



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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EDITORIAL

Apartheid in a time of COVID redux

Permit us, dear reader, to do a revisit of the last editorial of the similar title as this one, published on Monday 8th February. We at *PointeXpress* are not in the business of beating dead horses, but we strongly believe that something more needs to be said about the system of 'vaccine Apartheid' that is being proposed by Western hegemony.

The previous article placed the issue in a historical context which helped to demonstrate that the manner in which Europe and North America (including Canada) are behaving is nothing new. The point was further made that the behaviour is not dissimilar to that of Donald Trump, a president from whom many leaders in the West tried to distance themselves. But the measure of an individual is never to be in the words that wax lyrical from their lips. Instead, a person should be measured by their actions.

For reasons of brevity, it was neigh impossible to segue into the relationship between vaccine Apartheid and reparatory justice. And while one might argue that the link is tenuous at best, we aver the opposite to be true.

If one were to examine the philosophical underpinnings of the move to monopolize access to the vaccines, one would realize that these underpinnings also emboldened the West with a sense of entitlement that somehow some lives are more valuable than others. It was the philosophy that led to the geno-

cide of the indigenous peoples of the Americas, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, the various economic and 'drug' wars being waged against Africa and Latin America, the blockade of Cuba, and many, many more examples.

In the case of the European enslavement of West African peoples, the case has been made for reparations for the hundreds of years of forced labour, which labour enriched Europe. One does not have to dig very deep to understand the atrocities inherent in the dehumanization of millions of people.

A key argument used to justify the enslavement of West African peoples held that Africans are naturally inferior to Europeans. Therefore, even if slavery is cruel, the suffering of slaves is no different from that of an animal. Africans, then, were believed to be so inferior that they deserved to be enslaved for their own good. Consequently, the thinking goes, slaves are better protected and cared for in a system where their lives are run by others.

Gentle reader, in that explanation you have the nucleus of the argument of how racism took root in society.

At the end of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, compensation was paid to the White owners for 'loss of property'—their slaves—but not one kobo was paid to the people who were forced to work for free. It was the case of White being Might being Right! It is this philosophy that drives the current vaccine Apartheid.

The reason why descendants of enslaved Africans must continuously call for reparatory justice is that it helps to correct the injustices of the past and allows descendants to develop a foundation for self-sufficiency, and not one of dependency. Just and equitable access to vaccines is also a part of the struggle for reparatory justice as it assists in neutralizing the ideology that some lives are more valuable than others—the kind of ideology that underpins racism. Left unaddressed, it would lead to what Emperor Haile Selassie I warned about in a famous speech before the United Nations General Assembly on 4th October 1963:

"That until the philosophy which holds one race superior and another inferior is finally and permanently discredited and abandoned; That until there are no longer first-class and second-class citizens of any nation; That until the colour of a man's skin is of no more significance than the colour of his eyes; That until the basic human rights are equally guaranteed to all without regard to race; ... Until bigotry and prejudice and malicious and inhuman self-interest have been replaced by understanding and tolerance and good-will; ... We Africans will fight, if necessary, and we know that we shall win, as we are confident in the victory of good over evil."

Simply put: a passive war for fairness and equity.

Selah!

Antigua and Barbuda to receive 40,000 COVID-19 vaccines from India



Prime Minister Gaston Browne welcomes Dr. K.J. Srinivasa and wife, High Commissioner Designate of India to Antigua and Barbuda in September 2019.

As the race increases for COVID-19 vaccines around the world, Indian High Commissioner Dr. K. J. Srinivasa announced that Guyana and several other Caribbean countries will benefit from an initial donation of 500,000 Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines by the government of India, as the south Asian country 'ups the ante' on its vaccine-diplomacy efforts.

According to news reports in Guyana, "On Monday, during a virtual engagement with members of the media, Indian High Commissioner to Guyana and the Caribbean, Dr K. J. Srinivasa noted that a quantity of these vaccines are already being transported."

"I am working closely for the number of vaccines for Guyana, Antigua, St Kitts

and many other countries in the region," Dr Srinivasa highlighted.

Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst, confirmed that 40,000 vaccines are designated for Antigua and Barbuda. According to the Chief of Staff, "The government of India wrote to the government of Antigua and Barbuda that they are pleased to send 40,000 Covishield (AstraZeneca-Oxford) vaccines to our country (manufactured by Serum Institute of India) as a donation and goodwill gesture to our friendly nation in the region."

Media reports have indicated that currently, the High Commission is working with the local health authorities in Guyana to get approval

for this Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, which is called Covishield in India.

The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is reportedly sixty-two per cent effective. However, it is also reportedly ninety per cent effective with a lower dose than the required two doses.

The High Commissioner, who is also India's representative to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), said that India is trying to work out a common procedure whereby Caribbean countries can work in tandem for this approval process.

While the 500,000 vaccines being donated to the Caribbean is just an initial amount, Dr Srinivasa emphasized that India wants to provide some support to all of the

"friendly countries" in the region. This, he explained, is a core component of India's vaccine-diplomacy efforts.

India is a renowned manufacturer of vaccines and has been dubbed the 'pharmacy of the world.' Beyond the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, which is being manufactured by the Serum Institute in India and is already being distributed in that country, there are about five other vaccines being developed in India.

The Covaxin vaccine, being manufactured by Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL), is one such vaccine. This vaccine has already been granted emergency-use authorization in India and is being distributed to health workers, though its clinical trials are not yet complete.

Obtaining vaccines from this country is not limited to those doses being donated, however. There are also avenues for governments to purchase vaccines from India.

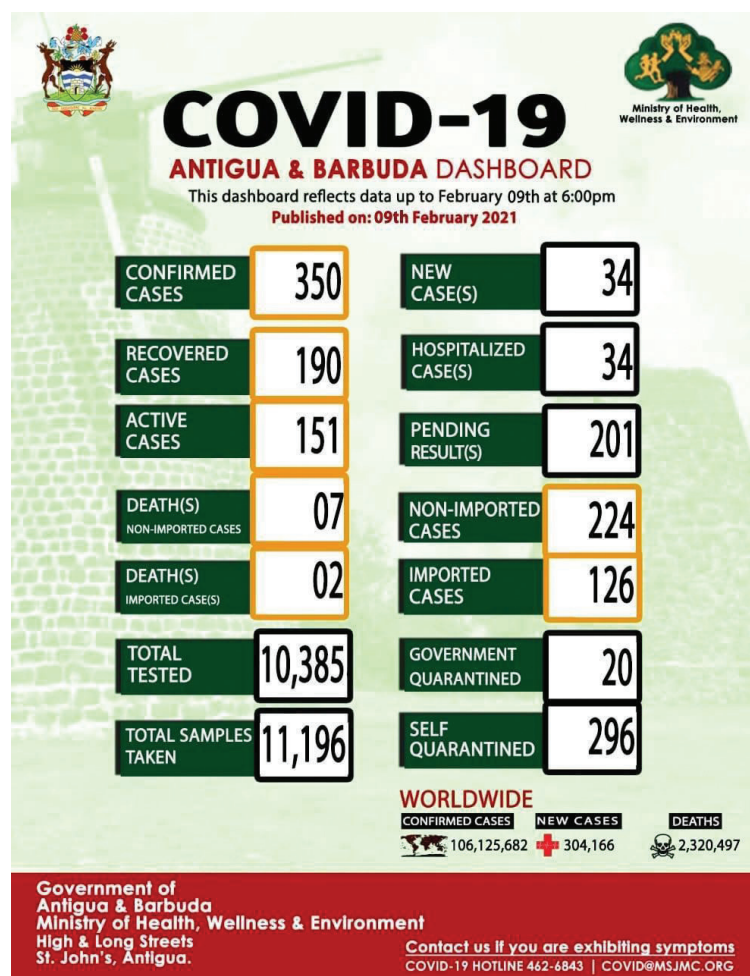
"Our external supplies which are either gifts or commercial supplies are based on our domestic requirements, but we continue to work closely with our partner countries and we are preparing a schedule [whereby] in the coming weeks and months in a phased manner, these countries will get their vaccines," Dr Srinivasa said.

The country has been donating several million vaccines to a number of countries as of this year.

Thirty-four new confirmed cases

The Ministry of Health and the Mount St. John's Medical Centre (MSJMC) are reporting that there are thirty-four (34) new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Tuesday 9th February 2021. Of the two hundred and fifty-two (252) samples pending in the previous dashboard, fifty-one (51) were sent to MSJMC. The two hundred and one (201) samples which were sent to CARPHA are still pending. Subsequent to the publication of the dashboard for Monday 8th February 2021 with the cut off time of 6 p.m., fifty-six (56) additional samples were processed by MSJMC. Therefore, the total samples processed by MSJMC is one hundred and seven (107) of which seventy-three (73) were negative and thirty-four

(34) positive. The thirty-four (34) cases are non-imported. Investigations have begun and contact tracing and testing are ongoing. The fifty-six (56) additional samples are reflected in the total samples taken and total persons tested columns of the dashboard. Meanwhile, one recovery has been recorded bringing the total to one hundred and ninety (190). One non-imported COVID-19 related death has also been recorded. Six (6) additional persons have been hospitalized bringing the total to thirty-four (34). Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is three hundred and fifty (350), which is inclusive of one hundred and fifty-one (151) active cases.



Sixty-five-year old man latest COVID-19 victim

Mount St. John's Medical Centre (MSJMC) has confirmed the death of a sixty-five-year-old patient due to COVID-19-related illnesses. The health institution said the patient was admitted to the hospital on 23rd January 2021 in severe respiratory distress. His illness was complicated by several comorbidities. His health continued to deteriorate, and he was placed on a ventilator seven days post admission. Despite the medical team's best efforts to save him, the patient died of complications of COVID-19 on 8th February 2021. "Another family and community are mourning the death of a loved one - and we too are saddened and offer our deepest sympathy," said Dr. Albert Duncan, MSJMC Medical Director. "Our hospital is doing everything we can to stay ahead of the coro-

navirus surge in the community which inevitably leads to more hospitalized COVID-19 patients." According to Dr. Duncan, the hospital is under more pressure from COVID-19 than at any time since the start of the pandemic. "This is worrisome," said Dr. Duncan. "This is what will put everything - all healthcare related to COVID-19 or not - at risk if the infection rate does not slow down." The Medical Director added, "Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic we have asked a lot of the public and many of you have been understanding and patient and we are immensely grateful. Still, the risk remains, COVID-19 cases continue to rise across the country and have affected even members of the hospital's team and their families. It is critically

important that we remain vigilant. Increased testing is great but testing alone is not sufficient in keeping this pandemic at bay. Don't drop your guard because of a negative test result. Mask wearing, physical distancing and other preventive behaviours are still crucial. We will maintain our efforts, and our ongoing resourcefulness in how we do our work, in order to keep our community safe."

Mount St. John's Medical Centre is reminding the public of the continuing importance of COVID-19 precautions. For persons who believe they may have COVID-19, they are asked to take these steps:

- Stay away from other people to avoid spreading the virus - and contact your doctor, especially if you have a high-risk underlying

Italian philanthropist to fund Sir Novelle school's expansion

The Sir Novelle Richards Secondary School is to undergo major expansion over the next few months through a generous donation from an Italian businessman and philanthropist.

Making the announcement in Parliament this week, Minister of Education, Sports and Creative Industries, Daryl Matthew, said that following overtures from government the businessman, Leonardo del Vecchio, who is the founder and chairman of Luxottica, the world's largest producer and retailer of glasses and lenses, with 77,734 employees and over 8,000 stores, made a donation of US\$1.5 million (EC\$4 million).

"Over the weekend, the government received confirmation from del Vecchio's representatives who want to sign off on the donation this week Friday. Construction on the project is imminent as the ministry has all the drawings for the project which will see the addition of a new wing at the school, which will allow it to fully accommodate all students up to CAPE level," Matthew stated.

He said the Ministry of Works is currently working along with the Ministry of Education and he hopes that construction will start quite soon. He is also promising that the extension will be completed in re-

cord time, similar to the way in which the original school plant was completed within a ten- to twelve-week period.

"Based on the timeline in which the original construction was completed this will serve as an example for us. My predecessor did an excellent job and I now have a big shoe to fill. The benefactor wants to return to Antigua in August and he wants to see the project completed in that time," he explained.

The minister also announced that the development at the Sir Novelle Richards will not stop with the addition of a new wing. He said there are plans to add a

state-of-the-art science laboratory at the institution. "We have already secured funding from the Caribbean Development Bank to construct and fully equip the science lab," he revealed.

According to Minister Matthew, the Sir Novelle Richards Secondary is not the only educational institution that has attracted private sector funding. The Antigua and Barbuda Institute for Continuing Education (ABICE) is receive a donation from the principals of the Peace, Love and Happiness (PLH) development in Barbuda, who want to vastly improve the physical plant and the course offerings at the institution.

cont'd from pg 4

- health condition.
 - Call the COVID Hotline at 46-COVID (462-6843) for guidance. If they determine you need to be tested, they will coordinate with the appropriate public health officials to determine next steps.
 - Call 911 if you are having a medical emergency, such as difficulty breathing. Notify the 911 operator that you have, or think you might have, COVID-19.
- Please keep in mind the important safety measures that have been scientifically-proven to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including:
- Wearing a mask
 - Practising social distancing
 - Avoiding large gatherings
 - Practising good hand hygiene

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Vendors may get some slack for now, but changes are coming



Minister of Tourism Charles Fernandez

By Shelton Daniel

The St. John's Development Corporation (SJDC) will this year place an increased focus on management of the city, according Minister for Tourism Charles Henry Fernandez.

The minister, who has portfolio responsibility for the SJDC, made the remarks on Tuesday during his contribution to the 2021 budget debate in the House of Representatives.

He had earlier reported that stayover tourism arrivals for 2020 were fifty-eight per cent lower than the previous (and record-setting) year, due to the economic devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Providing figures, Fernandez said the number of stayover arrivals had "contracted from over 300,000 in 2019 to 125,318 in 2020 ... a fifty-eight per cent decline ..."

He added that "performance of the cruise industry last year was even more catastrophic ... During this catastrophic pandemic year we recorded 259,426 passengers - all during the first quarter of 2020. This was a sixty-five per cent decline from the previous year. The yachting sector was the least affected. Due to the many yachts spending months of lockdown here, the yachting visitors [declined by thirty per cent] at the end of 2020

to 13,268 from figures of 19,074 in 2019."

He noted that SJDC in 2020 had "suffered from the downturn, the closure of the cruise port, and this severely affected its cash flow." But despite this, he said, more attention will be paid to "vending, infrastructure and general aesthetics."

On the subject of vending, Fernandez suggested that authorities need to be flexible and avoid being too harsh or draconian when confronting the challenges it sometimes poses to order and regulation.

"Because of the pandemic, we have to be careful how we look at vending. There are a lot of families ... a lot of people out there that would tell you they have it very hard, and you'll see a number of places that have popped up. People have it really hard. So, what do you do? Do you lock them down and say 'this has to be this way'? Or [do you] give some kind of ease at this point in time? We're trying to balance it ... We realize the importance of it to people and we are allowing it to go on; at the same time trying to see how we can manage it."

Fernandez added that SJDC would "continue its mandate to guide the implementation of a program for the renewal and modernization of the city of St. John's, bearing in mind its cultural and architectural history."

He noted that the planned construction of a

sewage treatment plant for the capital would be a key upgrade in the city's quest for further modernization.

"As the nation prepares to celebrate its fortieth anniversary of Independence, St. John's Development Corporation will coordinate general improvements throughout the city ... intended to result in major aesthetic improvements in the City of St. John's. The Corporation will ensure that the City of St. John's is well maintained, attractive, and continues to be viable for all stakeholders."

Going forward, registration will be a must for all vendors, the Minister announced. "Not saying we're going to remove them off the street, but all will be required to be registered with the Corporation to ensure that the Government and other statutory bodies increase oversight of these activities. Vending will also be done in a way to ensure that all operators are in compliance with the established COVID-19 protocols."

St. John's Development Corporation, in 2020, will also "seek to have renovation commence on the Multi-Purpose Center" which Fernandez described as being "in need of urgent repairs."

He disclosed that assistance would be sought from the People's Republic of China which provided the facility many years ago as a gift to Antigua and Barbuda.

Diaspora Desk to strengthen ties with overseas nationals

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established a Diaspora Desk whose mandate is to implement government's policy for closer ties with nationals living in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Portfolio Minister E.P. Chet Greene told the House of Representatives that over the past year a number of meetings were held with a number of stakeholders within the diaspora to plan the 2021 Diaspora Programme which culminates with Antigua and

Barbuda's fortieth anniversary of Independence. "Beginning last year, we embarked on a programme of reaching out to our diaspora communities. The focus is to transition and transform the relationship with these communities and their native land. It's not just about remittances; it's about meaningful investment in the national economy. It's about preserving our culture among the second, third and fourth generations in the diaspora," he remarked.

According to Greene, the Diaspora Desk has held a number of consultations and meetings with various diaspora communities with another meeting slated for next week Friday. The first major engagement between the Diaspora Desk and the diaspora communities is being planned for Independence this year.

"2021 will mark the fortieth anniversary of Independence and the need for the ministry to make a more concerted effort to foster stronger relations with Antiguan and Bar-

budans in the diaspora. Our first diaspora business forum will take place this year on the occasion of the Independence celebrations," he noted.

Greene views these developments as 'the best opportunity' to engage nationals living overseas in the nation's development in a meaningful way. The minister gave a commitment that the government is serious about finding pathways for members of the diaspora to fully participate in the nation's growth and development.

'Vampire Killer' shares his side of the story in wounding trial

The trial against alleged 'Vampire Killer' Delano Forbes continued yesterday in the St. John's Magistrates' Court where the 26-year-old got the opportunity to tell the court what happened on October 7th within the Her Majesty's Prison. The Sweetes man is accused of wounding a prison officer by the name of Dwight Peters on that day with a disinfectant can.

On January 25, the complainant, another prison officer and a police investigator gave evidence in the matter.

Peters said that it was Forbes' bad behaviour that prompted him to try to shackle the murder accused.

But the prisoner refused and another officer by the name of Alpheus Jackson tried to assist.

He said that Forbes then slipped on some water and pulled Jack-



'Vampire Killer' Delano Forbes at Magistrates' Court

son down with him and started to wrestle on the ground.

Peters said that when he bent down to restrain

him, the prisoner struck him in his head resulting in an injury that required 6 stitches and a week off from work.

Jackson also gave similar evidence and an investigator, Javid Alfred corroborated their story. Forbes however, had a different story to share yesterday in court.

He said that he asked Peters to let him see the Superintendent of Prison but was denied.

As a result, he refused to be restrained.

Forbes continued saying that Jackson entered and also tried to shackle him but he slipped and fell to the ground.

He said when Peters tried to shackle him on the floor, he hit his head on a table.

Since Forbes choose to give evidence from his defense box, prosecutors were not allowed to question him.

The trial therefore came to an end and February 16 was set as the date for the Magistrate to return her decision in the matter.

Governor General receives two awards from UWI

Governor General Sir Rodney Williams was a recent recipient of two awards presented by a delegation from The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, during a visit to Government House.

Sir Rodney participated in the recently held UWI 5K Run Walk to raise funds for UWI students who were in need of assistance to fund their education at the Five Islands Campus. The Governor General was presented with a gift certificate for winning in his category.

He also received a plaque for being the most outstanding patron for the 2020 UWI Global Giving initiative.

UWI Five Islands Campus Principal, Professor Densil Williams, expressed the university's appreciation for the tremendous support which the Governor General has been providing to his alma mater over the years. In response, Sir Rodney thanked the university and pledged his continued support to the institution's development.

The delegation from the UWI Five Islands Campus included Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal, Professor Williams, Director of Academic Affairs Dr. Curtis Charles, Director of Administration Daniella Hickling and Executive Assistant to the Principal Stephanie Cain.



Principal Professor Williams presenting Patron's Plaque to the Governor General



Director of Academic Affairs Daniella Hickling presenting UWI Virtual 5K Run prize to GG



UWI Five Islands Delegation with the Governor General

Canada Place office complex institutes anti-COVID measures



enacting their work-from-home (WFH) policy.

"Out of the abundance of caution and until further notice, the company's staff complement has been informed that it has begun implementing the necessary steps to ensure they can effectively work from home, by providing the requisite tools and equipment to facilitate the process," a company statement said.

It noted that this is the second time that the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic has forced tenants of Canada Place, located at Lauchland Benjamin Drive, to enact their WFH contingency plans. "Like other Canada Place tenants, CCS had to make the decision of advising staff to work remotely, after confirmation that a worker in the building tested positive for Covid-19. That individual has since been

isolated," it revealed.

The release said that as a responsible organization, CCS has been strictly complying with all the protocols set out by health officials, including temperature checks at entrance, insisting on the wearing of company-provided masks and shields correctly and at all times, and consistent sanitizing of high touch surfaces.

The company's administration also employs several office procedures in managing staff who may have potentially been exposed. "CCS wishes to assure its employees and the public of its commitment to safety, transparency and reducing the spread of the virus, as we all navigate this COVID-19 pandemic," the statement concluded.

The new measures took effect on Monday this week.

The management of Client Communications Services (CCS), a tenant operating out of Canada Place, has adopted "proactive and

definitive" steps to ensure the health and safety of its employees - and by extension, other building tenants - by immediately



Housing minister demolishes unfounded opposition allegations

By Shelton Daniel

The National Housing Corporation (NHC) has more than \$140 million in assets and only \$35 million in liabilities, according to the Minister for Housing, Lands and Urban Renewal, Maria Browne.

She cited these figures on Monday 8th February during her contribution to the 2021 budget debate in the House of Representatives.

Minister Browne was then responding to a claim by Opposition Leader Jamale Pringle that NHC is so revenue-hungry, it depends on direct inflows of taxpayers' money to remain functional.

"The Member spoke to the National Housing developments that are ongoing. He said that taxpayers' monies were going directly to National Housing, and that these monies were being used to build houses and that's all that's being funded. But that is not the case, Mr. Speaker."

Earlier in her presentation, Minister Browne had indicated that while "2020 was a challenging year," NHC was still "able to make a success of it, somewhat."



Minister of Housing, Lands and Urban Renewal Maria Browne

Among the successes she highlighted, "We were able to deliver a number of homes... We were able to provide parcels for new landowners, and we were also able to keep approximately four hundred and fifty [workers] employed during the coronavirus pandemic."

She directed Pringle to "page 19 of the 2021 budgetary estimates plan" and chided him for asking questions to which answers were already and clearly provided therein.

"For you to be asking who is going to be building these houses, here they are. And on top of that, they are listed by name here, majority of which are local contractors," She continued: "Then you have CCECC, which you seem to have a problem with - China Civil Engineering. The Member has asked if this Chinese firm will be building homes. Yes. He also asked what about those individuals who have lost their jobs, who cannot afford hous-

es right now. That is exactly why we have engaged the China Civil Engineering Group, because they will be utilizing a different form of construction that is far cheaper but by no means less sustainable. They're more affordable, so that we're able to offer them to these groups of individuals. Additionally, and very importantly, CCECC will be utilizing eighty-seven per cent local workforce. They will be training our [people] to use these specialized equipment to put up these panel homes."

Browne reminded Pringle that he and other opposition agents did not make any noise when it was Bau Panel Construction Company which the former United Progressive Party (UPP) administration gave three hundred acres of land for housing "which they did nothing with."

In contrast, she said, the current Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party administration had collaborated sensibly with Bau Panel to build 10,000 homes, 7,000 of which will be for local ownership and the rest distributed throughout the OECS.

A Brave, New HR

If anything, 2020 was the year that we realized that we are not the masters of our destinies and that the world as we know it can turn upside down overnight without warning.

Believe it or not, this too applies to the wonderful world of Human Resources Management. Overnight we were thrust into a whirlwind of rapid change. Every aspect of the HR professional's portfolio was put to the test in 2020.

So, the main question is **what do we do now?**

The answer - **keep pressing forward.**

2020 was the year that HR knew what it needed but was uncertain as to whether it would ever materialize. Overnight HR departments became the epicenter of every company's focus. Finally, we (HR professionals) were just as important if not more so than our colleagues in finance and operations. HR was now being called upon to implement strategies key to the company surviving the pandemic. Working from home went from being a future benchmark to an overnight reality. Health and safety were no longer just buzzwords but the lifeblood of every organization. The letters of the law as they apply to layoffs and severance were now being scrutinized by every employer, employee, union representative, political analyst, and anyone with a copy of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code.

Now as we have turned the page into a new year, we must continue to press forward and change the very fabric of the way our companies operate. Whether the



powers that be acknowledge it or not, HR is now the team captain (like the great Sir Viv) strategically directing the squad in what is shaping up to be the longest test match ever. The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us that change really is the only constant and it has taught us that the time to innovate and implement is **NOW!**

HR Departments must now continue to lead the way forward for the company. Beginning with reviewing the company's strategic plan for the years ahead to ensure that the new wave of change is sustained and improved upon. Then continuing with COVID-19 safety measures and policies that must be upgraded and maintained in the New Year to ensure the productivity, adaptability, and agility of the workforce. Speaking up and speaking out for continued change is the third and final approach to cement the need for HR to remain within the company's circle of influence.

John Kotter captured these very elements in his book *"Our Iceberg is Melting"*. In it, he shows the various personalities and positions that must be addressed when leading change that will affect an entire community. This is no simple task and one that requires as much attention to detail as it does to personality types. Through the telling of this fable, he highlighted how a society can survive the imminent

danger of a melting iceberg. A most fitting tale for the times we find ourselves in.

2020 caught us ALL off guard, but we now have an opportunity to advocate for the changes we deeply know have been needed for decades. Changes that twelve months ago seemed to be years away but now realizing could be achieved overnight.

So now we press forward as **champions of change**, paving the way for company growth and human capital development. Utilizing the lessons learned from the months passed and using them to plan the way for the years ahead. Using the current momentum to springboard novel ideas to the forefront of the organization knowing fully well that the organization is as receptive to change as it will ever be.

To do anything else would be regressive as this is the time for **A Brave New HR.**

The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda (HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, professional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began informally from 2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB's growing membership represents private and public organizations as well as independent consultants specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary. You may contact us via email at hrpro.ab@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram @HRPro268

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD



‘Personal Development During Covid-19’

One of the toughest things about the coronavirus pandemic is the huge adjustment we’ve all had to make in our personal and professional lives. Some of us have lost our jobs. Some of us may have had to transition to working from home. While working from home has allowed us to be safe while continuing to be productive, the absence of being in the office has given us “free time” that we can put to good use. So why not utilize your former commute time to invest in yourself? Here are a few things you can do in meantime.

Update your resumé

A lot of us have been in situations where we see that attractive job offer then it dawns on us; “I need help! I need to revise my resume”. Why wait until the last moment? Keeping your resume sharp, current and detailed is always the best thing to do. We acquire skills, experience and knowledge often, some of which we don’t remember if we do not document them right away. This helps to improve your marketability. So get to it!



Upskill or Reskill

While we may not be able to spend time outside, I think we can agree that the world is at our fingertips through the use of technology. There are lots of courses available online which can help to; sharpen your skills and add to your academic and professional portfolio. Add to what you know by upgrading or learning new skills.



Create Something

We’ve seen a change in the workforce. Let’s face it! A lot more persons are branching off and starting their own businesses. Some of these businesses end up providing essential services to our community. Collaborating and associating with likeminded individuals can also be a rewarding experience. So if there’s an idea that you’ve been sitting on, collaborate with others via technology to help bring those ideas to life.



ENTREPRENEUR START UP



Platforms

Here are some educational platforms to kick-start your interests.

- Udacity
- Alison
- Coursera
- edX
- Udemy

PUBLIC NOTICE

Have a request?

Please utilize our Online Service Request Link
Or
Email us at: abnab@ab.gov.ag / abnab.anu@gmail.com

AVOID THE LINES

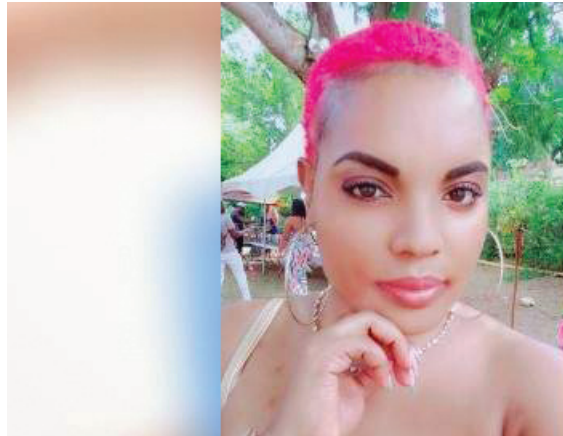
Let’s remain safe and exercise precaution as we get through this time together!

Jamaica woman pleads guilty to sister's murder

(Jamaica Observer): Thirty-nine-year-old Nadeen Geddes yesterday pleaded guilty in the Hillary session of the Trelawney Circuit Court to the murder of her sister, thirty-six-year-old Tamara Geddes, who was shot in her bedroom in the Reserve community in the parish last year.

The thirty-six-year-old Geddes was reportedly gunned down in the presence of her ten-year-old daughter on Friday 19th June 2020.

Monday, Nadeen's two daughters—twenty-one-year-old Shanice Ruddock and a fifteen-year-old—also pleaded guilty to the charge of misprision of a felony in the case when they appeared



Tamara Geddes, who was shot in her bedroom in the Reserve community in the parish last year.

before Justice Martin Gayle.

They were both offered bail in the sum of \$100,000 with surety by Justice Gayle.

Rexon Knott, twenty-four, another defendant, who was jointly charged with murder and conspiracy to murder in

the matter, pleaded not guilty and was set free as the court had insufficient evidence to proceed against him.

However, the court heard that co-accused Brian Shelly, Owen Irving, and Tashana Young, whose files were incomplete, were remanded in custody until Monday 22nd February.

Both Geddes and her two daughters are expected to return to court on Friday 26th February for sentencing.

Meanwhile, before the start of the matter involving her sister's killing, Nadeen Geddes also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to murder thirty-three-year-old Tennisha Miller of Carey Park, also in Trelawney.

Miller is now facing the capital charge for the fatal stabbing of Nadeen's brother, thirty-eight-year-old Gregory Geddes, a raft captain of Reserve district. The raft captain was killed during a dispute with Miller at a bar in Martha Brae in December 2019.

Yesterday, Ernie Smith, who represented Ruddock in court, indicated that on the day of her sentencing he will

be seeking leniency on behalf of his client.

"She had been set for sentencing for the 22nd of February, but in the meantime his lordship has offered her bail of \$100,000 until the matter comes up for sentencing. I will be making a certain application to his lordship and suggestions as to what ought to be the most appropriate sentence to be imposed in all the circumstances," Smith told reporters.

"It was clear from the evidence that she knew that her mother had done something wrong with others, but unfortunately she did not tell the police. She did not tell the police, firstly, out of respect for her mother and, secondly, out of fear, being a young person. She was twenty at the time.

"So, having regard to the nature of the evidence that was before the court, she entered a plea of guilty to imprisonment of felony; in a nutshell what that means is that knowing that a felony had been committed, she did not make a formal report to the relevant authorities," he said.

The Hillary session of the Trelawney Circuit Court commenced yesterday with fifty-two cases on the list, including seventeen new cases and thirty-five traversed.

Murders and lottery scamming offences topped the list.

Take the vaccine because he did not want to appear to be jumping the queue, although because of his age, he would be among persons considered in the high priority group to receive the vaccine.

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Presents
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"Self Love" \$55
Wine and Chocolate
Arrangement

"Secret Love" \$70
Edible Mug
Arrangement

"Sweet Love" \$120
Chocolate covered strawberries,
cupcakes and mini wine

"Unconditional Love" \$150
Edible Fruit Bouquet

"Endless Love" \$200
Fresh Flowers, Chocolate covered
strawberries and mini liquor in
heart shaped box

"Passionate Love" \$100
Captioned Chocolate covered
strawberries: "I love you", "Best
WAP/Dick Ever"

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BVI: "We should back the Premier as he fights colonialism"

(BVI News): As the Commission of Inquiry (COI) into political corruption continues to unfold, Deputy Premier Dr. Natalio Wheatley said the community should back Premier Andrew Fahie in his fight against colonialism.

As one of the most vocal proponents of greater self-determination for the BVI, Premier Fahie is known for challenging the restrictions local administrations face under the rule of the United Kingdom.

While some Virgin Islanders support this, some hold the view that such defiance of UK authority is part of the reason former governor, Augustus Jaspert, ordered a COI into political corruption in the territory.

Speaking at a 7th February Remembrance Ceremony for BVI's ancestors, Dr. Wheatley said Premier Fahie's efforts should not be taken for granted because he stands up for the people and pushes back against colonialism.

"Sometimes we get fearful when we speak about not being under this colonial system anymore and when you have a leader who is willing to stand up and fight against it, give him some backup," Dr. Wheatley said.

He continued: "Even though we might disagree with the Premier on one or two issues here, don't take it for granted that you have a leader of a territory who is not afraid to stand up for the people and not assert our rights as people because

you and I know that this thing called colonialism is not right. It's not human. It's not what should be promoted."

Talks against colonial rule became louder after the 2017 hurricanes when the UK signalled that the BVI should shoulder the majority of costs for its own recovery.

However, it is unclear where Virgin Islanders stand on the matter of greater self-determination as no referendum has been called to declare a national stance on the matter.



OUR NATIONAL LEGEND

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Auntie Gwen



Dame **Gwendolyn Tonge**, (3 October 1923 – 28 September 2012) was an Antiguan teacher and home economics expert.

After teaching for many years, she became the head of the government Women's Desk, the precursor to the Directorate of Gender Affairs. Appointed as a Senator, she continued to work in the Ministry of the Prime Minister, responsible for policies on women's issues.

As *Auntie Gwen*, she hosted a cooking show *Cooking Magic*, which began airing on the Antigua and Barbuda Broadcasting Service (ABS) in the 1960s until her death, the longest running television series in the eastern Caribbean, other than news programs.

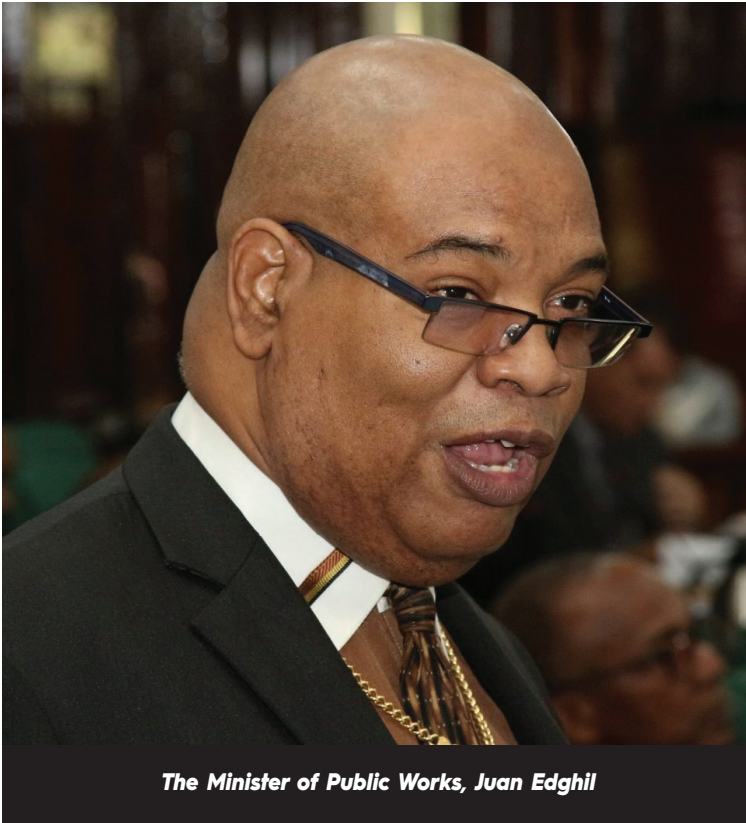
The recipient of many awards, she was honored with the Order of the British Empire, the Order of Honour of Antigua and Barbuda, Distinguished Order of the Nation.



A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board



Guyana: Govt. engineers will be fired for sloppy project estimates



The Minister of Public Works, Juan Edghill

(Kaieteur News): “Government engineers are not being paid to waste taxpayers’ dollars.” This was the assertion of Minister of Public Works, Juan Edghill, as he made it clear that the government is prepared to sever ties with those engineers who prepare sloppy estimates. Sloppy estimates, the Minister explained, can eventually result in contractors being overpaid for works under government projects.

The minister, who was at the time responding to a question during a telephone interview with Kaieteur News, pronounced on the PPP/C’s plan to prevent overpayment on contracts. Under the previous administration, the Ministry of Public Works (then Ministry of Infra-

structure) was flagged by the Auditor General (AG) for instances of overpayment.

But the PPP/C, while in government previously, had committed similar indiscretions, which were also cited by the AG.

Minister Edghill is of the firm belief that the administration in its current form will not misuse tax dollars. Achieving this, he said, will be guided by looking at some key areas.

Substandard estimates

Edghill explained that for a contractor to be overpaid for works, the engineer designated to that project would have had to conduct substandard estimates and evaluations. He said, that includes over-measuring

and, in some cases other miscalculations, and engineers simply not being on the work grounds to execute their duties. The role of a government engineer is to manage these projects and ensure correct calculations are made.

The minister noted that for a contractor to receive money, someone has to sign off on the works conducted and ensure they are done at the right volumes, and that person is the engineer. Any engineer who signs off on work and is found to be absent from the work grounds, inherently failing to ensure proper estimates are done, will be fired and dismissed from the project immediately, according to Minister Edghill.

Government engineers, he added, are not being paid to “simply hand contractors money.” They are therefore expected to ensure they save public funds from being expended wildly by doing proper estimations.

Overpayment on contracts and repayments

Minister Edghill also acknowledged the previous administration’s failure to collect monies overpaid to contractors on projects. He noted that the Public Works Ministry would be robustly going after overpayments made on projects.

In the 2019 AG report, it was revealed that the

previous administration overpaid some \$166 million of taxpayers’ dollars on contracts. The report stated that several Ministries, government departments and regional administrations were found to be doing so. The Public Infrastructure Ministry accounted for \$63.7 million, and \$73.7 million was overpaid by regional administrations.

In the report, it was noted that as of September 2019 only \$20 million was recovered meaning that a significant portion is still outstanding.

Zero tolerance policy for non-repayment

Edghill listed his administration’s third principle as a zero-tolerance policy for non-repayment from contractors. He spoke about contractors who refuse to repay overpaid funds to the state, noting that once a contractor refuses to repay the overpaid sum, they cannot be considered for future projects from the government.

Additionally, Edghill had previously said that once a contractor refuses to repay, his administration would pursue all avenues to recover the sums, which include pursuing legal action if necessary.

Since taking office in August last year, Edghill’s ministry would have dismissed a number of contractors from projects who were guilty of delayed works.

ECCB To release EC polymer five-dollar note by end of March



(Eastern Caribbean Central Bank): The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) is projecting that the polymer five-dollar note will be released by the end of March.

The ECCB launched its family of EC polymer notes in May 2019 with the new \$50. The \$100, \$20 and \$10 have since been issued.

The release of the five-dollar bill, which was initially projected for September 2020, has been delayed due to a decrease in demand for the note.

The Acting Director of the Currency Management Department Rosbert Humphrey, says that although five-dollar notes are in circulation more than any other denomination, it is the least demanded note.

Humphrey further explains that the polymer five-dollar notes may not be issued in all of the ECCB member countries at the same time, as the commercial banks in each country have a different level of stock which would determine when the new notes are released.

Humphrey also encourages the public to continue to take care of the EC polymer banknotes.

He advises against creasing, crumpling and applying heat, as these actions can compromise the features of the polymer banknotes. "It's your money, take care of it," Humphrey says.

PROBATE

FORM P7 (Rule 15)

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ANUHPB 2020/

In the Estate of BERTRAM FRANKLYN PETERS, late
of Pares Village, St. Phillip's, Antigua, Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FIRST PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that an Application has been filed by
**THERESA WILMA PETERS nee LEWIS and NORELITA
VERONICA GERTUDE PETERS** of Pares Village, St.
Phillip's, Antigua, for a Grant of Letters of Administration
to the Applicants who are the lawful wife and daughter
of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on
the 21st day of October, 2019.

Any person having an objection to the grant of
Letters of Administration to the Applicants shall file an
objection within fourteen (14) days of the publication
of this Notice.

Dated the 05th day of February, 2021

TALIA N. DACOSTA
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
STAPLETON CHAMBERS

Filed by **STAPLETON CHAMBERS** Attorneys-at-law
whose address for service is Stapleton Chambers,
Stapleton Lane, P. O. Box 2891, St. John's, Antigua, email:
craig.jacas@stapletonchambers.com, Tel No: 268-562-
7185; Fax No. 268-562-7967

PROBATE

FORM P7 (Rule 15)

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ANUHPB 2020/

In the Estate of "EITHEL SYLVESTER SMITH" a.k.a.
"CARBOT MONTGOMERY SMITH" a.k.a. "CORBETT
SMITH", late of Jennings Village, St. Mary's, Antigua,
Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FIRST PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that an Application has been filed
by **CELESTINA AGATHA SMITH a.k.a. CELESTINA
AGATHA JOSEPH** of Peas Alley, Jennings Village, St.
Mary's, Antigua, for a Grant of Letters of Administration
to the Applicant who is the lawful wife of the deceased,
the deceased having died intestate on the 09th day
of May, 2020.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters
of Administration to the Applicant shall file an objection
within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this
Notice.

Dated the 05th day of February, 2021

TALIA N. DACOSTA
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
STAPLETON CHAMBERS

Filed by **STAPLETON CHAMBERS** Attorneys-at-law
whose address for service is Stapleton Chambers,
Stapleton Lane, P. O. Box 2891, St. John's, Antigua, email:
craig.jacas@stapletonchambers.com, Tel No: 268-562-
7185; Fax No. 268-562-7967

PROBATE

FORM P7 (Rule 15)

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ANUHPB 2020/

In the Estate of BERTRAM DOUGLAS JOSEPH
PETERS JR., late of Pares Village, St. Phillip's,
Antigua, Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FIRST PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that an Application has been filed by
**THERESA WILMA PETERS nee LEWIS and NORELITA
VERONICA GERTUDE PETERS** of Pares Village, St.
Phillip's, Antigua, for a Grant of Letters of Administration
to the Applicants who are the lawful mother and sister
of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on
the 14th day March, 2015.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters
of Administration to the Applicant shall file an objection
within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this
Notice.

Dated the 05th day of February, 2021

TALIA N. DACOSTA
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
STAPLETON CHAMBERS

Filed by **STAPLETON CHAMBERS** Attorneys-at-law
whose address for service is Stapleton Chambers,
Stapleton Lane, P. O. Box 2891, St. John's, Antigua, email:
craig.jacas@stapletonchambers.com, Tel No: 268-562-
7185; Fax No. 268-562-7967

Volkswagen is exploring flying vehicles in China

(CNN): Volkswagen (VLKAF) is looking into flying vehicles in China, becoming the latest automaker to probe the possibilities of personal air travel.

Europe's largest automaker said in a statement on Tuesday that "vertical mobility" could be the next step after self-driving technology. "Therefore we are investigating potential concepts and partners in a feasibility study [in China] to identify the possibility to industrialize this approach," it added.

China is the world's largest autos market and is also Volkswagen's single biggest customer. The news comes as the German carmaker makes a big push into electric cars. It delivered more than three times the volume of battery electric vehi-



In September, Japanese company Sky Drive Inc. conducted Japan's first public demonstration of a flying vehicle.

cles last year than it did in 2019, while plug-in hybrid deliveries surged one hundred and seventy-five per cent to 190,500 units.

But "vertical mobility" throws up many more hurdles than electric mobility, including safety and reliability. Flying vehicles would need to operate in crowded airspace, near small drones and traditional airplanes, and would also need a

regulatory framework, which could take years.

In an interview posted to LinkedIn on Tuesday, head of Volkswagen China Stephan Wöllenstein told Volkswagen chairman Herbert Diess that the company also plans to develop a drone that could be licensed, which would help it to participate in the future market for individual mobility "that's taking place

up in the air and not down on the streets."

Volkswagen joins a growing list of companies exploring the potential of flying vehicles. At the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas last month, Uber (UBER) and Hyundai (HYMTF) unveiled plans for an electric flying taxi.

Meanwhile, companies such as Porsche (POAHF), Daimler (DDAIF) and Toyota (TM) have all backed startups in what is known as the electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) industry.

In September, Japanese company Sky Drive Inc. conducted Japan's first public demonstration of a flying vehicle. And Germany's Lilium, which is also developing an eVTOL aircraft, in November announced its first US hub near Orlando, Florida.

U.S. Justice Department asks most Trump-appointed prosecutors to resign

(Reuters): The U.S. Department of Justice on Tuesday asked most federal prosecutors appointed during former President Donald Trump's term to resign, though a few handling politically sensitive Trump-era investigations are expected to remain in place.

While most top prosecutors will depart, as is routine when a new president is elected, Acting Attorney General Robert Wilkinson intends to ask Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss, who is overseeing a tax probe of President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden,

to remain in office, a department official told Reuters.

John Durham, appointed as special counsel by former Attorney General William Barr to investigate the origins of federal investigations of links between Trump, his entourage and Russia, will also continue his work but will resign his position as U.S. attorney in Connecticut, the official said.

"We are committed to ensuring a seamless transition," Wilkinson said in a statement.

A second law enforcement official told Reuters

that the Justice Department is also expected to ask Michael Sherwin, the acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia to continue to play a major role in overseeing his office's investigation into the 6th January Capitol siege.

The White House on Tuesday said the decision to leave in place a few officials who are handling sensitive investigations underscored Biden's commitment to maintaining an independent Justice Department.

"The president has also made clear that he wants to restore the indepen-

dence of the Department of Justice and to ensure it remains free of any undue political influence," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said.

Meanwhile, U.S. senators are also reviewing applications for possible U.S. attorney candidates, staff in several congressional offices told Reuters.

Customarily the two senators from each state help vet candidates and must sign off on the nomination before it can proceed, though that practice fell by the wayside during the Trump administration.

Ghana Parliament shuts down over COVID outbreak among MPs, staff



(Aljazeera): Ghana's parliament has shut down for at least three weeks over a surge in coronavirus cases among lawmakers and staff.

At least seventeen members of parliament and one hundred and fifty-one support staff have been infected with the coronavirus, which

had already forced lawmakers to limit their assembly meetings.

The speaker of the house, Alban Bagbin, announced on Tuesday that the legislature would be in recess until 2nd March to make way for "disinfection and sanitization of the premises."

"I have, in consultation

with leadership, decided that sitting of the House be adjourned for three weeks," said Bagbin, adding that parliament's appointments committee would continue to meet to consider the ministerial nominees of President Nana Akufo-Addo, who was re-elected in December.

The West African country has reported 73,003 coronavirus cases, including four hundred and eighty-two deaths, since the pandemic began.

Large social gatherings such as funerals, weddings and parties are banned and the country's land and sea borders have remained closed to human traffic since March 2020 while beaches, night clubs, cinemas and pubs continue to remain shut.

Last month, Ghanaian soldiers were forced to intervene in parliament to quell a clash between opposing parties in chaotic scenes during the vote for the speaker.

The new parliament is split down the middle between the two main parties, posing the risk of political gridlock.

Myanmar coup: Police fire rubber bullets as protesters defy ban

Police in Myanmar have fired rubber bullets during a demonstration in the capital Nay Pyi Taw, as thousands defied a ban on protests. Water cannon and tear gas have also been used against protesters, but reports of live bullet usage are unconfirmed.

One woman is in hospital in a critical condition with a head wound.

Protesters are standing against a military coup that removed the elected government last week. Tuesday was the fourth consecutive day of protests. A ban on large public gatherings and night-time curfews has

been instigated in some cities, with military leader Min Aung Hlaing warning that no-one is above the law.

The demonstrators are demanding the release of elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi, along with senior leaders of her National League for Democracy Party (NLD). She was arrested when the military seized power and declared a year-long state of emergency on 1st February.

The NLD said its party headquarters in Yangon had been "raided and destroyed" by the military. In its first acknowledgement of the protests, Myanmar's

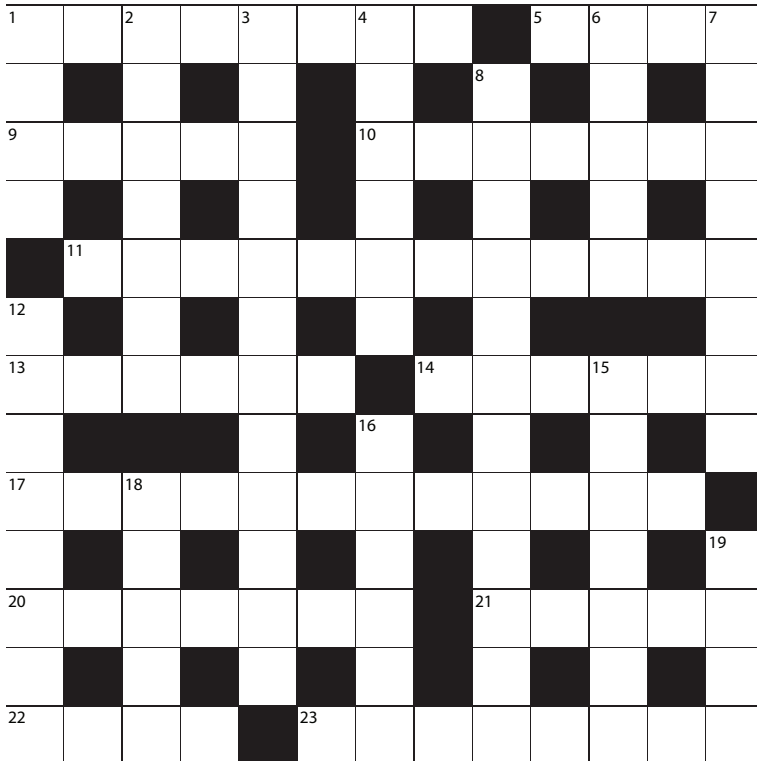
state TV said police had also been injured while trying to disperse "aggressive" protesters. It said a police truck was destroyed in the city of Mandalay.

Yangon resident Nelly, eighteen, (not her real name), described the scenes outside her house as "total chaos." "My biggest fear is our safety, because there are lots of people on the roads protesting but there is also a lot of violence from police officers. We don't know when we'll be shot at or when they will arrest us," she told BBC Outside Source on World Service radio.

Earlier on Tuesday, police began using water cannon against protesters in Nay Pyi Taw - but the crowd refused to retreat. "End the military dictatorship," people yelled. Some threw projectiles at police, witnesses said.

Warning shots were eventually fired into the air, before rubber bullets were fired at protesters. According to BBC Burmese, who spoke to an unnamed medical officer from a Nay Pyi Taw hospital, a woman suffered a serious head injury and another demonstrator had chest injuries. It is not yet clear how exactly they were wounded.

QUICK CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Rump (8)
- 5 Trick (4)
- 9 Something unusual and worth collecting (5)
- 10 Chucker-out (7)
- 11 Try something out (4,2,1,5)
- 13 Medicine that induces vomiting (6)
- 14 Neckwear (6)
- 17 Computer jargon? (12)
- 20 Plain and without any extras (informal) (7)
- 21 Amount consumed (5)
- 22 Actor's part (4)
- 23 (Of writing) not changed (8)

Down

- 1 Dollar (informal) (4)
- 2 Explosive compound (7)
- 3 Indications of someone's intentions (5,7)
- 4 Discussion (6)
- 6 Succulents (5)
- 7 Concern with the distinction between right and wrong (8)
- 8 Departing (7,5)
- 12 Remaining (4,4)
- 15 Brave (7)
- 16 Procure (6)
- 18 Waterway (5)
- 19 Curve (4)

DAILY COMICS

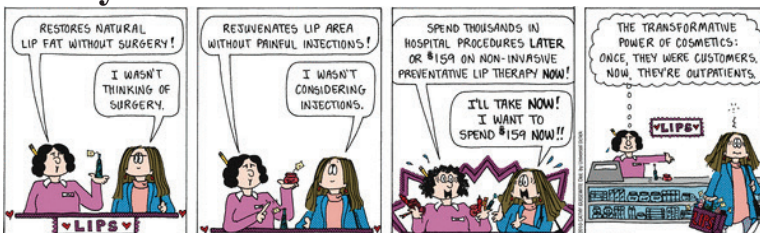
Dilbert



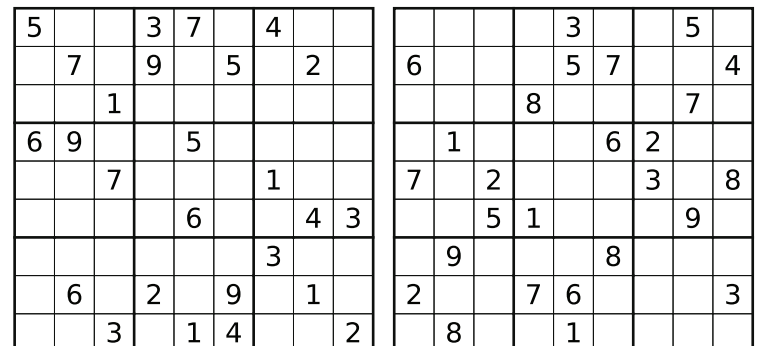
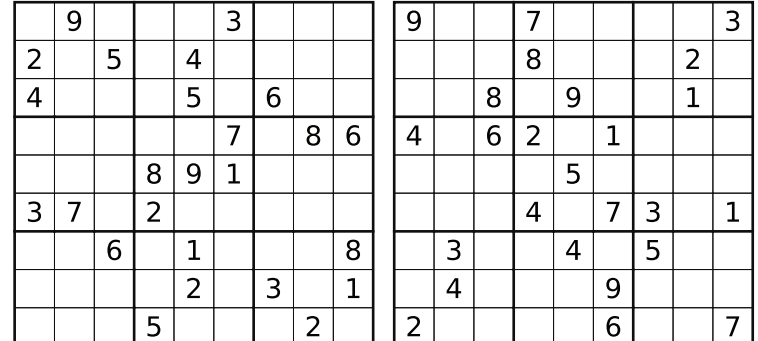
Garfield



Cathy




SUDOKU




How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

WED 02/10  **82° Hi** DAY Sunshine and nice
74° Lo NIGHT Partly cloudy with a shower in the area

Sunrise 6:36 AM Sunset 6:07 PM Moonrise 5:47 AM Moonset 5:14 PM

THU 02/11  **81° Hi** DAY Mostly sunny and beautiful
74° Lo NIGHT Partly cloudy

Sunrise 6:36 AM Sunset 6:08 PM Moonrise 6:35 AM Moonset 6:11 PM

COMMUNITY NOTICES


THE CATHEDRAL AND PARISH OF ST. JOHN

Considering the current restrictions there will be no in-person worship at any of our parish churches for the next two weeks. We do apologise for any inconvenience.


CHSS DARE TO D.E.A.R. BOOK DRIVE 2020

Clare Hall Secondary School is inviting past Clarehalites, entertainers, radio personalities and the general public to participate in its DARE to D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Book Drive 2020. Send us a video recording about your favourite book and donate a copy or multiple copies of that book to our school library. Give us a call at 462-3487 or mail us at admin@chss.edu.ag. The book drive culminates in December 2020. We DARE you to D.E.A.R. with us and help us promote literacy amongst our students.


YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

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


You could start feeling more detached or distant from your favorite people right about now, but there is nothing to worry about. Don't let your emotions convince you of things that aren't true.

 **LIBRA** Sept. | 23-Oct. 22


People notice when other people stand up for their principles, and they'll notice when you stand up for yours today. Sure, by sticking to your guns you might make things inconvenient for one or two folks, but so what?

 **TAURUS** | Apr. 20-May 20


Don't let someone else establish the framework of a particularly important conversation today. If the topic involves deep emotions, you need to make sure that you say what you need to say without getting too defensive.

 **SCORPIO** Oct. | 23-Nov. 21


People are very different on the inside than what their outside appearance may lead you to believe. Of course, this isn't news to you, but it's something to keep at the front of your mind today.

 **GEMINI** | May 21-June 20


It's important to stay on your toes today, but staying sharp isn't just about being alert, it's also about being healthy. Make sure you start this day with a good breakfast. None of this dessert-type stuff either.

 **SAGITTARIUS** | Nov. 22-Dec. 21


You'll be able to make just about anything entertaining today, given the huge wave of creative energy you're riding right now. You know how to keep your brain engaged and have fun in very subtle ways.

 **CANCER** | June 21-July 22


Be careful who you get involved with, especially in terms of any business dealings. Your urge to get what you want is so strong that it could be blinding you to some major red flags that are popping up left and right.

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


It's true that you need friends in order to lead a more fulfilled life, but it's not a good idea to get too hung up about how many friends you have. It's all about quality, not quantity. All you really need is one person who is willing to listen without judgment.

 **LEO** | July 23-Aug. 22


If you look beneath the surface of pleasant small talk today, you're sure to find some clues that point to the real intentions that lie behind what people are saying. There is a big disconnect between what they're saying and what they're feeling.

 **AQUARIUS** | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Your deep feelings for someone get even deeper today when they do something that reminds you just what a special person they are. Take time to express to them how they make you feel.

 **VIRGO** | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You are starting to think twice about a compromise you recently made with a friend. What you thought was going to happen isn't happening, and now you're wondering if you made a mistake.

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

You need to confront someone about a difficult issue, but you've been putting it off. It's totally understandable. After all, it's not fun to have complicated conversations. But the longer you put things off, the worse things will get.

NOTICE

To: Her worship,
The Licensing Magistrate.
District "A" Magistrate Court
Grays Farm
St. John's Antigua

To: The Commissioner of police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's Antigua

I, **NADIA MARTIN**, of Skerripts Pasture, St. John's, Antigua **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next special sitting to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Perry Bay, St. John's, Antigua on **Thursday 25th, February, 2021** for a Tavern License for the premises known as **HAAD's Restaurant & Bar** situated at Skerripts Pasture in the Parish of St. John's in the Island of Antigua pursuant to **Section 11(5) of the Licensing (Intoxicated Liquor) Act, Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.**

Dated the 28th, January, 2021

Cumberbatch & Associates
Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant

NOTICE

To: Her worship,
The Licensing Magistrate.
District "A" Magistrate Court
Grays Farm
St. John's Antigua

To: The Commissioner of police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's Antigua

I, **SELOCHNIE PERREIRA**, of Sutherlands, St. John's, Antigua **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next special sitting to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Perry Bay, St. John's, Antigua on **Thursday 25th, February, 2021** for a Tavern License for the premises known as **Ryan's Bakery** situated at Sutherlands in the Parish of St. John's in the Island of Antigua pursuant to **Section 11(5) of the Licensing (Intoxicated Liquor) Act, Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.**

Dated the 28th, January, 2021

Cumberbatch & Associates
Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant

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APUA Welcomes Back COVID-19 Survivor Keith Dover



Keith Dover APUA inet Technician, COVID-19 survivor

ST. JOHN'S Antigua, February 9th, 2021 - 105 million persons around the world have been ravaged by the merciless hands of the global adversary, the corona virus. After almost a year following hospitalization, physiotherapy and lots of prayers and will power, Keith Dover, APUA inet Technician and one of Antigua and Barbuda's first COVID-19 victims returns to work!

Dover was featured in APUA's internal newsletter, the Pulse, where he shared his story about his experience with COVID-19. "I was in ICU on [a] ventilator for 9 weeks and then moved on the ward for 4 weeks," Keith recalled. "There were times when my emotions got the better of me but with good family and friends around me I kept going". His story is one that echoes across many countries around the world. It's a story of faith, strength and sometimes immeasurable pain. "It [COVID-19] affects every part of your body. It has the potential to cause negative long lasting

effects to your body; it is here to kill."

As of Tuesday February 9th, 2021 Antigua and Barbuda records its 8th COVID-19 related death. But today APUA celebrates life, the return and recovery of its very own. Dover is now working in an office setting for the first time in 22 years. He is presently training and learning about all the software and programmes that run the Installation and Repairs Department within the Telecomms Business Unit.

Keith appeals to his colleagues to "Stay safe, be responsible... Don't let your guard down with this virus. It is not just a flu or common cold... Follow the protocols and let's ride this thing out until it goes away. Let us take care of ourselves and those around us."

APUA welcomes back Keith and wishes him all the best in his continued recovery. The Authority continues to urge members of the public to adhere to the nation's COVID-19 protocols and wishes all continued safety.

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New players bring culture change



West Indies head coach Phil Simmons

West Indies head coach Phil Simmons has signalled a culture change is evolving in the Test team, which is being driven by the arrival of new players with improved attitudes and character needed to be successful on the international stage.

Addressing the media just after the Caribbean side secured victory in a historic run chase to shock Bangladesh in the opening Test on Sunday, Simmons was high in praise for the inexperienced players who showed commitment and heart.

Barbadian Kyle Mayers was the star, hammering 210 and fellow debutant Nkrumah Bonner stroked 86, the pair putting on

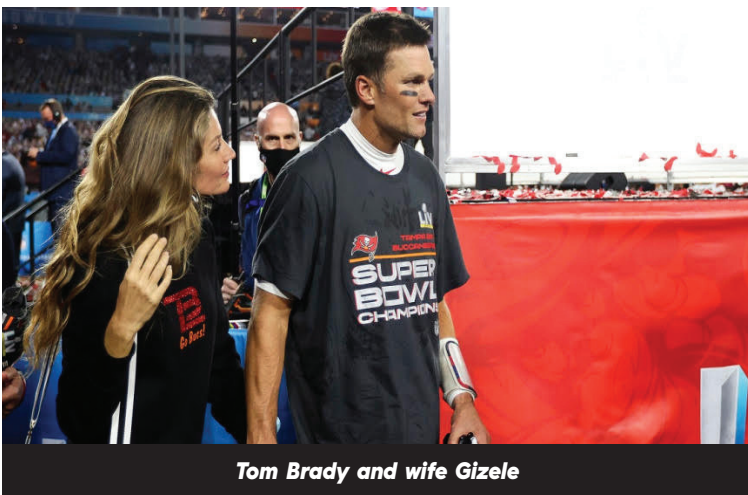
216 for the fourth wicket to lead West Indies to success chasing 395.

Simmons said he could not believe his eyes the way the guys went about applying themselves, especially the debutants. The Trinidadian noted the culture and attitude is changing and that is what he wants to see and is happy to see.

Selectors were forced to include four uncapped players in the fifteen-man squad, after six first choice players opted out of the tour for various reasons. Simmons said the players' application and success are an incredible feeling.

The coach also praised the leadership of interim captain Kraigg Brattwaite, who he said had been inspirational. The next Test starts on Thursday East Caribbean Time.

GOAT dispute between Brady and Serena



Tom Brady and wife Gizele

Tom Brady's triumphant Super Bowl win is another career-defining achievement for the veteran quarterback, prompting fans to crown him as the greatest of all time (GOAT) of athletes.

However, not all sports aficionados agree, with a heated dispute playing out online, as others pointed to tennis superstar Serena Williams as contender for the title of GOAT.

Brady's on field performance on Sunday night secured him an impressive seventh Super Bowl victory—the most by any player—and no doubt cemented him as the most successful quarterback in NFL history. The forty-three-year-old quarterback has played in more Super Bowl games than any other

quarterback in NFL history.

He has more playoff wins, more Super Bowl titles, and just about every playoff passing record known on the NFL record books. His thirty-four wins are more than the next two players combined: Joe Montana with sixteen and three players tied at fourteen.

Serena Williams has won twenty-three singles grand slams, fourteen doubles grand slams, two mixed doubles grand slams, and four Olympic gold medals. She held all four grand

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Junior Golf Championship



Marquise George, Tyler Hughes, Michelle and Sanjita Singh



Lexi Hunt and Akevia Warner



Sommah Martin and Ashley Francis

Despite his petite stature, young Marquise George propelled his team to glory in the Patricia Matthew and Joanne Solomon Junior Scramble Golf Championship at Cedar Valley over the weekend.

George, who is one of the country's hottest junior golfers, was in fine form on Sunday, playing alongside his partner, Tyler Hughes. In the girls' category, it was the Singh connection that went the distance and prevailed. Michelle and Sanjita Singh were by far the better golfers and like the boys' champions, they too won the nine-hole event twice in the last month to hoist the overall prize.

The duo shot thirty-eight on the back nine to claim honours for the second time in the month-long competition and thus was awarded the overall winners in the boys' division. Sommah Martin and Ashley Francis were second, while teammates Lexi Hunt and Akevia Warner, who were the first-round leaders, took home the third-place prize.

The runner-up spot was clinched by

Anderson inspire England



James Anderson and Jack Leach

James Anderson and Jack Leach bowled England to a famous 227-run victory against India on the final day of the first Test in Chennai.

Anderson inspired England with 3-17 and Leach took 4-76 as England inflicted just the second home defeat on the host in eight years.

India made a decent start in their pursuit of a world record

420, before Anderson swung the game in devastating fashion when introduced. He bowled Shubman Gill and Ajinkya Rahane in an incredible over of reverse swing and had the dangerous Rishabh Pant caught soon after.

Scores: England 578 (Root 218) & 178 (Root 40); India 337 (Pant 91) & 192 (Kohli 72), Anderson 3-17, Leach 4-76

Government enjoying a fruitful partnership with CWI



Minister of Sports Daryl Matthew

In his presentation in Parliament on Monday Minister of Sports, Daryl Matthew, highlighted the successful relationship the government has been enjoying with Cricket West Indies (CWI).

The government of Antigua and Barbuda entered into a partnership with CWI to purchase the former Sticky Wicket property, now rebranded as the Coolidge Cricket Ground. Matthew noted

that the opposition United Progressive Party have been criticizing the project, claiming it was a bad investment.

But the former president of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association unearthed the facts, pointing to the US\$47,209,147 CWI have invested in the local economy over the past three years. Matthew, known for his participation in sports as an administrator and player, said the investment was evident in salary and wages, customs duties, sales tax, match fees, deductions to statutory bodies, CWI A team tour, security and much more.

The Minister of Sports stated the nation is in line to host cricket every month for 2021, simply because the government has invested in facilities, supported CWI, and put protocols and procedures in place to host cricket in a safe environment.

The Super50 is presently being played at the Coolidge Cricket Ground

and the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium, while being broadcast on ESPN all across the world, Matthew explained.

Hoteliers have also seen tangible benefit through increase occupancy at a time when numbers have generally been low. Some hotels will have no less than one hundred rooms occupied over the next thirty days, the minister said.

Sri Lanka will be touring the region in March with the entire tour being facilitated right here on island, Matthew noted. Matthew said plans are in place to establish a studio at Coolidge that will be utilized to record, edit, and broadcast West Indies cricket all over the world.

The partnership with CWI has been a resounding success and is a testament to the government's dedication, vision, competency and understanding of the role cricket has played and continue to play in the life and culture of Antiguans and the region.

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slams at once twice in her career. She also has a record of most hard-court grand slams of any active player at thirteen. Serena won the Australian Open while she was pregnant.

Williams, thirty-nine, has broken multiple records in the sport, securing more grand slam singles titles, twenty-three, than any other player, man or

woman, during the Open Era.

Fans of Williams were also quick to point out her Olympic medal wins, an achievement out of Brady's grasp as the NFL is not an Olympic sport. Both Brady and Williams have enjoyed decades-long careers playing at the highest level in their respective sport.



Serena Williams and daughter Alexis

Yasco will be completed in two weeks

Minister of Education, Sports, and Creative Industries, Daryl Matthew, said that the Yasco Mundo track will be completed in two weeks with the technicians presently on island working daily. They are being assisted by members of the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force.

Matthew rebuked criticism from a local sporting organization, who in their January newsletter pointed to the completion of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party headquarters, located west of Yasco, while the track remained incomplete.

The Wings Sports Club attempted to chide the government for not finishing the country's main track

and field facility. The club accused the government of using COVID-19 as an excuse. However, the pandemic and subsequent lockdown of the country on 13th March 2020 brought sports and other public projects to a halt, including the laying of the track.

The newsletter failed to indicate that two technicians had previously started work on the track but, because of the worldwide coronavirus outbreak, requested to leave immediately, fearing being stuck in Antigua away from their families.

Matthew said since then the government, through the Ministry of Sports, has been in regular contact with representatives of Mundo and has kept the media updated.

The minister said the public should be happy that



Laying of track at YASCO



work is presently being done and that the track will be ready in two weeks.

"I want to thank the Ministry of Works and the National Olympic

Committee (NOC) for their assistance in what has been a collaborative effort. The athletes will be the beneficiary," the Minister concluded.

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