



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

POINTEX PRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2020 | ISSUE 131 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

HEALTH INSPECTOR ISSUES WARNING

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Sir Keithlyn Smith laid to rest

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Chief Health Inspector issues stern warning

The Chief Health Inspector is putting businesses that release untreated water onto public roadways on notice as, according to her, those days are fast coming to an end.

In an appearance on Starting Point on Tuesday, Chief Health Inspector, Sharon Martin, signaled her office's intention to take legal action against businesses that refuse to put mechanisms in place to prevent the indiscriminate dumping of waste water.

The issue was recently

highlighted when a popular supermarket was told to deal with the incessant flow of untreated water into the streets. The untreated water was causing an unbearable stench that affected residents in the supermarket's immediate environs.

Martin said she intends to forge ahead with plans to ensure there is compliance with health and safety regulations, even if it means filing charges against violators.

"When these business places are established,

we advise them on how to set up a grease trap. I would tell them to physically remove the fat from meats because once these get into the grease trap and it is not cleaned regularly, it would reduce the trap's effectiveness over time. Some start off doing it and then they would discontinue. This is what leads to acidification which gives off the bad odor. We keep asking the businesses to take preventive measures to no heed. We are now going to be taking those entities before the magistrate for violating the regulations," Martin warned.

In a letter dated 24th August, 2020, Chief Health Inspector Martin gave the offending supermarket fourteen days from receipt of her letter to take the necessary positive steps in implementing three recommendations to remedy the existing problem.

According to the letter, these measures included, "The addition on premises of holding tanks for the storage of effluent only, ideally the installation of a sewage treatment plant activated sludge or sequencing batch reactor type as well as an absorption area, adequately sized to accommodate the output of the effluent flow on a daily ba-

sis."

Martin stated in the letter that the problem that is affecting residents has been an ongoing issue dating back to the tenure of her predecessor which was allowed to continue unabated. She made it clear, however, that she intends to put a stop to it.

She faulted the owners of offending businesses for failing to plan adequately for the growth and expansion of their businesses.

Martin said many businesses find themselves in a situation where, for example, they eventually outgrow the capacity of smaller septic tanks which were initially adequate for their operation. With growth however, changes become inevitable, but are often neglected.

"As the business grows there is a need for changes to the system which is not happening. More business, more people, the business grows and the small septic tanks become overwhelmed. If it is overwhelmed, it would not function properly and that's what's bothering many people. People see the need to increase the size of the business but they never see the need for waste to be better handled," Martin lamented.

DAY 9/16

32° Hi

Partly sunny with a shower in the area

NIGHT 9/16

28° Lo

Partly cloudy w/ showers

SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST
5:55AM

Sunset AST
6:08 PM

Duration
12:13 hr

MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST
4:58 PM

Moonset AST
5:53 AM

Duration
12:55 hr

APUA announces closure of the Wadadli Power plant

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) has announced that the Wadadli Power Plant is no longer providing power to consumers and that operations there are being wound up.

Electricity Unit Business Manager, Andre Matthias, said the plant at Crabbes, which was commissioned in 2011, was decommissioned five years later in 2016. There was an attempt to revive three of the plant's six engines, but the engineers were only able to restore two.

"The two engines were very unreliable resulting in many power outages. Then we lost one of the two to serious damage and last month we decided to close down the other engine because it was uneconomical to continue operating," Matthias explained.

He disclosed that it was costing APUA more to operate the plant than to purchase power from the Antigua Power Company.

The Electricity Manager said his main concern now is the welfare of the twenty-three staff attached to the plant. He confirmed that he has been in touch with the trade unions that represent the workers.

"What we plan to do is to integrate those who can be consumed into other parts of the company or perhaps

with APC. Where we are unable to do so we may unfortunately have to terminate those workers but that is an option we hope to avoid," he stated.

Matthias said he is preparing a report that will be submitted to APUA's general manager and to the Board of Commissioners detailing the historical developments surrounding the plant.

Following this, he said it will be up to the board and the government to determine if they should seek compensation from the Chinese company which set up the plant.

Power plants normally



have a 20 to 30 year lifespan. The Wadadli Power plant has failed to provide half that number in efficient service.

At its commissioning, the plant became the centre of controversy as it was

haunted by claims that it was not a new plant. There were accusations that the former government had been duped into purchasing a used plant at the incredible cost of US\$46 million.



A.B.T.B. School Bus Safety Month

SOCIAL DISTANCING

While on the School Bus

COVID-19 has the National School Bus System making drastic changes for this school year.

ABTB
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TRANSPORT BOARD

A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

-NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SYSTEM-



Sir Keithlyn Smith laid to rest



Sir Keithlyn Smith laid to rest ...continued



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

POINTEX PRESS

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AND VIEWS WITH US
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Antigua and Barbuda's COVID-19 status improves

The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) COVID-19 Transmission Classification survey has identified an improvement in Antigua and Barbuda's management of the disease. The Ministry of Health revealed that a PAHO report had moved Antigua and Bar-

buda from the status 'Cluster of Cases' to 'Sporadic Cases'.

This positive news was among the highlights of PAHO's September 14, 2020 Region of the Americas Update on COVID-19.

Antigua and Barbuda has had ninety-five (95) laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 since March 2020.

After the country reopened its borders in June 2020 there was an expected increase in the number of cases. This resulted in the country's Transmission Classification as 'Cluster of Cases'.

The Ministry of Health has said, however, that the government's protocols and policies, which were implemented by health and border control authorities, minimised the uptick in coronavirus cases.

Only COVID-19 cases were recorded in August 2020 and so far in September, there has been one.

This has resulted in Antigua and Barbuda's downgrade to 'Sporadic Cases'.

The Ministry of Health has expressed appreciation to the general public for its continued support in slowing the local spread of the coronavirus. The ministry also extended gratitude to the dedicated workers at ports of entry and quarantine facilities, as well as contact tracers and laboratory staff who together have contributed to the country's new COVID-19 status.

"We look forward to your continued dedication and collaboration as we continue to combat COVID-19 in Antigua and Barbuda," the Ministry of Health said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the latest dashboard published by the Ministry of Health indicates that there are no new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda and there is only one active case of coronavirus.

Form RLNC 6

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
THE REGISTERED LAND ACT, CAP 374

Section 34 of the Act

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
POTTERS & BELMONT	6131890B	167

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REPLACE LOST OR DESTROYED LAND CERTIFICATE/CERTIFICATE OF LEASE

TAKE NOTICE that an application was filed in the Land Registry on ^{10th} day of ^{Sept} 2020 by MICHELLE G STERLING of JUSTICE CHAMBERS INC. of Bay Gardens, Hodges Bay, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of GOLDINE BURTON-KNIGHT (As the Personal Representative of the Estate of Jacob Burton) the Applicant herein for the replacement of Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease #1045/92 dated the 4th day of March 1992 issued to JACOB BURTON deceased, being the owner of the above-mentioned property, which has been lost or destroyed.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that anyone who objects to the issue of a new Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease or who has knowledge of the original Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease must within the period of one (1) month from the Second Publication of this notice in the newspaper inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in the absence of any objection or information as to the existence of the original Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease within the time specified the Registrar of Lands may proceed to cancel the original Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease and issue a new Land Certificate/Certificate of Lease in its place without further notice

Dated the ^{16th} day of September 2020.

.....
Registrar of Lands

REAL TALK

With

BEEF | RASTAMAN KENTAE & BERNARD

MONDAY & THURSDAY
7pm-Until

TUESDAY
9pm-Until

POINTE FM

99.1 FM

Historic Barbuda debate set for Thursday

The thorny issue of the relationship between the central government in St. John's and the Barbuda Council in Codrington comes up for debate in the House of Representatives tomorrow.

The debate will center around a resolution which the government will table when the parliament convenes to conclude the debate of several outstanding matters.

At this time the government will also address demands by the Barbuda Council for Barbuda's secession from Antigua which were raised in a recent letter the Council penned to the Cabinet Secretary.

The Council has identified a litany

of grievances which it says have led to their request for separation from Antigua.

Among them are claims that Barbuda was neglected by the Central Government following the passage of Hurricane Irma, amendments to the Barbuda Land Act of 2007 which the Council says did not serve the best interest of the island's people and several "derogatory" comments made by Prime Minister Gaston Browne directed toward Barbudans whom he described as "squatters".

A spokesman for the Barbuda Council said these incidents have caused a strain on the already dysfunctional relationship between Antigua and Bar-

buda. The spokesman continued that the sister isle is being used as a "bread basket" for Antigua, a claim which he said is evidenced by use and abuse of Barbuda's resources by the Antigua based government without providing benefits to the island's people.

Upon receipt of the Barbuda Council's letter, the Browne government responded that Antigua and Barbuda is a sovereign, democratic, unitary state and would not countenance the separation of the islands.

In a surprise move last week, however, the government announced that it will take the matter before the parliament, where a robust debate will very likely take place.

To: Your Worship
 The Licensing Magistrate
 St. John's Magistrate Court
 Gray's Farm
 St. John's Parish
 Antigua

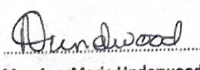
To: The Commissioner of Police
 Police Headquarters
 St. John's Parish
 Antigua


10th September, 2020

Subject: Application for Bottle License - 'Annie's Café'

I, Ann-Marie Underwood of Wetherill's Department, St. John's Parish, Antigua, **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Gray's Farm, St. John's Parish, Antigua, on Thursday, 01st day of October, 2020, to obtain a Bottle License pursuant to Section 11(5) of the Licensing (Intoxication Liquor) Act, Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, for the premises of my business place registered as "Annie's Café" is situated in #20 West Bus Station, St. John's Parish, Antigua.

Yours sincerely,


 Mrs. Ann-Marie Underwood
 Proprietor- 'Annie's Café'
 764-0343



Max Prestige security Firm

Max Prestige Security Firm is seeking a suitable person to be employed with our firm; Applicants will be screened and interviewed before selected.

- **APPLICANTS SHOULD BE BETWEEN THE AGE OF 20-50 YEARS OF AGE**
- **NON - NATIONALS SHOULD BE IN POSITION OF A WORK PERMIT**



Resumes can be emailed at alex.hunte2013@yahoo.com or drop off at Multipurpose Cultural Center Office located at Perry Bay during working hours Mondays- Fridays 8am- 3:30 pm daily before Thursday 17th September, 2020.

Antiguan student completes MSc in Criminology

An Antiguan student has recently completed a Master of Science (MSC) degree in Criminal Justice/ Criminology. Mercedes Ryan, the daughter of businessman Paul Ryan and his wife, Francine, pursued the degree at Purdue University Global which is located in the United States.

Ryan started her journey in 2009 at the Midwestern State University in Texas where she graduated with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice.

She then returned home for a brief internship with the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda. While working with the police, Ryan assist-

ed with processing arrests, examining crime scenes and updating criminal records.

She was among the top three graduates of the Ministry of Finance's Leadership through Excellence Award Programme (LEAP) in 2013.

Ryan is a graduate of the Christ the King High School class of 2007 and has always looked forward to a career in criminal justice.

According to the new criminologist, Benjamin Franklin's observation that 'an investment in knowledge always pays the best interest' has been her personal guide.



Mercedes Ryan

NOTICE

To: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
Gray's Farm
St. Johns
Antigua.

To: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. Johns
Antigua.

To: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
Gray's Farm
St. Johns
Antigua.

Dear Sir/ Madame,

Re: Notice- Application for Bottle Licence

I, Tiffany Cassandra Jacobs of Upper Fort Road, with registered business situated at Cross Street in St. Johns Antigua and Barbuda **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the liquor licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Gray's Farm, St. John's, Antigua on Thursday 1st October, 2020 next ensuing for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "T.J.T's Nene Candy's Frozen Treats" situated at Sutherlands in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 14th day of September, 2020

.....

NOTICE

TO: HER WORSHIP
The Licensing Magistrate
Magistrate's Court
Gray's Farm
St. John's
Antigua

TO: HER WORSHIP
Magistrate for District "A"
Magistrate's Court
Gray's Farm
St. John's
Antigua

TO: COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A BOTTLE LICENCE FOR BUSINESS
REGISTERED AS
NIQUAN COOK SHOP

I, Althea Walsh, **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE**, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licence Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Grays Farm, St. John's Antigua on Thursday 1st October, 2020 next ensuing for a Bottle license in respect of premises known as "Niquan Cook Shop" situated Independence Avenue, in the Parish of St. John's, Antigua pursuant to Section 11 (3) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.

Dated the 28th August, 2020

.....

Althea Walsh
268-781-0353

CBH: No human waste is being used as fertilizer

Allegations that a farm near the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium has been using human waste as fertilizer have been dismissed by the Central Board of Health.

The allegation, which was posted on social media, caused great uproar. This in turn prompted the Central Board of Health to dispatch a team of officers to inspect the farm which is operated by Chinese nationals.

In addition to the CBH inspection team. Chief Health Inspector, Sharon Martin, also visited the farm which is located off Old Parham Road near the cricket stadium.

“The social activist made contact with me and I wanted to be able to verify for myself the veracity of her claims.

“I went to the farm, ac-



Chief Health Inspector, Sharon Martin

companied by two other officers, and I inspected the mound which the individual reported to me.

“I examined the mound carefully and determined that what was there was not human faecal matter but animal parts, namely chicken,” the Chief Health Inspector explained.

According to Martin, human faeces carries a particular odor which was not identified at the mound on the farm.

She also spoke with the operator of an adjacent farm with whom she shared her team’s findings. Martin reported that the farmer accepted the CBH

team’s findings.

Agricultural Extension Officer, Owolabi Elabanjo, who works closely with the Chinese farms, also dismissed the claim that human faeces is being used as fertilizer.

He said none of the farms he works with are engaged in this practice.



VACANCY

Our Client is seeking to fill the position of Accounting Manager. Please see the requirements for employment. Suitable Candidates are asked to send a letter of application and CV to the following email address: zanetrainingconsultancy@gmail.com

Application period will expire on 25th September

PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

To manage the accounting operations by controlling and verifying our financial transactions. The person filling this position will be responsible for maintenance of the company's accounting software and maintaining accurate financial records to secure the financial health of the organization.

SECONDARY FUNCTIONS:

Undertaking any other duties that would normally be expected of an Accountant as a consequence of holding the position

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATION AND SKILLS

- Must have a BSc in Accounts
- Must have professional qualification at the CPA, ACCA, CGA or CMA level

REQUIRED:

- Knowledge or accounting principles and practices
- Knowledge of finance principles
- Knowledge of IFRS Standards
- Technical accounting Skills
- Extensive working knowledge of the QuickBooks Accounting Software, both the Accounting and the Point Of Sale Software and Microsoft Excel
- Good interpersonal skills and organizational skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills

EXPERIENCE:

A minimum of 5 years work experience managing an accounting department is a requirement. Priority will be given to qualified applicants with wholesale and retail experience.



Sir Selvyn Walter passes

Former government minister, Member of Parliament and Journalist, Sir Selvyn Walter, has died.

Sir Selvyn, the brother of the late Sir George Walter, passed away on Monday morning at his residence.

He served in the Progressive Labour Movement administration from 1971 to 1976 and represented the St. John's Rural West Constituency, after toppling the Rt. Hon. Sir V.C. Bird Sr.

In the PLM government, Sir Selvyn Walter held the portfolios of Economic Development and Tourism.

In 2013, the retired politician, historian and prolific writer, was knighted by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda during the annual Independence celebrations.

Sir Selvyn attended the University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica, where he made his mark as an outstanding debater. He was part of the UWI debate team which won many competitions in Jamaica and across the region.



Office of the Prime Minister
Antigua & Barbuda

Queen Elizabeth Highway
St. John's, Antigua
Email: pmsecretariat@ab.gov.ag

Tel. (268) 460-5100
Fax.(268)462-3225

Honourable Gaston Browne M.P.

Prime Minister
14 September 2020

Prime Minister Gaston Browne tribute to the late Sir Selvyn Walter

Sir Selvyn Walter was talented and ambitious, extraordinarily clever and fearless. He would come to the nation's attention when he defeated Vere Cornwall Bird in the 1971 general elections. The youthful challenger, facing down the 61-year old incumbent party leader in the Rural West Constituency, won 879 votes to Sir Vere's 679 votes. This upset was astounding, since Vere Bird was, several times before, elected to parliament unopposed. To have been defeated in his fifth election by a neophyte politician was incredulous for he changed the tide of history.

Sir Selvyn Walter served in government for less than five years; he seemed determined to defeat his brother, Sir George Walter, as the leader of the Progressive Labour Movement and the Premier; he did not succeed. Although welcomed back into the PLM fold for the 1976 general election, Sir Selvyn was defeated by D.C. Christian, ending his career in governance though not in politics. He never offered-up himself as a candidate at any time thereafter.

Sir Selvyn turned to commerce and to capturing in writing many of the folktales which had been embedded in the oral culture and tradition of Antigua and Barbuda. He was prolific in his writing, producing tales weekly for one newspaper and eventually publishing a compilation of those tales for the benefit of future generations. *Bank Alley Tales* were primarily about mythic figures, human and animal, that predominated when there were no street lights and fear of the dark and of death permeated the Antiguan cultural reality.

Sir Selvyn collected stories, but he also amassed artifacts from a previous era. His home at Rooms Estate was more like a museum, enriched by the paintings of Antiguan artists, books written by Antiguan authors, and furniture carved by the hands of Antiguan artisans. The house in which he lived was of the past and preserving its authenticity was emblematic of his love for his country's story. He knew that modernity could erase the significant markers from the past, and he privately maintained them in a corner of Wilkies Village not frequently explored by many of us.

Sir Selvyn was more likely to laugh than to frown, more likely to give than to aspire to receive. The spirit of his forebears expressed itself in his eagerness to embrace and to inform. His father, Norris Walter, was himself keen to share and to celebrate; it was his father's support for the Antigua Trades and Labour Union and the movement it catalyzed that significantly secured the Union's permanence. He knew this history.

Sir Selvyn Walter has not left us. There are many Selvyns in our Antigua and Barbuda who know the importance of telling our story; who preserve the past while acting to build a transcendent future; who carry no malice in their hearts despite strong differences of opinion with others. May the model which Sir Selvyn evinced continue to express itself among our youth. Farewell, my Brother and Comrade-in-arms. Go peacefully to rest with the ancestors.

Youth Orchestra's workshop goes virtual

A regional technology company is helping the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) resume rehearsals which were impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person workshops for ABYSO students were hampered as the workshop's facilitators were unable to travel to Antigua.

Telecommunications giant, FLOW, stepped in to provide the ABYSO with the virtual technology and broadband service necessary to get rehearsals back underway.

The students will now be able to engage with the facilitators to complete the workshop sessions via the ZOOM meeting platform.

On August 28th and September 4th, the members



of the ABYSO participated in the first MusAid Virtual Maintenance Workshop for Brass facilitated by Andy Frobige and Executive Director of MusAid, Avery Waite.

The ABYSO is com-

posed of a talented and diverse pool of young musicians from Antigua and Barbuda.

Antigua and Barbuda's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Chairperson of the ABY-

SO, Karen-Mae Hill, said: "The ABYSO has been able to sustain and grow its programmes in this challenging period by using technology to virtually connect music students with mentors situated all over the world and locally.

"We extend a great big thanks to FLOW for its generous sponsorship of some of the internet services needed to allow the ABYSO to continue making music.

"Both our members and their mentors have spoken about the significant mental health benefits the ability to make and share wholesome music has given to them."

Pointville Communications mourns Catherine Joseph's passing

The Pointville Communications family is mourning with one of its employees who lost his mother on Tuesday.

Catherine Elaine Joseph died on Tuesday at the age of 88.

She was the mother of Audley Joseph, popularly known as 'Beef' and veteran ra-

dio personality Collie Joseph, known popularly as Governor Slim.

The directors, management and staff of Pointville Communications Inc., extend condolences and love to the family of team member Dave 'Beef' Joseph on the passing of his mother Elaine.



Rotaract donates water tanks to the disabled

The Rotaract Club of Antigua (RCA) has donated twelve 200-gallon water tanks to several disabled persons.

The recipients of the tanks were identified by the President of the Antigua and Barbuda Association of Persons with Disabilities (ABAPD), Bernard Warner.

The club has identified water sanitation and hygiene as its priorities this year especially against the backdrop of ongoing drought conditions in Antigua and Barbuda.

In a statement, the club said it hopes that the donated water tanks will encourage the recipients to take rainwater harvesting seriously as a means of satisfying their need for fresh water. The ABAPD continued that the increased availability of water will also hopefully promote hand washing and proper hygiene which will help to stave off the COVID-19 virus..

President of the Rotaract Club of Antigua, Ti-anna Harris, said: “The disabled are among the most vulnerable of society and we really wanted to help them out when

identifying a target group for this project.”

Among those receiving the water tanks were persons with visual impairment, amputations and other physical disabilities.

THE HELPING HAND FOUNDATION PRESENT
 ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

1st Annual COLIN JAMES BIRTHDAY

FUN-WALK & FUND RAISING BREAKFAST

SAT 19 SEPT 2020 | 6AM

ROUTE:
 OLD ROAD PLAYING FIELD MACK POND PLAYING FIELD, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE

FEE: EC\$25/US\$10

(T-SHIRT • WATER BOTTLE • WRIST BAND • BREAKFAST)
(PROCEEDS DONATED TO DIABETIC CARE)

In Memory of Loving Father, Alfred 'Colo' James - RIP!

MP Molwyn Joseph donates school supplies

Parliamentary representative for St. Mary's North, Molwyn Joseph, donated approximately three hundred school bags containing educational tools to students at the Bendals and Jennings Primary schools.

The donation was made to both institutions this week when Joseph paid them a visit.

Understanding the difficulties some parents may face in equipping their children with necessary back to school items as a result of the economic fallout of COVID-19, MP Joseph donation included an assortment of items including school bags, lunch kits, books and pens.



“This is where you build your foundation for the future; in your education,” Minister Joseph told students at the Bendals Primary.

Joseph noted that in these unprecedented and challenging times, many families may be forced to prioritize their basic necessities over certain school supplies.

He anticipated that the donated items will ease the pressure families are facing in meeting the important educational needs of their children.

During his visit to the Jennings Primary school, MP Joseph also donated twelve garbage bins.



POINTE FM 99.1
BROADCASTING FROM THE POINT COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY BASED... GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
99.1 FM

STEELPAN MELEE

TUESDAY 5PM-6PM

WITH KHAN KC CORDICE & PETRA WILLIAMS

POINTE FM

Barbados to become a Republic and name more National Heroes

(Loopbarbados) Delivering the huge announcement today (September 15) was the Governor General Her Excellency Dame Sandra Mason.

Reading the speech penned by Barbados' leader, Prime Minister Mia Mottley, Dame Sandra revealed:

"The time has come to fully leave our colonial past behind. Barbadians want a Barbadian Head of State. This is the ultimate statement of confidence in who we are and what we are capable of achieving. Hence, Barbados will take the next logical step toward full sovereignty and become a Republic by the time we celebrate our 55th Anniversary of Independence."

She said that "Barbados has developed governance structures and institutions that mark us as what has been described as, 'the best governed Black society in the world'. Since Independence, we Barbadians have sought constantly to improve our systems of law and governance so as to ensure they best reflect our characteristics and values as a nation."

No longer will Barbados "loiter" on the colonial steps. Taking heed of the warning



Governor General Her Excellency Dame Sandra Mason inspecting the troops before delivering Tuesday's Throne Speech.

given decades ago by Barbados' first Prime Minister the Rt Excellent Errol Barrow, Prime Minister Mottley says that her administration will deliver on this. "Having attained Independence over half a century ago, our country can be in no doubt about its capacity for self-governance."

Furthermore, the Governor General said that the list of National Heroes will hereby be expanded as well.

Barbados added National Heroes Day to its calendar of national holidays in 1998 and by an Act of Parliament

at that time, recognised 10 men and women as National Heroes based on their historic contributions to the island's development and progress.

Now, 22 years later, the Governor General reading Mottley's words, declared: "It was intended that in due course, the list of National Heroes of Barbados would be added to and my Government shall do so."

The Throne Speech was delivered from The Senate, temporarily located at the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre. Dame Sandra made

the appropriate proclamations to deem the Centre fit for the day's proceedings in light of the environmental issues which have led to the closure of the Parliament buildings located in the heart of Bridgetown.

Dame Sandra arrived at the Centre at 9:51 am to fanfare by the Barbados Defense Force. She took the royal salute on the dais and inspected the officers before being escorted inside where she took the Throne and delivered the almost two-and-a-half-hour-long 60-page speech.

Bahamas Princess Margaret Hospital morgue over four times its capacity

(Ewnews) The morgue at Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) is over four times its capacity, according to Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) Managing Director Catherine Weech.

During a virtual press conference Monday, Weech said PMH has a capacity for 55 bodies, but there were “four times that amount”.

This means there were at least 220 bodies stored in the morgue at last report.

Additionally, she said Grand Bahama Health Services had a capacity for 25, but the number of dead at the facility scaled up between two and three times that figure.

“Those bodies were accommodated in the external coolers of the hospital,” Weech added.

The PHA managing director was responding to questions from the media after Minister of Health Renward Wells underscored the challenge, namely, families delaying the collection of their deceased loved ones.

As of yesterday, there were 76 people who either died with or from COVID-19.

“... Some persons are using the morgue at PMH as a storage facility for their deceased loved ones,” the minister said.

“We understand that death and losing a loved one is an emotional and sensitive time.

“However, the morgue at Princess Margaret Hospital continues to be stretched to capacity as a result of the delayed collection of loved ones who have passed.

“Given the necessary restrictions due to COVID-19 that had to be put in place as it pertains to funerals, some members of the public are opting to wait until restrictions have been lessened to collect the bodies of their loved ones.

Wells encouraged residents with deceased loved ones who remain at PMH’s morgue to collect their bodies.

He also urged local mortuary companies to collect the bodies that families have already paid them to transport to their funeral homes.

Wells said: “The failure of these companies to comply will have to, unfortunately, result in the existing legal storage fees being applied.”

In the latest emergency orders, funeral and burials have been allowed with guidelines for islands in the first schedule.

However, for islands in the second schedule, including New Providence,



Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) Managing Director Catherine Weech.

funerals “may be held provided that the funeral service is conducted at the graveside and is limited to 10 persons, exclusive [of] the officiant and mortuary workers”.

Photo caption: Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) Managing Director Catherine Weech

Of the 65 COVID-19-related deaths up to September 11, there were 45 deaths in New Providence, 14 in Grand Bahama, two in Bimini, one in Eleuthera, one in the Berry Islands, one in Abaco and one in Long Island.

Eleven of those deaths were recorded in the first wave, which spanned from mid-March to the end of June.

Total infections as of Monday stood at 3,008.

NIGHTLY NEWS

WITH PHIL GEORGE

MONDAY - FRIDAY

6:30PM | 6:30AM



99.1 FM RADIO



WAWU says LIAT seeking extension of lay off period for workers

(CMC) The Waterfront and Allied Workers Union (WAWU) says the cash-strapped regional airline, LIAT, is seeking a further extension of the lay off period it first gave to its employees here as it moves to restructure its operations.

WAWU secretary general, Kertist Augustus, said that the union had received communication from LIAT indicating that there is going to be further extension of the lay off period.

“Some workers were in fact given a return date of September 13, that date has since passed and therefore we now have communication to the effect that that lay off is going to be extended up to the 16th of October.

“Now if on recalls, the layoffs commenced in April of this year, therefore by our law in Dominica after six weeks workers can in fact claim redundancy but that has not been effected by the workers and there was and is the feeling with what is happening with the function of LIAT’s administrator, there is the possibility that LIAT will be flying again,” Augustus said.

Earlier this month, Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne



said he was still awaiting formal responses from Caribbean governments regarding his request to write-off the debt owed to them by the financially-strapped airline.

In July, the High Court in St John’s granted a petition allowing for the reorganisation of the airline, the appointment of an administrator as well as staying all proceedings relating to the liquidation of the company.

The decision of the court in granting the petition came as the government moved ahead with its efforts to reorganise the airline which owes creditors in excess of EC\$100 million (One EC

dollar=US\$0.37 cents).

Apart from Antigua and Barbuda, the former major shareholder governments of the airline are Barbados, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica.

Browne said he had written to the leaders of those countries and was awaiting an official response to his request.

Augustus said that his union would be following up on the latest developments specifically the letter from the airline.

“We have heard in addition that some Caribbean governments have more or less agreed to waive or to forgive the debt of LIAT

which will in fact allow for certain funds to be available to LIAT so that they could in fact pay the severance and or redundancy of the workers.

“We have not had any confirmed position from the administrator because the unions were supposed to have had a second round of discussion with the administrator. But if the workers elect to go the route of redundancy then they can in fact once the payments have been made by LIAT for them . . . at the social security they could in fact make a claim so that social security could pay on behalf of LIAT and afterwards get

Cont’d on pg 18

Barbados to recognise same-sex civil unions

(Nationnews.com) The Mia Mottley Administration is preparing to recognise civil unions for couples of the same gender.

The island has increasingly found itself on international lists of having a “poor human rights record” because of this and can’t afford to be blacklisted when it relies so heavily on external funding and investment.

This was announced by Governor General Dame Sandra Mason in The Throne Speech during a historic opening of Parliament at the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre on Tuesday.

“Mr President, my Government is prepared to recognise a form of civil unions for couples of the same gender so as to ensure that no human being in Barbados will be discriminated against, in exercise of civil rights that ought to be theirs,” said Dame Sandra.

“The settlement of Barbados was birthed and fostered in discrimination, but the time has come for us to end discrimination in all forms. I wish to emphasise that my



Government is not allowing any form of same sex marriage, and will put this matter to a public referendum. My Government will accept and be guided by the vote of the public as promised in the manifesto.”

If Barbados wants to be counted among the “progressive nations of the world”, she continued, the country must change “how we treat to human sexuality and relations”.

“My Government will do the right thing, understanding that this too will attract controversy. Equally, it is our hope that with the passage of time, the changes we now propose will be part of the fabric of our country’s record of law, human rights and social justice,” Dame Sandra added.

In prefacing this announcement, the Governor General referenced other “controversial” legislation such as the signing of the Charter of Barbados in Oistins in 1652, universal adult suffrage and a woman’s right to vote, universal free secondary education, the ending of “backstreet abortions” through the Medical

Termination of Pregnancy Act and the Tenantry Freehold Purchase Act in the 1980s, which opened up the possibility of landownership to those previously unable to afford it.

“Barbados took these decisions because they were the right thing to do and because it was the correct direction for our culture, social and economic circumstances. In each case, we now accept these rights as essential, and part of the national social and legal fabric. However, at the time they were taken, each of these decisions was highly controversial and bitterly opposed,” Dame Sandra noted.

cont’d from pg 17

their funds paid back to them,” Augustus said.

“We are going to be following up with this because we want to know, and I have raised the question already, whether workers could get something to do in the interim just to allow them to get some funds, disposable incomes so that they can continue maintaining their standard of living,” he added.

Kremlin critic Navalny posts hospital photo after poisoning

(CNN) Russian opposition leader Alexey Navalny has posted a photograph of himself on his hospital bed in Berlin, weeks after he was poisoned and fell critically ill.

Navalny is pictured alongside his family in the photo, which was posted on his Instagram account on Tuesday. The dissident is recovering in Germany but his press secretary has said that he intends to eventually return to Russia.

In his first direct message after his hospitalization, the anti-corruption activist said he was now breathing on his own without medical support.

“Hi, this is Navalny,” he wrote in the caption. “I miss you. I still can hardly do anything, but yesterday I was able to breathe on my own for the whole day. Just myself. I did not use any outside help, not even the simplest valve in my



Alexey Navalny shares first picture of himself post-attack, from a hospital in Berlin, Germany, on Tuesday, September 15 with his daughter Daria, son Zahar and wife Yulia.

throat.”

“I liked it very much. An amazing, underestimated process by many. Recommended.”

Navalny was poisoned with a chemical nerve agent from the Soviet-era Novichok group, the German government said, and questions remain over the Russian state’s involvement in the incident.

Despite this, the Kremlin critic intends to return to his home country after he recovers, his press secretary Kira Yarmysh told CNN in a text message Monday.

“No other option was ever considered,” Yarmysh said.

Navalny first became sick on a flight to Moscow from the Siberian city of Tomsk on August 20. He was hospitalized in the city of Omsk

following an emergency landing.




He was then flown to Berlin’s Charite Hospital two days later in a medical evacuation and has remained in Germany for weeks while being weaned off mechanical ventilation.


On Monday, the hospital said Navalny was able to leave his bed for short periods of time.



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MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00am- 10:30am



99.1 FM

Iran warns US against 'strategic mistake' after Trump's threat

(Aljazeera) Iran warned the United States against making a "strategic mistake" after President Donald Trump threatened Tehran over reports it planned to avenge the killing of top general Qassem Soleimani.

"We hope that they do not make a new strategic mistake and certainly in the case of any strategic mistake, they will witness Iran's decisive response," government spokesman Ali Rabiei told a televised news conference on Tuesday.

Trump on Monday promised any attack by Iran would be met with a response "1,000 times greater in magnitude," after reports said Tehran planned to avenge Soleimani's killing in a US drone attack in January near Baghdad's airport.

A US media report, quoting unnamed officials, said an alleged Iranian plot to assassinate the US ambassador to South Africa was planned before the presidential election in November.

"According to press reports, Iran may be planning an assassination, or other attack, against the United States in retaliation for the killing of terrorist leader Soleimani," Trump tweeted.

"Any attack by Iran, in



The Iranian navy last week said it drove off a US aircraft that flew close to an area where military exercises were under way near the Strait of Hormuz.

any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude!"

Relations between Washington and Tehran have worsened since Trump unilaterally pulled out of a landmark international nuclear deal with Iran in May 2018.

Washington is pushing to extend an arms embargo on Iran that starts to progressively expire in October as well as reimposing UN sanctions on Tehran.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo vowed Tuesday that Washington would prevent Iran from purchasing "Chinese tanks and Russian air defence systems" as the end of the

UN arms embargo against Tehran approaches.

While the European Union and United Nations disagreed with the US decision to withdraw from an international nuclear deal in 2018 and reimpose unilateral sanctions on Iran, Washington was acting to "keep the world safe," he told France Inter radio.

"We are going to act in a way - and we have acted in a way - that will prevent Iran from being able to purchase Chinese tanks and Russian air defence systems and resell weapons to Hezbollah," Pompeo said.

Hezbollah, an Iran-backed movement, has long been targeted by US sanctions and is blacklisted as a "terrorist" organi-

sation. But it is also a powerful political player with seats in parliament in Lebanon, where the French president is seeking to foster political reform.

The United States faces widespread opposition in a new bid to reimpose international sanctions on Iran, which has been progressively stepping up its nuclear activities since Washington pulled out of the deal in 2018.

It also wants to extend the UN arms embargo on the country expiring on October 18.

"While the EU has made a different decision about that [nuclear] agreement, they share our concern about the extension of that

cont'd on pg 21

Global perception of US falls to two-decade low

(BBC) America's reputation among some allies has fallen to its lowest point in nearly two decades, according to a global survey.

The findings of the Pew Research Center poll reflect public perceptions of the US in 13 countries.

Positive views of the US has fallen to a median of 34% across the countries surveyed, and only 16% confidence in President Trump.

An overwhelming majority - 84%- said the US has handled coronavirus badly.

Though favourable views of the US has been falling in recent years, in 2020, the perceptions in several countries were the lowest Pew had seen since it began polling on the subject some 20 years ago.

In only one country surveyed - South Korea - did a majority of the public view the US favourably. Only a quarter of Germans and less than a third of French-



Over 194,000 people have died with Covid-19, according to Johns Hopkins data

men and women view the US thus.

The majority of the public in every country surveyed did not have confidence in Mr Trump, with Belgians expressing the most scepticism - only nine percent said they had confidence in the US president.

The president's highest rating among the coun-

tries polled was in Japan, where a quarter of those surveyed said they trusted Mr Trump.

Fewer than one in five Britons had confidence in US leader, and only 41% said they had a favourable view of the country, a nadir for the survey.

The Pew Global Attitudes survey of 13,273 people was conducted from June to August in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, the UK and the Netherlands.

The results of the survey come as long-term questions swirl over America's leadership on the global stage, and as the country continues to battle coronavirus. The US has recorded

over 6m cases and nearly 200,000 deaths due to Covid-19.

Dr Richard Wike, a director of the Pew survey, said: "What we've seen in our polling over the past few years is that many people around the world see the US stepping away from a leadership position in world affairs, and that's had a negative impact on what they think of the country."

This year, the dynamic has been borne out through the pandemic, as reflected in the survey.

Despite the trend, however, "people haven't necessarily given up on the US," Dr Wike said. "They still want the US to play a leadership role on the international stage."

cont'd from pg 20

arms embargo," Pompeo said.

The United States, he insisted, would "continue to defend the international order to prevent the Islamic Republic of Iran from returning to its malign activity" in Lebanon, Iraq and Syria.

The Iranian navy last week said it drove off a US aircraft that flew close to an area where military exercises were under way near the Strait of Hormuz.

The military said three US aircraft were detected by Iran's air force radars after they entered the country's air defence identification zone.

US tariffs on China are illegal, says world trade body

(AP) A World Trade Organization panel ruled Tuesday that Trump administration tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods are illegal, vindicating Beijing even if the United States has all but incapacitated the WTO's ability to hand down a final, binding verdict.

The decision marks the first time that the Geneva-based trade body has ruled against a series of high-profile tariffs that President Donald Trump's government has imposed on a number of countries — allies and rivals alike. Trump has repeatedly claimed that the WTO treats the U.S. unfairly.

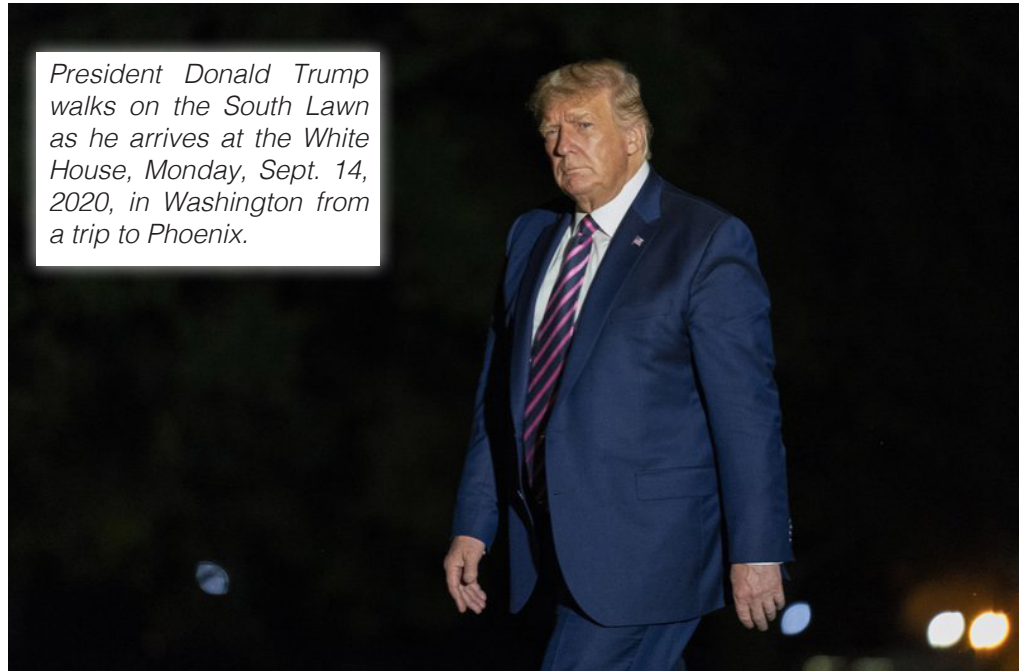
The ruling, in theory, would allow China to impose retaliatory tariffs on billions' worth of U.S. goods. But it is unlikely to have much practical impact, at least in the short term, because the U.S. can appeal the decision and the WTO's appeals court is currently no longer functioning — largely because of Washington's single-handed refusal to accept new members for it.

In its decision, the WTO's dispute settlement body ruled against the U.S. government's argument that China has wrongly engaged in practices harmful to U.S. interests on issues including intellectual property theft and technology transfer — and it quickly drew criticism of U.S. trade representative Robert Lighthizer.

"This panel report confirms what the Trump administration has been saying for four years: The WTO is completely inadequate to stop China's harmful technology practices," Lighthizer said in a statement. He said the United States had presented "extensive evidence" of China's intellectual property theft and the WTO has offered no fixes for it.

"The United States must be allowed

President Donald Trump walks on the South Lawn as he arrives at the White House, Monday, Sept. 14, 2020, in Washington from a trip to Phoenix.



to defend itself against unfair trade practices, and the Trump administration will not let China use the WTO to take advantage of American workers, businesses, farmers and ranchers," he added.

The Chinese ministry of commerce said the ruling was "objective and fair" and called on the U.S. to respect it.

The appeals court issues final rulings in trade cases and stopped functioning last year when the terms of two of its last three judges expired with no replacements. That means the United States can appeal the decision "into the void," said Timothy Keeler, a lawyer at Mayer Brown and former chief of staff for the U.S. trade representative.

The U.S. tariffs target two batches of Chinese products. Duties of 10% were imposed on some \$200 billion worth of goods in September 2018, and were jacked up to 25% eight months later. An additional 25% duties were imposed in June 2018 against Chinese goods worth about \$34 billion in annual trade, targeting industrial products and items like airplane propellers, wa-

ter purifiers and motorcycles.

The Trump administration has justified the sanctions under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, once a common tool used by the U.S. government to impose sanctions and recently revived by Trump. The U.S. argued that China's actions had amounted to "state-sanctioned theft" and "misappropriation" of U.S. technology, intellectual property and commercial secrets.

Trade lawyer Mark Herlach, a partner with the firm Eversheds Sutherland, said there has been a longstanding controversy over whether the 301 law is consistent with WTO rules.

"It's not surprising that a WTO panel didn't like what the U.S. was doing," he said.

The WTO panel ruled that the U.S. measures violated longstanding international trade rules because they only applied to products from China, and that Washington had not adequately substantiated its claim that the Chinese products hit with the extra duties had benefited from the allegedly unfair Chinese practices.



DAILY HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): Your innocent flirtations may just be a habit or a way of passing time for you, but someone may take it seriously. In the week to come, think of every meeting as a chance to show that you are sincere and real.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): It's the first day of summer, and your fancy may turn to thoughts of business affairs and money-making activities rather than love. Tackle practical subjects like your bank balance as the week begins.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Play life like a game of chess. Sometimes it is necessary to sacrifice something unimportant in order to win the game. In the upcoming week, you can put your brainpower to work and upgrade your financial status.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): There is a New Moon in your sign, and although you cannot see it, you might feel it as the upcoming week unfolds. You may feel better able to express yourself once you accept your strengths as well as your limitations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It is hard to find a rainbow without seeing a little rain first. A few bumps may lessen your confidence in the beginning of the week, but your optimism will quickly return. You might prefer to think through a strategy by yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Turn obstacles and dropped balls into learning opportunities. Take a few ideas that have been floating around in your head and put them into motion this week. You and a partner can draw up viable plans and find practical solutions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.): Some of your fantasies might come true, but there is a reason they're fantasies. Try not to make irrevocable decisions or major purchases unless they make good sense. You must be perceptive enough to read the writing on the wall.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your ideas may be too big to handle alone. You could get a project off the ground if there's a good supporting cast to help you in the upcoming week. If you don't have all the answers, at least you know how to get them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have the hammer and someone else has the nails. In the week to come, you and a partner can work together to achieve your dreams. Your powerful enthusiasm can be the driving force behind intricate plans.

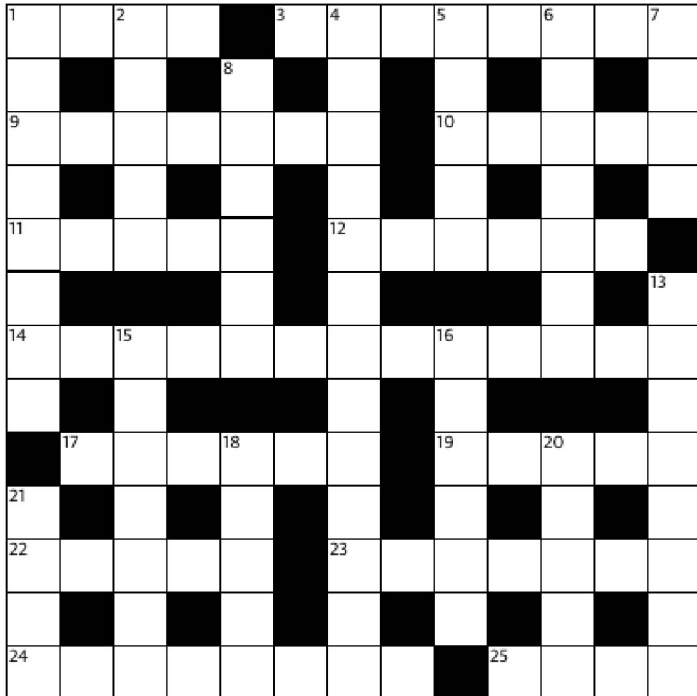
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The first day of summer can light up your life. Not only is the day longer but your patience can last longer, too. As the week unwinds, you may grow closer and more comfortable with a partner or special someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The difference between failure and success could depend on whether you phone it in or do your best. Remember in the week ahead that a task done correctly the first time will not need to be done again.

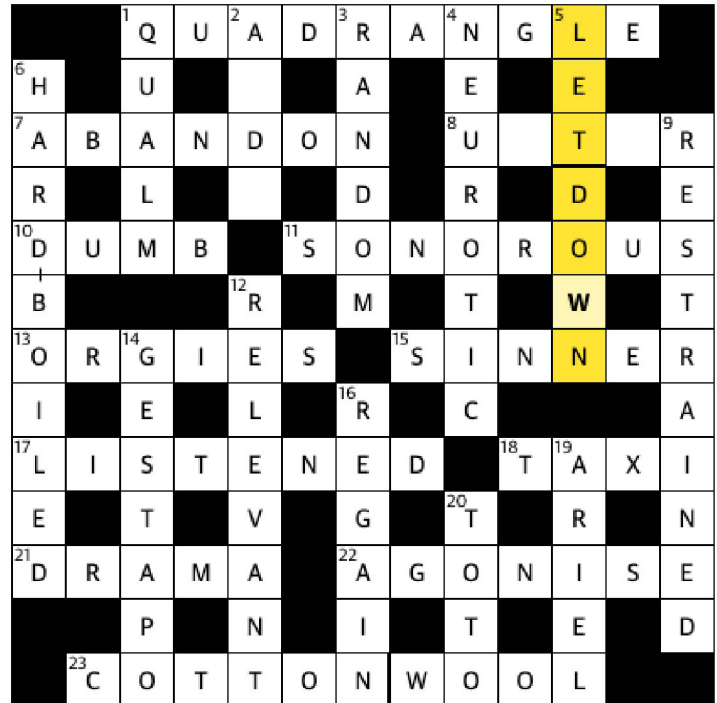
PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): In the upcoming week you might be tempted to spend time on frivolous things that could rattle your bank account. Put creative energy to good use by focusing on a new artistic project or educational experience.

QUICK CROSSWORD

Quick crossword No 15,712



Quick crossword No 15,710



Across

- 1 Teapot cover (4)
- 3 Lens maker (8)
- 9 Portable heater (7)
- 10 Permit (5)
- 11 Mindset of a group (5)
- 12 Get-up-and-go (6)
- 14 Without thinking (13)
- 17 Wall painting (6)
- 19 Acute (5)
- 22 Corny (5)
- 23 Rough (7)
- 24 Sums used to settle debts (8)
- 25 Restrain (from indulging in some pleasure) (4)

Down

- 1 Suspended mountain conveyance for passengers or freight (5,3)
- 2 Hoard (5)
- 4 One wants nothing but the best (13)
- 5 Mad (5)
- 6 Criminal (7)
- 7 Small amphibian (4)
- 8 Bite-sized Chinese dumplings (3,3)
- 13 Fellow-feeling (8)
- 15 Intimidate (7)
- 16 Cavalry commander killed at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 1876 (6)
- 18 Leather with a napped surface (5)
- 20 Mindful (5)
- 21 Leave off (4)



In the Bleachers



Nuggets stun Clippers, make NBA history in completing another 3-1 series comeback

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Six consecutive elimination games and six consecutive victories for the Denver Nuggets in the 2020 NBA playoffs.

The Nuggets' remarkable postseason run continues against the odds following a 104-89 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers in Game 7 of the Western Conference semifinals on Tuesday.

Denver center Nikola Jokic was sensational with a triple-double masterpiece: 16 points, 22 rebounds and 13 assists, three blocks and two steals.

The sensational Jokic is now 3-1 in Game 7s with two triple-doubles.

"He dominated the game in a lot of ways," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said.

Jamal Murray had 40 points, Gary Harris and Jerami Grant each had 14 points, and Denver proved to be the harder working, more disciplined and better team.

"We have a really relaxed group, and I think the reason for that is we've been through four rounds of the playoffs in two years and each one has gone to a seventh game," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said before the game.

"This is very familiar



Nuggets superstar center Nikola Jokic, left, brings the ball upcourt during Game 7 of the playoff series between the Denver Nuggets and the Los Angeles Clippers.

territory for us, something that we're used to."

Denver trailed the Clippers 61-54 with 10:50 left in the third quarter. When Murray dropped in a 3-pointer with 8:48 left in the fourth quarter, Denver had an 89-75 lead.

Jerami Grant's dunk with 2:10 left in the game put Denver ahead 100-80.

The Nuggets destroyed the Clippers in the second half, outscoring them 50-33.

This is not how the Clip-

pers expected their season to end with Kawhi Leonard and Paul George.

But they went a combined 10-for-38 shooting, including 4-for-18 on 3-pointers. Leonard had just 14 points, George just 10.

Montrezl Harrell led the Clippers with 20 points.

Denver advances to the conference finals for the first time since 2009, and it will play the Los Angeles Lakers. Game 1 is Friday.

To get there, the Nuggets

accomplished the improbable.

For the second consecutive series, they came back from a 3-1 deficit to win the series — first against Utah in the opening round and now against the Clippers.

Denver is the first team to eliminate a 3-1 deficit and win the series twice in the same postseason.

It had happened just 11 times in NBA history entering these playoffs. (USA Today)

ABFA meets with its members

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) has been holding meetings with its members this week to engage them on their feedback and concern regarding the distribution of the FIFA COVID-19 Relief funds.

The meetings are also intended to bring the ABFA's members up to speed on the restrictions and guidelines FIFA has attached to the use of the funds.

Additionally, information is being shared about the criteria for the second installment of assistance when the Ministry of Sports and health officials give the go-ahead for football to resume locally.

Secretary of the ABFA, Rohan Hector, told PointeXpress that a meeting held with First Division clubs on Monday was followed by a



Secretary of the ABFA, Rohan Hector

similar session with Second Division clubs on Tuesday. The ABFA will meet with Premier League teams on Thursday.

Clubs will start receiving

the first installment of \$8000.00 EC from the US\$500,000 FIFA COVID-19 Relief which became available in August. The money will assist

in the safe resumption of local football once authorities give the green light.

Hector said because the ABFA does not know when football will return, the association decided to disburse forty-five percent of the FIFA funds to the country's forty-nine clubs.

The second installment will be distributed after a decision is made on promotion and demotion and a start date for a new football season is announced.

Hector said that all clubs, except Liberta FC, returned their survey forms. This will allow the ABFA executive to meet next week to begin the decision making process.

\$392,000 EC has been given to the forty-nine ABFA members that participated in the 2019/20 season.

Messi the highest paid player

Barcelona forward, Lionel Messi, has topped the Forbes list as the highest earning footballer in 2020.

Forbes estimated Messi's yearly earnings at \$126m (£97.2m) with Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo second on \$117m (£90.3m).

Neymar was in third with Paris St-Germain teammate Kylian Mbappe fourth.

Three Premier League players, Mohamed Salah, Paul Pogba and David de Gea made the top 10, as did Real Madrid and Wales

forward Gareth Bale.

Welshman, Bale, came eighth on the list at \$29m (£22.4m) despite a disappointing 2019-20 season, on a personal level, which saw him fall out with Real boss Zinedine Zidane and only feature in two of his club's last 14 matches of the campaign.

Liverpool forward Salah was fifth, ahead of Manchester United midfielder Pogba in sixth, with Manchester United goalkeeper De Gea in 10th.

Barcelona forward An-



Barcelona forward, Lionel Messi

toine Griezmann was seventh and Bayern Munich striker Robert Lewandowski was ninth.

French Football President claims racism doesn't exist in the sport

The French Football Federation President, Noel Le Graet, has said that racism doesn't exist in football.

This was his response to Neymar's accusations against Marseille defender Alvaro Gonzalez.

Neymar was sent off at the end of PSG's 1-0 defeat to Marseille on Sunday, which ended in a brawl between the two sides that saw the Brazil star strike Gonzalez in the back of the head.

Upon leaving the pitch, Neymar accused Gonzalez of making racist comments and, after the game, sent a message on social media



French Football Federation President, Noel Le Graet

indicating he had no remorse for his actions.

Neymar would later apologize for his reaction to Gonzalez, saying he "acted like a fool", but the inci-

dent has again brought the issue of racism in football into the limelight.

In an interview with BFM Business, Le Graet gave his reaction to Sunday's

events, saying the problem of racism in the game is overblown. He cited the fact that fans cheer black players who score a goal as evidence.

"When a black player scores a goal, the whole stadium is on its feet," Le Graet said.

"This phenomenon of racism in sport, and in football in particular, does not exist at all or barely exists."

Le Graet would go on to express his disappointment with the PSG and Marseille encounter, which saw five players in total given red cards following the brawl at the end of the match.

England pacer Jofra Archer speaks

Barbados born England fast bowler, Jofra Archer, says the England and Wales Cricket Board has not disregarded the Black Lives Matter movement despite the criticism leveled against the body by West Indies cricket legend, Michael Holding.

Holding described the England decision that players should stop 'taking a knee' after the West Indies series as "lame".

Archer has since said that Holding's criticism was harsh.

"No one has forgotten about Black Lives Matter," Archer said.

"I've spoken to [ECB Chief Executive Officer] Tom Harrison and we have got stuff running in the background," Archer said.

"I am pretty sure Michael Holding doesn't know anything that's



England fast bowler, Jofra Archer

going on behind the scenes."

During the July Test series, England and West Indies players and staff took a knee before each match and players wore the Black Lives

Matter logo on their shirts.

The ECB has said it is committed to ensuring "long term and sustainable change" for all communities who are not treated equally.

Sports

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
POINTE X PRESS
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2020

ABRA President: “It’s a sport!”

The Antigua and Barbuda Rifle Association (ABRA) is active again after a break in its activities due to the coronavirus pandemic.

President of ABRA, Thomas Greenaway, said since resuming activity at the Crabbs range, they have welcomed new members. Members meet to shoot at the range every Saturday from 11:30am.

“We do handguns in the morning sessions and rifles in the afternoons,” said Greenaway.

Appearing as a guest on the Touchline programme on Pointe FM, Greenaway explained that the association has encountered some difficulties growing the sport. The main problem in recruitment, he said, is that prospective members must be 21-years-old to join.

Under the law in Antigua and Barbuda, as well as across the wider Caribbean, persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from participating in any gun related activities. This, according to Greenaway,



President of ABRA, Thomas Greenaway.

is in contrast to countries in North America and Europe which allow persons to handle weapons, under special circumstances, from about age 12.

“Most members in Antigua start shooting in their 40’s and are at disadvantage when we travel to the bigger territories where you encounter participants in their 40’s who have over 25 years experience,” Greenaway said.

“It’s a sport and we don’t teach people to kill. We train our members for personal defense. and home and property defense,” said the ABRA president.

To become a member of the Antigua and Barbuda Rifle Association, persons are required to complete a registration form which must be accompanied by a current police record.

This is followed by a background check on the

applicant. The prospective member must then visit the range to complete theoretical training which is followed by a progression to the use of handguns.

On Saturday, Antigua and Barbuda and Jamaica will engage each other in a post and shoot tournament on their home ranges and after which they will compare scores.

Greenaway says this is a way for both countries to stay competitive even though travel remains limited.