

A TOAST TO A RESILIENT NATION

SEE PAGE 3



Photo credit: Wayne Mariette

THE AMERICAN PARALLEL

Antigua and Barbuda celebrated its 39th anniversary of political independence on November 1, just a few short days ago. Some will argue that the country's celebrations will continue down to V. C. Bird Day on December 9.

Our celebrations this year coincide with a major event which occurs every four years in our neighbour in the north; the United States presidential elections.

This year, Independence celebrations were scaled down and involved a number of virtual events as we, along with the rest of the world, engage in combat with the 'unseen enemy' the novel COVID-19 virus.

This pandemic has brought rich and poor, large and small nations to their knees. More than 30 million people have been affected worldwide and more than one million have succumbed to the disease.

Here in Antigua and Barbuda, with scarce resources, we have done a commendable job of facing the disease which kills approximately five out of every one hundred persons affected. The latest statistics released by the Ministry of Health reveal that since the virus was first detected in the country in March, there have been 128 confirmed cases and three deaths. There are currently eight active cases, fifteen persons in government quarantine and another 313 in self-quarantine. 117 persons have recovered.

It should also be noted that since March, there have been no more deaths associated with COVID-19 in Antigua and Barbuda.

Despite its resource challenges, the government has invested millions of dollars to construct and equip an Infectious Disease Centre which is properly outfitted with the necessary medical equipment and 24-hour accommodations for medical staff.

Additionally, the government has refurbished the National Training Institute on Nugent Avenue which will be converted into a 75 bed medical facility that will deal with any overflow from the NDC, should it become necessary.

Antigua and Barbuda, like many other countries around the world, instituted a lockdown from late March until the end of May in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus. Antigua and Barbuda was also the first country in the Caribbean to reopen. While the government took a decision to reopen the country's borders to save the economy, its decisive action in implementing strict protocols which covered the operation of the airport to hotels, has earned the admiration of airline and hospitality officials as well as that of neighbouring governments.

The decision to reopen the country as part of the government's 'calculated risk' is already paying dividends as the Inland Revenue Department and the Customs Division are reporting an uptick in revenue collections.

Most of the airlines have returned or are returning and more and more of the hotels have reopened or plan to reopen by the end of the month. People in these vital sectors are returning to work.

Yet when one stops to consider the views of leadership of the opposition United Progressive Party and the Democratic National Alliance, it would appear that a tale of two countries is being told.

Everyone knows that the economy took a beating because of COVID-19, particularly with the abrupt halt of the cruise season in early March. This was soon followed by the closure of hotels and the airport.

Naturally, with such unforeseen and catastrophic events in an economy heavily dependent on tourism, it was

inevitable that many people would lose their jobs, and they did. We must empathize with the people who lost their jobs overnight through no fault of their own. That is why it was important that we reopen the country and welcome back visitors in large enough numbers to sustain the employment of the people who rely on tourism for their survival.

No one with a fair mind could reasonably fault the government for the dislocation in the economy. The records show that the economy was moving along for the first three months of the year with earnings outstripping those of the corresponding period last year.

The pandemic's impact could not have been anticipated and the manner in which the government handled the crisis ought to receive praise and accommodation, rather than unfounded criticism and downright mean spiritedness.

In the US, there is talk of a parallel universe as the Republican President and his favourite media outlet, Fox News, often address domestic affairs in a light which is strikingly different from that of the Democratic nominee and his party.

The Independence messages of the opposition parties, in what could only be interpreted as an attempt to garner the support of the electorate, portrayed Antigua and Barbuda in a manner that defies reality.

Antiguans and Barbudans have remained hopeful and optimistic despite the setback from COVID-19. Many have used this opportunity to start new businesses, several of which are already flourishing. These are not the actions of people cowering under the current circumstances, they are the actions of resilient and proud people.

Let's not be fooled by 'fake news' and let us not be distracted by the

cont'd on pg 3

Pandemic proves country's resilience



The adversity brought on by the novel coronavirus pandemic has awakened the spirit of creativity and resilience among the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

That is the view of Minister of Culture and Festivals, Daryll Mat-

thew, who has congratulated nationals for their brave response to the pandemic, especially during the celebration of the country's 39th anniversary of political independence.

"We ought to have faith and confidence in our people who have experienced the effects of the pandemic over the last eight or nine months because without this experience we would not have recognized the sought of resilience we have seen especially as organisers of events," Matthew said.

According to the minister, dealing with the pandemic and trying to 'keep culture alive' was part of a new learning curve for the Festivals Commission.

"We learnt how to put on events successfully in a pandemic, much as I hope that we don't have to

do it again," he remarked.

He also expressed the hope that a vaccine is soon developed which will hasten the return to normality.

"I hope over the next few months something happens that would allow us to return to normality as it relates to our interactions. We are a people who love social interaction with friends and family. This is something we all miss," he stated.

The minister said the commission has begun work for this year's commemoration of V. C. Bird Day, December 9.

Other major events in 2021 which are in the planning phase include Carnival and the One Nation Concert.

Matthew said the commission is prepared to stage the concert virtually if that becomes necessary. He did not give a date for this event.

TALKING POINT
TUESDAY - FRIDAY
10:30AM TO 1:30PM

DR. MASERATI

SENATOR COLIN BROWNE

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

cont'd from pg 2

'noise'. Let us instead continue to remain optimistic about the future of the nation.

For all its talk, the UPP declined an invitation to participate in the Eco-

nomics Recovery Committee (ERC) that is planning the country's path back to growth and development. From the ERC we already have a well thought out plan for Willoughby

Bay where nationals will be front and centre of that development.

Where was the UPP when it mattered? Where are their plans?

Gov't revenues climbing

While the coronavirus pandemic's impact on the economy has continued to negatively impact the performance of the government's revenue collections, there are signs that there will be improvement in the months ahead.

The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) has reported that at the end of September, revenues totaled \$235.4 million. This includes collections of Undeveloped Land Tax, Unincorporated Business Tax and Withholding Tax.

This figure represents a decline from a year ago when revenues topped \$267 million.

At the Customs Division, collections at the end of September were \$243 million compared with \$277 million in 2019.

Both departments say their reve-

nues for the first quarter of 2020, just before the nation started to feel the impact of the pandemic, were higher than the corresponding period last year.

The government has repeatedly stated that the economy was on track to record one of its best year's in terms of economic expansion when the country was forced into lockdown.

The heaviest losses were recorded in the months from April to July, however, revenues have steadily recovered since August.

The return of most of the international airlines and the announcement that more hotels will open this month augur well for the continued improvement in revenues.

"We are witnessing a slow climb

out of the abyss into which COVID-19 plunged our state and all tourism dependent states in the Caribbean, and in the world over. The workers of Antigua and Barbuda have applauded the Gaston Browne governance during this crisis and are certain that they have placed their trust in the right hands," observed Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Lionel 'Max' Hurst.

He remains optimistic that the resumption of tourism related activities will allow Antigua and Barbuda to narrow the revenue loss gap created this year.

Despite its challenges, Hurst noted that the government continues to pay its staff on time each month and has kept critical services available to all.

Axcel Finance donates to education



On Tuesday, Axcel Finance donated a quantity of book covers and pencils to the Ministry of Education.

The microfinance company operates branches throughout the region, including in St. John's, Antigua.

In accepting the materials from Jahvaun Goodwin, Axcel Finance's Operations Manager, Director of Education, Clare Browne acknowledged the

continued efforts of the company in providing school supplies to the nation's students and creating opportunities in the form of career guidance and internships which serve to prepare young people for the job market.

The book covers and pencils will be distributed to students across the country's four school zones.

THE PULL UP SHOW

FRIDAY 7PM-9PM

ASK MENACE

MENACE | ADRIAN | MYÁ | ERIC | WALLY

CalvinAir Helicopters ready to lift off



A new helicopter service based in Antigua and Barbuda will soon start operations.

The Calvin Ayre Group announced that CalvinAir Helicopters is poised for success, and will offer the highest caliber of safety, comfort and luxury in air travel.

A press statement described the operation's aircraft as state-of-the-art and never before seen in the Caribbean region. The Airbus EC130 is the gold standard in helicopter aerial touring machines. Additionally, the design of its tail rotor reduces outside noise by up to 50 percent, earning it the nickname "ECO-Star".

"CalvinAir Helicopters (CAH) is the best of its breed in all-purpose helicopter operations", said Calvin Ayre, owner of the company. "I am extremely proud

of what our team has put together. We can offer services across the spectrum, from search and rescue or medical airlift, to old-fashioned island-hopping to that beach club you've always wanted to experience. I will be one of the top customers myself in that last category!"

Mark Fleming, CalvinAir Helicopters Chief Executive Officer, shared Ayre's enthusiasm.

"Bypassing the need for runways, our helicopters can quickly get up to top speed and land or depart without having to queue behind other aircraft. For VIP travel in the region, CAH is the perfect fit. With CAH being both an Approved Maintenance Organization as well as an Air Operator under EC-CAA (Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority), we have a very strong foun-

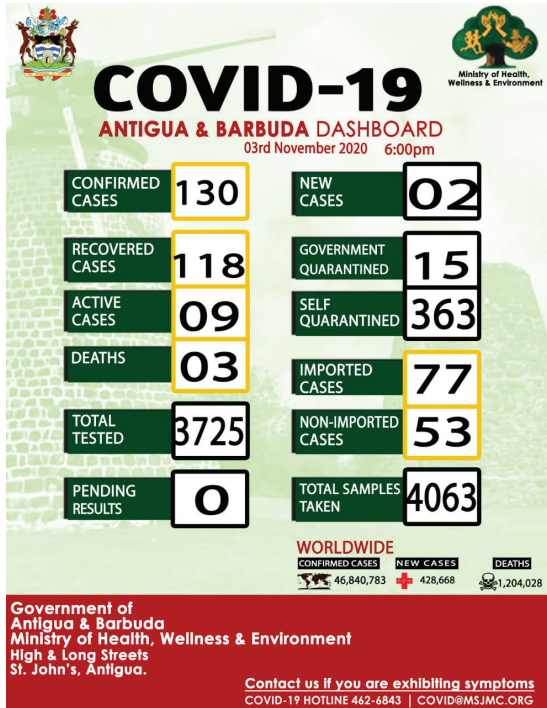
ation for success as well as limitless expansion possibilities," Fleming said.

In addition to offering tours of Antigua and Barbuda and nearby Montserrat, CalvinAir Helicopters will be available for custom charters, aerial photography, mega yacht support, search and rescue and emergency medical airlift.

Earlier this year, the helicopter was able to offer airlift service to a construction worker injured in Barbuda, who needed urgent medical attention. He was transported to the Mount St. John's Medical Centre where he was given treatment.

The CAH is headquartered at the V.C. Bird International Airport and boasts heliports at Fort Road and just outside Jolly Harbour.

Two new COVID-19 cases, 9 active



The Ministry of Health is reporting that the Mount St. John's Medical Center (MSJMC) has revealed two new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Monday 2nd November 2020 at 6pm.

In a statement issued overnight, it said subsequent to the publication of the dashboard on Monday 2nd November 2020 with the cut off time of 6pm, fifty-one samples were processed at the Mount St. John's Medical Centre Laboratory which increased

the pending results from zero to fifty-one.

Of the fifty-one samples processed by MSJMC, forty-nine were negative and two were positive.

Meanwhile, one new recovered case has been recorded bringing that total to one hundred and eighteen.

Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is one hundred and thirty (130) with nine (9) active cases.

The dashboard has been updated to reflect these changes.

CBH PUBLIC HEALTH CORNER



CLEANING & DISINFECTION

Cleaning then disinfecting frequently touched surfaces is very important in reducing the spread of coronavirus.

Routine detergents and disinfectants are sufficient to remove and kill the coronavirus.

Always follow the instructions on the cleaning agents for how to dilute and apply to different surfaces.

Remember, DO NOT MIX CHEMICALS!



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

Answers for last week's Word Search 26.10.20
*Sanitize *Fever *Virus *Mask *Distance *Cough
*Sanitizer *Mouth *Eye *Nose *Wash Hands
*Wash hands *Water *Soap *Social

CBH FUN FACTS 411

WORD SEARCH

Topic: *Protocols for COVID-19*

s	e	n	i	l	e	d	i	u	g	h	l
p	n	f	k	h	o	m	k	w	a	f	i
r	e	o	h	j	y	u	r	n	t	a	q
o	t	b	i	x	v	s	d	l	k	c	u
t	i	e	f	t	b	w	a	p	c	e	i
o	s	u	a	r	a	c	e	c	u	m	d
c	s	b	v	s	i	l	a	q	a	a	s
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l	e	i	y	d	s	k	m	g	w	k	a
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g	p	d	i	s	t	a	n	c	e	r	l
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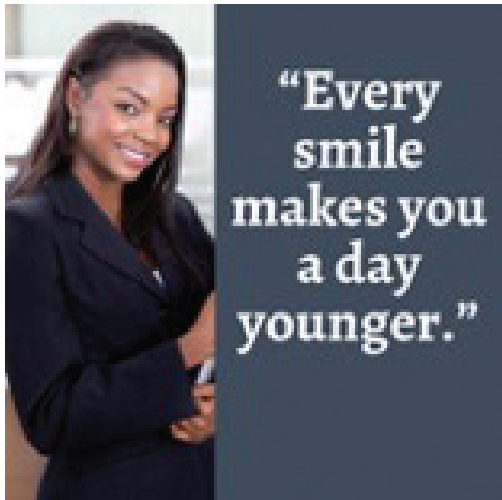
Coronavirus (COVID-19) is still with us, and we must all learn to adapt to the new normal in order to reduce the spread of the virus. Can you find 11 words surrounding the protocols of COVID-19?



Break a Smile, Not a Bank!



Dr. Raj K. Jammula, BDS
Dr. Poomima Jammula, BDS
Dr. Jammula & Associates
Antigua Dentistry



Patients never want to break the bank just maintaining their beautiful, healthy smiles. In fact, the cost of dental care is often a deterrent for many patients who are considering regular proactive oral health care. Instead, patients should not be afraid of visiting the dentist because of the cost.

While brushing and flossing at home is the best way to maintain the health of the smile, patients still benefit from regular visits to the dentist to ensure problems such as cavities or periodontal disease are not developing.

Some patients have cavities or oral disease and don't even know it! This is why regular evaluations are important. When patients visit the dentist twice a year, they have a professional monitoring their smile for any signs of problems. Issues addressed early are less extensive, and are often less costly, than those that are left to get worse.

One way to ensure a healthy mouth is to prevent problems from occurring in the first place.

What is the oral systemic connection?

It is the link between the health of the mouth and the health of the body. When patients have conditions such as periodontal (Gum)disease, they may be putting themselves at risk for other medical conditions including:

- Increased risk of strokes
- Increased risk of heart disease/heart attacks
- Diabetes
- Infection throughout the body

Periodontal disease explained

Periodontal disease, or "gum disease," is an infection that starts in the mouth. It begins with the gum tissues and carries through to the bone. The infection causes the gum tissues and bone to shrink, ultimately affecting the

foundation of the smile and resulting in lost teeth. If the condition is diagnosed early enough and is treated by a dental professional, patients can address the infection and reduce the long-term problems associated with it. Without treatment, patients are at risk of losing all their teeth while putting their body at risk for the above concerns.

The best way to keep dental costs low is to make preventative dental education and care a priority. Daily brushing with a quality toothbrush and toothpaste and frequent flossing are critical to ensuring that food particles do not get stuck in the crevices between teeth. It's these stuck on particles that can cause dental issues such as tooth decay and gum disease.

Additionally, it's advisable for patients to maintain a regular schedule of checkups with their dental team. These appointments provide an opportunity for a professional cleaning and the opportunity for the dentist to spot potential issues before they become larger problems. In most cases, dental issues are easier, faster, and less expensive to treat effectively when they are identified early.

We offer affordable dental care without skimping on the quality of services.

REAL TALK

With

**BEEF | RASTAMAN
KENTAE & BERNARD**

**MONDAY & THURSDAY
7pm-Until**

**TUESDAY
9pm-Until**



Barbados adds 14 countries to 'high risk' list

Fourteen more countries will be added to the list of those deemed high risk for COVID-19 by health authorities in Barbados, bringing the total to 50.

In the latest updated COVID-19 travel protocols, which went into effect on Tuesday, the new countries which were moved into high risk are Antigua and Barbuda, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Martinique, Norway, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates.

These join 36 others in this category, including Barbados' major tourism markets, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the Caribbean islands of Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

Five countries are now deemed medium risk for entry. These are Australia, Bermuda, New Zealand, St. Lucia and

St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

There are only two countries in the low risk category, Egypt and Greenland, while six, Anguilla, China, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat and St. Kitts and Nevis, are categorised as very low risk.

It is mandatory that all persons travelling to Barbados from high and medium risk countries have a negative COVID-19 PCR test done at an accredited or certified facility within three days prior to arrival.

Persons arriving from Canada, however, are allowed to be tested on arrival in Barbados, if they are unable to receive their test results in time for departure from their country.

All high risk passengers are required to quarantine at a designated hotel or approved villa at their own expense

or free of charge at a government facility, up to the time of a second test, which will be four to five days after the first test. At the end of the period, if they test negative, they are discharged from quarantine, but will continue to be monitored for seven days from the time of arrival.

Passengers from medium risk countries are monitored for seven days after arrival and must also undergo a second test within four to five days.

Persons from low risk countries are strongly advised to have a negative test taken within five days of arrival, and those who arrive without it will be tested on arrival. Those coming to Barbados from very low risk countries do not require a test for entry. **(BGIS)**

Dominica closes three schools due to COVID-19

Three schools on the west coast of Dominica; the Isaiah Thomas Secondary School (ITSS), the Mahaut Primary School and the Massacre Primary School, have all suspended operations until November 9th, 2020, amidst the rise in COVID-19 cases in Dominica.

Speaking during a press briefing on October 30, 2020, Minister of Education and Human Resource Development, Octavia Alfred, revealed that an ITSS has been admitted at the COVID isolation facility in

Portsmouth after testing positive for the virus.

"Ministry of health officials were at the school today, October 30th, carrying out testing on staff members and students. The Ministry of Education is offering support to the entire staff and student body as we continue to follow directives from the Ministry of Health," she stated.

Alfred said that the Dominica Association of Teachers (DTA) and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) executives have been apprised of the situation,

adding "...as part of our precautionary measures, the school, located in the community of St. Joseph, will be closed until November 6, 2020."

She said her ministry was hopeful that school will resume by November 9th, 2020.

According to Alfred, psychosocial support has started for students and members of staff. She encouraged everyone to continue to follow all protocols issued by the ministry of health "as we endeavor to keep ourselves and others

safe".

Meantime, members of staff of both the Massacre and Mahaut Primary schools told Dominica News Online (DNO) that their operations have been suspended as a majority of the students are from the Mahaut community which has recorded a number of COVID-19 cases in recent days.

That development was confirmed by Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerri on his weekly Anou Palay programme. **(Dominica Online)**

St. Lucia gov't tightens COVID-19 regulations

(PRESS RELEASE) – Given the current status of active COVID-19 cases and projections, the Government of Saint Lucia is implementing protocols in order to curb the spread of COVID-19 to be effective today, Friday, October 30th, 2020 and to remain in effect for the next 30 days.

On the recommendations by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), the Command Centre and following a consultative session with the National Emergency Management Advisory Committee (NEMAC) and various stakeholders, the Cabinet of Ministers, has decided on a number of measures intended to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

All agencies and businesses should implement a Blended Service/Operations Approach where possible for the employees. The approach should allow for the functioning of all services and operations utilizing online platforms and standard health protocols where feasible. This will reduce the physical numbers in

the workplace and curb possible transmission.

Mass crowd events are reduced from 50 to 25 people per venue per activity.

Religious institutions are to be guided by the square footage of their respective spaces. Each religious institution must be aware of how many people can access the building but the maximum number of people – 100 for those institutions that are very large.

All business operations and commercial activities should cease by 9:00 PM. This will assert a "Minimal Operations" approach. Exemptions will be listed. This will discourage the physical spread of people during typical hours of high-risk business activity island-wide.

Public and Private Educational Institutions should extend the closure of compounds and ensure continued learning via alternate and telecommunication mediums. This aligns with those aimed at reduced physical activity and mass gatherings.

The sale of alcohol is permissible as part of 'grab and go' business at bars only. All bars and restaurants are to close by 9:00 pm. This will assist in limiting high risk social gatherings and curb the possibility of community spread.

Hosting contact sports, high risk sporting activities and events will be discouraged. Non-contact sports will be listed. This will assist in limiting high risk social gatherings and curb the possibility of community spread.

The government is also limiting movement between 9:00 pm and 5:00 am. The government encourages persons to stay at home between the hours of 9:00 PM to 5:00 AM in order to discourage the physical spread of people during typical hours of high-risk social activity island-wide.

(Office of the Prime Minister, St. Lucia)



STARTING  POINTE

ON AIR

with
Shelton Daniel
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
8:30am-10:30am

 **POINTE FM**

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

SVG PM says poverty study will be 'properly done'



Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Dr. Ralph Gonsalves

Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves has suggested that leaked data from the 2018 poverty assessment which showed that poverty had moved from 30.2% to 36.1 in the preceding

decade was not done properly.

"When the study is properly done, the study will be subject to a peer review because they go and ask some people some questions and people gi' they answer and on the basis of that, you going compile something? You have to interrogate it," he told the Unity Labour Party's gospel concert in Arnos Vale on Sunday.

"Is a multidimensional poverty study. You think anybody can fool me with these things?" Gonsalves said.

Gonsalves told students at the Community College on Friday, two days after the opposition released the leaked data, that the report was incomplete.

"Anybody could tell me that on a proper analysis St. Vincent poorer than in 2001?" Gonsalves said, adding that the number of houses in the country had moved from 30,000 to 43,000.

You used to have water in under 70% of the 30,000 houses. Now we have 98% water in 43,000 houses," he said, adding that the situation was similar with electricity connection.

"You used to have about 8,000 cars, you have 30-something thousand now," Gonsalves said, adding that whereas 40% of students went to secondary school, there is now universal access.

"More people on public assistance getting support, more people on pension getting support, pension went up on four occasions. During our time, minimum wage gone up four times, one time under the NDP," the prime minister said, adding that while the population had not increased by 2,000 people, there were now 12,000 more persons registered with the National Insurance Services.

"You ain't see some people who writing, they writing a lot ah rubbish," he said of the leaked report, which found that the country's rich were getting richer and its poor poorer, even as poverty had fallen by 25% in the Colonarie census district, which includes the prime minister's home village, and part of his constituency.

(iWitness News, SVG)

NOTICE

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

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

Dear Sir/ Madame,

Re: Notice- Application for Tavern Licence

I, Alessandro Soria of English Harbour, with registered business situate at Sydney Wallings Highway in St. Johns Antigua and Barbuda **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the liquor licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Gray's Farm, St. John's, Antigua on Thursday 7th January, 2021 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "TICCHIO LTD " situated at Sutherlands in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 29th day of October, 2020



Ayda Gezgin is tended to by a member of rescue services

Rescuers in the Turkish city of Izmir pulled a young girl out alive from the rubble of a collapsed apartment building Tuesday, four days after a strong earthquake hit Turkey and Greece and as hopes of reaching survivors began to fade.

Wrapped in a thermal blanket, the girl was taken into an ambulance on a stretcher to the sounds of applause and chants of "God is great!" from rescue workers and onlookers.

Health Minister, Fahret-

tin Koca, identified her as 3-year-old Ayda Gezgin on Twitter. The child had been trapped inside the rubble for 91 hours since Friday's quake struck in the Aegean Sea and was the 107th person to have been pulled out of collapsed buildings alive.

After she was pulled from the rubble, little Ayda called out for her mother, in video of the rescue broadcast on television, but Ayda's mother did not survive. Her body was found amid the

Rescuers pull girl from earthquake rubble in Turkey

wreckage hours later. Her brother and father were not inside the building at the time of the quake.

Rescuer Nusret Aksoy told reporters that he was sifting through the rubble of the toppled eight-floor building when he heard a child's scream and called for silence. He later located the girl in a tight space next to a dishwasher.

The girl waved at him, told him her name and said that she was okay, Aksoy said.

"I got goosebumps and my colleague Ahmet cried," he told HaberTurk television.

Ibrahim Topal, of the Humanitarian Relief Foundation, or IHH said: "My colleague and I looked at

each other like 'Did you hear that, too?' We listened again. There was a very weak voice saying something like 'I'm here.' Then we shut everything down, the machines, and started listening again. And there really was a voice."

Health ministry officials said the girl was in good condition but would be kept under observation in the hospital for a while. She asked for meatballs and a yoghurt drink on her way to the hospital, state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

Her rescue came a day after another 3-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl were also pulled out alive from collapsed buildings in Izmir, Turkey's third-largest city. **(AP News)**

Austrian police arrest 14 after rampaging gunman kills four

Austrian police raided 18 properties and arrested 14 people in a massive dragnet on Tuesday after a gunman identified as a convicted jihadist killed four people in a rampage in the centre of Vienna overnight.

The gunman, who was killed by police minutes after opening fire on crowded bars, had been released from jail less than a year ago.

An elderly man and woman, a young passers-by and

a waitress were killed and 22 people, including a policeman, were wounded Interior Minister, Karl Nehammer, told a news conference.

Vienna's mayor said three people were still in critical condition.

In a televised address, Chancellor Sebastian Kurz told Austrians: "This is not a conflict between Christians and Muslims or between Austrians and migrants. No, this is a fight between the

many people who believe in peace and the few (who oppose it). It is a fight between civilisation and barbarism."

The attack followed shortly after deadly assaults by lone Islamist attackers in Nice and Paris, where some Muslims have been angered by publication of satirical caricatures of the Prophet Mohammed.

In Paris, French President Emmanuel Macron went to the Austrian Embassy to

write a message of condolence in German that read: "In joy and in sorrow, we will remain united."

Both he and German Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke to Kurz to offer their support.

The centre of Vienna was largely deserted on Tuesday, with many shops closed, though Austrian authorities played down earlier suggestions that other shooters might still be on the loose. **(Reuters)**

US Election 2020: Americans choose between Trump and Biden



Americans are voting in one of the most divisive presidential polls in decades, pitting incumbent Republican Donald Trump against Democrat Joe Biden.

Polls opened across the country Tuesday after a long and bitter campaign amid the coronavirus pan-

demic. More than 100 million people had already cast their ballots in early voting, putting the country on course for its highest turnout in a century. Both rivals spent the final hours of the race rallying in key swing states. National polls give a firm lead to Mr. Biden, but it is a closer race in the

states that could decide the outcome.

Both candidates used the day as an opportunity to drive home the messages they have been hammering to voters for the last few weeks.

Mr. Trump, sounding a little hoarse, spoke to Fox News by phone, saying he felt good about his chances of victory and predicting he would win "big" in key states such as Florida and Arizona.

"I think we have a really solid chance of winning," he said. Asked when he would declare victory, he added: "When there's victory. If there's victory... there's

no reason to play games."

Some commentators noted Mr. Trump sounded tired during the interview after a late-night rally in Michigan.

Joe Biden visited his hometown of Scranton in Pennsylvania - a key swing state - and addressed a crowd there, saying: "We've got to restore the backbone to this country. The middle class built this country - Wall Street didn't."

Because of the high turnout, commentators predict that it will be several days before the final outcome is known. It is anticipated that the next few days will be a very tense period. **(BBC News)**

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA'S HERITAGE

A celebration of our islands heritage

Independence



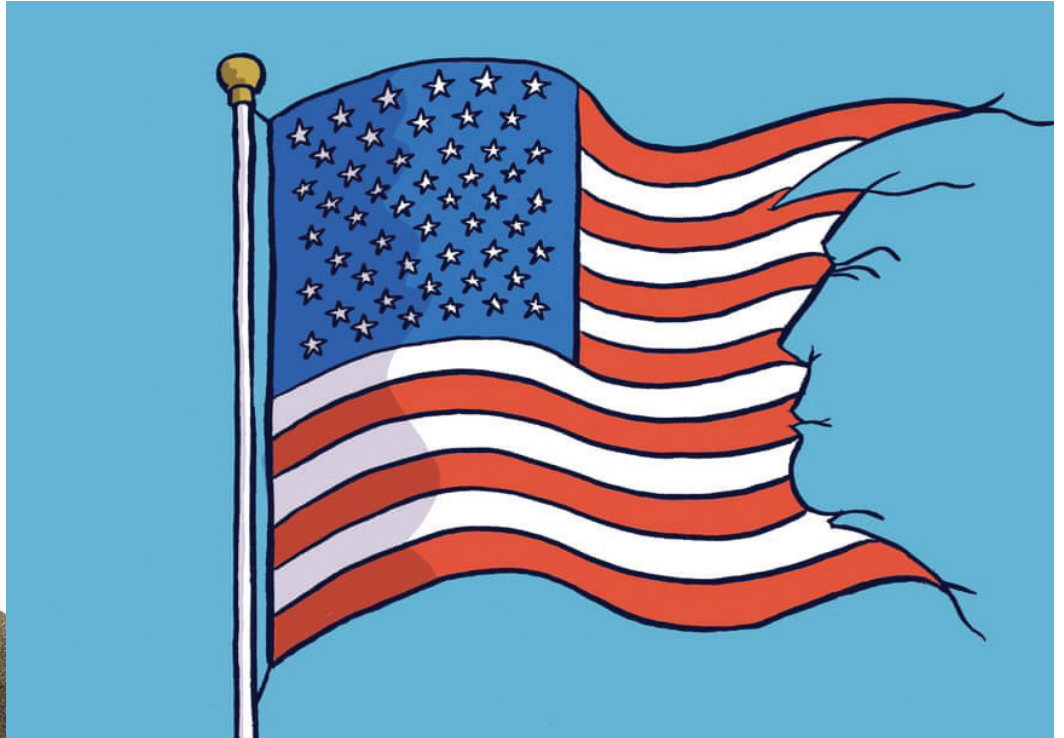
Vere Cornwall Bird led the country to full independence on Sunday, 1 November 1981, when the flag of the new nation of Antigua and Barbuda was raised for the first time as the country became a fully sovereign and independent state.

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.



A win for Joe Biden would only scratch the surface of America's afflictions



By John Mulholland

On 18 September, the first day of early voting in the US, Jason Miller, a house painter from Minneapolis, became, according to the Washington Post, one of the first people in the country to vote. He cast his vote for Joe Biden, saying: "I've always said that I wanted to be the first person to vote against Donald Trump. For four years, I have waited to do this." Close to 90 million people have already voted in the US and it is on track to record the highest turnout since 1908.

We can thank Donald Trump for that, a man who attracts fierce loyalty from his supporters but who energises his opponents in equal measure. The country has been fixated by the White House occupant for the past four years. But there is a danger that progressives and liberals invest too much faith in Trump's departure and too little in what will be needed to fix America. Getting rid of Trump might be one thing, fixing America is another.

If the president loses, there will be much talk of a new normality and the need for a democratic reset. Hopes will be voiced for a return to constitutional norms. There will be calls for a return of civility in public discourse and a healing of the partisan divide that scars America. All of that is as it should be. But it ought to come with a recognition that America was broken long before it elected Trump and his departure would be no guarantee that the country will be mended. Many of the systemic issues that afflict the US predate Trump.

His ugly and dysfunctional presidency has distracted from many of the fundamentals that have beset America for decades, even centuries. But they remain stubbornly in place. If he does lose, America will no longer have Trump to blame. Two two-term Democratic presidents over the past 30 years have not significantly affected the structural issues that corrode US

democracy and society, and race is always at their heart. The past few months have drawn further attention to the systemic racism and brutality that characterise much policing. But racism in the States is not confined to the police. In fact, it is not confined at all.

When Barack Obama was elected in 2008, there was talk about a post-racial America. But in 2016, at the end of Obama's eight-year term, the non-partisan think tank the Pew Research Center estimated that the median wealth of white households in the US was \$171,000 (£132,000). This was 10 times the median wealth of black households (\$17,100). This was a larger gap than in 2007, the year before Obama was elected.

Trump can be blamed for exacerbating racial tensions and giving succour to white supremacists but the racial wealth gap runs deeper than his term of office. As the non-aligned Brookings Institution said this year: "Gaps in wealth between

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black and white households reveal the effects of accumulated inequality and discrimination, as well as differences in power and opportunity that can be traced back to this nation's inception." The country, post-Trump, could choose to turn its attention to school segregation, but that seems unlikely.

As Elise Boddie, a law professor at Rutgers University, and Dennis D Parker, from the American Civil Liberties Union, wrote in the New York Times in 2018: "No one is really talking about school segregation anymore. At the height of school desegregation, from 1964 through the 1980s, high-

school graduation rates for black students improved significantly." Boddie and Parker estimated that school segregation in Michigan, New York, Illinois, Maryland and New Jersey is now "worse than in the former Confederacy". Other research confirms that school segregation is higher than it has been in decades.

Then there's income inequality, which has surged in the past 40 years (including during 16 years of Bill Clinton and Obama) from technological change, globalisation and the decline of unions and collective bargaining. Pew estimates that income inequality in the US increased by 20% be-

tween 1980 and 2016. The non-profit, non-partisan thinktank the Economic Policy Institute estimates that CEO compensation in America has grown 940% since 1978. Typical worker compensation rose 12% during that time.

But at the heart of a broken America is its system of democracy. As Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, authors of *How Democracies Die*, wrote: "Our constitution was designed to favour small (or low-population) states. Small states were given representation equal to that of big states in the Senate and an advantage in the Electoral College. What began as a minor small-state advantage evolved, over time, into a vast over-representation of rural states."

All states are represented by two senators. So a citizen of California with a population 40 million (which is 39% white) is represented by two senators - as are the 570,000 people who live in the state of Wyoming (which is 92% white). This means that voters in older, rural and majority-white states are significantly over-represented in both the Senate and presidential elections. This may explain the fact that out of nearly 2,000 people who have served in the Senate since 1789 only 10 have been black.

It will only get worse. According to author Ezra

Klein: "By 2040, 70% of Americans will live in the 15 largest states. That means 70% of America will be represented by only 30 senators, while the other 30% of America will be represented by 70 senators."

The electoral college allows, indeed facilitates, such distortions as the Republicans being able to win the White House in 2000 and 2016 despite losing the popular vote. They control the Senate despite polling fewer votes. Then there is widespread gerrymandering and voter suppression aimed mostly at poorer communities and people of colour, which the Guardian has highlighted in a year-long series. Klein has neatly summarised the problem thus: "One of the biggest problems with American democracy is that it's not democratic."

None of these systemic issues - or myriad others - which disfigure the US is on the ballot on Tuesday. But will they remain in place long after the election? Removing Trump would be a start, but some of the scourges that afflict America have lasted 400 - the first enslaved people arrived in 1619 - not four years.

John Mulholland is Editor of Guardian America and former Editor of the Observer

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SUNRISE/SUNSET	
Sunrise AST 6:07 AM	
Sunset AST 5:34 PM	Duration 11:27 hr
MOONRISE/MOONSET	
Moonrise AST 8:43 PM	
Moonset AST 10:15 AM	Duration 13:32 hr

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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.

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.

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.

Submit community notices to news@pointville.ag

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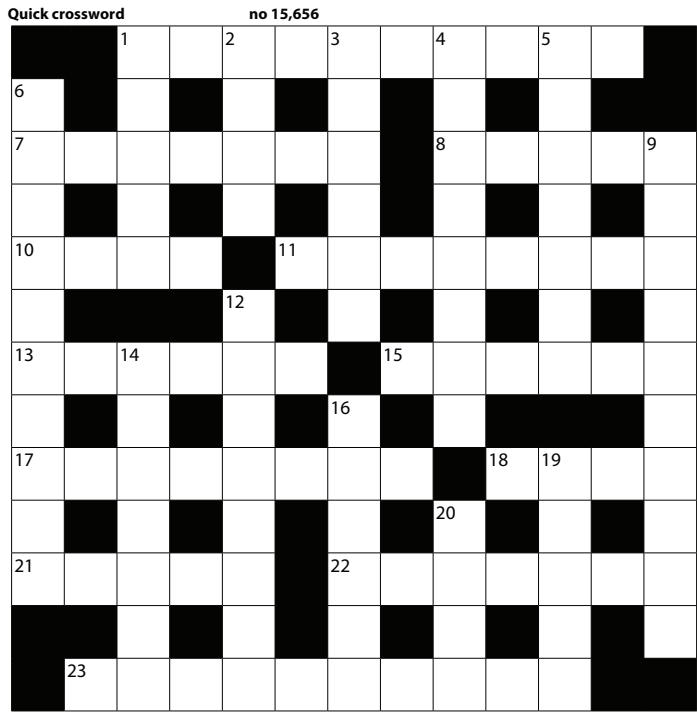


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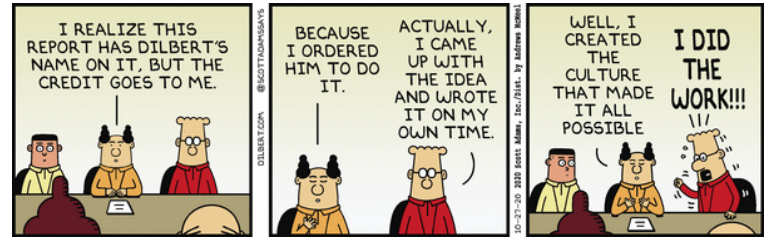
Across

- 1 Groundwork(10)
- 7 Stirup(7)
- 8 Correct (5)
- 10 Submissive — pedestrian (4)
- 11 Busy(8)
- 13 Locomotive(6)
- 15 Wanting food(6)
- 17 Eagerness(8)
- 18 Instrument played by Orpheus (4)
- 21 Plant material, used to make rubber (5)
- 22 Principal bullfighter (7)
- 23 Unjustly oppressive (10)

Down

- 1 Meeting place(5)
- 2 Second-hand (4)
- 3 Find — notice (6)
- 4 Not straightforward (8)
- 5 Current(7)
- 6 HowAlleft(anag)—very unconventional(3,3,4)
- 9 Stuffed child's toys (named after President Theodore Roosevelt) (5,5)
- 12 Eating disorder(8)
- 14 Gruesome (7)
- 16 Male reproductive organ of a flower (6)
- 19 Sing like the Lonely Goatherd? (5)
- 20 Relating to ears (4)

Dilbert



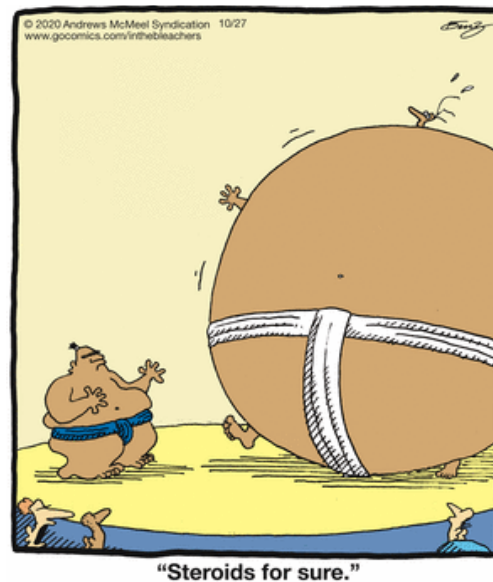
Garfield



Cathy



In the Bleachers





ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): You would still be confused if you haven't had the right people to talk to. Show gratitude, buy a gift or two, and imagine the surroundings that you wish to work in.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): You never knew how capable you really are and now you wish to do more by yourself. Focus on you and the progress that you can make on your own.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It is very likely that pumpkins would be extinct if humans didn't preserve them. Don't share information that may be misused and stay focused on goals that are within the scope of possibility.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Reactivity that is intense and vulnerable is much less praised and talked about than a proactive approach. While it may reflect on your current confidence, it is also one of the signals that you need more sleep or more of something else that would rest your Soul.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can only do so much, and it is time to embrace your limitations just as you normally embrace your opportunities. Don't be too rough and make sure to share how you feel about any issue that triggers your response.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): New insights will come easy and light as if you have been building your path towards them for ages. The world needs more superheroes and perhaps you are in the mood to be one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You have a lot on your mind and in order to stay balanced, you need a healthy diet and a fine approach to your emotional world as well. Think about your family and loved ones, give them enough time and energy to keep the flow of emotional sharing steady.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You are in some sort of strange role of a leader in a wider social circle than you would expect. Take the wheel and give others the way to see the light they carry within, if you have the power to.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of details and little things that make a whole so your big picture can remain intact. What you believe in is what you will eventually summon. Make sure you aren't skipping important steps or red flags along the way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There are more than one paths in front of you and you don't know which one you should choose right now. Perhaps it would be wise to reconsider, as some decisions made in the past couple of weeks may have been unfounded or built on wrongly interpreted information.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A lot has been kept a secret and hidden from plain sight. It is time to clear the air and make everything is obvious as possible, with a brave righteous approach.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Some attempts have been made to bomb or destroy your inner world, but you know better than to let bruising information prevail. Keep yourself safe and think about boundaries that brought you here.

Diego Maradona admitted to hospital



Argentinian football legend Diego Maradona

Argentina legend, Diego Maradona, has been admitted to hospital just days after his 60th birthday.

The football legend was taken to a hospital in La Plata, about an hour and half drive away from the capital Buenos Aires, however, coronavirus has been ruled out as a possible cause of his illness.

Maradona, who is the manager of Gimnasia, was in attendance to coach his side against Patronato last Friday when he turned 60, but the 1986 World Cup winner left the

match with some difficulty and had to be helped out of the ground.

His daughter, Gianinna, responded to a fan-made video of the incident saying, "It tears my soul apart."

Maradona will be monitored closely at the same hospital he visited for checkups in September.

It was last November when the Argentinian had to deny claims that he was dying after his daughter hinted that sedatives were taking a toll on him.

Sailing: A life changing experience



Sea captain and sailing instructor, Joshua Daniel, who has been a seafarer for eight years, has described his fulltime turn to the ocean as a "life changing experience".

Daniel's career on the sea began early as he was a beneficiary of the Antigua Sailing Academy School programme which he participated in while a student at the All Saints Sec-

ondary School.

"When you get an early start, it makes it easier as you progress. In a short period I have achieved a lot, traveling throughout the Caribbean and Europe," Daniel said.

"Sailing has taught me life skills and improved my communication with people. I have met a lot of people from different cultures and been to a lot of unique places," the sailing instructor explained.

Daniel's biggest goal is to impart his knowledge to other Antiguan-sand encourage them to enter industry he described as financially rewarding. You are paid for your value Daniel stated.

" I will not relax until I have achieved my goal of getting more locals into the industry and I would love to see others who are already involved provide mentorship to local Antiguan's."



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Sunrisers Hyderabad beat Mumbai Indians to reach play offs



David Warner's unbeaten 85 helped Sunrisers Hyderabad reach the last four of the Indian Premier League with a 10-wicket victory against Mumbai Indians.

Sunrisers now play Royal Challengers Bangalore in Friday's eliminator match.

The winner will advance

to Sunday's second qualifying match against Mumbai or Delhi for a chance to reach the final.

Victory over Mumbai, helped by Wriddhiman Saha's 58 not out, means Sunrisers finish third in the table.

Mumbai were in trouble

after Sunrisers' Sandeep Sharma caused damage in the powerplay, taking three wickets. Shahbaz Nadeem then took 2-19 to halt Mumbai's attempt at a recovery, and they could only post 149.

An impressive partnership from former Australia captain Warner and Saha

was enough for Sunrisers to seal their place in the play-offs with just under three overs to spare.

Mumbai and Delhi face each other in the first qualifying match on Thursday, with the winner advancing straight to the final on November 10.

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Sir Clive Lloyd wants Shai Hope in the "A" team



Sir Clive Lloyd



Shai Hope

Former West Indies captain, Sir Clive Lloyd, has highlighted the need for a vibrant "A" team programme which will benefit players like Shai Hope instead of dropping one of the region's most promising talents from the Test team.

The former West Indies chief selector and former manager pointed to the recently acquired Coolidge Cricket Ground as a location that could be used as an academy housing a training center, amenities and coaches, to facilitate players like

Hope who are struggling at the highest level for form.

The 76-year-old warned against the 26-year-old playing only Twenty20 cricket as it is proving to be detrimental to his development.

"If we have an "A" team, we should have selected Hope giving him a chance to regain form," the Guyanese said.

The former World Cup winner also believes that the T20 format is destroying the Barbadian cricketer and en-

couraging his development of bad habits.

"T20 is not for him," said Sir Lloyd.

The Barbadian cricketer was dropped from the Test team, presently in New Zealand, after recent dismal form which saw him averaging 19 from 17 Tests over the last two and a half years.

His One Day International form has been the complete opposite of his test form with an average of 61 with eight centuries over the same period.

Holding: Pooran should be in the Test team



Former West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding

Former West Indies fast bowler, Michael Holding, is of the view that Nicholas Pooran should be

playing test cricket despite the fact that he has not participated in a lot of first class cricket.

The cricket commentator believes that had Pooran, and some other players, been in the West Indies team in England this summer, the results of the series might have been much different.

Darren Bravo and Shimron Hetmyer turned down invitations to tour England in a series that saw West Indies make a competitive start, having won the first Test, before losing back-to-back matches.

Holding said West Indies challenged England despite not having three of their best batsmen and the selectors did not select Pooran.

Jamaica-born Holding, during an interview with Wisden Cricket

Monthly, said Pooran is very talented and should be playing Test cricket.

"If they all had played against England the series would have been closer because the Caribbean side's problem was runs on the board."

Pooran has played only three first class matches in which he scored 143 runs at an average of 23.83.

Meanwhile the player has excited cricket fans in the shorter format of the game, most recently for the Kings XI Punjab in the IPL where his six hitting and stroke making has triggered debate on whether he should take his talents to the longer version of the game.

Pooran averaged 49.05 in 25 ODIs in which his top score is 118 and 25.68 in T20s.

Antigua Barbuda to participate in Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge



Joseph Nunes and Travis Weste accept sponsorship from Minister of Tourism Hon. Charles Fernandez

Two young nationals of Antigua and Barbuda will soon participate in an international competition which will put the country's nautical prowess on full display.

The Ministry of Tourism Barbuda and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) are providing full support to Joseph Nunes and Travis Weste who will represent the na-

tion at the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge.

The 'Team Antigua Pair' has received sponsorship from the Ministry of Tourism and the ABTA.

Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez, made the presentation to the high-spirited Antigua Team, on Tuesday at the Ministry of Tourism headquarters.

Both the ministry and ABTA are long standing

supporters of the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge and have made a commitment to supporting Antigua and Barbuda's representatives in the race.

"We at the Ministry of Tourism signed a contract to sponsor the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, and so it is very fitting that we have Antiguan represented in the race," Minister Fernandez said during the presentation.

Nunes and Weste are now the fourth team, and first pair, to represent Antigua and Barbuda in the event, known as the 'World's Toughest Row'.

Weste said the team is ready for the race. He expressed thanks to the Min-

istry of Tourism and to Antiguan and Barbudans for their support and encouragement.

Nunes and Weste will leave Antigua on November 28, 2020 for La Gomera in the Canary Islands.

They will then spend two weeks in safety briefings and make other preparations for the three-thousand-mile Atlantic crossing, in their two-man row boat, 'The Wolf'.

The race begins on December 12, 2020, with rowers racing across the Atlantic Ocean towards the finish line at the historic Nelson's Dockyard, Antigua.

There are twenty teams presently registered for the race.

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