

# **Editorial**



# A salute to teachers!

World Teachers' Day 2020 celebrates teachers under the theme "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future". Pointville Communications celebrates the teaching profession, and we use this opportunity to acknowledge the work of educators who have stood with our students during the global COVID-19 crisis.

Many teachers have gone beyond the call of duty in their quest to 'leave no one behind' and they continue to do so in tandem with the evolving policies of the Ministry of Education as our nation boldly navigated uncharted waters.

Our teachers were already fully engaged with the education of our nation's youth. Many, in addition to their role as educators, have become counselors, transportation agents, providers of lunch and snacks and school suppliers. In some instances, teachers have become surrogate parents and safe havens to vulnerable children.

These roles create an additional bur-

den on teachers' fixed income, which they absorb sometimes to the detriment of their long-term financial health. The reality is however, that teachers' compensation packages, while subject to the limited resources of the public purse, are in need of alignment with their responsibilities.

Antigua and Barbuda is among a minority of countries across the globe which have returned to the physical classroom. Our nation's capacity to do this is due to the commitment and dedication of our principals and teachers who are front and center in the bid to ensure that our children benefit from a quality education product.

As part of daily regional and international updates, we see stories of school plants closing due to the continued spread of COVID-19 around the world. Notwithstanding the real challenges facing our community, our teachers go about their daily tasks of educating our children all while many of us thwart

their efforts and have become part of the problem of growing complacency and heightened risk associated with the disregard for COVID-19 health protocols.

It is evident that the present blended education platform will become part of the 'new normal'. To pull from the 2020 Teachers' Day theme, we must reimagine the future. We know that there is definite work in progress in terms of the continuous review of the current policies guiding the delivery of education. We anticipate that there must be continued dialogue between all the stakeholders in the delivery of education and that teachers, who are at the center of reaching all education related targets, should be included in policy formulation.

Teachers' leadership is critical if we are to continue to reap successes in education and in our response to the global pandemic. Their leadership is critical if we are to realign our education needs to our future. Our teachers are pivotal in building resilience in our nation and charting the way forward.

Naturally, teachers cannot do this alone. They require our support. Perhaps the most important means of support which must be given to them as we grapple with the realities of a world plunged into both a health and economic crisis is our renewed commitment to observing the established safety protocols and becoming examples whom our children can emulate both inside and outside of the school environment.

We need to join hands with our teachers and support our students on every level. Our support as parents, guardians, and with the spirit of the saying 'it takes a village to raise a child' guiding us, will further empower our educators and strengthen their capacity to deliver a quality education product. This will ensure that they are 'leading in crisis, reimagining the future'.

We celebrate our teachers on this World Teachers Day 2020!



# **Local News**

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# PM denies acrimony with IMF

By Shelton Daniel

The opposition is making claims that Antigua and Barbuda cannot access funding from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) because Prime Minister Gaston Browne has stoked an acrimonious relationship with the multilateral lending institution, which he has thrashed heavily in the past.

During his weekly radio programme, The Browne & Browne Show, the prime minister refuted this assertion.

"I heard Alister Thomas and others, even Harold Lovell, have made the argument that we have an acrimonious relationship with the IMF and therefore we cannot get any credit from the IMF."

He said the UPP propagandists have insinuated that when their party was in office "they had such a good 'relationship' with the IMF that they got \$110 million".

Browne said Lovell and his colleagues are failing to tell the public, however, that Antigua and Barbuda has a quota with the IMF.

"Every country has a quota in what they call SDRs (Special Drawing Rights), and the only way you become ineligible is if you have utilized your entire quota."

Browne, who succeeded Lovell as the country's Finance Minister six years ago, noted that the previous UPP administration had used up that SDR quota between 2010 and 2014 when it was voted out of office.

He reminded listeners that his ABLP government repaid the \$110 million debt within four years of taking office.

As a consequence of this swift debt repayment, Browne said, "It remains available to us if we wish. We just do not want to go into a formal IMF programme, so we will not access that \$110 million US."

Browne, who was a career banker before entering politics two decades ago, explained why Antigua and Barbuda is



Prime Minister Gaston Browne wary of tapping its SDR quota with the IMF.

"They want to force a condition that they would have introduced on the UPP to accept an additional \$150 million in bad debts that existed for up to fifty years. One of them would have been the port loan that existed back in the 1960s."

PM Browne said he told the IMF that this condition "would be too onerous" for Antigua and Barbuda "at this time of COVID, and there's no way we're going to take on \$150 million in debt in order to get \$100 million or \$110 million in new money".

He said his government had instead asked for "some form of debt relief" since "of that \$150 million, at least \$100 million has accrued interest over the years".

Browne elaborated that he had asked the IMF to write off some of the debt and allow it to repay the remainder over a manageable term of about a decade, but the US-based financial institution refused.

"They're trying to burden us during this COVID crisis and we've said to them that we're not interested."

The prime minister noted, though, that the IMF had recently extended support to other Caribbean nations under its Rapid Credit Facility.

"They have extended US\$65 million to three Caribbean countries. This funding does not [call for] any form of austerity. It's not a formal IMF programme that you have to enter into."

He added that Antigua and Barbuda should also be eligible for that type of concessional funding, however, the IMF had declared the country "wealthy" which therefore made it ineligible for IDA [International Development Assistance] concessional funding.

According to the IMF, Antigua and Barbuda is a high income nation with a per capita income of US\$20,000.

Browne said his government has gone to great pains to explain to the IMF that this income data is outdated and does not reflect current realities of Antigua and Barbuda's economy and fiscal position which have deteriorated tremendously due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"So these are some of the issues we have with the IMF. We are very straightforward with our position. We have gone as far as saying that their position is callous, considering that we are in a global crisis, and this is a time when we need to see some flexibility from the Paris Club and from the IMF," said Prime Minister Browne.

The prime minister said he makes "no apologies for using that type of language. I don't know if members of the UPP, our political opponents, want us to be role playing to members of the IMF, but we have some status within the IMF. In fact, I am a governor of the IMF and I don't know why they would want me to be role playing to technicians of the IMF.

"We have to state our position without any fear of contradiction and even if they want to contradict, the facts are there.

"We have to argue vehemently for the country. We can't just be sitting ducks and allow foreign technicians to dictate whether or not we progress."

Browne concluded, therefore, while there is a difference of opinion between his government and the IMF, there is no acrimonious relationship.

## **Local News**



# Asot to hear from ABLP Tribunal this week

The Tribunal set up by the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party to look into the conduct of St. Peter Member of Parliament, Asot Michael, is expected to write to him this week.

The Tribunal, headed by Lionel 'Max' Hurst, comprises four other members of the ruling party, including President of the Senate, Senator Alincia Grant. Hurst outlined the steps in the process which will seek to determine whether Michael should be held accountable for a pattern of behaviour on his part which the ABLP executive has deemed errant and in violation of its Code of Conduct.

"Firstly, the Tribunal is required to write Michael outlining the alleged breaches of the party's Code of Conduct.

These alleged breaches will also be accompanied by evidence to support the charges against him.

Following the receipt of the letter, Michael will have three days within which to respond in writing," Hurst explained.

According to Hurst, following Michael's response, the Tribunal will then set a date on which the matter will

be heard. At this hearing, Michael will have the right to be represented by legal counsel.

The Tribunal's Chairman noted, however, that the Tribunal's work and the hearing are internal mechanisms of the ABLP from which the public is excluded.

This will be the second time that the party has had to activate the disciplinary Tribunal. Asot Michael was also the subject of the first Tribunal convened in 2005, however the charges brought against him then were eventually dropped.

## Public shares in WIOC by this month

#### By Shelton Daniel

"Prime Minister, it's now October. What's the status with public shares in West Indies Oil Company (WIOC)?"

That was a question posed via WhatsApp to the nation's leader, during his weekly Pointe FM radio programme, the Browne & Browne Show, October 3rd 2020.

The sender was referring to the government's long declared intention of making 10 percent of its 51 percent majority shareholding in WIOC available for purchase by members of the public.

In a statement one year ago, the government indicated that it would reduce its shareholding in WIOC from 51 percent to 41 percent by selling 10 percent to Antiguans and Barbudans, utilizing a crowd funding mechanism.

The government further stated that, "The shares to be sold would be deposited within a bank or other financial institution, and caps would be placed on the amount which any single living person can purchase."

Prime Minister Browne, who holds ministerial responsibility for Finance, Corporate Governance and Public-Private Sector Partnerships, replying to the question said, "I'm told by the end of this month they will have the prospectus ready to file with the Eastern Caribbean Stock Exchange."

Browne, who has portfolio oversight for the WIOC shares divestment, revealed that a preview copy of the prospectus had already been made available to him.

"I think they are just finalizing it, so definitely this month, no later than the end of this month, they will have the prospectus available for the public so that they can participate in the shareholding of West Indies Oil Company and we are encouraging Antiguans and Barbudans to take up those shares."

The government has described WIOC as "a very profitable business that yields

a profit each year."

The government has also explained that its public shareholding methodology is designed to allow the 10 percent divested shares to be owned by multiple public subscribers, instead of permitting a single purchaser, or very few of them, "to gobble up all the shares that will be offered for sale".



# **Local News**

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# **Plans for Willoughby Bay** development presented

Following weeks of intense discussions, a detailed plan for the development of the Willoughby Bay area near Bethesda has been presented to the government.

The plan was developed by an Economic Recovery Committee (ERC) subcommittee. The ERC was set up following the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in order to plan Antigua and Barbuda's recovery after COVID-19.

That subcommittee headed by Senior Advisor to Prime Minister Gaston Browne, Ambassador Daven Joseph.

"The report outlines possible activities that should be allowed, encouraged and promoted within the Willoughby Bay development. This area presents an opportunity for the government of Antigua and Barbuda to launch a significant development initiative including luxury homes, hotel and marinas, agricultural activities, agro-industries, small manufacturing and human settlement by way of a housing programme," Joseph detailed.

The land to be developed encompasses approximately three thousand acres with sixteen hundred of those allocated for the project which is separated into four areas.

"The development will be complimented by several as well as parks and other amenities such as walkways to promote health and wellness," Joseph revealed.

The committee submitted the report to Prime Minister Browne on Friday who, according to Joseph, was 'very excited' to see the scope of the subcommittee's work and the prospects for galvanizing more local economic involvement.

Joseph added that the prime minister was also 'very pleased' with the work of young professionals within the public sector whose expertise contributed greatly to the final report. The subcommittee brought representatives together

green areas, a road network from the Development Control Authority, APUA, the Lands and Survey Department, the Environmental Division and the Ministry of Agriculture among others.

> "These young professionals came together and developed a well thought out development plan for the Willoughby Area, which on full completion, will see a community with an estimated five thousand people living there," he stated.

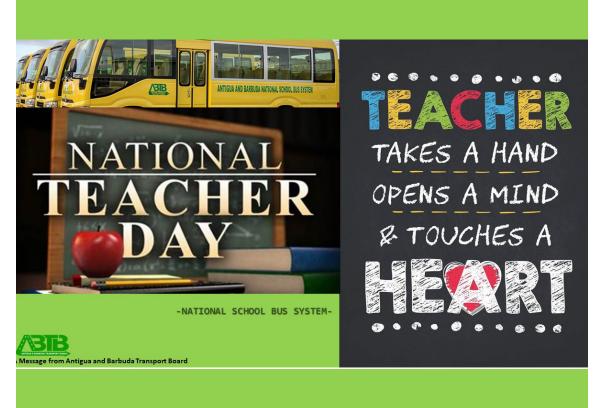
> Joseph said, when fully completed, the project could contribute between five and ten percent in economic return to the nation.

> "That's how significant the development will be. It will see the transformation

of the Potworks Dam area, the Betty's Hope area linking it with historic Bethesda Tamarind Tree, the Willoughby Area, that will be developed into a heritage tour package," he revealed.

A forum is being organised to give potential investors the opportunity to examine the plan in greater detail. They will also have the opportunity to be among the first to commit to involvement in the development project.

Both PM Browne and Ambassador Joseph affirmed that the aim is to prioritise local involvement while leaving room to welcome foreign investment into the project.



# **Local News**



# PLH committed to meeting court mandate

The developers of the Peace, Love and Happiness (PLH) project on Barbuda say they will gladly complete mitigation work on an area of the project upon which the court placed an injunction last week.

The injunction was related to work being done on an area of the golf course now under construction at Palmetto Point.

PLH spokesman, Justin Wiltshaw, said the court asked that non-essential work on the project be stopped while the developers complete mitigation work on an area of the golf course that the Environment Division expressed concerns over.

"Work approved by the Develop-

ment Control Authority (DCA) to repair the damage to the area will continue and this should be completed by the October 13 deadline set by the court," Wiltshaw explained.

PLH and the Barbuda Council have been at odds over the development of the golf course at Palmetto Point. The Barbuda Council claims the development is causing environmental degradation of the area.

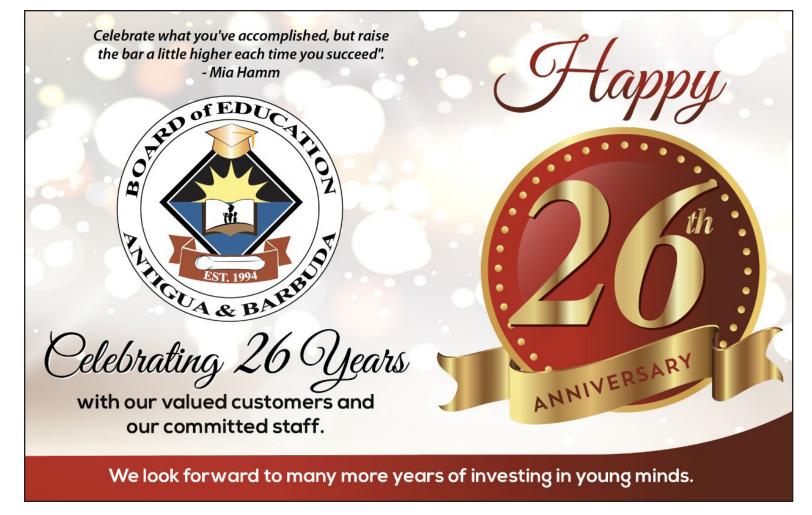
The company said much of the acrimony arose after it was granted a court order which prevented the Barbuda Council mining sand on lands it has leased.

PLH continued that it is committed to being a part of the future growth

of Barbuda, a commitment already evidenced by its employment of approximately 78 Barbudans out of a workforce of 125 people.

"We are committed to maintaining a workforce of over seventy-five percent Antigua and Barbuda nationals. We are also committed to training and educating a productive workforce on Barbuda," Wiltshaw continued.

The PLH spokesman said his company is already having a positive impact on the economic situation on the sister island at a time when the national economy, and Barbuda, in particular has been hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.



# **Local News**

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# Halo Generation Y initiates clean up project

The Halo Foundation's Generation Y, a youth team, commenced the first in a series of clean up activities involving public areas last Saturday.

The Crabbs Highway was the initial site to be given attention where, for several hours, a group of young, committed volunteers cleared the area of debris.

President of Halo Generation Y, Brent Scotland commented, "We selected this area because it is not often considered for clean up and it is also heavily cluttered with garbage.

"The natural tendency is for groups to gravitate towards beaches and high profile public venues and routes. The entire country



should have a chance to be labeled "a little bit of paradise", pristine and free from carelessly discarded waste."

Public Relations Officer of the Halo Foundation, Cuthbert Forbes Jr., expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the Chief Health Inspector and National Solid Waste Management Authority, whose assistance ensured the success of the exercise.

"We also appreciate the donation of Paradiso Water, [whose representatives]

drove past and decided to provide complimentary bottles of water on the spot."

President and Founder of the Halo Foundation, Lady Sandra Williams said, "It's good to see young people not only talking or tweeting about environmental issues, but turning out at 5:30am to give service to their country and spruce up the surroundings.

"We applaud the various volunteer groups that are consistently involved in clean-up efforts. In general however, we need to become more conscious of the state of our environment and ensure that we do not engage in the act of littering."

# Antigua and Barbuda celebrates the 151st anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi

Antigua and Barbuda has dispatched a message to the government and people of India who are this month celebrating the 151st anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi, the Father of Indian nationalism.

Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, and led the struggle against British rule that eventually led to India becoming independent in 1947. He also popularised the nonviolent approach to political protest that influenced many around the world including American black civil rights leader, Martin Luther King.

As much as he preached nonviolence

in life, Gandhi himself came to a violent death when he was assassinated on January 30, 1948, by a man described as a Hindu fanatic.

In a letter to commemorate the life and impact of Mahatma Gandhi, Prime Minister Gaston Browne noted that from a distance the high regard which the people of the Caribbean held Gandhi was triggered by his strict adherence to a nonviolent solution to conflict.

"The ideal was imported into our people's struggle for freedom and sovereignty," PM Browne wrote.

He drew parallels between the founding of the first anti-colonial political party in Antigua and Barbuda, which he noted, virtually coincided with the freedom gained by India in 1947.

"This incredible act of ending colonial rule in India catalyzed the Antigua and Barbuda people of my grandfather's generation. Utilising the trade union as the preferred vehicle, the leaders of many Anglo-Caribbean countries sought to achieve the Indian dream for their own country," he added.

The prime minister also acknowledged that India's protest of the apartheid system in South Africa raised at the United Nations in 1947 won hearts and minds and focused the world's attention on this unjust system.

# **Local News**



# 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 5th October 2020

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Affected areas: Section of Jennings near the old

library

Date: Monday 5th October 2020 Time: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Affected areas: Sections of Liberta; Mount Williams and Section of Liberta main road to Yasoso Corner

Date: Monday 5th October 2020

Time: 1:30 pm - 3:45 pm Affected areas: Coolidge, ABDF, Free Trade Zone & AUA

Date: Tuesday 6th October 2020

Time: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Affected areas: Section of Cassada Gardens west of the old APUA Head Office

Date: Wednesday 7th October 2020 Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Affected areas: Lower All Saints Road

Date: Wednesday 7th October 2020 Time: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Affected areas: Holberton Hospital

Date: Thursday 8th October 2020

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Affected areas: Section of West Palm Beach in

Date: Friday 9th October 2020

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Affected areas: Section of Yorks near Cockle
Shell Apartment

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.





# **Concerns over** dengue fever

Reports that two Caribbean territories are experiencing outbreaks of dengue fever among their populations are raising concern among health professionals in Antigua and Barbuda.

Of particular concern is the possible overlap between dengue fever and the COVID-19 pandemic. Health officials say since both diseases are similar in respect of their symptoms, which include fever, patients affected by one could mistakenly conclude that they are affected by the other with dire consequences.

Senior Public Health Inspector at the Central Board of Health, Julienne Mannix, said what's happening in the two Caribbean countries has increased the sense of urgency within her department.

"We are watching what's happening in neighbouring Caribbean territories St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines which are battling with their own dengue outbreaks.

"We are taking a proactive approach to the disease and launching an education campaign to inform residents of ways to reduce the aedes egypti population in the country," she

Antigua and Barbuda has reported two cases of dengue fever so far and the health department wants to keep the number as low as possible.

"The education programme is designed to inform and educate the public on ways to reduce the incidence of dengue in the country.

"Over the next weeks. our teams will be visiting schools, clinics and churches to spread the word on the prevention of dengue fever.

"Additionally, we will continue cleaning drains in the various communities as well as visiting homes to look for areas where mosquitoes may be breeding."

CHB will launch public awareness activities, which will feature a Dengue Awareness Campaign.

"It is our intention to visit schools, churches, clinics and community groups, to share ways in which the public can assist in reducing the mosquito population by way of source reduction," Mannix explained.

The first visit will take place at the Green Bay Primary School at 9:00am on Tuesday followed by a visit to the Five Island Primary School which will receive two visits.

The theme for the Campaign is: TOSS them OUT! CLEAN them OUT! and KEEP them OUT!

# **Special Feature**

PAGE 9

# COVID-19: A catalyst for entrepreneurship series:



# From teaching to branding: TMpress gets it all done in a day

#### By Angelica O'Donoghue

As we join the world in celebrating International Teachers' Day, it would be remiss of us not to feature a teacher, who jumps from the classroom to the sewing machine, as this week's COVID-19 Catalyst for Entrepreneurship feature.

TMpress Prints, a small business owned by secondary school teacher, Mrs. Tessa Roberts-Jacobs, is the ideal customized printing business for personalized printing and branding.

Tessa shared that she decided to become an entrepreneur as a teaching exercise to her children.

She explained that both her children dived into starting their own small



Mrs. Tessa Roberts-Jacobs

business with enthusiasm, however they needed motivation to propel them

"At first, they were excited about being entrepreneurs but along the way, their interest dwindled a bit. Being a cont'd on pg 10



## PUBLIC HEALTH



MOSQUITOES

Mosquitoes are one of the deadliest animals in the world. Their ability to carry and spread disease to humans causes millions of deaths every year. Sustained mosquito control efforts are important to prevent outbreaks from mosquito diseases. There are several different types of mosquitoes and some have the ability to carry many different diseases.

The best option to reduce the mosquito population is source reduction. Householder should check their premises every 2-3 days for mosquito breeding sites and eliminate them.



Central Board of Health Upper Church Street Tel: 268-562-9300 Find us on Facebook!

Answers for last week's Word Search 28.09.20 eggs \*black \*aedes\* fish \* larvae \*drum \*pupa \* aegypti \* water \*bite \*culex \*legs \* adult \* mosquito \*blood \*\* abate

#### CBH FUN FACTS 411 WORD SEARCH

#### Topic: Mosquito related diseases

Z	a	h	У	c	d	s	p	u	у
w	i	n	e	h	h	g	t	W	e
b	e	k	t	i	1	p	e	С	1
С	1	S	a	k	t	u	u	r	1
m	j	O	t	u	g	О	f	d	О
a	X	p	f	n	k	q	a	i	w
1	О	t	e	g	i	e	V	S	f
a	n	d	V	u	a	1	Z	e	e
r	u	i	e	n	r	m	e	a	v
i	c	Z	r	У	k	1	j	s	e
a	1	О	X	a	S	У	O	e	r

Mosquitoes have the ability to carry many different diseases which are harmful to humans. Can you find 8 words about mosquito related diseases?



Word Search created by: Lenya Smith; CHA

5.10.2020

# **Special Feature**



#### cont'd from pg 9

teacher, I decided to change my teaching strategy. I thought what better way to teach them but to show them.

"I therefore decided to start my own business, something I've wanted to do for years. I did so to show them the importance of entrepreneurship and it has since motivated them to take their businesses more seriously.

"They are now more focused on their little businesses and talking about ways to expand," Tessa said.

Although starting her business began as an opportunity to teach, Tessa said that because of COVID-19 she finally found herself with the time to focus on

TMpress, which had always been a goal of hers.

Tessa explained, "It is because of COVID giving me all this time on my hand to focus my energy on something I've thought of for years of doing."

The entrepreneur plained, however, while her printing business is small, she did require startup financing.

"I needed financing of course. Being a teacher with a teacher's salary, having finance after a mortgage is a mere thought. I had my husband and a few family and friends invest capital into my business," Jacobs revealed.

TMpress was only started in August 2020, however, the business has been



able to capitalize on the piqued interest of persons to get their items branded. We noted Tessa's flexibility and ability to multitask as, during our interview, she was working on completing the design for an order of face masks.

"I've just started, but I think so far the work I've been doing has been a stress reliever for my clients. Bringing joy to them in this highly stressed period," Tessa paused to explain.

Although TMpress is not a full time business, Tessa sees her business growing over time.

"I see my business expanding. I have friends in St. Lucia, Jamaica, family in Canada, England, and the US, etc., asking for items to be printed. However, due to COVID and slow postal



shipment, I have not been able to capitalize on those markets yet.

"So, I believe in time, the expansion will take place with the goal in mind of creating employment for others," the small business owner said.

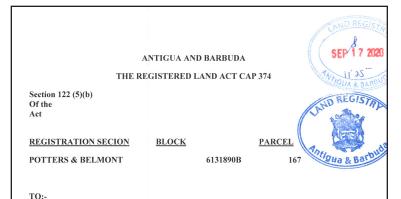
In true form, the teacher delighted in sharing a helpful tip with potential entrepreneurs and budding business owners.

"I'll share with you the slogan/motto of my business: 'Trust The Process'. Believe in yourself, have faith in what you do or want to do. Give where necessary that blessing comes back twofold!"

To find out more about TMpress prints, you can contact Tessa at 268-727-5065.







#### NOTICE TO THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE ESTATE OF JACOB BURTON, DECEASED OF APPLICATION TO DISPENSE WITH CONSENT

TAKE NOTICE that an application to dispense with the consent of the Beneficiaries of the Estate of Jacob Burton, deceased with the above-mentioned parcel of land was filed in the Land Registry on the Hay of Clauder, 2020 by Michelle G Sterling of Justice Chambers Inc. of Bay Gardens, Hodges Bay P.O. Box W774, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda acting on behalf of Goldine Burton Knight ( As Personal Representative of the Estate of Jacob

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if any beneficiary to the Estate of Jacob Burton, deceased objects to the application to dispense with consent must within the period of thirty (30) days inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in the absence of any objection within the specified time, the



LLA deptember 2020

REGISTRAR OF LANDS



# POINTE PRESS Eye On Our Economy PAGE 11

# How well do you know the ECCB?

Did you know that the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) celebrated 37 years of service to the Government and people of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) on October 2, 2020?

The ECCB was established as the monetary authority for: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on 1 October 1983.

The Governor of the ECCB, Timothy N. J. was thankful for the accomplishments over these nearly four decades and the achievements over the past six months in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He saluted the ECCB management and staff, past and present, for their contribution to this great cause.

**Governors of the Eastern** 

Caribbean Central Bank **Timothy Antoine** (Grenada) February 1, 2016 present The Honourable Sir K Dwight Venner (St. Vincent & the Grenadines)December 1989 – November 2015 Sir Cecil Jacobs (St. Kitts &

The Honourable Sir K Dwight Venner has the distinction of being the longest-serving governor of any central bank, monetary authority, or Federal Reserve.

*Nevis*) *July* 5,1973 – 1989

**Financial Information** 

October is Financial Information month (FIM) in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union.

The theme for FIM is: Financial **Empowerment** Through Education. This year, the focus is: "Building Financial Resilience in a COVID-19 Environment. Financial resilience is the ability to withstand life events that impact one's income and/or assets. Some financially stressful events, such as unemployment, disability, divorce, and health problems affect people individually.

As per the theme, Covid-19 presents a unique combination of challenges to us as on all levels. Globally, there is the collective challenge of major economic and financial fallout associated with the shut down in most countries, regardless of size of the



economy. Regionally, our size, limited natural resources, and heavy dependence on trade in goods and services make us even more vulnerable.

In Antigua and Barbuda, we are even more vulnerable given the limited local industries, the size of our private

sector and the very heavy reliance on government expenditure for capital infrastructure and expenditure on goods and services.

Keep watching this space every Monday in October for Financial Information Month specific information and more on our economy.



SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO OPERATIONS@POINTVILLE.AG **DEADLINE OCTOBER 5, 2020** 



# Prime Minister Gaston Browne wishes teachers Happy International Teachers' Day.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne today, wished educators across the twin-island state a happy International Teachers' Day. In a video message posted on social media, the country's leader expressed gratitude to teachers as they are being cele-

brated around the world.

In the message, PM Browne said, "Teachers have always been our heroes and heroines, however, during the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers have gone above and beyond to ensure that the education of our chil-

dren is not hampered. Teachers remain the most significant contributors to our society. Your tutelage, mentorship, instruction, and inspiration have guided us to be the resilient, creative and hardworking adult citizens we are today. Your hard work and

efforts displayed during the pandemic show your dedication to, and passion for, education." The Prime Minister went, "Teachers, we thank you. We cherish you. We are grateful to you and we are here for you. Happy International Teachers' Day!"



# Today we celebrate World Teachers' Day under the theme, 'Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future'. It is a day, set aside to honour the blessed few who work tirelessly to make sure the future of the nation's children is bright. Today is a day to recognize the achievements of teachers and their astounding level of support in cultivating a new generation of global citizens. It is also a day to listen to teachers, amplify their voices and draw

# Message from ABUT President, Kimdale Mackellar

attention to challenges facing this crucial profession. As one looks upon the contribution of teachers and students to national growth and development, one must agree that teaching is indeed a noble profession. We mould children's personalities, guide, motivate and inspire them to become better people, intelligent citizens and effective agents of national development.

This year, despite major challenges, we have made sure that the education process continues across the country, reinforcing the significant role we play in the lives of our students, their families and communities. Teachers continue to encourage and support students through face to face instruction, blended with the use of digital platforms.

Having to implement social distancing and online learning will leave an indelible mark on the teaching profession, in both positive and negative ways.

The pandemic has changed the way in which we teach and learn and as primary stakeholders in the teaching-learning process, teachers and students both have first-hand experience of this. COVID-19 has significantly added to the challenges faced by already over extended education systems throughout the world. It is as if the pandemic has fast forwarded time and the future that we were imagining only a few months ago is now here with us. Our goal of delivering high quality education, however, remains the same. Our challenge is to achieve our goal utilizing new methods, new tools and new applications. As those on the frontline of education delivery, teachers are well positioned to be the leaders, pathfinders and pioneers in this reimagined future. Let us welcome this challenge.

Teachers are truly the unsung heroes of this pandemic and I take this opportunity to salute you and to encourage you to be safe and to carry on touching lives in these unprecedented times, in unprecedented ways as only you can.

A BLESSED WORLD TEACHERS DAY TO ALL THE TEACHERS OF AN-TIGUA AND BARBUDA

## SALUTE TO TEACHERS

PAGE 13

## "TEACHERS: LEADING IN CRISIS, REIMAGINING THE FUTURE"







#### Joint Statement from

Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF David Edwards, General Secretary, Education International on the occasion of World Teachers' Day 2020

Every year, World Teachers' Day reminds us of the critical role teachers play in achieving inclusive, quality education for all. This year's World Teachers' Day has an even greater significance in light of the challenges that teachers have faced during the COVID-19 crisis. As the pandemic has shown, they make a crucial contribution to ensuring continuity of learning and supporting the mental health and wellbeing of their students.

Because of COVID-19, nearly 1.6 billion learners — more than 90% of the world's total enrolled student population — have been affected by school closures. The COVID-19 crisis has also affected over 63 million teachers, highlighted persistent weaknesses in many education systems and exacerbated inequalities, with devastating consequences for the most marginalized.

In this crisis, teachers have shown, as they have done so often, great leadership and innovation in ensuring that #LearningNeverStops, that no learner is left behind. Around the world, they have worked individually and collectively to find solutions and create new learning environments for their students to allow education to continue. Their role advising on school reopening plans and supporting students with the return to school is just as important. We now need to think beyond COVID-19 and work to build greater resilience in our education systems, so we can respond quickly and effectively to these and other such crises. This means protecting education financing, investing in high-quality initial teacher education, as well as continuing the professional development of the existing teacher workforce.

Without urgent action and increased investment, a learning crisis could turn into a learning catastrophe. Even before COVID-19, more than half of all ten-year-olds in low- to middle-income countries could not understand a simple written story. To build a more resilient teacher workforce in times of crisis, all teachers should be equipped with digital and pedagogical skills to teach remotely, online, and through blended or hybrid learning, whether in high-, low- or no-tech environments. Governments should ensure the availability of digital infrastructure and connectivity everywhere, including in rural and remote areas. In the context of COVID-19, governments, social partners and other key actors have an even greater responsibility regarding teachers. We call on governments to protect teachers' safety, health, and wellbeing, as

well as their employment, to continue improving teachers' working conditions, and to involve teachers and their representative organizations in the COVID-19 educational response and recovery. Today, we collectively celebrate teachers for their continued commitment to their students and for contributing to the achievement of the 2030 targets under Sustainable Development Goal 4. We commend educators for the central role they have played, and continue to play, in responding to and recovering from this pandemic.

Now is the time to recognize the role of teachers in helping to ensure a generation of students can reach their full potential, and the importance of education for short-term stimulus, economic growth and social cohesion, during and after COVID-19.

Now is the time to reimagine education and achieve our vision of equal access to quality learning for every child and young person.

# Get to know your teacher on International Teacher's Day!

Teachers have always played a pivotal role in the development of our young people. They play the roles of educators, role models, inspirers, counselors and even parent figures who have guided our

youths through life's lessons away from the classroom setting. For these and a plethora of reasons, we celebrate teachers as the superheroes they are. International Teachers Day is being celebrated around the world today, so to honor and celebrate our beloved educators, we are highlighting some of the men and women in our education system. So as Arne Duncan once said, "Wherever you find some-

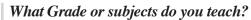
thing extraordinary, you will find the fingerprints of a great teacher." Let us celebrate them, with a kind word, a token of appreciation or the warm greeting, Happy International Teachers Day!

## SALUTE TO TEACHERS





**Delina Greene** School: Villa **Primary** School



Kindergarten, I teach the four core subjects.

#### How many years have you been teaching?

I am a trained teacher with 14 years experience.

#### What do you love most about teaching?

I enjoy seeing my students having fun while learning and putting a smile on each child's face. I believe teaching and learning should be fun.

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

Covid has changed a lot. As a teacher you should be creative in your teaching and have a plan B if plan A is not working. Doing certain activities in small groupings has changed, so I would engage students in the whole group with social distancing in mind, which is more difficult.



Jelesa Browne **School: Pigotts Primary** School

#### What grade or subjects do you teach?

Grade 5; Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies

How many years have you been teaching? 11 years

#### What do you love most about teaching?

I love being around my students, hearing the different stories and experiences they would share. Additionally, in the academic sense, I love that I am able to make a difference in my students lives, seeing them move from one point to another especially when you can see on their faces that they understood the concept taught. That is such a rewarding feeling.

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

COVID-19 has definitely affected my way of instruction. I love doing hands-on activities in groups which cannot be done because the students are not allowed to share, however, this does not stop my activities. I try to use simple items that they can find at home for them to bring to ensure they do their activities individually.

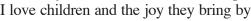


Science and Mathematics. Grades Five and Six

#### How many years have you been teaching? 18 years

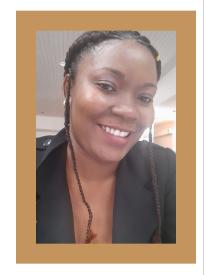
#### What do you love most about teaching?

I love children and the joy they bring by just being around them but most importantly I love seeing when children experience the 'ah ha!' moments from the unknown to the known. The look in their bright little faces is enough to fill anyone's heart in knowing that you played a role in that; that opportunity you get to mold a young person into becoming a well-rounded, productive citizen.



#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

For many of us as teachers, face-to-face instruction was all that we were accustomed to. After we went into lockdown mode, the teaching moved to an online platform. I must say that I have always been a person who takes on challenges with an open mind because I have seen selfgrowth from that mentality. Hence, I plunged into online teaching with my students using the Google classroom. Though it was tedious at times, I managed to get through it. My only regret was that not all my students had access or devices which limited the amount of work given and type of work given via this medium. I would say that COVID-19 has affected my teaching method in a positive way as I am now able to function as a teacher both in the classroom and behind a computer screen.



**Alexis Murray School: Parham Primary** School

## SALUTE TO TEACHERS

PAGE 15



Neilson A. Duberry School: Sir Novelle Richards Academy

What Grade or subjects do you teach? English

How many years have you been teaching? 11 years

#### What do you love most about teaching?

I love finding creative ways to teach a concept to my students, thus giving each child the opportunity to reach his or her fullest potential.

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

COVID-19 has provided the opportunity to find creative ways to deliver my lessons through Blended Learning. It has shown me that the use of information communication technologies (ICTs) in the teaching and learning process is extremely critical during the absence of face to face learning. In light of this, it has propelled me to not only change my approaches to teaching but also encouraged me to seek professional development in delivering courses online.



Sharon Kelsick School: Princess Margaret School

What Grade or subjects do you teach? Spanish

How many years have you been teaching? Twelve years

#### What do you love most about teaching?

Helping my students find success, however, that may look in their context!

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

The pandemic has encouraged the development of more creative approaches to teaching a foreign language within the context of blended learning.



Tiffany Azille School: T.N. Kirnon School

#### What Grade or subjects do you teach?

I am currently teaching Second Grade due to COVID-19 but was teaching Spanish to Kindergarten to the 6th Grade. I have experience teaching kindergarten to Fifth Form.

How many years have you been teaching? 10 years

#### What do you love most about teaching?

Seeing my former students grow up and actually function well in society. Getting that special treatment at their workplace because they are thankful. I love hearing about them furthering their studies in Spanish too.

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your teaching method?

It affected me BIG TIME! It moved me from teaching Spanish to the whole school to teaching core subjects to my 2nd graders. I've been incorporating more technology into their lessons so that they can function just in case there's another shutdown. Additionally, I usually have a lot of group activities and interactions incorporated into my lessons, but I now have to be more creative to let them have just as much fun without the physical interaction.







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# **Regional News**

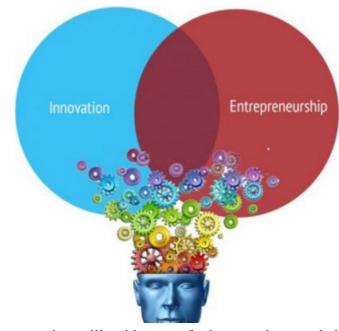
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# First Entrepreneurship and Innovation HUB in Dominica kicks off

(Dominica News Online) The Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Trade, Commerce, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Business and Export Development, the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce (DAIC) are hosting the first-ever Dominica Entrepreneurship and Innovation HUB Workshop (EIHUB) for Young Entrepreneurs. The objective of this workshop is to provide Entrepreneurs with the support and knowledge they need to manage and run profitable and resilient business enterprises.

The first phase of the EIHUB will consist of a one-week foundational program to be held from October 4-9th, 2020 at the Jungle Bay Eco-Resorts in Soufriere for 33 young Dominican entrepreneurs.

The program will feature presentations and practical sessions from mentors and



experts who will address fundamental concepts of business development, innovation, resilience, digital transformation, and technology.

Following the week of activities, participants will continue to receive support and mentorship through targeted sessions with special emphasis on further developing their project concepts and business interests.

The opening ceremony

of the on-site workshop on Monday, October 5th from 9:00 AM, will feature the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Hon. Dr. Roosevelt Skerrit, OAS Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Kim Osborne, and President of the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce, Stephen Lander.

The sessions during the workshop will include presentations from the University of California at Riverside (UCR) which provides entrepreneurial education and start up formation support to help businesses grow.

The EIHUB will be supported by contributions from all partners to include the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Trade, Commerce, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Business and Export Development, the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce (DAIC).

This partnership will seek to capture key benefits for building the capacity of local business to drive economic activity and will include content and resources that address important components of entrepreneurial education and innovation for business development and continued growth towards digital transformation and resilience.



# **Regional News**



# CDB President: Find way for private sector to assume role as jobs generator

(CARICOM Today) The President of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Dr. Wm Warren Smith, stressed at (the) 50th Annual Meeting of the Bank's Board of Governors that in the small Caribbean economies with no reserve currencies, sustainable advances in standards of living must be driven by export expansion.

"A diversified production structure helps to build economic resilience, making economies less susceptible to price and output fluctuations. Such a diversified structure also leads to low cost, productive and competitive economies, said Smith.

The CDB President emphasized that Caribbean countries need to find a way to get the private sector to assume its place as the ultimate generator of jobs, incomes, and exports. In order to make this happen, the public sector needs to pay much more attention to creating an ecosystem that includes climate-friendly infrastructure, a healthy and skilled labour force, enabling legislative and regulatory frameworks, enabling culture, and access to appropriate types of finance.

Smith noted that the Caribbean has not exploited the true potential of the regional integration project to allow regional firms access



Dr. William Warren Smith

to a larger protected market in which they could grow, and which would serve use as a launching pad to the global market. More than half of the actions agreed in the 2001 roadmap to a single market and economy still need to be implemented.

"I believe that the full potential of the integration movement has been limited by significant non-tariff barriers to trade; a lack of harmonized investment codes, tax incentives, and macroeconomic policies; and restrictions on capital mobility," highlighted Smith.

Looking back at his tenure at the helm of CDB that will conclude in April 2021, CDB President Smith stated that the Bank was instrumental in helping to transform the Region. Between 2011 and 2019, total approvals amounted to US\$2.5 billion with

the bulk of the resources approved for projects in transportation, social infrastructure, environment, sea defenses, disaster management, reconstruction, and energy. In the same period, US\$1.8 billion had been disbursed. Despite the setbacks caused by COVID-19, total approvals in 2020 are anticipated to reach US\$470 million, and disbursements to be around US\$367 million.

Touching upon some highlights of CDB results, Smith noted that during the ten-year period, CDB helped to narrow the infrastructure deficit in the Region and improved access to social and economic services. Almost 2,400 kilometers of roads were constructed and upgraded with CDB funds. Some 60 communities benefitted from community-based interventions in disaster risk management to reduce vulnerability and strengthen the capacity of residents to cope with hazard events.

CDB also improved learning conditions building human capital through investments 1,600 classrooms. and training almost 13,000 teachers. These initiatives have benefitted and continue to benefit some 469,000 students across the Region. By installing and upgrading over 800 kilometers of water supply lines in several countries, an estimated 62,700 households now have access to improved water and sanitation services.

To achieve this, CDB deepened strategic partnerships and mobilized resources from numerous donor countries and multilateral financial institutions, with a strong focus on attracting funding for climate adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, making the Region more resilient to climate change while better meeting its energy demand in a sustainable manner.

"I am even more convinced that the business of development is complex. It requires many players, including CDB, joining forces in an orchestrated manner to create the environment best suited for advancing living standards in our Region", concluded Smith.

# **Regional News**

PAGE 19

# PM: History made in the Senate a proud moment for St Lucia

(LoopSLU) Since the introduction of the COVID-19 bill, there has been much controversy amongst the public.

Yesterday, the government and the opposition were at odds as a result of the appointment of three new senators, a measure taken to bypass the absence of opposition and independent senators to hold the session.

In spite of all the criticism, Prime Minister Allen Chastanet says this was a very proud moment for him and the people of Saint Lucia.

"Today is a very proud moment for me and I think also for the government and people of Saint Lucia.

"The history that's being made in the senate today I'm seeing that many people are not understanding what is taking place today.

"Eight of the persons occupying the senate today, six of them are women and what's most amazing is the contributions these women are making," said Chastanet.

In regards to the appointment of senators for the sitting on Friday, which some have described as illegal, the PM says that the Madam President dealt with the situation which was present at the time.

"Unfortunately, you had two independent senators



St. Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet

that were sick. There's certainly a lot of interpretations out there. I am not a lawyer, I don't think that the constitution ever contemplated that the senate could not conduct business. I am satisfied with the two independent senators which are in appointment of the governor.

"We have it on our side when there are MPs that travel or are sick, the constitution allows us to temporarily appoint somebody, so there is nothing that is peculiar about the situation," said Chastanet.

The PM went on to say that the Governor-General felt it fit that given the senators were sick and the business of the house had to proceed, that he had to appoint other senators.

"The great thing about the GG is that he is very experienced in politics and he has invested a tremendous amount of his time in understanding the constitution. I know he is passionate about his constitution so I can assure you that every perimeter of this situation was analyzed by everyone."

Chastanet says the new bill is not a complicated one. He says the only difference is instead of using a state of emergency, it was changed to a COVID Bill: "You will always have persons wanting to question whether there was a better way to write something.

"That's consistent throughout time. We can-

not argue with success, so what we have put in place, the drafting that we have used, the laws that we have come up with, I do not believe in any way that we have limited persons' civil liberties."

He went on to say that Saint Lucia has been a leader in handling COVID-19 and is one of the few places which has learnt to live with the virus.

Since Saint Lucia implemented pre-testing, the PM says that other countries have followed suit and he is proud that the island has been very successful so far in a difficult situation.

The PM also advised citizens to be safe during the scheduled weekend activities and events.

# International



# Doctors say Trump takes steroid dexamethasone after oxygen dip

(Aljazeera) The medical team treating Donald Trump, who tested positive for the novel coronavirus on Thursday, has said the president has "continued to improve" and could return to the White House as soon as Monday while adding he had been given oxygen and the steroid dexamethasone after his blood oxygen level dipped in recent days.

The medical team addressed reporters on Sunday from Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where Trump was hospitalised on Friday following the diagnosis, which came just more than a month before the presidential election on November 3.

Conley said Trump received supplemental oxygen at the White House when his blood oxygen level dipped before being transported to the hospital.

Another member of the team, Dr Brian Garibaldi, said the 74-year-old was given the steroid dexamethasone on Saturday in response to "transient low oxygen levels".

The doctors said Trump's blood oxygen levels were currently stable.

"He received his first dose of that yesterday and our plan is to continue that for the time being," Garibaldi said, adding Trump was "up and around" and was feeling well.

"Our plan for today is to have him eat and drink, be up out of bed as much as possible, to be mobile," Garibaldi said.

"And, if he continues to look and feel as well as he does today, our hope is that we can plan a discharge as early as tomorrow to the White House where he can continue his treatment course."

Despite the White House team's positive prognosis, Dr Eric Feigl Ding, an epidemiologist and senior fellow at the



Dr. Sean Conley, the White House physician, is flanked by other doctors as he speaks to the media about President Donald Trump's health

Federation of American Scientists told Al Jazeera Trump being given dexamethasone is an "extremely worrying sign".

"The WHO [World Health Organization] says it is only used for critical and severe patients. It actually recommends against [usage in] people who are not serious," he said.

"NIH [National Institutes of Health] also says it only for serious patients who are either on ventilators or supplemental oxygen, which Trump barely qualifies for."

Feigl Ding added Trump is on a "really bad trajectory" and Monday is "a little premature for discharge".

However, he added: "The White House has a whole surgical unit so being discharged tomorrow [Monday] is pretty meaningless."

Trump's doctors also sought to respond to contradictory messaging from the White House on the president's condition on Saturday.

The medical team early on Saturday morning had painted an optimistic picture of the president's condition, saying he was improving and already wanted to return to the White House.

Minutes later, Mark Meadows, the president's chief of staff, gave a less rosy assessment, telling reporters:

"The president's vitals over the last 24 hours were very concerning and the next 48 hours will be critical in terms of his care. We're still not on a clear path to a full recovery."

White House doctor Conley on Sunday said he was "trying to reflect an upbeat attitude of the team and the president about the course his illness has had".

"I didn't want to give any information that might steer the course of illness in another direction and in doing so, it came off that we were trying to hide something, which isn't necessarily true," he added.

Trump's medical team added that Trump has not run a fever since Friday and his liver and kidney function remained normal after the second dose in a five-day course of remdesivir, an intravenous antiviral drug sold by Gilead Sciences Inc that has been shown to shorten hospital stays.

Several prominent allies of the president have also tested positive for COVID-19 since Trump's announcement, including his campaign manager Bill Stepien, Republican Party chair Ronna McDaniel, senators Mike Lee, Thom Tillis and Ron Johnson, former White House senior adviser Kellyanne Conway and former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

Meanwhile, Trump's campaign said Vice President Mike Pence, who would assume the presidency if Trump were unable to carry out his duties, would have an "aggressive" schedule this week, as would Trump's three oldest children.

"We can't stay in our basement or shut down the economy indefinitely. We have to take it head-on," Trump campaign Senior Advisor Jason Miller told ABC news organisation.

# Internationa

France has been strug-

gling to contain a rising

PAGE 21

# Coronavirus: Paris to shut bars and raise alert to maximum

(BBC) Paris will shut all bars completely from Tuesday as the French government raises the city's coronavirus alert to maximum following a sustained period of high infection

Full detail of the new restrictions will be announced on Monday and will last for two weeks, the office of Prime Minister Jean Castex announced.

On Sunday France reported 12,565 cases of Covid-19.

It comes after the city of Marseille closed bars and restaurants last week.

The maximum alert level in France comes into force when the infection rate in a locality exceeds 250 per 100,000 people and at least 30% of intensive care beds are reserved for Covid-19 patients.

"These measures, indispensable in the fight to curb the virus' spread, will apply to Paris and the three departments immediately surrounding it, for a duration of two weeks," the prime minister's office explained.

Restaurants in the city will have to put in place new sanitary arrangements in order to stay open and university lecture halls must be no more than halffull.

But restaurants and bistros that serve food as well



Bars in Paris, France must close from Tuesday for two weeks under new coronavirus restrictions

as alcohol can stay open, as long as they register contact details from customers and shut their doors at 22:00.

Working from home must be prioritised "now more than ever", the statement said.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin acknowledged that closing bars would be difficult for Parisians. "We are French, we love to drink, to eat, to live, to smile and to kiss each other," he told French TV channel LCI and Europe 1 on Sunday.

On 26 September Marseille. France's second city, closed all bars, restaurants and gyms for two weeks. Public venues including theatres, museums and cinemas have also had to close unless they could introduce strict anti-viral measures.

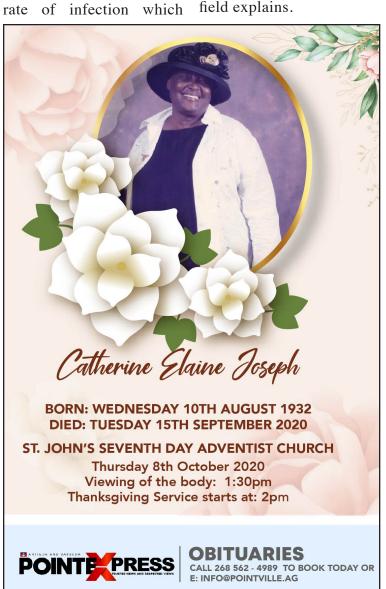
The measure prompted anger from local officials who said they were not consulted.

tially in late August.

started to grow exponen-

On Saturday it reported nearly 17,000 infections, its highest rate since the country started widespread testing.

The government says it doesn't want to order another nationwide lockdown, but will enforce tougher measures in those cities where the virus is concentrated, BBC Paris correspondent Hugh Schofield explains.



# International



# Pope Francis says capitalism has failed in the pandemic

(CNN) Pope Francis disparaged socalled trickle-down economic theory, saying the pandemic has shown that free-market policies cannot solve all of humanity's most dire needs.

In a 70-page encyclical, the highest form of papal teaching, Pope Francis outlined his vision for a post-pandemic world.

"The marketplace by itself cannot resolve every problem, however much we are asked to believe this dogma of neoliberal faith," the pope wrote.

He added that free-market capitalism "reproduces itself" by resorting to the magic theories of "spillover" or "trickle" as the only solution to societal problems.

The pope said this "spillover" does not



"resolve the inequality that gives rise to new forms of violence threatening the fabric of society."

The encyclical, called "Fratelli Tutti," or "Brothers All," reiterated the pope's vision for a more communal society, which extends to the use of private property.

"The Christian tradition has never rec-

ognized the right to private property as absolute or inviolable and has stressed the social purpose of all forms of private property," the pope wrote.

The encyclical covers a wide range of social topics including immigration, the death penalty, populism and economic injustice.

He also touched on racism, calling it a "virus that quickly mutates and instead of disappearing goes into hiding and lurks in waiting."

The pope also questioned why it took so long for the Catholic Church to unequivocally to condemn slavery.

"Fratelli Tutti" is Pope Francis' third encyclical, and he signed it at the tomb of St. Francis in Assisi.

# Debt cancellation needed to help poorest countries: World Bank president

(Reuters) The COVID-19 pandemic could trigger a debt crisis in some countries, so investors must be ready for granting some form of relief that could also include debt cancellation, World Bank President David Malpass was quoted as saying on Sunday.

"It is evident that some countries are unable to repay the debt they have taken on. We must therefore also reduce the debt level. This can be called debt relief or cancellation," Malpass told Handelsblatt business daily in an interview.

"It is important that the amount of debt is reduced by restructuring," Malpass added.

He pointed to similar steps

in previous financial crises such as in Latin America and the so-called HIPC initiative for highly indebted countries in the 1990s.

Rich countries last month backed an extension of the G20's Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI), approved in April to help developing nations survive the coronavirus pandemic, which has seen 43 of a potential 73 eligible countries defer \$5 billion in "official sector" debt payments. [nL-5N2GL6KB]

Amid warnings the pandemic could push 100 million people into extreme poverty, Malpass renewed his call for private banks and investment funds to get involved too.



World Bank President David Malpass

"These investors are not doing enough and I am disappointed with them. Also, some of the major Chinese lenders did not get enough involved.

"The effect of the aid measures is therefore less than it could be," the World Bank head said.

Malpass warned that the pandemic could trigger an-

other debt crisis as some developing countries had already entered a downward spiral of weaker growth and financial trouble.

"The enormous budget deficits and debt payments are overwhelming these economies. In addition, the banks there are getting into difficulties due to bad loans," Malpass added.



# **Community Notices**

PAGE 23



## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

#### **AGS SUSPENDS AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

In order to bring the Antigua Grammar School into full compliance with the Ministry of Education's Safety Protocols for the protection of staff and students from the effects of the Covid–19 pandemic, the general public is asked to take note that with immediate effect and until further notice, all non-educational after hours activities on the school's premises have been suspended. This includes sporting activities or meetings of any kind. Any inconvenience caused is regretted.





## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

#### **RENEWAL OF WORK PERMITS**

The Labour Department wishes to inform the general public that the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda has decided that until further notice, work permit renewal applications are not required to be advertised by employers.

ALL new work permit applications, including change of employers, MUST be accompanied by proper proof of advertisement, copies of applications received in response to job advertisement and a proper justification for work permit application. Please be guided accordingly.

#### **EAG TRASH CHALLENGE CLEANUP**

Register your crew, collect your curated COVID-19 cleanup kit, download the Cleanswell App, clean up while social distancing and take photos and tag us on social media @eagantigua for the Environment Awareness Group's Trash Challenge Antigua & Barbuda #COVIDCLEANUP on Saturday, October 10. Register at http://bit.ly/covidcleanup268 or call 462 6236 for more information.

#### **CADET CORPS REGISTRATION**

Registration to the Antigua and Barbuda National Cadet Corps for children aged 13-18 will take place each Saturday in October from 9am - 12:30pm at the Ex-Servicemen Association Building, Camp Site (opposite Sagicor Insurance, close to the Prime Minister's Office).

Each child should be accompanied by a parent or guardian and should have a copy of their birth certificate, a passport picture, proof that the child is enrolled in an educational institution, including the Antigua State College, ABICE, ABITT. This proof can be the acceptance letter or school bus pass and a registration fee of EC\$25. Please wear masks and bring your own pen.

#### **WOMEN LEADERS**

Young women aged 18 to 25 who are interested in leadership and living in Antigua and Barbuda, are being sought ahead of an upcoming conference. The Antigua and Barbuda Parliament in partnership with ParlAmericas will be hosting a "Young Women in Leadership" conference through October and November 2020. Visit www.ciwil.org or call 462-4822 or 464-2705 for more information. Submit your community notices to news@point-ville.ag

#### **ROAD WORK ON SIR GEORGE WALTER HIGHWAY:**

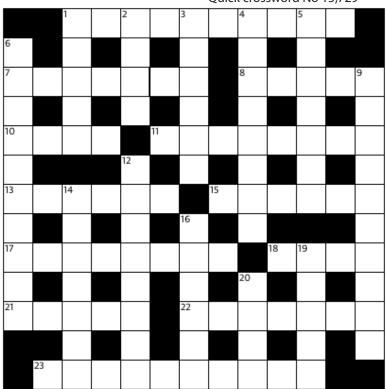
Road work continues in Phase 2B between Mi Casa Imports Ltd to Sir Sidney Walling Hwy (Factory Rd) junction from. Local access will be maintained for the duration of this closure and there will be business as usual. Business owners, customers and residents trying to gain access are asked to enter from the northern end of closure from Dees Service Station (Rubis) junction.

Submit your community notices to news@pointville.ag

# **LEISURE**



Quick crossword No 15,729



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		15						19
14			5		17			
	20		15					
10			23				17	
	13			20				

#### Across

- 1 Loathsome (10)
- 7 Afterwards (5,2)
- 8 Ape (5)
- 10 Hindquarters (4)
- 11 Affecting the first month after birth (8)
- 13 According to Sinatra in 1946, they've got an awful lot of this in Brazil
- 15 Artist's workroom (6)
- 17 Many riot (anag) threatening (8)
- 18 Cheese-like food made with soya milk (4)
- A levels, for example (5)
- Patron saint of musicians (7)
- 23 Caught unawares (10)

#### Down

- 1 Piece of information (5)
- 2 Rent unable to decide (4)
- 3 Vocalist (6)
- 4 Coiled fossil shell (8)
- 5 Restricted (7)
- 6 North Devon seaside resort (10)
- 9 Vernacular (10)
- 12 Get rid of (8)
- 14 Kind of pigeon (7)
- Synopsis (6)
- 19 Stared at inappropriately (5)
- What turns blue litmus paper red (4)

#### **CARTOON CORNER**



# **LEISURE**

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ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): Stay on your toes and you could win by a nose. You love to come out on top. Fortunately, you are a gracious winner. You may become surrounded by an aura of enthusiasm and cheerfulness that others find simply irresistible.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20-May 20): You can't put a monetary value on every item that you possess. You may impress people with your originality and skills rather than spending money on your appearance. Staying home might be more fun than evening outings.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Enjoy the camaraderie available to you at work and with groups of friends. You may fit well within a think tank situation but could find it difficult to understand someone's point of view in one-on-one interactions.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Learn from criticism but don't take it personally. Try to arrive on time and complete assignments to the letter, or you risk receiving negative feedback. Maintain the peace at home by being loving and kindhearted.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You may be feeling quite energetic, but don't move too fast with a business deal. Let any pending proposal or unresolved agreement simmer over the weekend before you commit yourself by signing on the dotted line.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You might be in a period of dynamic growth. Every book or article you read can add to the breadth of your knowledge. Once the pieces come together, they may trigger your creative genius and prove profitable over time.

**LIBRA** (**Sept. 23-Oct. 22.**): Flights of fancy may carry you away. Be sensitive to someone's feelings if you want to fully enjoy romantic escapades. Use your good judgment about business strategies and financial matters to avoid pitfalls.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): When you are paired with the right person, you may appear especially brilliant and perceptive. It's important to employ kindness and empathy while dealing with others in pursuit of your objectives.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Consider making it your mission to indulge in entertainment and activities that spark joy. Your partner might have some unique ideas about what will be fun. Remember, you can always agree to disagree.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Something newsworthy might trigger your desire to try a new hobby. Avoid signing agreements, as the terms might not be as financially advantageous as you may think.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You might think it's important to appear businesslike, but try not to take bargaining over minute details a step too far. Make sure there aren't any unexpected strings attached to proposed projects or investments.

**PISCES** (**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**): It may be challenging to muster up the extra energy to deal with emotionally challenging family squabbles, but ignoring the situation could be worse. Confer with a friend who can offer worthwhile suggestions.







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POINTE PRESS

# **Sports News**

PAGE 27

# Yasco Complex still on hold

Minister of Sports, Hon. Daryll Matthew, says his ministry is in regular contact with Mundo with respect to the upgrade of the Yasco Sports Complex.

Mundo is the company that is both providing and laying the track.

Matthew says the track has been on island for a while but on the day the technicians were preparing to lay the track airports around the world began

to close due to the coronavirus pandemic. Their technicians therefore requested to return home immediately to avoid becoming stuck in Antigua away from their families.

The minister stated that he has had dialog with the technicians, who are from Italy and Panama. Both individuals expressed concern about having to quarantine in Antigua and Barbuda and

again upon returning home. They have therefore expressed the preference to remain at home until things have stabilised.

"These are some of the issues we are trying to overcome." Matthew noted, "but in the meantime, we will start work in a few weeks on other areas that need upgrades at the facility like seating."

# Aston Villa embarrasses Liverpool

Ollie Watkins scored a first-half hat trick and Jack Grealish had a hand in five goals as Aston Villa deservedly stunned champions Liverpool with one of the most unbelievable score lines in Premier League history.

Villa's record signing Watkins had never scored a Premier League goal before kick-off and 45 minutes later he had the match ball as the home side took advantage of Liverpool's high line and individual mistakes.

Captain Grealish scored their final two goals after assisting three.

It is the first time Liverpool have conceded seven goals since 1963 and is only their fourth Premier League defeat since 3 January 2019. Villa, who escaped relegation on the final day of last season, overtake them in the table with their best start since 1962.

Villa's first was the result of a huge error by Adrian. The Reds stand-in keeper passed the ball straight to Grealish, who cut it back for Watkins to side-foot in from eight yards.

Watkins' second was excellent as he cut in from the left and smashed into the top corner.

Mohamed Salah looked to have restored order when he scored for the Reds, but John McGinn's deflected volley two minutes later put Villa's lead back to two.

It got even better when Watkins headed in from Trezeguet's cross to become



the first player to score a Premier League hat-trick against Liverpool since Dimitar Berbatov for Manchester United 10 years ago.

Villa debutant Ross Barkley, a boyhood Evertonian, was excellent and added a fifth after the break from just outside the box from Grealish's third assist.

Salah made it 5-2 from Roberto Firmino's pass on the hour-mark but then Grealish smashed in Villa's sixth before latching onto McGinn's raking pass to add another.

This is the first time in 18 attempts that Villa have beaten the reigning champions at home - the last was a 3-2 win over Arsenal in December 1998.

"We never dreamed of getting a result like this," Villa boss Dean Smith told BBC Sport.

"The performance was outstanding from start to finish. We created an awful lot of chances against an exceptional defence and team. We had to work very hard."

# Man United to sign Cavani

Former Paris St. Germain striker, Edison Cavani, is due to join Manchester United. The Uruguay international, 33, has been in talks with United and it appears likely that Cavani will join on what could be a two-year contract.

Cavani is out of contract having left Paris St. Germain at the end of June. While he left PSG under a cloud following a disagreement with Neymar, he feels he has more to give to European football.

United have been given a positive impression about the player's desire to play for the club and, should face to face talks confirm the

impression, a deal will be done. United feel Cavani's age is not an issue and his experience will help develop the younger players in Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's squad.

Cavani scored 341 goals in 556 club games. Included in that are a club record of 200 goals in 301 appearances for PSG. He also scored 50 goals in 116 internationals for Uruguay.

If the deal does go through, one of Cavani's first games could be against PSG who are United's opponents in the first Champions League group game at the Parc de Princes on 20 October.

# S DOFTS MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2020



# Drastic: Forging a link between sports and music

Art "Drastic" Phillip, one of the island's top soca artists, grew up as an active participant in many sporting activities.

Drastic, played football in the Shipwreck League for Gold Smitty and was also a 5Ps Revolution member all while he represented the St. Joseph Academy in basketball and football.

After graduating high school, Drastic left for university in the United States Virgin Islands where his journey continued.

"I was always very fast and while playing football in St. Thomas. The track coach saw my speed and encouraged me to take up track which I did and excelled."

Phillip clocked a time of 10.4 seconds in the 100 meter event but although he showed potential in track, he admitted that he was not passionate about the sport and would also fall ill after every race.

Drastic also played basketball in university and had the opportunity to scrimmage against the San Antonio Spurs on one of their visits to the USVI.

"Music was always in my blood. I sang in church from a very early age, but when I arrived in St. Thomas I really got involved. I won the V. I. Idol competition doing mainstream music," Drastic explained.

Upon returning to Antigua, Phillip said he was encouraged to take up soca, a genre he never had an appreciation for growing up.

"I never went to carnival for the first eighteen years of my life, so I never knew who Marshal Montano was, but I took Tian Winter's advice and released 'Sugary Waistline' which was a hit and the rest is history," he said.

While he attained success in the soca genre, it is still not the artist's first love and he is working to return to areas of music where he is passionate.



Art "Drastic" Phillip

Recently Drastic released "Show Up' which features international artists Wyclef Jean and Noah Powa and that song has blossomed into a hugh hit.

While COVID-19 hampered musicians ability to tour and perform, Drastic has used the pause to sharpen his image and skills and write more songs

which he hopes will resonate with his audience.

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