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FIRE CHIEF CALLS SUPERMARKET INFERNO 'SUSPICIOUS'

SEE PAGE 7



PRESIDENT ALI INVITES GUYANESE IN ANTIGUA TO COME BACK FOR PROSPERITY

SEE PAGE 3

CHINESE VACCINE FORMALLY APPROVED FOR USE HERE

SEE PAGE 10

HURRICANE COVID, THE KILLER STORM WE CAN PUSH BACK

Another hurricane season is upon us. All hopes that we would by now have put the COVID-19 pandemic behind us – or at least gotten more confidently on top of it – have been confounded, if not outright dashed. COVID-19 has forced the entire world into seemingly never-ending revisions of projected timelines for “reopening” and “returning to normal”. These predic-

tions are almost always exposed for what they really were: our own bewilderment and desperation dressed up in the belief that hope can be forged from an alloy of wishful thinking expressed with a façade of confidence.

The twin perils, the double jeopardies, of having to prepare for and possibly face again another irascible Irma or merciless Maria

while already struggling with COVID-19 is surely a convergence that most of us would have wished and hoped and prayed no end against. But maybe one good that can come out of it is to force upon us the impetus to reflect on how we have disadvantaged ourselves by our perennial stubbornness and uncooperativeness in respect of preparing for hurricanes and

horrendous flooding such as we had last November; to comply with evacuation directives; to avoid going to sea or on the beaches; or to be out sightseeing the effects of storms when we should be indoors. This kind of stubbornness and non-compliance with the directives of lawful authority may have become so embedded and ingrained in us that it easily ex-



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plains the lack of discipline and the difficulty so many of us have been bound by in adhering to the COVID-19 protocols as they pertain to mask wearing, social distancing, limits on gathering, etc.

The results of this lack of conditioning to re-

spond in concert to what is meant for our safety and wellbeing have been almost disastrous – as we would have seen in the almost overwhelming explosion of cases following the last yuletide season that was packed with violations, both mindless

and defiant.

May the lessons we have learned and the experiences we have accumulated drill and instill in us a far greater resourcefulness and resoluteness to face and triumph over this duo of dangers that confronts us – one for the next six

months, the other until we take seriously the duty to achieve herd immunity. We cannot alter one of these two timelines – the hurricane season – but we definitely can influence and decisively shorten the other.



Guyana's President Dr. Irfaan Ali.

GUYANESE IN A&B ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER RETURN

by Shelton Daniel

Guyana's President has hailed Antigua and Barbuda for having "always been a great friend" of his country. Dr. Mohammed Irfaan spoke glowingly of the

twin-island State during an interview Tuesday morning on Pointe FM's Starting Pointe program.

He promised that the nascent but rapidly burgeoning economic prosperity of his re-

source-rich South American country "would definitely lead to [Guyana] having more to share" with Antigua and Barbuda and other fellow member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Pres-

ident Ali, whose PPP/Civic alliance came to power in August last year following victory in the elections of March 2020, said the tremendous economic growth ignited in Guyana by its oil and gas sector – which shows every sign of becoming quite lucrative – would make possible and present “great opportunities for both Antigua and Guyana”.

He gave the assurance that “a successful

Guyana will share its resources with CARICOM,” adding, “We see ourselves as a literal part of CARICOM, and we see our success as that of CARICOM’s success itself.” Expanding further on his sense of Guyana’s oneness with the wider regional community, President Ali added: “As a matter of fact, when we speak about local content or extended local content, it is the Caribbean Community.”

Addressing himself directly to the proportionately sizeable Guyanese diaspora in Antigua and Barbuda, Dr. Ali told them:

“You know Antigua has been a good second home to you, but I ask you also to look to the opportunities that are coming in Guyana. Feel free to contact us, to be part of this progress, to come back home and be part of one single community – the Caribbean Community. We want the

opportunities to be spread; and of course our diaspora must play a key and important role in building the future Guyana and in contributing to development of the future Guyana.” President Ali ended by “wishing the people of Antigua and Barbuda nothing but the best, and to continue to stay safe and healthy. I just pray that you continue to be safe [amid] the COVID-19 pandemic.”



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PM BROWNE ENGAGES MEPS ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Prime Minister Gaston Browne on Tuesday, continued his diplomatic outreach and engagement with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on issues affecting Antigua and Barbuda's national interest

The engagement was held in a virtual meeting with Hon. Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, a member of the Greens/European Alliance Group.

Ms. Herzberger-Fofana is a member of the

European Parliament's Delegation to the Cariforum-EU Parliamentary Committee (DCAR) which monitors the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the European Union and the 15 Cariforum member states. The institutional structures established by the EPA include the Cariforum-EU Parliamentary Committee which serves as a forum for MEPs and parliamen-

tarians from Cariforum countries to meet and exchange views. The Cariforum-EU Parliamentary Committee has 30 members.

PM Gaston Browne began the meeting by calling for an enhanced dialogue between the EU and Cariforum members in order for the EU side to be fully briefed on the real issues affecting the smallest of the Cariforum members. He pointed out that the OECS countries require

special attention because of their small size and the structural disadvantages which make them especially vulnerable. He introduced the idea of special and differential treatment by the EU for the OECS members of Cariforum. The country's leader gave a brief outline of the state of the economies in the Eastern Caribbean which highlighted the fiscal pressure that many countries were under, especially since

Cont'd on pg 5

the onset of the global Covid-19 pandemic.

The problem of de-risking by banks in the region was also highlighted by PM Browne, and he emphasized the need for both sides to work together to mitigate the risks posed by this development.

MEP Herzberger-Fofana, who was born in Mali but is a citizen of Germany, expressed her support for issues of climate resilience with which the Cariforum has been struggling. As a member of the Greens Party in Germany, she said her party is a natural ally in the fight for climate resilience; and that Cariforum members would get a sympathetic hearing from MEPs on the issue of climate justice.

PM Browne said he was hopeful that the conversation would also include the question of climate funding for mitigation and adaptation to allow Cariforum members to effectively transition to green energy.

Browne also took the opportunity to make the case for the CIP programmes being operated by various OECS member states.

"The fact of the matter is," Mr. Browne stated, "that our CIPs repre-

sent not only debt-free foreign investment, but significant public revenue of between 15-40%, without which the state itself would be endangered."

PM Browne went on to outline the importance of the EU Schengen visa-free travel arrangements to the CIP programmes of the Cariforum region, and he urged the EU to engage in an open dialogue with members in order to avoid adverse and unintended consequences from EU policy choices. The damage to

OECS economies and societies from such EU action, he pointed out, would be catastrophic. On the issue of so-called 'offshore tax jurisdictions', PM Browne was emphatic that unilateral EU sanctions on Cariforum members that they deem 'non-compliant' was not the way to go. Instead he urged dialogue and technical assistance for the smallest Cariforum states to address whatever legislative and policy deficiencies may be identified. The prime minister also extended an official

invitation to MEP Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana to visit Antigua and Barbuda in the near future to see the conditions on the ground at the interface between EU policies and regional development. The parliamentarian responded that she was fully vaccinated and ready to go.

The series of meetings is being facilitated by the International Migration Council (IMC) in Paris headed by Mr. Bruno L'ecuyer.


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XPZ SUPERMARKET BURNT TO THE GROUND...FIRE JUDGED 'SUSPICIOUS'



Fire Chief Elvis Weaver

Fire tenders from three fire stations were called into action to combat a raging fire that burnt the XPZ (Chinese) supermarket located on the Sir Sydney Walling Highway on the outskirts of St. John's.

Fire Chief Elvis Weaver reported that the call came into the St. John's Fire Station at 2:35 a.m.

and when they arrived on the scene the Supermarket was engulfed in flames along with two adjacent building in the back.

He said the fire was a difficult one to combat and it has raised suspicion about its origin.

"We have ruled the cause of the fire 'suspicious' as not only the

supermarket has been flattened, but a second structure in the back that housed nine Chinese employees was also destroyed. So far one of the Chinese nationals has not been accounted for," Weaver revealed.

He also provided details of the intensity of the fire and how the fire was

fought by firemen and volunteers.

"The fire was so intense that we had to call for backup from the All Saints Fire Station and even after they arrived we had to call for additional backup from the Coolidge Fire Station as well. The supermarket was constructed with galvanise sheeting and that soon collapsed because of the fire. It's been so intense that we had to seek the assistance of Mr. Maulvin 'Echo' Edwards of Maulvin Trucking who assisted us with providing several trucks of water as well as a backhoe to help fight the fire," Weaver explained.

During the fire at the supermarket, Weaver said there were numerous explosions from the areas where the alcohol beverages were shelved as well as from the various aerosol cans.

In addition to the fire at the supermarket, the firemen also had to rush to Liberta where an abandoned wood and concrete house was burnt to the ground.

Weaver said investigations into the cause of both fires are ongoing.

FETE PROMOTORS AND GOVERNMENT AGREE ON A RESTART OF PARTY SEASON



Chalita Rose, Managing Director of Marketing Machine

The country's major fete promoters have agreed on a set of measures designed to see the restart of the party season some 15 months after its forced closure due to the coronavirus pandemic. The promoters have announced that with the blessing of the ministry of health, they have set July 16 as the date when the first such event takes place in the country since the lockdown caused by the pandemic in March of last year.

But it won't be business as usual for patrons attending these social events. Everyone attending all future fetes will first have to be fully vaccinated. Additionally, all staff at the

events from security to bar attendants must also be fully vaccinated. Interim Board members of the Antigua and Barbuda Promoters Association, Jime Hunte, Chalita Rose and Joseph Warner told a news conference on Monday that the number one priority for the promoters is the health and safety of people attending the fetes, "While we recognize that fetes are not just about partying, they are a significant driver in the local economy. We saw this as an opportunity to do something unique for the

country while at the same time observing the health protocols," Rose stated.

The date of July 16 to restart the fetes was also selected because it is around that time that most people who have been vaccinated so far would have had their second shot.

Hunte explained that several measures have been agreed upon by the promoters and officials at the ministry of health.

"The important measure is that everyone has to be vaccinated; everyone at the venue irrespective of their roles. Essentially, we

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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TRANSPORT BOARD

A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board



will be creating a bubble and we are asking people [who] travel in groups to stay together as much as possible and to continue wearing masks, except for eating or drinking," he noted, He further explained that each event will have hand-washing stations as well as clearly defined entrances and exits. There will also be temperature checks on entry for everyone. Where an individual's temperature is outside normal range, that person will be placed in a special area where they will be further checked by health department personnel. Only after individuals clear this procedure will they be allowed to proceed into the event. The promoters have reported that new systems are going into effect governing ticket purchases and entry. "There will be no gate

sales; all tickets will be sold virtually through a ticketing app. We encourage patrons to purchase tickets at least 48-hours in advance to allow for confirmation by the Ministry of Health that the purchaser has been fully vaccinated. Your phone will be your ticket," Hunte further declared. Under the new system, when someone purchases a ticket, the name is submitted to the Ministry for verification that this individual has been fully vaccinated. No one will be allowed to purchase tickets for other persons unless their information is also provided. The promoters say they intend to undertake a campaign of their own to encourage people to get vaccinated. They are hoping that many people will be vaccinated so the upcoming fete season can be a success. They also indicated that

in the first phase of the restart of fetes, the numbers will be kept at 300 persons, which will increase over time as more people

get vaccinated and promoters fine tune their operations.



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ANTIGUA/BARBUDA PHARMACY COUNCIL



President:
Mr. Michael Joseph
Tel # 724-3824

Secretary:
Ms. Christal Williams
Tel # 462-5522 Ext 245

Ministry of Health, Wellness & The Environment
Lower High Street, St. John's, Antigua

14th May, 2021

Hon. Sir Molwyn Joseph
Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment
Ministry of Health
Government of Antigua & Barbuda
St. Johns
Antigua

SINOPHARM COVID-19 VACCINE APPROVED FOR USE IN ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Dear Sir,

I wish to formally notify you that the Antigua & Barbuda Pharmacy Council, under the powers granted to it by the 1995 Pharmacy Act and its Regulations, has **APPROVED FOR USE** the "Sinopharm Covid-19 Vaccine", also referred to as "BBIBP- Corv Covid-19 Vaccine" developed by the China National Pharmaceutical Group Co., Ltd. (Sinopharm); to be used in Antigua & Barbuda as part of the national response to the global health emergency caused by the highly contagious Covid-19 Virus.

The Pharmacy Council further outlines that after noting the Emergency Use License (EUL) issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) on May 7th 2021, we have concluded that the Sinopharm Covid-19 vaccine should be made available for use in Antigua & Barbuda.

As standard practice, the Pharmacy Council anticipates that the Ministry of Health will employ standard pharmacovigilance activities to track and monitor any adverse effects of the Sinopharm Covid-19 Vaccine. We further request that this monitoring falls part of the PAHO (Pan-American Health Organization) pharmacovigilance Covid-19 Vaccine program and that the importation follows the legislated labelling guidelines which requires pharmaceuticals (to include vaccines) be imported with English labelling.

We thank all stakeholders for their patience as we execute our functions in the sole interest of the health and safety of the public- as granted to us within the respected legislations that guide our functions.

Yours truly,



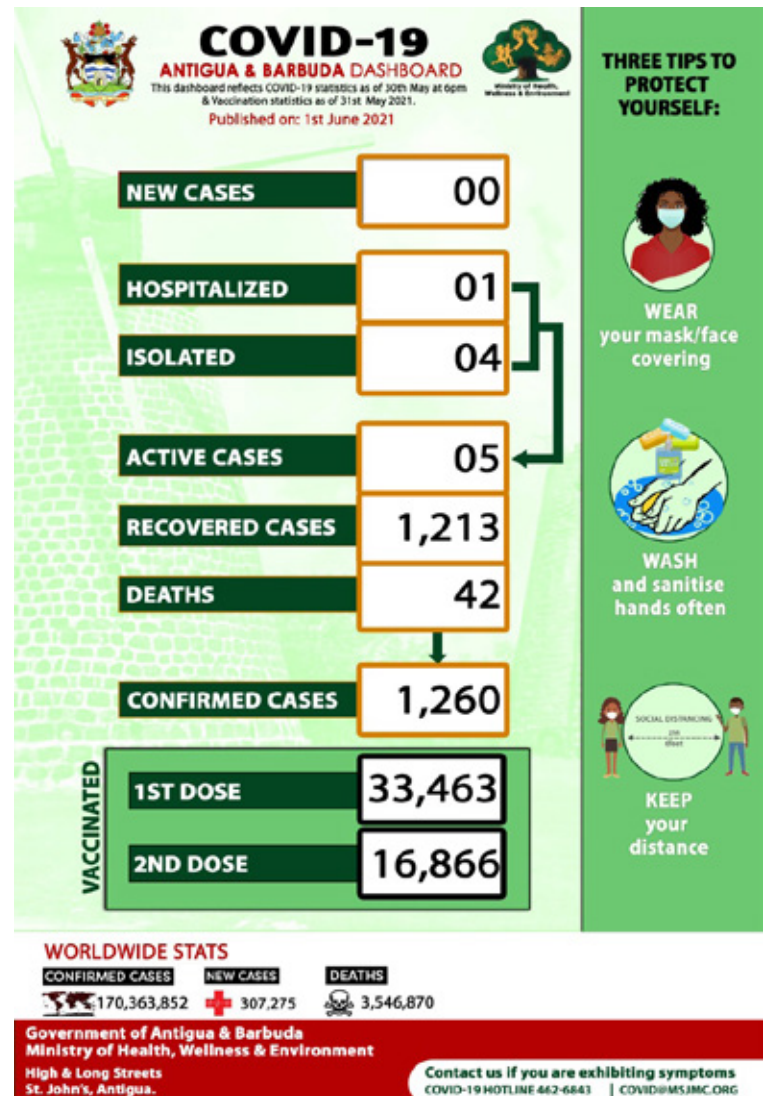
**Antigua and Barbuda
Pharmacy Council**

Mr. Michael Joseph
President
Antigua & Barbuda Pharmacy Council

CC: Honourable Prime Minister
Chief Medical Officer
Director of Pharmaceutical Services

STILL JUST 5 ACTIVE CASES!

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment has not received any new reports from the Sir Lester Bird Mount St. John Medical Centre or the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) as of Sunday 30th May 2021 at 6pm. Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda remains one thousand two hundred and sixty (1260); which is inclusive of five (5) active cases. There is one hospitalized case where the symptoms are considered to be mild. Meanwhile, thirty three thousand four hundred and sixty-three (33,463) first doses of the Covid-19 vaccines have been administered, while sixteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-six (16,866) second doses were administered. The dashboard has been updated to reflect these changes.



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LIST OF VEHICLES TO BE AUCTIONED in 2021

Vehicles at Police Headquarters

Vehicle Number	Vehicle Make & Model	Date	Accounted & Color	Owner Name
ABP 105	Toyota Hilux		Beige	Gov
No Plate	Toyota Corolla		Green & White	
A 40463	Toyota Kluger		Silver	Gov
ABP 73	Toyota Kluger		Silver	Gov
No Plate	Mitsubishi ASX		White	
ABP 109	Ford Escort		Blue	Gov
A 26610	Hyundai Tucson		Blue	Gov
No Plate	Toyota Corolla		Grey	
C 9801	Suzuki APV		White	Gov
No Plate	Kia Sportage		Grey	
No Plate	Toyota Vitz		Silver	
No Plate	Toyota Mark X		Silver	
No Plate	Nissan Cefiro		Gold	
No Plate	Mitsubishi Pajero		Grey	
A 13999	Toyota Corolla		White	Everton Francis-Bolans
ABP 57	Toyota Noah		White	Gov
C 8555	Ford Ranger		Blue	Gov
No Plate	Chevrolet Optra		Silver	
No Plate	Toyota Noah		Blue	
No Plate	Suzuki APV		Black	
No Plate	Toyota Noah		Brown	
No Plate	Suzuki APV		Grey	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Black	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Silver	
No Plate	Nissan Almera		Silver	

ABP 84	Ford -F450 (Wrecker)		White	
ABP 85	International 4300 (Wrecker)		White	

LIST OF VEHICLES TO BE AUCTIONED in 2021

Vehicle at Government Motor Pool

Vehicles Number	Vehicle Make & Model	Date	Accounted and Color	Owner Names
2020				
A 20421	Honda Civic	23-01-2020		Midcic Franics- Upper Fort Rd
A 38539	Nissan Almera	11-01-2020		N/A
A 48542	Honda CRV	21-01-2020		N/A
A 10486	Nissan Sentra	06-01-2020		Marlon Davis-Golden Grove
A 48357	Mitsubishi Lancer	08-01-2020		Lidia Tejada-Cooks Hill
A 35331	Honda Civic	02-01-2020		n/a
A 54794	Subaru Impreza	10-02-2020		Jermaine Morris-Swetes
A 47001	Chevrolet	04-02-2020		Albert Fleming-Fitches Creek
A 53194	Suzuki Ignis	28-02-2020		Huris Lee-Freemans Village
A 46091	Toyota Corolla	20-05-2020		Damian Bellot-All Saints Village

No Plate	Toyota Corolla		White	
A 43004	Honda Civic		Green	Andrew Antonio-Villa
A 54017	Nissan pathfinder		Silver	Gov
No Plate	Suzuki APV		Black	
No Plate	Suzuki APV		White	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Silver	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Silver	
ABP 6	Nissan Patrol		Blue	Gov
No Plate	Ford Ranger		White	
No Plate	Nissan Patrol		Red	
ABP 8	Nissan Patrol		Blue	Gov
ABP 12	Nissan Patrol		Blue	Gov
No Plate	Suzuki APV		Grey	
G 711	Toyota Noah		White	Gov
A 39873	Toyota Kluger		Silver	Gov
A 29986	Toyota Rav4		Blue	Gov
No Plate	Toyota Prado		Black	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Black	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Black	
No Plate	Toyota Kluger		Silver	
ABP 106	Toyota Hilux		Beige	Gov
G 1821	Toyota Hilux		White	ABTB
No Plate	Mazda Demio		White	
G 1476	Nissan Urvan		Beige	Gov
A 40516	Toyota Kluger		Silver	Gov
A 40518	Toyota Kluger		Silver	Gov
ABP 70	Chevy Colorado		White	
G 1255	Suzuki APV		Black	
ABP 46	Mitsubishi PSX		Black	
ABP47	Mitsubishi ASX		Brown	
ABP 48	Mitsubishi ASX		Grey	

A 48656	Chevrolet Spark	06-03-2020	(Black Honda Accord)	Marissa Hughes-Jennings
A 43407	Toyota Levin	02-05-2020		Shendale Smith-Freemans Village
A 17028	Nissan Almera	23-05-2020		Kalvin Williams-Bendals
A 54332	Toyota Alteeza	17-05-2020		Danny Martin-Jennings
A 39648	Toyota Corolla	26-05-2020		Henrico Clarke-Sandals
A 5830	Nissan Sentra	15-05-2020		Donald Humphreys-Rose St. Ottos
A 7861	Nissan Sentra	11-05-2020		Catherine De Abreu-Bethesda
A 44677	Acura CL	11-07-2020		Janeille Matthews-Crosbies
A 46335	Daihatsu Terios	3-07-2020		Titanji Atta-Cedar Valley
A 12100	Nissan Almera	17-07-2020		Hughan Daley-St Johnston's Village
A 47937	Toyota Corolla	16-07-2020		Myles Joseph-Willikies
A 16611	Toyota Corolla	28-06-2020		n/a
C 17216	Kia m/truck	19-06-2020		Ernest Benjamin-Marble Hill
A 36905	Toyota Alteeza	01-08-2020		Michael Polansky-Dutchmans Bay
A 48359	Nissan March	20-08-2020		Edmond Brann-Sea View Farm
TX 930	Nissan Civillian	14-08-2020		Dennis Friday-Jonas Rd
A(C) 10561	Toyota Noah	19-08-2020		Maria Barnes-All Saints Village
C 15756	Toyota Noah	28-08-2020		Alexander Hallpike-Pigotts Village

LIST OF VEHICLES TO BE AUCTIONED in 2021

Vehicles at Police Headquarters

C 12908	Nissan Frontier	07-08-2020		Roroy Johnson-Union Rd	N/A	Honda m/cycle	04-07-2019		
A49518	Toyota Yaris	17-08-2020		Denfield Ryan-Buckleys	A 31473	Toyota Corolla	25-07-2019		Martin Foster-Fort Road
A 58128	Toyota Allion	10-08-2020		Petrice Valentine-Potters	A 30899	Honda Crisso	14-07-2019		Michael Binai-Blue Waters
N/A Salanio Gillion	Yamaha R6 m/cycle	06-09-2020	Green & White		C 14729	Toyota Noah	23-07-2019		Glinton Omarde-Belmont
A 4309	Toyota Vitz	04-09-2020	Silver	T&J Trucking-Lightfoot	A 4186	Nissan March	29-03-2019		Wendell Peets-Liberta
A 25346	Toyota Corolla	11-09-2020	Beige	Delvin Berkeley-Desouza Rd	A 3708	Mitsubishi Towner	10-03-2019		Carlton Rhodes-Five Islands
A 55386	Toyota Pocado	21-10-2020	Maroon	Carlos Dela Cruz-Potters	A 29890	Yamaha M/cycle	14-03-2019		Kevin Gomes- Potters
C 15968	Case Backhoe	05-10-2020	Yellow	Alpheus Jacobs-Paynters Paradise	A 36395	M/cycle Flash	22-08-2019		Johnny Laville-Skeritts Pasture
A 51310	Suzuki Swift	18-11-2020	Metal	Oscey Barton-All Saints	C 17160	Slv Toyota Estima	29-08-2019		Floyd Richards-Mc Pond All Saints
A 58213	Daihatsu Terios	17-11-2020	White	Pandora Dance-Liberta	N/A	Toyota Vitz	17-08-2019		
C 17487	Honda Stepwgn	16-11-2020	Black	Michael Barton-Villa	A 43407	Wht Toyota Levin	02-12-2019		Shendale Smith-Freemans Village
A 36278	Toyota Vista	06-11-2020	Silver	George Anthony-Old Road	C 1747	Dodge Rain	13-12-2019	*Grey Dodge Dakota*	Charles Willock-Alfred Peters St Villa
A 25945	Honda Civic	07-11-2020	Blue	n/a	A 14334	Grn Ford Taurus	05-12-2019		James Pelle-Prince Klass St
A 55170	Toyota Platz	23-10-2020	White	Gairey Goulbourne-Herberts	A 40921	Toyota Corona	18-12-2019	*White Toyota Corolla*	Laskley Christopher-Newfield
A 51836	Toyota Corolla	16-03-2020	White	Jamaul Christopher-Newfield	A 46155	Mitsubishi Lancer	07-12-2019		Medina Ciprian-Newgate St
A 20468	Toyota Rav4	08-09-2020	Silver and Black	Dorian Williams-Jennings	A 52567	Toyota Corona	30-09-2019	*Beige Toyota Corolla*	Jahmauley Henry-Bolans
2019					A 51229	Honda Fit	11-10-2019		n/a
					A 12340	Nissan Almera	08-10-2019		Abdallah Awad-Crosbies

N/A	Nissan Almera	12-10-2019		
A 60888	Hyundai Getz	21-01-2019	*White Toyota Tercel*	Philsbert George(police)-Newgate St
A 35507	Toyota Corona	27-01-2019	*Silver Jeep Liberty *	Charleworth Brown-Newfield
C 6660	Toyota Noah	04-01-2019		Tash Express

APUA UPDATES BARBUDA COUNCIL ON ENERGY RESILIENCE PROJECT



Participants at recent Barbuda Council meeting with APUA

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua, June 1st, 2021 – On the heels of the installation of a new Barbuda Council, the APUA Electricity Business Unit, along with Resident British High Commissioner, members of CDB and the UKCIF, met with the new Barbuda Council members on Wednesday May 19th, 2021 on the sister isle to provide an update on the Barbuda Energy Resilience Project.

Following the passage of Hurricane Irma in 2017, 95% of the Barbuda electricity network was damaged. Upon completion, the project will deliver undergrounding of approximately 8 Km of electricity cables, solar and battery back-up electricity supply to eleven government buildings, assistance with reconnection of any customer who remain off the

grid since the passage hurricane Irma and the delivery of a renewable energy integration study.

Project coordinator Winston Whyte provided an overview of the project to the sitting members of the Council. Since the last meeting between APUA, Project Consultants and the former Barbuda Council on October 14th, 2020, consultants have been recruited to ensure the full complement of experts is met for the execution phase of the project.

Present at the meeting were Jacquelyn Frank, Chairperson of the Barbuda Council, Winston Whyte, Project Coordinator for the Barbuda Energy Resilience Project – APUA Electricity Business Unit and other members of the APUA team (in-person), Lindsay Thompson, Res-

ident British High Commissioner for Antigua and Barbuda, Andrew Dupigny, Head of Infrastructure Partnerships at the Caribbean Development Bank and other project consultants joined remotely.

The Council members had the opportunity to pose questions to the panel on a range of topics to include the placement of manholes, the social support programme for persons who may be still without electricity and the areas within Barbuda that will benefit from the new resilient infrastructure.

Whyte advised that as the project gets closer to execution and the construction of manholes begins road users in Barbuda can expect temporary road closures and traffic disruptions. The Council has committed its full support

to the venture. The Barbuda Council also agreed to assign a new Project Liaison Officer. The Project Liaison Officer is responsible for keeping the Barbuda Council up-to-date on the progress of the project and to keep the community abreast of activities related to the project. APUA and the Barbuda Energy Resilience Project team await the Council's candidate for the post.

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 06 July 2021 at 10:00 a.m. on site, the under mentioned property under the administration of Mr. Sawandi Merchant, Administrator of the Estate of the late Ms. Colleen Lovence, formerly of New Winthorpes, St. Georges's, Antigua.

The property is located at Lamberts in New Winthorpes, St. George's, Antigua and consists of a parcel of land of an area of approximately 5,449 sq. ft./ 0.1 acre, with a single storey, two (2) bedroom, one (1) bathroom wooden dwelling thereon. The service lines for potable water, electricity and telephone which are provided by A.P.U.A are accessible to the property. The land is registered under the Registered Land Act, 1975 as follows:-

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HRPAB's POSITION ON MANDATORY VACCINATION



Despite the welcomed reduction in COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda and the reports of no one hospitalized with the disease for the last two weeks, there is still some concern in officialdom regarding a reduction as well in persons volunteering to take the vaccine. In a recent update from the Health Ministry, thirty-three thousand, two hundred and twenty-nine (33,229) persons had received their first dose of the Oxford Astra-Zeneca vaccine, while fifteen thousand, five hundred and thirty-one (15,531) of those had received their second dose. According to health officials this is well below the rate expected and

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has been expressing, for weeks now, his concern for all of us and the “dire consequences if we do not achieve herd immunity within a reasonable time”.

This has led to many discussions in the media regarding the methods being used, and some that have been proposed, to encourage citizens and residents to be vaccinated. There have been numerous debates mostly on social media about the pros and cons of mandatory vaccination policies and their legality or possible contravention of one's human rights. As Human Resource (HR) practitioners, we are called upon to balance the

employee's right to choose with our responsibility to keep our workplace safe for our employees, customers and visitors as the COVID-19 Pandemic is a public health issue.

We were pleased to see the report from Parliament held on Tuesday May 25, 2021 where PM Browne said that there were no plans by the government to pass legislation to make vaccinations mandatory. HRPAB is not in agreement with employers mandating vaccination as a condition of continued employment and still believes that taking vaccines ought to be an individual choice. However, we believe that persons must be educated and

informed as much as possible on what the vaccine is, how it is expected to work in the body to offer protection against the virus and the possible adverse effects and risks of taking the vaccine. As an association, we also believe that every voice must be heard and the concerns addressed. We acknowledge that there are some mischievous and unfounded arguments being made but also recognize that there are persons with real fears and concerns about the vaccine's ingredients, the relative speed of its development, its usage approval process, and the fact that we do not have a choice yet in Antigua and Barbuda of which vac-

cine to take. We also understand the argument being made for getting back to “some form of normalcy” where persons can get back to work and the economy can be given a chance to thrive. We continue to applaud the work of the local health workers and how they have been trying to address the public’s concerns. We believe that more could be accom-

plished with a targeted and continuous public education campaign. It is important to understand why people are hesitant to take the vaccine and address that. We disagree with the politicization of this matter and suggest that all groups use their influence to assist persons to understand vaccines so that they can make an educated decision. We also deem it important at this time for us as a nation to hear from convalesced COVID-19 patients who were hospitalized and can speak of their experiences so that we can appreciate the magnitude of the effects that this disease has on the body even after recovery.

We understand that for some industries, achieving herd immunity is critical to their business operations. The retail and banking sectors come to mind. A successful vaccination campaign will be critical as well to the hospitality industry to appease visitors and tourists and to keep workers and their families safe.

Caribbean Epidemiologist, Dr. Angie Rose,

previously at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill and now working in France, sums it up this way, “The question is whether you have been given enough information before the vaccine on the risk of severity and death from the disease versus the risks of severe side effects and death from the vaccine so that you can make your own informed choice”. So, what do we suggest? As we had expressed in an article published on March 10 of this year, organizations need to initiate vaccine education programmes and listening meetings so that the perspectives of the undecided could be heard. Employees who have taken the vaccine should also be invited to share their experiences including any adverse reactions that they would have had. All efforts must be made to reassure employees that their continued employment is contingent only on their performance. We advocate working with unions and other employee representatives to formulate a policy

that would include accommodations for those who do not want the vaccine. For example, regular testing or working from home where possible. Companies need to also celebrate success stories to enforce and validate positive behaviours.

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

NOTICE

TO: HER WORSHIP
The Licensing Magistrate
Magistrate's Court
Gray's Farm
St. John's
Antigua

TO: COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A
TAVERN LICENCE FOR BUSINESS
REGISTERED AS
NEON LIGHTS ENTERPRISE**

**We, Bruce Ishorn Stevens and
Nikkiesha Kalisha Edwards, DO
HEREBY GIVE NOTICE**, that it is our
intention to apply at the next sitting of
the Liquor Licence Court to be held at
the Magistrate's Court, Grays Farm,
St. John's Antigua on Thursday 1st day
of July, 2021 next ensuing for a Tavern
license in respect of premises known as
"Neon Lights Enterprise" situated Craven
Road, Ottos, in the Parish of St. John's,
Antigua pursuant to Section 11 (5) of the
Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap
249 of the laws of Antigua and Barbuda,
Revised edition 1992.

Dated the 26th day of May, 2021

Bruce Ishorn Stevens
Nikkiesha Kalisha Edwards

268-721-2235

LAUNCH OF ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ANTIGUA-BARBUDA BRANCH

The Antigua and Barbuda Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) was launched Tuesday morning at Government House. In attendance were His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams (Patron), Her Excellency Lady Williams (President), Resident British Commissioner to Antigua and Barbuda, Lindsay Thompson, and members of the RCS Executive Board — Patrice Skerritt, John Duffy and Joanne Turner. H.E. Lady Williams expressed appreciation to both the British Government (via the Resident British Commissioner) and the Barbados Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society, for providing financial assistance in order to commence

the Antigua and Barbuda Branch. Lady Williams outlined that there are several initiatives which the body will be undertaking over the coming months. “One of the first things we wish to encourage is greater participation in the Queen’s Commonwealth Essay Competition, which draws to a close at the end of June,” she said. “Last year, there was only one entry from Antigua and Barbuda. We hope that many more young people will participate in 2021, in both the junior and senior categories. The winner and runner-up will be flown to London for a week of educational and cultural events, which will culminate in an awards ceremony and medal pre-

sentation.” Patron of the RCS Antigua Branch, H.E. the Governor General Sir Rodney Williams, recalled that in 2016 the Barbados Branch had made a compelling presentation at the Governor General’s Conference in St. Kitts, which has now resulted in the setup of a similar operation in Antigua and Barbuda. “This is the 153rd year of the Society’s existence, and history has shown that the RCS has played a significant part in all of the member Commonwealth continents — and quite significantly in Africa. Upon his release from prison, the Royal Commonwealth Society was asked to host the first press conference for Nelson Mandela on a visit to Lon-

don. The overall vision is for closer people to people collaboration and stronger engagement, especially for the youth.” About the Royal Commonwealth Society: The Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) is a network of individuals and organisations committed to improving the lives and prospects of Commonwealth citizens across the world. Through youth empowerment, education and high-level advocacy, the Society champions the importance of literacy, equality and inclusion, the environment and connected communities across the Commonwealth’s 54 member nations. The Society’s unique position within the Commonwealth family allows it to play a pivotal role in convening and connecting the Commonwealth’s political and diplomatic representatives, as well as industry, civil society, academic and business leaders, on a wide range of issues. Founded in 1868, the RCS is non-partisan, independent of governments and relies on public generosity to achieve its mission. Other RCS branches in the Caribbean are Barbados (registered in 1985), Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and the Cayman Islands.



(L-R): Patrice Skerritt (RCS Board Director), Joanne Turner (RCS Board Director), H.E. Lady Williams (RCS President), H.E. Sir Rodney Williams (RCS Patron), Lindsay Thompson (Resident British Commissioner) and John Duffy (RCS Board Director).

SOAP MAKING INITIATIVE OVER-SUBSCRIBED



MP for St. Paul, Hon. E.P. "Chet" Greene.

An initiative to equip young women in the St. Paul community with new skills from which they may generate additional income has been over-subscribed with more than 30 attendees present. Organised by the area representative, E.P Chet Greene, the workshop in soap-making was planned to run in cohorts of not more than 15 persons. However, at Monday's launch of the workshop, over 30 young wom-

en turned up at the branch office for the workshop.

Greene said the plan now is to run the workshop in two classes as one cohort. Additional cohorts will be organized at a later date.

The initiative is one of several that the representative has organized over the past year. Other workshops included mask-making and floral arrangement.

While the soap-making workshop has attracted all females, there is another workshop taking place in Liberta on small engines repair conducted by Dalma 'Boogie' George. The attendees at this workshop have all been males. Greene, however, has voiced concern over the slow uptake, particular-

ly by young men in the community. "I want to appeal to our young men to come and get a skill to repair small engines. This is a useful skill to have and one which will bring almost immediate financial rewards," he remarked.

The next workshop planned by the parliamentary representative is one in the building trade. "I am keen to organize this particular workshop as part of efforts to ensure the continuity of the building trade among residents," he added. Greene said organizing these workshops is aimed at helping his constituents acquire income generating skills that will help them raise funds for themselves and their families.

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- Cedar Valley & Developments
- Cedar Grove | Blue Waters
- Hodges Bay | Crosbies
- Mount Pleasant

GRENADA PM CALLS FOR SESSION TO CONFRONT SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN



Now Grenada - Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell is concerned about the growing number of child abuse incidents in Grenada and is suggesting that the relevant persons convene a session to determine an approach to tackle this social scourge. "There is a lot of abuse in the education system; a lot of children are being used by vicious characters who have no regard for the children that they hurt. When someone is damaged at a young age, it is difficult for them to get back on track. Therefore we must seriously address this issue," Dr. Mitchell said in a meeting with senior staffers in the Ministry of Education. Suggesting that a meeting be convened among

the relevant persons to determine the way forward, a news release from the Government Information Service (GIS) said that the issue of sexual exploitation of minors was one of the main talking points at a meeting last week Wednesday with senior education officials, as the Prime Minister continued his series of ministry engagements. During its first-quarter news conference for 2021, the police disclosed that data from its Sex Crime Unit is showing that most men charged for sexually-related offences involving minors are above the age of 50, and the minors are under the age of 8. "A major concern from the data that we collected is accused persons

over 50 years of age and the victim 8 years and under. We had an accused 59 years whose victim was 3 years; we had an accused 51 years, the victim 5 years; an accused 50 years, the victim 6 years; accused 57 years, the victim 7 years," said Inspector Maureen Stanislaus of the Sex Crimes Unit of the RGPF.

"These incidents are persons who were known to the victims, they were not strangers," said Stanislaus who shared the data during the 2021 first quarter briefing of the RGPF. "This is of great concern to us. We need members of the community to help us to reduce these incidents," she said.

So far, all the victims for the men above 50 are females and the crimes fall in the category of indecent or sexual offences. Incident offences are mainly exposing the body parts and touching of breast, buttocks, etc, while sexual offences include oral sex, use of object or fingers to penetrate the vagina and or anus of minors.

For the first quarter of 2021, the Sex Crimes Unit recorded 51 reports when compared to 2020 when there were 33 reports — an increase of 64.7%. "Of that number our concern and the concern of the RGPF is the age group 11 to 16. In 2021 of the 51 reports received 26 reports were of the age group 11 to 16 as compared to 2020 where there were 33 reports and 16 was from the age group 11 to 16," she said while calling on the public to continue reporting known or suspected incidents to her Unit. The age of sexual consent in Grenada is 16.

MARTINIQUE COURT GRANTS MAN THE RIGHT TO 'BECOME A WOMAN'



St. Lucia Times - A court in Martinique has granted a twenty-three year old man permission to be regarded as a woman, local reports say. According to **Martinique1Ere**, the individual is one of the first transgender people on the island to have a validated change of identity before a court in Martinique. The online publication stat-

ed that, in adolescence, 'Flo' claimed femininity. As a result, Flo asked the court for a change of identity on official documents. Flo's mother, Veronique, was quoted as saying that she has no problem with her son being officially designated a woman. "I always saw that I had a little boy who was different. Different from the others because

he liked to play with dolls. He made me buy clothes for my niece's old dolls that she collected," Veronique told **Martinique 1Ere**. At 23, Flo studied fashion design by correspondence. Flo's parents, Véronique and David, say they are proud of the transition into being officially known as a woman.

PETER RAM APOLOGIZES FOR OFFENSIVE LYRICS

Barbados Today - Peter Ram has issued an apology for his part in a freestyle video that has been widely criticized.

The viral music video featuring prominent entertainers Lil Rick and Ram contains explicit lyrics and appears to be glorifying gun violence.

It has drawn public outrage and condemnation by Home Affairs Minister Wilfred Abrahams.

The leading artistes featured in the 16-minute video (called the Trojan Riddim Barbados Dancehall Mix) also includes Mole; Reigning Bashment Soca King, SK; Brutal Cranstar; Leadpipe of Sometimes fame; Chef Din; among others.

In a short video posted on

his social media channel today Peter Ram said, "I come here to express sincere and my humblest apology to all of my followers, fans and sponsors along with the general public for the lyrical content in the freestyle video."

He explained the riddim was done a year and a half ago and it wasn't his intention to offend anyone.

Peter Ram said: "As one of Barbados' top entertainers I deeply apologise to all of my fans and friends and all of the little kids that look up to me. See the mistake acknowledged it and you come and big man thing apologise ...We love Barbados and big up wanna self, peace Barbados."



Soca artist Peter Ram

SVG CABINET MULLS LOTTERY, PHONE CARDS FOR VACCINATED

I-Witness News, St. Vincent-- Health officials in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) have asked the Cabinet to consider a lottery, phone card giveaway, and shopping discounts for persons who are vaccinated against COVID-19.

Acting Prime Minister Montgomery Daniel said the health officials floated the idea to Cabinet last Thursday.

"And with all of this, the Cabinet would have pondered on these and so would have, by and large, accepted the recommendations coming forward," Daniel said on Star FM, a radio station owned by the ruling Unity Labour Party (ULP).

Some 13,000 persons have taken at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, about one-quarter of the 50,000 that the government had hoped to vaccinate by now.

Daniel said that in an effort to address vaccine hesitancy, the Ministry of Health will be conducting a vaccine re-introduction campaign.

"The ministry feels that there must be new outreach programmes to

assist in this regard. And in so doing, they have offered to the Cabinet an incentivising programme where a lottery can be established and, that is, the lottery can be done in two phases: when the first 30,000 are vaccinated that they can be beneficial in this regard; and two, when the full 50,000 persons are vaccinated, that a second lottery can be drawn and they too can benefit in this regard."

Daniel spoke of a lottery about five days after commentator, chartered accountant and vaccine advocate Stephen Joachim floated the idea on WE-FM.

Joachim said businesses in SVG could pool resources and have a US\$1 million lottery for vaccinated persons.

He suggested a draw for US\$400,000 when 35,000 people are vaccinated and a draw for US\$1 million when 50,000 people take the jab.

Under Joachim's proposal, those who are among the first 35,000 to take the jab will get two chances to win as they would be included in both draws.

Daniel said: "They are

also looking at where phone cards can be given to vaccinated individuals going forward and they are also looking at ... services from both private and public sector entities that they can benefit in this regard.

"In other words, if you are totally vaccinated, wherever you turn up for a service at any entity, let's say you go to the supermarket, you can have that arrangement with the supermarket where you can have a discount on items being purchased."

He said the Ministry of Health is aware "of the fact that once you are fully vaccinated, then a space can be carved out in this regard.

"Let's take for instance, within the tourism industry where you have staff being vaccinated at the hotels and the like and where you have visitors who are fully vaccinated, this is indeed a different story and the Ministry of Health can carve out this space once individuals are fully vaccinated," Daniel said.



Acting SVG Prime Minister Montgomery Daniel



China reports first human case of H10N3 bird flu

Reuters - A 41-year-old man in China's eastern province of Jiangsu has been confirmed as the first human case of infection with a rare strain of bird flu known as H10N3, Beijing's National Health Commission (NHC) said on Tuesday.

Many different strains of bird flu are present in China and some sporadically infect people, usually those working with poultry. There is no indication that H10N3 can spread easily in humans.

The man, a resident of the city of Zhenjiang, was hospitalized on April 28 and diagnosed with H10N3 on May 28, the health commission said. It did not give details on how the man

was infected.

His condition is now stable and he is ready to be discharged. Investigation of his close contacts found no other cases, the NHC said. No other cases of human infection with H10N3 have been reported globally, it added.

H10N3 is low pathogenic, which means it causes relatively less severe disease in poultry and is unlikely to cause a large-scale outbreak, the NHC added.

The World Health Organization (WHO), in a reply to Reuters in Geneva, said: "The source of the patient's exposure to the H10N3 virus is not known at this time, and no other cases were

found in emergency surveillance among the local population. At this time, there is no indication of human-to-human transmission.

"As long as avian influenza viruses circulate in poultry, sporadic infection of avian influenza in humans is not surprising, which is a vivid reminder that the threat of an influenza pandemic is persistent," the WHO added.

The strain is "not a very common virus", said Filip Claes, regional laboratory coordinator of the Food and Agriculture Organization's Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases at the regional office for Asia and the

Pacific.

Only around 160 isolates of the virus were reported in the 40 years to 2018, mostly in wild birds or waterfowl in Asia and some limited parts of North America, and none had been detected in chickens so far, he added.

Analysing the genetic data of the virus will be necessary to determine whether it resembles older viruses or if it is a novel mix of different viruses, Claes said.

There have been no significant numbers of human infections with bird flu since the H7N9 strain killed around 300 people during 2016-2017.

OVER 90 PERCENT OF PEOPLE IN WAR-HIT TIGRAY NEED FOOD AID



People walk from a rural area towards a nearby town where a food distribution operated by the Relief Society of Tigray was taking place, near the town of Agula, in the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia

Al Jazeera - A total of 5.2 million people in Ethiopia's war-hit Tigray region, or 91 percent of its population, need emergency food aid, the United Nations has warned.

The warning by the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) came as it appealed for more than \$200m to scale up its response in the northern region where nearly seven months of fighting has caused an increase in already high hunger levels.

"WFP is alarmed at the impact of conflict on already high levels of hunger," spokesman Tomson Phiri told reporters in Geneva. "We are deeply concerned at the number of people we see in need of nutrition support and emergency food assistance." The agency said it had provided emergency aid to more than a million people since it started distribution in north-western and southern areas of Tigray in

March. "The WFP is calling for \$203m to continue to scale up its response in Tigray to save lives and livelihoods through to the end of the year." Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, winner of the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize, ordered a ground and air military operation in Tigray in early November 2020 after accusing the northern region's then-ruling party, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), of orchestrat-

ing attacks on federal army camps.

The TPLF, which dominated national politics for decades until Abiy came to power in 2018, said federal forces and its longtime foe Eritrea launched a "coordinated attack" against it.

Abiy, whose forces are backed by troops from Eritrea and fighters from Ethiopia's Amhara region, declared victory in late November when the army entered the regional capital, Mekelle. Fighting and abuses, however, have continued, prompting fears of a protracted conflict with devastating effects on the civilian population. The conflict is estimated to have killed thousands of people, if not more, with almost two million forced from their homes. In May, World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who is from Tigray, described the situation in the region as "very horrific", with "many people" dying "because of hunger".

Sinovac vaccine restores a Brazilian city to near normal

SERRANA, Brazil (AP) — Just one COVID-19 patient is in critical condition at the Dr. Geraldo Cesar Reis clinic in Serrana, a city of almost 46,000 in Sao Paulo state's countryside. The 63-year-old woman rejected the vaccine that was offered to every adult resident of Serrana as part of a trial.

Doctors say the woman was awaiting one of Pfizer's shots which remain scarce in Brazil. But she is an outlier here. Most adults rolled up their sleeves when offered the vaccine made by the Chinese pharmaceutical company Sinovac, and the experiment has transformed the community into an oasis of near normalcy in a country where many communities continue to suffer. Doctors who treated COVID-19 in Serrana have seen their patient loads evaporate. They now help colleagues with other diseases and recently started eating lunch at home. Life has returned to the streets: Neighbors chat and

families have weekend barbecues. Outsiders who previously had no reason to set foot in Serrana are arriving for haircuts and restaurant outings. "We're now as full as we used to be," Rogério Silva, a staffer at a store for cheap refreshments and snacks, said in an interview. "Weeks ago, people wouldn't form a line in here, wouldn't eat in, and I wouldn't let them use the bathroom. Now it's back."

The success story emerged as other population centers keep struggling with the virus, enduring rising infections and new government-imposed restrictions. Meanwhile, the vaccine appeared headed for wider use. The World Health Organization on Tuesday granted emergency use authorization to the Sinovac shot for people 18 and over, the second such authorization it has granted to a Chinese company. The experiment known as "Project S" lasted four months and tested Sinovac's shot in re-

al-world conditions. The preliminary results made public Monday suggest the pandemic can be controlled if three-quarters of the population is fully vaccinated with Sinovac, said Ricardo Palacios, a director at Sao Paulo

ing that we can control the pandemic even without vaccinating the entire population," Palacios said. The results offer hope to hundreds of millions of people, especially in developing nations. Egypt, Pakistan, Indo-



Brazil's Butantan Institute has finished a mass vaccination of the city's entire adult population with doses of Sinovac to test the new coronavirus's behavior in response to the vaccine.

state's Butantan Institute and coordinator of the study, which was not peer-reviewed.

"The most important result was understand-

nesia, Zimbabwe and others are likewise reliant on the Chinese shot, which is cheaper than vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna.



TULSA RACE MASSACRE: PRESIDENT BIDEN COMMEMORATES 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

President Biden toured the Greenwood Cultural Center.

BBC - Joe Biden has become the first sitting president to commemorate the 1921 Tulsa Massacre - one of the worst incidents of racial violence in US history.

Mr. Biden flew to Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Tuesday to mark the 100th anniversary of the attack which claimed some 300 African-American lives.

The two days of violence, sparked by a white mob, were largely erased from history for decades. It re-entered the national discourse amid racial justice protests last year.

On 31 May 1921, a group of white Americans sacked the affluent and predominantly

black neighbourhood of Greenwood in Tulsa.

The community - known by the moniker of "Black Wall Street" - was the country's wealthiest African-American neighbourhood until its many homes and businesses were burned down in the riot.

In addition to the lives lost, many more black Americans were left injured or homeless.

In the years following the incident, many official records were lost or destroyed and schools did not teach about the massacre.

Less than two years later, a white mob destroyed the black town

of Rosewood in rural Florida. Speaking in Tulsa on Tuesday, Mr. Biden said: "For much too long, the history of what took place here was told in silence, cloaked in darkness. But just because history is silent, it doesn't mean that it did not take place. And while darkness can hide much, it erases nothing."

"We can't just choose to learn only what we want to know and not what we should know," he added.

On 31 May, Mr. Biden issued a proclamation for a day of remembrance.

"We honour the legacy of the Greenwood community and of Black Wall

Street by reaffirming our commitment to advance racial justice through the whole of our government, and working to root out systemic racism from our laws, our policies, and our hearts," read a statement from the White House.

Only three survivors of the massacre - currently aged between 101 and 107 - are still alive. President Biden is expected to meet them during his trip.

The president began his visit on Tuesday with a tour of the Hall of Survivors, an exhibit about the massacre at the Greenwood Cultural Center.

READY TO CONQUER THE WILD



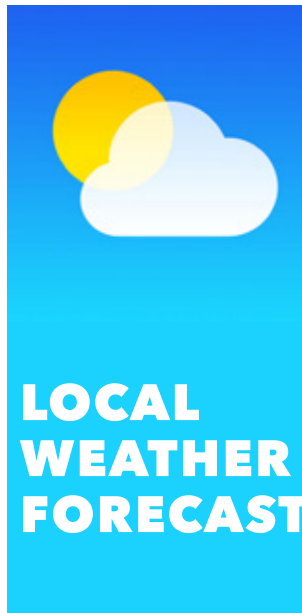
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Wed 02 | Day
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 Humidity 66% UV Index Extreme
 Sunrise 05:32 Sunset 18:38

Wed 02 | Night
25°
 Mostly cloudy. Low 25°C. Winds E at 15 to 25 km/h.
 Humidity 78% UV Index 0 of 10
 Moonrise 24:36 Moonset 12:28
 Last Quarter

Thu 03 29°/25° Partly Cloudy 22% E 24 km/h

Thu 03 | Day
29°
 Partly cloudy. High 29°C. Winds E at 15 to 30 km/h.
 Humidity 68% UV Index Extreme
 Sunrise 05:32 Sunset 18:38

Thu 03 | Night
25°
 Partly cloudy. Low 25°C. Winds E at 15 to 25 km/h.
 Humidity 76% UV Index 0 of 10
 Moonrise 01:13 Moonset 13:18
 Waning Crescent



Just chillin'

In general, Antiguan and Barbudans don't like their juices at room temperature, they enjoy them chilled rather than being contained in huge cups crammed full of ice. Juices are stored on shelves but often in a freezer to chill. Now that accounts for the difference in cost.

Juices – at room temperature – are price control items. Once chilled, juices are no longer price controlled and the trader is allowed to apply an unstipulated price increase to cover the cost of keeping the item chilled.

Here's what the difference looks like

Item	Size	Room temperature	Chilled
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Fruta	1 Litre	\$5.65	\$6.50
Pinehill	1 Litre	\$7.05	\$7.50
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Ribena	250ml	\$2.65	\$3.00
Orchard	250ml	\$2.28	\$3.00
Pinehill	250ml	\$2.14	\$2.50
Rica	330ml	\$2.87	\$4.00
Trinidad Fresh	330ml	\$2.65	\$3.00



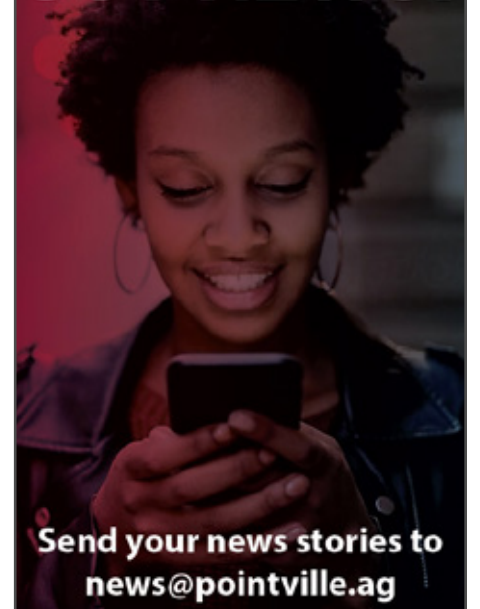
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ANTIGUA FOOTBALL: CONCACAF PREPARATIONS GOING GOOD

ST. JOHN'S – Preparations for the Benna Boys' upcoming FIFA World Cup [CONCACAF] qualifier are going well. While yesterday (Tuesday) was a rest day, full training resumes today ahead of the crucial encounter against Grenada. Speaking with Pointe Xpress, Manager Fernando Abraham confirmed that all the players were in camp – including the overseas based – and there were no injuries to report. He said the players are excited and ready go. As for the team's approach, Abraham said the Benna Boys will be looking to remain top of their group. Antigua and Barbuda are top of Group A with four points after the first round. They are joined in Group

A by El Salvador, Grenada, Montserrat and US Virgin Islands. Speaking on the absence of fans, Abraham said "We are definitely going to miss the fans". He continued, "There is nothing like the 12th man". He was hopeful that the local authorities would have given permission for fans who have been fully vaccinated to attend and give the Benna Boys their support. Abraham reminded that the authorities in St. Croix had given similar permission for 250 persons who were fully vaccinated to attend their encounter. The Benna Boys come up against Grenada on Friday 4th June, 2021 at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.



TENNIS: GRAND SLAMS SOFTEN TONE ON NAOMI OSAKA

YAHOO Sports -- The grand slams have pledged to work to improve the player experience at major tournaments following Naomi Osaka's withdrawal from the French Open. A strong joint statement from the slams on Sunday threatening the world number two with disqualification, and a ban from future tournaments if she did not reverse her decision not to fulfil her media commitments, fanned the flames of what had already become a major talking point. Osaka announced her withdrawal on Monday, revealing her struggles with depression, and another statement from the slams on Tuesday took a very different tone. "On behalf of the grand slams, we wish to offer Naomi Osaka our support and assistance in any way possible as she takes time away from the court," read the statement. "She is an exceptional athlete and we look forward to her return as soon as she

deems appropriate. "Mental health is a very challenging issue, which deserves our utmost attention. It is both complex and personal, as what affects one individual does not necessarily affect another. "We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling and we empathize with the unique pressures tennis players may face.

"While players' well-being has always been a priority to the grand slams, our intention, together with the WTA, the ATP and the ITF, is to advance mental health and well-being through further actions." The slams did, though, again stress the need for fairness to be maintained through regulations. "Together, as a community, we will continue to improve player experience at our tournaments, including as it relates to media," the statement read.

NISSIN

workday

Naomi Osaka



Alex Browne (r), executive member, makes the presentation on behalf of Dalis Thomas.

LOCAL CRICKET: OVERSEAS-BASED FORMER MEMBER MAKES GENEROUS DONATION

WILLIKIES, Antigua – The Willikies Cricket Club were the recipients of a set of playing gears and training uniforms. The generous donation was made on behalf of Dalis Thomas, a former member of the Club who now resides in Melbourne,

Victoria, Australia. Speaking to Pointe Xpress, Thomas said he was “extremely happy to lend his support to the Club”. He further went on to say that he was “proud to see the very young group of boys (and girls) representing the Club”. Willikies Cricket Club,

a mainstay of local cricket, is seeing a resurgence in the game and is now awaiting formal competitions to restart, following the abrupt halting of all competitive sports last year at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic.

On hand for the presentation ceremony were president Darise James, Abdie Hughes (Coach), and other members of the executive. The Willikies Club have produced several players who have gone on to the local and regional stage.

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