

# COVID-19 VACCINE SECOND DOSE

TO OFFICIALLY COMMENCE THIS WEEK

**SEE PAGE 3**

*Photo caption: A COVID19 vaccine is here being administered into a patient's arm*

# TIME FOR ACTION

It appears as though the discussions surrounding the vaccination of up to seventy percent of the country's adult population is fast becoming a labour relations issue, especially around whether or not there should be mandatory vaccination. Everyone accepts that Antigua and Barbuda is a country with deep roots in the democratic system of government. Democracy is predicated on freedom of choice; that is fundamental. The policy of the government is to encourage, as much as possible, a situation where the people decide to be vaccinated on their own free will. However, the advent of the coronavirus pandemic has presented societies the world over, particularly those with strong democratic systems with somewhat of a dilemma; how to mainly the principles of freedom of choice when exercising that freedom has the potential of placing the collective at risk of being infected by the virus. Already, some in the tourism trade are having to face this problem head-on. The pandemic decimated the reserved resources of many hotel properties. With signs that the United States and the United Kingdom are poised for exceptionally strong economic growth this year and with pent-up demand for travel in these two key source markets, Antigua and Barbuda can count itself as being in line for a bumper tourist season later this year. There is however one major warning cloud on the horizon; what to do with workers in the hotel and ancillary service sectors who still refuse to take the vaccine. The matter has moved from being the subject of academic discussion to become a potential crisis as the hotel sector gears up for a season that will hopefully help erase all the losses of the last fourteen months. A delegation from the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourist Association met last week with the Cabinet to discuss this issue. While the Cabinet is deliberating on this matter, perhaps some attempt could be made to have a wider degree of input into these discussions. Certainly, there is a role for the trade unions on this matter. What are the rights and guarantees of workers under these conditions and does the Labour Code speak to such eventualities? Equally, what about the rights of the employees and the need to protect the company and the future of its stakeholders, including workers? Should frontline staff in a hotel or related services lose benefits because they refuse to take the vaccine? There are no easy answers. However, there should be some national consensus on the issue but not before there is a tripartite discussion on the subject and a common position is reached on the way forward. Then there ought to be a joint press conference to announce this policy so that there's no opportunity for one party or the other to distance themselves from a decision freely arrived at by all. The time for action is now!

# COVID-19 VACCINE SECOND DOSE TO OFFICIALLY COMMENCE THIS WEEK



This week, Antigua residents with their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. This roll-out will see thousands of citizens and senior health offi-

cial, including the their second job. Chief Medical Of- By all indications, ficer and Cabinet the end of June will members take centre see over twenty four stage as they receive thousand citizens

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and residents fully vaccinated from the dreadful COVID-19 disease. According to health experts, the COVID-19 vaccine prevents serious illness, hospitalisation and death if one contracts the virus. However, health authorities are encouraging residents to come out to receive their first dose, soonest. With continued speculation on whether the COVID-19 vaccine will become mandatory, the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment has intensified its public education campaign, launched a mobile vaccination unit and engaged major stakeholders in the private sector, bar and entertain-

ment industry, seeking to collaborate on ways to encourage the public to turn out, to be vaccinated. Last week, doctors, nurses, and ministry officials took to the airways, imploring citizens to turn out to get their vaccine. Concurrently, the COVID-19 mobile vaccination unit continued its island-wide coverage last week. The mobile unit was seen in full swing at the Woods Center parking lot, vaccinating a total of seventy-one residents during the one-day operation. On Friday, the unit was in the Falmouth area in the vicinity of Baileys Supermarket, while on Saturday 8th May, the mobile unit set up camp

at the Cedar Grove playing field. Both days, the mobile unit vaccinated approximately two hundred residents.

“These three mobile COVID-19 vaccination events allowed citizens and residents to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, particularly those with transportation issues and those who are unable to access the established vaccination centers during the 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. opening hours,” ministry officials indicated.

Minister of Health, Sir Molwyn Joseph, reiterated that it is important to bring the COVID-19 vaccination programme into the community and the familiar

spaces of the people to facilitate ease of access to the vaccines.

Whereas ministry officials have engaged in public education, private entities have also joined the call in encouraging residents to take the jab. Earlier last week, Arton Capital, a global financial advisory company with bases in Dubai and Antigua, launched a “Vaccinate and Win” campaign. Similarly, Epicurean supermarket is offering shopping vouchers when residents vaccinate. On Thursday, Neverland Toy store announced a ten per cent discount store-wide when a customer turns up with their fully vaccinated card.

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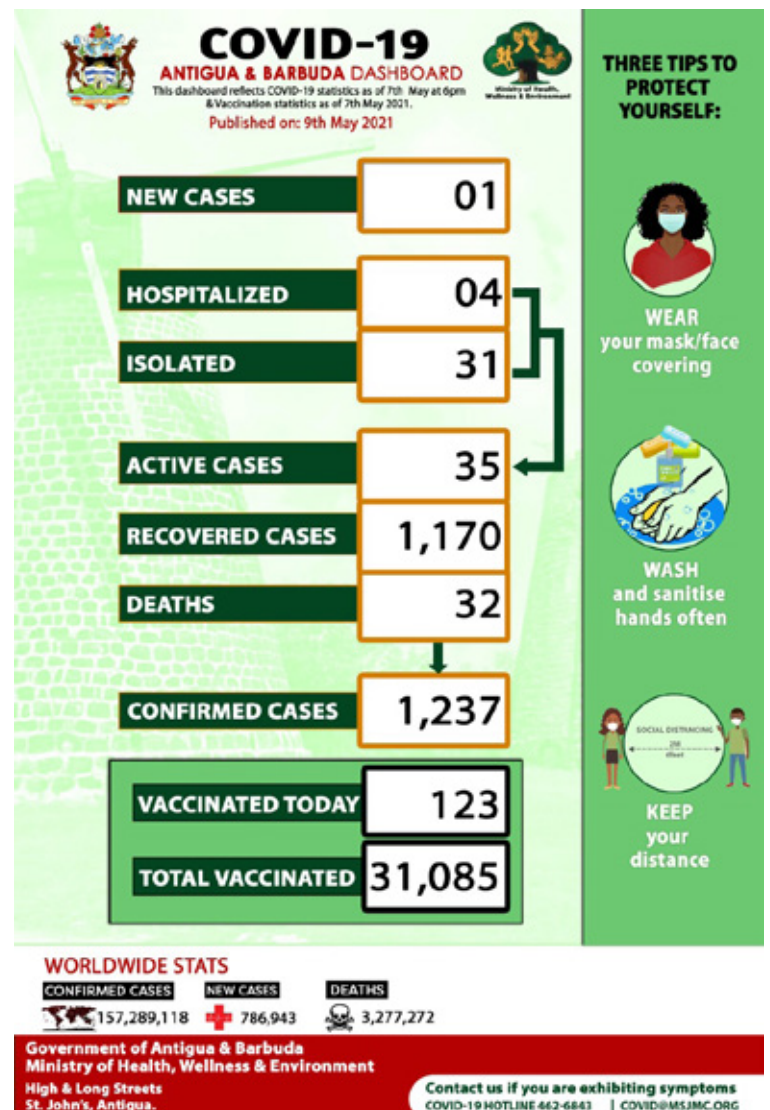
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# DAILY DASHBOARD RETURNS FOLLOWING INTERNAL REVIEWS

The publication of the daily dashboard detailing key information related to the COVID-19 pandemic has reappeared following an internal review and audit. The Ministry of Health revealed that the dashboard was absent for the period April 28 until May 07 during which time it underwent a review carried out by the Ministry's Epidemiology Unit. This is due to an ongoing audit of the Covid-19 data being carried out by the Ministry's Epidemiology Unit. Meantime, the ministry is reporting data covering the period have revealed fourteen new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda. The new cases are as follows: one (1) new case on April 28th, three (3) on April 29th, two (2) on April 30th, two (2) on May 3rd 2021, five (5) of which are

from May 6th and one (1) from May 7th, 2021. There were one hundred and fifty-four (154) recovered cases recorded during the same period as follows: One hundred and thirty-three (133) on April 28th, three (3) on April 29th, eleven (11) on May 1st, seven (7) on May 4th 2021, two (2) recovered cases were recorded on May 6th increasing the total to one thousand one hundred and seventy (1170). Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is one thousand two hundred and thirty-seven (1237); which is inclusive of thirty-five (35) active cases. Of these active cases four (4) are hospitalized with all being considered mild. During the audit, the Epidemiology Unit also dis-

covered that seven (7) of the Covid-19 cases were duplicated. As a result, the confirmed cases column is being reduced by seven (7). The other relevant columns have also been adjusted. Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is one thousand two hundred and thirty-one (1231); which is inclusive of thirty-one (31) active cases. Of these active cases five (5) are hospitalized with all being considered mild. The audit investigation of the Covid-19 related deaths is still ongoing and is being carried out in order to ensure that the deaths are recorded and classified according to the World Health Organization (WHO) standards of Covid-19 related deaths. This could result in an adjustment to this category which will be promptly published upon completion of the investigation which is expected to be no later than Friday 14th May 2021. Meanwhile, the total number of persons vaccinated as of May 7th 2021 is thirty-one thousand and eighty-five (31,085).



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# CHINESE SINOPHARM VACCINE APPROVED FOR USE IN A&B

By Shelton Daniel



## SINOPHARM

It may not be long before the range of vaccines available to Antiguan and Barbudans grows from the single brand currently available to three from which they can, as the saying goes, 'pick and choose.' Prime Minister Gaston Browne has indicated that apart from the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, which has so far monopolised the field, the Russian-manufactured Sputnik V and China's SinoPharm could soon be in the mix as well.

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His comments on Saturday during his weekly radio programme, The Browne and Browne Show on PointeFM 99.1, came as the World Health Organisation (WHO) endorsed SinoPharm – the first non-Western-made vaccine to receive the UN agency's nod. WHO approval of SinoPharm now paves the way for Antigua and Barbuda to acquire the vaccine via the UN-brokered Covax Facility – through which AstraZeneca supplies were also procured – but also bilaterally from Beijing, with which St. John's enjoys excellent and very long-standing relations.

Said the Prime Minister: "We got an undertaking – a gift, or a promise of a gift – for twenty thousand vaccines from the People's Republic of China three months ago, but had neither authority to import nor authority for use. Now that the Chinese vaccine has been approved by the WHO ... in fact it has been communicated to me

that next week we will get the formal approval to import and approval for use – so we will then forward that to the Chinese Embassy here for onward transmission to their capital ... I'm hoping that arrangements could be made now to have the vaccines shipped." He further pointed out that, "We could not have accepted them [the vaccines from China] because we didn't have the approval. And we keep saying to these individuals [responsible for granting approval] ... let's get the vaccines in, be-

cause by the time we wait for WHO to approve these vaccines, then they become inaccessible and that has been the problem that has been plaguing us for the last several months." Referring to what he termed "those conservative decisions that have been taken," PM Browne disclosed that, "We even said to them 'give us the authority to import, and then we can even hold them in storage for a month or so, with the hope that within the month you would get the approval.' But the Chinese

did say to us at the time that they wanted the authorisation for use, because the last thing they wanted to do was to give us a gift of twenty thousand vaccines and then they waste them and expire after a few months." The Prime Minister said he is "happy that WHO at least approved it [the SinoPharm vaccine] and we should get [the] twenty thousand [doses] shortly – if they are still available; I hope they are, because everybody is rushing globally now to get these vaccines."

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A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board



# RUSSIAN SPUTNIK V NOW PART OF LOCAL VACCINE ARMOURY

by *Shelton Daniel*

Authorisation for use of the Russian-manufactured Sputnik V vaccine in Antigua and Barbuda was granted late last week by the country’s Pharmaceutical Council, according to Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

He had previously expressed some frustration with the length of time it was taking the Council to approve use of the Russian vaccine, despite the overwhelmingly positive review it had received in what is arguably the world’s foremost

medical journal, The Lancet.

“We just sent out the authorisation for use two days ago – we only got it two days ago – so we are now hoping that we can literally get them to rush our order. I believe that we are somewhere down the pecking order because we have had to wait nearly two months before we got the approval ....”

Prime Minister Browne has been concerned about the sluggish pace of acquiring vaccine brands other than AstraZeneca for use in Antigua and Barbuda,

because he believes a variety of choices may be what is needed to reinvigorate the public inoculation drive that has stagnated in recent weeks.

“The vaccination process is going extremely slow. I think we have only done ... 30,700 so far. And we still remain hopeful that all of the vaccines we have in stock that we will get them into the arms of our people. But if [this] rate continues, if there is not an increase, we may well find ourselves in a situation in which some of those vaccines could expire on

us.” The Prime Minister said, should that happen, it “would be a tragedy, because here we are fighting so hard to get vaccines – and vaccines are not cheap.”

To illustrate his point, he referred to Antigua and Barbuda’s efforts to procure supplies of the Sputnik V vaccine, which is manufactured by the Gamaleya Institute of Russia.

“We made an order recently ... with the Russian Investment Fund ... for about 50,000 vaccines which is going to be over half-a-million US dollars.



## APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 10th May 2021	Tuesday, 11th May 2021	Wednesday, 12th May 2021	Thursday, 13th May 2021	Friday, 14th May 2021
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8:45AM-11:30AM	8:45AM - 11:30AM	8:45AM - 12:00PM	8:45AM - 11:30AM	8:45AM - 11:30AM

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.

We may have to pay another US\$200,000 for a charter to bring those vaccines here.” Browne said he could not understand why people in the country were reluctant to be inoculated, thereby causing the vaccines in storage to be in danger of expiring. “We have been pushing the United States to make vaccines available to us. If vaccines are expiring here, you think anybody is going to waste this precious com-

modity or to prioritise Antigua and Barbuda? In fact, one of the reasons, too, why we haven’t gotten the Russian vaccine is that we have not been able to present the authorisation for use ... We got authorisation for importation before, and we got in 1,000; another 1,000 to follow – and those are actually gifts we got from the Russian Investment Fund. But we have an order for 50,000 vaccines ... and I’m pretty sure they would

not have given us consideration until such time as we had authorisation for use, because the last thing they would want is for their vaccines to come here and we don’t use them and they go to waste.” In the Prime Minister’s assessment, US\$500,000 “doesn’t mean anything to Russia. They just want to know that there’s a broad cadre of countries utilising their vaccines, and the reputational damage of sending vaccines

to a country and, next thing, they don’t use them and they have to discard them ... this is serious.”

He added that “having the Sputnik would give people a choice, which may be part of the problem ... Probably from next week, the 1,000 Sputnik vaccines that we have in stock, those should be made available and I’m hoping that we would see an increase in the take-up for those vaccines.”



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# TEN MORE BOOBY ALLEY FAMILIES TO RECEIVE NEW HOMES TODAY



**Photo caption: Demolition has started in the Booby Alley area.**

As the Booby Alley redevelopment family relocating phase continues, ten additional families will receive keys to their temporary homes on Pestaina Street Villa today. These ten families will enjoy brand new properties constructed by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda through the Ministry of Works. The homes are all said to be approximately twelve hundred square feet in size, equipped

with a laundry room, bathroom, kitchen, and living room with a combination of reinforced concrete, cement base foam panels, metal trusses with angle iron, foam galvanize metal doors and windows. All homes are said to have electricity, water, and internet infrastructures in place. With the ten families receiving their keys during a handing-over ceremony this morning, a total of twen-

ty-two families would now be relocated to temporary homes until the completion of the Booby Alley redevelopment project. The relocation of these families represents a major part of the Booby Alley redevelopment project that will see the structural and environmental revitalisation of the Booby Alley area in the Point.

According to a member of the redevelopment committee, other families and residents have also been relocated to rented properties in and around the area. The temporary housing has been described as a monumental shift in housing opportunities for the residents. According to Prime Minister Gaston Browne, “The whole



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*Inside view of temporary homes in Villa*



*Photo Caption: Prime Minister Gaston Browne, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Ministry Official speaking with members of the media on Bay Street Villa.*

idea is to relocate individuals temporarily and within two years, to have the reconstruction of the entire area (Booby Alley) to build modern homes.”

Prime Minister Browne, who is also the Parliamentary Representative for the area, noted that this project, along with the recently completed Polyclinic and Community Centre, the continued development of the Villa Primary School, and the housing development at Paradise Cove are all a part of an overall vision for the holistic improvement of the lives and livelihood of those within the constituency.

During the first handing over ceremony in March 2021, Booby Alley resident, Ms. Makela Daniel, who also received keys to her temporary home at Bay Street Villa expressed profound thanks for the initiative, as it presented an opportunity for her and her fellow residents

to have a better standard of living. Ms. Daniel said, “The Booby Alley Project has been long-awaited, but patience is a virtue. We are seeing a result of a dream that has become a reality. To the Prime Minister and the Government, the organising committee, the residents of the Booby Alley say a heartfelt thank you for your hard work and dedication for seeing this project through to the end. To the Prime Minister and his government, an extra special thank you for having the vision for us, the residents, the opportunity of a better way of living, better living conditions, and a different environment for us to raise our children and our children’s children.” With the continued relocation of families from the Booby Alley area in Point, demolition has commenced. Several structures have been destroyed and cleared, preparing the area for surveying.

## AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Instructed by the **ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DEVELOPMENT BANK** of 27 St. Mary's Street, in the City of Saint John, in the State of Antigua and Barbuda, I will sell by public auction on Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 10:00 a.m. on site, the under mentioned property owned by Ms. Laura Nicholas of Cedar Grove, St. John's, Antigua.

The property is located at Mount Pleasant, St. John's, Antigua and consists of a vacant parcel of land of an area of approximately 11,835.22 sq. ft. / 0.27 Acre.

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# GOVERNMENT INTENSIFIES MARKETING OF NOMAD PROGRAMME



*Immigration Minister E.P Chet Greene (left) and National Hero Sir Vivian Richards (right) from file photo*

The government is mounting an aggressive campaign to attract more people to its NOMAD Digital Residency (NDR) programme which it views as a new niche market that could buffer some of the losses from the traditional tourism market. The latest venture was a special promotion last week, held virtually, that was aimed at the Canadian market. The event was organised by the Antigua

and Barbuda Consul General in Canada, Ann-Marie Layne, in collaboration with the Department of Immigration in St John's. Taking part in the event were Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister E.P. Chet Greene as well as National Hero Sir Vivian Richards, Chief Immigration Officer Katrina Yearwood. In his opening remarks, Greene spoke of the government's expectations for the NDR pro-

gramme. "As a policy initiative, the government sees the NDR as resiliency programme that allows us to diversify the tourism sector at a time when the industry has been negatively affected by the coronavirus pandemic. It allows participants to live, work and play in Antigua and Barbuda for up to two years in what we call 'paradise on earth,'" he remarked. He also announced that the Immigration Department is currently redesigning the website for the NDR programme and he invited those interested in the programme to visit it for additional information about the programme and Antigua and Barbuda generally. Chief Immigration Officer Yearwood noted that while several other Caribbean territories have developed similar programmes, there is something quite

unique about the Antigua and Barbuda NDR initiative. "We decided to establish a separate NDR Unit within the department and to purposefully keep it small. That's because we wanted to emphasise the personal attention that each NDR recipient receives, including our 'after-care' follow-ups and other support services," she explained. Additionally, she said other territories only offer a one-year residency, while Antigua and Barbuda's programme is for a two-year period. Sir Vivian indicated that he was very happy to be an Ambassador-at-Large for the NDR programme that he is available to assist the programme in any way he can. He even offered to make himself available, along with Sir Richie Richardson, to play a round of golf with any of the NDR recipient who so desires.



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## STUDENTS AWARDED HALO HERO MEDAL

Two boys whose gallant efforts helped saved the lives of two younger children from a fire earlier this year have been singled out for special awards from Halo Foundation, the charity organisation run by the Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams and Lady Sandra Williams. The boys - Silence Manyaka of the Ottos Comprehensive School and Demetri Browne of the Sunnydale Primary Schools – have been presented with the Halo Hero Humanitarian Award during a brief ceremony held at Government House.

The two boys were recognised for their valiant efforts when they rescued two children from a fire in the Cashew

Hill area on 8th February 2021. Sir Rodney Williams urged the young men to continue on their path of selflessness and bravery. He commended their action of having risked their very own lives to save the lives of others. The young men expressed their gratitude after being presented with the medals for bravery. Silence Manyaka noted, “I never expected to really meet the Governor General or get an award, but it makes me happy to receive it.” The parents of both boys shared that they were not shocked at all by their sons’ actions. Demetri Browne’s mother indicated that she, too, had rescued a friend from a fire a few years ago — a feat which emphasises

the exemplary role that parents play in the character development of their children.

President of the Halo Foundation, Lady Williams commented: “Previously, there have been fifteen awardees of the Halo Hero Humanitarian Award at the Secondary and Tertiary levels. This is the first time that an award has been bestowed upon a primary school student, and it is extremely encouraging to see such fearless commitment to service at such a tender age. If this type of positive action prevails, we can look forward to the strengthening of our nation by young people who are not only smart and highly skilled, but also kind and considerate.”

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTS STANDING COMMITTEE



*Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin*

The House of Representatives has moved to establish a Standing Committee, whose appointment will last for the duration of the parliamentary session. Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin told the House that the establishment of the committee was a recommendation that has been made from time to time and that the members felt that the time has come to act on the recommendation. “When bills come before the committee, it will have the right to co-opt persons as they see fit to deal with matters of complexity, technicality and need to be dealt with before they come to the House for debate,” he outlined. The five-member Stand-

ing Committee of the House will be chaired by Benjamin and it will also include from the government bench St Mary’s South representative, Samantha Marshall, St John’s Rural South, Daryl Matthew, All Saints East and St Luke, Jamale Pringle and from Barbuda, Trevor Walker.

Benjamin explained that some bills that come to the House of Representatives are highly technical, such as the Telecommunications Bill, and that it would be necessary for the Standing Committee to consider it in detail before it is presented to the full House for debate and approval.

“That particular bill will require much discussion and not only can the committee co-opt other members of the House, but it can also co-opt members of the community with specialised knowledge

to advise the committee on these technical matters,” he added.

He stated that by utilising the expertise of people outside the Parliament, the legislative process will benefit as members of the House will make informed decisions when voting to approve various pieces of legislation.

Meanwhile, the government is taking steps to acquire a parcel of land at Lower Gambles to be used for the construction of a community centre to serve the people in the area. Parliamentary Representative for St John’s City East, Melford Nicholas, told the Parliament that because of the fact there are no government-owned lands in the area, it has become necessary to acquire the lands for the community centre that will serve the people of the area.

# eSports as a pathway into STEAM careers



## *By Crystal Clashing*

In the last decade STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) has been encouraged worldwide as being critical to the development of the future of our global workweek. However, the STEM focus has shifted to become STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), where the Arts play a crucial role in applying STEM knowledge. It was therefore fitting that in November 2020 when the Antigua and Barbuda Ministry of Sports,

Festivals and the Arts, added Education to their portfolio, that they became the Ministry of Education, Sports and Creative Industries.

Technology, in particular, seems to have the potential to combine the three domains of the Ministry in a manner that makes all three not only relevant to the younger generation but also in keeping with the cultural changes and technological advances of the world. The particular application of technology that does this comes in the form of competitive video gaming. While

seemingly trivial, anti-social, and sedentary at face value, the industry of competitive video gaming or eSports, as it is called, has important implications for the future of education, careers of the 21st century, and cultural and creative expression.

Video games are a prime example of this where STEM needs to become STEAM as logic-based thinking meets the creative industries of Arts and Culture. Rooted in technological development, the area is rife with career pathways in computer programming and

coding. However, even for those that are not technically minded, there exists a place for the creative mind. Skills like graphic design, illustration, music composition and storytelling have a crucial place in video game development.

Equally as important, are those in the professional fields of law and medicine. eSports offer a potentially lucrative specialisation. Dr. Melita Moore, a medical doctor within the NBA and WNBA, has tapped into the niche of eSports to build her own business of serving eSports



competitors. eSports has transformed video gaming into a high-performance activity that commands millions if not billions of dollars in global championship tournaments. This means that lifestyle health and legal expertise is required for these players as much as professional athletes do. eSports are played as a team sport, usually comprised of a 5-person team, where teams compete head-to-head with other teams in a public arena. No longer does video gaming mean spending hours on end in a dark room socialising with no one from the outside world. Dr. Moore points out that as a professional high-performance team activity, the mind and body must be trained and kept in an optimal state to contribute well to individual and team performance. For now, eSports competitions are held for console-based games like Fortnite that involve a computer screen, keyboard and mouse. However, the future of gaming is evol-

ing. Extended reality (XR) technology may very well have competitive games that require physical exertion through the skilled movement of the body in response to virtual graphics and other sensory input. Already, this is happening as the International Olympic Committee announced on April 22nd 2021 that it will launch the Olympic Virtual Series between May 13th and June 23rd prior to the Tokyo Olympics this summer. One of the virtual competitions will be done through the virtual cycling application, Zwift, which involves cycling on a bike trainer in response to a virtual world.

The pandemic has unveiled the applications of technology in our socially distanced world. The future, then, is a hybridisation of virtual and real-world events across the globe. Access to education and the application of knowledge and skills will increasingly be globally connected. So as not to be left behind in these global advances, the Universi-


ty of the West Indies (UWI) Five Islands campus, under the direction of the Director of Academic Affairs, Dr. Curtis Charles, is taking active steps to equip upcoming generations with the skills and mindset to take advantage of these global trends.

Ahead of opening their undergraduate course in eSports and Gaming in the Fall semester of this year, they are hosting a talk on eSports and Extended Reality as part of the public advocacy series on Monday, May 17th, 2021 at

6:30 pm. Speakers include the aforementioned Dr. Melita Moore along with XR specialist and Chapman University adjunct professor Eric T. Elder will share on the Zoom platform whose theme is "159 billion reasons why the Caribbean should engage in e-sports".

For those interested in learning how these technological trends could apply to Antiguans and Barbudans, registration can be done through [fiveislands.uwi.edu/publicadvocacy-series](http://fiveislands.uwi.edu/publicadvocacy-series).

Form RLNC 6



**ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**  
**THE REGISTERED LAND ACT, CAP 374**

Section 24 of the Act APR 27 2021

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Martins Village	611 1791C	135


**NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REPLACE A LOST OR DESTROYED LAND CERTIFICATE**

**TAKE NOTICE** that an application was filed in the Land Registry on 27th day of April, 2021 by Lenworth Johnson, Attorney-at-Law of JOHNSON GARDINER of 51A St. Mary's Street on behalf of PHILLIP ABBOTT of Woods Estate, St. John's, Antigua, Executor & Trustee of the Estate of EUGENE MICHAEL HUMPHREYS a. k. a. EUGENE HUMPHREYS, deceased, the Applicant herein for the replacement of Land Certificate #712/97 dated the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1997, to EUGENE HUMPHREYS being the owner of the above-mentioned property, which has been lost or destroyed.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that anyone who objects to the issue of a new Land Certificate or who has knowledge of the original Land Certificate must within the period of one (1) month from the Second Publication of this notice in the newspaper inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that in the absence of any objection or information as to the existence of the original Land Certificate within the time specified the Registrar of Lands may proceed to cancel the original Land Certificate and issue a new Land Certificate in its place without further notice.

Dated the 27th day of April 2021.

  
Registrar of Lands



A Weekly Business News Aggregation Service

**COMPILED AND EDITED BY THE DIRECTORATE OF TRADE  
AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AT THE CARICOM SECRETARIAT**

## **BUSINESS NEWS IN BRIEF**

### **The Bahamas turns to the private sector to drive investment**

The Bahamas will shortly select a private group to establish a new statutory body, Invest Bahamas – an independent statutory body that would facilitate the investment process from conception to implementation. The Finance Ministry is reviewing at least 7 bids received in response to a recently closed Request for Proposals (RFP). According to the RFP, Invest Bahamas would be “a progressive, autonomous and integrated foreign and domestic investment agency that, among other things, will promote The Bahamas as a jurisdiction open for business, for quality foreign direct investment, facilitate and in some cases approve foreign investment applications, and assist Bahamians in accessing business capital and appropriate financial concessions.” A successful bidder would have to provide a new efficient and transparent investment approval process, review and approval of investment proposals.

### **Jamaica's Finance Ministry nudges capital market expansion**

Effective April 30, Jamaica has approved 5 allowable foreign assets in which intermediaries can invest.

These include corporate foreign currency debt instruments issued by entities locally incorporated that are earners of foreign exchange and publicly-traded shares that are denominated in major foreign currencies of companies incorporated in Jamaica. Both are required to be deemed investment grade by ratings agencies or “good” by CariCris. The other 3 span BOJ CD's denominated in foreign currency; GOJ-guaranteed corporate foreign currency debt instruments; and publicly-traded foreign currency shares of companies registered outside of Jamaica, with market capitalisation of US\$10 Billion or greater.

### **UK and US economies projected to grow by more than 7%**

Britain looks set to see faster economic growth than the United States this year as the country races ahead with its vaccination programme after its slump in 2020. That's the word from Goldman Sachs. The bank said in a note to clients that it now expects British Gross Domestic Product to grow by a “striking” 7.8% this year, “above our expectations for the U.S.” Previously, Goldman had expected Britain's economy would grow by 7.1% this year and its forecast for U.S. growth in 2021 stands at 7.2%, helped by U.S. President Joe Biden's huge fiscal stimulus programme. The IMF however projects a 5.3% expansion in the UK economy.

# Credit demand slows in Jamaica in last quarter of 2020

Jamaica's lending institutions experienced growth in credit demand in the last quarter of 2020. This was revealed in the latest Quarterly Credit Conditions Survey (QCCS) undertaken by the BOJ. The December QCCS showed growth in credit demand, as measured by the Credit Demand Index, which increased to 104.2. The increase in credit demand reflected an increase in demand for personal loans, while demand by businesses declined. The increased demand by households mainly reflected increased borrowing for refinancing & debt consolidation. The declining demand by businesses reflected reluctance to incur additional debt as the economic recovery appears to be slower than previously envisioned.

# Barbados economy declines by 19.8%; debt levels now 153% of GDP

The Barbados economy declined by 19.8% for the period January to March 2021, reinforcing the fact that the economy is in recession after declining for the past 4 consecutive quarters. Central Bank of Barbados governor Cleviston Haynes has attributed the decline to a weakened tourism sector, coupled with the fallout in other economic activities and depressed private spending. For the first quarter, Tourism output

plunged by an estimated 96% while unemployment remained "elevated" at 13.6%. The Central Bank Governor also advised that Barbados "suffered a revenue loss of \$416 million or 5% of GDP for the financial year 2020-2021, largely the result of the impact of COVID and discreet policy changes." Transaction-based taxes, that includes the value-added tax (VAT), declined by \$498 million. However, tax collection on incomes and investments increased by \$119 million, which was largely attributable to the near doubling of corporation taxes, which rose by \$304 million. Net International Reserves declined by US\$86 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2021, though it still stands at US\$2.6 billion or 43 weeks of import cover. However, at the end of the fiscal year Barbados' debt increased to 153% of GDP with outstanding debt recorded as \$12.92 billion relative to \$12.38 billion at the end of the FY2019/20.

# IMF reaches staff-level agreement with Suriname

The IMF has reached a staff-level agreement for a three-year Extended Fund Facility with Suriname which will provide some \$690 million in financing. This is in the wake of an agreement by Suriname's creditors this month to defer payments of principal and interest on its 2023 and 2026 bonds, given the economic fallout of the coronavirus pandemic. "Debt relief from Suriname's official bilateral partners and additional financing from multilateral partners will be required to help ensure debt sustainability and close financing gaps," the IMF said in a statement. The Fund also noted that "this will need to be complemented by progress toward a restructuring of commercial debt." If approved by the IMF Executive Board in the coming weeks, \$57.5 million would be immediately available, the Fund said.

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

DR. MASERATI      SENATOR COLIN BROWNE



## SEVEN MORE DIE FROM COVID, DEATH TOLL RISES TO 203 IN T&T

Trinidad Guardian - As the country's COVID-19 outlook hit a record high in terms of new cases per 24-hour period, at 402 and seven additional deaths, which pushed the tally to 203 overall, fears continue to circulate that the nation's hospitals are being overwhelmed. Inching closer to the 4,000-mark as total active cases reached 3,783 up to 4pm on Saturday, public officials have continued to adopt drastic actions to force persons to stop congregating. In a never-before-seen move to prevent mem-

bers of the public from venturing onto the capital's busiest liming strip — the Brian Lara Promenade, the Port-of-Spain City Corporation on Saturday roped off the area which runs from east to west with caution tape and cordoned off the area with barricades. In the Ministry of Health's daily update at 4pm, officials reported that a total of 331 people had been hospitalised. And with 391 people at state quarantine sites, the ministry said a total of 3,014 people remained in home self-isolation, with 46

in step-down facilities. This is the second time seven deaths have been recorded in a 24-hour period since the pandemic began in March 2020. Another seven fatalities were also recorded on September 11, 2020. Meanwhile, Police Commissioner Gary Griffith also shut down the West Bees Supermarket in Diego Martin on Saturday for failing to adhere to COVID-19 regulations. He said he was left with no choice after they failed to heed the advice to install social distance markers to keep customers apart.

Griffith issued a warning to the owners on Friday after he visited and found close to 100 persons packed under a tent. Upon arriving on Saturday, Griffith "found customers packed together, tighter than channa in a doubles." The CoP said the grocery will be allowed to reopen only when it does what is required. He has promised that greater attention will be paid to increasing foot patrols in and around businesses to ensure crowd control measures are followed.

# Agriculture minister calls on bee farmers to invest more in the industry



Jamaica Observer – ST. JAMES, Jamaica – Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Floyd Green, is calling on bee farmers to invest more in building and diversifying the industry. Green, who was addressing members of the St. James bee farming community on May 2, also encouraged them to boost their production of honey, as there is a ready market. “The growth of the beekeeping subsector is critical, not just for significant demand for

honey and other bee by-products, but also for the role bees play in the ecosystem and how critical they are to agriculture in general,” the minister said. Green said the Government is increasing its role “in developing strategies to increase yields, in research and development of cutting-edge technology” to get the local bee farming industry in step with the more advanced apiculture economies worldwide. “The Government has partnered with the

Florida Department of Agriculture and we are looking for their assistance to conduct DNA analysis of our local honey bee stock, and clearly this will allow the Government to compile data on the local stock, leading to increased access to market for the sale of high-quality queen bees,” the minister noted. He said despite the setbacks experienced after the flood rains in 2020, the industry is on the rebound with some 3,000 investors

managing just over 3,500 apiaries with approximately 65,000 bee colonies valued at about \$2.6 billion or US\$17 million. The growth, he noted, extends to western parishes, highlighting the \$27-million state-of-the-art honey extraction and bottling facility which was recently established through a partnership between the Hanover Bee Farmers Co-operative and the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

# BARBADOS REVENUE AUTHORITY TO REVIEW VEHICLE REGISTRATION STICKERS



Revenue Commissioner Louisa Lewis-Ward.

BARBADO ADVOCATE -- Given the backlog in the distribution of vehicle registration stickers to date and the lack of manpower to process them, the whole process will likely be revamped.

Barbados's Revenue Commissioner, Louisa Lewis-Ward, revealed the above during a virtual media briefing held via the Zoom online platform recently.

"We are actually looking to try with the Licensing Authority to au-

tomate the process, so instead of a sticker, you will receive something that is like a QR Code. We are going to dialogue with the insurance companies to see if we can get that to happen as a matter of urgency," Lewis-Ward revealed.

She added, "It is simply too many stickers to process. At one point we had over 40,000 stickers as a backlog to process, and that number only continues to compound as time goes on, because

the manpower to process each individual one is not there. So we are going to look to automate the process.

"The tax is already paid at the fuel pump, so the registration in effect is only a by-process to the collection of the tax itself. It is a log of each taxpayer in the system, and so, if we can do that log directly in an automated fashion in conjunction with the insurance companies, then we should be able to bypass the pro-

cess altogether. So, we are working hard to have that happen as a solution," the Revenue Commissioner maintained.

Previously, it was noted by the Barbados Revenue Authority that registration stickers for privately owned vehicles would be issued via the post. This revised process was introduced in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, owners of private vehicles were no longer required to visit the Authority's offices to collect registration stickers and, on behalf of their clients, insurance companies were required to submit the vehicle owners' insurance certificates and valid cover notes to the Authority. The Authority would then use this information to update vehicle registrations and assign the stickers to the vehicle owners. Once the information was processed and the stickers were assigned, the Barbados Licensing Authority then distributed the registration certificates and stickers via mail to the address on record within the licensing system.



*St. Lucia Prime Minister Allan Chastanet*

## STATE OF EMERGENCY WILL NOT AFFECT ELECTION - PM

LOOP News St. Lucia - Prime Minister Allen Chastanet has stressed that the extension of Saint Lucia's state of emergency to October 16 will not hinder the nation's upcoming general election.

During a recent sitting of Parliament, the House of Assembly approved a five-month extension of the state-of-emergency, beginning May 17 and running into the final quarter of the year.

With elections constitutionally due in October, the prime minister maintained that the state

of emergency will not impede processes for this national exercise. He said, however, that he looks forward to the national exercise being conducted with proper COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place.

"How can a state of emergency stop the general election?" Prime Minister Chastanet said. "St Kitts had a state of emergency, did it affect their election? When Jamaica had a state of emergency, did it affect their election? Trinidad held elections during a state of emergency, did it

affect their election process? The answer is no—it does not impede the ability to have an election.

"One of the critical decisions that will guide the decision when we will have elections is when we believe that we can have an election in the safest way possible. But I have said repeatedly that we will not, in any way, go contrary to the Constitution of Saint Lucia." According to the Constitution of Saint Lucia, the state of emergency may be revoked during the five-month period at the

discretion of the Governor-General, [so as to] allow for a general election. Government also intends to liaise with the opposition on COVID-19 protocols that will govern the national event.

Prime Minister Chastanet continued: "It is certainly government's intention to make sure that we work with members on the opposite side ... to ensure that we are clear on what the protocols will be and that both sides will fulfil their obligations and commitments in adhering to them."



## At least 68 killed in Afghan school blast, families bury victims

*People stand at the site of the blast on May 8 in Kabul, Afghanistan*

Reuters - The death toll from a bomb attack outside a school in the Afghan capital Kabul has risen to 68, officials said on Sunday, with doctors struggling to care for 165 injured victims and families searching desperately for missing children.

Explosions on Saturday evening shook the neighbourhood of Dasht-e-Barchi, home to a large community of Shi'ites from the Hazara ethnic minority which has been targeted in the past by Islamic State, a Sunni militant group.

A car bomb was detonated in front of the Sayed Al-Shuhada school and two more bombs exploded when students rushed out in panic.

Officials said most of those killed were schoolgirls. Some families were still searching hospitals for their children.

"The first blast was powerful and happened so close to the children that some of them could not be found," said an Afghan official, requesting anonymity.

An eyewitness told Reuters all but seven or eight of the victims were schoolgirls going home after finishing their studies. On Sunday, civilians and policemen collected books and school bags strewn across a blood-stained road now busy with shoppers ahead of celebrations for Eid al-Fitr next week.

President Ashraf

Ghani on Saturday blamed Taliban insurgents, but a spokesman for the group denied involvement and condemned any attacks on Afghan civilians.

Pope Francis called the attack an "inhuman act" in remarks to pilgrims in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City on Sunday.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also condemned the attack and expressed his deepest sympathies to the victims' families and to the Afghan government and people.

Families of the victims blamed the government and Western powers for failing to put an end to violence and the ongoing war.

Bodies were still being

collected from morgues as the first burials were conducted in the west of the city. Some families were still searching for missing relatives on Sunday, gathering outside hospitals to read names posted on the walls, and checking morgues.

Security was intensified across Kabul after the attack but authorities said they would not be able to provide security to all schools, mosques and other public places.

Conflict is raging in Afghanistan, with security forces in daily combat with the Taliban, who have waged war to overthrow the foreign-backed government since they were ousted from power in Kabul in 2001.



# Chad claims win over rebels after President Déby's death



*Sunday's parade was an attempt to boost the army's popularity at a time of great uncertainty*

BC World News - The military in Chad has claimed victory against northern rebels following weeks of fighting.

The conflict against Libya-based rebels threw the country into a crisis when President Idriss Déby died after being wounded on the frontline last month. The military

takeover under the leadership of Mr. Déby's son has been condemned by the opposition and civil society groups, leading to protests. The rebel group says it is not aware of an end to the fighting.

However a victory parade took place through the streets of the capital, N'Djamena, on Sunday,

aimed at boosting the popularity of the Chadian military at a time of great uncertainty in the country. Some onlookers cheered on Sunday as soldiers returned from the frontline in a parade of tanks and armoured vehicles. At an army base, journalists were shown dozens of people said to

be captured rebels.

Chad is reputed as having one of the best-trained and best-equipped armies in West Africa, and is one of the Western-backed "G5" countries fighting Islamist militants in the Sahel region.

The rebel group, Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT), crossed the border from Libya into Chad in April to take a stand against President Déby's 30-year rule.

It is not clear if FACT is still a threat to the military junta now running the country, and a spokesman for the group said it was not aware of an end to the fighting, reports the Reuters news agency.

As the BBC's Africa editor Will Ross reports that the public was told a few weeks ago that the rebel group had been defeated - only for the fighting to resume.

In recent weeks, protests demanding a return to civilian rule have been violently broken up by the security forces. In the latest of these, 10 people were injured including one person who was shot in the capital on Saturday.

# House GOP leader says he backs ousting Cheney from No. 3 job



*Minority Leader in the US House of Representatives, Kevin McCarthy started his intention to support the ouster of Rep. Liz Cheney*

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top House Republican Kevin McCarthy on Sunday publicly endorsed Rep. Elise Stefanik for the post of No. 3 leader, cementing party support of the Donald Trump loyalist over Rep. Liz Cheney, an outspoken critic of the former president for promoting discredited claims that the 2020 election was stolen.

House Republicans could vote as early as Wednesday to remove Cheney, the highest-ranking woman in the Republican leadership and daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney, and replace her with Ste-

fanik, whose ascension has received Trump's backing.

Asked in an interview on Fox News Channel's "Sunday Morning Futures" whether he supported Stefanik, R-N.Y., for the job of Republican Conference chair, McCarthy responded: "Yes, I do."

"We want to be united in moving forward, and I think that is what will take place," he said in response to a question about whether he had the votes to oust Cheney, R-Wyo. McCarthy said the leadership post must focus on a message "day in and day out" on what he said were the problems of

the Biden administration.

Cheney has taken on Republicans, including McCarthy, R-Calif., saying those who indulge Trump's false claims of a stolen presidential election are "spreading THE BIG LIE, turning their back on the rule of law, and poisoning our democratic system."

In an opinion essay Wednesday in The Washington Post, she denounced the "dangerous and anti-democratic Trump cult of personality," and warned her fellow Republicans against embracing or ignoring his statements "for fundraising and political pur-

poses." She also said McCarthy had "changed his story" after initially saying Trump "bears responsibility" for the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol. McCarthy initially criticized Trump's actions and, in a private call during the insurrection, had urged the then-president to call off the rioters. The GOP leader now says he does not believe Trump provoked the riot. McCarthy on Sunday denied that Republicans' effort to remove Cheney was based on her views of Trump or being one of 10 House Republicans to vote to impeach Trump over the Jan. 6 riot. He said she was distracting from Republicans' bid to win back the House in 2022 and successfully oppose President Joe Biden's agenda, goals that McCarthy believes will need Trump's support.

McCarthy complained last week that he had "lost confidence" in Cheney and "had it with her" over her continuing remarks about Trump, according to a leaked recording of his exchange on "Fox and Friends." Cheney actually has a more conservative voting record in the House than Stefanik, a onetime Trump critic who evolved into an ardent ally. She previously opposed Trump's tax cuts.

# India turns to ex-army medics as COVID surge sparks calls for lockdown

Reuters - India will recruit hundreds of former army medics to support its overwhelmed health-care system, the defence ministry said on Sunday, as the country grapples with record COVID-19 infections and deaths amid calls for a complete nationwide lockdown.

Some 400 medical officers are expected to serve on contract for a maximum of 11 months, the ministry said in a press release, adding that other defence doctors had also been contacted for online consultations.

COVID-19 cases and deaths have been hitting records every two or three days. Deaths rose by more than 4,000 for a second consecutive day on Sunday.

Many Indian states have imposed strict lockdowns over the past month while others have announced restrictions on public movement and shut down cinemas, restaurants, pubs and shopping malls.

But pressure is mounting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to announce a nationwide lockdown as he did during the first wave last year.

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) called for a “complete,



**Woman moans after her husband died due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outside a hospital in Ahmedabad, India**

well-planned, pre-announced” lockdown instead of sporadic night curfews and restrictions imposed by states for a few days at a time.

“IMA is astonished to see the extreme lethargy and inappropriate actions from the Ministry of Health in combating the agonizing crisis born out of the devastating second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic,” it said in a statement on Saturday.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, a top White House coronavirus adviser, said on

Sunday he has advised Indian authorities they need to shut down.

“You’ve got to shut down. I believe several of the Indian states have already done that, but you need to break the chain of transmission. And one of the ways to do that is to shut down,” Fauci said on ABC’s “This Week” television program.

Modi is battling criticism for allowing huge gatherings at a religious festival and holding large election rallies over the past two months even as COVID-19 cases were

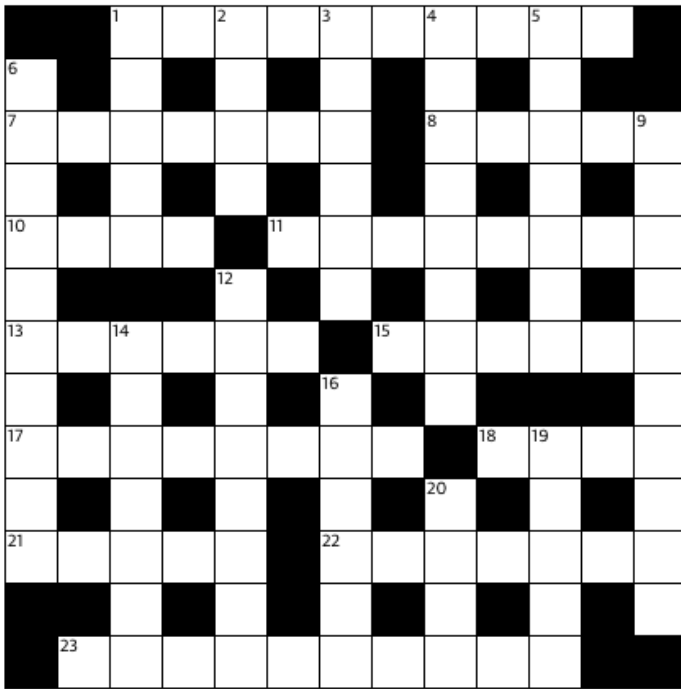
surging.

The health ministry reported 4,092 deaths over the past 24 hours, taking the overall death toll to 242,362. New cases rose by 403,738, just shy of the record and increasing the total since the start of the pandemic to 22.3 million.

India on Saturday reported its highest ever single-day COVID-19 death toll of 4,187. The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation estimates that India will see 1 million COVID-19 deaths by August.

# QUICK CROSSWORD

Speedy crossword No 1,336



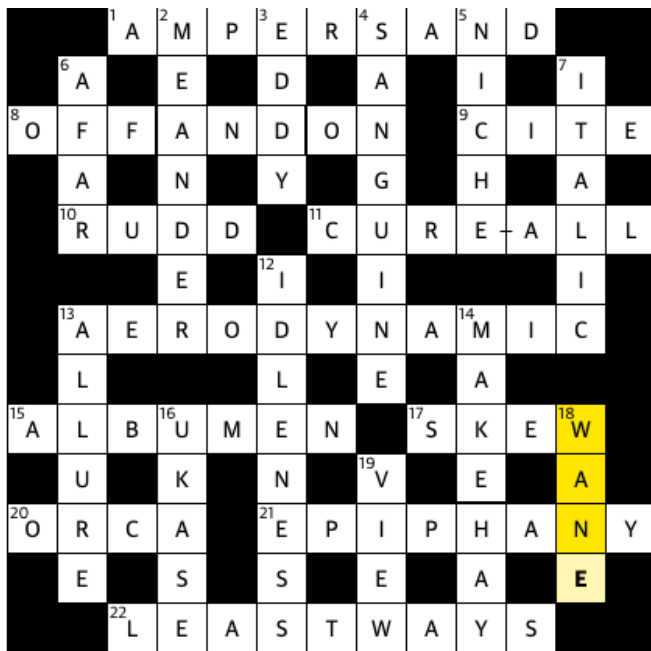
### Across

- 1 Literary assistant (10)
- 7 Miser (7)
- 8 Blade on car windscreen (5)
- 10 Temporary respite (4)
- 11 Scottish broadsword (8)
- 13 Free from an obligation (6)
- 15 Up to now (6)
- 17 Contradicted (8)
- 18 East Asian desert (4)
- 21 Spanish wine (5)
- 22 Staying power (7)
- 23 Patron, supporter (10)

### Down

- 1 Be of use (5)
- 2 Right-hand man (4)
- 3 Disorderly, uncontrollable (6)
- 4 Bride or groom (8)
- 5 Collapse inwards (7)
- 6 Contender (10)
- 9 Oratorical (10)
- 12 Renouncer of a belief (8)
- 14 Perfect example (7)
- 16 Post-prandial rest (6)
- 19 Willow used in basketwork (5)
- 20 Agreement, treaty (4)

Speedy crossword No 1,335



## Government of Antigua & Barbuda

Ministry of Education, Sports & Creative Industries  
 Government Complex, Queen Elizabeth Highway  
 St. John's, Antigua  
 Tel: 462-0192/462-0193/462-0198/462-0199  
 Overseas: 268-462-4959/1051  
 Fax: 268-462-4970

### COMMUNITY NOTICE

The OAS Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), Department of Human Development and Education (DHDEE) is pleased to announce that the call for Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Studies and/or Research leading to a degree is open for the 2021 selection process.

The following are the links to the Call for Applications and to the application forms:  
 Call for applications for undergraduate studies: [http://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/specaf\\_2021.asp](http://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/specaf_2021.asp)

Scholarship application form for undergraduate studies (last two years of a Bachelor's degree): <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1108&Type=1&Lang=eng>

Scholarship application form for graduate studies or research: <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1107&Type=1&Lang=eng>

Scholarships are available to study at academic institutions in the member states, including those participating in the OAS Consortium of Universities.

The Ministry of Education, Sports and Creative Industries has set July 9, 2021 as the deadline to receive the hard copies of the applications.

# YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE





<p>Mon 10   Day</p> <p><b>84°</b> ☀️ 24% E 18 mph</p> <p>Mainly cloudy. High 84F. Winds E at 15 to 25 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 71% UV Index 10 of 10</p> <p>Sunrise 5:37 am Sunset 6:29 pm</p>	<p>Mon 10   Night</p> <p><b>77°</b> ☁️ 24% E 15 mph</p> <p>Mostly cloudy skies. Low 77F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 79% UV Index 0 of 10</p> <p>Moonrise 4:55 am Moonset 5:44 pm ● Waning Crescent</p>
<p>Tue 11   Day</p> <p><b>84°</b> ☀️ 19% E 17 mph</p> <p>Mostly cloudy skies. High 84F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 71% UV Index Extreme</p> <p>Sunrise 5:37 am Sunset 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Tue 11   Night</p> <p><b>76°</b> ☁️ 21% E 14 mph</p> <p>Mostly cloudy skies early, then partly cloudy after midnight. Low 76F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 81% UV Index 0 of 10</p> <p>Moonrise 5:31 am Moonset 6:32 pm ● New Moon</p>



# COMICS

Dilbert

May 09, 2021

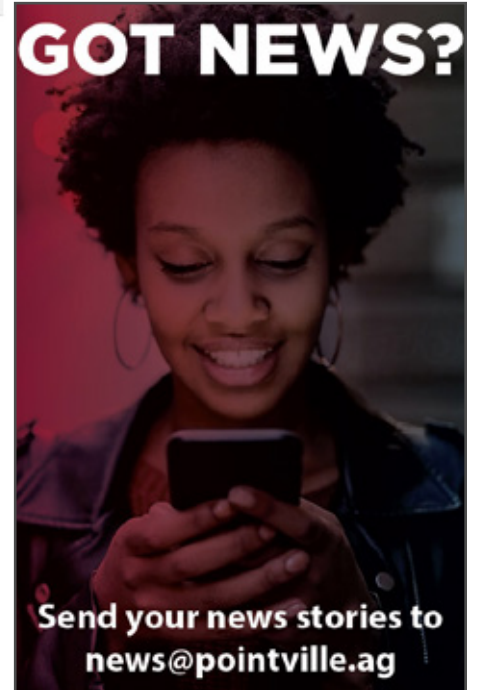


**TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY.**

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

Garfield

May 09, 2021



## MAN UTD COMEBACK AT ASTON VILLA KEEPS MAN CITY WAITING ON TITLE

BBC Sports - Manchester United guaranteed a Premier League top-four finish and ensured rivals Manchester City must wait to be crowned champions as they came from behind to beat Aston Villa at Villa Park.

Having sealed their place in the Europa League final despite a 3-2 second-leg defeat by Roma on Thursday, second-half goals from Bruno Fernandes, Mason Greenwood and substitute Edinson Cavani - followed by West Ham's loss to Everton - sealed a Champions League place for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side.

A win for Villa would have clinched the title for leaders City - beaten 2-1 by Chelsea on Saturday - and Bertrand Traore's emphatic finish into the top corner midway through the first half threatened to do just that.

Emiliano Martinez was equal to attempts from Greenwood and Marcus Rashford as United struggled to respond initially, while Dean Henderson kept out Ollie Watkins'

strike to deny Villa a second before half-time. United levelled shortly after the restart when Fernandes calmly slotted in a penalty after Douglas Luiz needlessly fouled Paul Pogba, and Greenwood completed a four-minute turnaround when his low strike found the bottom corner.

A VAR check for handball against Greenwood was dismissed after Luiz headed the ball onto the arm of the United forward and the visitors successfully resisted late Villa pressure despite the loss of captain Harry Maguire to injury, before Cavani confirmed victory in the closing stages.

In a frantic finale, Villa forward Watkins also received a red card for a second booking for simulation when under pressure from goalkeeper Henderson.

United are 10 points behind champions-elect City but will have the chance to move within four points as they face Leicester and Liverpool before the leaders next play.

## MEDINA SPIRIT COULD LOSE KY. DERBY WIN; TRACK BANS BAFFERT

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Medina Spirit's victory in the Kentucky Derby is in serious jeopardy because of a failed post-race drug test, one that led Churchill Downs to suspend Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert on Sunday in the latest scandal to plague the sport. Baffert denied all wrongdoing and promised to be fully transparent with the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission during its investiga-

tion. Baffert's barn received word Saturday that Medina Spirit had tested positive for an excessive amount of the steroid betamethasone which is sometimes used to treat pain and inflammation in horses. Medina Spirit's win over Mandaloun in the Derby stands — for now. “To be clear, if the findings are upheld, Medina Spirit's results in the Kentucky Derby will be invalidated and Mandal-

oun will be declared the winner,” Churchill Downs officials said in a statement shortly after Baffert held a hastily planned morning news conference outside his barn to announce and respond to the allegations.

The track said failure to comply with the rules and medication protocols jeopardizes the safety of horses and jockeys, the sport's in-





Bob Baffert, the trainer of Medina Spirit, from entering any horses at Churchill Downs Race-track." Medina Spirit is expected to run in the Preakness on Saturday, barring some abrupt change in plans or a decision from officials at Pimlico or Maryland's racing commission that would prevent him from entering the second jewel of the Triple Crown. Officials from 1/ST Racing, which operates Pimlico, and the Maryland Jockey Club said Sunday they would consult with state authorities and that "any decision regarding the entry of Medina Spirit in the 146th Preakness Stakes will be made after review of the facts." "I got the big-

gest gut-punch in racing for something that I didn't do," Baffert said of the failed drug test. "And it's disturbing. It's an injustice to the horse ... I don't know what's going on in racing right now, but there's something not right. I don't feel embarrassed. I feel like I was wronged. We're going to do our own investigation. We're going to be transparent with the racing commission, like we've always been. "He's a great horse. He doesn't deserve this. He ran a gallant race," Baffert added.

The only horse to be disqualified for medication after winning the Derby is Dancer's Image in 1968.

tegrity, and the Derby's reputation. "Churchill Downs will not tolerate it," the statement read. "Given the seriousness of the alleged offense, Churchill Downs will immediately suspend

## ROGER HARPER WORRIES INCONSISTENCY IMPACTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (CMC) – Men's chief selector Roger Harper has argued that the number of players losing their central retainer contracts for the upcoming year is a reflection of the lack of consistency

in West Indies cricket, and believes this has implications for performance standards at international level. Eleven players, eight of whom featured in the white-ball format, failed to hold on to their contracts this week, with their performances falling below the required benchmarks during the evaluation period. Admitting the situation was "concerning", Harper said it was critical for players at all levels of the West Indies system

to understand the link between their personal performances and those of the international squads. "It is concerning that consistency seems to be an issue for our players," Harper said following the announcement of the new central retainers for the year beginning July 1. "And this is something we want to make sure our players understand, that if our teams are going to perform consistently and be successful, that our players themselves have to be successful

and we have to aim to be world class performers. "I think that's a message we have to send to our franchise players, our players playing regional competitions, our players from youth level, that no longer can we just be working to get into a West Indies team. "We have to be developing players to be of a world class standard. That is the only way we're going to become a world class team, if we're going to beat the best teams in the world on a consistent basis."



## MOTHER'S DAY GOLF CLASSIC

Glentist "The Dentist" Martin stamped his authority on the field to win his maiden golf title during the Patricia Matthew Mother's Day Golf Classic at Cedar Valley on Sunday. Martin was in out-

standing form as his 18-hole score of 84 propelled him to victory in the Total Imports, and Tucker on the Grill sponsored tournament.

Paullus Martin, the older brother of Glentist, finished

as the runner-up with a score of 86 while former West Indies One Day International player Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph, who came home with 88, was third.

Eleven players took part in

the competition. The championship also received sponsorship from Kay-Links.

The next event on the calendar will be the Cool and Smooth Shoot-Out on Whit Monday...

**DEWS**



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