



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

# POINTEXPRESS

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## COUNTING THE COST

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# COUNTING THE COST

The task of carrying out a complete assessment of the total damage to homes, agriculture and infrastructure on Antigua is now well underway.

This comes as the members of Cabinet are going into an emergency session today, to begin the job of doing their own assessment on a constituency by constituency basis.

On Wednesday, the Cabinet invited Director of the National Office for Disaster Services (NODS), Philmore Mullin, to provide a preliminary report on the extent of the damage caused by the "fifty-year rainfall event," which the entire island experienced during the previous two-day period.

Mullin reported that no drainage system could manage that volume of water in so short a time, with its continuous flow. He promised that he would have a compilation of the reports submitted by each of his NODS inspectors; he would thus be able to quantify in dollar-terms the extent of the damage caused by the natural disaster and the replacement cost.

This is the first step to be taken in seeking approximately US\$2.5 million from the World Bank's CRIF (Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility) of which Antigua and Barbuda is a paying member.

i. A special focus on

the families with disabled or differently-abled persons was ordered, ensuring that the needs of this special group are addressed. It is estimated from the NODS database that approximately 30 families fit into this category throughout the nation. The Cabinet urged the NODS director to ensure that this special group is attended to with alacrity.

ii. The NODS director informed that his on-hand supplies include mattresses, blankets and disinfectant that can be applied to surfaces where dirty water may have soiled the inside of homes.

iii. The Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, and the Minister of Works, Lennox Weston, estimated that a minimum of EC\$20 million will be required to repair the roads, bridges and other infrastructure that were severely impacted by the torrents of rainfall. Roadways were undermined by the moving water; and, recently-paved roads lost portions of their surfaces.

The Representative of St. Mary's North, Sir Molwyn Joseph, reported on the Big Creek Bridge that has lost some structural support and could collapse if heavy trucks traverse it. The old Little Creek Bridge appeared to have succumbed to the unusual quantity of water rushing towards it.

The Representative from St. Mary's South, Samantha Marshall, reported on the damage done to the many stretches of roadways between Bolans and Old Road that have been severely impacted by rushing torrents of water. Boulders, stones, soil and other debris have made several areas impassable; backhoes and other equipment were busy working to clear the roadways. Between Crabbe Hill and Urlings, the roadway has been badly eroded by cascading torrents of water, the representative reported.

The Representatives of St John's City East, Melford Nicholas and St John's Rural North, Charles Max Fernandez reported on the damage done to homes within their constituencies as a result of the fast-moving water flowing in the drains that attach three contiguous geographic areas.

They both agreed that the water coming from as far away as Rural East/Johnston's Village accumulated at too rapid a rate for regular discharge into the drain running from Woods to Yorks and into McKinnon's swamp. Constituents' homes were inundated on Monday and Tuesday when more than 15 inches of rain fell in their districts. The representatives are preparing

to help and will return to their constituencies for follow-up engagements.

Meanwhile, Mullin has reported that eight persons remain in shelter in the Bolans area up to last night. These individuals' homes were inundated with water and they spent Thursday cleaning debris and mud from their homes. They are to return today for final clean up.

He said a comprehensive assessment is being done but that the work has been hampered because in many cases agricultural officers have to walk to some of the areas because the damage to the roads makes traveling by motor vehicles impossible. As it relates to government properties including buildings, roads and bridges these are being done by the Ministry of Works.

"We will be crunching the figures over the weekend and by early next week we should have a much clearer picture about the cost of the damage," he stated.

According to Mullin several homes will have to replace beds and sofas because of water damage. He noted however that flood damage is not always apparent because many properties use chip wood to construct cupboards which sometimes take weeks to manifest themselves.

# PM Browne pens letter to Barbadian counterpart

Prime Minister Gaston Browne, has penned a letter to Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley drawing to her attention the wrongful classification of Antigua and Barbuda by Barbados as a 'medium risk' jurisdiction for COVID-19.

Prime Minister Browne recalls the CARPHA standard to which all CARICOM Heads of Government agreed of 20 active

cases per population of 100,000 as presenting a high risk. In Antigua and Barbuda's case, it has only 4 active cases, meriting a classification no higher than "low risk".

Prime Minister Browne reminds that Barbados has recently been classified by the European Union as a 'high risk' jurisdiction for money laundering to which Barbados protested. Antigua

and Barbuda had supported Barbados against the EU arbitrary classification of Barbados. He calls on Prime Minister Mottley in the interest of fairness right and the facts, to intervene so that the correct classification of Antigua and Barbuda as 'low risk' is implemented by the Barbados authorities.

The full text of the letter is published below.



**GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**  
**Office of the Prime Minister**

Queen Elizabeth Highway  
 St John's  
 Antigua and Barbuda  
 Tel. (268) 460-5100  
 pmsecretariat@ab.gov.ag

November 12, 2020

Honourable Mia Mottley M.P.  
 Prime Minister  
 Office of the Prime Minister  
 Bridgetown  
 BARBADOS

Dear Prime Minister

I present my compliments and bring to your attention a matter which may have escaped your personal awareness amid the heavy and pressing work schedule that, as a fellow Head of Government, I fully appreciate you face.

The matter concerns the current unwarranted classification of Antigua and Barbuda as a 'medium risk' jurisdiction for COVID-19 by the authorities in Barbados. This current classification is an amendment from a previous even more underserved designation of 'high risk'. The amendment took place after alarm was raised by Antigua and Barbuda's Foreign Minister.

Our two countries have suffered when other countries and regions have unilaterally applied classifications to them. Most recently, the arbitrary classification of Barbados by the European Union as a "high-risk" country regarding anti-money laundering and countering terrorist financing, was rightly protested by you and your government. My government and I, personally, raised our voices in support of Barbados to decry this arbitrary action.

You will understand, therefore, my Government's deep concern about Barbados' classification of Antigua and Barbuda as 'high risk' or 'medium risk', when the facts tell a quite different story. You will further appreciate our disquiet when Barbados departs from the position taken by CARICOM Heads of Government to apply the CARPHA standard of 20 active cases for a population of 100,000. In Antigua and Barbuda's case, we have only 4 infected persons, well below the threshold set by CARPHA.

In today's interconnected world, this unilateral classification of Antigua and Barbuda by Barbados receives international attention. It has led to anxiety in our struggling tourism industry and has adversely affected the employment and wellbeing of our people.

In the circumstances, I am confident that, based on your commitment to fairness and right, and to the facts, you will intervene personally to ensure that the regional standard, established by CARPHA, and agreed by Heads of Government, is applied by the Barbados authorities to Antigua and Barbuda, placing the country in the 'low risk' category it merits.

I look forward to an early and favourable response from you.

Kind regards

**Gaston Browne M.P.**  
 Prime Minister

# SJPC responds to COVID-related need



*Dr. Apostle Stephen Andrews, Senior Pastor of the SJPC House of Restoration Ministries* /PHOTO SJPC HOUSE OF RESTORATION MINISTRIES

The pastor and members of St John's Pentecostal Church say they are moved by the many challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented for citizens and residents in Antigua and Barbuda.

In a statement, the SJPC noted that the pandemic has impacted the lives and

livelihoods of thousands. "In addition to coping with the unemployment and financial distress, our people have to navigate what many term "the new normal" in order to reduce the risk of contracting the coronavirus. This has inevitably taken an emotional and psychological toll on many

persons in our communities," the statement added.

The church said through its weekly services, which are also broadcast via radio and social media, the SJPC continues to meet the spiritual needs of its congregants. Dr. Apostle Stephen Andrews, Senior Pastor of the SJPC House of Restoration Ministries, makes it clear that his priority is always to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and to provide nourishment for the souls of those who look to SJPC for godly teaching and guidance.

At the same time, the SJPC's leadership recognises the church's responsibility to respond to the physical needs of its members and those of the wider community and has done so in many ways over the years, including through a food distribution initiative. However, since the onset of the pandemic, the needs of members and persons in the community have increased tremen-

dously, thereby prompting the church to expand the program and establish the SJPC Food Bank.

The SJPC Food Bank was launched in August 2020, where 50 food packages were distributed to needy members of the church and the surrounding communities. The number of food packages increased to 100 in September and 150 households benefitted in October. This initiative will continue into the foreseeable future and is open to anyone who is in need.

The food bank is made possible through the generous donations of Apostle Stephen Andrews and family; members of SJPC – both local and those living in North America and individual and corporate supporters of the program. This outpouring of support has been and will continue to be a great blessing to many families who have expressed their appreciation for the food packages.

## Concerns over further infestation by the giant African snail

There are concerns that the huge rainfall experienced this week could lead to an increase in the infestation of the Giant African Snail in Antigua.

Director of NODS, Philmore Mullin said his department is monitoring the movement of debris from one area to another by the flood waters or even by individuals cleaning up after the rains.

"As we continue to monitor the

rain, of concern to the folks in agriculture is the movement of debris which could bring the snails into new areas," he explained.

The snails are an invasive species that are very destructive to agriculture. There have been several campaigns to reduce the infestation in Antigua.

Meanwhile, the Antigua and Barbuda Humane Society is advising

homeowners to exercise special care when placing bait to fight the snails.

In a notice to the public, the society warns that the bait currently being used to control the snails is poisonous to animals including dogs and cats, even in small amounts.

"Homeowners should consider using salt or sea water instead of snail bait to keep their pets safe," the society notice said.



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Mrs. Chaneil Imhoff /PROVIDED PHOTO

# “CLEARING THE AIR”

Leader and his team the very best.

Secondly, I was asked, “What would you have done had you won the Primary?” Before I answer, it was unlikely that I would have won that Primary and the reasons would have nothing to do with my experience, capability, or personality. However, had that been the outcome, I would have emphasized moving the organization away from the archaic and damaging practices that have developed in the last few years. Re-branding (which I started to do with the designing of the new Party Logo and Brand Guidelines) would be at the forefront of the movement to present the UPP as a viable option to the People of Antigua and Barbuda. The work would start within by strengthening the Party Branches, reaching out to disenchanted members, and bring back the UPP that won so overwhelmingly in 2004.

Sadly, that was not to be.

In an interview on Observer AM (Friday, October 23, 2020), Deputy Political Leader and Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Jamale Pringle would have stated that I did not make any issues known during the Primary process and that whatever

**waive the six-month membership requirement to be eligible to vote in a Primary.**

I had an issue with this, like many others who may be afraid to say so because although the St. Peter Branch in recent times has had a low turnout for meetings, the list of dormant members would have been enough to conduct a fair Primary. I believed that opening up the process would have allowed for persons who may not have any real interest show up to vote and never return which is an issue that has long plagued the Party.

2. The audio of Asot Michael and Mr. Harriette’s brother discussing alleged funds received by Mr. Harriette’s Campaign.

On the morning of September 3, 2020, the same day of the Primary, I received three audio clips featuring the MP for St. Peter, Asot Michael. In one of the clips, Mr. Michael stated to Mr. Harriette’s brother that he gave Mr. Harriette’s team \$3000 and encouraged him to run and that he gave him another \$5000 subsequently. Before the audio was leaked, Mr. Michael would have said something similar on the Browne and Browne Show on Pointe FM. On the show, he stated that “he registered a lot of UPP people to vote for him”. On this program, he also spoke about legal matters concerning Miss Donna Chaia that he later verified on his Social Media Pages. These allegations would have been denied by Mr. Harriette and then the Party without any further investigation into the matter. The way this matter was handled was strange to me as I have seen members treated as outcasts based on hearsay and rumors of them conspiring with the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party.

Additionally, Mr. Michael had received confidential information relating to the membership of the Branch and their contact information and been contacting Branch Members, apparently dissuading them from

**“The main piece of misinformation presented is that my resignation was a temper tantrum because of my loss in the St. Peter Primary. That is the furthest thing from the truth.”**

**-Chaneil Imhoff**

er issues were raised were rectified. That is not an accurate statement. I would have spoken about the following with either the interview panel, Political Leader, and Deputy Political Leader:

**1. The Leadership’s decision to**

Over the last few weeks, there have been many interviews, social media posts, and conversations surrounding my resignation from the United Progressive Party. Going forward, I want there to be no misconceptions as to why I decided to leave the organization that I once held very dear to my heart.

The main piece of misinformation presented is that my resignation was a temper tantrum because of my loss in the St. Peter Primary. That is the furthest thing from the truth. I have not lived an easy life and losing is something that I am familiar with. I believe strongly in learning from all experiences and using those experiences to be better.

Leading up to the Primary date, I would have been made aware of several machinations taking place. However, I decided that I was going to give everyone the benefit of the doubt as I believe in being fair and objective in all situations. I am also not an entitled person. I did not feel as if the length of time that I would have been an active member of the Party should have exempted me from following the rules laid out in the Party’s Constitution. However, I did find it slightly strange that the new candidate had no prior political interest or experience or affiliation with the UPP. I did not know Mr. Harriette before the Primary when he joined the Party in August. I have no opinions about his character or his capabilities. As I said in my letter of resignation, I wished the Political

*cont’d on pg 7*

## cont'd from pg 6

casting their vote for Mr. Harriette. Mr. Michael also indicated that Desmond Charles gave him the list of members but Mr. Harriette's brother rebutted stating that Mr. Michael had identified Eulyn Sheppard as the person who gave him the information. It was said that this is proof that there is no truth to him providing him with funding. I find this laughable as many persons have already figured out the reverse psychology and deflection that was employed by Mr. Michael. Asot Michael is many things, however, one thing he is not is a fool. From my interactions with him over the years, I have observed how intelligent and calculating he is, hence why he has managed to win by such huge margins.

These issues, specifically of the audio clips, were brought to the attention of the Political Leader. I spoke to him because we have always had a good relationship. Additionally, I did not feel comfortable speaking with others as a dismissive and aggressive tone and behavior that many had taken in the weeks leading up to the Primary. Group dynamics, in fields such as politics, can be tenuous. There must be some level of maturity by everyone involved which was nonexistent there. I keep underscoring the importance of growth and existing in spaces where you are allowed and encouraged to grow. I do not believe in stagnating your growth by continuing to stay in stifling environments. I, like many others before me, felt as if there was no way of getting redress for issues

and that going against the majority meant being excommunicated within the organization. This is not an indictment on the UPP only but on the overall political system that we have in Antigua and Barbuda. We have political parties that are campaigning to win and not to govern. I have a fundamental problem with that. We cannot and should not keep doing things the same way and expect different results.

The answers and justifications given by the Political Leader did not satisfy me and I have made this clear to him. Had I received the audio clips before the date of the Primary, I would not have participated just on principle alone.

For us to put everyday Antiguan and Barbudans first, we must take on the powerful and corrupting influence of big money. A responsible government must pass legislation that will assure that Antiguan and Barbudans can be able to create and maintain generational wealth. Our communities like Parham have been neglected for too long and are the key to ensuring economic growth and diversification. Policies must be put in place to ensure that our local businesses, entrepreneurs, fishermen, and tradesmen are always protected against greed, corruption, and mismanagement.

The vision, plan, and purpose that I have is no longer in alignment with that of the United Progressive Party and that is why I resigned on Thursday, 1st October 2020 without any pomp and ceremony. I wished for

my transition out of the organization to be smooth and not marred with scandal.

My aim for now and the future is to build a better St. Peter and a better Antigua and Barbuda, and we can only do so by changing the way we do things and by changing what we accept from our leaders. I believe in Transformational Leadership and the power that lies within the voice of the youth. No political party should be placed over the good governance and growth of Antigua and Barbuda. When we do that, we trap ourselves in an endless loop of failure and stagnation that will haunt us for generations to come.

I am writing this not to stir the pot but to clarify my position, solidify my platform, and lead the charge on changing the conversation when it comes to politics in Antigua and Barbuda. I know that there will be some backlash coming from persons who may not understand or agree with my position, but is a risk that I am willing to take.

I harbor no ill-feelings to Political Leader Lovell and his team, but it is time for a change and time for the young people of Antigua and Barbuda to have a REAL voice.

To join me in the fight for Antigua and Barbuda, you can reach me on all my social media platforms @chaneilcmhoff or send an email to office@chaneilcmhoff.com.

*Yours in service,  
Mrs. Chaneil C. Imhoff*



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*Portrait of Lawrence M.*



**By Tony Deyal**

As a long-time fan of the Mumbai Indians since 2009 when Kieron Pollard became a member of the team, I believed that they were going to win this year's Indian Premier League (IPL) tournament. However, given the fact, proven over the four centuries since cricket became England's national game, and the many centuries by people like Brian Lara, Viv Richards, Lawrence Rowe and Everton Weekes, we know that cricket is a game of glorious uncertainties. In fact, no event in that sport is concluded or terminated until the adipose, portly, pudgy and morbidly obese individual of the muliebrous gender, cantillates. In other words, it's not over until the fat lady sings and, given the handful of people allowed in the stadium to watch the game, there was no such personage present and the television coverage of the game was not a two-way street that would have provided a platform for females with the ability and avoirdupois to perform a post-match aria to terminate the event.

For about 67 years of my life, cricket has been one of the major contributors to my comfort zone or state of mind in which I am at

# COMFORT ZONES AND FUNNY BONES

ease, in control of my environment and experiencing very low levels of anxiety and stress. It is why, when I heard that New Zealand fast-bowler Trent Boult had suffered a groin strain, I was more strained than his groin. My fears about the impact of the injury on his ability to play and the capacity of his team, the Mumbai Indians, to win this year's IPL, were unrestrained until Boult got a wicket with his first ball of the game. Given the colours in which both teams, the Indians and the Delhi Capital, played it was a Boult from the blue with a bolt to the blue. My blue mood lifted and my comfort zone took over and even did a dance when Mumbai won and Kieron Pollard, who had done a fantastic job as captain when Rohit Sharma was injured, was interviewed. I was on Cloud Nine and the container in which I imbibe the divine Colombian liquid refreshment that provides early impetus to, and is a major part of my dawn delights and rituals, overflowed in profuse, plentiful, copious and superabundant bliss. Call me Juan Valdez.

By now, even if you're reading one of my articles for the first time, you would have apprehended if not truly recognised that while cricket might be part of my comfort zone, its perimeters, boundaries and borders are the English Language, the only one I know and in which I am allowed to frolic, frisk, gambol, cavort, caper and romp. I started this article with what is known as a "Puzzling Proverb", one of the several English games I play when I am deep in my comfort zone and want to live, lime and even hide myself in it. Did you know that a mass of concentrated earthy material perennially rotating on its axis will not

accumulate an accretion of bryophytic vegetation? You might recognise it as, "A rolling stone gathers no moss." Or a modern version, "Why doesn't Mick Jagger have any books by Colin Dexter in his library?" A Rolling Stone gathers no Morse. Here is an oldie but goodie. A superabundance of talent skilled in the preparation of gastronomic concoctions will impair the quality of a certain potable solution made by immersing a gallinaceous bird in ebullient Adam's ale. Too many cooks spoil the broth. If you attend a crowded Indian wedding in Trinidad or Guyana, the curries that are their main courses in these events, any flour food (bread, roti, bagels and even 'bullas'), rice and peas, or peas and rice, all appease my desire to be safely locked away in my comfort zone.

I also delight in "perverted" proverbs like "A hair on the head is worth two on the brush", "Where there's a frill, there's a fray" and "A friend in need is an awful nuisance." In 1993, the year this weekly column stared in the Barbados Nation, the Mensa Journal (Mensa is the oldest high IQ society in the world) ran a competition to complete the proverb, "If at first you don't succeed..." The most amusing suggestions submitted were, "Delegate", "Fudge", "Give up" and "Cheat", the last probably by someone who repeatedly tried and tried again (and failed).

I also mess around with "Feghoots", a type of punning game or a long "shaggy dog" story to help me keep my cool. Here's an example. The King caught the Count stealing from the Treasury. The Count couldn't tell where he had hidden the treasure. The King ordered him to be beheaded. The

*cont'd on pg 9*

### cont'd from pg 8

Count at the last moment started to tell, but the Executioner couldn't stop his axe. That will teach the King "not to hatchet his Counts before they chicken." There is also the better known, "Two vultures board an airplane, each carrying two dead racoons. The stewardess looks at them and say, "I'm sorry, gentlemen, only one carrion allowed per passenger." They're almost as bad as Donald Trump and his continuing to carrion about non-existent election fraud. When he's thrown out of office, he will have to eat crow and not carrion as he is doing now.

You might have some fun, like me, creating "Professional Drinkers" like builders who get plastered, soldiers all tanked up, well-oiled mechanics, bakers who get pie-eyed and workers in the Jamaican 'Grace' company who get canned. You can also Name Play with humorous names for authors. The first lot of these came out in 1933 in "Fousham's Fun Book" which included (to return to

cricket and my comfort zone) "A Guide to Ornithology" by Dicky Bird. Recent examples include "Robots" by Anne Droid, "Car Repairs" by Axel Grease, "I Hate the Sun" by Gladys Night, "Girl On A Budget" by Penny Pincher, "Yellow River" by I.P. Daley, "Practical Proctology" by Bea Hind and Ben Dover, and "Open Pyjamas" by I.C. Hares. There are one-liners with a different type of name game, "She's my woman" declared Herman; "Is that a window?" asked Isadore; "On your knees" ordered Neil; "How do you like your eggs?" Benedict queried, and "We old farmers always order a big Mac," Donald stressed. Then there are "Tom Swifties", named after Tom Swift, the hero of 33 adventure novels from 1954 - 1971, like "Turn on the light," Tom said, brightly; and "Take the plane up to 30,000 feet," Tom added loftily.

Having done a cricket connection, I'm going back to my comfort food group and look at the favou-

rite foods of people in different occupations. Electricians go for currants. Philosophers like sage. Actors definitely prefer hams. Models are mad for cheesecake and Politicians have an appetite for fudge. And to end, I am all for "Twisted Truths" as my advice to those of you who want to make the English Language your comfort zone. If things appear to be getting better, then you have probably overlooked something. If at first you don't succeed, find someone who knows what he is doing. The only person who got all his work done by Friday was Robinson Crusoe, and if you cast your bread upon the waters, it will return soggy.

\*Tony Deyal was last seen in his library reading and playing "Word Games" and trying to create an "antonym palindrome" which has an opposite meaning when read in reverse order. Good men do women bad.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC ADVICE ON VISIT TO WATERFALL

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC ARE BEING ASKED TO AVOID VISITING THE WATERFALL LOCATED AT CHRISTIAN VALLEY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THIS IS TO ALLOW THE TWO STREAMS IN CHRISTIAN VALLEY TO SUBSIDE A BIT WHICH WOULD MAKE CROSSING THE STREAM EASIER AND LESS DANGEROUS FOR PERSONS WHO WISH TO VISIT THE WATERFALL.

ALTHOUGH RAINFALL MAY HAVE LESSENED IN A NUMBER OF AREAS AROUND THE ISLAND, HEAVY RAINS ARE STILL FALLING IN THE NEARBY MOUNTAINOUS AREAS, WHICH RESULT IN THE RISE IN THE LEVEL OF THE STREAMS AND CAUSING A LOT OF DEBRIS TO ENTER THE STREAMS.

SUCH OCCURRENCES CAN EASILY ESCALATE TO THE CREATION OF LIFE THREATENING CONDITIONS IN THE ENVIRONS AND POSE A RISK TO PERSONS SEEKING TO CROSS THE STREAMS TO GET TO THE WATERFALL.

ALL CONCERNED ARE ASKED TO TAKE NOTE AND PLEASE ACT ACCORDINGLY.



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### INVITATION TO TENDER CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORT HELIPORT

#### Details:

Property located at the Eastern end of Runway 10 has been designated for a helicopter landing area.

This tender is being offered for the construction of a helicopter landing pad as well as a 4 office building. The area will require preparation and landing area constructed in accordance with ICAO and ECCAA regulations as well as logistically designed for maximum safety and benefit.

#### Requirements:

\* Be able to apply for and receive an ABAA pass, as well as have clean Police Records.  
 \* Aviation knowledge required.

\* Helicopter Flight Logistics knowledge a must.

\* References in construction will be required.

Deadline: All bids must be submitted to info@bizjet-to-yacht.com by 20 Nov. 2020.

All enquires with regard to tender should be addressed to the above

# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

NOVEMBER 13, 2020

PAGE **11**  
**NELSON'S  
DOCKYARD  
REOPENS**

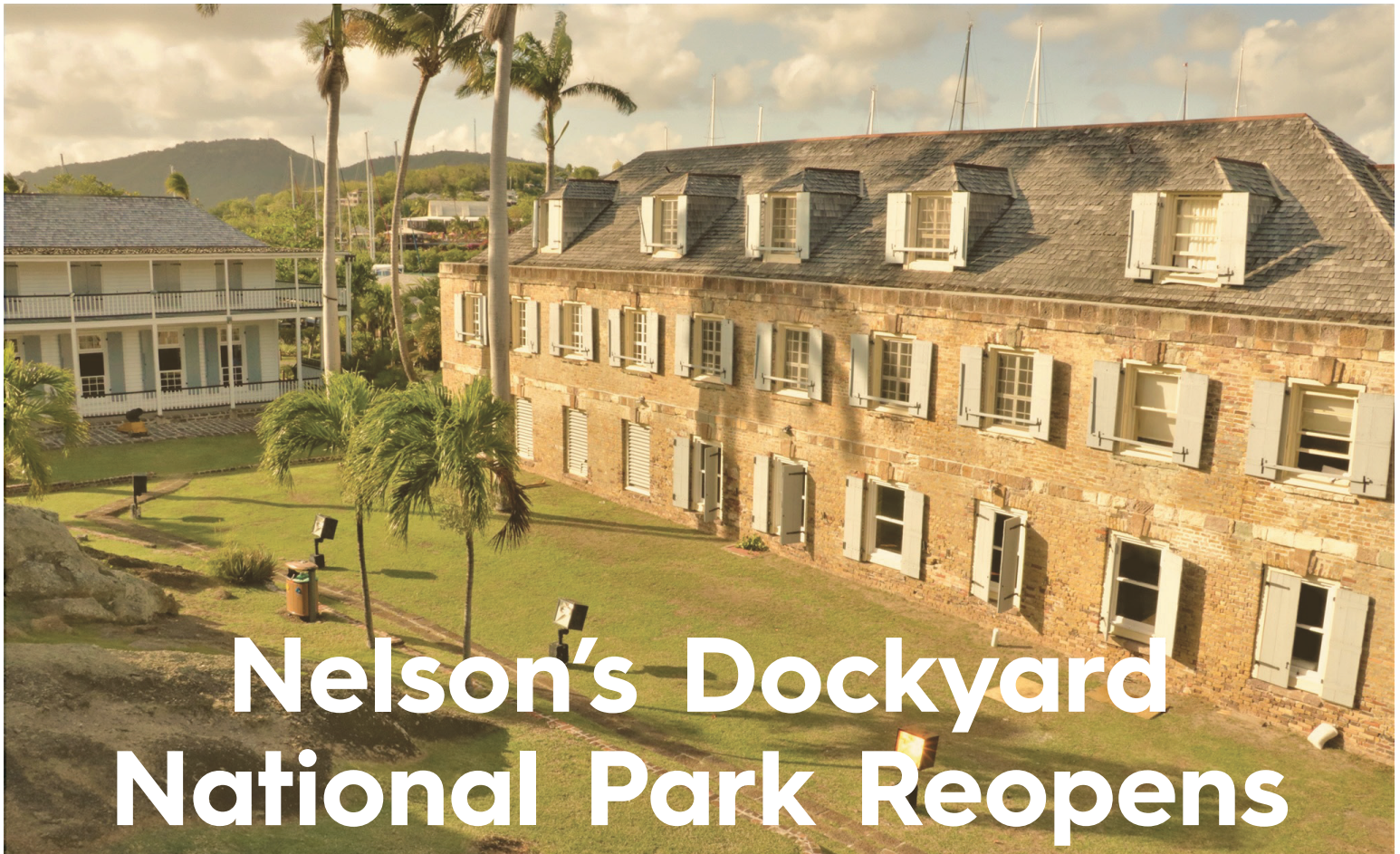
PAGE **12**  
**PHOTOS BY  
RANDY CANDY**

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**WHAT'S ON?**



*Randy Candy*  
P H O T O G R A P H Y

*Water cascades over the steps at Wallings Nature Reserve, a popular community-managed tourist attraction in the village of John Hughes during recent torrential rainfall which triggered massive flooding in Antigua* /PHOTO CREDIT: RANDY CANDY PHOTOGRAPHY



# Nelson's Dockyard National Park Reopens

The Nelson's Dockyard National Park will begin a phased reopening this weekend in which it will welcome the return of visitors who will be able to enjoy the services, historic attractions, nature and open spaces of the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Pointe Entertainment was advised that the National Parks Authority (NPA) used the lockdown period to examine some products and en-

gage in product research and development to ensure the sustainability of the operation though the 'uncharted waters' of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The NPA advised that, "A range of exciting new tours have been added and the extended period of the shutdown has created opportunity for an exhaustive undertaking in improving every aspect of a rebranded visitor experience."

Among the areas of re-

view was the fee structure.

According to the NPA, "The combination of the upgrade of the product and the ongoing work in the preservation of skillfully crafted historic treasures has allowed the National Park to conduct a thorough review of its fee structure."

Fees have now been brought in line with those of similar parks in the Caribbean. The fees will now vary depending on the nature of the visit. The basic rate will be US\$15.00 for visitors and EC\$10.00 for residents.

In the season ahead, the focus of the NPA is on providing activities that will illustrate its diverse product offering. This includes the relaunch of the 'Rum and Ruins' tour and the introduction of art and entertainment activities including a 'Paint and Sip'

event in partnership with Wadartli. The Copper and Lumber Historic Inn will reintroduce a daily lunch menu and the immensely popular Seafood Friday once the restaurant is cleared by health officials.

With the park's reopening, its management is also sensitive to the threat of an outbreak of COVID-19 and is making every effort to ensure that there is no further spread. Measures have been introduced to ensure that visitors and staff members can remain safe. Sanitisation stations will be placed in strategic areas, temperature checks will be conducted and wearing face masks is mandatory for all persons entering the National Park. Large group interactions will be limited, lunch and dining events will be managed through a takeout and reservations system.



# Photos by Randy Candy

Great photography stands in the league of Art.



Randy 'Randy Candy' Thomas

Capturing It."

Antigua and Barbuda born and raised, he hails from Parham Town. He attended the Parham Primary School in his early age and graduated from Princess Margaret School, before moving on to Antigua State College.

Pointe Entertainment caught up with Randy to reflect with him on his love for photography and the evolution from hobby to business.

Randy shared that his love affair for photography developed as he watched family photos on display throughout his early years. Those photos captured family moments which lasted beyond the moment. The passion was further fueled during the period he hiked with the 5AM Hikers, where he began capturing nature's scenes.

In 2012, after two years as a hobby, he decided to use his passion and skills to create Randy Candy Photography. The name given to him by friends who found his images sweet and colourful.

Randy believes that life's moments should always be treasured and pictures say a thousand words. He also

believes that when you love something (photography), you will put every effort into making it worthwhile, enjoyable and special for everyone you come in contact with.

Asked to identify his biggest challenge, Randy indicated the cost of photography equipment restricts his access to some preferred pieces to complete his setup. The high cost of equipment impacts his price point, which sets him outside the price range of the majority who feel pained to accept what he charges. He has managed to remain viable despite the challenge.

He shared with Pointe Entertainment his most outstanding memory of his career to date. He stated: "I was called by New York Times International to shoot a property in Antigua. They were exceptionally satisfied with the photos which were used on their website." This speaks to the high quality of my work.

Randy is proud to have worked with many corporate companies locally and internationally, but he will never forget his family, friends, neighbours and the people of Antigua and Barbuda who have been on this journey with him.

Pointe Entertainment asked Randy for feedback on new entrance to the Photography Industry. He replied: "the market is saturated, but there is still space for everyone. Those interested need to properly develop their skill and then go out and do the work and properly market one's self. Photography is the only thing I do and I do continuous marketing."

You can contact him at 1-268-773-3303 and 1-268-783-9373 or email him at [rancanphotog@gmail.com](mailto:rancanphotog@gmail.com). Also view his images on Instagram @ [randycandyphotography](https://www.instagram.com/randycandyphotography) and Facebook: Randy Candy Photography

Photos by Randy Candy provides his clientele and the wider community with moment-in-time memories of events, people and places.

Randolph Thomas aka Randy or Randy Candy is the proud owner of Randy Candy Photography. His passion for photography can be explained in his tagline, "Living Life and



# WHAT'S ON



*East Side Hikers*

Covid-19 regulations have significantly impacted the scale of the entertainment scene on island.

Large numbers have turned to physical activity as a major part of their social and relaxation options. Exploring the scores of trails across the island is one of the major options that has been attracting individuals of all ages.

Many groups have predated

Covid-19 and have been engaged in a wide range of activities. The East Side Hikers is one such entity. Having started in March 2019 as a hiking group that explored scenic areas across Antigua early Sunday mornings, the group has evolved into a broader, community based organization that encourages members to live a healthy lifestyle

and engage in community based initiatives to uplift those in need, while embracing a positive attitude.

The group has grown into a family unit, beginning each event with a prayer. Many of the hiking Sundays are dual purposed. The participants are exposed to various topics of importance to include maintaining a healthy lifestyle, cervical cancer awareness, prostate and breast cancer awareness, domestic violence, and litter prevention.

In addition to hiking, East Side Hikers have engaged in fishing competitions, kite flying, crab hunting, fundraisers to assist a house fire victim, dinner night out, beach clean-up, bonfire/story-telling night and karaoke competition.

East Side Hikers is one of many groups across the island that provides practical and fun entertainment options, options the new normal season the Covid-19 pandemic allows.



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## MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

# BRAND & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Located on Antigua with a satellite operation in Dominica, The West Indies Oil Company Ltd (WIOC), is one of the premier petroleum service providers in the Caribbean. Founded in 1965 as an oil refinery, combined with the terminalling and marketing of petroleum products, the company has become an influential player in the regional petroleum industry. In the last five years, the company has experienced transformative growth, investing heavily in innovation, technology and its people to continue its long-term strategy of growth and expansion of products and services.

WIOC has an exciting opportunity for the right professional to lead the development of the company's brand strategy and manage its corporate communications by delivering marketing innovation aligned to the Company's business strategy. The ideal candidate must be able to utilise innovative approaches to promote opportunities and resources to build the business as an energy solutions provider. The candidate must be passionate about fulfilling and exceeding customers' needs and service excellence in driving petroleum products sales and the creation of alternative energy products.

### Role Profile Summary

Responsibilities include the strategic assessment of market opportunities, trend tracking, concept validation, product and service delivery, working closely with internal teams to maintain and extend WIOC's market share. Lead and manage the Company's communication, public relations and marketing activities to its stakeholders in line with the company's Mission, Values and overall Strategy, whilst providing strategic assessments and recommendations of new product/service opportunities.

### Key Responsibilities:

#### Brand Strategy

- Develop and lead ideation workshops and activities whilst collaborating with cross-functional teams on marketing initiatives to enhance the company's financial performance.
- Develop and implement a robust customer care program to improve the company's offering to customers.
- Assist with the commercial assessment of business development opportunities to include acquisition, licensing and partnership.

#### Communications Lead:

- Provide guidance and collaborate with the Executive and Management Teams in serving the market.
- Provide appropriate communication to internal and external partners regarding launch/market rollout of new initiatives across all media.
- Manage the company's social media platform and ensure Company's image and reputation are protected.

### Experience:

Minimum of 5 years' experience in brand management preferably at an international company with a demonstrated track record of successful alignment of marketing strategy to overall company strategy, product campaigns, concept development and execution, validation and launches.

### Education:

Masters in Marketing or Brand and Communications Management

### Required Skills:

- Customer focused
- Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to influence, manage relationships across functions and job levels to achieve desired goals.
- Strong communication skills: strong command of grammar (oral and written), assertive, clear, able to convey technical content into easy-to-understand concepts and ideas.
- Computer Skills: Working knowledge of Microsoft Suite and some experience with ERP systems such as SAGE.

### Required Competencies:

- Strategic and creative thinking: Understand the big picture with ability to assess sophisticated situations and make decisions while clarifying the path to follow. Ability to deal with ambiguity.
- Research and Analytical skills: Enabling transformation of data into insights and recommendations.
- Organisation and strong decision making: Action oriented, priority setting. Timely decision-making and agile thinking.
- Risk Assessment: Courage and appetite for meaningful risk. Ability to evaluate risk/reward opportunities and drive smart risk taking.

### Application Process

- ☐ Please apply by emailing your Curriculum Vitae/Resume with a brief cover letter in confidence to [hrmanager@westindiesoil.com](mailto:hrmanager@westindiesoil.com)
- ☐ Closing date for receipt of applications is November 27, 2020.
- ☐ Priority will be given to suitably qualified Antigua and Barbuda citizens.
- ☐ Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.

# SLU Government working overtime to improve respiratory hospital



St. Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet

(St. Lucia News Online) – The government is “working overtime” to improve the structural and operational plans for the Respiratory Hospital.

That’s according to Prime Minister Allen Chastanet as the government comes under increasing public scrutiny regarding the deteriorating conditions of the former Victoria Hospital.

Video footage highlighting the conditions at the Respiratory Hospital was posted on social media recently. The Ministry of Health has since responded saying the footage was “of a temporary lodging area for a patient”.

The prime minister, meantime, addressed the issue briefly on his official

Facebook page on Thursday morning. His post was accompanied by photos showing ongoing works.

“We are working overtime to improve the structural and operational plans for the Respiratory Hospital,” he said.

The prime minister explained that work is currently ongoing to upgrade and increase the hospital’s capacity from 82 beds to 126 beds. He said the upgrade also includes new medical equipment such as ventilators and oxygen lines.

“Work is also ongoing to remedy the issues with the structure that have been identified,” he noted.

The project is being financed by the World Bank.

## ANTIGUA & BARBUDA'S REFLECTIONS

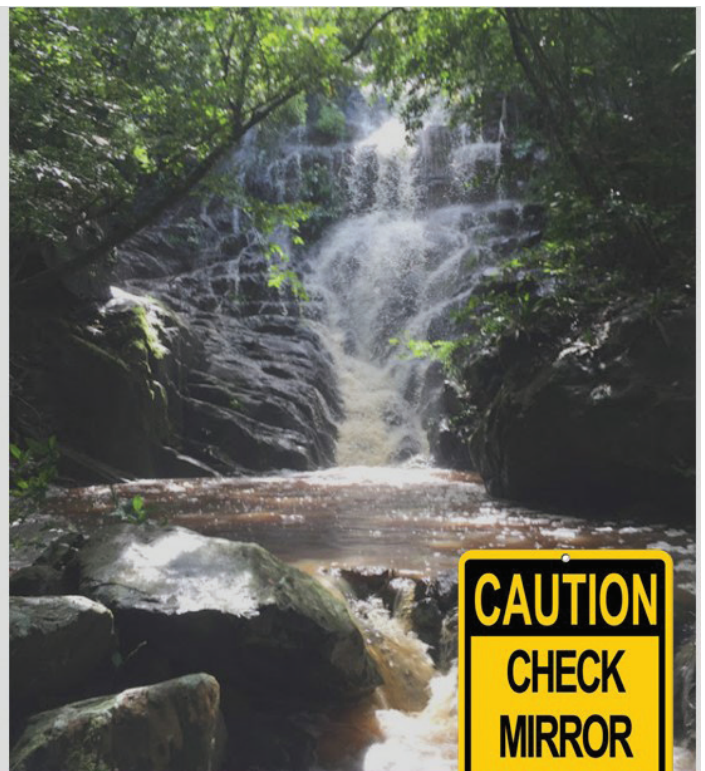
A glance through our Nation's Rear View Mirror

### Christian Valley Waterfall

*A seasonal attraction located in the Christian Valley area of St. Mary's.*

*The waterfall is beyond imagination and this waterfall, surrounded by pristine nature, will exceed expectations.*

*Formed from heavy rain fall in the nearby mountainous areas, which result in the rise of the levels of two streams in Christian valley.*



**CAUTION**  
**CHECK**  
**MIRROR**  
**FOR CARS**



A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

# COVID-19 Case Hits 1st Caribbean Cruise Since Pandemic began



*SeaDream, one of the first cruise ships to sail the Caribbean since the COVID-19 pandemic began, with 53 passengers and 66 crew ended its trip early due to one passenger who fell ill on Wednesday.*

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — One of the first cruise ships to ply through Caribbean waters since the pandemic began ended its trip early after one passenger fell ill and is believed to have COVID-19, officials said Thursday.

The SeaDream is carrying 53 passengers and 66 crew, with the majority of passengers hailing from the US, according to Sue Bryant, who is aboard the ship and is a cruise editor for The Times and The Sunday Times in

Britain.

She told The Associated Press that one passenger became sick on Wednesday and forced the ship to turn back to Barbados, where it had departed from on Saturday.

However, the ship had yet to dock in Barbados as local authorities tested those on board.

The incident marked the first time SeaDream had resumed its West Indies voyages since the pandemic, with the ship originally

scheduled to return to Barbados on Saturday, according to an on-line itinerary.

The ship had made several stops in St. Vincent and the Grenadines before turning back.

Bryant said passengers were required to have a negative PCR test to enter Barbados and underwent another test on the dock administered by the ship's doctor.

"We all felt very safe," she said, adding that the ship had been implementing strict hygiene protocols. "Yet somehow, COVID appears to have got on board." Neither SeaDream nor Barbados' government officials immediately returned messages for comment.

Waters around the Caribbean have been largely bereft of cruise ships this year, with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suspending cruise ship operations at US ports in mid-March.

The no-sail order expired on October 31.

## PAHO seeks funding for vaccine storage

(Jamaica Observer): THE Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says it is now seeking to drum up funding to assist countries in the Americas with central warehouses and cold storage units for COVID-19 vaccines.

PAHO Assistant Director Dr Jarbas Barbosa said yesterday that no country within or outside the region is ready to deal with

the storage conditions for these vaccines, as there are no other vaccines with the same characteristics as those for COVID-19.

Dr Barbosa was responding to questions at PAHO's weekly press briefing.

Biopharmaceutical company Pfizer announced earlier this week that its vaccine is over 90 per cent effective in preventing COVID-19 in individuals

without evidence of prior novel coronavirus infection.

Dr Barbosa explained that, of the 10 vaccines that are now in the final stages of clinical trials, three of them use the genetic material of the virus. The nature of the vaccines requires storage conditions of 70°Celsius/-103°Fahrenheit.

The PAHO assistant director said countries that

decide to use the vaccines will need to prepare. He said PAHO is now having dialogue with financial institutions for assistance to strengthen the cold chain facilities in regional countries.

He noted that the issue is not with localised vaccination storage conditions, such as rooms where vaccines are kept, but central storage.

# Rowley: Tough decisions to be made about education



Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley

(Trinidad Guardian): The Secondary Entrance Assessment examination (SEA) is once again under the spotlight.

This as discussions have commenced on the future of the examination and its role in how students transition to secondary schools.

The National Consultation on Education kicked off on Tuesday with the contentious Secondary

Entrance Assessment examination dominating the first of six virtual conferences.

Over the years stakeholders have mulled over whether or not the examination had been serving its purpose or adding to the anxiety of students and parents.

Weighing in on issues in the sector was prime minister Dr Keith Rowley.

He said education has been a top priority for the State over the years, as evidenced by the allocation in the national budget.

But he said while there had been significant successes over the last 40 or 50 years, there were also "serious shortcomings."

Dr Rowley said as such tough decisions will have to be made to correct the education imbalances.

"What we have to be concerned about is whether the population is prepared to make the adjustments that an honest and open discussion will throw up for us because certain recommendations will arise and some of those recommendations will be far-reaching with respect to implications for who does what," he said.

Former Chief Education Officer Harrilal Secharan said the purpose of a placement examination now needs to be revisited, "We also need to keep in mind the role of SEA and

the impact and influence it has on the primary school education system and whether it is supporting or countering those skills and competencies students come out of primary school with."

And according to the president of the National Primary Schools Principals Association Lance Mottley, COVID-19 has exposed a number of inadequacies in the education sector, raising particular red flags with the SEA exam.

Motley asked, "Is Trinidad and Tobago prepared to maintain a status quo that has been a source of concern for the year?"

Meanwhile, Dr Rowley also asked for further discussions to be held on the role of the State and the clergy in the education system.

The public can visit the national consultation webpage to review topic brochures and submit suggestions and recommendations.




# THE PULL UP

## SHOW

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# Post-election warfare clouds chances for COVID relief bill



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., left /PHOTO AP J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Joe Biden's top allies on Capitol Hill adopted a combative posture on COVID-19 relief on Thursday, accusing Washington Republicans of dragging their feet in acknowledging Biden's victory while doubling down on a \$2 trillion-plus relief bill that's a non-starter with congressional Republicans.

The message from House Speaker Nancy

Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. — both of whom witnessed disappointing outcomes in House and Senate races last week — was that Republicans should concede the presidential election was won by Biden and immediately return to negotiations on COVID relief, with the Democrats' \$2.4 trillion "HEROES Act" as the starting point.

"It's most unfortunate

*cont'd on pg 19*

## U.S. and France play catch-up on Karabakh after Russia deploys troops



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan

views as its strategic backyard.

Moscow co-chairs an international group overseeing the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute with Washington and Paris, but they were not involved in the deal signed by Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan to end six weeks of fighting over the enclave.

"By no means do we want to distance ourselves from our American and French colleagues," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said. "Moreover, we have invited them to Moscow. They will arrive within the next few days to discuss how they can contribute to the implementation of the achieved agreements."

The accord, which locked in territorial gains by Aze-

ri troops against ethnic Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh, triggered protests in Armenia calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan when it was announced early on Tuesday.

Hundreds of protesters rallied for a third day in the Armenian capital Yerevan on Thursday chanting "Nikol is a traitor!". They then marched to the Security Service headquarters to demand the release of some opposition leaders and activists detained on Wednesday.

Pashinyan, elected in 2018 after street protests against alleged corruption ousted the former elite, said on Thursday he had signed the accord to secure peace and save lives.

MOSCOW/YELPIN, Armenia (Reuters) - France and the United States are expected to send diplomats to Moscow soon to discuss the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Russia said on Thursday, two days after the Kremlin deployed troops to the ethnic Arme-

nian enclave in Azerbaijan to secure a truce.

The arrival on Tuesday of the peacekeepers to oversee the ceasefire between Azeri troops and ethnic Armenian forces in the enclave extends Russia's military footprint among the former Soviet republics it

# UN migration agency: 74 drown after boat capsizes near Libya



Refugees and migrants are rescued by members of the Spanish NGO Proactiva Open Arms /PHOTO AP SERGI CAMARA

CAIRO (AP) — At least 74 migrants drowned after their Europe-bound ship capsized off the coast of Libya on Thursday, the U.N.'s migration agency said, in the latest in a series of at least eight shipwrecks in the Central Mediterranean

since last month.

The boat was carrying over 120 migrants, including women and children, when it capsized off the coast of the Libyan port of al-Khums, said the International Organization for Migration. Only 47 people were rescued

by the Libyan coast guard and fishermen and brought to shore.

So far 31 bodies were retrieved as the search for the remaining victims continued, added the IOM.

In the years since the 2011 uprising that ousted and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi, war-torn Libya has emerged as the dominant transit point for migrants hoping to get to Europe from Africa and the Middle East. Smugglers often pack desperate families into ill-equipped rubber boats that stall and founder along the perilous Central Mediterranean route. At least 20,000 people have died in those waters since 2014, according to the IOM.

"The mounting loss of life in the Mediterra-

nean is a manifestation of the inability of States to take decisive action to redeploy much needed, dedicated Search and Rescue capacity in the deadliest sea-crossing in the world," said Federico Soda, IOM Libya Chief of Mission.

On Tuesday, 13 African migrants including three women and one child had drowned in a similar shipwreck off the Libyan coast.

The IOM said that it had noticed a recent surge in the number of departures from the Libyan shores, with over 780 arrivals in Italy since the beginning of October. More than 11,000 migrants had been intercepted and returned to Libya, where they face the risk of human rights violations and detention, read the IOM statement.

## cont'd from pg 18

that the Republicans have decided that they will not respect the will of the people," Pelosi told reporters. "It's like the house is burning down, and they just refuse to throw water on it."

Top House Republican Kevin McCarthy of California, speaking just minutes later from the same podium, accused Pelosi of playing politics with COVID, deliberately dragging out pre-elec-

tion talks on new relief to deny President Donald Trump a victory that could have helped him in the election.

The continued battling comes as caseloads are spiking across the country in a third wave of the pandemic that is threatening a dangerous winter, despite advances in vaccine development and treatments to fight it the disease. The rebound of the economy has been

relatively strong so far, but both sides agree more help is needed — even as they spar over specifics like jobless assistance and the means to distribute treatments and vaccines.

Congress virtually unanimously passed a \$1.8 trillion COVID rescue bill in March, but top leaders and the administration have fought for months over what another installment of relief should en-

tail. Before the election, with Democrats riding high in the polls, Pelosi took a hard line in the talks, even as the administration made numerous concessions. Congressional Republicans, meanwhile, shied away from concessions made by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin as well.

"She sacrificed our economy and people who were hurting," McCarthy said.

# Top US general stands firm amid Pentagon turmoil



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley

religion. We take an oath to the Constitution. And every soldier that is represented in this museum, every sailor, airman, Marine, Coast Guardsman, each of us will protect and defend that document, regardless of personal price," Milley said during remarks at the opening of the US Army's museum.

While Milley routinely references the military's oath to uphold the Constitution, he chose to reinforce that message during his first public remarks following the major shakeup of the Pentagon's senior civilian leadership.

Speaking immediately following Milley's speech, Miller, who was named acting secretary Monday in a tweet by President Donald Trump that also fired his predecessor Mark Esper, joked, "thanks for setting the

bar very high for the new guy to come in and make a few words, I think all I would say to your statements is amen, well done."

In the wake of Trump's dramatic purge of some of the senior-most civilian officials at the Pentagon who have been replaced with political loyalists and conspiracy theorists, all eyes are now focused on whether Trump will take any action against the uniformed military leadership, including Milley.


The new appointments include Douglas MacGregor who once advocated for using lethal force to deter migrants from crossing the border illegally and Anthony Tata who once called Barack Obama a terrorist leader and suggested that a former CIA director was using a Cicero quote to activate a sleeper agent to kill the President.

(CNN): The top US general is standing firm amid sweeping changes at the Pentagon which have seen senior officials replaced by Trump ideologues and alarmed senior defense officials.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley made clear his dedication to the constitution at an event

Wednesday while standing beside the newly installed acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller.

"We are unique among militaries. We do not take an oath to a king or a queen, a tyrant or a dictator. We do not take an oath to an individual. No, we do not take an oath to a country, a tribe or



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## LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

**FRI 11/13**  **29° Hi** **DAY**  
Intervals of clouds and sun and showers  
**25° Lo** **NIGHT**  
Partly cloudy with a passing shower

Sunrise 6:11 AM	Sunset 5:32 PM	Moonrise 4:22 AM	Moonset 4:29 PM
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**SAT 11/14**  **28° Hi** **DAY**  
Partly cloudy with a passing shower  
**25° Lo** **NIGHT**  
An evening shower in places; otherwise, partly cloudy

Sunrise 6:12 AM	Sunset 5:32 PM	Moonrise 5:25 AM	Moonset 5:17 PM
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## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

### ♈ ARIES | Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You've got the energy required to take the initiative and start a new adventure! Peel back the layers of what intrigues you in life, and you'll discover at least one new opportunity for exploration.

### ♉ TAURUS | Apr. 20-May 20

You can't put too much stock in first impressions. People who might seem arrogant or pompous on your first contact with them could be sweethearts in their everyday life. You could miss out on getting to know a cool person.

### ♊ GEMINI | May 21-June 20

Form a conclusion too quickly and you could miss out on getting to know a cool person. Put your ego aside and listen to the person who's in charge today. They know what they're talking about, and they can teach you.

### ♋ CANCER | June 21-July 22

You have all the time and the energy today to investigate your options. Whether you want to move forward in a job, in a relationship, or on a personal quest, you won't get anywhere without formulating a plan first.

### ♌ LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

Unleash all of your emotions and let the whole world know exactly what you're feeling deep in your heart! The people around you are ready to hear what you have to say and will handle your confessions with care.

### ♍ VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You and an authority figure in your life could come to an agreement. You won't get everything you want, but you should be happy with yourself for even asking. They certainly respect you for it.

### ♎ LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22

Get more creative with your communication, whether it's over the phone, via text or e-mail, on your blog, or even face-to-face. The typical exchange is way too boring for you! Load your sentences with specifics.

### ♏ SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21

Your honesty separates you from other people now and gets you noticed in a very good way. You need to live a life in which you know you can stand behind everything you say. It's liberating!

### ♐ SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Try to be more generous in your assessment of people who don't seem to get it. Not everyone can be as on top of things as you are right now, and the sooner you realize that the better.

### ♑ CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You're in high demand by a wide array of people. They all want to spend some time with you, and it could be difficult to figure out who to say yes to and who to put off until later. Prioritize the friendly folks first.

### ♒ AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

There are some lost people around you, and they're looking for your guidance. You should definitely help them if they ask you to, but resist any impulse to dive right in and try to sort out their personal problems.

### ♓ PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Someone you really like could give you something that they think is a wonderful gift. Sure, they'll try their best to sugar-coat this present, but if you're not buying the act, don't pretend that you are.

## 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.

### THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Lions Club of Antigua will be hosting their annual Takeaway Thanksgiving Dinner November 19th, 2020 from 6 PM to 8 pm. Venue: Lions Den on Cross Streets. Tickets are \$25. Please walk with a bag to collect your dinner. COVID19 protocols will be followed including the mandatory wearing of facemasks.

### SATELLITE OFFICE RE-OPENED

The English Harbour Satellite Office has re-opened. Employers can now make all statutory payments (Medical Benefits, Social Security, Education Levy and Inland Revenue) from Monday to Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm and on Friday, 9:00am to 1:00pm. Drop Box service is also available. Other services offered include acceptance of claims by the Medical Benefits Scheme and Social Security. Member and employer registration are also offered by the Medical Benefits Scheme.

### FUNDRAISING EVENT

LSA and Virtual Stage along with 268 Dadli shine presents a fundraising car wash|BBQ|Fish Fry every Saturday beginning Saturday 14th November, at the School Bus Parking Lot from 7:00am. Proceeds in aid of equipment purchases and virtual stage production.

### DIABETES SCREENING

In recognition of World Diabetes Awareness Month, the A Charge To Keep Foundation, under the auspices of Jermaine P. Lewis, will be hosting a Diabetes Screening in the constituency of All Saints East and St. Luke. Dates: Saturday 21st November at the Irene B Williams School and Sunday 22 November, 2020 at the Charlesworth T Samuel Primary School from 9am to 2pm. Early registration is required due to space availability. Contact: Ms. Jermaine P Lewis at 786-7327 or Mrs. Doreen Thomas 771-0918.

**Tell us what's happening in your community.**

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





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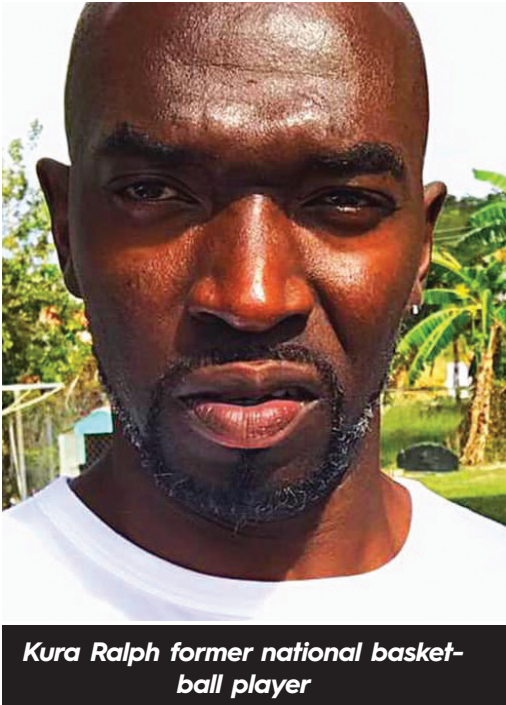


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# Kura creates a holistic training method utilizing bars



**Kura Ralph former national basketball player**

Ken Kura Ralph, former nation-

al basketball player started training himself in 1996 after attaining a scholarship to Danville College where he realized his slim built needed an upgrade to compete at a higher level.

Ralph said over a three-year period of being introduced to weights and physical conditioning, he transformed physically. Fast track 20 years and Kura as he is called, has returned home, creating a holistic training method through his company BarFit, utilizing bars.

This approach harmonizes Yoga, calisthenics, resistance, animal movements, aqua aerobics and bars. Kura spent many years working in high schools across the United States as a strength and

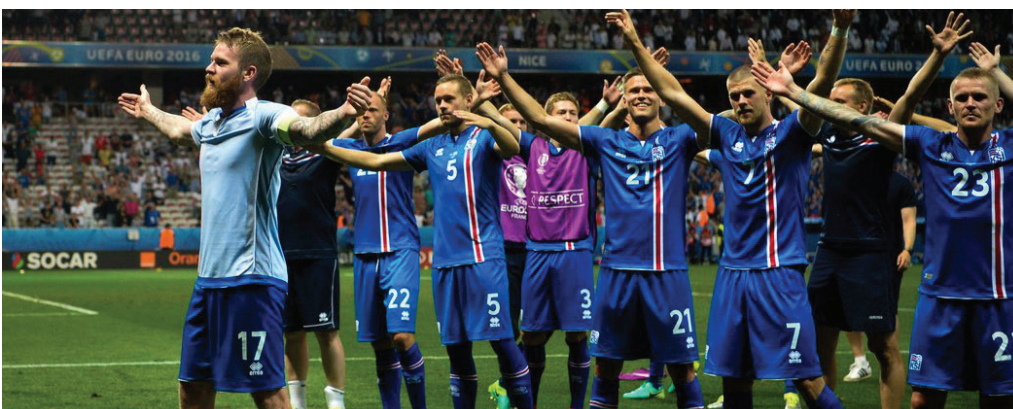
conditioning coach.

Ralph talking to PointeXpress said he wants to see the transformation of youths on the island and in the region and has dedicated his time and energy toward this goal. Ralph who also attended Maine University and operates at the JSC Sports Complex, says he wants to see bars set up around the island to encourage young people to gravitate toward them, which will enhance their strength, flexibility, coordination and discipline.

"They are inexpensive and will last forever," Ralph said.

Anyone interested in engaging Ralph for advice can check out barfit 365 facebook page for more information.

# The Football Association request exemption from government



**Iceland Football Team**

The Football Association has asked the government to allow England's UEFA Nations League match against Iceland on November 18 to be played at Wembley.

The Icelandic team are not currently allowed into the country due to coronavirus travel restric-

tions with the game looked set to be held in another country, most likely Germany. An FA statement said, "We have asked government to consider allowing us to play the final UEFA Nations League match at Wembley Stadium, by giving travel exemption to the Icelandic

team subject to strict protocols".

The FA noted that they would ensure the Icelandic team were kept in a bio-secure bubble and would receive extra testing. "We have agreed with the Icelandic team that they arrive on private charter to a private terminal and will only have access to their hotel and the stadium, "the governing body added".

The match against Iceland could decide whether England qualify for the knockout stages of the Nation League, so they would prefer the home advantage of playing at the national stadium. However, the FA insist the safety of its players is of primary concern and do not want to inflict extra travel on them.

# CWI names Nicholas Pooran vice-captain for T20s in NZ



Nicholas Pooran named vice captain for three Twenty20 matches against NZ

Nicholas Pooran has been appointed vice captain by Cricket West Indies for the three Twenty20 matches against New Zealand later this month, while Roston Chase has been named vice captain of the test team for the two International Cricket Council's World Championship matches.

Wicket-keeper batsman Pooran is among the leading white ball players in the world, averaging 50 in One Day Internationals and two half centuries in 19 T20 innings. Batting all-rounder Roston Chase has so far played 35 Test Match-

es, scoring five centuries and collecting three five-wicket hauls with his off-spin bowling.

Lead selector, former West Indies off-spinner Roger Harper made the announcements. Chase replaced his countryman and long serving opening batsman Kraigg Brathwaite in the position for the Test series against the Black Caps.

Pooran will take up his role behind fellow Trinidadian Kieron Pollard, CWI white ball captain, in the first T20 on November 27, followed by back-to-back games on the 29 and 30.

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## Keeping Cycling Alive



**Antigua and Barbuda Cycling Federation Team**

President of the Antigua and Barbuda Cycling Federation St. Clair Williams says his organization has been focusing on keeping cycling alive during the forced break due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which brought all sporting activities to a standstill on March 13, forcing the federation to cancel its 2020 program.

One of the exciting things that has happened during the break is the successful training of Commissaires

Williams said. Five members of the federation participated and were successful in a course over the break, producing the island's first ever qualified Commissaires.

They are former president of the federation for over a decade Cliff Williams, George Baptiste, Cassandra Murray, Brian Lyn, and Derrick Sutherland. Williams who was a guest on Pointe FM's Touchline program expressed his excitement

with the new appointees and said he trusts the knowledge garnered from such a course will not stay with them, but that they will act as a conduit to implement knowledge transfer and enhance their operations.

Williams noted that the Commissaires will be the federation's referees and judges, while keeping the local cyclists in check. The ABCF is still making plans to host their planned Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) race in August. "We have received a lot of interest for the UCI planned event from near and far Williams expressed.

The Federation will also be approaching the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment and

Cabinet with their health protocols with the view of restarting competitive racing in January with a circuit race following the necessary guidelines, before advancing to road racing.

Williams said the federation is also hoping to restart their development programs in schools and communities which were brought to a halt by the pandemic earlier this year. "Our aim is to make cycling the number one sport on the island."

"As we look to step up our youth development program, 10 bikes are expected on island later this year or early next year with components and parts for cyclists 13 to 15 years old," Williams said.



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