



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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PRICE \$3

FRESH PROPOSALS TO SAVE LIAT



Story on Page 3

**Pg 4 - Social Security:
All pensioners to be paid**

'Things are quiet' in RPFAB

Normality has returned to the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda after a week-long 'protest' staged by junior members of the department over issues primarily centered around working conditions and benefits.

Commissioner of Police, Atlee Rodney, said 'things are quiet' in the force and the officers who were engaged in the action are now fully engaged with their job related responsibilities.

"Officers are recognizing their responsibilities and are performing to the capacity that is expected of them. In every organization you are going to have instances like that, but that does not change the mandate of the organization; the responsibility we have toward the society," he remarked.

Commissioner Rodney acknowl-



Commissioner of Police, Atlee Rodney edged while these developments occur from time to time, "One must never lose sight of their role; that is to keep the nation safe and secure."

The industrial action organized by the Police Welfare Association did not go for naught. Already, a construction crew has been dispatched to the police headquarters to complete the long-unfinished third floor.

"I am looking forward for this

thrust to continue so that the two stations most in need of repairs/refurbishing – Bolans and Parham – will be dealt with as promised," the top cop declared.

Commissioner Rodney continued while other police station outposts could also do with some upgrades, he particularly wants attention to be paid to the Barbuda Police Station.

After engaging in a series of meetings geared toward addressing the officers' concerns, the PWA returned to regular duties last Tuesday following a ZOOM meeting with Prime Minister, Gaston Browne. Tuesday's virtual meeting was followed up on Wednesday by a meeting between the PWA's executive and the Cabinet in which they were given a further opportunity to air their concerns.

DAY 7/8

Max UV Index: 12 Extreme
 Wind: E at 39 km/h
 Wind Gusts: 50 km/h
 Probability of Precipitation: 25%
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 20%
 Precipitation: 0.0 mm
 Rain: 0.0 mm
 Snow: 0.0 cm
 Ice: 0.0 mm

32° Hi



Partly sunny and breezy

NIGHT 7/8

Wind: ENE at 18 km/h
 Wind Gusts: 33 km/h
 Probability of Precipitation: 25%
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 1%
 Precipitation: 0.0 mm
 Rain: 0.0 mm
 Snow: 0.0 cm
 Ice: 0.0 mm

25° Lo



Partly cloudy

SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST
 5:39 AM

Sunset AST
 6:45 PM



Duration
 13:06 hr

MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST
 9:47 PM

Moonset AST
 9:33 AM



Duration
 11:49 hr



Fresh proposals to save LIAT

There are fresh proposals on the table to save the regional carrier, LIAT. It is hoped that these proposals may ultimately safeguard the jobs of hundreds of people while preserving a cherished regional institution.

Coming out of a meeting Tuesday convened by Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, the Antigua and Barbuda Workers Union and more than a hundred LIAT staff members, it has been suggested that the COVID-19 pandemic, and its impact on the aviation industry, has provided an opportunity to make some of the more difficult decisions concerning the airline.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Browne has again reached out to his colleague shareholder heads of government calling for a meeting next Monday during which he will propose that

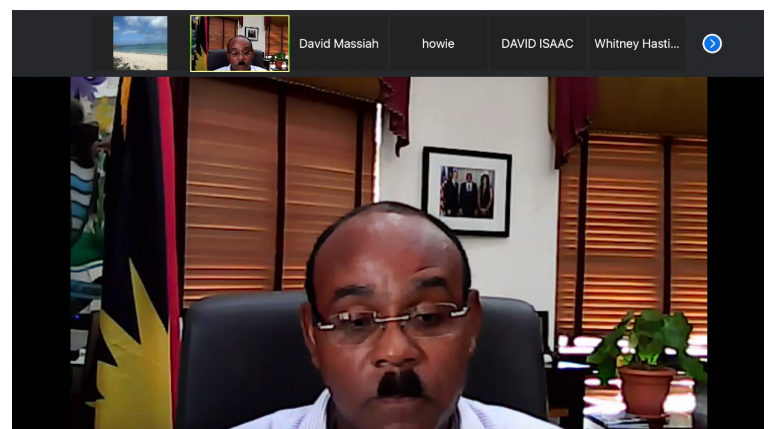
all shareholders grant the airline 100 percent forgiveness of the debts owed to them by LIAT.

Additionally, the proposal will ask all creditors, including LIAT staff, to accept a fifty percent write-off of the amounts due to them.

Browne said the support of all stakeholders is required as the full cooperation of all stakeholders is required to fight for the re-organisation of LIAT and to halt the planned liquidation exercise.

The prime minister has asked the staff, through their unions, to organize their various proposals and to have them delivered to him by Friday of this week, ahead of Monday's proposed meeting.

Speaking with PointeXpress newspaper, ABWU General Secretary, David Massiah, described the meeting as 'informative'



Prime Minister Gaston Browne participating in the Zoom meeting.

as it provided an opportunity for the staff to hear directly from Prime Minister Browne his government's plans for LIAT while also affording them the chance to ask questions of him.

Massiah said a suggestion was made that instead of a fifty percent debt write-off, thirty percent of the outstanding amounts may be more palatable. This, however, was rejected during the meeting as 'not feasible'.

The union boss went on to underscore many employees present were literally 'shocked' at the realization that they face losing their severance and all benefits should the liquidation of LIAT go through. Against this backdrop, some workers expressed the opinion that receiving fifty percent of

their accrued benefits would be a better proposition than losing everything.

"What the workers are contemplating is if they have to accept a 'haircut' in order to allow the new venture to gain traction, they would want the remaining amounts to be converted into shares.

"In addition, they would also wish to become more involved in the management of the new airline with a possible seat on the board," Massiah reported.

Massiah continued that his immediate task is to compile the views of the staff and to hear from the other unions, such as those representing LIAT's pilots and flight attendants, with the intent of compiling a report which will be presented to PM Browne by Friday.



David Massiah

Social Security faces challenges with obligations

The Social Security Board (SSB) has recorded a sharp drop in its revenues due to the coronavirus pandemic which has negatively impacted its ability to meet its monthly obligations.

Superintendent of the SSB, David Mathias, said revenues are down by approximately forty percent (40%) when compared with the period prior to the onset of the pandemic in late March this year when the government instituted a nationwide lockdown.

He is reporting that not all pensioners have received cheques for the month of June. The scheme's pension bill is \$10 million each month.

"Given its cash con-

straints, the Social Security Board continues to make every effort to satisfy its obligations to pensioners and contributors. In this regard, we can advise that to date payments have been made to pensioners whose cheques are deposited in several banks and other financial institutions," Mr. Mathias disclosed.

The banks and institutions that have been paid so far are: The Bank of Nova Scotia, Caribbean Union Bank, three credit unions – St John's Cooperative Credit Union, Community First Credit Union and the Adventist Credit Union. Other institutions including Courts Furnishings, Fast Cash, Axel, the Antigua and Barbuda De-



Superintendent of the SSB, David Mathias

velopment Bank and Finance and Development Company Ltd have also received disbursements.

Mathias continued that the SSB expects that as it receives additional receipts from employers, it will settle the other banks including the Eastern Ca-

ribbean Amalgamated Bank, the Antigua Commercial Bank, Royal Bank of Canada and First Caribbean International Bank.

Mr. Mathias noted that persons wishing to visit in person are welcomed to visit the office in order to collect their cheques.

According to the superintendent, the government has fulfilled its obligations to the scheme for the month of June. He continued however, that SSB has received letters from many employers indicating that they have not yet resumed business since the start of the lockdown, while others have advised SSB that they will close permanently.

Mathias revealed that his officers are currently in the field gathering information to determine the full impact of the coronavirus pandemic on employment in the country and that this exercise should be completed by August.

Third soldier denied bail in Greenaway case

Another of the soldiers charged with the murder of Bruce Greenaway has been denied bail in the High Court.

Lawyers representing Shakiel Thomas of Swetes approached Justice Ian Morley for bail but were denied on the same grounds which Aliyah Martin and Armal Warner's application were rejected.

Justice Morley cited the fear that the accused may interfere with witnesses or that they may abscond or commit further offences if granted bail. These reasons formed the basis for the rejection of this latest bail application by one of the accused in the Greenaway case.

On June 8th, one law enforcement officer and three defence force officers were

remanded to Her Majesty's Prison in their first appearance in the All Saints Magistrate's Court.

Soldiers, Armal Warner, Aliyah Martin and Shakiel Thomas, along with police officer, Jason Modeste, are charged with the murder of Bruce Greenaway. Greenaway's body was discovered at Indian Creek in May this year.

An autopsy concluded that Mr. Greenaway died as a result of strangulation, allegedly at the hands of the four uniformed personnel.

The lawyers representing the accused will have another opportunity to apply for bail following committal proceedings later this year in September.

Greene puzzled by Gonsalves' action

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, E.P Chet Greene, is questioning the motives behind St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves' readiness to support the liquidation of Antigua based airline, LIAT.

The airline's shareholding governments remain divided on its future; with two agreeing to liquidation while Prime Minister Gaston Browne remains convinced that the carrier can be saved through reorganization.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Barbados have already begun talks with other airlines that have expressed interest in filling the void which would be created if LIAT is grounded.

Speaking on a local radio programme, however, Minister Greene says he is convinced that the service competing airlines may offer will prove inadequate for intra-regional travel.

"Yes, nobody wants to hear the sound of the word loss or losses, but when you look at the global trend of the airline industry, since COVID, a number of airlines have folded. I don't hear of anything being put on the table except narrow island interest where PM Gonsalves is saying he has two airlines – One Caribbean and SVG – which can fill the void left by LIAT," Greene remarked.

The trade minister said he doesn't believe that the two airlines, whether together or singly, have the capacity to move people at the level that LIAT has



St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves

for several decades.

There is a belief in some quarters that LIAT stands a better chance of survival if it is privatized, however, the Foreign Affairs and Trade minister does not share that view.

Greene is calling on the Vincentian leader to rethink his position on LIAT, an entity that has benefitted the region for decades.

"For the life of me I can't understand how someone so steeped in Caribbean integration, someone who is knowledgeable about the integration process, would be so moved as to collapse a regional institution in preference for what is clearly a localized arrangement that will benefit a single economy, St. Vincent and the Grenadines," he bemoaned.

Greene has issued a call for the esteemed St. Vincent and the Grenadines leader, Prime Minister Gonsalves, to reevaluate his position on the LIAT matter and exemplify himself as the regional statesman and academic for whom he is renowned.



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

Meanwhile, Minister of Information, Hon. Melford Nicholas, has also added his voice to the LIAT discussion. Minister Nicholas has expressed disdain for some Caribbean countries' lack of support for the floundering airline.

According to Mr. Nicholas, while some Caribbean territories have flatly refused to invest in LIAT financially, they have had no difficulty spending millions of dollars annually to secure regular flights into their respective countries by large international carriers.

Salvation Army extends voucher programme

The Salvation Army has announced that it is extending its Grocery Voucher Programme for a further four months.

The programme commenced in mid-April to

bring relief to families who have been impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In keeping with its humanitarian mandate, The Salvation Army, in partnership

with the Mill Reef Fund, embarked on this Grocery Voucher Programme to aid in the welfare needs of 103 families who have already been identified.

The first phase of the ini-

tiative ran from mid-April to June. The Mill Reef Fund has renewed its commitment to underwrite the cost of the programme for an additional four months until the end of October 2020.

New travel advisory to take effect tomorrow

As the country moves into its second month of border restrictions, the Government has announced a new outline of travel advisories and safety measures in its efforts to curb the local spread of COVID-19.

The new advisories and measures take effect tomorrow, Thursday, July 9th, 2020. According to a statement from the government, the updated travel advisory is intended to ensure the continued safety of travelers and residents since the airport is open for international and regional air traffic.

Government officials have indicated that measures to mitigate the risk of the importation of COVID-19, will include a combination of screening, testing and

monitoring. These measures are said to aid in the fast detection of any imported cases.

These advisories are also applicable to all cargo vessels, pleasure crafts, such as recreational boats and yachts, and other activities regulated by the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, which are subject to all protocols mandated by the Port Health Authorities. As a result, these crafts will only be permitted to enter the country through the Nevis Street Pier.

It was made clear in the press statement that the new "Travel Advisory replaces ALL previous Travel Advisories issued by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda."

Some of the implemented strategies contained in the travel advisories include the mandate that all passengers arriving by air must have a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR (real-time polymerase chain reaction) taken within seven (7) days of their flight. This policy also extends to travelers transiting through Antigua and Barbuda.

The travel policy emphasised that transiting passengers, along with airline or sea crew members who require an overnight stay, will be required to remain in the accommodation of a hotel or government designated facility while on the island awaiting their departure.

Additionally, arriving travelers will be required to complete a Health Declaration Form and will be subjected to screening and temperature checks by Port Health Authorities.

The updated protocols outline that all arriving passengers must wear a face mask on disembarking their vessel and in all public areas. This reinforces the present government policy which makes wearing a face mask in public spaces mandatory along with the observation of social distancing practices.

As additional precautionary measures the government has stated that, "All arriving passengers will be monitored for COVID-19 for periods of up to 14 days in accordance with the directions of the Quarantine Authority and the Quarantine (COVID-19) Guidelines. Visitors may be required to undergo testing for COVID-19 on arrival, or at the hotel or place of lodging, as determined by the Health Authorities."

The government has also made it clear that arriving passengers displaying symptoms of COVID-19 could face the possibility of isolation until they have been properly examined and tested by health authorities.



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS
 ENHANCED PROTECTIVE MEASURES

DEAR VALUED GUESTS

TESTING
 ALL PASSENGERS ARRIVING BY AIR MUST PRESENT A NEGATIVE COVID-19 PCR TEST RESULT, TAKEN WITHIN 7 DAYS OF ARRIVAL

FACIAL COVERING
 A FACE MASK MUST BE WORN AT ALL PORTS OF ENTRY & IN PUBLIC SPACES.

HEALTH SCREENINGS, TEMPERATURE CHECKS
 ARRIVING PASSENGERS MUST COMPLETE A HEALTH DECLARATION FORM AND RECEIVE MEDICAL SCREENINGS AND THERMAL CHECKS AT EACH PORT OF ENTRY.
 PASSENGERS MAY BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER TESTING

SANITIZATION
 HANDWASHING AND SANITIZING STATIONS ARE INSTALLED FOR YOUR SAFETY & HYGIENE. PROPER ETIQUETTE SHOULD BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES.

CUSTOMS AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION
 CUSTOMS WILL HAVE LIMITED INTERACTION WITH LUGGAGE. USE CERTIFIED AND APPROVED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ONLY, WITH REDUCED PASSENGER CAPACITY FOR YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING
 ALL PERSONS SHOULD ADHERE TO THE PHYSICAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS OF NO LESS THAN SIX (6) FEET APART.

UPDATE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
 The beach is just the beginning...

For detailed Health and Safety Protocols for hotels and restaurants please visit: www.visitantiguabarbuda.com

European-based envoys present computers to Police, Fire Depts

A presentation of computers and essential items was made on Monday to the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda and the Fire Department.

The gift of 20 computers was made possible through the efforts of the High Commissioner in London, Karen-Mae Hill as well as honorary consuls in Germany, Greece, Russia, Spain and France.

Making the presentation on behalf of the diplomats was Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene, who thanked the diplomats for recognizing that the national economy has been challenged by the coronavirus pandemic and have pursued opportunities to seek assistance for the country.

"These ambassadors and honorary consuls are themselves on the frontline keeping Antigua and Barbuda's presence active in the global community. In a time of crisis, these representatives have found other ways to

provide service to the country," Greene remarked.

The minister noted that technology is now at the core of the work done by the police and to have the European-based diplomats making a presentation of computers to the police and fire departments is a 'most timely' gift. "These computers will go a long way in aiding the police to live up to the expectations of the nation," he noted.

Permanent secretary in the ministry of foreign affairs, Anthony Liverpool, said the donation of the gifts comes at a time when the demands on the police is greater and the need for such items increases as the police seek to carry out their mandate.

The formal presentation was made to Commissioner of Police, Atlee Rodney, who also thanked the ministry of foreign affairs and by extension the diplomats for the gift of the computers. He said all the outlying stations will receive one of the com-



puters as well as each of the fire stations.

All the computers were sourced from local provider, Antigua Computer Technology Ltd., and they come loaded with the software that

is required by the police.

Minister Greene said he is happy that the computers were purchased locally as it is important to support local businesses especially at this time.



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



Positive steps towards Category 1 restoration

Intense work is underway toward restoring the Category 1 status that was enjoyed by the Antigua-based Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA).

Three months ago, ECCAA was downgraded to Category 2 by the United States Federal Aviation Administration as a result of several shortcomings which were identified.

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne, who was designated by the current chairman of the OECS Authority, Dominica's Prime Minister, Roosevelt Skerrett, to spearhead the task, held a meeting on Tuesday with key officers to assess the work being done

toward achieving the task.

Included in the virtual meeting were Director General of the OECS, Dr. Didacus Jules, Antigua and Barbuda's representative on the ECCAA Board, Brian Challenger and Senior Advisor to the prime minister, Ambassador Colin Murdoch, who is also the country's OECS Commissioner.

Dr. Jules was invited to the board meeting to give an overview of the initiative by the OECS heads of government to expedite the restoration of Category 1 status to ECCAA. To accomplish this, the heads of government mandated the OECS Commission, which is headed by Dr. Jules, to facil-

itate the legal, technical and administrative work necessary to achieve coordination across all six ECCAA members in resolving outstanding issues.

Among the tasks that had to be completed as part of the requirements of the Category 1 status were the reconstitution of the ECCAA board. It was reported in the meeting that this has been completed and that, in fact, the reconstituted board convened a meeting last Friday. It also has a new chairman, Sean Matthew of St. Lucia.

"This ECCAA Restoration Committee has been asked to complete four tasks as part of the exercise. Firstly, we are to



work along with Ambassador, Sir Ron Sanders in Washington to make an outreach to the US Federal Aviation Authority for technical assistance to assist ECCAA," Ambassador Murdoch explained.

Additionally, the committee is to ensure that the offer of technical assistance from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) is also accepted. Murdoch informed that already a letter has been dispatched to ICAO accepting the assistance.

Ambassador Murdoch revealed that the current Director General of ECCAA, Donald McPhail, is leaving the post in September and that the committee's responsibility is to identify a suitable replacement and to make recommendations to the board.

Restoration of Category 1 also involves harmonizing specific legislations among the OECS countries and, according to Murdoch, progress is also being made along those lines as legal draftsman in the Ministry of Legal Affairs, Colin Hodge, has reported that the draft legislation is ready for circulation.

Based on the seriousness of the task at hand, the committee has pledged to give Prime Minister Browne a weekly update of its work.

Pedestrians, Bicyclists and Motorcyclists Safety

LOOK BOTH WAYS BEFORE CROSSING

SAFETY FIRST

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

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you

In these unprecedented times, organizations are finally recognizing the value of our Human Resource (HR) practitioners, but have we looked at ourselves in the mirror lately and examined our consciences? Do we sleep well at night knowing we have balanced the needs of the business against the needs of our employees? We are called upon to be the conscience of our organizations.

This Covid-19 pandemic is far from over. Our nation has only just begun


to take baby steps toward the path of recovery. We must accept that not all enterprises will survive this pandemic. Equally we must recognize that the organizations that demonstrate steady leadership, business agility, innovative thinking and which have a committed, highly engaged workforce are those which will survive.

In progressive organizations, HR has a seat at the table when strategic decisions are being made. HR must ensure that when the organization is

making decisions that will adversely impact the livelihood of all employees, that all options are considered and severing, or laying off employees, is a last resort unless the enterprise is over-staffed.

The relationship between the company and its employees, or their representatives, is not a convenience to be exploited at a time such as this. If the relationship is mired in mistrust and miscommunication, no effort should

cont'd on pg 11



National Solid Waste Management Authority
 Sir George Walter Highway
 St. John's
 Antigua
 Tel. No.: 1 (268) 562-2021/ 562-1348/ Hotline 562-1347
 Fax: 1 (268) 562 1350
 Email: nswma@solidwaste.gov.ag

July 7th, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

Collection Fee charged to all businesses operating in St John's Antigua and Barbuda

The National Solid Waste Management Authority remains committed to working in partnership with all customers to ensure our mandate is fulfilled and a safe environment is created.

However, it has become increasingly difficult and unsustainable for the NSWMA to provide timely efficient waste collection services to our Commercial customers with no direct cost attached.

In light of the above, a minimal cost recovery fee will be implemented for the collection and disposal of waste from businesses operating in the *St. John's commercial district* effective August 1st 2020, *except* where private haulers are already providing the service.


Businesses are categorized into small, medium and large, according to the type and volume of waste generated. The fees will be applied as follows: Small generators XCD \$5.00, medium generators XCD \$10.00 and large generators XCD \$20.00 per collection of the categories mentioned above based on the amount and type of refuse generated.

Residential waste collection will not be affected!

For more information please contact the administrative office at 1(268) 562-2019.

Businesses that do not wish to avail themselves to this service are free to make private arrangements.

"Working In Partnership For A Cleaner Antigua And Barbuda"

 **The National Solid Waste Management Authority**

APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Date: Monday 6th July 2020
Time: 08:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Affected areas: Eastern section of Freeman Village.

Date: Tuesday 7th July 2020
Time: 08:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Affected areas: Table Hill Garden.


Date: Wednesday 8th July 2020
Time: 08:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Affected areas: Section of Crosbies east of Boon's Haven.




Date: Thursday 9th July 2020
Time: 08:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Affected areas: Section of Cedar Grove near Royal Garden pond.

Date: Friday 10th July 2020
Time: 08:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Affected areas: Section of English Harbour north of the old gas station.

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

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



Visit us at www.apua.ag

cont'd from pg 10

be spared in attempting to repair the breaches of trust so that the parties can collaborate honestly. It will be the only hope for some organizations. In organizations with strong labour management cooperation, employees too will have a seat at the table, collaborating on the way forward.

Communication will be key as companies attempt to navigate the way forward, but is the Chief Communicator credible? And, for us, empathy is another important skill in the toolbox. Are we communicating sensitively and with respect? Are we allowing enough time in our meetings for our employees to show emotion, to explain what the loss of income, even temporary, will do to them?

Or are we too squeamish and wish to end these meetings quickly so we can move on to dish out the next dose of heartbreaks? We need to stop to consider what it is like walking a few feet in our employees' shoes. We need to show that we care, by our actions even more than our words. We HR



professionals need to strategize on our own ways to address more than safety in the workplace. We need a host of policies aimed at communicating with our employees who are laid off or working from home. We need to devise strategies without being asked in order to value our employees even in these challenging financial times.

What are some ways in which we can value our employees?

Provide the names of laid off employees to the various agencies who are distributing care packages

Collaborate with HR colleagues to identify any temporary/short-term positions that any of our employees may be qualified to take up. Assist employees where necessary with refreshing

their resumes.

If time permits, research free online training courses that employees can take advantage of while they are not working.

Offer to draft letters to banks/landlords and other entities explaining the temporary loss of income and have readily available information from local lending institutions regarding mortgage deferrals. Allow employees to take paid leave prior to proceeding on layoff

Continue to provide group medical coverage for employees and their families

We need strategies to manage and motivate our employees who are working from home. We need to be intuitive to the employees who struggle, or may

be developing mental issues, due to stress and fear and stand ready to support them. We need to champion health and wellness in our team members. We must preserve the dignity of employees who we lay off or sever. We must be fair and respect the law and collective agreements, ensuring that all our actions comply with the law and with established agreements. In short, we must treat our employees the way we would like to be treated.

The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda (HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, professional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began assembling informally from 2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB's growing membership represents private and public organizations, as well as independent consultants, specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary.

GOT NEWS

BECOME A CITIZEN JOURNALIST!

SHARE YOUR NEWS AND VIEWS WITH US.
 CALL: 268 562 4989 | EMAIL: NEW@POINTVILL.AG



Regional News

DeSilva And Caines Resign From Cabinet

Premier David Burt advised that Zane DeSilva and Wayne Caines “have accepted his invitation to resign from the Cabinet.”

Premier Burt said: “The events of this weekend seen widely on social media did not represent this Government’s months of struggle and hard work to keep Bermuda safe. Every citizen has been forced to make significant changes in how we live, work and socialize; ministers are no different. It is this that I communicated to Ministers DeSilva and Caines. “As these men depart the Cabinet I am frustrated and immensely disappointed that this incident has deprived the community of two extremely hard working and dedicated ministers. “Both men worked tirelessly during the months of the pandemic response to keep Bermudians safe and to support our economic recovery. Their energy and zeal demonstrated a genuine care and concern for the people of Bermuda. I will remain forever grateful for their contributions. “In the coming days I will set out the assignment of responsibilities following this unexpected change. Make no mistake, our commitment is unchanged and each day continues to be devoted to doing the best that we can to create opportunities for Bermudians.”

Zane DeSilva served as the Minister of Tourism and Transport, while Wayne Caines served as the Minister of National Security. Their resignation follows after videos of an event circulated on social media showing

a number of people, who were not wearing masks, dancing to music at Blu restaurant. A number of people commented on the videos, noting that Wayne Caines and Zane DeSilva appeared to be among those seen in at least one video.

Following the video circulation, a Government spokesperson said, “M.E.F. Enterprises Limited was granted a large group exemption for the Meals on Wheels charity fundraising dinner, under the Public Health [COVID-19 Emergency Powers] Regulations 2020, by the Minister of National Security.

“The exemption was granted under regulation 5 [4], permitting a group of more than fifty persons to assemble on Friday, July 3rd 2020 from 6:00pm to 11:00pm at the Blu Bar and Grill Restaurant and as required, a notice was placed in the Official Gazette prior to the event.

“The notice required persons to wear masks and to adhere to guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health. From the videos shared, it can be seen that those rules were not being adhered to at all times during the event.

“The Government will conduct an inquiry and if it is confirmed that rules were violated without reasonable excuse, sanctions will be issued under Section 7[2] of the Public Health [COVID-19 Emergency Powers] Regulations 2020, which permit the Minister of Health to close an establishment that does not comply with health directions.”



Zane DeSilva and Wayne Caines

A Meals on Wheels spokesperson told Bernews, “Meals on Wheels is fortunate to receive many donations from the community and we are grateful for them. Often the fundraising activity goes on without our knowledge and without our being involved. That was the case here.” A Blu restaurant spokesperson told Bernews, “On Friday, July 3rd a fundraising dinner was hosted at Blu restaurant. Guests arrived wearing masks, sanitized their hands and were temperature checked by security at the entrance.

“The sit-down dinner proceeded without any incident during the 2 hour period, however at the end of the evening a surprise saxophonist played as some guests were leaving and, in the excitement, social distancing was not maintained. “We realize that with summer now upon us that it is getting hotter and masks are being removed when they are not supposed to, however we understand that this is still not acceptable behaviour at this time.

“We fully intend to adhere to all protocols as laid out by the

Government and will be closing Blu for 2 days to conduct rigorous training for all staff. We will ensure all protocols are fully understood when a situation arises where social distancing is not being followed and how this should be handled.

“Bermuda has worked very hard to maintain its current COVID-19 status and we intend to do our part to ensure it stays this way. We apologize to the public and our valued guests as we work to navigate the changes and developments that each evolving phase brings.”

OBA Leader Craig Cannonier had said, “The Premier cannot stay silent on this issue. If this happened to OBA MPs, I am sure he would be leading the calls for resignations. Is he going to demand the resignations of these Ministers for this flagrant abuse?”

“If he does not, how can we take these Ministers seriously knowing that when it suits them, they will defy their own Government’s protocols. They have lost the people’s respect.”

Barbados: Day of action on racial wealth gap 'not racist'

Two women pushing for Blackout Day to be recognised in Barbados are insisting the initiative is not racist.

Marcia Weekes and Lisa Niles see Bajan Blackout as a way to not only encourage people to patronize black businesses, but as a means to encourage economic empowerment within the black community.

Blackout Day, which takes place tomorrow and is being celebrated internationally, has been designated as a day shoppers are encouraged to buy from black-owned businesses only.

The initiative comes in the wake of protests against police brutality in the United States and renewed attention to the decades-long racial wealth gap.

In an interview with Barbados TODAY, Weekes and Niles said the aim was mainly to empower black people and black businesses. They pointed out that even though blacks accounted for more than 90 per cent of Barbados' population, the majority of established businesses on the island were white-owned.

Niles said while Blackout Day was conceptualized in the US, she felt a "tailor-made" initiative could be held in Barbados.

"I thought that it was important that as a community, as a black community, that we do something to uplift ourselves. We have tailor-made what we are doing in terms of the Bajan Blackout and our objectives are to uplift the black community in Barbados and to use economic power to fight racial injustice



Marcia Weekes

and economic disparity," said Weekes, the principal of Caribbean School of Arts and the artistic director of Praise Academy of Dance Barbados.

"We are encouraging economic strength in the community and we are moving towards a black wealth creation strategy and raising the level of efficiency and effectiveness of black-owned businesses."

Weekes maintained that the initiative was in no way meant to be racist.

"I don't see anything about racism in those objectives, which is sometimes the way people view something, depending on the lenses they are looking through. But based on the objectives, there is nothing racist in wanting to love yourself and wanting to uplift your family and uplift your

community," she contended.

"It's very difficult in Barbados for black businesses to even get loans and to survive and if we don't come together as a community to help each other, who is going to help us?"

Niles, a qualified economist and educator, said she believed the initiative was particularly relevant to Barbados.

"It makes socio-economic sense that the black community be empowered, that the black community be given a broader and more meaningful participation in the financial and economic spectrum of Barbados," she contended.

However, Niles acknowledged that one of the areas in black businesses which needed to be improved was customer service.

She said that, in many instances, more training was needed for workers.

"One of the first things we talk about when we talk about supporting black-owned businesses is that the level of service, both in goods and services, the quality is not excellent and that is another objective that we have. We want to educate and enable our business people to improve the quality of service that they provide," Niles said.

She said there were also plans to facilitate financing for black-owned businesses so they could improve their operations.

The duo has created a registry for black businesses which can be accessed through the Facebook page 'Black Businesses in Barbados'.

Trinidad: Commissioner supports gang truce; calls for them to turn in guns

Commissioner of Police, Gary Griffith says he's in full support of two major gangs in Trinidad and Tobago calling a truce, but he's challenging them to take things a step further. "Since you are telling the whole country that there's a truce and you need peace, I am providing the opportunity for you to hand in all your firearms because as gang members who want to have a truce, I would expect that what you will do now is to give up all your firearms and then work to help this country," he said.

Griffith says he's prepared to support the gangs' initiative, especially due to the role they've allegedly played in the country's ongoing crime situations. "I welcome this. This is excellent news. If it means that persons who have been involved in criminal activity that have been instrumental in and been the catalyst for the majority of the 5,000 murders in the last decade and they decide to say 'let us form a truce' because we want peace", he said.

The Commissioner is challenging them to give up their guns if they're serious about their initiative.

"A truce cannot be cosmetic; that you high five one gang leader and others but then say we'll keep our firearms. You cannot have a cosmetic truce, you cannot be half pregnant," he said.

Questioned on whether he was calling for a gun amnesty, Griffith says that's a matter



Police Commissioner, Gary Griffith

for the Minister of National Security and the Prime Minister to decide on. This weekend, a slew of local dancehall artistes came together to call a truce between the Rasta City and Muslim gangs in Trinidad and Tobago.

Meanwhile, Cops in Morvant police killings will no longer be on active duty. The police officers whose weapons were discharged during the shooting incident in Morvant will no longer be on active duty. The officers have been removed from administrative and operational duty.

Commissioner of Police Gary Griffith made the announcement while speaking at a media briefing on Tuesday

at the Police Administration Building in Port of Spain.

"With immediate effect, all those involved in firing their weapons during this incident would no longer be on active duty, either operational or administrative. I expect that the Police Complaints Authority's findings would be sent to me as quickly as possible for me to take decisive action and disciplinary action, if required, or to ensure the officers report to full duty based on the findings."

He added: "This is not in anyway to be seen as a sign that the officers are being accused or blamed or disciplined for wrongdoing."

It comes one day after Director of the Police Complaints

Authority David West formally advised the Commissioner of Police that officers involved in the fatal shooting of three Morvant men should be suspended. Joel Jacobs, Israel Moses Clinton and Noel Diamond were gunned down on June 27.

A video of the incident went viral on social media sparking days of protests in and around the capital city.

Responding to the PCA's recommendation, the Commissioner of Police said he would not be pressured or bullied into making any decisions based on emotions or otherwise.

"This situation is getting more and more like a lynch mob wanting immediate action with no due process."

Jamaican Student Deportation Fears

Hundreds of Jamaican students who pursue tertiary studies in the United States could find themselves at risk of being deported if their universities switch to online-only courses, according to a statement from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) yesterday.

It was revealed that it may affect thousands of foreign students.

The US mainstream media have quoted ICE as saying that students who fall under certain visa categories “may not take a full online course load and remain in the United States”.

The report further added that the State Department will not issue visas to students enrolled in schools and/or programmes that are fully online for the fall semester nor will US Customs and Border Protection permit these students to enter the United States.

Universities across the US are beginning to transition to online courses as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Jamaican-American immigration attorney Dahlia Walker-Huntington told The Gleaner yesterday that the measures will impact some students’ studies.

“Some colleges and universities have not yet even figured out what they are doing for the fall as yet.

“Some will have to leave based on their schedules and others will not be granted visas to study,” said Huntington.

According to the immigration specialist, “if they don’t leave or enrol in another programme, the government can



begin removal proceedings against them.

The Washington-based Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) announced modifications to temporary exemptions or non-immigrant students taking online classes owing to COVID-19 for the fall 2020 semester.

As a result of the pandemic, SEVP instituted a temporary exemption regarding online courses for the spring and summer semesters.

“The policy permitted non-immigrant students to take more online courses than

normally permitted by federal regulation to maintain their non-immigrant status during the COVID-19 emergency,” the SEVP stated.

ICE suggested that students currently enrolled in the US consider other measures, like transferring to schools with in-person instruction.

There’s an exception for universities using a hybrid model, such as a mix of online and in-person classes.

Visa requirements for students have always been strict and coming to the US to take online-only courses has been

prohibited.

“These are not some fly-by-night universities, these aren’t scams, these are legit universities who would normally have in-person curricula but for coronavirus,” said Theresa Cardinal Brown, director of immigration and cross-border policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center in Washington DC.

“The bigger issue is some of these countries have travel restrictions on and they can’t go home, so what do they do then?” she added. “It’s a conundrum for a lot of students.”

Trump administration begins formal withdrawal from World Health Organization

The Trump administration has notified Congress and the United Nations that the United States is formally withdrawing from the World Health Organization, multiple officials tell CNN, a move that comes amid a rising number of coronavirus cases throughout the Americas in the last week alone.

Sen. Robert Menendez, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee tweeted the news Tuesday.

“Congress received notification that POTUS officially withdrew the U.S. from the WHO in the midst of a pandemic. To call Trump’s response to COVID chaotic & incoherent doesn’t do it justice. This won’t protect American lives or interests—it leaves Americans sick & America alone,” he wrote.

A State Department official also confirmed that “the United States’ notice of withdrawal, effective July 6, 2021, has been submitted to the UN Secretary-General, who is the depository for the WHO.”

The letter addressed to the UN is very short, around three sentences, a source briefed on the correspondence told CNN, and it will trigger a one-year withdrawal timeline. However, this source also cautioned that they cannot confirm they saw the final version of the letter.

While lawmakers from both parties have long cited systemic problems with the WHO, many have also denounced the President’s decision to withdraw during a once-in-a-centu-

ry global pandemic.

Despite alleging that the World Health Organization “enabled” the Chinese government’s sweeping cover-up of the coronavirus pandemic’s origins, members of the GOP China task force urged President Donald Trump last month to reconsider his decision to terminate relations with the international body, arguing that the US can do more to affect change as a member.

Among its current functions, the WHO is attempting to coordinate efforts to get personal safety and medical equipment, like ventilators, to hospitals around the world.

Some have warned that withdrawal in the current environment could also interfere with clinical trials essential for developing vaccines, as well as efforts to trace the spread of the virus globally. Meanwhile, the number of coronavirus cases continues to surge across the US and in various countries around the world.

There are at least 2,953,423 cases of coronavirus in the US, and at least 130,546 people have died from the virus in the country, according to Johns Hopkins University’s tally of cases.

On Monday, Johns Hopkins reported 17,346 new cases and 261 deaths. The totals include cases from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and other US territories, as well as repatriated cases.

Trump has repeatedly insisted that the rise of cases in



the US is purely the result of increased testing, but a WHO official knocked down that claim on Monday. The Trump administration has already diverted funding from the WHO and the process to formally withdraw will take a year to complete. Critics of the decision hope that the withdrawal decision will be reversed if Trump loses the presidential election in November.

“Whatever is done now can be reversed in the year to come, because it will not be final,” a UN diplomat told CNN Tuesday, pointing to how long the process of withdrawal will take. Trump’s decision to permanently terminate the US relationship with the WHO follows a years-long pattern of railing against global organizations, with the President claiming that the US is being taken advantage of. The President has questioned US funding to the United Nations and NATO, withdrawn from the Paris climate accord and repeatedly criticized the World Trade Organization.

But health experts, US law-

makers and world leaders have expressed concern over defunding the organization amid a pandemic.

After Trump’s announcement in May, a WHO spokesperson told CNN, “We have no comment to offer at this point.”

WHO scientists and experts are scheduled to travel to China this weekend to investigate the origins of the novel coronavirus, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced on Tuesday.

Specifically, experts will be seeking to trace the narrative of how the coronavirus might have spread from the wild to possibly farm animals to humans, said Dr. Mike Ryan, executive director of WHO’s Health Emergencies Program.

Trump initially announced his intention to withdraw from WHO in May and has consistently accused the organization of aiding China in covering up the origins of the virus. He has also claimed that if the WHO had acted appropriately, he could have instituted a travel ban on people coming from China sooner.

Brazil's President Bolsonaro tests positive for Coronavirus



Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro has tested positive for coronavirus.

He took the test, his fourth, on Monday after developing symptoms, including a high temperature.

Mr Bolsonaro has repeatedly played down risks of what he has called the "little flu", saying he would not be seriously affected. He has opposed lockdowns, which he says hurt the economy.

Brazil has the second-highest number of Covid-19 cases and deaths in the world, after the US.

He made the announcement in a TV interview on Tuesday, saying the fever he had been experiencing had gone down and that he felt "very well".

Mr Bolsonaro said that he had started experiencing symp-

toms on Sunday. He said he had had a high temperature, a cough and had felt unwell.

He added that on Monday he had felt worse, which prompted him to take the coronavirus test.

Mr Bolsonaro is in a higher-risk group because of his age, 65.

He said he was taking hydroxychloroquine - championed by US President Donald Trump - and azithromycin, an antibiotic, to treat the illness. Neither has been proven to be effective against the virus.

Contact tracing and tests will be carried out for the people Mr Bolsonaro has met recently.

His previous three tests for the virus all came back neg-

ative. The executive director of the World Health Organization, Dr Mike Ryan, wished President Bolsonaro "a speedy and full recovery from this disease", adding: "I think the message to us all is: we are vulnerable to this virus."

Back in April, Mr Bolsonaro said that even if infected, he would "not have to worry as I wouldn't feel anything, at most it would be like a little flu or a little cold".

The number of Covid-19-related deaths and infections - at that time under 3,000 and 40,000 - has since soared.

Despite this, President Bolsonaro has argued that regional lockdowns are having a more damaging effect than the virus

itself, and accused the media of spreading panic and paranoia.

His other comments on the virus include:

11 March: "From what I have seen until now, there are other kinds of flu which have killed more people than that [coronavirus] one"

18 March: "Today we have information, that because we have a more tropical climate [in Brazil] we've almost reached the end [of the pandemic], or it's already over... the virus doesn't spread as fast in warm climates like ours"

20 March: "After being stabbed, I'm not going to be brought down by a little flu"

He has since continued to rail against measures that he deems "dictatorial" such as the closing beaches or requirements to wear face coverings.

On Monday, he made further changes to a law that would require Brazilians to wear masks in public.

He has attended a number of public events without a mask, even when local rules required him to wear one.

On Sunday, Foreign Minister Ernesto Araújo posted a photo on social media showing himself with President Bolsonaro and others attending an Independence Day celebration at the US embassy in Brasilia.

None of those in the photo were wearing a mask or observing social distancing.

Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan warn Israel over annexation

The foreign ministers of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan have urged Israel to abandon plans for annexing settlements in the occupied West Bank, warning such action could have “consequences” for relations.

The government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had set July 1 as the date when it could begin to annex Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, as well as in the strategic Jordan Valley.

The move was endorsed by a Middle East plan unveiled by US President Donald Trump in January.

Netanyahu’s office made no announcement on July 1, but said talks were continuing with US officials and Israeli security chiefs.

“We concur that any annexation of Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 would be a violation of international law and imperil the foundations of the peace process,” the ministers said in a statement after a joint video conference on Tuesday.

“We would not recognise any changes to the 1967 borders that are not agreed by both parties in the conflict.

“We also concur that such a step would have serious consequences for the security and stability of the region, and would constitute a major obstacle to efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive and just peace.



Netanyahu’s government set July 1 as the date when it could begin to annex Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Jordan Valley

“It could also have consequences for the relationship with Israel,” the statement added, underlining their commitment to a two-state solution based on international law.

In recent weeks, the EU has mounted a diplomatic campaign against the annexation, highlighted by a visit to Je-

rusalem by German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas to raise concerns about the prospective plans.

But the bloc cannot threaten Israel with formal sanctions without unanimous support among members.

After occupying the West Bank in the 1967 Six-Day War, Israel began establish-

ing a network of settlements during the following decade. Construction has continued to this day.

Despite being viewed as illegal under international law, the settler population has jumped by 50 percent during the past decade.

Moguls and lobbyists get millions in government aid



US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has been under pressure to share more information about the PPP loans

The US government has distributed more than \$521bn (415bn) to businesses from its emergency coronavirus aid. This week, the public finally got a glimpse of who's been getting the money.

The list, released by the US Treasury Department, reignited debate about the controversial programme, called the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

"We don't want to say that the PPP didn't help small businesses - it did. But well-connected small businesses got helped first and most," said Joshua Gotbaum, a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution think tank.

The programme was intended to help small firms and prevent widespread layoffs during the pandemic. It offers loans, distributed by banks, that can be forgiven

if firms use them primarily to pay staff wages. But it has faced significant criticism, including that money has gone to bigger companies that don't need the help. Government inspectors have also warned that it is at risk of fraud, due to limited transparency and oversight.

The names published on Monday represented firms that received loans worth more than \$150,000 - less than 15% of the more than 4.8 million overall loans. And some flaws in the data have surfaced. (Scooter company Bird said it was erroneously listed.)

Steve Ellis, president of budget watchdog group Taxpayers for Common Sense, called the disclosures long overdue. But he warned that the government will have to provide much more information if it

wants to build confidence that programme is not being abused. "Just because they've provided a list of names and businesses ... doesn't mean the money wasn't wasted or doesn't mean the money was wasted," he said. So who got the money?

Recipients included businesses owned by the family of Jared Kushner, US President Donald Trump's son-in-law; a shipping business owned by the family of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao; and several members of Congress or their spouses.

New York law firm Kasowitz, Benson & Torres, headed by Mr Trump's long-time personal attorney Marc Kasowitz, also received a loan worth between \$5 million and \$10 million. It was among dozens of law firms that received PPP aid.

Dozens of tenants of Mr Trump's real estate company also received money, as did many powerful Washington lobby groups and political organisations, such as the Black Congressional Caucus.

Mr Gotbaum said it was "scandalous" that firms tied to politicians were benefiting from the programme, which at one point ran out of money.

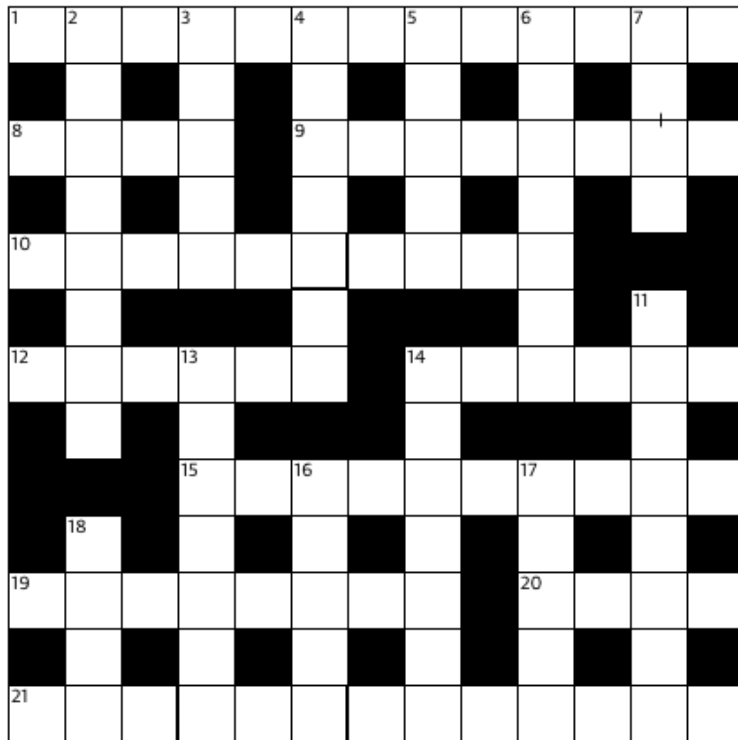
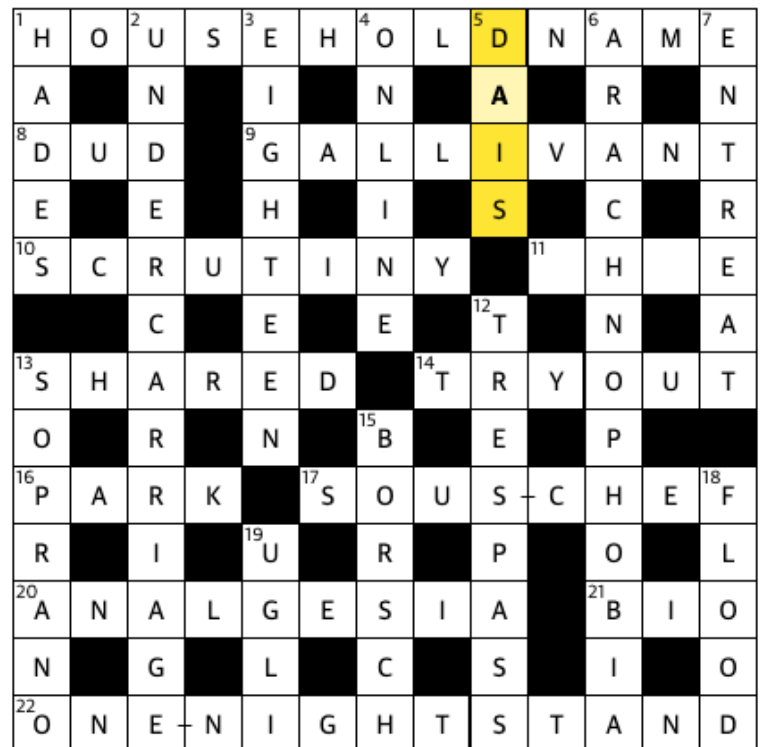
Kanye West's Yeezy apparel brand - which recently announced a long-term deal with Gap - got a loan worth between \$2m and \$5m, which was expected to help save 106 jobs.

Several other high profile fashion figures also got funds in that range, including Oscar de la Renta and Vera Wang.

The Nobu restaurants and hotels backed by actor Robert De Niro also received worth between \$11m and \$28m, while Francis Ford Coppola Winery, owned by the director's family, received a loan worth between \$1m and \$2m.

"We are using the PPP loan to ensure employee wages and benefits continue during these uncertain times," the winery wrote on Twitter after the deal was flagged.

QUICK CROSSWORD

 Quick crossword No
15,649

 Quick crossword No
15,649


Across

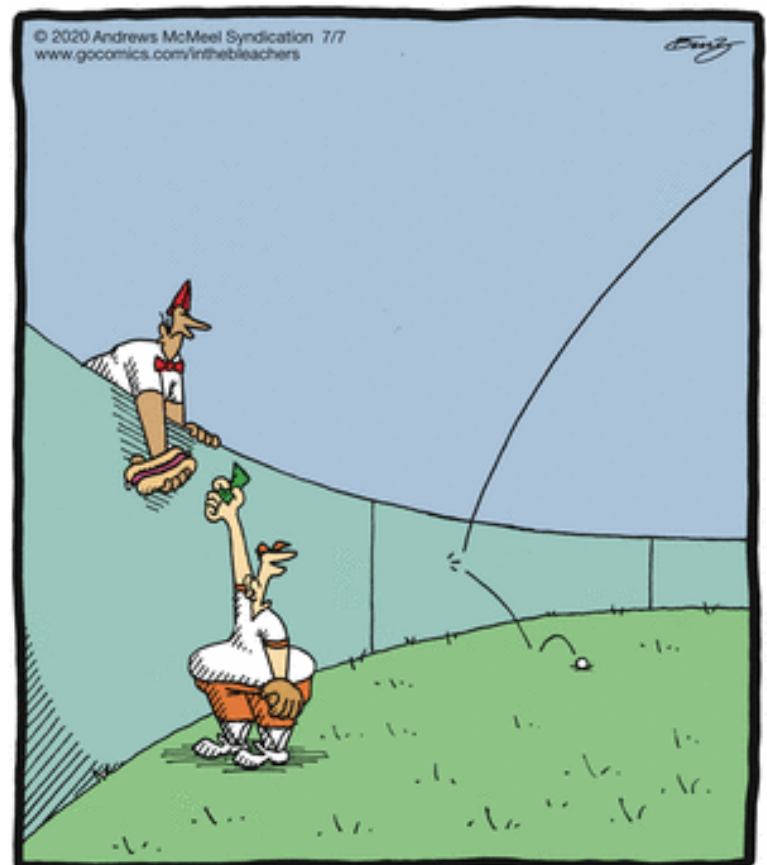
- 1 Selfish (13)
 8 Reddish-brown colour (4)
 9 Give up (8)
 10 Not ideal (6,4)
 12 Solid (6)
 14 One who holds forth (6)
 15 Solo (10)
 19 Merchant (8)
 20 Winding spool on a fishing rod (4)
 21 Group that does each other favours
 — not rowdy bloke (anag) (3,3,7)

Down

- 2 Disgust (8)
 3 Go one better than (5)
 4 Support (5,2)
 5 Dimwit (5)
 6 Boat racing event (7)
 7 Farewell (informal) (2-2)
 11 Ancestor (8)
 13 Leafstalks usually cooked, sweetened
 and eaten in puddings (7)
 14 Abide by — watch (7)
 16 Soothe (5)
 17 The Turn of the ___, 1898 Henry
 James horror story (5)
 18 Legendary Swiss crossbowman and folk hero (4)

CARTOON CORNER

In the Bleachers



"Uh ... Keep the change."



DAILY HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): What will be will be. No matter how hard you try, you might not have a contingency plan for every problem that arises. Bolster your confidence to handle whatever comes up. Let a special someone treat you like royalty.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Steer clear of temptation. With many important responsibilities on your plate, avoid those who may try to lure you away from obligations toward fun and games now. Don't make key decisions based on your emotions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Feel bad or learn, your choice. Instead of letting any recent mistakes erode your confidence, let them teach you an important lesson. It may be best to maintain a low profile and focus on studying a favorite subject.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you're going to talk, have something worth saying. Watch for cues that someone may need their space now and keep communications to the point. This may give you and a loved one needed peace and help maintain harmony.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You've got it made. Events may transpire in a way that leaves you a lot of free time while those around you are busy bees. Someone may appreciate a helping hand, or you could get the jump on future projects.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put off procrastinating. Don't drag your feet over an unpleasant task, as the sooner you get it over with, the sooner you can move on to better things. Your advice to someone may not be appreciated.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.): Just say no. Under certain conditions you could fall for someone's pitch to sell you something you don't need if you're not careful. Stick around trusted friends and colleagues who'll be happy to steer you out of trouble.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Tomorrow may cast things in a different light. An item that you absolutely must have right now may seem unnecessary later. Trust the counsel of a friend or loved one to set you straight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The in-crowd may not be all they are cracked up to be. Confidence comes from within; focus on that instead of trying to impress others. Find tasks over which you can have complete control.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Give your inner child a timeout. Try to keep your composure even if those around you are horsing around in an inappropriate place or time. An extravagant purchase may not be necessary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your head in the clouds but your feet on the ground. Others may enjoy dazzling with what "could" be; you should only be concerned with what is. Stay rooted in reality if you hope to set attainable goals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Never say never. Sticking to outdated rules or policies may put you at a disadvantage when it comes to negotiations. Compromise may come at a cost, but you should end up gaining much more.

Joseph significantly improved; could rattle England warns Roach

Key West Indies strike bowler, Kumar Roach, believes young pace bowler, Alzarri Joseph, can have a decisive impact against England in the upcoming Test series.

Roach and Joseph are expected to form part of a four pronged bowling attack that also includes the returning Shannon Gabriel and West Indies Captain, Jason Holder.

The quartet did well on

home soil last year when the team secured a 2-1 win over England and the Wisden Trophy.

On that occasion, while it was Roach who played a starring role with the ball, Joseph provided plenty of support with a 10 wicket haul for the series and gave the English batsmen plenty to think about.

Ahead of the upcoming series, Roach believes his young teammate's game has

improved much since their last outing.

"Once he sticks to his game plan and has confidence in himself, I don't see why he can't do very well in

this series," Roach told the media.

"He is a fantastic talent and we all know what he is capable of," the Barbadian added.

West Indies confident they can defend the Wisden Trophy

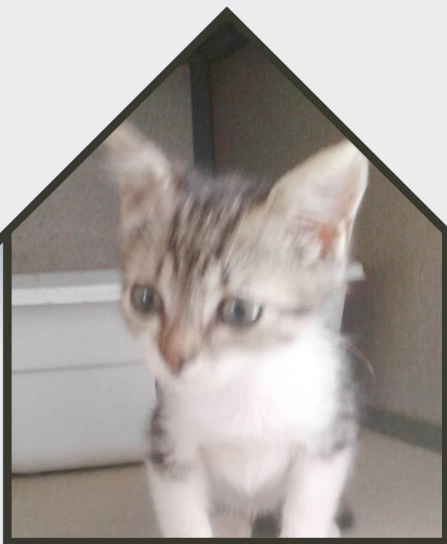
A high level of optimism surrounds the West Indies camp as they look to end a 32 year wait to win a Test cricket series in England.

Ahead of the first ever bio-secure series set to begin today (Wednesday) at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton, paving the way for international cricket to resume in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, Head Coach, Phil Simmons, said his team is confident of victory and retaining the Wisden Trophy on English soil.

"We definitely have belief. I think that the attitude I have seen, especially today (Tuesday) in training, it shows me that the guys have the belief that we can win the series here," Simmons stated.

Simmons said the key factor for Jason Holder's side is to play proper cricket in all three facets of the game.

TAKE ME HOME



This sweet little girl is available for adoption at the Humane Society in Bethesda. She has been wormed, treated for fleas and is litter box trained. When old enough, the Humane Society will spay her so there will be no unwanted litters.

If you would like to offer her a home, please call the
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cont'd from pg 24

Samuel, proved to be the most soft spoken of the bunch.

Notwithstanding this, she shares her sisters' hopes for obtaining a scholarship to pursue a university education. At present however, Ajahna enjoys the subjects mathematics and visual arts

at her school, Princess Margaret Secondary.

Like her sisters and father, she too is a loyal Manchester United fan, but her favourite player and football hero is Man U's Anthony Martial.

The girls' father, Vincent "Nabu" Samuel, a popular coach within the Ministry of Sports, came in for high

praises from his daughters who credited him for their successes so far. The sisters recognised and thanked their dad for his tremendous commitment, love and support in their personal and athletic development which has set them apart from their peers.

The girls made it clear

however, that being coached by their dad is no walk in the park as he is just as tough and demanding of them during training as he is with the other girls and women who are a part of the Cutting Edge team which has the proud distinction as one of the two top female clubs in Antigua and Barbuda.

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Integer placer-
Morbi et ipsum auctor,
eget tristique
vulputate ipsum id aliquam.
Praesent sagittis sapien vitae eleif-
convallis ut suscipit sit amet, facilisis
orci facilisis, ac tincidunt nunc ultrices.

Talented and ambitious

The Samuel Sisters from the village of Greenbay are talented, ambitious and focused. The four sisters, daughters of national youth coach, Vincent “Nabu” Samuel, are among the top players in the domestic female football league who also represent Antigua and Barbuda at the regional and international level.

Demica Samuel, the eldest of the four, attends the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (AB-ICE) and is recognized as one of the top defenders in female football.

The 19-year-old has represented the Empire Star Girls and the Antigua and Barbuda National Team at all levels.

The former Ottos Comprehensive player’s favorite position is right back however she has no problem fitting in anywhere across the defence. The Cutting Edge star has expressed aspirations of furthering her education at the tertiary level, pursuing a degree in business.

Younger sister, Denisia Samuel, 17, attends the Ottos Comprehensive School and has represented the na-



tional team at the Under-15 and Under-17 levels.

Denisia, who prefers the right back position, also represents the Cutting Edge Football team coached by her dad Nabu.

Although they have their strengths on the field of play, both Demica and Senisia are versatile as within their club Demica plays right back and while Denisia plays center back.

Denisia shared that her favorite player is Manchester United’s Marcus Rash-

ford; the team and a player all supported by the entire Samuel family.

“My goal is to attend college and take it from there,” the young Greenbay resident confirmed.

Yet another member of the Samuel squad is 14-year-old Denesha who is also a national player at the youth level.

“My dad introduced me to the game and I fell in love with it,” Denesha beamed.

“I used to play netball,” she continued, “but football drew my attention and now I am enjoying the sport and looking forward to gaining a

scholarship in the future.”

Denesha’s first national outing was in St. Kitts against Dominica and according to her, an experience she will never forget for a very simple reason.

“I scored!” she told us excitedly.

The third Samuel sister went on to share that she enjoyed the recent female football league at the ABFA Technical Center which was ultimately postponed on March 13th 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The large crowds were encouraging and assisted in producing a better standard of play Denesha explained.

The fourth sibling, Ajahna

cont’d on pg 23

DEWS

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