the incident have been arrested, judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Esmaili reportedly said in June. He said at the time three had been released on bail while the other three remained held.

In recent months, Iran has repeatedly delayed releasing the aircraft's so-called black box, which includes data and communications from the cockpit leading up to the shootdown. The U.S., under international regulations, has a right to be

part of the investigation as the plane involved was a Boeing.

Iran is to send the black box to France on July 20, where Ukrainian and French experts are expected to examine it, Iran's state-run IRNA news agency recently reported. Iranian officials did not have the equipment on hand to read data from the box.

The plane, en route to the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, was carrying 167 passengers and nine crew members from several countries, including 82 Iranians, 57 Canadians — including many Iranians with dual citizenship — and 11 Ukrainians, according to officials. The route was popular with those traveling onward to Canada.

After the assassination of Soleimani in the U.S. drone strike, millions came out for funeral processions in his honor across Iran. However, his burial — which also saw a stampede that killed dozens — came just as the Guard shot down the airliner, igniting public anger against a paramilitary force that answers only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.vv

## Trump considered selling Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria, former acting Homeland Security chief says



President Donald Trump considered the idea of selling Puerto Rico in 2017 after the island was devastated by Hurricane Maria, the former acting Homeland Security secretary told The New York Times in an interview published Friday.

“The President’s initial ideas were more of as a businessman, you know,” Elaine Duke, who was serving as DHS’ acting secretary when the hurricane hit the island

in September 2017, told the Times.

“‘Can we outsource the electricity? Can we can we sell the island? You know, or divest of that asset?’” Trump reportedly said, according to Duke in the newspaper interview. “(She said the idea of selling Puerto Rico was never seriously considered or discussed after Mr. Trump raised it.),” the paper reported.

Trump has had a fraught history with the US territory

since Puerto Rico was devastated by Hurricane Maria. Nearly 3,000 people died as a result of the storm and after-effects, including widespread power outages.

Trump has previously taken aim at Puerto Rican officials for their management of the billions in relief funds his administration has appropriated for storm recovery, accusing the island’s leaders of spending some of that money for reasons other than hurricane

clean-up. In November 2018, White House officials told congressional leaders and appropriators that the President did not want any additional relief funding sent to the island.

Trump has consistently denied any fault for his administration in the aftermath of the storm. The President has instead sought praise for his handling of Hurricane Maria, calling it “an incredible, unsung success” last year.

# Coronavirus: Florida sets new state daily case record of 15,299



publican Governor Ron DeSantis ordering some bars to close again last month.

The top adviser on the White House coronavirus taskforce, Dr Anthony Fauci, had criticised lockdown easing in the state, saying the data on infections did not support the move. Mr DeSantis has also declined to make mask-wearing obligatory.

The issue of masks has become highly politicised in the United States, with opponents saying having to wear them encroaches on personal freedom. There have been demonstrations against masks and other coronavirus measures in several states.

But on Saturday, President Donald Trump appeared wearing a mask in the public for the first time after previously casting doubt on their usefulness. He was visiting the Walter Reed military hospital outside Washington, where he met wounded soldiers and health care workers.

"I've never been against masks but I do believe they have a time and a place," he said as he left the White House.

The United States overall has been exceeding new daily totals of 60,000 cases for the past few days. Other states including Arizona, California and Texas continue to see a rising cases.

Since the pandemic hit the US, more than 134,000 people there have died with Covid-19.

### Florida has seen protests over shutdown measures

The state, with just 7% of the US population, surpassed the previous daily record held by California.

Florida, which began lifting coronavirus restrictions in May, has proved vulnerable due to tourism and an elderly population.

Its figures eclipse the worst

daily rates seen in New York in April.

Florida also registered an additional 45 deaths.

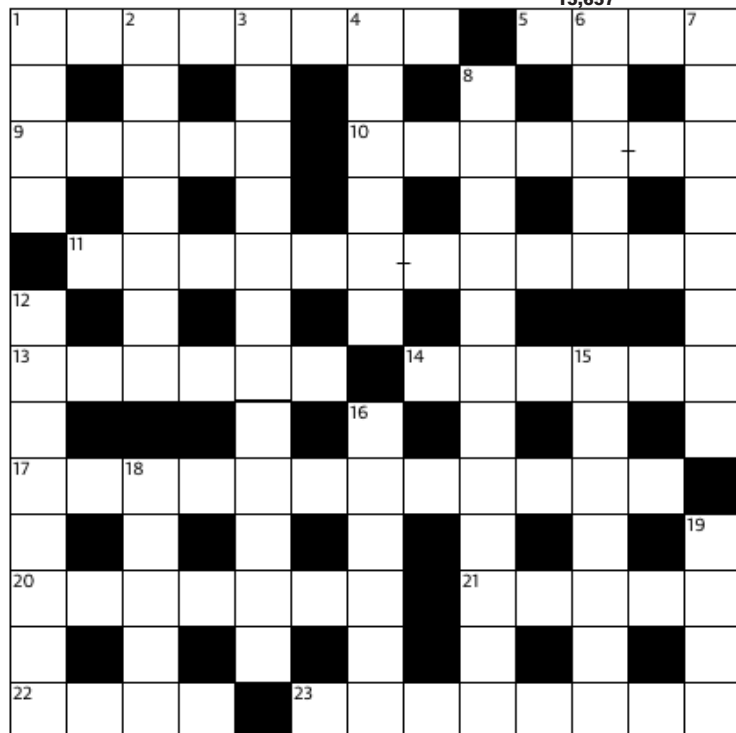
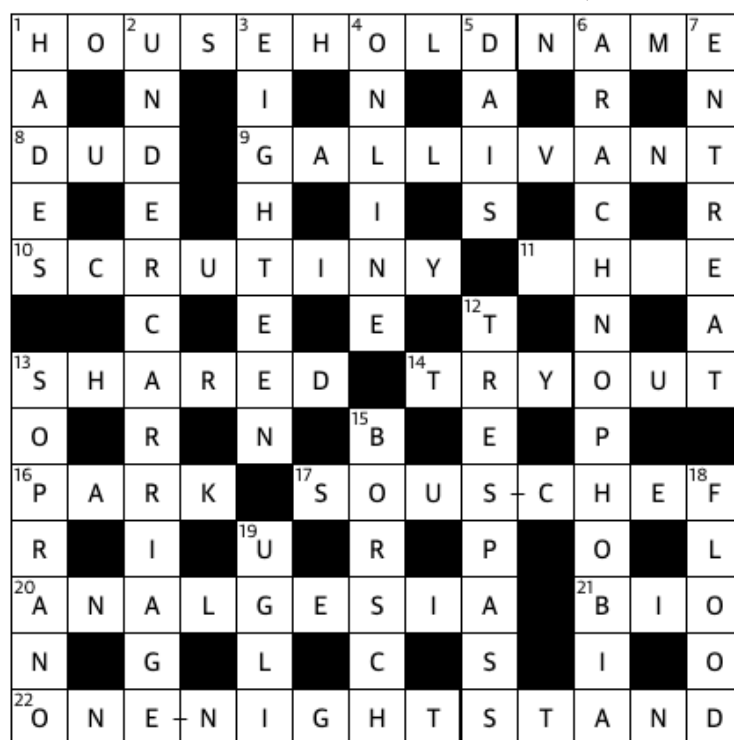
The state would rank fourth in the world for new cases if it were a country, according to a Reuters analysis. More than 40 hospitals in Florida say their intensive care facilities are at full

capacity.

The latest figures were released a day after Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida reopened, but with safety measures including mask-wearing and widespread use of sanitizer.

The caseload in Florida has continued to rise despite Re-

# QUICK CROSSWORD

 Quick crossword No  
15,657

 Quick crossword No  
15,649


## Across

- 1 Have an unintended negative consequence (8)  
 5 Amateurish painting (4)  
 9 Healing ointment (5)  
 10 Expression of weariness (5-2)  
 11 Glen dashed in (anag) — entirely alone (6-6)  
 13 Let in oxygen (6)  
 14 Develop (6)  
 17 Avant-garde (12)  
 20 Big-head (7)  
 21 Gong (informal) (5)  
 22 Company emblem (4)  
 23 Disciple (8)

## Down

- 1 Criticise — social gathering (4)  
 2 Ship carrying coal (7)  
 3 Railway wagons coupled together to carry goods (7,5)  
 4 Mend part of a shoe (6)  
 6 Sap-sucking bug (5)  
 7 Gory (8)  
 8 Flaw — weak point (12)  
 12 Blue wild flower — beer hall (anag) (8)  
 15 Accidental spill (7)  
 16 Expressed one's feelings (6)  
 18 Spike (5)  
 19 Revise (4)

## CARTOON CORNER

### Non Sequitur





**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19):** Work to understand and strengthen any weak areas in a key relationship during the upcoming week. You may feel pulled in multiple directions; be clear and direct about upholding your commitments.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20):** There is no time like the present. You may have been dreaming of having a special item, or had your heart set on owning the latest gadget, and there it is. Don't hesitate to go ahead with inspired purchases.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You can easily navigate the nuances of the social scene in the week ahead. You can make a good impression on others during the next few days, which may offset any lack of expertise with business or finances.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Make headway while you have time and energy. This part of the week is the best period to make key decisions and put your plans into action. You will find that partners may be optimistic and eager to be cooperative.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Be authentic. You will always prevail when you under-promise and over-deliver. Your intuition and generous instincts might be right on the mark right now, but later in the week they may be more difficult to access.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Your enthusiasm makes you a daring contender. You may put your best foot forward whether you are playing tennis or working on a creative idea

in the week ahead. Get all your ducks in a row quickly.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.):** Don't hold back when you're in a beneficial situation. In the upcoming week, people are likely to see you in your best possible light, giving you a chance to make your fondest dreams come true.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Sharing mutual sympathies can create a symphony of hearts. Someone's presence may prove uplifting. Avoid being pinned down to a promise, and don't put significant plans into motion in the second half of the week.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You may feel you don't have a care in the world, but you will still need to be mindful of real-world necessities. Get your thoughts and your important belongings organized for the upcoming week.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** During the week to come, someone may trigger your passion either emotionally or intellectually. You might be filled with energy, so focus it and trust that everything will turn out well in the end.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Some wild ideas might work out better than anticipated. Focus on your finances during the next few days while you are inspired to make a good showing. Pressure on the job may increase late in the week.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20):** Focus on being healthy and wise. The part about being wealthy should take care of itself. The week to come may contain some genuine opportunities for intelligent purchases or to make a splash in the business



# Jermaine Blackwood leads Windies to victory

West Indies middle order batsman, Jermaine Blackwood's 95, set up victory for the Caribbean team.

On Sunday, in front of an empty Ageas Bowl in Southampton, West Indies, chasing 200 for victory after England posted 313 in their second innings with Crawley top scoring with 76, Blackwood walked to the crease with the Caribbean team in trouble after losing three early wickets with the chief architect being Barbados born, Jofra Archer.

The Jamaican Blackwood was seemingly unaffected by the numbers as he calmly combined with Roston Chase for a stand of 63, lat-

er adding 68 in a partnership with Shane Dorwich.

England missed a number of chances to dismiss Blackwood. Ben Stokes failed to get a hand on a tough opportunity at slip off Dom Bess. Similarly, Rory Burns at gully and wicketkeeper, Jos Butler, both dropped catches off Stokes while Zak Crawley could not gather the ball in the covers when Blackwood and Chase got in a mix-up running a single.

A limping Campbell returned to join captain Jason Holder and scamper the winning run.

Sunday's victory means the West

Indies take a 1-0 lead in the three match series, while Stokes is condemned to defeat in his first match as skipper.

Captain, Joe Root, will return to lead England when the second behind closed doors Test begins at Old Trafford on Thursday.

If West Indies can avoid defeat there, they will retain the Wisden Trophy they earned with a series victory in the Caribbean eighteen months ago.

Scores England 204 (Holder 6/42, and 313 Crawley 76, Gabriel 5/75. West Indies 318 (Braithwaite 65 and 200/6 Blackwood 95.

## West Indies and Lifebuoy form partnership for England tour

Cricket West Indies (CWI) and the West Indies team on Saturday announced a new partnership with Lifebuoy, the world's number one selling hygiene soap, for their ongoing tour of England.

Lifebuoy will be working with the West Indies team by providing hand hygiene products to the full touring party.

The brand will also be capturing content with the squad to help champion the cause for better health through hygiene.



The players will feature in a number of educational videos designed to motivate fans around the world to improve their hygiene practices.

Commercial Director of CWI,

Dominic Warne, said the Caribbean outfit is delighted to announce the new venture with Lifebuoy and continued that the players will play their role as part of a serious mission to improve hygiene and health.

Meanwhile, West Indies defeated England by four wickets in their first of a three Tests series in Southampton on Sunday in front of an empty Ageas Bowl in a bio-secure environment.

The next game begins on Thursday at Old Trafford.

*cont'd from pg 28*

ball in Antigua and Barbuda is deserving of a recommendation for knighthood by the government.

Speaking of his own memories, Gonsalves recalled traveling to Gray's Green, which in that era was referred to as "the Ghetto" with Carl Casey, Peter Quinn and others to participate in the league. He said he remembered feeling exceedingly comfortable despite the community's un-

fortunate reputation.

Epilus, meanwhile, highlighted the great respect the community had for Shipwreck, so much so that the goodwill toward him extended to the young athletes participating in the youth league whose safety, as a result, was assured.

Rohan "Three Fives" Isaac, a former national player and John Brown University alumni, praised Shipwreck and the league for his personal develop-

ment both on and off the field.

"Shipwreck gave me the name 'Three Fives' because I used to wear a shirt given to me by my mother to wear to the games," the footballer reminisced.

Joseph has said that everything he did, or contributed, to the development

of youth sports and sport in general was not done for fame or attention but from the heart and due to his love for young people and sports.

In 2003, Stanfield Joseph was awarded the Most Precious Order of Princely Heritage (OH) for his contribution to Sports and Nation Building.



Stanfield 'Shipwreck' Joseph



# Sports

MONDAY 13TH JULY 2020

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
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TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

## The man behind the greatest local youth league ever

Standfield “Shipwreck” Joseph has the considerable honour of being responsible for the greatest domestic youth football league in the sport’s history in Antigua and Barbuda.

The league produced many of the great players of the 1980’s and 90’s who went on to enjoy successful careers at the national level as well as abroad with universities across the United States.

Gary “Iron Donkey” Gonsalves, Veron “Epilus” Edwards Jr., Terry “Shiffa” Brown, Conrad “Boast” Whyte, Steadroy “Demon” Anthony, Rohan “Three Fives” Isaac, Syhyan Jeffers, Darren “Nancy” Richards are among the many prominent national soccer players who have benefitted from Shipwreck’s input.

Joseph, a former Empire goalkeeper, in the early 80’s one day bumped into Darren “Nancy” Richards, “Demon” Anthony and Steadroy Joseph playing football with friends on the eastern quadrant of the King George V grounds.



Stanfield ‘Shipwreck’ Joseph, right, with Gary Gonsalves, former national player.

Recalling the occasion to PointeXpress last Friday, Shipwreck said, “I stopped, watched for a while then decided to show them a few tips about the game.

One day I was passing by and the same players approached me and said, ‘we want to play football; can you assist us,’”

This moment planted the seed in the mind of the humble Gray’s Green man to develop the Shipwreck International League.

Veron “Epilus” Edwards Jr. remembers vividly Shipwreck bringing together a group of his friends who at the time practiced soccer recreationally on the west side of King George where the Gray’s Green Sporting Complex and Magistrate’s Court is now located.

Joseph, who was only about 21-years-old at the time, began his journey leading the Shipwreck International Youth team with a group of 11,12 and 13-year-olds. He later began forming and inviting teams from other locations on Antigua

to compete in matches at the King George V ground.

Starting with just four teams, the league eventually grew as the years rolled on to include teams from all corners of the country who would compete in front of large, supportive crowds on Saturday.

Gary Gonsalves, who joined Shipwreck and Epilus during the sit down with PointeXpress, joined in reliving those memories and offered high praise to Shipwreck. Gonsalves has added his voice to a growing number in and out of the sport fraternity who believe that Shipwreck’s contributions to the development of foot-

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**DEWS**

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