

## UK TO ADD ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA TO 'GREENZONE'

SEE PAGE 2



*Members of the WI Women's Cricket team outside the Granville Polyclinic after receiving their vaccine jabs*

# NEW WINE IN OLD WINESKIN?

The Commonwealth Caribbean Community, more widely known as CARICOM, has made a bold and on the surface very aggressive step with the appointment of its first woman as Secretary General to head the Secretariat responsible for implementing the processes of the integration movement.

This newspaper joins with civil society institutions here in Antigua and Barbuda and throughout CARICOM in offering congratulations to Dr. Carla Barnett as she assumes the very important position.

For us in Antigua and Barbuda, we would wish to see the new secretary general immediately begin the important and challenging task of advancing the work of the secretariat. We would urge her to quickly adopt transformative agenda rooted in building a new arrangement; a new outlook for the

community which brings benefits to those countries which hitherto have not really felt nor enjoyed much of the promised benefits of the integration process.

It is fair to say that Secretary General Barnett is an unknown quantity outside of a very limited circle for most of the people of the Caribbean. She is also taking over the secretariat at a time when the work of the secretariat is not being felt by the so-called Less Developed Countries (LDC's) of CARICOM. For her, the task is not only to make herself known throughout the community but she also has the additional task of convincing a jaded community that there is a chance that the illusive benefits and lofty ideals of the integration process are still within the reach of the ordinary citizens of the Caribbean.

This will require the ability to engage the various publics in the

region in a variety of ways. The ongoing pandemic makes face to face encounters not a desired option, but the magic of technology makes being able to address the entire region in one sitting a fairly simple task.

She is taking over at a time when the entire region is battling with a pandemic that has affected member states in a variety of ways. This has forced a notoriously insular Caribbean to become even more inward looking as domestic concerns dominate their attention.

This means that the new secretary general is assuming office without what is generally referred to as a 'honeymoon' period; she has to hit the ground running.

Although she has spent much time working in the secretariat, she has to be willing to undertake a shake-up of the secretariat by recruiting fresher 'legs' to assist her with the mam-

moth tasks ahead. The secretariat has not had any significant impact on the lives of ordinary men and women in the region since its creation back in 1973. The new SG has an opportunity to engineer the transformation of the body into an effective, creative and people centred entity.

The people of the region are struggling with a host of economic and social issues even before the advent of COVID-19. Its occurrence has only served to exacerbate these problems. The region needs new ideas; new modalities borne out of the need for CARICOM to fulfill its mandate to improve the lives and livelihood of the majority of Caribbean people. The Secretariat and by extension the secretary general must lead that charge. Pouring new wine into old wineskins is not the people's expectation at this time.



# UK TO ADD ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA TO 'GREENZONE'

Antigua and Barbuda is among a number of countries from the Leeward Islands that are likely to be added to the 'Greenzone' list of countries where United Kingdom citizens can travel freely from May 17. Reports out of London said the list of countries includes the British dependency of the British Virgin Island. According to the Telegraph newspaper, The British Vir-

gin Islands alongside Antigua and Barbuda, St Kitts and Nevis and Anguilla are likely to be added to the list due to their low infection rates. On Monday, Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene held discussions with the UK Minister for the Caribbean, South Asia and the Commonwealth, Lord Tariq Ahmad, during which he lobbied for Antigua and Barbuda's inclusion on the

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green-list.

Greene noted that Antigua and Barbuda is highly dependent on tourism and noted that the country has been aggressive in its fight to reduce the rate of infection in the country and to provide first rate care for those who become infected with the virus.

“Based on the UK government’s Global Task Force criteria of vaccination uptake and risk of variants, Antigua and Barbuda merits serious consideration as a green list country as do other countries in the Eastern Caribbean,” he argued. The foreign affairs minister had also expressed a desire to speak directly with the UK

Transport Secretary as well as the head of the Global Task Force to discuss how Antigua and Barbuda can meet the criteria for inclusion on the green list. Now according to the media reports, the decision to include Antigua and Barbuda and the other Leeward Islands territories made be made without further intervention from the government. The Telegraph reports that the new “green list” is expected to be decided in the week running up to June 7, when the second phase of destinations will be opened to holiday-makers. Under the green list rules, UK travelers can visit these countries with-

out having to quarantine after returning from their holidays. They must however have a PCR test two days prior to returning to the UK and another two days after their return.

The UK market is key to the tourism sector of Antigua and Barbuda as it is the second most important source market for visitors. The UK also have two other lists – one amber and the other red – from which UK visitors are told not to visit as in the red zone or having to isolate for five days if they are returning from countries in the amber zone. Many Caribbean islands require tourists to be tested before or on arrival and most are

running “bubble” policies where travellers are required to stay at their designated hotel or villa.

The current green list allows Britons to travel to Portugal, Israel, Gibraltar, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Brunei, Iceland and the Faroe Islands and the Falklands.

This is in addition to the remote territories of the Falklands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha.

Despite being on the green list, people will not be able to go on holiday to Australia, New Zealand or Singapore as they are closed to UK tourists.

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# ABEMS RESPONDS TO PUBLIC CONCERNS



The Antigua Barbuda Emergency Medical Services (ABEMS) has issued a statement addressing what it said are concerns in the public regarding the use of an ambulance which was designated as the Infectious Control Unit (ICU) to transport suspected COVID-19 cases being used to transport non-suspected COVID-19 patients. In the statement,

ABEMS management said it is giving the assurance that all provisions have been made to ensure that both the Emergency Medical Technicians and the patients being transported and treated by the EMTs are protected. “The ABEMS remains committed to providing the best pre-hospital care to citizens and residents in Antigua and Barbuda in a timely manner.

“The ICU vehicle being used to transport non-suspected COVID-19 patients is not the general practice of the ABEMS. This situation only occurs if there is a backlog of calls and it becomes absolutely necessary in order to provide care in a timely manner to patients who may be critically ill. The ICU vehicle being dispatched to transport such cases must

first be authorized by management before being dispatched,” the statement reported, Further, it said the Antigua and Barbuda is one of the only a few countries in the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to have a dedicated ambulance to transport suspected cases. In other countries, the same ambulance which transports suspected cases also

transports non-suspected cases.

“Here in Antigua and Barbuda, there have also been occurrences where the regular response units are dispatched to calls of persons who do not exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, who later, upon arrival at the hospital, test positive for COVID-19.

Nonetheless, the ABEMS ensures that all ambulances used

on the shift, including the ICU, are sanitised between each call to reduce the chance of transmitting the virus between patients,” it revealed

In addition, all patients, whether they are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or not, are required to wear their masks while on the ambulance unless they are being treated for respiratory distress.

ABEMS management also ensures that the EMTs are properly equipped with Personal Protective Equipment in order to carry out their duties efficiently with minimal chance of transmitting the virus. As a result, to date, no EMT has tested positive for COVID-19 even after coming into contact with individuals who test positive on

a daily basis, even on the regular response units.

Management wishes to use this opportunity to thank the dedicated Emergency Medical Technicians who continue to carry out their duties efficiently during this difficult period. We look forward to continuing to serve the people of Antigua and Barbuda. We are all in this together!

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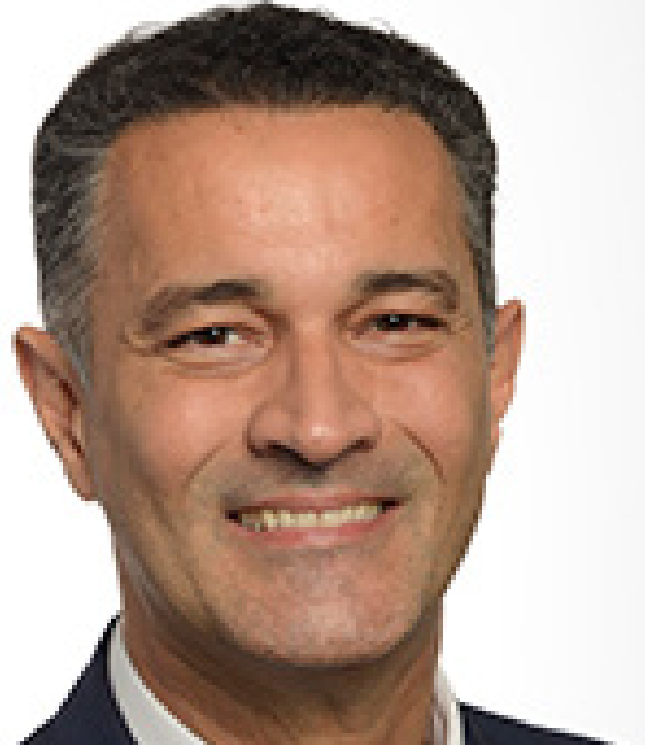
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Cont'd on pg 8

# Prime Minister Browne reaches out to EU Parliament



Prime Minister Gaston Browne



Stephane Bijoux

Prime Minister Gaston Browne on Tuesday reached out to key members of the European Parliament, proposing a sustained dialogue on issues of concern to both sides.

In the most recent of a series of Zoom meetings with EU parliamentarians and policymakers, PM Browne spoke with Stephane Bijoux, who is a member of the European Parliament

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and chair of the European Parliament's Delegation to the Cariforum-EU Parliamentary Committee (DCAR). The DCAR monitors the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the European Union and the fifteen Cariforum member states.

Bijoux, who hails from the French island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean, spoke with some empathy for the issues raised by PM Browne, as he himself comes from a small island that suffers many of the same constraints as Antigua and Barbuda and other Caribbean states.

PM Browne outlined some of the challenges faced by Cariforum

countries, including uneven access to the EPA. He described a situation where the lack of special and differential treatment for the smaller members of the EPA such as Antigua and Barbuda was a major obstacle to economic development.

The Prime Minister also addressed the question of the CIP programmes in OECS member states, highlighting that some EU member states seem to be under a misguided notion that the CIP programmes can be used for illicit purposes, such as evading EU taxes or escaping the consequences of financial crime. PM Browne emphasised that while many Cariforum states were in

compliance with the FATF and other international standards, the EU had adopted an unhelpful approach of unilateral sanctions. He called on the EU to establish an enhanced dialogue with the Cariforum states, especially before any sanctions are applied.

For his part, Bijoux agreed on the question of sanctions and he considered that dialogue should always continue, even if sanctions are applied. He promoted the concept of South-South cooperation, and made note of Martinique and Guadeloupe, which are both French territories as well as associate members of the

OECS. The Inter-Reg programme that exists between these French islands and the OECS was pointed to as a model of joint cooperation between regions that could be expanded.

The success of dialogue in recently changing US laws on banking was pointed to by PM Browne, and he called on the EU to adopt a similar approach.

Bijoux represents the Renew Europe Group as an MEP in the European Parliament.

The Prime Minister's series of meetings with EU officials will continue in the weeks ahead.

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# POLICE COMMISSIONER ATTENDS AGM

Police Commissioner, Atlee Rodney, is among police commissioners from across the Caribbean attending this year's annual general meeting of the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police (ACCP) which concludes tomorrow. It is the 35th (Virtual) ACCP AGM from 10th - 13th May 2021. Commissioner Rodney, who holds the portfolio of 2nd Vice President of the Association, has been engaged in critical discussions with his regional and Inter-

national Law Enforcement counterparts. The AGM and Conference are being held under the theme "Working during and Looking Beyond COVID-19, the Way forward for Law Enforcement." This event will see addresses from well-respected law enforcement and notable individuals, to include Commissioner Colin John of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force (RSVGPF), Lynda Williams from the National Organisation of Black Law

Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), Chief Cynthia Renaud of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the keynote address by Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados. Noteworthy presentations will be made on topics to include COVID-19 Guidelines for Law Enforcement, the role of technology for the way forward, during and beyond COVID-19, disaster preparedness (hurricane/volcanic eruption) and the role of law enforcement



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**Police Commissioner, Atlee Rodney**

during the pandemic and beyond. Several other presentations form part of the Annual General Meeting and Conference with a dedicated focus on the growth and development of police organisations throughout these unprecedented times. The ACCP was formally established in 1987 and currently comprises Commissioners of Police from twenty-five Caribbean countries. The mission of the association is to be the principal regional organisation for promoting and facilitating collaboration and cooperation in the

development and implementation of policing strategies, systems and procedures in the region. The development of the professional and technical skills of police officers throughout the region and proactive measures to prevent crime and improve police community relations also forms part of the mission of the ACCP. The association's mandate allows for its engagement of its members in a united approach to the fight against crime in the region. Meanwhile, the police administration within the Royal Police Force of Antigua

and Barbuda is reminding all licensed firearm holders that their licenses become payable on or before 31st May each year. This is in accordance with Section 40 (4) of the Firearms Act, Cap. 171 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, as amended. Licensed firearm holders are required to present their firearms to the Licensing Officer before renewing the licence and pay the applicable licensing fee

at the Revenue Collection Department at Police Headquarters. Opening hours are from 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. In accordance with Section 6 (5), licensed firearm holders will be required to pay late fees as stipulated by law. The public is further reminded to observe all health and safety protocols while conducting business at Police Headquarters.



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# APUA WATER MAIN INSTALLATIONS ON SIR SYDNEY WALLING HIGHWAY

The contract to complete works under Antigua and Barbuda government Second Road Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (SRIRP) has been awarded C.O. Williams Construction. In a press release the company said work is now well underway with resurfacing work on Sir Sydney Walling Highway (SSWH).

Inclusive of Sir Sydney Walling Highway – from the roundabout at Sir George Walter Highway to Willikies Village – Old Parham Road, Valley Road North as well as Anchorage Road are four of the nation’s major thoroughfares that will become smoother and wider surfaces under the SRIRP.

The Project Implementation and Management Unit (PIMU) headed by Dennis Cudjoe is responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the road rehabilitation project. “The PIMU is pleased to report that the work has been progressing as a steady rate and advises that night-

time works on SSWH will take place to facilitate a road crossing for the installation of water main pipes by Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) on Wednesday 12th May 2021.”

“The contracting firm is working along with the APUA Water Business Unit to complete the installation. The water mains installation will continue with nighttime works and will result in periodic closures of dif-

ferent sections of the highway as roadworks progresses,” the release stated.

Every effort is being made to ensure that all stakeholders are informed of traffic management measures with notice of closures issued at least forty-eight hours in advance of the Works.

The PIMU is appealing to road users to be mindful of the fact that the safety of road workers is of utmost importance

and is advising drivers to traverse the work zones with extreme caution while adhering to the temporary traffic lights and take direction from the traffic attendants during the day time and observe temporary lights while traversing the work zone at night.

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## 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.

The service lines for potable water, electricity and telephone which are provided by A.P.U.A are accessible to the property.

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# BANK DONATES REFURBISHED COMPUTERS TO TWO SCHOOLS



*All Saints Secondary School*

Director, Sales OECS and Country Head, Antigua, Ladesa James-Williams explained that while supporting education has always been important to the bank, it has become a priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. “Education is the key to our future and it is essential that we support and equip our young people with the resources to study comfortably and excel. Over the past year, we

all the necessary resources. We are so happy to be able to assist,” she stated. Principal of the Antigua Girls High School, Theoline Croft, said that the donation was very timely as additional resources were always required to satisfy the needs of the students. Principal at the All Saints Secondary School, Elvin Hodge also expressed his appreciation and that of the staff and students for this donation which will assist greatly in alleviating the new challenges to education posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past year the bank has donated over twelve hundred refurbished desktops, laptops and all-in-one computers to scores of schools, churches and other charities across the region. The electronic equipment became available as the bank upgraded its systems and opted to refresh and donate the used computers rather than discard them.



*Antigua Girls High School*

Two schools in Antigua have received a donation of refurbished computers, fans, and protective masks from CIBC FirstCaribbean Bank, under its Adopt a Cause programme. The Antigua Girls High School (AGHS) has received twenty reconditioned computers and the donation and installation of twenty-four ceiling fans, while the All Saints Secondary School is benefitting from a gift of fifteen computers and two hundred face masks, which were urgently needed.

have focused on working along with schools to achieve this goal. We are aware of how stressful it has been for teachers, students and parents with distance learning, preparation for exams and lack of



## LOCAL PANNIST AMONG THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION SEMIFINALISTS

Kevhani Greenaway

Antigua and Barbuda's Kevhani Greenaway is the country's lone entry into the international pan solo competition semifinals taking place tomorrow night via virtual means.

Only the top twenty out of a field of thirty participants were selected to enter the semifinals. Greenaway, with an overall total of seventy-five points made it to the 20th spot, guaranteeing him a place in the semifinals. The other four Antigua and Barbuda representatives did not make it beyond the preliminary round.

The preliminary round of the NLBC PanoGrama 2021 virtual event came to an end on Mother's Day, Sunday 9th May after the last ten competitors pulled out all the stops to ensure their spot in semifinals, which will

be held on 13th May.

The exceptional talent on display throughout the preliminaries left adjudicators with the tough task of allocating just twenty semifinal spots from a field of thirty exceptional pannists who participated in the preliminary rounds of the competition. This was evident when the results were revealed on Sunday, which showed some pannists being as close as point four points away from each other.

The preliminary rounds of the competition took place between Friday 7th May and Sunday 9th May, starting with a fifteen-minute prelude at 7:45 p.m. each night, officially commencing at 8:00 p.m. AST, with more than six thousand people across the globe tuning in. The

three-night segment featured ten pannists each night whose performances were nothing short of outstanding, covering genres such as reggae, soca, gospel and R&B. The international event featured pannists from countries such as Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Lucia, France, Canada, England, Antigua and Barbuda, the US Virgin Islands, United States, Guyana, and Grenada.

The semifinals of the NLBC PanoGrama will take place on 13th May at 8:00 p.m. AST, streaming live on all social media platforms from 7:45 p.m. AST. These include PanoGrama's Facebook page ([facebook.com/pano.grama1](https://facebook.com/pano.grama1)), YouTube channel ([youtube.com/panograma](https://youtube.com/panograma)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/pano.grama](https://instagram.com/pano.grama)).

# WEST INDIES WOMEN'S CRICKET TEAM GETS VACCINATED IN ANTIGUA

Thirteen (13) cricketers and one technician received their first dose of the COVID-19 AstraZeneca Vaccine on Tuesday, as the West Indies women cricket team takes a giant step in the fight against COVID. The cricketers made

their way to the Glanvilles Polyclinic where they received a fast and impressive service from the staff and nurses at the Vaccination center. According to sources, five (5) additional cricketers are expected to take their first dose sometime today.

The West Indies Women's cricket team, also known as the Windies or team Windies, is a combined team of players from various countries in the Caribbean that competes in international women's cricket. The Windies, who are

currently in Antigua for a training camp, are said to be preparing for World cup qualifiers in Sri Lanka. Their training will continue in August, back in Antigua, making them available to receive their second dose once back on island.

## SECOND DOSE VACCINE PROGRAMME BEGINS TODAY

Frontline workers will again be placed at the front of the line as the administration of the second COVID-19 vaccination jobs start today. Leading the charge will be the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Rhonda Sealy-Thomas, along with Principle Nursing Officer, Sister Margaret Smith, Medical Director of the Mount St. John's Medical Center (MS-JMC), Dr. Albert Duncan, and healthcare workers at the MS-JMC, in live coverage of their vaccination process. Subsequent to administering the second dose to healthcare workers, Members of the Cabinet will receive their second dose

on Thursday 13th May 2021 at the Office of the Prime Minister, Queen Elizabeth Highway. Retired parliamentarians will also receive their second dose at Parliament Building on Saturday, 15th May 2021. Health officials are reminding members of the public that it is important to obtain the second dose to increase the efficacy of the vaccine and boost protection against COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine prevents serious illness, hospitalization, and death. The general public is asked to pay attention to dates given within their vaccination card for their second dose. They

are invited to return to the centers where they received their first dose. For persons who received their first dose at the Sir Novelle Richards Academy, they can receive their second dose at the Precision Center, Paynters. The other vaccination sites are located at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre, the Glanvilles Polyclinic, and the Villa Polyclinic. First dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will still be administered at all vaccination centers. A subsequent announcement will be made for the second dose schedule for uniformed bodies and targeted groups.

# PREPARING FOR A HEARING AT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT



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Dealing with conflict, disputes or workplace problems is one of the major challenges that employers face. They are largely unavoidable since conflict is a normal and natural part of any workplace. Conflict arises from differences in interests, ideas, scarce resources, poor communication, poor performance, poor leadership, and so on. When conflicts arise

and are not resolved in a timely manner, workplace morale and productivity are negatively impacted. It is, therefore, in the parties' best interest (employers more so) to pursue quick resolution of disputes. Disputes can be resolved quickly if both parties are prepared, disciplined, open-minded and willing to explore options. There are usually two

responses to conflict: we either avoid it, or battle to the bitter end. Unfortunately, in either scenario there is no resolution and neither party benefits. Happily, mediation is an option that can turn a potentially destructive situation into an opportunity for mutual respect, understanding and agreement. According to the ILO, mediation is a voluntary dispute

resolution process in which the parties to a dispute themselves decide what issues to address and what the outcome will be. In this process, parties invite a neutral third party, the mediator, to help them in their negotiations to reach a settlement. Such is the role of the Labour Department – to act as a mediator in employment disputes. Mediation is flexible and not



constrained by legal rules and processes. The parties are free to agree or disagree and there is no power of enforcement.

Naturally, preparation is crucial to success; and while there is no strict regime, to reap the benefits of this process, one should be mindful of the following tips:

Know the facts of the case – do not be caught unaware.

Make notes of critical points you wish to review or refer to during the proceedings.

Have the case file with previous and relevant evidentiary matters highlighted. Engage, as able, in copious review of the case with involved parties and parties that will be present at mediation.

Be sure to have a representative or advisor present at the mediation. Be open to hearing and listening to the opposing views. Know what outcome would be best-suited to the needs of your organization.

Establish your limitations (what outcome would be manageable if not best-suit-

ed?) and -- Understand that it is not about culpability. It is about reaching an agreement that, as far as practicable, does not damage work relationships that could lead to a tense work environment and affect productivity, but would instead seek to repair collegial and organizational trust. Employers are fully aware that mediation is not binding and they are free to reject or accept any conclusions drawn therein. That is their right. It is, nevertheless, important for us to recognize that mediation is a valuable cog in the wheel of industrial relations. It plays a key role in stabilizing the industrial relations climate within a country. The major benefit is the ability to resolve disputes outside of court and preserve relationships where possible. This option is also more timely and cost-effective. It essentially eliminates a possible waste of time and resources, and can rebuild trust and goodwill while improving an organization's market position or rev-

enue earning capabilities. It is incumbent on us as HR practitioners to take the lead and be prepared to meaningfully participate in a productive process that would serve to improve employee/employer relations.

*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](mailto:hrpro.ab@gmail.com) or on Facebook and Instagram @HRPro268.*



# 40 YEARS SINCE THE DEATH OF BOB MARLEY

*BBC World News - It is 40 years since legendary reggae singer Bob Marley died of cancer in Miami, aged 36, on 11 May 1981.*

*The musician is one of the most celebrated and recognised artists in music history, with hits including No Woman No Cry, One Love, and Redemption Song.*

*His hit Buffalo Soldier was the singer's biggest in the UK, reaching number four in May 1983. The 1977 album Exodus was named Album of the Century by Time Magazine.*

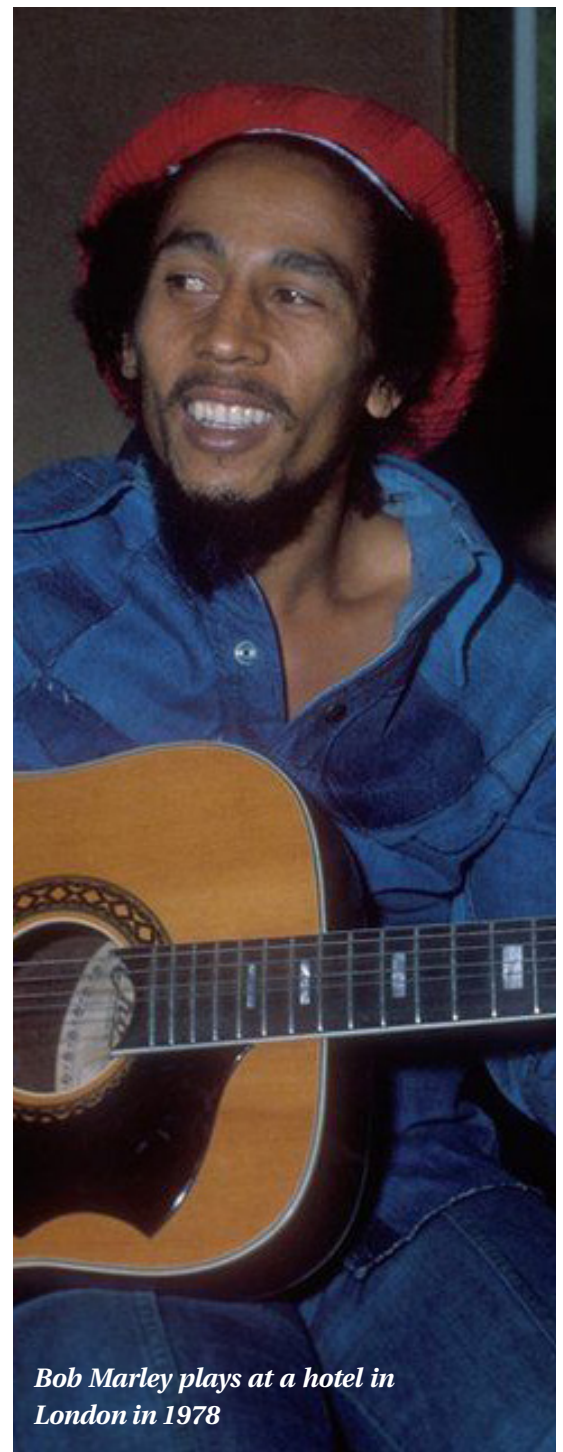


*Bob Marley and the I-Threes (Judy Mowatt, Rita Marley and Marcia Griffiths) perform together at the Rainbow Theatre in London in 1977*



Marley was born in 1945 to a white middle class father and a black mother, in Jamaica. His childhood was spent in poverty and he had little contact with his father, a naval officer who worked for the British government. He left home at 14 years to pursue a music career in Kingston. In 1972 Marley arrived in Britain with his band, The Wailers, to tour with Johnny Nash in the hope of launching his international career. The following year, The Wailers released their album *Catch a Fire* and made their television debut on the BBC. The appearance made a big impact and gave them a wider audience outside of their traditional fan base. After another tour in 1975, a recording of *No Woman No Cry* live at The Lyceum, London, was released as a single and gave Marley his first UK hit. The singer entered the musical mainstream and be-

came a household name. Marley was known for his Rastafarian faith, along with his wife, Rita, with the religion reflected in his music. The singer was also passionate about football and known for having a kickabout in between studio sessions or before he went on stage. "I love music before I love football," he said in an interview in 1980. "Playing football and singing is dangerous because the football gets very violent. I sing about peace, love and all of that stuff, and something might happen y'know. If a man tackle you hard it bring feelings of war." Marley's last live performance in the UK was on 13 July 1980 at New Bingley Hall, Stafford. Marley died the following year as a result of acral lentiginous melanoma, which he had been diagnosed with in 1977. He was buried in his Jamaican birthplace of the village Nine Mile.



*Bob Marley plays at a hotel in London in 1978*

# HAITIANS PROTEST THEIR PRESIDENT IN ENGLISH AS WELL AS CREOLE



*President Jovenel Moïse*

## *Miami Community*

**News** - Haitian protesters on the nation's streets have a laundry list of reasons they believe President Jovenel Moïse should resign.

They blame Moïse for overstaying his term, which should have ended on Feb. 7; for fiscal austerity that has caused rapid inflation and deteriorating living conditions; and for sponsoring gang attacks that have killed at least 240 people since 2018, according to human rights groups. And though very few people in Haiti speak English, Haitian protesters are

using English to make their demands known, with viral Twitter protest hashtags like #FreeHaiti and protest signs reading "Jovenel is a dictator." My research on imperialism and Caribbean politics suggests Haitians are using English not only to draw Western attention to the crisis there, but also to indict the U.S. for its role in creating that crisis. Sustained protests have been a hallmark of Moïse's tenure since he was elected in November 2016 in an election that fewer than 12% of Haitians voted in.

Moïse was the hand-

picked successor of Haiti's unpopular last president, Michel Martelly. His meager 2016 electoral success came after two years of delayed votes and confirmed electoral fraud by Martelly's government. In 2017, his first year in office, the Haitian Senate issued a report accusing Moïse of embezzling at least US\$700,000 of public money from an infrastructure development fund called PetroCaribe to his personal banana business.

Protesters flooded into the streets crying "Kot Kòb Petwo Karibe a?" – "where is the PetroCari-

be money?" Lacking the trust of the Haitian people, Moïse has relied on hard power to remain in office. He created a kind of police state in Haiti, reviving the national army two decades after it was disbanded, and creating a domestic intelligence agency with surveillance powers. Since early last year, Moïse has also been ruling by decree. He effectively shuttered the Haitian legislature by refusing to hold parliamentary elections scheduled for January 2020, and summarily dismissed all of the country's elected mayors in July 2020 when their terms expired.

Existing street protests exploded early this year after Moïse refused to hold a presidential election and step down when his term ended in February 2021. Instead, he claims his term ends in February 2022 because Haiti's 2016 election was postponed. In the coming months, Moïse says, he intends to change the Haitian Constitution to strengthen the powers of the presidency and prolong his administration.

# Magistrate suggests Red Zone clean up tasks for offenders in SVG



Ash-covered road and homes in Owia on April 21, 2021. Offenders could be asked to help with the clean-up as part of sentencing

iWitnessNews - Senior Magistrate Rickie Burnett has suggested that some offenders be ordered to perform clean-up duties in the Red Zone, when it is safe to do so, as part of their sentence.

He floated the idea at the Kingstown Magistrate's Court last week as he

mulled over a sentence for a repeat offender.

The court was considering the sentence for Javid Clarke who had stolen a pair of sunglasses valued at EC\$20 from a Kingstown retail business on April 28.

"I am thinking about it because sending Javid to prison is sending Javid

home," Burnett said of the offender who is a known character around Kingstown.

"Honestly, I am thinking of utilising defendants like him to do community service by helping individuals to get back on their feet, as it were," Burnett said.

He asked the prosecutor to address the court on the matter, saying that he plans to speak to someone about it.

However, the prosecutor, acting Corporal of Police Corleen Samuel, told the court that one of the issues is that Clarke has no fixed place of abode. The magistrate, however, said he understands that, but the mechanism could be put in place to keep him at a fixed place of abode at the expense of the state and have him "go and do some hard work.

"There is a lot of work to be done and I am of the view that we could find a way to utilise defendants like him," Burnett said.

The magistrate said that the court has to be creative.

But Samuel said the clean-up has not started and [asked] whether the court could keep him in custody until then.

She said it is already hard enough finding places to house persons who are not in the criminal system, adding that the only other place where Clarke could be kept is at prison or a police station.

Samuel said she was not making excuses, but things are difficult in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the extra duties that police officers have to perform as a result of the eruption of La Soufriere.

## CARICOM elects first woman Secretary General

CMC - Belizean Dr. Carla Barnett, the first ever woman to have served as deputy secretary-general from 1997 to 2002, has been elected as the new Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretary General, replacing the Dominican-born diplomat Irwin LaRocque who has been in

the post since August 2011. Barnett was elected during the virtual 21st Special Meeting of the CARICOM leaders, chaired by Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley, current chairman of the 15-member grouping. Informed sources told the Caribbean Media

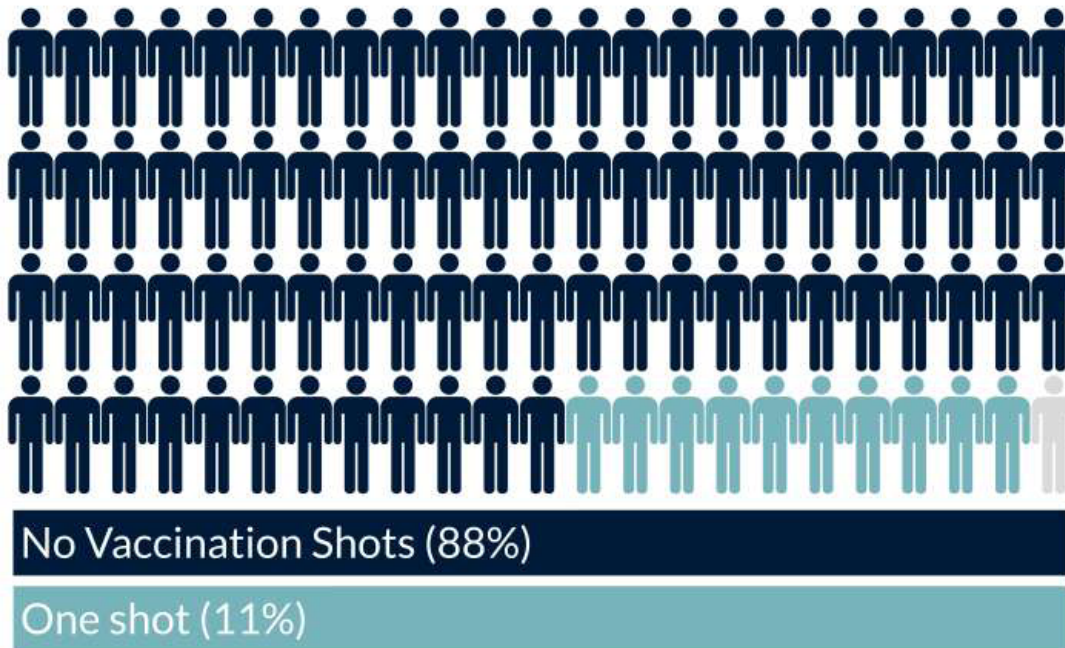
Corporation (CMC) that the regional leaders had "fully accepted the Community Council of Minister's recommendations of Dr. Barnett as the new Secretary General of CARICOM, effective from the completion of the current term of Ambassador LaRocque".



Belizean Dr. Carla Barnett

# MOST COVID-19 HOSPITAL CASES NOT VACCINATED, DOCTOR SAYS

Patients hospitalised with COVID19 14 March - 1 May 2021



The Royal Gazette, Bermuda - A total of 88 per cent of people admitted to hospital with Covid-19 over the last few weeks were not vaccinated, the Bermuda Hospitals Board revealed today.

The BHB said 81 patients treated between March 14 to May 1 had not had the vaccine; 10 or 11 per cent had received one dose, and one had both doses.

But Wesley Miller, the BHB chief of staff, said although one patient had received two doses, hospitalisation was inside two weeks of completion, which meant full immunity had not

been reached. Dr. Miller added: "With a significant portion of the population now either fully vaccinated or having had one shot, that these people make up such a small proportion of hospitalisations indicates that there is a protective effect even before you reach full immunity, which is two weeks after your second shot. He said: "If vaccination didn't work or caused more illness, the numbers would be very, very different.

"In fact, if we hadn't had people vaccinated during this surge, hospitalisation numbers and deaths could have been higher."

Dr. Miller added it was likely that – because those who ended up in hospital were usually at least two weeks post-infection – they may have become infected very soon before or after their first shot when immunity was low.

He added: "We should be reassured that we are seeing the same kinds of results in Bermuda as the rest of the world – vaccination is safe and protects you from serious illness and hospitalisation.

"The vaccine teaches your own immune system to recognise and fight the virus if you are exposed to someone with Covid-19.

"If you are not fully immunised and fall ill, the next line of defence will be medications and, if serious enough, other interventions to help you breathe."

Dr. Miller warned: "Covid-19 will continue to impact our lives unless we as a community stand together.

"Our own immune system is the most powerful protection we have. We need to nurture it with healthy living so it is strong, and teach it to recognise the virus with vaccination so it can respond quickly."

Dr. Miller added that increased restrictions had worked to minimise transmission risk, but were not a long-term solution. He said: "Getting vaccinated is preventive. There have been no hospitalisations caused by vaccination, despite nearly 60,000 doses being delivered."

Dr. Miller added there had been almost 2,000 coronavirus cases in the latest outbreak. But, in the period reviewed, infections had caused 92 hospitalisations and 19 deaths.

# RICE 'RAKES IN' US\$65.7M

Guyana Chronicle - Even as harvesting continues across the country as part of the "first crop" of 2021, there has been no shortage of benefits from Guyana's rice industry which has earned the country US\$65.7 million (approximately G\$14.1 billion) from the export of 154,457 tonnes of paddy, rice, and rice by-products, within the past four months.

Based on information shared with the Guyana Chronicle, the country, in April alone, earned US\$33.5 million from the export of 79,670 tonnes of paddy, rice, and rice by-products.

Earnings for that month represent an increase of six percent in weight and 12 percent in value when calculated against the 75,360 tonnes of exports and earnings of US\$30 million recorded in April 2020.

At the end of last year the sector raked in US\$236.2 million from the exportation of 574,312 tonnes

of paddy, rice, and rice by-products. During 2020 (January-December), Guyana exported rice and rice products to 40 countries. The major importing countries were Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Belgium, Holland, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, and Venezuela.

At the time, Agriculture Minister Zulfikar Mustapha said he was confident that Guyana will attract new markets for rice exports as production yields climb. The minister was even quoted as saying that the government is seeking to establish new market opportunities and increase exports to existing markets. "We are seeing more interest in other parts of Asia and Europe, so we are working on new markets and we will have new markets," Minister Mustapha said, adding that the rice industry has always contributed



*Rice being loaded unto a vessel for export*

significantly to the local economy.

In Guyana, rice is an important source of livelihood. Approximately 6,020 farmers produce rice in several regions throughout Guyana. There are 43 licensed rice millers and 22 registered exporters of rice. Rice accounts for 3.3 percent of Guyana's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 20.5 percent of agricultural GDP. Considering the industry's consistent performance, which is justified by the figures recorded within the past four months, it is safe to say that the prospects

remain positive, moving forward. In fact, according to available information, production during the first crop, which is expected to end later this month/early next month, is on course to surpass that of the first crop of 2020, which was 535,517 tonnes.

A total of 87,940 hectares (217,211 acres of lands) have been harvested so far, producing 8,199,271 bags or 520,824 tonnes of paddy at an average yield of 5.92 tonnes per hectare. Of the 94,039.49 hectares (232,277 acres) of land that was sown, some 93.5 percent has been harvested so far.



## Israel, Hamas trade deadly fire as confrontation escalates

*Smoke rises after an Israeli airstrike in Gaza City*

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — A confrontation between Israel and Hamas sparked by weeks of tensions in contested Jerusalem escalated Tuesday as Israel unleashed new airstrikes on Gaza while militants barraged Israel with hundreds of rockets. The exchange killed a number of militants and civilians in Gaza and at least two Israelis.

The barrage of rockets from the Gaza Strip and airstrikes into the territory continued almost nonstop throughout the day in what appeared to be some of the most intense fighting between Israel and Hamas since their 2014 war. The fire was so relentless that Israel's Iron Dome rocket-de-

fense system seemed to be overwhelmed. Columns of smoke rose from many places in Gaza.

By late Tuesday, the violence extended to Tel Aviv, which came under fire from a barrage of rockets launched from the Gaza Strip. The outgoing volleys set off air raid sirens across the city.

Hamas said it launched a total of 130 rockets, its most intense strike so far, in response to Israel's destruction of a high-rise building in Gaza earlier in the evening. The sound of the outgoing rockets could be heard in Gaza. As the rockets rose into the skies, mosques across Gaza blared with chants of

"God is great," "victory to Islam" and "resistance."

Since sundown Monday, 28 Palestinians — including 10 children and a woman — were killed in Gaza, most by airstrikes, health officials there said. The Israeli military said at least 16 of the dead were militants.

Two women were killed by rockets fired from Gaza that hit their homes in the southern city of Ashkelon — the first Israeli deaths in the current violence. At least 10 other Israelis have been wounded since Monday evening.

After those deaths, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said officials decided to "increase both the strength and rate of the

strikes" against militant groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip.

Egyptian officials said they were trying to broker a cease-fire, but the cycle of violence was gaining momentum. Even before the two Israeli deaths, the Israeli military said it was sending troop reinforcements to the Gaza border, and the defense minister ordered the mobilization of 5,000 reserve soldiers.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, a military spokesman, told reporters that Israel was beefing up defensive forces on the border to prevent possible infiltrations and increasing its offensive forces as well, primarily in the air.



# Pfizer vaccine authorised by US FDA for adolescents



*The Pfizer jab was already being given to people as young as 16 in the US*

BBC World News - The US has authorised the Pfizer vaccine for 12- to 15-year-olds amid a push to get the shot into more Americans' arms.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said it was "a significant step in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic".

FDA Commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock said the move was aimed at "bringing us close to returning to a sense of normalcy and to ending the pandemic".

Some 260 million doses have been given in the US, but demand has

been falling.

Dr. Woodcock added in her statement: "Parents and guardians can rest assured that the agency undertook a rigorous and thorough review of all available data, as we have with all of our Covid-19 vaccine emergency use authorisations." Monday's announcement expands an emergency use authorisation that already allowed the Pfizer jab to be administered to people as young as 16 in the US. The decision follows a clinical trial by Pfizer and BioNTech involving 2,260 children

aged 12-15. The participants received either two doses of the vaccine, or a placebo. There were 18 cases of symptomatic coronavirus infection in the placebo group and none among the children who received the vaccine, the trial found. The FDA's seal of approval is not the final regulatory hurdle. An advisory panel of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will review the data soon.

Immunisations could begin straight away if, as expected, the CDC committee approves the vac-

cine's use in adolescents.

Some of New York and Oregon's biggest universities have meanwhile joined a growing number of higher education institutions requiring students and staff to have Covid-19 vaccinations before they can return to classes this autumn.

The rules were announced on Monday by State University of New York, the City University of New York, the University of Oregon, and Western Oregon University.

Last week, US President Joe Biden announced a plan to get at least one dose of vaccine administered to 70% of the nation's population by 4 July. Mask mandates are being loosened across the country, and most states have reopened their economies, or are doing so within the next month. But dwindling demand for the shot has been prompting states across the country to refuse their full allocation of doses from the federal government.

Wisconsin, Iowa, Connecticut, South Carolina, North Carolina and Washington are all among states that reduced their requests.

# Russia school shooting: Children and teacher killed in Kazan



*Armed police arrived at the school and then sealed off the fourth floor*

Seven children and two adults have been killed in a shooting at a school in the Russian city of Kazan, officials say. Twenty-one other people, mostly children, were injured. A 19-year-old suspect was detained. The attack happened in the capital of the republic of Tatarstan, 820km (510 miles) east of Moscow.

Russian PM Mikhail Mishustin spoke of “great sorrow”, while Tatarstan’s leader Rustam Minnikhanov described the attack as a “major tragedy”.

“We are deeply saddened that this has

happened,” he said.

Responding to the shooting, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he would review the country’s gun control laws.

School shootings are relatively rare in Russia. One of the last major incidents happened in Russian-annexed Crimea in 2018.

How did the attack unfold?

Minnikhanov confirmed the deaths of seven children - four boys and three girls - as well as a female teacher and a female school worker at School No 175. It is believed the children were eighth

graders (aged around 15). Eighteen children and three adults were being treated in hospitals for gunshot wounds, fractures and bruising, Minnikhanov added.

The attack began at about 09:20 local time (06:20 GMT), a source in the emergency services told Russian news agency Tass. The first signal from a panic button at the school was sent five minutes later.

“Everyone started panicking and saying ‘shut the doors,’” a student who witnessed the attack told the Mediazona news website.

“About a minute later the head teacher started yelling: ‘We’re shutting the doors!’

“We got out about 15 minutes later, not out of the windows. I wanted to do that but the teacher closed the window immediately and said no.”

Footage shared on social media shows some children jumping from windows to escape as well as injured people being evacuated. Russian TV reported that two of the children had died after jumping from a second-floor window

# Scores of dead bodies found floating in India's Ganges River



*This frame taken from a video shows bodies lying along the river in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, India*

NEW DELHI (AP) — Scores of dead bodies have been found floating down the Ganges River in eastern India as the country battles a ferocious surge in coronavirus infections. Authorities said Tuesday they haven't yet determined the cause of death.

Health officials working through the night Monday retrieved 71 bodies, officials in Bihar state said.

Images on social media of the bodies floating in the river

prompted outrage and speculation that they died from COVID-19. Authorities performed post mortems on Tuesday but said they could not confirm the cause of death due to the decomposition of the bodies.

More corpses were found floating in the river on Tuesday, washing up in Ghazipur district in neighboring Uttar Pradesh state. Police and villagers were at the site, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) from Monday's incident.

"We are trying to find out where did these dead bodies come from? How did they get here?" said Mangla Prasad Singh, a local official.

Surinder, a resident of Ghazipur who uses one name, said villagers didn't have enough wood to cremate their dead on land.

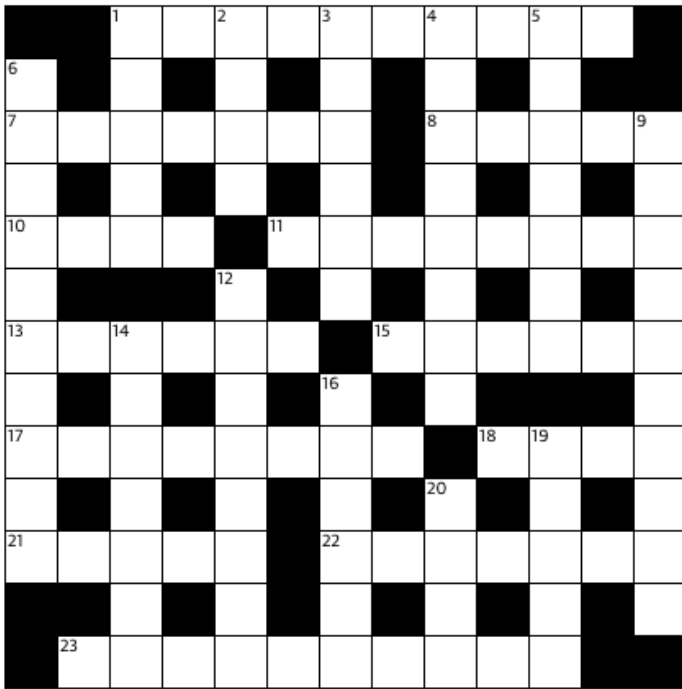
"Due to the shortage of wood, the dead are being buried in the water," he said. "Bodies from around 12-13 villages have been buried in the water."

Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are experiencing rising COVID-19 cases as infections in India grow faster than anywhere else in the world.

On Tuesday, the country confirmed nearly 390,000 new cases, including 3,876 more deaths. Overall, India has had the second highest number of confirmed cases after the U.S. with nearly 23 million and over 240,000 deaths. All of the figures are almost certainly a vast undercount, experts say.

# QUICK CROSSWORD

Speedy crossword No 1,336



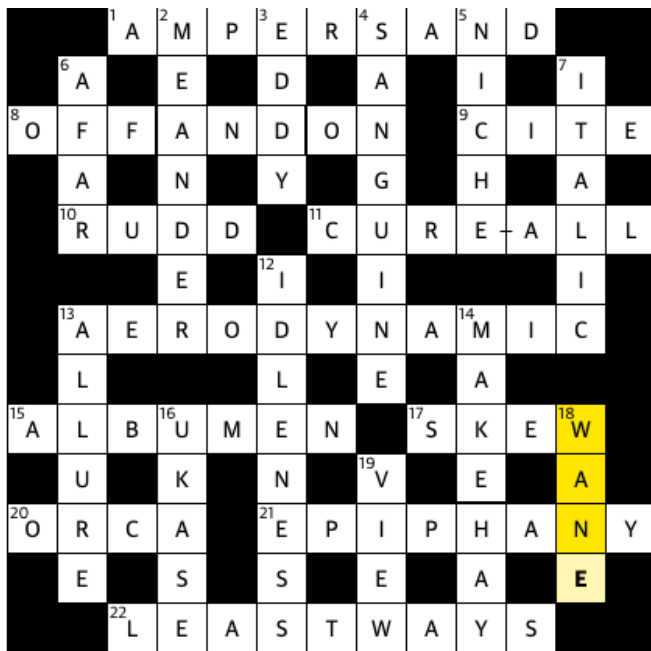
### Across

- 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



# TAKE ME HOME



Blackie is just one of the darling pups available for adoption at the Humane Society's Animal Shelter near Bethesda. She has been wormed, dipped for fleas and ticks, and vaccinated. When old enough we will spay her to prevent unwanted puppies.

**IF YOU CAN OFFER BLACKIE A NEW HOME,  
PLEASE CONTACT US AT 461-4957  
FOR DETAILS OR VISIT THE SHELTER  
TUESDAY TO SATURDAY  
BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M.**

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE





# LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

<p><b>Wed 12   Day</b></p> <p><b>29°</b>  7% E 24 km/h</p> <p>Partly cloudy. High 29°C. Winds E at 15 to 30 km/h.</p> <p>Humidity <b>67%</b> UV Index <b>10 of 10</b></p> <p>Sunrise <b>05:37</b> Sunset <b>18:30</b></p>	<p><b>Wed 12   Night</b></p> <p><b>25°</b>  23% E 20 km/h</p> <p>Mostly cloudy. Low 25°C. Winds E at 15 to 25 km/h.</p> <p>Humidity <b>77%</b> UV Index <b>0 of 10</b></p> <p>Moonrise <b>06:09</b> Moonset <b>19:23</b></p> <p>● Waxing Crescent</p>
<p><b>Thu 13   Day</b></p> <p><b>29°</b>  23% E 24 km/h</p> <p>Partly cloudy. High 29°C. Winds E at 15 to 30 km/h.</p> <p>Humidity <b>68%</b> UV Index <b>Extreme</b></p> <p>Sunrise <b>05:36</b> Sunset <b>18:31</b></p>	<p><b>Thu 13   Night</b></p> <p><b>25°</b>  24% E 19 km/h</p> <p>Partly cloudy. Low 25°C. Winds E at 15 to 25 km/h.</p> <p>Humidity <b>79%</b> UV Index <b>0 of 10</b></p> <p>Moonrise <b>06:50</b> Moonset <b>20:14</b></p> <p>● Waxing Crescent</p>



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## COMICS

Dilbert

May 11, 2021



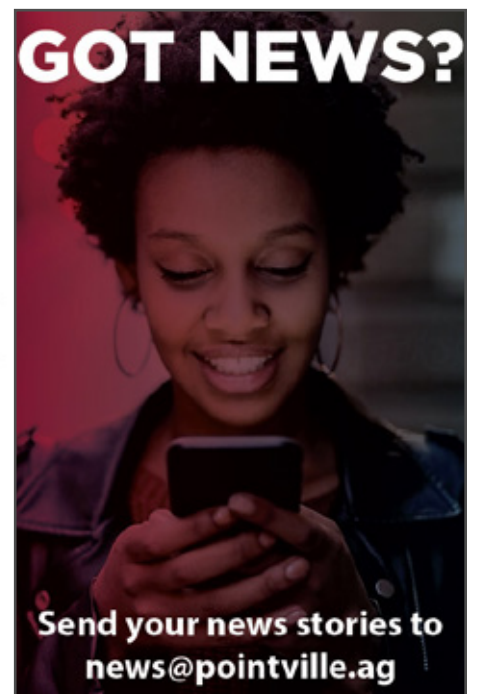
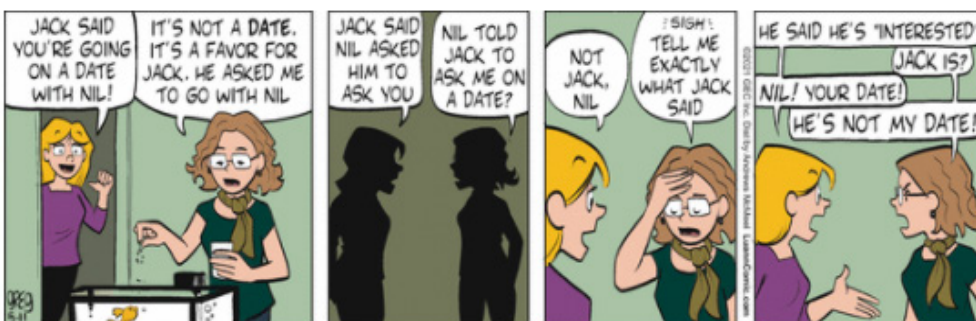
Garfield

May 11, 2021



Luann

May 11, 2021





## MANCHESTER CITY WIN PREMIER LEAGUE TITLE AFTER MANCHESTER UNITED LOSE TO LEICESTER

BBC Sports - Manchester City have won a third Premier League title in four years after closest challengers Manchester United were beaten by Leicester City.

Pep Guardiola's side are now 10 points ahead of second-placed United, who have just three games remaining.

It is the seventh time City have finished top of the English football pyramid and the fifth in nine years.

"This has been a season and a Premier League title like no other," said Guardiola.

"This was the hardest one. We will always remember this season for the way we won. I am so proud to be the manager here and of this group of players.

"They are so special. To come through this season with all the restrictions and difficulties we've faced and show the consistency we have is remarkable. It is relentless.

"Every single day they are there, fighting for success, trying always to be better. They have been so, so resilient."

Manager Guardiola, 50, has now won eight domestic trophies since arriving in Manchester in 2016.

City had the chance to wrap up the title themselves on Saturday but suffered a 2-1 defeat by Chelsea at Etihad Stadium.

However, Leicester completed the job for them with a 2-1 victory at Old Trafford on Tuesday.

It is the sixth time the Premier League title was decided at Old Trafford – the most of any venue – and three of which have been for other sides.

It is City's second trophy in a little over two weeks after they beat Tottenham to claim the Carabao Cup, and they are also in their first Champions League final after beating Paris St-Germain at midweek.

Since being taken over by the Abu Dhabi Group in September 2008, City have won 12 cups and this is the third time they have clinched a league and EFL Cup double.

# NAOMI OSAKA 'NOT SURE' OLYMPICS SHOULD HAPPEN AMID RISE IN COVID-19 CASES

BBC Sports - Naomi Osaka says rising Covid-19 levels in Tokyo are a "big cause for concern" and she is "not really sure" the Olympics should go ahead this summer.

Tokyo is under a state of emergency amid a surge in cases, 10 weeks from the start of the rescheduled Games on 23 July.

Japanese world number two Osaka would be making her Olympic debut in Tokyo.

"I'm an athlete, and of course my immediate thought is that I want to play in the Olympics," she said.

"But as a human, I would say we're in a pandemic, and if people aren't healthy, and if they're not feeling safe, then it's definitely a really big cause for concern."

When asked by BBC Sport if it would be appropriate to stage the Games during a pandemic, the 23-year-old said: "To be honest, I'm not really sure."

The Olympics will take place without international fans, while a decision on whether local fans can attend the Games will be made in June.

"I've never played an Olympic event, so it's not like I would have anything to compare it to," four-time Grand Slam champion Osaka said.

"I would feel, of course, definitely a bit sad, but at the end of the day, it's an honour to play in the Olympics in the first place and if that's what keeps people healthy, then

I'm up for [playing behind closed doors]."

Japan's top-ranked men's player Kei Nishikori, speaking at the Italian Open, also said he was concerned about the Games being staged.

"This is not like 100 people like [we have at] these tournaments," he said in Rome on Monday. "It's 10,000 people in an Olympic Village.

"I don't think it's easy, especially with what's happening right now in Japan; it's not doing good."

World number 45 Nishikori, who won bronze in the men's singles at Rio 2016 Olympics, said he is wary about a possible outbreak in the Village, a high-rise apartment complex in downtown Tokyo.

"You can make a good bubble and maybe you can do it," he said. "There is some risk too. What happens if there are 100 cases in the Village? Or it can be thousands."

Williams undecided over Tokyo

Meanwhile, 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams has raised doubts over her participation in the Tokyo Olympics.

Williams, who has won one singles and three doubles Olympic gold medals, is hesitant to spend time away from her three-year-old daughter, Olympia.

"I haven't spent 24 hours without her, so that kind of answers the question itself," said the American, 39.



## ENGLAND PLAYERS UNLIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN RESCHEDULED IPL 2021



ESPNCricinfo - England's centrally contracted players are unlikely to be available for the completion of the IPL wherever and whenever it is rescheduled. While the England management were happy to allow up to a dozen English players to miss the Test series against New Zealand at the start of June due to their involvement in the IPL, any rescheduling of the event is likely to clash with series in the Future Tours Programme (FTP). And that, according to England men's director of cricket, Ashley Giles, means they will be viewed differently. The IPL was postponed last week due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases in India. With BCCI president Sourav Ganguly having accepted the competition cannot be completed in India this year, various dates and venues have been mooted. Those include the second half of September, before the T20 World Cup, and from mid-November, after it. But England's top players will be in action at both times. And with very little space in the schedule until their Caribbean tour ends at the end of March 2022 - just ahead of the next season of the IPL - it is increasingly probable they will play no part in any rearranged tournament. Giles dismissed the suggestion that this signals any change of approach from the ECB. While the series against New Zealand was a late addition to the

schedule (it was only finalised in the early part of this year and does not feature as part of the World Test Championship) most of England's remaining obligations have been in the FTP for a long time. "We're planning on the involvement of England players in England matches," Giles said. "We've got a full FTP schedule. So if those tours to Pakistan and Bangladesh [in September and October] are going ahead, I'd expect the players to be there. "The New Zealand scenario was very different. Those Test matches were formalised at the end of January, by which time all those contracts and NOCs [no objection certificates] were signed for full involvement in the IPL." "None of us knows what a rearranged IPL looks like at the moment; where it's going to be or when. But from when we start this summer against New Zealand, our programme is incredibly busy. We've got a lot of important, high-profile cricket including the T20 World Cup and the Ashes. And we're going to have to look after our players." England are currently scheduled to depart for a six-match limited-overs tour of Bangladesh on September 16. They are then due in Pakistan in mid-October and, while that tour is not, strictly speaking, part of the FTP, it's an important one for various reasons and will mark England's first to the country in 16 years.

**DEWS**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**  
**7:00am - 8:30am**

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