**MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2020** 

**ISSUE 154** 

**WWW.POINTVILLE.AG** 

# OFFER CLASSES AT ST. JOHN'S RURAL SOUTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

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**EDITORIAL: THE BIDEN EFFECT: RAMIFICATIONS FOR THE CARIBBEAN** 



# THEBIDENEFFECT

### RAMIFICATIONS FOR THE CARIBBEAN

Caribbean nations joined most of the world in breathing a collective sigh of relief after it was finally announced that Joe Biden will become president of the United States of America on January 20, 2021.

Under the leadership of Donald Trump, the world witnessed the United States retreat from its role as a global leader in favour of a narrow, 'America First' policy.

Former Antiqua and Barbuda Prime Minister Sir Lester Bird often expressed the view, which we share, that traditionally, Republican administrations have been better for the Caribbean as they have tended to more actively pursue foreign policy, to the benefit of the region.

We may recall the 1980s Caribbean Basin Initiative of President Ronald Reagan which sought to jump start economies in the region. Under President George W. Bush, US\$6 billion dollars was approved to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean. Both were Rebublican presidents who governed in recent times.

Democratic administrations have had the support of the Caribbean diaspora living in the United States. As observers here at home, we tend to be more supportive of Democratic party nominees for the presidency. Yet, historically, they tend to have a more inward look and focus on domestic, rather than foreign relations.

During the Bill Clinton administration of the 1990's, his Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor, launched an aggressive campaign to fight the preferential access to UK and European markets for bananas produced in the Windward Islands. Despite representations made to the US government about the critical role of the banana industry to the economies of the Windward Islands, there was no letting up.

US multinational companies, Dole

and Chiquita, which operate large banana plantations in Central America, complained vociferously about the preferential treatment given to the Windward banana producers and which led to them winning a Word Trade Organization (WTO) decision which ended the arrangement for the small island nations.

At the time, the US appeared to be most unconcerned about the fallout the decision would have on the affected OECS banana producers, whose share of the market was miniscule compared to that held by the US giants, Dole and Chiquita.

Hundreds of banana farmers in Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada suffered tremendously as a result, but the extent of the damage caused by the WTO decision extended far beyond just the banana industries of the Windward Islands. Sugar producers in the region including Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and Guyana were all also impacted by the move.

When Barack Obama was in office, there was no specific programme one could point to in the Caribbean that was particularly beneficial for the region, however, his administration is to be credited for its role in softening the US' stance toward Cuba. Direct flights between Cuba and the US were restored and diplomatic ties were established at the consular level. President Obama took the position that the hostility between the two neighbours had run its course and ought to be ended.

All this, however, was reversed by the Trump administration, more from a desire to woo the large and influential Cuban-American community in Florida, than from a clear, well thought out foreign policy position.

The critical question now is how will the Biden administration help the Caribbean?

Our first glimpses of the policies of the Biden administration offer some hope that there will be some positive outcomes for the Caribbean.

The President-Elect's first policy announcement regarding taking the coronavirus pandemic into hand is of major significance for the Caribbean's highly tourism dependent economies. Tourism in the region will never return to its former glory days unless the US, the region's primary market, is able to contain the spread of the virus.

Then there are promises that the US's membership in the World Health Organization (WHO) and subscription to the Paris Climate Accord will be restored, both being moves which augur well for the region.

The President-Elect has also indicated that he will be led by science in his policies regarding climate change. The world needs an engaged US on the issue of climate change as already it too has had to contend with the devastating effects of the phenomenon including destructive forest fires and stronger and more frequent hurricanes.

It is unlikely that there will be an increase in US aid to the region, but a Biden administration that plans to revive the US economy, help the world cope with global health issues and is aggressive on the issue of climate change will ultimately benefit the Caribbean.

The region does not have the resources to constantly rebuild after each devastating hurricane. Our own recent example, Barbuda, tells the tale of just how difficult that task can be. It is against this backdrop that we are hopeful and optimistic about a Biden administration and its potential for direct and indirect benefits to the Caribbean and its people.

# **UWI Open Campus to offer classes at** St. John's Rural South Community Centre



Pictured above, Hon E.P. Chet Greene, Prime Minister Hon. Gaston Browne, Hon Daryll Matthew, and Colleen Letlow Head of UWI Open Campus

The newly opened community centre in the St. John's Rural South constituency, has forged an alliance with the UWI Open Campus in which a series of courses will be offered to the area's residents.

The announcement was made last Friday at the opening of the St. John's Rural South Community Centre by the head of the Open Campus, Antigua and Barbuda, Coleen Letlow, and area's parliamentary representative, Daryll Matthew. Letlow said the UWI is happy to be partnering with the community centre to make educa-

"I remember when we met with the representative Matthew, a few weeks ago he spoke of partnering with the Open Campus to fulfill

tion more accessible to residents.

the purpose of this centre. One of the things he wanted was to look at programmes that would benefit members of this community. Almost immediately we agreed because this meant that we would also be fulfilling part of the strategic initiative of the Open Campus which is community development and community services," Letlow explained.

The UWI official said that the success of the venture can be measured in two ways; first, by measuring how it empowers members of the community and second, by improving the skills of members of the community.

The partnership will include academic programmes, vocational programmes and non-academic programmes which will allow residents to take greater control of their lives.

"You can also look at the success of this centre on how it is able to enrich the lives of the residents. We are hoping that as they engage in the training and the courses we will be offering that they will acquire the tools that will enrich their lives," she added.

Matthew, whose ministerial portfolio includes responsibility for Culture, Sports and National Festivals, said he wanted to build a centre that would serve the entire community.

This, he said, motivated his decision to engage the UWI Open Campus with the proposal to make the centre a satellite of the institution where residents can have easy access to its courses.

According to Matthew, the courses will begin in January and will cover subjects including business, office management, nail technician certification and customer service training.

Matthew said the centre is available to other institutions to host courses 'free of costs' as the residents in the community will ultimately benefit.

He described education as a critical tool in enabling people to improve their standard of living.

"Education is an important part of helping people improve their quality of life and that's why I want to encourage residents of Rural South to take advantage of the subofferings to better enable them to navigate the many challenges ahead," Matthew stated.

Work on the community centre started five weeks ago with much of the labour and materials donated by residents in the community.

The centre is a retrofitted 40foot container which features free internet and WiFi services which residents, in particular can access for study or other purposes.

Also speaking at the opening were Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, and ABLP chairman, E.P Chet Greene.

### POINTE PRESS MONDAY, 09 NOVEMBER, 2020

# PM Browne says UPP's COVID-19 criticisms are politically motivated



Prime Minister Gaston Browne has accused the opposition of seeking to get power at any cost.

The prime minister's comment follow continued attacks on his administration by the leadership of the United Progressive Party (UPP) over the measures it has taken to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuild the economy.

Browne said although the opposition continues to decry his administration, it has not been willing to engage in opportunities intended to develop solutions to the benefit of the country.

As a result, Browne said it is unlikely that his government will work with the UPP as the party only

seems to be hungry to seize power at any cost.

"When you are dealing with desperate individuals who want power at all cost, they become unreasonable, they become desperate in their opposition and they will continue to fight. They will continue to make outlandish claims; they will continue to mislead, to undermine," Browne said.

The prime minister said what is most important is that his administration has consistently addressed the many issues that the UPP has raised.

"And practically in every single issue that they would have raised we have been proven to be correct. Our position would have been proven to be the sustainable position compared to the short-term myopic partisan position that they would have taken.

"And I don't think that that will change. We just have to be very consistent in our decision making; defend our decisions, to be as open as possible with the people and to justify the reason or reasons why we would have taken certain decisions and to sell our rationale to the people and we have been doing so on various projects," Browne said.

The country's leader said his government has made the correct decisions on practically every issue raised by the opposition.

He pointed to the University of the

West Indies Fourth Landed Campus at Five Island, Scotia Bank and the resolution of the ABI Bank as examples of his government's successful handling of these crises in support of his claim...

Browne also made reference to the crisis which LIAT faced after fellow majority shareholders in the airline, Barbados and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, were willing to allow it to enter liquidation when his Antiqua and Barbuda government proposed a solution, which has not been adopted, to save the regional carrier.

The PM said the opposition, who did not support the government's position, were quick to identify trivialities and be critical rather than address the issues facing LIAT obiectively.

Notwithstanding the fact that it is important for the opposition to hold the government accountable, Browne expressed the view that on issues of national importance, the opposition and government should cooperate in the interest of the peo-

"So they do not give us the opportunity to share the rationale behind our decisions. They are like scavengers literally looking for opportunities to scavenge on every single issue no matter how important, how significant, how beneficial the issue may be to the entire nation."



# **Arbor Month activities highlight** the impact of climate change

The Department of the Environment (DoE), as part of its annual Arbor Month celebrations, is seeking to highlight climate change and its impact on the country.

This year's theme is "Ride the Climate Wave-Planning and Adaptation for the Future Generation" and, according to Senior Environment Officer Daryl George, this year the DoE will not just focus on planting trees.

George says small island states, such as Antigua and Barbuda, are very susceptible to climate and many people do not fully appreciate the significance of this.

"It basically means a significant change of weather patterns over a long period of time due to human activity. So when we start to see more frequent storms this year, we went completely off the chart, we went from A to Z and had to start back over with the alphabet this year.

"So when we see more storms and when we see stronger storms like category five storms, we know that there is climate change, we know that this is happening. When we see things like rising sea levels

we know that there is such a thing as climate change," George said.

senior environment cer said this year's theme is focused on merging the importance of trees and tree planting into adaptations that must be made due to climate change.

George said the Department of the Environment wants to do all that is humanly possible to help Antiqua and Barbuda, and its people, adapt to the effects of climate change that are already here and are still yet to come.

# St. John's Lodge donates washer to The Care Project



Worshipful Master Lt. Col. Edward Croft, Senior Warden Edward G. Joseph, Treasurer Athlyn Davis and Charity Steward Joel Darroux of St. John's Lodge No. 492 present a washing machine to The Care Project.

St. John's Lodge No 492 E.R presented a washing machine to The Care Project. The presentation was made by Worshipful Master, Lt. Col. Edward H Croft, accompanied by his Senior Warden, Edward G. Joseph, Treasurer, Athlyn Davis, and Charity Steward, Joel Darroux.

The Care Project was represented by Melinda Simon, the Administrative Assistant and Aleathea M. Peters the institution's professional laundry worker.

Simon expressed gratitude on behalf of the Ministry of Health and residents of The Care Project for the timely donation.

She said the machine will be very useful to her and the organisation which works optimally with two washers.

Lieutenant Colonel Croft expressed his pleasure at being able to assist The Care Project in meeting one of its urgent needs. He also expressed his

hope that the institution's residents will feel a sense of relief in the knowledge that they are cared for by both the public and the members of St. John's Lodge No 492 E.R.

This is the fourth occasion this year on which the lodge has provided relief to those in need.

# New ABLP headquarters to open on V. C. Bird Day



The new headquarters of the Antigua Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) on Nugent Avenue will be formally opened on V.C. Bird Day, December 9th, 2020

Members of the ruling Antiqua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) have twice the reason to celebrate this year when the birthday of the philosophical leader of the organisation, the late Father of the Nation, Sir Vere Cornwall Bird is commemorated.

On December 9, Sir Vere's birthday, the new headquarters of the ABLP, the People's Place located at Nugent Avenue, will be formally opened.

The announcement came from ABLP leader, Gaston Browne, as he addressed the opening of the St John's Rural South Community Centre on Tindale Road last Friday. Browne said the ABLP's headquarters will feature amenities including a conference centre where and meetings, seminars events can be held. The building will also be available to members of the party to hold social events.

The leadership of the party is now in the final stages of planning its programme to mark the occasion.



Garfield Gonsalves, former national football player, coach educator

Garfield Gonsalves is a Supervisor in the Accounts Department at the Social Security Board and a Coach Educator in the Technical Department of the Antiqua Barbuda Football Association.



## Spotlight on **Antigua Toastmasters** GARFIELD GONSALVES

### What Toastmasters has done for me

At Toastmasters I entered an environment which developed my confidence in public speaking. Also, Toastmasters enabled me to strengthen my leadership skills. I love communicating with people and it was out of this love that I decided to invest in myself and join the Antiqua Toastmasters Club.

I thought I was a good public speaker, and I was, when I spoke to persons within my comfort zone. Toastmasters has allowed me to hone my skill in public speaking by taking me out of my comfort zone and created a safe, friendly and encouraging environment where I improved tremendously as an effective communicator in public speakina.

I would encourage and challenge anyone who wants to develop their public speaking and leadership skills to take that leap of faith, invest in you today and join a Toastmasters Club.

Toastmasters, "Where leaders Are Made".

Happy 8th Anniversary to the Antiqua Toastmasters Club.

# Halo Foundation donates to local charities

Local charities are continuing to benefit from the fundraising efforts of the Halo Foundation, whose patron is Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams.

Recently, three charities were presented with cheques of \$8,000 each in the second quarterly distribution of funds raised by the "You Can Help!" campaign.

Sir Rodney and Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene participated in the ceremony in which the beneficiary non-profit organisations; the Sunshine Home for Girls, The Ex-Servicemen's Association and the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Holy Family Conference) received the monetary gifts.

"A total of \$48,000 have been distributed under the You Can Help! programme during the last three months. The funds raised will be used to assist in covering the major expenses of these charities, as they struggle to meet operational costs.



Mr. Pagget Messiah (Chairman of the Ex-Servicemen's Assoc.); H.E. Sir Rodney Williams; Mr. Johnson Browne (President, Ex-Servicemen's Assoc.); Hon. Paul Chet Greene and Mr. Beresford Bell (Treasurer, Ex-Servicemen's Assoc.)

The special project was launched by the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (London), with the purpose of engaging the diaspora and friends of Antigua and Barbuda in Europe to aid charities likely to be heavily impacted by reduced donor contributions in light of COVID-19,"

the Halo Foundation revealed.

It said the project is supported by the Halo Foundation Inc., and the Caucus of Antigua and Barbuda Ambassadors and Honorary Consuls in Europe which has raised approximately £30,000 from its target of £70,000.



H.E. Sir Rodney Williams (left)and Hon. Paul Chet Greene (right) with Major Barbara Forrester, Administrator of the Salvation **Army Sunshine Home for Girls** 

### PM says publicity worth cost of LIAT flight

### **Bv Shelton Daniel**

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has dismissed suggestions that the November 1 LIAT flight from Antiqua to Dominica cost \$150,000 and was a waste of money.

The Independence Day flight was the first in six months for the Antiqua-based airline after its entire fleet was grounded and almost all its employees at all levels laid off due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Late in the day on October 30th, LIAT was notified that authorities in Dominica had doubled down on their rules for admitting incoming air passengers who now need a negative PCR test for COVID-19 prior to arrival. This meant that passengers on the November 1 flight would not be able to disembark as sufficient time was not available to complete the required testing.

LIAT decided to proceed with the flight, for its inspirational significance

and marketing impact, which triggered debate over whether the flight should have been cancelled in order to save money which is already a scarce commodity for the airline.

The flight, which departed Antiqua with fewer than 10 persons who did not disembark in Dominica, was also unable to board passengers wanting to depart on the flight's return to the V.C. Bird International Airport.

Said PM Browne, "There are some people who felt that the fact that LIAT continued with that flight, which was initially intended to be a commercial flight, there are some who are trying to argue that it's a waste of resources. Let me place this issue into context.

"Generally speaking, based on the fact that LIAT has reduced its overhead costs tremendously, to include its lease payments, staff costs and so on, a flight to Dominica ordinarily would [cost] LIAT about EC\$10,000 return. We had a number of individuals booked.

My understanding is that LIAT can now break even with about 12 passengers, but because the protocols were changed in Dominica and they would have to get a COVID test almost overnight, it was impossible to pursue the commercial flight."

According to the prime minister, by October 31, LIAT had made all required preparations "and all of the costs associated for that flight into Dominica, barring maybe, the petrol, there would have been some costs that were already incurred and could not be recovered, so their only additional costs would have been the fuel."

Browne said information he received indicated that the fuel consumption for the Independence Day flight amounted to between US\$800 to US\$1,000. He concluded that the publicity and promotion LIAT received as a result of that flight was more than worth the minimal costs involved.

# PM Browne congratulates President-elect Joe Biden

Prime Minister Gaston Browne sent a congratulatory letter to President-elect Joe Biden following word on Saturday that he was elected the 46th President of the United States.

In his letter Prime Minister Browne recalled working with Biden when he served as vice president in the Barack Obama administration.

"I recall our work together, while you served as vice president to advance the security and wellbeing of the United States and its neighbours in the Caribbean. I especially recall, with appreciation, the work that you had started on building security in energy and my participation with you in conferences to facilitate progress in this vital area," Prime Minister Browne

pointed out.

The country's leader also recalled that on November 7th, 48 years ago, that Joe Biden was first elected to Congress as a 29-year

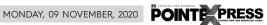
"Your stamina and energy, and most importantly your commitment to public service for the people of the United States has been exemplary and outstanding," Prime Minister Browne said.

"As you begin to plan for your assumption of office in January 2021, I know that you will be cognizant the Caribbean is the "third border" of the United States and that our governments have a joint responsibility to cooperate in economic and social development that will keep our collective neighbourhood prosperous," he said.

Prime Minister Browne added that he looks forward to both governments working closely together to meet the great challenges of the time, including ending the COVID-19 pandemic, restoring both economies to full strength, returning people to full employment, tackling climate change and making the world a safer place for all.

Prime Minister Browne concluded by wishing President-elect Joe Biden every success as he prepares to take up office.

"I pray for the success of your administration and for the wellbeing of all people of the United States."



# **Businesses invited to** virtual trade show

The local business community has been invited to participate in a virtual trade show organised by the government of Indonesia.

Honorary Consul of the Indonesian government, Paul Ryan, said the trade expo will begin on November

"It's my pleasure to invite you to participate in two major business events which plan to provide tremendous insight to you as a person of influence within your area of busi-

The events organised by the Government of Indonesia are the INA-LAC Business Forum and the Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) which will both be held virtually in November 2020,"

Ryan said in a letter to the business on the following elements: community.

According to Ryan the INA-LAC Business Forum seeks to boost the increase of trade and investment value between Indonesia and the Countries of Latin American and the Caribbean. The event will take place from November 9 - 11 and aims to create solid economic relationships through public awareness about the channels of trade connectivity which can be built despite geographical distance.

The theme is, Smart Partnership: Refocusing Indonesia and Latin America and the Caribbean Economic Relations in the time of **Covid-19** and plans to feature topics

- Health
- Financial Technology
- E-commerce
- Food and Beverage
- Investment
- Agriculture
- **Industries**

"Your presence at both events would be welcomed therefore I kindly invite you to register in advance," he added

To reaister:

TEI VE 2020: http://www.tradexpoindonesia.com/attending/register-to-attend/

INALAC 2020: https://ina-lac.com/

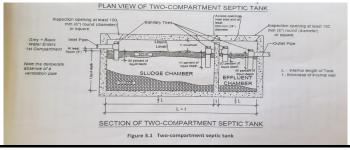
# CBH PUBLIC HEALTH CORNER



### Waste Management

Safe disposal of all human and domestic waste is necessary to protect the health of the individual family and the community and to prevent the occurrence of nuisances. To accomplish satisfactory results, such waste must be disposed of so

- 1. They will not contaminate any drinking water supply
- 2. They will not give rise to a public health hazard by being accessible to insects, rodents, or other possible carriers which may come into contact with food or drinking water.
- 3. They will not give rise to a public health hazard by being accessible to children.
- 4. They will not violate laws or regulations governing water pollution or sewage
- 5. They will not pollute or contaminate the water of any bathing beach, shellfish breeding ground, or stream used for public or domestic water supply purposes, or for recreational purposes.
- 6. They will not give rise to a nuisance due to odor or unsightly appearance



### CBH FUN FACTS 411 WORD SEARCH

Topic: Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems

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### Answers for last week's Word Search

- \*Hand Sanitizer \*Facemask \*Protocols
- \*Liquid Soap \*Hand washing \*Laws
- \*Tissue \*Physical \*Distance
- \*Regulations \*Guidelines

Can you find the following 9 words surrounding the Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems?

\*Airspace \*Manhole \*Stones \*Inlet pipe \*Outlet pipe \*Baffle Wall \*Septic Tank \*Grease Trap \*Drainfield

Word Search created by: Kenya Smith; EHA

9.11.2020

# Virgin Atlantic will continue flights to V. C. Bird Intl



Virgin Atlantic will continue flights into Antigua and Barbuda despite the fact that the United Kingdom, its home base, has entered a month long lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Confirmation this came in a recent statement issued by the Ministry of Tourism and the Antiqua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

"The airline will maintain its twice weekly passenger flights through to November 21st with a weekly Saturday service thereafter until the end of the UK's national lockdown. The twice weekly flights will Wednesdays arrive on and Saturdays from London Heathrow to Antiqua and Barbuda V. C. Bird International Airport. The flights will then reduce to a weekly Sunday service where the flight will overnight and depart the next day," the statement said.

The news of the continued service comes after a series of successful meetings among senior Virgin Atlantic representatives, a team of tourism officials led by Tourism Minister, Charles 'Max' Fernandez and representatives from the Antiqua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association.

Antiqua and Barbuda has successfully retained its place on the UK government's quarantine exemption list. Maintaining airlift during the UK's lockdown for 'business and essential travel' was a priority in order to provide airlift into the country which is a gateway to the rest of the Caribbean.

Just last week, former head of the ABHTA, Alex De Brito, voiced concern United Kinadom's most recent lockdown and its possible impact on the local hotel sector in light of the fact that many properties are just now reopening an extended period of closure.

Tourism officials sav there has been no official announcement from British Airways but they anticipate that the airline will soon announce changes to its schedule.



### Dr. Raj K. Jammula, BDS Dr. Poomima Jammula, BDS Dr. Jammula & Associates

# **Most Popular Myths** about Dentistry

It seems like everything is known about the rules and recommendations on how to take care of our teeth effectively, however, day after day new versions of good old principles of dental care appear. As a result, many people still remain confused about the basics of brushing, flossing, whitening and other dental care procedures.

Check out the most popular dental myths and related comments of dental specialists.

MYTH: Brushing my teeth several times a day harms the enamel.

TRUTH: This is partially true. Usually, it is enough to brush your teeth two times a day, but if you have an opportunity to brush your teeth more frequently, for example, after every meal, use a soft or extra soft toothbrush.

MYTH: Expensive toothpastes are always better than cheap ones.

TRUTH: It is not always true, and some moderately expensive toothpaste can be very effective. Ask your dentist about the toothpastes that can be good for your particular dental situation.

MYTH: Using a sugarless chewing gum with



xvlitol after a meal can replace brushing and have the same effect.

TRUTH: really, Not but if you cannot brush your teeth after every meal, you can use a sugarless chewing gum to clean your teeth and refresh your breath. Do not chew it for more than 10 minutes.

MYTH: I must not brush my teeth if my gums bleed.

TRUTH: Bleeding gums is a sign to see vour dentist, however, if you cannot do this as soon as possible, you can brush your teeth with a soft or extra soft toothbrush.

MYTH: Placing a tablet of aspirin beside my aching tooth can ease the pain.

TRUTH: Aspirin does not work effectively for relieving toothache. Besides, it damages soft tissues in your mouth. Therefore, it is better to use natural analgesics.

MYTH: There is no need in seeing a dentist if there is no visible problem with my teeth.

TRUTH: You must see your dentist twice a vear, no matter what condition your teeth are in at the moment. Sometimes, only a dentist can see possible problems and it is always better to start treatment at an earlier stage.

MYTH: If tooth enamel is white, the tooth be considered must healthy.

TRUTH: This is absolutely not true! A tooth can look healthy and white, but have cavities, problems with the root or other abnormalities that require treatment.

MYTH: After a decaved tooth is treated, there will be no more decaying there.

TRUTH: There is no guarantee for this. After the treatment, every tooth must be properly cared for, regularly brushed, flossed and so on.

MYTH: It is better to treat a decaying tooth rather than opt for removing it.

TRUTH: Before making a decision whether to continue treatment remove an aching tooth, you have to consult a qualified dental professional. Sometimes, even totally decayed teeth can be restored, but there are situations when also even a healthy looking tooth must be extract-

MYTH: It is better to remove wisdom teeth because they usually cause problems.

TRUTH: Do not extract your wisdom teeth until you have started having real problems with them. Your dentist will advise what is best after examining X-rays and oral an checkup.

MYTH: Good dental health can be inherited.

TRUTH: Such factors as inheritance play a minor role for good dental health of people. The main rules are to maintain proper oral hygiene and visit your dentist regularly.

# **BUSINE\$\$ AND ECONOMY**

**MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2020** 



Repositioning Antigua and Barbuda for Dynamic, Sustainable, and Resilient Growth

A Report by the Technical Drafting Sub-Committee to the Economic Recovery Committee

AUGUST 2020

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Antigua Cruise Port remains optimistic despite suspension of 2020 season

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The Stock Market

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Tourism Authority wins gold for 'Your space in the sun' campaign

# **Antigua Cruise Port remains optimistic** despite suspension of 2020 season



Despite the no-sail order being lifted by the United States government early last week, the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), which represents 95% of global ocean going cruise operators has, issued a release indicating that its members will maintain the ongoing voluntary suspension of cruise operations in the U.S. through December 31, 2020.

"As we work to operationalize a path forward, our members have agreed to extend our existing suspension of U.S. operations through December 31. This action will provide additional time to align the industry's extensive preparation of health protocols with the implementation requirements under CDC's Framework for Conditional Sailing and Initial Phase COVID-19 Testing Requirements for Protection of Crew. As we continue to plan for a gradual and highly-controlled

return of cruise operations in the U.S., CLIA members are committed to implementing stringent measures to address COVID-19 safety, including 100% testing of passengers and crew, expanded onboard medical capabilities, and trial sailings, among many others. We share a common goal with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to protect public health, which has been affirmed and reaffirmed consistently throughout the industry's response to the global pandemic," a CLIA press release stated.

Antiqua Cruise Port General Manager, Dona Regis-Prosper told PointeXpress in a recent interview that her team is not surprised at the news as they had already planned for a worst case scenario.

"This is the opportunity to engage in more dialogue with the key stakeholders on the way forward. We intend to use the time wisely to ensure that all protocols are in place for the new normal. nancial gain is one thing but protection of the host community, the employees and residents of Antiqua and Barbuda is paramount," Regis-Prosper explained.

She also noted that Antiqua Cruise Port did not lay off its staff and paid salaries as normal even though business has slowed significantly.

The company is engaged in continuous dialogue with the business community and in staff training as part of its preparation for the return of cruise passengers.

In light of the extended closure of the cruise sea-Regis-Prosper said Antiqua Cruise Ports has been "exploring possibilities of smaller mega yachts with less than 200 persons homeporting in the Caribbean" as an option. These smaller vessels, she said, are ideal during this challenging period.

Regarding her company's local investments, Regis-Proper said, have reached substantial completion with the fifth berth over in Point. That's on schedule to be delivered in December. We have not let COVID slow us down. We have worked throughout. The contractors, Meridian, have done a fantastic job in terms of working with us through

the pandemic. We are the only port in this part of the world to have delivered a brand-new cruise pier at an Oasis Class level during this period."

Regis-Prosper also addressed the impact the closure of the season has had on Antiqua Cruise Port's operations.

"We are not where we thought we would have been, we are clearly not there. This is a bump in the road, but as a good corporate citizen, what is most important is that we do not make any business decision that impacts negatively on the people. We will follow the guidelines of the government and if that is for a gradual reopening, we will join the government to ensure it is done right for a safe return to cruising."

Antigua Cruise Port serves mainly as a transit port handling predominantly cruise passengers ships. With the soon to be completed pier, the port will have facilities that can accommodate the biggest ships in the industry. This in turn will enable the passenger arrivals to Antigua and Barbuda to grow to over 1 million. With the development and construction of new retail and food beverage facilities, over 50,000sq.ft. of additional commercial space will be leased to locals.

Antigua Cruise Port started its operations in October 2019.



# The Economic Recovery Committee's Framework for Growth

The Government of Antiqua and Barbuda established the Economic Recovery Committee (ERC) to review the country's economic status in the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The economic fallout of COVID-19 has caused significant harm as there has been a significant downturn and underperformance in several key sectors.

Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the Hon. Gaston Browne, the ERC, whose membership comprises business professionals, technicians and senior government officials, set about set to work.

Based on the report of the Technical Drafting Sub-Committee "The committee was tasked with identifying threats and opportunities and identifying areas for potential investment to stabilise and revitalise the domestic economy."

Today, in PointeXpress's Business & Economy segment, we feature the Framework for Growth section of the ERC report titled: Repositioning Antiaua and Barbuda for Dvnamic, Sustainable and Resilient Growth.

This section seeks to identify and outline the government's role in reducing the continued economic decline linked to the economic fallout from a policy perspective.

### FRAMEWORK FOR GROWTH

"Antiqua and Barbuda continues to grapple with the complexity of financing and implementing development solutions with the context of unpredictable growth outcomes, declining competitiveness, and unsustainable fiscal and debt positions. These problems are encountered by a number of small Island Developing States (SIDS) as they seek to engineer growth in the short and medium terms. What is required is a framework that allows policy makers to assess the structure of their economies and identify critical growth factors. It is also important that they clearly articulate the pragmatic and methodological process through which these factors can collectively support an expansion in economic activity.

The objective of the ERC will be to identify the factors that are critical for growth and put the necessary mechanisms in place to allow these identified factors to enhance productivity across several economic sectors. The goal will be to identify short, medium, and long-term initiatives that can stimulate the growth process. The selection criteria will allow for vertical and horizontal integration of projects aimed at exploiting the natural and strategic linkages that exist between sectors. Given the structural characteristics of the economy it will be imperative to pursue balanced sustainable growth with the appropriate contribution from the public and private sectors.

What is the role of government in this growth engineering process? There is one view that government should only have a limited supportive role in the growth process. The primary concern is that the size of government can potentially crowd-out private sector investment and lead to inefficient allocation of resources. In this regard, government's primary role should be that of regulator and to address market failures.

There is an opposing view that government must play a central role in guiding the growth process.

There are country experiences that support both sides of this argument. Given the structural characteristics of some small island developing states, including Antigua and Barbuda, it would be impractical to be dogmatic to any view. Small size, limited economies of scale and structural rigidi-

ties necessitate that the appropriate mix of public and private sector-led policies are chosen to support the growth process.

### The following are some considerations for the role of government in the policy environment:

- Safeguarding macroeconomic stability by pursuing sustainable fiscal policies and supporting the development of a strong business climate.
- Creating an enabling environment for investment and private sector growth by maintaining a transparent incentives regime and providing appropriate regulatory and legislative framework
- Providing the necessary economic and social infrastructure to enhance the business environment and to support balanced and inclusive growth
- Creating avenues for the development and continued viability of small and medium businesses through access to finance and training
- Playing an active role in developing new and underperforming economic sectors and integrating them into the broader growth process;
- Safeauardina development gains and building resilience to macroeconomic shocks ad adverse climate events by creating fiscal space or building policy buffers to respond to these challenges.

Every Monday a different section will be featured. We invite your feedback and queries to editor@pointville. ag or on Press On each Monday from 11am to 1pm on Pointe FM 99.1.

# INVESTING OPTIONS The Stock Market



A **stock market** is the collection of buyers and sellers of shares, also called stocks, which represent ownership claims on businesses. These may include securities listed on a public stock exchange, as well as shares that are only traded privately, such as shares of private companies which are sold to investors.

The holders of the shares are often referred to as shareholders.

There is some familiarity for most with the movements of international stock markets and shareholding opportunities, however, there are viable and profitable investment opportunities regionally and domestically.

There are currently six stock markets within CARICOM that offer investing opportunities.

Regional Stock Market Summary Trading Reports as at Friday 6, November, 2020

### Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange (ECSE)

**Equities** - Three stocks traded, total of 10,090 units. Bank of Nevis was volume leader trading 8,500 shares at EC\$3.35; 1,090 St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank Ltd shares traded at EC\$3.00 per share and 500 S. L. Horsford & Company Ltd shares traded at EC\$2.00 per share. Index closed at 161.2.

**Debt Securities** - 4,000,000 units of the Government of Saint Lucia's

180-day Treasury bill, traded at 4% and 10,000 units of the Government of Saint Lucia's 6-year US dollar Bond, traded at 7%.

**Regional Government Securities** Market - The next auction scheduled is the Government of Antigua and Barbuda's 365-day Treasury Bill, offered at a maximum rate of 4.5%, which will take place on 20 November 2020. Bidding for this auction will commence at 9:00 am and end at 12:00 pm.

More information on the securities available for sale and other issues can be obtained at the ECSE website at www.ecseonline.com or by contacting a broker.

### **Barbados Stock Exchange**

This week, the Regular Market traded a total volume of 683 shares. The two companies traded were Goddard Enterprises Limited with 565 shares (82.72%) and West India Biscuit Company Limited with 118 shares (17.28%). Index closed at 2631.83.

### **Jamaica Stock Exchange**

Overall Market activity resulted from trading in 44 stocks of which 19 advanced, 17 declined and 8 traded firm. Market volume amounted to 12,817,056 units valued at over J\$399,677,338.70. GraceKennedy Limited was the volume leader with 6,199,124 units (48.4%). Index declined by 1,989.11 points (0.54 %) to close at 368,737.93.

**Jamaica Junior Stock Exchange** 

Overall market activity resulted from trading in 35 stocks of which 13 advanced, 16 declined and 6 traded firm. Market volume amounted to 3,359,001 units valued at over J\$7,739,063.38. Index closed at 2,539.03. Barbados Stock Exchange One security traded firm as 118 shares traded with a total value of \$3,717.00. West India Biscuit Company Limited was the sole trader. Index closed at 2,631.83.

### Trinidad & Tobago Stock Exchange

Overall Market activity resulted from trading in 24 securities of which 5 advanced, 14 declined and 5 traded firm. Trading activity amounted to 696,664 shares crossing the floor of the Exchange valued at TT\$9.271 million. The volume leaders are JMMB Group Limited with 168,350 shares (24.17%) followed by Clico Investments Fund with 132,880 shares (19.07%) and National Flour Mills Limited with 98,489 shares (14.14%). . The All T&T Index declined by 7.03 points to close at 1,747.43. The Composite Index advanced by 4.89 points to close at 1301.62 and the Cross Listed Index closed at 115.67. The SME Index declined by 0.43 points (0.66%) to close at 64.77.

### **Guyana Stock Exchange**

3 stocks advanced and 2 traded firm as 49,826 units crossed the floor. Demerara Distillers Limited was volume leader with 5,657 shares traded. The LSI closed at 656.93.

# **Tourism Authority wins gold for** 'Your Space In The Sun' campaign

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) has been rewarded for its creativity during the COVID-19 pandemic and its response to consumers' growing demand for space.

The recognition came from the Travel Weekly Magellan Awards.

"The Travel Weekly Magellan Awards are the premier awards for the travel industry, honouring the best in travel and saluting the outstanding travel professionals behind it all," the ABTA noted.

Announcing the Antiqua and Barbuda Tourism Authority win, Travel Weekly commented: "Judged by a group of your peers and held to the highest standard of excellence, your entry stood head and shoulders above the rest."



Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez, applauded the team at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority on their achievement.

highlighted team's unwavering commitment to keeping travellers informed during the COVID-19 pandemic and proactive development of a digital marketing campaign that resonated with the travel trade and consumer.

"Antiqua and Barbuda's tourism marketing efforts continue to adapt to suit the situation. I am optimistic that with the combined efforts of the private and public sector, and the resilience of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Industry, that we will come out of this pandemic stronger," Fernandez stated.

Chief Executive Officer of the ABTA, Colin James, said, "As the pandemic

unfolded and countries went into lockdown, our consumer sentiment analysis showed that persons equated the words 'safe' with 'space'. We had prospective travellers whose vacations were affected at the start of the pandemic sitting indoors contemplating their next trip to the Caribbean and so we shifted our 2020 marketing strategy accordingly."

# ANTIGUA & BARBUDA'S

A glance through our Nation's rearview Mirror

# nna Music



Benna Music is said to be derived from a song-dance, steeped in African rhythm, that the slaves brought to the plantations from Africa. ...The benna provided the slaves with a voice and a means of expression.

Benna or Ditti is a type of one verse repetitive song - the original folkstyle of calypso. The banjo with no musical variations accompanied it. Benna appears to be peculiar to Antigua and Jamaica. Around the 1940's and 50's it referred to all secular or non-church music.

Benna music became a useful form of spreading news and information across the island.







# Five are arrested in Jamaica over cop's killing

(Jamaica Gleaner): At least five people have been arrested for breaching the Disaster Risk Management Act, following a party in Harwood district, Clarendon, where a constable was shot and killed.

According to Superintendent Gary Francis, Commanding Officer for Manchester, Constable Kirkland Plummer is believed to have been passing the area when he saw a large gathering and stopped to investigate. Reports are that approximately 9:40 p.m. Saturday Plummer disarmed a man who reportedly discharged an illegal firearm at the event.

The constable was later attacked

by the man's cronies.

The commanding officer said Plummer received, what appeared to be, a gunshot wound to the face and blunt force injury to the head, possibly caused by a stone.

He said the man who Plummer disarmed was also shot in the process and later succumbed to his injuries.

His identity is being withheld pending further investigations.

Francis said they are still yet to ascertain if Plummer stopped at the party in his capacity as a policeman or as a patron.

"He was on his own, it was not a patrol. We have heard that he was

on his way through the area when he stopped to find out what was happening, because a section of the road was blocked off and we also heard that he was a patron there. We are not sure, but we are investigating that," he said.

Francis told The Gleaner that the five persons arrested, including the owner of the property, may have been charged as early as Sunday.

He said the police were able to retrieve an illegal firearm from the scene along with the constable's weapon, however, they are still on the hunt for the cop's killers.

# SVG GG urges PM Gonsalves to continue inclusive overnance

(iWitnessNews): Ralph Gonsalves, 74, on Saturday, was sworn into office for a historic fifth consecutive term as Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The ceremony at Government House, in Kingstown, also Montgomery Daniel, the five-term MP for the North Windward, sworn in as the country's deputy prime minister.

Jaundy Martin, a public servant, was sworn in as attorney general, a post he held in the last government, having filled the vacancy left with the 2017 retirement of Judith Jones-Morgan, who had been attorney general since the United Labour Party (ULP) came to office in March 2001.

The ceremony was presided over by Governor General, Dame Susan Dougan.

In her comments, the governor general said it was "indeed an honour to present to you our new prime minister and deputy prime minister".

Dame Dougan congratulated the prime minister for successfully contesting the elections and for creating history by being sworn in for a fifth consecutive term, a comment that drew thunderous applause inside the colonial building that is her official residence.

"I am sure you are going down in the annals of history in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and throughout the Caribbean," said Dame Susan, a former cabinet secretary in the Gonsalves government.

"So, at this time, it is important for us to see what we have in a prime minister of this stature," the ceremonial head of state said.

She added that it is important for the prime minister to draw on his experience, maturity, competence and skills "to take us through these difficult times".

"It is going to be challenging and I also urge you to reach out to the NDP because the popular votes have spoken and there is a clear message," she said.

For the first time since 1998, the main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) won the popular vote which, however did not prevent the ULP from increasing its majority in the 15 member parliament by one seat, winning 9 seats over its 8 in its last term.

# St. Lucia records 106th case of COVID-19

The St. Lucia Ministry of Health has reported that the country has one new confirmed case of COVID-19. According to a press statement from the ministry on Friday, this brings the total number of cases diagnosed in the country to 106.

Case 106 is a 37-year-old female from the Laborie District. She was tested at a recent community COVID-19 screening activity which was held in Laborie and was placed in quarantine while awaiting the re-

The ministry is currently investigating the possibility of an epidemiological link.

This new case now brings the number of active cases currently in care in the country to 74. All cases remain stable and there are no cases requiring critical care.

Over the past week from Friday October 30 to Thursday November 5, 2020, Saint Lucia has conducted 1,056 tests and a total of 30 new

cases of COVID-19 were recorded during this period. Most of these cases were captured through the contact tracing process.

As efforts continue by the public health team of the Ministry of Health to conduct health education, as well as contact tracing and testing of individuals, an appeal has been made for persons to continue to regulate their movements and behaviours to reduce the risk of exposure to the

# One of the most challenging periods, says BUT head

(Barbados Nation) - Although the physical conditions of some schools warrant the relocation of teachers and students, it is challenging to do so at this time.

President of the Bar-(BUT) Pedro Shepherd, speaking Friday night at the President's Reception

at the "Merry Hill", Welches, St. Michael headquarters, said this COVID-19 period was proving to be one of the most challenging in education with no end of it in siaht.

"So, I trust that those bados Union of Teachers of us in the system would continue to navigate what is termed as uncharted waters for quite some time. Only today, I would have had a meeting with the Ministry of Education looking at challenges facing the system at present. In addition to COVID, we had some weather recently that caused leaking in as many as probably 40 or so schools across the country with some of them being in a state, really, where students and teachers ought not to be present.

"But, of course, COVID-19 and health protocols, the need for social distancing, it is extremely difficult now to relocate schools and students, so it is adding pressure on us and on the ministry at this point in time," he said. (GBM)





# Alex Trebek, Jeopardy! gameshow host, dies of cancer at 80

Alex Trebek, the longtime host of American television quiz show Jeopardy!, has died at the age of 80.

Mr. Trebek announced he had been diagnosed with stage-four pancreatic cancer in March 2019.

The Jeopardy! Twitter account said on Sunday he had "passed away peacefully at home" surrounded by family and friends.

Mr. Trebek had hosted Jeopardy! since 1984 and had received numerous awards and honours for his work. Known for his sharp wit and charisma, the Canadian-American presenter became the face of Jeopardy! during his three decades on the show, turning it into a ratings smash hit. He fronted thousands of episodes of the popu-



lar quiz show, making him amona the most known people on television in the US and Canada.

In 2014 he set a Guinness World Record for "most game show episodes hosted by the same presenter".

Mr. Trebek had vowed to continue presenting Jeopardy! while receiving treatment including chemotherapy. He was contracted to host the show until 2022.

Former Jeopardy! contestant, Buzzy Cohen, was among the first to pay tribute to Mr. Trebek.

"Absolutely heartbreaking to lose someone who meant so much to so many. Even if this show hadn't changed my life in so many ways, this loss would be immeasurable," Mr. Cohen tweeted.

# Christian churches mirror country's political division

NEW YORK (AP) - The Christian messages in houses of worship on the first weekend since the election were as divided as the country's electorate, with religious leaders mostly calling for peace and unification even as some bemoaned the result and others celebrated.

Hours after the news broke Saturday of Democrat Joe Biden's victory, St. Joseph on the Brandywine Deacon Michael Stankewicz led a prayer during afternoon Mass at the president-elect's home church in Wilmington, Delaware, in which he asked "that our newly elected officials lead with wisdom and integrity to bring about unity, peace and reconciliation in our country and around

the world."

In Oklahoma, which voted for President Donald Trump by a 2-to-1 margin, civil rights activist and minister Warren G. Blakney Sr. started the Sunday morning service at North Peoria Church of Christ by noting the toll the virus is taking on his hometown of Tulsa and mourning the death of a church member the day

He offered an exultant message of political change to parishioners, saying the election provides the catalyst "to begin to celebrate a new era."

"Aren't you glad that 74 million hearts don't want that stuff no more? I voted for change. I know that in January better days are coming," Blakney said,

shouting to make himself heard over the car horns being honked in agreement by worshippers attending the parking lot service.

Other faith leaders sounded a note of concern.

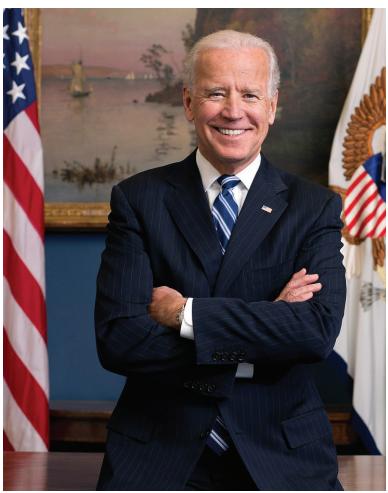
Pastor Matt Hagee of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio lamented a troubled world, and said "the cure," which was the main theme for his Sunday sermon, was Jesus Christ.

Without explicitly naming the president- and vice president-elect, he criticized public officials, abortion and what he called censorship of "the word of God." Last year, Biden shifted his stance on abortion to back an end to restrictions on government funding for the procedure.

"Something's wrong when

it doesn't take a lot of effort to fill the streets with protesters, but you have to beg and plead to fill a church with prayer warriors. Something's wrong when the word of God is censored as hate speech and public officials can blatantly lie and be called servants. Something's wrong when we can murder unborn children and call it health care," Hagee said in the livestreamed service.

father, prominent megachurch pastor and conservative activist John Hagee, returned to Cornerstone on Sunday after being diagnosed with COVID-19 last month. The 80-year-old pastor been a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump.



46th President-elect of the United States of America Joe Biden

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) - President-elect Joe Biden signaled on Sunday he plans to move quickly to build out his government, focusing first on the raging pandemic that will likely dominate the early days of his administration.

Biden named a former surgeon general, Dr. Vivek Murthy, and a former Food and Drug Administration commissioner, David Kessler, as co-chairs of a coronavirus working group set to get started, with other members expected to be announced Monday. Transition team officials said that this week Biden will also launch his agency review teams, the group of transition staffers that have access to key agencies in the current administration to ease the transfer of power. The teams will collect and review information such budgetary and staffing decisions, pending regulations and other work in progress from current staff at the departments to help Biden's team prepare to transition.

"People want the country to move forward," said Kate Bedingfield, Biden deputy campaign

# Biden seeks to move quickly and build out his administration

Press'.

Bedingfield added that people want to see Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris "have the opportunity to do the work, to get the virus under control and to get our economy back together."

It's unclear for now whether President Donald Trump and his administration will cooperate. He has yet to acknowledge Biden's victory and has pledged to mount legal challenges in several closely contested states that decided the race.

Still, there were signs that leaders in Washington and foreign capitals were preparing for a new administration.

Biden aides said the president-elect and transition team had been in touch with Republican lawmakers.

Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, one of Trump's closest allies, opened a Cabinet meeting on Sunday

manager, in an inter- by congratulating Biden, view on NBC's 'Meet the a former vice president and longtime senator.

> "I have a long and warm personal connection with Joe Biden for nearly 40 years, and I know him as a great friend of the state of Israel," Netanyahu said. "I am certain that we will continue to work with both of them in order to further strengthen the special alliance between Israel and the US"

> George W. Bush, the sole living Republican former president, also wished Biden well.

> "Though we have political differences, I know Joe Biden to be a good man, who has won his opportunity to lead and unify our country," Bush said.

> Biden faces key staffing decisions in the days ahead. The always frenzied 10-week transition period before Inauguration Day on January 20 already has been shortened by the extra time it took to determine the winner of Tuesday's election.

# Kamala Harris Makes History as First Woman and Woman of Color as Vice President of the United States



First woman and woman of color to be elected Vice President of the United States of America, Kamala Harris

### By Lisa Lerer and Sydney Ember

(The New York Times): Kamala. Harris, the dauahter of an Indian mother and Jamaican father, has risen higher in the country's leadership than any woman ever before her.

From the earliest days of her childhood, Kamala Harris was taught that the road to racial justice was

She spoke often on the campaign trail of those who had come before her, of her parents, immigrants drawn to the civil rights struggle in the United States and of the ancestors who had paved the way.

As she took the stage in

Texas shortly before the election, Ms. Harris spoke of being singular in her role but not solitary.

"Yes, sister, sometimes we may be the only one that looks like us walking in that room," she told a largely Black audience in Fort Worth, "but the thing we all know is we never walk in those rooms alone, we are all in that room together."

With her ascension to the vice presidency, Ms. Harris will become the first woman and first woman of color to hold that office, a milestone for a nation in upheaval, grappling with a damaging history of racial injustice exposed, yet again, in a divisive election.

Ms. Harris, 56, embodies the future of a country that is growing more racially diverse, even if the person voters picked for the top of the ticket is a 77-year-old white man.

In her victory speech Saturday, Ms. Harris spoke of her mother and the generations of women of all races who paved the way for this moment.

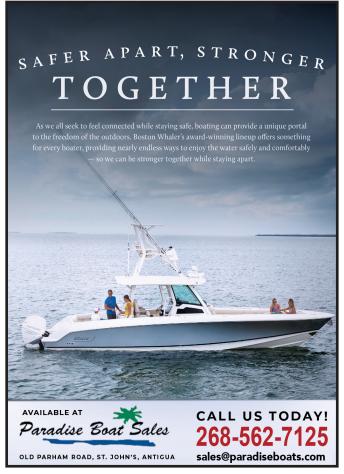
"While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last," she told a cheering and honking audience in Wilmington, Del. "Because every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities."

That she has risen higher

in the country's leadership than any woman ever has underscored the extraordinary arc of her political career. A former San Francisco district attorney, she was elected as the first Black woman to serve as California's attorney general. When she was elected a United States senator in 2016, she became only the second Black woman in the chamber's history.

Almost immediately, she made a name for herself in Washinaton with her withering prosecutorial style in Senate hearings, grilling her adversaries in highstakes moments that at times went viral.







### **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.

### **URGENT NOTICE:**

### THE ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HUMANE SOCIETY

The bait currently being used to control giant african snails is also poisonous to animals, including dogs and cats, even in very small amounts. Homeowners should consider using salt or sea water instead of the snail bait to keep their pets safe. If you store snail bait, make sure it is well secured as its scent will attract your pets.

This current danger is yet another reason why dog owners should obey the law and keep their dogs secured on their own property or under their direct control at all times.

Submit community notices to news@pointville.ag

### **QUICK CROSSWORD**

# Quick crossword no 15,658 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 10 10 11 12 13 13 14 15 16 19 20 21 22 23 25

### **Across**

- 1 The Yardbirds' guitarist, Jeff (4)
- 3 Bruschetta or soup, perhaps (8)
- 9 White metallic element (Ca), essential in bones and teeth (7)
- 10 Ancient Roman's country house (5)
- **11** Flag (5)
- 12 Muslim leader (6)
- 14 Too sure of oneself? (13)
- 17 Puzzle involving the numbers 1 to 9 (6)
- 19 Synthetic fabric invented in 1938 (5)
- 22 Something worn around the head or neck and shoulders (5)
- 23 Any number that is not a fraction (7)
- 24 Belief system (8)
- 25 Stick around (4)

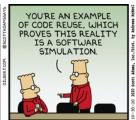
### **Down**

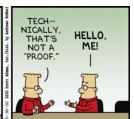
- 1 Theatrical scenery (8)
- 2 Jacqueline du Pré's instrument (5)
- 4 Protracted (4-9)
- **5** Composer of the orchestral piece, Boléro, d. 1937 (5)
- 6 Oval (7)
- 8 Lust for Life, for example (6)
- 13 Large venomous fish—it's angry (anag) (8)
- **15** Train (7)
- **16** Fire (6)
- **18** Entrails (5)
- **20** Frivolous insubstantial (5)
- 21 Capital of a north-west Italian province, known for its sparking wine (4)

### **CARTOON CORNER**

### Dilbert







### Garfield







### Cathy











### In the Bleachers



Night of the Living Pigskin.





### ARIES | Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You might find that good energy is a bit hard to come by today. Just focus on keeping yourself bright and cheerful.



### TAURUS | Apr. 20-May 20

If you want to be happy, you've got to make yourself happy. Carve out some time to treat yourself to something you want.



### GEMINI | May 21-June 20

It's going to take a lot of patience to deal with a friend who seems hellbent on spoiling your fun today.



### CANCER | June 21-July 22

Old things can be new and exciting for you right now. An old flame could come back on the scene and shake up your world.



### LEO I July 23-Aug. 22

You're feeling sensitive to the problems of other people. Your empathy is strong, and your thoughts could be distracted by worry.



### VIRGO I Aug. 23-Sept. 22

It's time for you to take your turn organizing some sort of outing. It doesn't have to be major, and it doesn't have to involve lots of people.



### LIBRA Sept. I 23-Oct. 22

It looks like that worry you had was just a false alarm, and now you could finally get the green light. Rest easy and breathe a sigh of relief.



### SCORPIO Oct. I 23-Nov. 21

It looks like that worry you had was just a false alarm, and now you could finally get the green light. Rest easy and breathe a sigh of relief.



### SAGITTARIUS I Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're in a very open-minded phase in which you could do something that isn't necessarily good for you.



### CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You'll get the greatest amount of satisfaction from encountering unfamiliar topics today. You need novelty in the ideas you process to feel like you're making progress.



### AQUARIUS I Jan. 20-Feb. 18

There have been more misunderstandings going on in your circle lately, and this needs to come to a halt. It's causing too much stress and useless discourse.



### PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Even though you love them all dearly, your friends are just not in sync with you right now. They've got their own agendas and projects and might not have time for you.





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# LeBron celebrates Biden-Harris election win



Four-time NBA champion Lebron James

LeBron James tweeted his approval of Joe Biden's election victory with a simple meme that took a direct aim at sitting President Donald Trump.

The four-time NBA champion also said he'll accept the traditional White House invitation to celebrate the Los Angeles Lakers title, with Trump out of office.

James posted a photo from the 2016 NBA finals of

himself blocking Golden State Warriors forward Andre lauodala. This was one of the signature plays of his career that led to an NBA championship over the heavily favored 73-9 Warriors. Except in the photo Biden's head is superimposed on James head and Trump is on Iguadala's head, as if to punctuate Biden blocking Trump's attempt at a second term as pres-

After several days of waiting, Biden won the election after his home state of Pennsylvania was called in his favor.

James continued to tweet in celebration of Biden's win on Saturday.

He thanked Philadelphia for its part in making Biden's presidency happen.

He also re-tweeted a video of CNN commentator Van Jones' emotional breakdown in which he said, "Character matters. Being simply a good person matters'. Salute and thank you Van Jones."

James has been one of Trump's most outspoken critics from the sports world. In 2017, James called Trump a "bum" when the president withdrew his White House visit invitation to the Warriors.

Trump later questioned James' intelligence in a 2018 interview and was critical of the NBA's restart which saw players kneeling during the national anthem.

# Spectators to be allowed in NZ venues

For the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, fans will be allowed inside venue when West Indies and New Zealand meet at Eden Park in Auckland for a night match on November 27 at 2am Eastern Caribbean time.

West Indies all-rounder, Rovman Powell, is delighted that fans will be on hand at the upcoming Twenty20 International series.

The Jamaican said he is happy with the team's readiness since their arrival.

The Caribbean side is presently in Christchurch where they are undergoing intense training under

head coach Phil Simmons.

The team recently underwent their second COVID-19 tests. All players returned negative results. Further testing will be conducted this week.

West Indies, who toured England in July, is the only team to have embarked on two international tours on the 27.

during the pandemic.

Powell said he is hoping to up the pace of his bowling as he wants to be accepted in the cricket community as a true all-rounder.

West Indies will play back-to-back T20s on November 29 and 30 after their first encounter

# Football training resumes in

Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Keith Rowley, has given the green light for national and international teams preparing for competitions to resume training.

The announcement was made on Saturday at the Ministry of Health's press conference, but the prime minister told teams waiting for domestic leagues to start or resume to wait a while longer, noting that more will be done for sports when the government is able to.

The permission came following a request by national football coach Terry Fenwick to National Security Minister, Stuart Young, for his team to resume training ahead of next year's CONCACAF Gold Cup and FIFA World Cup Qualifying action in

Dr. Rowley said team practice groups should not exceed 10.

Fenwick is expecting players coming in from India and Central America to join the team. This, however, will be left in the hands of the Normalization Committee.

Trinidad and Tobago are still banned by FIFA who are presently looking at their situation since the members voted recently to recognise

the Normalization Committee inserted by FIFA in March.

FIFA suspended TTFA on September 24 for violations of its statutes by going to local courts to settle FI-FA's appointment of a Normalization Committee to replace the TTFA.

The appointment came after an investigation on the status of the TTFA in February concluded that the sport had been on the brink of insolvency under the leadership of the William Wallace led TTFA, which included vice presidents Clynt Taylor, Sam Phillip, and Susan Joseph-Warrick.

# Nick Kyrgious was "suffering from depression"



Australian tennis star Nick Kyrigious

Australian tennis star, Nick Kyrgious, says he was in a 'lonely place' after suffering from depression while on tour.

The 25-year old has not played since February after limiting his travel because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"People were not aware how lonely tennis could be," said Kyrgious who began seeing a psychologist in 2018.

The Australian told Sydney's Sunday Telegraph he felt that he was used by the people around him but that no one wanted to know him as a person.

Kyrgious, who ranked 29th in the world, said a lot of people were putting pressure on him while he was also putting a lot of pressure on himself. He also described an incident in Shanghai where he "didn't want to see the light of day".

"I lost my joy for the game," he

Kyrgious was suspended for 16 weeks and fined \$25,000 US in September because of "aggregated behavior".

He has often been criticised for his behavior and received a number of fines in the past for his conduct. The Aussie said he felt "depressed because of expectations and of things he thought he had to be".

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# Trinidad and Tobago's Stern John heading to Anguilla



The Qatar 2022 World Anguilla will be led by for-Cup qualifying series in mer Trinidad and Tobago

star striker, Stern John.

The Trinidad and Tobagonian prolific goal scorer has already agreed terms with the Anguilla Football Association (AFA). He will lead a national team that has never scored in a World Cup Qualifying goal from open play, after five successive campaigns dating back to 5th March 2000.

John's move to Anguilla was delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions after the AFA's Annual General Meeting agreed to hire him on October 31.

For John, a former 2006 World Cup player and England Premier League striker with Sunderland and Birmingham City, the

Anguilla job is his third appointment as a head coach. Не was head coach of Central FC and Assistant Coach of the National Senior Team under Dennis Lawrence. He also steered Trinidad and Tobago Men's National Under-17 Team to the Concacaf Championship Round of 16 after group stage wins over Bermuda and Jamaica.

John has a difficult task ahead with Anguilla, a Country of 15000 people, presently ranked 209 among FIFA's 2010 active member associations ahead of only San Marino.

They are also rock bottom among Concacaf's 35 nations.



Editor: Everton Barnes, Published by Pointville Communications, Lower North Street, St. John's, Antigua 1(268) 562-4989 Editorials: editor@pointville.ag, Advertising: sales@pointville.ag, Reporting: news@pointville.ag