

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA CELEBRATES 39 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE



HON. SIR MOLWYN JOSEPH KGCN



DAME LORNA SIMON DCN



# LIAT receives warm welcome from Antigua, Dominica



November 1 was a historic day for LIAT and a momentous occasion for the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda and the governments and people of the Caribbean.

LIAT returned to the sky during a flight from Antigua to Dominica on Sunday after a seven month long break in operation. The airline was greeted by a water cannon salute as it taxied the tarmac at the V. C. Bird International Airport before beginning its journey to Dominica.

Upon arrival in Dominica, LIAT Flight 401's staff and passengers received an official welcome from

Dominican officials.

Dominica's Minister for Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives, Denise Charles, gave the commitment that their government would continue to support the airline. She said her government stood firmly with Antigua and Barbuda in the effort to revive LIAT.

LIAT returned to Antigua on Sunday evening.

For now, the airline has indicated that it will operate on a limited schedule when it fully rolls out in a few weeks.

Antigua and Barbuda's Minister

for Tourism, Charles 'Max' Fernandez said he was delighted at LIAT's return.

Fernandez said LIAT's importance to the nation's economy must never be understated as, in addition to providing employment to hundreds of people, it also provides a vital link to countries across the region. This he said strengthens Antigua and Barbuda's standing as a regional hub for international air travel.

## Regional COVID-19 increase bursts “travel bubble”, delays LIAT comeback

**By Shelton Daniel**

The Caricom “travel bubble” has burst.

This was the declaration of Antigua and Barbuda’s Prime Minister Gaston Browne who on Saturday discussed the region’s struggle with the surge of new COVID-19 infections.

“The situation with the spread of COVID is not limited to Europe and North America. Right here in the Caribbean we are seeing more countries having community spread. The most recent would have been Saint Lucia [which]

within the last week, I’m told, would have had over 34 new cases of COVID. So it’s evident that Saint Lucia now has community spread.”

The prime minister explained that the reality of community spread of COVID-19 in countries across the region “has forced a change in the travel arrangements within Caricom. So whereas a few weeks ago we had agreed on a Caricom travel bubble, in effect the bubble has burst.”

Last Friday, Grenada opted out of the travel bubble, citing the inability of participating countries to

agree on common protocols. The Spice Isle will now require anyone coming into the country to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test and quarantine for seven days.

Montserrat had already announced at the end of September that it would not participate in the Caricom travel bubble over safety concerns. Premier Joseph Farrell explained that his government was concerned that Montserrat could be exposed to the disease by persons entering the country from high risk countries.

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# Antigua and Barbuda celebrates

The nation of Antigua and Barbuda celebrated its 39th Anniversary of Independence this year against the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic.

Many of the activities normally associated with the annual independence celebrations were scaled down because of the pandemic as stringent safety regulations limited public gatherings. The devastating effect of the pandemic on the local economy also necessitated a less grandiose observance.

During the ceremonial parade held on Sunday afternoon at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, awards were presented to several individuals and one organisation in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the nation.

This year, Health Minister, Molwyn Joseph, was bestowed the title Knight Grand Cross, The Most Distinguished Order of the Nation (KGCN) for distinguished and outstanding contribution in the field of politics

and development. Henceforth, he will be known as Sir Molwyn Joseph.

Also receiving top honour was Supervisor of Elections, Lorna Simon, who was bestowed the title Dame Commander of The Most Distinguished Order of the Nation (DCN). She will now be known as Dame Lorna Simon.

The other awardees were Winston Kenneth Nehemiah Gomes of the Antigua Port Authority; sports official, Clancy Mack; sports official, Keith Frederick, and the nation's oldest steel orchestra, The Hellsgate Steel Orchestra which was accepted by Veron Henry.

Awards were also presented COVID-19 Frontline Workers who were recognised in a separate category. The awardees were Anderson Joseph of the Customs Division, Nurse Soria Dupie-Winston, Corporal Timothy Philip Jr., Avery Henry of the Airport Authority, Wesley Simon of the Immigration Department and Lt. Carla Patreace Thom-

as-Browne of the Antigua Defense Force.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne, offered three cheers to the nation and its people and congratulations to the awardees for their outstanding contributions to Antigua and Barbuda's development.

Referring to the COVID-19 pandemic, Browne said while the country is at war with 'an invisible enemy', the nation nor its people will not be intimidated. He continued that Antiguan and Barbudans are firm in their resolve to overcome this enemy. Browne appealed, however, for everyone to observe the health protocols intended to control the spread of the virus.

Having recognised Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams also offered congratulations to the 2020 awardees noting that their contribution ought to serve as an example for others to follow.

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## NATIONAL HONORS 2020



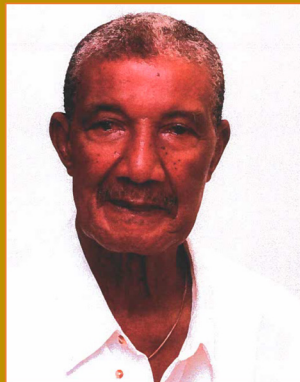
**Hon. Sir Molwyn M Joseph KGCN**



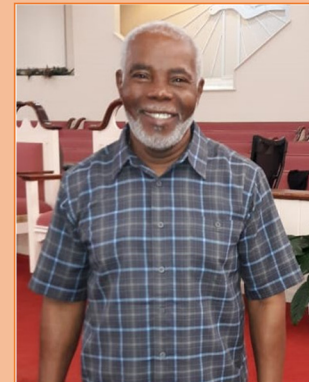
**Dame Lorna Simon DCN**



**KEITH FREDERICK OH**



**Winston K N Gomes GOH**



**Clancy Mack OH**



**Anderson Joseph MM**



**Thank You Team Members!**  
**Nurse Soria Dupie-Winston**



**Cpl. Timothy Philip Jr. MM**

## NATIONAL HONORS 2020



**Avery A Henry MM**



**Wesley Simon MM**



**Lt. Carla Browne-Thomas MM**



**Hellsgate Steel Orchestra - GOLD**



## Willoughby Bay project details revealed

The committee spearheading the planning phase of the proposed development at Willoughby Bay has presented its plans to the public.

The Technical Committee, which is operating under the aegis of the Economic Recovery Committee (ERC), said the timing of the release was intended to coincide with the celebration of Antigua and Barbuda's 39th Anniversary of Independence.

Head of the Technical Committee, Ambassador Daven Joseph, said publicising the Willoughby Bay project plans at this time is a demonstration of the wherewithal of Antiguan and Barbudan's in spearheading the nation's development.

"This press conference is

called on the eve of our Independence to show the nation that as a people we have the capacity to develop our country and take on all the challenges associated with development and emerge with a project that will benefit every single one of us in a sustainable manner," Joseph said on Friday.

Joseph said the project will move forward with the goal of encouraging maximum private sector involvement as the government does not wish to 'monopolise' the development.

The Willoughby Bay project will involve a variety of elements including agriculture, hotel and hospitality, light-manufacturing, heritage tours and a marina.

Over three thousand acres of

land, both private and public, are earmarked for the project which will be developed in phases over a period of up to 15 years.

Joseph said the government will incentivize local participation in the development by making lands in the area available at attractive prices, specifically targeting nationals of Antigua and Barbuda.

The Technical Committee head also gave the assurance that consultations with the public will be prioritised by his committee and the ERC and confirmed that the first consultation will be held shortly.

"We are open to any suggestion from the public on how we

*cont'd on pg 8*

### Willoughby Bay Development Plan

Scope: 1589.97 Acres

Area of Special Interest 89.79 Acres

Dam 392.26 Acres

Proposed Agro-industrial park

- Presently: 0 Acres
- Post Levee: 242.51 Acres



*cont'd from pg 7*

can pursue this project in a manner that all will be proud. On the issue of consultation, we are not there yet as currently we are in the formative stages of the project, however, I wish to reassure the nation that consultation forms an integral part of how we plan to approach this development."

Joseph underscored the significance of private sector involvement in the development and indicated that the Antigua Barbuda Chamber of Industry and Commerce and several prominent business people are playing critical roles as members of the planning committee.

Chief Executive Officer of George W. Bennett Bryson's, Patrick Ryan, gave full support

to the project and has given his backing to any project intended to stimulate economic activity.

"I am happy to be part of this committee and to be part of putting together our own development plan in these difficult times where we are looking at our own recovery and not waiting on the rest of the world to recover and we follow suit," Ryan said.

General Manager of Antigua Motors Limited, Paul Ryan, remarked that the development will provide the opportunity to reverse some of the losses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Business has receded quite a bit since COVID, and this opens an opportunity for major

growth in the country for many years to come," Ryan said.

According to Ryan farmers, and others who operate in the area, will receive a prominent seat at the planning and implementation table.

He fully embraced the project as one which takes national prominence and which he believes supersedes 'red and blue' politics.

The layout of the Willoughby Bay project will be officially debuted during a virtual investment forum on November 26. Consultations with the public and stakeholders will begin soon after.





## New Jamaican Consul installed



**Onika Campbell Jamaica's Honorary Consul to Antigua and Barbuda**

Jamaica's Honorary Consul to Antigua and Barbuda, Onika Campbell, has been cleared to begin performing duties on behalf of Jamaican nationals residing in Antigua and Barbuda.

Last Friday, Campbell, and a Jamaican delegation, met with Foreign Affairs Minister, E. P. Chet Greene, who presented her with an exequatur.

An exequatur is an official recognition by a government of a consul, or other representative of a foreign state, authorising them to exercise office.

During the ceremony, Minister Greene discussed the commonalities among Caribbean people

and expressed his continued desire for increased engagement between Antigua and Barbuda and Jamaica. He further expressed his intention to foster deeper bilateral relations and to strengthen interconnectivity between Caribbean nations.

Campbell expressed her desire to work along with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and indicated her readiness to engage in development and cultural activities to the benefit of Antiguan and Barbudans and Jamaicans.

"The relationship between Antigua and Barbuda and Jamaica is strong and long lasting. The interests of both countries converge and correspond in many areas. These include trade, law enforcement, support for human rights globally, education, culture strengthening civil society, countering and mitigating the effects of global warming, and many other

issues.

"Being CARICOM member states, this means that our two countries work together very closely on many of the most important and pressing issues of our time. Jamaica is a steadfast partner to Antigua and Barbuda," she declared.

Campbell noted that the Consulate of Jamaica will seek to refresh strong regional ties within Antigua and Barbuda.

"We will seek to work with the government and its affiliate agencies and a very diverse mix of stakeholders. In addition to a vast array of NGOs, businesses, cultural institutions to ensure a continuous and harmonious relationship between both countries.

"We believe close relations are based on openness and the expression of honest opinions and will seek to ensure that our nationals who have made Antigua & Barbuda their home understand and appreciate the privilege and courtesies that are extended and stay within such boundaries," Campbell declared.





# ADDRESS TO THE NATION

**BY THE HONOURABLE GASTON BROWNE  
PRIME MINISTER OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
ON THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
INDEPENDENCE OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

We get up.

We stand up.

And fight unrelentingly until we conquer the struggles and achieve our objectives. That is how we have overcome the challenges of the past, consistently creating a better life for our people.

And, that is the way we will continue – cautious but courageous, careful but determined, vigilant but robust.

We should recall that, as like all things, this too shall pass.

Therefore, on this 39th anniversary of our independence, let us not crouch down in fear; let us not shiver in dread.

Instead, let us do what, as a people, we have always done.

Let us look ahead with absolute certainty that darkness is dispelled by light.

In so doing, let us celebrate our nationhood with hope and optimism, eschewing all fear. Let us set our feet firmly on a path to recovery, girding our loins with purpose to overcome and setting our eyes on the single goal of snapping back and building back better.

None can deny with any sense of fairness and objectivity, that we have succeeded in containing the might of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have protected lives and livelihoods, saving hundreds of lives and putting thousands back to work, by reopening our econo-

my on June first of this year.

We, in Antigua and Barbuda, are better off than most of the people in the world.

Globally, there are almost 1.2 million deaths and increasing: in Antigua and Barbuda we have contained our loss of life to only 3 persons.

Across the world, there are about 45 million infected persons; in our country, we had a total of 124 persons, of whom the majority have all recovered, leaving us only with 8 active cases.

By any measure, our performance has been outstanding and exemplary.

While one death is one death too many – and we mourn each of them – as a nation we have kept our people safe.

My Government acted immediately and comprehensively to contain the virus and to halt its spread.

There was no dithering, no dallying, no indecision.

We acted promptly, decisively, and in a big enough way to make a difference.

Our decision to reopen our borders on June 1st, to receive passengers by air and sea signified confidence in the ability of our people to manage the risks associated with COVID transmission and was an inspiration to the entire Caribbean region.

The lives and health of our peo-

Fellow Citizens and Residents of Antigua and Barbuda,

The 39th anniversary of our nation's independence has come, as a dark cloud hangs over the world.

A small microbe has brought all nations – rich and poor, large and small – to their knees.

We, in Antigua and Barbuda, a place from which no major disease has ever erupted, have become one of its victims in ways that none could have imagined.

Our nation is at war with an invisible enemy.

Our economy is badly weakened through no fault of our own. But, our nation did not survive hundreds of years of slavery, and another hundred and fifty years of colonial exploitation, to surrender all that we achieved.

We did not rise from our knees to stand as equals in the councils of the world, to turn back the hands of time. We did not make of ourselves, a nation with one of the highest per capita incomes globally, to be cowered in the face of a pandemic, however menacing.

Cowardice has never been – the way of our people.

*cont'd on pg 11*



*cont'd from pg 10*

ple came first and remain first.

We protected our nation against the worst cruelties to the health of our people.

Without any help from the international financial institutions, we allocated scarce funds to build a fully equipped Infectious Diseases Centre; we expanded the number of hospital beds to three beds per thousand of population; and we invested heavily in equipment and other medical supplies to include rapid test kits.

China, India and the Jumby Bay Fund were outstanding in their provision of medical supplies and we will always remember their friendship.

Even as we celebrate our independence, it is good to know that, in times of crisis, we have committed friends.

Cuba is among them.

Cuban medical personnel readily joined our own doctors and nurses, and others on the frontlines of confronting the virus.

Our nation is indebted to all our health workers and all the others on the frontlines.

They are our warriors on the front-line of the battle, and they deserve our praise and our thanks.

When the economic circumstance of our country changes for better, as I am confident it will, my Government will remember these champions and will do our best to reward and honour them for their special service.

The global impact on tourism has affected our economy badly.

Yet, my Government ensured that we would not suffer complete economic collapse, or widespread misery.

We kept all government workers employed, giving most families a bread winner.

We looked out for the poor and

vulnerable by making welfare interventions that included provision of subsidized utilities, cash grants, food hampers and other necessities.

Our Government continues to help through initiatives, supported by the corporate sector, civil society, and citizens.

My brothers and sisters

We all know that the pandemic paralyzed the world. It forced mankind to abandon, or significantly reduce the freedom of roaming, of socialising, and of physical communing.

Across the globe, mankind has been forced to remain in their habitats, conducting business and maintaining contact through a virtual world. The latter is by itself a measure of mankind's great creativity and innovation.

It is also a tribute to our country's vision and determination, not to be left behind in the availability of telecommunication facilities.

My government considers the provision of affordable broadband services as a public good. That is why Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) is investing over \$100M, in expanding its broadband services at affordable prices.

Those facilities have kept us as an active participant in the global financial and trading systems. Thus, we used information and communication technologies as effective tools for governance, diplomacy, education, business, office work and social connections.

We also used them to earn revenues through our Citizenship by Investment Programme, and more recently our Nomad Digital Residency Programme.

Our investment in modern technology ensured that we achieved the twin objectives of saving lives and maintaining key aspects of

our national life and livelihood. Much of that capacity has been attained only since independence just 39 years ago.

That realisation should instill in all of us, not only recognition of what we have achieved as a nation; it should also assure us that we have the ability to carry on achieving; and that we have the power to continue our journey to progress and prosperity, which have been interrupted by COVID-19 only temporarily.

My Brothers and Sisters.

As your Prime Minister, and a fearless optimist, I remain confidently optimistic about the future of our country. I do not believe that there is any challenge that a vigilant, creative, innovative and entrepreneurial people cannot overcome.

Our history has proved that we are such a people. In that sense, we can cast aside every weight and run with confidence, the race that is set before us.

Who we must contemptuously ignore, are the false prophets, who prey upon fear for their own political advantage. They are creating fear, painting a picture of doom and gloom, through false claims; that the government's policies have brought our economy to its present pass.

They are seeking to create a culture of fear, so that they can fool you into believing that they represent your salvation and deliverance.

The irony is, they themselves are mired in personal and professional failures and are in need of redemption.

We must always remember that not all winged-creatures are angels.

False witnesses, seeking personal gain, did not start with Dathan

# Prime Minister's Address

*cont'd from pg 11*

and Abiram who sought, for wicked purposes, to stop the people of Israel from following Moses into the promised land.

Let us be mindful of the real purpose of these scare mongers who seek to undermine our nation's recovery and not to be derailed by them.

My Fellow Citizens and Residents.

As we now know, COVID-19 has brought a tougher challenge for me and my colleagues, than any previous administration since the 1930's has had to face.

However, we will not shrink from it.

We will press forward in optimistic solidarity.

My Government, together with all other sectors of our society, did a comprehensive assessment of the conditions we confront; the measures we can take to alleviate them; and the plans we should implement now and in the future to build back our country better.

That was what the Economic Recovery Committee was all about.

The blueprint with the policies, strategies and programs is established – and the plan was devised by individuals spanning all sectors.

We know what we must do to continue to keep our economy viable and our people secure, while we look forward to the passage of this terrible scourge.

Brothers and Sisters,

When this pandemic first reached our shores, each of you was magnificent in your response and compliant with the protocols.

Unfortunately, there is growing complacency and indiscipline that are now threatening to undermine the gains we have made and potentially expose our people to community transmission.

Our entire nation could be en-

dangered if any of you behave recklessly,

and ignore the health protocols, which were designed to protect the entire population. The protocols must be strictly followed by all, in protection of our citizens, residents and visitors.

We cannot afford complacent and delinquency. Our chain of success is only as strong as its weakest link. We need everyone to be responsible.

We must all be our brother's keeper and our sister's protector.

Look at what's happening throughout Europe now. The numbers of infected persons have risen dramatically because people ignored the protocols.

They began to treat the virus lightly. Now, the lock downs have returned; the restrictions have resumed, the economies have begun to slide. We must learn from the sad experience of Europe, of what is happening in the United States and even in Canada. Our country cannot afford another lock down.

That is why, I now appeal to each of you and all of you, not to make their mistake. The price we would pay for the errors and recklessness of a few would be extremely high.

That is not what we want.

So, I appeal once again, to all who dwell within our shores, to recognize that we are all together in one boat in this turbulent sea. We can sink in it, or sail out of it to safe harbour.

I know that, if we pull together, we can ride out this turbulence and dock our boat on safe and protective shores. This is what we must do, and do it together as patriots, in the interest of all whom we love, and for our country.

Brothers and sisters,

It is confidence, not fear, that has always driven our nation. It is optimism, not despair, that has propelled us forward. The task before us is not easy, but our early actions would have prevented it being worse. And, if we continue to bind together in solidarity; as one nation, one people, with a common purpose and vision, we will emerge stronger when this crisis is over.

I recall Corinthians, chapter 4 verses 16 to 18.

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal".

Sisters and brothers.

This 39th anniversary of our nation's independence reminds us that, as a people, we rose up from poverty and exploitation and from austerity and deprivation.

We stood up as a free nation convinced that tomorrow is ours to win, and despite all odds, we did.

We have it within us to do it again and we shall do it again.

Our 40th anniversary of independence – one year from now – will be more prosperous, healthier, better, brighter.

We must get there together.

Let us rejoice in this 39th anniversary, looking forward to the 40th, with all the resolve and resilience that has made us the proud and strong nation that we are.

May God bless you and bless our fair and beloved Antigua and Barbuda.





HAPPY INDEPENDENCE  
**ANTIGUA &  
BARBUDA**



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# INDEPENDENCE 2020 MESSAGE

**BY HON. JAMALE PRINGLE  
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION  
ON THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
INDEPENDENCE OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

Another Independence is here and I extend to every citizen, every resident, and, especially every member of the All Saints East and St. Luke Constituency, very special greetings.

Without a doubt, this has not been a good year for the Nation of Antigua and Barbuda. Every sector of our economy and every level of our society has been affected by world events, particularly the COVID-19 pandemic, but, truth be told, the walls were closing in on this country even before that.

Given where we find ourselves today, we need to use this occasion for more than wearing the national dress; more than eating ducana; and more than singing patriotic songs. This Independence is a time for stocktaking.

You could say, "Oh well, people say that every year." And you would be right, but the fact is, there has never been a year like

this one and we need to make the decision that next year will not meet us in the same condition.

The good thing about 2020 is that this November 1st meets the People in a better position, politically. The nation now has a team of "sons and daughters" whose mission statement is: "To the service of our country."

It has a team that understands, and believes, and is prepared to live the words of our anthem: "We commit ourselves to building a true nation, brave and free."

And that is the best part of this Independence celebration for me; the hope and the promise I can extend to all of you – from Old Road in the South to Hodges Bay in the North, from Freetown in the East to Five Islands in the West – that better is coming, because WE can do better.

So, with that commitment in place, I invite you all to have the best celebration you can under the circumstances ... and to be safe.

I cannot stress enough how important it is, this holiday weekend – and, in fact, every single day – that you observe ALL the protocols put in place for your safety.

They are not optional. They are mandatory, especially now, as the second wave of COVID is impacting the world.

In light of that, I take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the frontline workers in this fight, those who keep the rest of us safe. The people who regularly go BEYOND the call of duty including the EMS Brigade, nurses, lab technicians, doctors, all hospital personnel, as well as the Police and Fire officers, and all who are part of the security effort.

We honour you as National Heroes and patriots and salute your service.

Brothers and Sisters, Antigua & Barbuda is still a beautiful place and we are still fortunate to be able to call it home. Let everything that is good about us be demonstrated today, as we enjoy the fact that we have made it to 39 years.

I am Jamale Pringle, Parliamentary Representative for All Saints East and St. Luke and Deputy Political Leader of the United Progressive Party.

May God bless us all, and may God bless Antigua and Barbuda.



## T&T national dies on repatriation flight

A Caribbean Airlines repatriation flight from the JFK Airport in New York to Trinidad was rerouted to Puerto Rico on Saturday night when a passenger on board began having severe medical issues.

Guardian Media spoke to a passenger on board, who said the elderly man appeared to have died by the

time the aircraft landed in Puerto Rico.

The passenger said the man did not receive medical treatment while the plane was in the air and when the aircraft landed, paramedics came on-board but after an initial assessment, they did not attend to the man.

The passenger said the man's son, who was also on board, begged the

first responders to assist his father.

The distraught passenger shared voice clips with the deceased man's son appealing to Puerto Rican authorities to allow his father's body to continue to Trinidad.

Around 1am local time, the passengers were ordered to disembark the aircraft.

Guardian Media lost contact with the passenger on board after the instruction to disembark was given. **(Source: Trinidad Guardian)**

## Protest march against same-sex unions held in Barbados



The protest action by some churches against the recognition of same-sex civil unions appears to be gaining steam as hundreds took part in the third such march.

The first two took place in Holetown, St. James and The Glebe, St. George and on Friday, placard-bearing protesters marched through Bridgetown.

Chairman of event organisers Family Faith Freedom Barbados, Paul Leacock,

said it was common sense and the word of God which motivated them, not discrimination.

The route took the men, women and children from Independence Square through Wharf Road, Mortuary Road, Cheapside, Broad Street, a pause by Parliament to pray, Bridge Street, Lower Bay Street and back to Independence Square for a rally.

**(Source: nationnews.com)**

## Martinique records 28,000 dengue cases, 12 deaths

There's mounting concern in Martinique over a spike in cases of dengue fever.

Local media reports quoting public health statistics, indicate that since the start of the dengue epidemic in December last year, 28,000 cases and 12 deaths have been recorded.

According to Martinique 1Ere, between October 1 and October 25, 2020 near-

ly 7,500 people have seen a general practitioner for clinical signs suggestive of dengue.

The online news publication reports that almost all the municipalities of the island are concerned, and among them, 17 have very high incidences; greater than 100 cases per 10,000 inhabitants.

Individual and collective

mobilisation remains the best bulwark against the epidemic, including destruction of breeding sites, individual protection with repellents, use of mosquito nets and electric rackets, health officials say.

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection.

The infection causes flu-like illness and occasionally develops into a potentially

lethal complication called severe dengue.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) observes that the global incidence of dengue has grown dramatically in recent decades.

About half of the world's population is now at risk, the WHO says.

**(Source: St. Lucia Times)**

## Jamaica records 2 more COVID-19 Deaths, 37 new Cases

Jamaica on Saturday recorded two more COVID-19 deaths, pushing the tally to 209.

Deceased are a 54-year-old male from St. Ann and an 89-year-old female from

St. Catherine.

Meanwhile, there were 37 new cases with ages ranging from 8 months to 90 years, pushing the total to 9,131 with 4,185 active cases. Of the new cases, 19 are

male and 18 are female.

There have been 107 additional recoveries, increasing the total recovered cases to 4,617.

95 persons are in hospital with 15 being moderately ill

and three critically ill.

Two persons are in government quarantine, while 19,449 are at home.

**(Source: Jamaica Gleaner)**

## Ralph Gonsalves: Airport taxes need to be lowered



Skerit, the prime minister in Dominica, is talking the same thing. Prime Minister [Allen] Chastanet [of St. Lucia] is talking the same thing. Though Antigua and Barbuda has a departure tax, plus this other kind of development levy or fee.

'There is I think a general acceptance that we have to lower the taxes. It means that the governments will have to put more money from the Consolidated Fund in the short run to operate their airports and move into a model to make them places to do business in addition to just being locals for the movement of passengers,' said Gonsalves, who has lead responsibility for transportation within the quasi-CARICOM cabinet.

Regional economist, Dr. Justin Ram, who also participated in the programme, commented regarding infrastructure that "the airports that we have in the region are huge cost centers and it is actually one of the reasons we have high taxes and fees".

**(Source: News784)**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves says he believes "there is a general acceptance" within the Caribbean for a lowering of taxes so as to encourage intra-regional travel.

Gonsalves, who is chairman of the 15-member regional integration grouping,

CARICOM, told a panel discussion organised by the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) on Thursday night, that regional governments have come to the realisation that there is a need to lower airline taxes in order to make the sector profitable.

He told the discussion on the "COVID-19 pandemic

and regional air transport" that governments would have to be prepared to fund the operations of their airports in the short term.

"St. Vincent and the Grenadines, we have already cut our taxes from US\$40 to US\$20, Grenada has announced that they are doing that. I know Roosevelt



## Typhoon Goni: Philippines hit by year's most powerful storm



Power lines have been brought down by the storm

Typhoon Goni is barreling across the Philippines, bringing with it "catastrophic" winds and rain. At least seven people have died amid reports of storm surges, flash floods, power outages and blown-off roofs.

Goni made landfall as a super typhoon at Catanduanes island on Sunday at 04:50 local time (19:50 GMT Saturday) packing

winds of 225km/h (140mph).

It has since weakened, but is still wrecking damage across the main Luzon island, home to the capital Manila.

Mark Timbal of the Philippines' national disaster agency said that 19 million people may have been affected by the path of Goni. "This 19 million already includes the populations in

danger zones for landslides, flooding, storm surges and even a lava flow," he told the BBC.

Goni - known as Rolly in the Philippines - is the most powerful storm to hit the country since Typhoon Haiyan killed more than 6,000 people in 2013.

The BBC's Howard Johnson in Manila says there is concern for the small town of Virac on Catanduanes island, home to some 70,000, where contact has been lost since Goni made landfall.

Video footage showed storm surges through coastal towns, and local governors spoke of power supply outages, roofs torn off evacuation centres, damage to infrastructure, flash flooding and blocked roads.

Seven people, including a five-year-old child in Albay province, are reported to have died; two drowned, another was swept away by volcanic mud and another killed by a falling tree.

"The winds are fierce. We can hear the trees being pummeled. It's very strong," Francia Mae Borrás, 21, told AFP from her home in Albay's coastal city of Legazpi.

Forecasters on Sunday morning had warned of "catastrophic violent winds and intense to torrential rainfall" as Goni made landfall in eastern Luzon. By Sunday evening, Goni was moving westward at 25km/h, with maximum sustained winds of 125km/h, forecasters said.

**(Source: BBC News)**

## Search for Turkey earthquake survivors continues as death toll rises

Rescue teams in the Turkish port city of Izmir are continuing to search for survivors of Friday's powerful earthquake, as officials say the death toll has increased to at least 64.

Sixty-two deaths have been confirmed in Turkey, while two teenagers died on the Greek island of Samos.

Dozens of people remain unaccounted for

following the quake. A 70-year-old man was pulled from the rubble of a building in Izmir after being trapped for some 33 hours.

The US Geological Survey (USGS) said Friday's quake was 7.0 magnitude, but Turkey put it lower at 6.6. The shallow tremor triggered tidal waves that hit coastal areas and islands in both Turkey and Greece.

Rescue teams were searching through the rubble of collapsed buildings in western Turkey for a third day on Sunday, hoping to find survivors. Thousands of personnel were deployed to help with the rescue efforts, using mechanical diggers to remove blocks of concrete.

On Sunday, the country's Disaster and Emergency Management

Presidency (AFAD) announced the new national death toll of 62, all in Izmir. It said more than 900 people had been injured, though the majority have now been discharged from hospitals.

Eight people are reported to be in intensive care.

**(Source: BBC News)**

## Two dead in Quebec after attack by man in medieval clothes

At least two people have been stabbed to death in the Canadian city of Quebec by a man armed with a sword and dressed in medieval clothing, police say. Five others were wounded in the Halloween night attack.

A man in his mid-20s was arrested shortly before 01:00 (06:00 GMT) on Sunday. Police said an initial probe found the suspect was not affiliated with any extremist groups.

The attack took place in the historic Old Quebec neighbourhood.

Prime Minister Justin

Trudeau said on Twitter: "My heart breaks for the loved ones of the two killed in last night's horrific attack in Quebec City. I'm also wishing a full recovery to the injured. We're keeping you in our thoughts and will be there for all of you."

He also thanked first responders for their critical work.

The identity of the suspect has not been made public.

At a news conference on Sunday, Quebec City Police Chief Robert Pigeon said it was believed that the attack was pre-

meditated, adding that the suspect, from the Montreal suburbs, came to Quebec City with "the intention of doing the most damage possible".

"Dressed in medieval costume and armed with a Japanese sword, everything leads us to believe he chose his victims at random," Mr. Pigeon added.

The suspect had spoken of conducting an attack "in a medical context" five years ago but was not known to police and did not have a criminal record, police said.

First reports of the

incident near the French-speaking city's national assembly came through shortly before 22:30 local time on Saturday. The suspect was arrested near the Espace 400e business park.

Quebec's *Le Soleil* newspaper reported that he was lying on the ground, barefoot and hypothermic, when he was arrested. He surrendered to police without any resistance, it said.

Following his arrest, the suspect was taken to hospital for "evaluation".

**(Source: BBC News)**

## ANTIGUA & BARBUDA'S HERITAGE

A celebration of our islands heritage

## Independence



Vere Cornwall Bird led the country to full independence on Sunday, 1 November 1981, when the flag of the new nation of Antigua and Barbuda was raised for the first time as the country became a fully sovereign and independent state.

At the stroke of midnight on 31 October 1981, the Union Jack was lowered from the flagpole at the St. John's Recreation Ground, and replaced by the new Antigua and Barbuda flag. Church bells pealed, fireworks lit up the skies, and guns boomed from three British warships and one ship each from the United States and Venezuela which sailed into St. John's, the capital, to salute the new nation. Princess Margaret, appearing on behalf of her sister, Queen Elizabeth II, presented the instruments of state to new Prime Minister Vere Cornwall Bird.

Sir Wilfred Jacobs become the country's first Governor-General.



## Missouri officials cover noose near polling booths



**Officials removing noose decried as offensive**

Officials have covered up a noose on display near polling booths in Missouri, after local Democrats argued it could intimidate black voters. The incident is one of a number of controversial occurrences in the final days of the US election campaign.

Meanwhile a Democratic campaign bus

in Texas was encircled by supporters of President Donald Trump, a Republican and a rally to promote voting in North Carolina ended with attendants getting pepper-sprayed and arrested.

There are widespread fears across the country of post-election violence, whether the election is won by Mr.

Trump or his Democrat challenger, Joe Biden.

Businesses in downtown Washington DC have been seen in recent days boarding up their premises amid concerns about looting.

Mr. Biden currently has a solid lead in opinion polls, but his advantage is narrower in swing states that could decide the election.

Both men have been criss-crossing the country in the final days of the campaign in a last-ditch effort to gain votes but more than 85 million people have voted early, 55 million of them by post, setting the country on course for its biggest

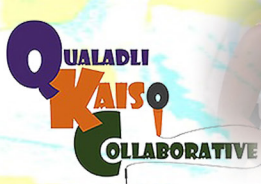
voter turnout in over a century.

Democrats in Stone County, Missouri, drew attention to a noose in a room containing voting booths, describing it as "clear intimidation" of black voters.

"This symbol's purpose is to stoke the fires of racial prejudice and strike fear in the hearts of people of colour," said Missouri party acting chair Clem Smith in a statement, adding that it was a painful reminder of lynchings of black Americans.

It was "offensive, inappropriate and outrageous" and should be taken down, he added.

**(Source: BBC News)**



# KAISO SESSIONS

FEATURING A CALYPSONIAN EACH WEEK!!!

MONDAYS | 2pm-3pm





# Community Notices



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### NOTICE OF TEMPORARY RELOCATION

The general public is advised that the administrative offices of the Central Cotton Station and the Plant Protection Unit have been moved to a temporary location at the Longford Jeremy Building on Upper Corn Alley. The telephone numbers remain the same.

### AGRICULTURE STAKEHOLDERS INVITED TO VIRTUAL MEETING

Do you or someone you know operate in the Agriculture Sector within Antigua & Barbuda? Don't miss the opportunity to share feedback about your needs and learn about how persons and businesses will be able to access - Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance. Meeting Dates: Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th and Friday 30th October 2020 at 7:00 pm. Learn more and register at <https://agriculturenetwork.app>

DAY 11/02

NIGHT 11/02

30° Hi



Partly sunny with a shower in spots

25° Lo



Partly cloudy with a shower in spots

### SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST  
6:06 AM

Sunset AST  
5:35 PM



Duration  
11:29 hr

### MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST  
7:11 PM

Moonset AST  
8:29 AM



Duration  
13:18 hr



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### VIRTUAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY FUNDRAISER

Jennings Ebenezer Connection presents a Virtual Independence Fundraiser Party on Friday October 30th. Time 7 – 9pm EST. Featuring DJ Tuffis and Solo Christus. Guest DJ Black Joker from Holland. Live Streaming via the Jennings Ebenezer Connection Facebook page. Proceeds in aid of community development.

### CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

The Halo Foundation Inc is again hosting its annual Christmas card competition which is open to youngsters aged seven (7) to eighteen (18). All entries should be 'Caribbean Christmas' themed. Deadline for submission is December 11, 2020. Call 562-5193 for more details. Prizes to be won.

### FREE MATHS CLASSES IN ST. PAUL'S

Another learning opportunity is being offered in the St. Paul's community. CXC Math classes facilitated by veteran mathematician, Anthonyson King. These classes are geared toward 4th and 5th form students and those desirous of retaking CXC Mathematics. You must be a resident of St. Paul. Classes commence on Wednesday 14th October and will continue every Wednesday at 4:00PM. Early registrations are encouraged to facilitate scheduling. All COVID-19 health protocols will be strictly enforced.

### RENEWAL OF WORK PERMITS

The Labour Department wishes to inform the 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 the work permit application. Please be guided accordingly.

### RENEWAL OF WORK PERMITS

The Prices & Consumer Affairs Division is reminding traders of the temporary relief of the ABST on the following items: Antiseptics, Wipes, Sanitizers, Toilet Paper and Paper Towel, Aloe Vera Gel, Vitamin C and Multivitamins. Prices being displayed on these goods should not include the ABST, nor should ABST be reflected at the checkout point.

### TEMPORARY RELIEF OF ABST ON SELECTED GOODS

The Prices & Consumer Affairs Division is reminding traders of the temporary relief of the ABST on the following items: Antiseptics, Wipes, Sanitizers, Toilet Paper and Paper Towel, Aloe Vera Gel, Vitamin C and Multivitamins. Prices being displayed on these goods should not include the ABST, nor should ABST be reflected at the checkout point.

Traders who have questions or need clarity regarding the goods to which the temporary relief of the ABST applies, are asked to contact the Division at 462-0834 or 562-8749.

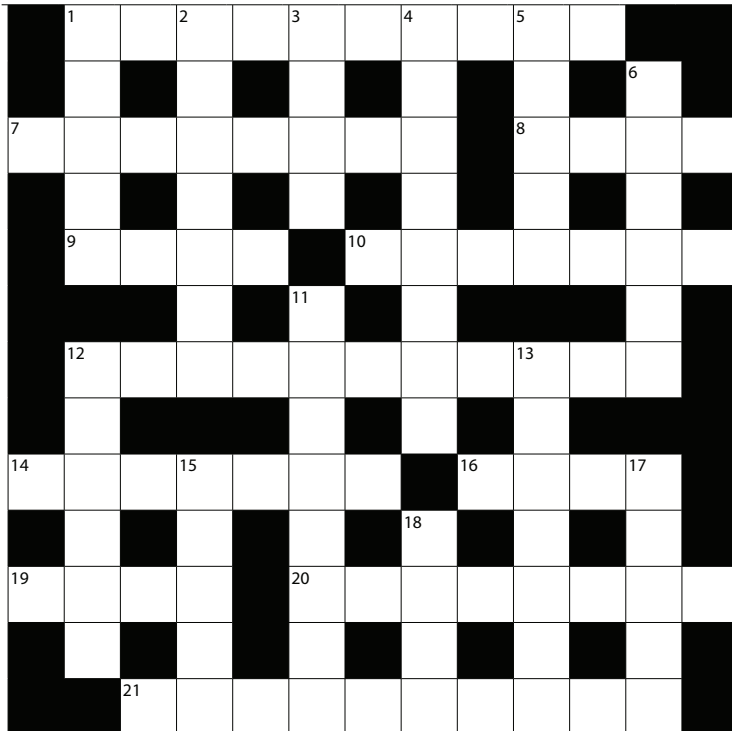
Submit community notices to [news@pointville.ag](mailto:news@pointville.ag)



## QUICK CROSSWORD

Quick crossword

no 15,655



### Across

- 1 Occurring after death(10)  
 7 Source of government revenue(8)  
 8 Component (4)  
 9 Nymph who loved Narcissus (4)  
 10 Ceremonial staff (7)  
 12 Fitting(11)  
 14 Go before (7)  
 16 Fragment broken off (4)  
 19 Stitch (4)  
 20 One who worries others needlessly (8)  
 21 Bribe—a dark bench (anag)(10)

### Down

- 1 Identify—station(5)  
 2 Road accident (5-2)  
 3 Frozen rain (4)  
 4 Cosmetic treatment (8)  
 5 Seize possession of (5)  
 6 Penetrate with a sharp instrument (6)  
 11 Refrain(4,4)  
 12 Respiratory tract(6)  
 13 Sorry(7)  
 15 Dance in a line(5)  
 17 Show-off(5)  
 18 Early 20th-century avant-garde art movement (4)

## CARTOON CORNER

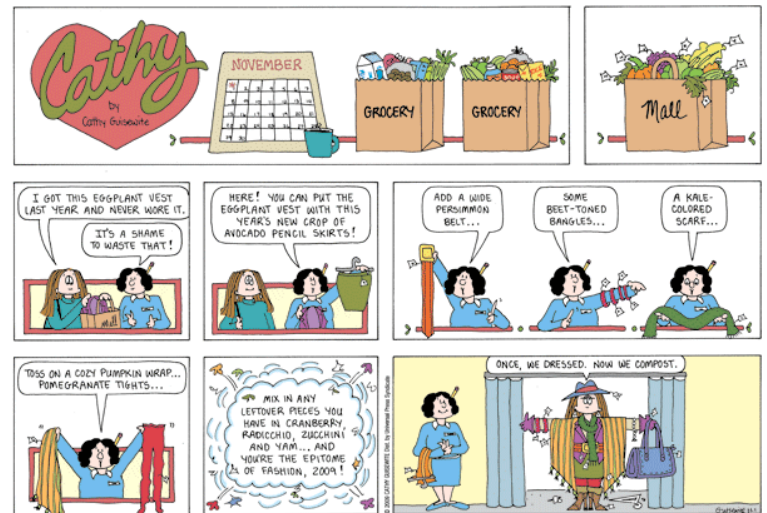
### Dilbert



### Garfield



### Cathy



### In the Bleachers

IN THE BLEACHERS

BY BEN ZAEHRINGER





## DAILY HOROSCOPE

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19):** There's so much going on right now that you might feel like you're being pulled in too many directions, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. And where there is hope, there is happiness!

**TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20):** Your unique style inspires quite a few followers from time to time, which is flattering. Your genuine personality will shine through better if you spend more time thinking about how you come across verbally than how you come across sartorially.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Despite your most fervent hopes and wishes, people do not do exactly what you want them to do. This is especially true in matters of the heart. If you are crushing on someone big time but they just don't seem interested, you've got to let go and move on.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** If you experience some friction with an authority figure today, stand tall. Don't let them intimidate you. They aren't any smarter than you. They just know things that you don't know, and there is a difference between the two situations.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You're a wise person who doesn't bend to the pressure of others. And you need to keep up this independent philosophy when some co-workers may try some not-so-subtle tactics to sway your opinion. Limit your time with people who don't respect that.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You have the power to ease someone else's tension today. Simply by letting them have a little more control over things, you can cool their increasingly hot temper and kill any combative energy that's swirling around.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.):** If you ache for a slower pace to your life, you need to seek out more face-to-face communication, even if it's video. Skip the e-mails and texts. They may make things easier, but they don't help you accurately convey what you're really trying to say.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Whenever things aren't going exactly the way you want them to, you need to start getting creative about your expectations. But you also have to know when to stand your ground and not give in, not even an inch.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** If you're working on starting or strengthening a romance, bear in mind that a whisper can help you get your message across a lot more effectively than a loud scream. Amplifying your voice won't amplify their affection for you.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Little details like names and dates are overwhelming now, and you're getting a bit behind on the task of keeping track of them. You may have double-booked yourself. Given how busy you've been lately, you might want to cancel both appointments and take some time alone to relax.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Be careful not to relax too much today. If you let down your guard, you could start falling back into a bad pattern of behavior.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20):** The weather could affect your mood today, so keep an eye on the sky! When the sun is shining brightly, all will be well and your confidence will be strong



## USA women's soccer star engaged



**Two-time World Cup winner Megan Rapinoe and fiancé WNBA basketball star Sue Bird**

Two-time World Cup winner, Megan Rapinoe, and WNBA basketball star, Sue Bird, have announced their engagement.

Bird 40, revealed the news by posting a picture on social media of Rapinoe 35, kneeling and placing a ring on her left hand.

The two American sport stars have been an item for more than three years. Rapinoe won the World Cup with the US team in 2015 and 2019 and the Women's Ballon d'Or in 2019, while Bird is a four-time Olympic Gold Medalist.

Bird also recently won her fourth WNBA title with the Seattle Storm after missing all of the 2019 season because of a knee injury.

Rapinoe has made headlines globally for her strong opinions and committed campaigning for equal pay, an issue which led the US women's team to file a lawsuit against its own federation.

US presidential candidate, Joe Biden, was among those to congratulate the happy couple by tweeting the message, "Love will always win".

## Aubameyang's penalty gives Arsenal first win at Man Utd in 14 years



**Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's second half penalty secured Arsenal's first win over Manchester United in 14 years.**

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's second half penalty gave Arsenal their first Premier League away win over Manchester United

since 2006.

Aubameyang ended a run of five games without a goal by sending David de Gea the wrong way

on 69 minutes after Paul Pogba had fouled Hector Bellerin.

United tried to rally but came no closer to an equalizer than when Donny van de Beek's cross shot flicked off Mohamed Elneny and then into the face of goalkeeper Bernd Leno before bouncing to safety off a post.

It was not the greatest contest between two clubs who used to fight it out for the biggest prizes but are now a pale imitation of their former selves.

While Arsenal will be delighted at the deserved victory, this was not the

kind of United performance that did justice to the memory of club legend Nobby Stiles, who died on Friday.

Pogba is the most high profile figure in the United midfield that World Cup winner Stiles used to operate in. But the Frenchman had a day to forget, giving the ball away too cheaply when his side attacked and needlessly fouled Bellerin to turn the contest Arsenal's way.

The Gunners now have 12 points and are up to eighth and United remain in 15th on seven points.





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## Cedar Valley hosts Independence Golf Championship



In commanding fashion, Josh Crooke and Sunil Sinanan swung their way to title honours in the first Rumble in the Jungle Independence Golf Championship at Cedar Valley on Independence Day.

Playing for team Jus Kool, Crooke and Sinanan shot a combined tally of 76 to win the two man team event ahead of runners-up Glentist

Martin and Kori Robertson of team Jungle Bee and former West Indies player Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph and Kurt Michael who finished third for team Two the Hardway.

Winston Moore Jr. and Garfield Piggot of Dem Dead placed fourth, Bad Habit's Paullus Martin and Walcott Haywood came in at fifth while national sprinter Daniel "Baka" Bailey and Aubrey Matthew of Team Double Trouble finished in the sixth position.

The Independence Golf Championship was sponsored by Amair Hourani of Cool and Smooth and Patricia Matthew.

## Phil Simmons: West Indies must adapt quickly to NZ conditions



**Phil Simmons West Indies cricket team coach**

West Indies coach, Phil Simmons, says it's important that his players adjust to conditions quickly as they embark on the challenge of winning their first series in New Zealand in 25 years.

After a 50-hour journey from the Caribbean, they arrived in New Zealand

on Friday where they are in 14-day isolation. They will be allowed to begin daily training sessions at their Sports Man - aged Isolation Facility on today.

The West Indies will play two Test and three One Day Internationals against the Black Caps and Simmons says the key to success is how the players navigate the acclimatization process.

In a Zoom press conference, Simmons noted that the real challenge is adapting to the environment. The Trinidadian said although geographically close, New Zealand is very different from Australia and also different from England where the West Indies played their last series.

Simmons said it's good that the team arrived early which will give adequate time adequate to make the adjustment.

"We know New Zealand is going to be tough, it's going to be hard cricket, but as long as we get the right preparation over the next four weeks, hopefully we'll be ready."

The tour, which is being contested amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, is the second series under bio-secure conditions for West Indies this year after last July's three Test series in England which they lost 2-1.

## West Indies captain, Stafanie Taylor, to continue BLM awareness in Australia



West Indies Women's team captain Stafanie Taylor

WBBL. Taylor said coming off the recent West Indies women's tour to England where they continued the awareness campaign the men's team started in the summer during their Test series, she cannot allow the awareness to fade away.

T20 World Cup winner and highest West Indian T20 run scorer are among Taylor's accolades as one of the most recognised women's players in cricket today.

Taylor missed the first two Strikers matches in this year's tournament as she was completing the mandatory two week govern-

ment quarantine before re-joining the team.

The versatile player has featured in all six editions of the WBBL, playing four seasons with the Sydney Thunder before moving to the Adelaide Strikers in 2019.

In the 60 matches she has played in the WBBL, Taylor has scored 1074 runs at an average of 26.20 and taken 49 wickets.

Stand in captain for the two opening matches, Megan Schutt, said Stafanie asked for the team's support and confirmed that they will stand in solidarity with her.

West Indies Women's League (WBBL) in Australia. On her arrival in Australia, Taylor and her team had discussions on the issue when she requested their support in taking a knee for the duration of the



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