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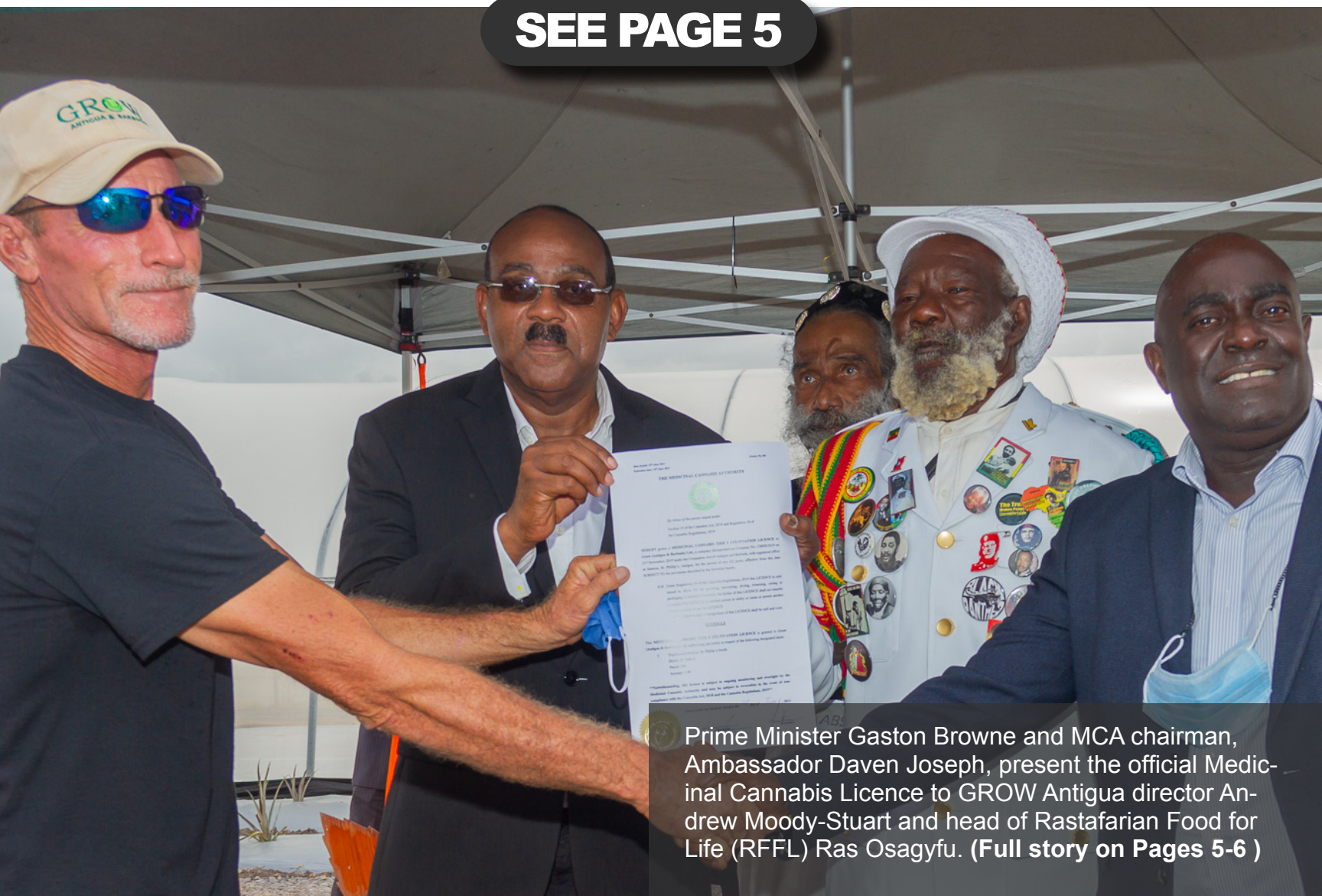
WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021

| ISSUE 242 |

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MEDICINAL CANNABIS INDUSTRY LAUNCHED!

SEE PAGE 5



Prime Minister Gaston Browne and MCA chairman, Ambassador Daven Joseph, present the official Medicinal Cannabis Licence to GROW Antigua director Andrew Moody-Stuart and head of Rastafarian Food for Life (RFFL) Ras Osagyfu. (Full story on Pages 5-6)

Former Senator Llewellyn Smith laid to rest. **Tribute on page 8**

City West MP/Branch continue support for the elderly (story on pages 9-11)

The agricultural revolution taking place in Antigua and Barbuda

We have deliberately refrained from pluralizing the *'revo'* word, as it rightfully should be; because there are so many revolutions taking place in Antigua and Barbuda these days, that if we tried to take them all in, it would be impossible to focus and do even a half-decent job of selecting one for the purpose of this editorial.

There have been revolutions in healthcare – ditto: kidney transplants being done right here, in Antigua and Barbuda! – in public works infrastructure output and efficiency; in astoundingly affordable housing that is yet of premium class and quality; port development investments that have delivered futuristic upgrades to both our cruise and cargo vessel facilities, so that just the look of them alone serves to market our country as an altogether desirable, if not indispensable, destination.

Even in the midst of fiscal challenges that would have proved crippling to any other administration – especially its clueless predecessor and, most notably, the former finance minister – this Gaston Browne-led administration

of the governing Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) has moved with mind-boggling speed and precision to restore and revitalize the country from multiple disasters.

These have ranged from near catastrophic political mismanagement of public finances and projects – public contracts, acquisitions and procurements of buildings, etc. – to the relentless natural perils of hurricanes and floods for which our responses and recovery have been robustly more than equal.

We say more-than-equal because these feats have been accomplished with reserve and redundancy; to the extent that Antigua and Barbuda has found the space, within its own constraints, to extend help, whenever needed, to its neighbours: be they Dominica following its almost exterminating brush with Hurricane Maria, right on the heels of our Barbuda's savage beat-down from Irma just a few days earlier; or our reaching out to St. Vincent and the Grenadines with both supplies and personnel to help them cope with and recover from a series of

volcanic eruptions whose timing could not be more cruel – coming, as they have, in the midst of an existential global struggle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party's most hallowed mea culpa is this: it modestly undersells what it consistently over performs. Nowhere is this more true than in the agricultural sector. This is not a government which twiddles its thumbs wondering what to do when faced with the myriad challenges of extermination by pests and diseases – as evidenced by the steps it has taken to import 100,000 units of disease free planting material to rehabilitate the nation's coconut palms that have been decimated by lethal yellowing and storm battering.

This is just one example of the *restore-and-expand-efficiently policy* of this government toward agriculture. The decriminalization of marijuana for personal recreational use – allowing each household to grow up to four plants within their domiciled or designated space – is also part of the agricultural revolution when a person can

includes those four plants as part of their backyard gardening – a national project that is now being treated and taken far more seriously than before. That someone can report theft or damage of their marijuana plants to the police for action as they would for theft or damage of their tomatoes and pumpkins means that – without the fear of being charged for even making such a report – greater community respect is engendered and transgressions of that nature can be lawfully mediated without people taking matters into their own hands.

The agricultural revolution has progressed to a now fully operationalized legal and regulatory framework for the cultivation and manufacture/processing of medicinal marijuana products. The first license was officially meted out on Monday at Seatons.

Things agricultural-and-food-production-related are well represented in Antigua and Barbuda's now

coherent plan for the pursuit and development of an ocean-based economy – several components or elements of which are already in place and thriving, such as our cruise and cargo ports and our yachting sector.

Our fishing sector needs, of course, is in need of further development and modernization but is already being blessed with excellent landing facilities. Plans for the Willoughby Bay Development will certainly take us into richer depths of blue wealth and higher reaches of the economic powerhouse that has been steadily – nay, rapidly – taking shape over the last seven years. Time and space would fail us if we tried to itemize major initiatives such as the farmland irrigation program, the Agricultural Development Project in collaboration with the People's Republic of China, and so many others. This Gaston Browne administration has not been afraid to venture where others before

have feared to even dream of going – much less to dare, at minimum, a tentative toe-dipping try.

Predictable naysayers and detractors tend not to be familiar or comfortable with the proverbial and proven wisdom of *nothing ventured, nothing gained*.

In the capable hands of Hon. Samantha Marshall, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs is demonstrating renewed wisdom and determination to never keep doing the same things over and over again and expecting different results. Innovative government policies are inspiring creative activities and applications by our farmers, fishers and horticulturalists.

The Gaston Browne administration is determined and relentless in its aim of ensuring that agriculture's potential as a significant contributor to our national self-reliance is realized – with surplus. Promise made, promise kept.

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Over 60% of hospitality workers vaccinated!

ABHTA says priority on protecting employees, getting industry in recovery mode



Antigua and Barbuda hospitality industry partners are looking ahead and seeing recovery in sight with airlift and occupancy showing slow signs of increase, according to a press release from the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA).

The industry, it says, sees one of the major factors in the recovery process being the vaccination of employees. “Resorts, tours, retailers, restaurants, taxi drivers and all relat-

ed hospitality businesses have all been exceptional in their support and encouragement of employees to get vaccinated.

“Second dose vaccinations are now underway for over 3,500 employees in the sector, with many other employees now also taking the opportunity to get their first dose.”

It adds that, “A recent industry survey by the [ABHTA] shows average occupancy for the destination for October – December 2021

currently ... at an estimated 45% with a potential for growth, as we are encouraged by our new Level 1 rating from the CDC in the United States, the possibility of the UK moving Antigua and Barbuda to the green list, and the return of ... Canadian travelers in the last quarter of this year.

“This number will continue to climb as we also promote the safety of our destination,” the ABHTA predicts.

It goes on to quote the organization’s executive chairman, Mr. Vernon A. Jeffers Snr, as saying: “We must be serious and think aggressively about promoting our destination as Sun, Sea and Safe. Safety means ensuring that we protect our employees and encourage them to get vaccinated, protecting themselves and their families. Our team members must also feel safe in a work environment where they can deliver the best service to guests. Our success is simply

vaccination, where each one protects the other.”

Tourism and Investment Minister, Honorable Charles ‘Max’ Fernandez, is also quoted lending his support to the vaccination process for the hospitality sector: “Vaccination is still the only proven, scientifically known way for us to get out of the clutches of this pandemic, saving lives and livelihoods, and allowing us to fully open our country for tourism. We are encouraged by the steadily increasing vaccination rate in the sector and will continue to support our industry partners however we can, to ensure employees are safe and the sector continues to see increased growth and a return to full employment.”

The ABHTA has advised employees wishing to get more information about the vaccination process to speak directly with their health care providers.

Antigua and Barbuda issues first official medical cannabis license



(l-r): Prime Minister Hon. Gaston Browne; Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs, Hon. Samantha Marshall; GROW Director Andrew Moody-Stuart; and RFFL head Ras Osagyfu, cut the ribbon to signal the commencement of GROW Antigua.

History was made on Monday 14th June 2021 when the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, through the Medicinal Cannabis Authority (the “MCA” or “Authority”), issued the first official license for the production of medical cannabis.

The Authority is a statutory body created to regulate and issue licenses for the cultivation, manufacture, processing, extraction, import, export, testing, research, distribution, and sale of medicinal cannabis goods.

The first license was issued to Grow Antigua, a local tri-fold company that can boast of being the first of its kind in the Cannabis Industry.

GROW (Antigua & Barbuda) Limited is an Antiguan & Barbudan registered vertically integrated ‘seed to sale’ medical cannabis business enterprise. The company is a public/private hybrid operation that includes the Government, Rastafarian communities and private enterprise as central stakeholders.

The three entities comprising Grow Antigua are Itopia Life (Antigua) Ltd, Rastafari Food For Life (RFFL) Ltd, and the National Asset Management Company (NAMCO).

Itopia Life is a respected team of Antiguan and international professionals utilizing modern growing practices, world-class medical genetics and years of experience with global standing in the medicinal cannabis industry.

The Nyabinghi Theocracy Church Haile Selassie I Big Creek in conjunction with the Rasfreeman Foundation for the Unification of Rastafari Inc. group have joined together in unity to form the Rastafari Food For Life Ltd. The people of Antigua & Barbuda are represented by NAMCO.

In offering salutations during the historic handing over ceremony, Director of GROW Antigua, Andrew Moody-Stuart said: "Today's ceremony represents one of the most significant pivots in the cannabis industry. For the first time, a government will partner with a religious community and a

private company for cannabis production that will help centralize public health outcomes, while also fostering innovation and quality. We are at the beginning of what we hope will be a remarkable journey for all of us and this little country of ours. We are aiming high and have all the ingredients to put GROW Antigua & Barbuda on the world's medical cannabis stage."

According to Ambassador Daven Joseph, Chair of the MCA, "The Cannabis Authority is pleased that Grow Antigua was able to meet the critical requirements that will enable this company to conduct a viable medicinal

cannabis business in accordance with national law and public policy. The medicinal cannabis industry is expected to contribute significantly to our post COVID-19 economic diversification program and this is just the beginning of the government's effort to meaningfully develop this industry."

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne; Agriculture Minister and NAMCO Board member; Hon. Samantha Marshall; Ras Osagyfu (Glasford F Mack) of RFFL; and Attorney General Hon. Steadroy Benjamin, all gave brief remarks during the handing-over ceremony.

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OECS leaders to agree on mechanisms to speed up integration



Antigua and Barbuda's OECS Commissioner, Ambassador Colin Murdoch.

A motion calling for acceleration of the integration process within the OECS is among matters that will go before a meeting of the OECS Assembly taking place through virtual means today.

The fifth meeting of the OECS Assembly is taking place under the theme 'Onward with integration for progress and sustainability' with the motion among the main items listed on the Order Paper for discussion.

The motion notes that the OECS is celebrating its 40th anniversary and the associated successes that have been achieved by the Organisation throughout those years. It added that this regional integration project, which began in 1981 with seven member states, and

which has now grown to a membership of 11, has demonstrably been of benefit to the economies and peoples of the OECS.

The motion further notes that huge successes have been achieved over the past 40 years of functional cooperation in the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, and the Pharmaceutical Procurement System through which Member States purchase medicines in bulk for distribution within the sub-region.

However, it recognizes that despite its successes in the past, there has been a 'slowing down' of the process toward full integration. This, it explained, comes as the sub-region now faces

the implementation of the more complex aspects of establishing the Economic Union.

The motion wants all OECS member states to 'remain engaged' in the processes toward integration and for a recommitment to the aims and objectives of the integration process. Antigua and Barbuda's delegation to the OECS Assembly will be led by Prime Minister Gaston Browne. It will also include senior adviser to the Prime Minister and the nation's OECS

Commissioner, Ambassador Colin Murdoch.

During the Assembly, the Director General of the World Health Organisation, Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, has been invited to address the session which will be followed by a question and answer period involving the heads of government.

The Assembly will also discuss the COVID-19 pandemic and individual country responses to the health and economic crises.

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:-

REGISTRATION SECTION: Cassada Gardens & New Winthorpes

BLOCK: 421995E

PARCEL: 256

Parcel No. **256** of Block No. **421995E** is bounded by the following:

On the North by: Parcel 251;
On the South by: Public Road;
On the East by: Public Road;
On the West by: Parcel 255

Particulars of the sale can be obtained from:

Mr. Trevor 'Teddy' Santos
Licensed Auctioneer
Office: (268) 562-7653
Cell & WhatsApp: (268) 464-7653
Email: info@go-going-gone.com
Instagram: tts_auction_antigua
Facebook: Auction Antigua

Former Senator, ABLP stalwart Llewellyn Smith laid to rest – PM Browne pays tribute



Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Llewellyn Smith during the last ABLP North Street gathering, January 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Tuesday, June 15, 2021, Llewellyn Smith, CM, was laid to rest with an Official Funeral.

The thanksgiving ceremony, held at the Ebenezer Methodist Church, saw scores of family and friends gathering to pay their last respects to the former Government Senator.

Tributes poured in from several persons, including Ambassador Lionel Hurst, Hudson Gordon, the ABLP Choir, and Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

In a written tribute to the late comrade, PM Browne said, “Every political party is dependent upon a corps of selfless workers, determined to ensure the success of the institution at the polls, as a government, and as a sustaining institution.

“Comrade Llewellyn Smith

had great love for the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party. He found that it allowed for self-expression and fulfilment as an officer within the party. The ABLP has no paid workers, no payroll expense. The money which it raises goes toward furthering the aims and objectives of the party, none towards salaries. Comrade Llewellyn Smith was a significant player cementing the bedrock of this 75-year-old institution that has been a superb success during the decades of its existence.”

Browne continued, “Comrade Llewellyn Smith served as the General Secretary of our ABLP for almost one decade, winning the hearts and minds of the membership and earning significant applause from the ABLP leadership. He enjoyed the tasks

which brought him into contact with the broad membership, especially so when his cadenced voice, masculine bearing, and unrelenting vigor made him a very necessary leader within our institution. Comrade Llewellyn Smith served in the Senate of Antigua and Barbuda, appointed by Sir Vere Cornwall Bird as Premier, in an act of abiding faith and demonstrated great oratorical skill. He could reason on his feet when taunted by the opposition members, although he was always very well prepared. His championing of the Medical Benefits Scheme Bill (1977) was a worthy example of a finely-tuned intellect, ready always to do battle. He was an outstanding Senator who used his platform to strengthen governance and to improve the socio economic advancement of our people especially the poor and vulnerable.”

Llewellyn Smith served as a Government Senator for 23 years and was appointed Deputy President of the Senate by then Prime Minister V.C. Bird Snr.

Prime Minister Browne ended by stating, “The people and Government express their sympathy to his family, his friends and to the tens of thousands of ABLP members who will miss this stalwart. His photo will be displayed permanently on our ABLP Headquarters Wall where the most outstanding within the fold who have gone to the Great Beyond continue to earn a place in our hearts.”

City West Branch expresses PM's love and care for seniors

by Shelton Daniel

Prime Minister Gaston Browne's lifelong passion for helping the poor and underprivileged is being expressed by the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party's (ABLP) Constituency Branch of St. John's City West.

PM Browne has been the elected Member of Parlia-

ment (MP) for City West for more than two decades, in addition to being political leader of the governing ABLP since 2012.

Last week, the Constituency Branch (next-door neighbours to *Pointville Communications*) undertook distribution of meals and other necessities to elderly persons

in the constituency who are bedridden, shut-in and of impaired mobility.

The City West Constituency Branch chairman, Delano "Lanno" Richards, is also a member of the Pointville Communications' Board of Directors. He told *Pointe Xpress* that, "Last Thursday we did a distribution of adults' undergar-

ments."

According to Richards, "This program is ongoing until supplies are exhausted."

He said the supplies were sourced by PM Browne for the seniors and these supplies include "equipment, wheelchairs, walkers and other accessories at the Branch Office, which we allow senior citizens to

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use on a loan basis if they are going to the hospital or going for their medication or whatever. That is one of the services that the Prime Minister is rolling out, and I can assure you that there are many more to come.”

Chairman Richards disclosed that the “long term goal is to acquire a wheelchair ambulatory service that will take our senior citizens and our infirm ones to the hospital for dialysis, to the clinics, for doctors’ appointments, wherever.”

He said Prime Minister Browne was placing special focus on the senior

citizens and those with infirmities or disabilities “to give them a better life as

the country continues to open up”.

Richards told us further: “We are also

hoping that with this coming [30th Anniversary of] Independence, we will

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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TRANSPORT BOARD
A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

Cont'd on pg 11

be able to celebrate it with our senior citizens in a big way.”

He noted, with due commendation, that “the Prime Minister has always been with senior citizens on special outings and luncheons [that he organizes and hosts for them] and I am sure that he will be with them again, as we plan to ensure that the life of our citizens and infirm in our constituency is improved.”



Pictures show Branch Chairman Delano Richards, Branch Office Manager Jean-Marie Baptiste, and others involved in delivering the items of assistance.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor: The Sir Lester Bird Mount St. John's Medical Centre (SLBMSJMC) joins with others in recognizing the contributions of Mrs. Myra Walwyn, founder of the Friends of Holberton Hospital.

Mrs. Walwyn had an obvious genuine interest in all aspects of Holberton Hospital, in the welfare of the employees, and in the challenges they faced as an organization. She wanted to do something about it—and with the help of other likeminded friends, took the initiative and started what would become known as the Friends of Holberton Hospital.

Since then, this charitable organization (renamed *Friends of Mount St. John's Medical Centre* in 2009) has supported healthcare in Antigua & Barbuda by assisting the hospital with funding for medical equipment, facility improvements and employee training.

Today, our hospital remains grateful for the actions of Mrs. Myra Walwyn, which has inspired generations of giving. We should remember her, not for what we have lost, but for who she was and what she achieved.

We extend our deepest sympathies to her family.

Best,

Salma Crump

Head of Marketing & Communications

Sir Lester Bird Mount St. John's Medical Centre

Friends of MSJMC pays Tribute to Mrs. Myra Walwyn



The late Mrs. Myra Walwyn

In 1976, a group of friends, at the invitation of Mrs. Myra Walwyn, got together to try to improve the poor conditions at the then Holberton Hos-

pital. The group became a formal not-for-profit organization and registered as The Friends of Holberton Hospital with Mrs. Walwyn as President. She also served as Treasurer for a number of years after that.

Mrs. Walwyn had a gentle smile and a soft voice. She gained the support of those who agreed with her vision of supporting the hospital. They did so by supplying much-needed equipment, training of nurses and technicians, and facilitating repairs

at the Holberton Hospital.

Her commitment to the organization never wavered and continued even after the closure of the Holberton Hospital and the opening of Mount St. John's Medical Center, recently renamed the Sir Lester Bird MSJMC.

Mrs. Walwyn was instrumental in creating meaningful, long lasting relationships, and worked alongside the organizations philanthropic patrons – which included the Mill Reef Club – towards the betterment of the hospital.

An advertisement for State Insurance Company Limited. The background is a green-tinted image of a house with significant structural damage, likely from a hurricane. Overlaid on this is a large yellow house icon with the words 'GET COVERED' in white and yellow text. Below this, it says 'INSURANCE FOR HOME & CONTENTS'. At the top, the company logo and name 'STATE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED' are displayed. At the bottom, a green banner contains the text 'HURRICANE SEASON STARTS JUNE 1ST 2021 CALL STATE TODAY & GET COVERED'. Below the banner, a yellow bar contains the contact information '(268) 481-7800/4 | sicantigua.com' and social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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Through her leadership, the organization received continuous support from the general public and the business community of Antigua and Barbuda. She was instrumental in the organization putting on many fundraisers to fulfill the goals intended for the hospital. During the early years, those included the well-known Carnival Breakfast, International Dinner,

and cultural events hosting The National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica and comedians Bella and Blacka, also from Jamaica. In the days of Holberton Hospital, the organization helped with the construction of the rehabilitation center, the refurbishing of the Blackburn and Edward wards, and sponsorship of higher education for hospital nurses and staff. An

enormous amount of equipment was also purchased with the funds raised for the hospital. PAHO, during its centennial celebrations in 2004, presented the Friends of Holberton, while under Mrs. Walwyn's Presidency, with a plaque in recognition of its contribution to healthcare in Antigua and Barbuda.

In 2005 when Mrs. Walwyn and her husband Dr. Alford Walwyn celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, they unselfishly asked for donations to be made to Friends of Holberton in lieu of gifts. The funds collected were donated to the Kidney Unit of the Hospital. Mrs. Walwyn was also at the forefront of a special clinic where the late Dr. Garth Taylor, through the Friends of Holberton, would travel to Antigua to perform eye surgery and consultation for local patients with eye diseases for over 18 years until his death. In 2010 when Friends of MSJMC was registered, due to the closure of the Holberton Hospital, Mrs. Walwyn continued to

support the organization and its members in any way she could.

The new organization has donated equipment to MSJMC, including dialysis machine, EKG machine, ultrasound machine and many other items, thereby continuing Mrs. Walwyn's vision and legacy by giving support to the local hospital as they strive to provide optimum care to the Antiguan community.

Mrs. Walwyn, a born Jamaican, has served her adopted country, Antigua and Barbuda, with pride and dignity; always shedding a light on the needs of the hospital and encouraging the Antiguan and Barbudan society at large to follow her lead.

We are all grateful for her contribution to healthcare in Antigua and Barbuda, and we will continue this virtuous legacy of which she carried the mantle so gently and yet firmly for so many years.

Well done, good and faithful servant. May she sleep in eternal peace.

Form RLNC 6

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

THE REGISTERED LAND ACT, CAP 374

Section 34 of the Act

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
CENTRAL	14 2288A	122
CENTRAL	14 2288 A	133
CENTRAL	14 2288 A	229
SUTHERLANDS	64 1892 D	260
FIVE ISLANDS	54 1489 A	615
FIVE ISLANDS	54 1498 A	648

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REPLACE LOST OR DESTROYED LAND CERTIFICATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application was filed in the Land Registry on 29th day of April, 2021 by **EVERTON F. GONSALVES**, Attorney At Law Longford's in the Parish of Saint John in Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of **MONROE SPENCER & SONS ENTERPRISES LIMITED** the Applicant herein for the replacement of Land Certificates 4867/96 issued on the 14th day of October, 1996, 4868/96 issued on the 14th day of October, 1996, RL-201602910 issued on the 26th day of July, 2016, 876/89 issued on the 22nd day of February, 1989, 2838/95 issued on the 27th day of June, 1995 and 1692/1996 issued on the 16th day of April, 1996 respectively issued to **MONROE SPENCER & SONS ENTERPRISES LIMITED** being the owner of the above-mentioned property, which has been mislaid, lost or destroyed.

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

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

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Tian Winter presents new EP 'Rude Bwoy Romance'

by Lee Williams

Tian Winter, one of the kings of Antigua and Barbuda's entertainment scene, says he is proud to share his newest project with the world.

In an interview with **Platinum FM** on Monday, the singer/songwriter whose name is etched in history as the double winner of the Groovy and Jumpy Soca Monarch titles on multiple occasions, reminisced on his journey into the music industry.

"I did not start in soca. Soca gave me my buss. Soca is what let people know who Tian Winter is," he noted. "But I've been dabbling in R&B and dancehall. That's what started me. That's what got me going. That's what sparked the fuse."

The Winter man further disclosed that the inspiration for the name of the project was the chorus of its title track 'I'll wait' which sings 'Rude Bwoy romance you ah get a little mix of a gentleman'. The other tracks on the

EP followed the same theme and are a mix and blend of multiple genres.

The release of the EP does not coincide with the reopening of the entertainment sector next month, as Tian says he'll wait and see how things

unfold rather than get excited prematurely. In the meantime, fans can get excited about the steps he's taking to promote Wadadli's music to the world!

"When we dropped **Rude Bwoy Romance**, for sure I've been get-

ting crazy reviews on that, both in and out of the country," Tian stated. "The plans now for this that we're currently trying to do ... we're in talks and we're trying to shop the whole EP, the whole album, to a label so they can take it plac-


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es that pretty much ... we can't, [that's] out of reach, and put it to the world.

"So that's what we need. We need distribution. We need people that have the marketing power to put it in places it needs to be. So that's what we're currently working on. Nothing is set in stone yet, but we're going hard at different labels to get it shopped so that it can

be where it needs to be."

The fulltime entertainer, who is known for his smooth vocals, also expressed gratitude to all the persons who have supported the Tian Winter Music brand over the years. It is this, he says, that has allowed him to remain a prominent part of the music industry. And, these days, you can support an artiste

in many different ways once one is social media savvy.

"I tell people, if you have a favorite artiste, this is how you support them. You post their music. You play their music. You stream their music. You buy their music," he explained. "Because, at the end of the day, it's a business."

The complete track list for the four-song, 14-minute EP includes

'I'll Wait', 'Non-negotiable', 'Watch Dem' and 'Boundaries'. It was released on May 01, 2021 under the 'Winter Man Music' label and is currently available on all major streaming platforms.

For live interviews, tune in to Platinum FM 97.9 Mon-Fri, 9am-10am



Bermuda: cruise ship visits cancelled due to vaccination rule

Royal Gazette - Royal Caribbean International (RCI) scrapped plans to send cruise ships to Bermuda this summer because of the Government's insistence that all passengers had to be vaccinated, it was revealed yesterday.

Lawrence Scott, the transport minister, said other destinations only required a proportion of passengers to be vaccinated, which made them more attractive to cruise lines.

But Mr. Scott defended the hard line on vaccinations and insisted that public safety could not be compromised.

Mr. Scott highlighted that the CDC regulations were less strict than Bermuda's regulations.

He said: "That contradicts our current health policies of fully vaccinated cruises for Bermuda and that is where – although they're running within the guidelines of the CDC – they're outside our health guidelines.

"So, for us, we can't allow them to operate like that. When it comes to health and the safety of the country and the health risk, we're not willing to compromise

on that." RCI's Freedom of the Seas and Enchantment of the Seas were scheduled to make 21 visits each to Bermuda from July to October.

But RCI confirmed last week that the itinerary had been cancelled.

Mr. Scott added: "When the CDC said 'hey, you can start sailing out of US waters', RCI had to make a decision between focusing on home porting in Bermuda or getting their core market back up and running.

"They made the decision to get their core market back up and running, which we can understand, because Bermuda still benefits by having the traditional cruises coming in.

"They then went on to look into the CDC guidelines and they realised that they could adjust their business model to run vaccinated cruises but not totally vaccinated cruises – while abiding by the CDC guidelines."

The RCI announcement came after the US Centres for Disease Control confirmed that ships could sail out of US ports with

some restrictions – and that not all passengers had to be vaccinated.

Freedom of the Seas has now been rerouted and will spend the summer sailing to the Bahamas.

The company had earlier planned to have a third vessel home port in Bermuda.

But another cruise ship home porting in Bermuda will set sail on its first voyage of the summer today.

Viking Orion, which will operate at 50 percent capacity, will spend five days at sea before a return to the island.

A total of seven more voyages are planned over the summer.

Mr. Scott said he was satisfied that the vessel would stick to the island's safety regulations.

He added: "I haven't been directly involved in vaccinations – however, I have seen the overarching policies and guidelines that Viking are abiding by and they have my full support with their health policies.

"I say that because they have the most sophisticated and thorough internal testing and monitoring

system that I've seen on any cruise ship.

"They have invested heavily – they actually have a laboratory on board.

"They have the UV lights in their filtration system. They have the robots that go around at

night cleaning the common areas."

Mr. Scott said: "And if that wasn't enough, they also have customers being saliva tested every day.

"They even go so far to say for their outbreak policy, if three people

out of 900 test positive, they will consider that an outbreak and they go into their outbreak protocols – that means the ship stays at sea.

"That thoroughness, that dedication to the health and safety of their customers gives

me peace and helps me sleep at night.

"They're going to start off with 50 percent, 60, so every sailing they'll have more passengers on board, which is the new standard for the industry."

70th OECS Authority meeting marks 40th Anniversary of the Organisation



OECS Commission - The 70th Meeting of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Authority will be held virtually on June 18, 2021 under the incoming chairmanship The Right Honourable Dr. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada.

The meeting commemorates the 40th Anniversary of the creation of the OECS on June 18, 1981, when seven Eastern Caribbean countries signed a treaty agreeing to cooperate with each other while promoting unity and solidarity among members. The treaty became known as the Treaty of Basseterre, so named after the capital of St. Kitts and Nevis where it was signed.

The media and the general public are invit-

ed to tune in to the opening ceremony which will be streamed live on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. on the OECS Facebook Page and YouTube Channel.

Following the opening ceremony, OECS Heads of Government will join the Director General, Commissioners and senior staff of the Commission to discuss, inter alia, the acceleration of the regional integration effort; recovery support for St. Vincent and the Grenadines; enhanced cooperation among Member States; updates on vaccines; and other key operational matters.

The OECS currently has 11 members spread across the Eastern Caribbean comprising Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of

Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the British Virgin Islands, Anguilla, Martinique and Guadeloupe.

The Organisation is dedicated to economic

harmonisation and integration, the protection of human and legal rights, and the encouragement of good governance among independent and non-independent countries in the Eastern Caribbean.

Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

OECS ASSEMBLY

Convenes for its 5th sitting on

Wednesday, 16th June
9:30am | Virtual Sitting

Join us | Streaming live: facebook.com/oecscommission/

Govt. paying US company US\$11.5M for boat to protect Guyana from invasion, piracy

Kaieteur News – It was revealed yesterday that the Government has made a down payment of US\$3M (G\$618M) to an American company called Metal Shark Boats to build an offshore patrol vessel to protect Guyana, should there be a Venezuelan “incursion.”

Guyana is expected to pay a total of US\$11.5M for the boat. At least, this is according to Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, Gail Teixeira.

She made this revelation during the 29th Sitting of the 12th Parliament held at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre, Liliendaal, Greater Georgetown.

Teixeira was at the time making a case on behalf of the Government for using money from the Contingency Fund to make the down payment on May 20, 2021. The sum was eventually approved by a majority vote.

While making her case, however, she said, “Mr. Speaker, the decision to move to acquire an offshore patrol vessel, a new one, was taught to be an urgent matter because of some incursions that have taken place in our waters.”

Prior to making that statement, Teixeira had told the House, “As you would remember, Guyana has a territorial issue with our neighbour (Venezuela) in a matter that is before the ICJ (International Court of Justice).” The Minister went on to note that Guyana currently



Guyana's Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, Gail Teixeira.

has one old vessel, the GDFS Essequibo, which she said “has not been doing well”. She said that in order to better protect Guyana’s territory, acquiring the new vessel is necessary.

She further posited that the vessel will not only serve to protect the country if there is an incursion in its waters, but will build the Guyana Defence Force’s (GDF) coast guard capacity to deal with piracy, illegal fishing, etc.

The Minister was challenged by the APNU+AFC opposition to tell the House when the decision was made to acquire the vessel from the American company. Teixeira did not reveal this, but related that consultation was done with five leading ship builders before a contract was signed between the GDF

and Metal Shark Boats to construct the vessel.

She pointed out that the vessel will be a custom-built one to suit Guyana’s need, and was designed by the GDF. She explained that the agreement signed in this regard provides for a six-payment schedule (the first made on May 20, 2021) which will run into 2022. Teixeira said the vessel will take a year to complete and the final payment will be made when the vessel is completed and delivered.

Metal Shark Boats is a ship-builder that specialises in the design and production of boats and ships for military, law enforcement, fire rescue, and a wide spectrum of commercial applications.

Jamaica: Support for pastor on rape charge



A handful of Pastor Jason Rose's supporters who turned up at the St. James Parish Court yesterday.

- As a handful of his supporters spurned requests for media interviews outside the St. James Parish Court yesterday, Pastor Jason Rose was sneaked by a back entrance into the building to answer charges of raping a 15-year-old girl.

Among those who turned out to provide moral support was one man who only identified himself as the pastor's biological brother.

"We don't grow dem way deh. Mi a tell you, my brother wouldn't do them thing deh. How much little pickney grow 'round we," he said in a subdued voice.

The group of about five people included three women who voiced their support for the 39-year-old Rose and blasted the media for its coverage of the case. Rose, pastor of New Life Apostolic Church in Montego Bay, was granted bail in the sum of \$300,000 and is to be back in court on July 19.

Allegations against him are that sometime in March he assaulted the young girl while she was at his home on church premises at 62 Barnett Street in Montego Bay. A report was made to the police, an investigation launched, and a search began to locate Rose.

He eventually reported to the Freeport police on June 7.

He was charged with rape by detectives assigned to the St. James Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse (CISOCA) following an interview in the presence of his attorney.

On June 11, the teenager's mother was arrested and charged with attempting to pervert the course of justice after the alleged victim told investigators that her mother and the pastor's wife had been pressuring her to change her story. The teen's mother has a June 16 court date.

Meanwhile, the pastor's wife, Kimoy Rose, is also to appear in court [on June 16] to answer to charges of attempting to pervert the course of justice as well as other charges under the Child Care and Protection Act.

Yesterday, the pastor's supporters heckled the media as they waited outside the courthouse. They denied being members of his church.

"We don't want to have any dialogue with any media. So, please... we rest our case. Any questions, we say, Jesus, here it comes. We are having no dialogue with no media, case close," said one man.

A woman in the group argued that each media house seems to have a different story about the pastor, hence their decision to refrain from commenting.



Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the reopening of the State during his "final" COVID-19 briefing.

Andrew Cuomo lifts COVID rules as New York hits 70% vaccinated

New York Post - Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced Tuesday that New York is lifting nearly all COVID-19 restrictions after the state cleared the threshold of 70 percent of adult residents having received at least one vaccine dose.

"What does 70 percent mean? That means that we can now return to life as we know it," Cuomo said Tuesday.

Effective immediately, the State's coronavirus precautions are lifted in all commercial settings, including offices, sporting events, manufacturing buildings, malls, movie theaters, camps, child care and personal care businesses, construction sites, food service establishments, amusement parks, and

retail buildings. In addition, social gathering capacity restrictions have been removed, and health screenings – as well as the cleaning and disinfecting protocols – will no longer be required in New York.

Though masks are no longer required indoors by New York State, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mask mandates will continue to be in effect for pre-K schools, mass transit, ride-hail services and health care settings, since those are federal guidelines.

"All the State-mandated restrictions are lifted on commercial social settings, sports and recreation, construction, manufacturing, retail buildings, all across the board we can get

back to living and businesses can open, because the State mandates are gone, social gathering restrictions, capacity restrictions, the health screenings, [and] the cleaning and disinfecting protocols," said Cuomo.

Cuomo made the announcement during his final COVID-19 briefing at One World Trade Center, where he handed out awards to New York union leaders at a campaign rally-style event.

"We're no longer just surviving," Cuomo went on. "Life is about thriving. Life is about seeing people, life is about loving, life is about celebrating, life is about enjoying, life is about interacting. And now we get back to living life."

Fortune seekers flock to the village of KwaHlathi in South Africa after images shared on social media showed people celebrating upon finding what they believe to be diamonds.

'Diamond rush' grips South African village after discovery of unidentified stones

(Reuters) - More than 1,000 fortune seekers on Monday flocked to the village of KwaHlathi in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province in search of what they believed to be diamonds after a discovery of unidentified stones in the area.

The people travelled from across South Africa to join villagers who have been digging since Saturday after a herdsman who dug up the first stone in an open field, which some believe to be quartz crystals, put out the word.

The discovery was a life changer, said one digger, Mendo Sabelo, as he held

a handful of tiny stones.

"This means our lives will change because no one had a proper job. I do odd jobs. When I returned home with them, (the family was) really overjoyed," said the 27-year old father of two.

Unemployed Skhumbuzo Mbhele concurred, adding: "I hadn't seen or touched a diamond in my life. It's my first time touching it here."

The Mines Department said on Monday it was sending a team of geological and mining experts to the site to collect samples and conduct an analysis.

A formal technical re-

port will be issued in due course, the Department said.

The lack of an analysis of the stones has not deterred the fortune seekers, as long lines of parked cars on both sides of the gravel road could be seen just a few metres from the open field where the young, old, females and males dug through the soil with picks, shovels and forks to find riches.

South Africa's economy has long suffered from extremely high levels of unemployment, trapping millions in poverty and contributing to stark inequalities that persist

nearly three decades after the end of apartheid in 1994. The coronavirus pandemic has made it worse.

Some people have started selling the stones, with the starting price ranging from 100 rand (\$7.29) to 300 rand.

The provincial government has since requested all those involved to leave the site to allow authorities to conduct a proper inspection, amid fears that the people digging at the site could potentially be spreading the coronavirus.

Hungary parliament passes 'anti-LGBT' law ahead of 2022 election

Aljazeera - Hungary's parliament has passed legislation that bans the dissemination of content in schools deemed to promote homosexuality and gender change, amid strong criticism from human rights groups and opposition parties.

Hardline nationalist Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who faces an election next year, has grown increasingly radical on social policy, railing against LGBTQ people and immigrants in his self-styled illiberal regime which has deeply divided Hungarians. His Fidesz party, which promotes a Christian-conservative agenda, tacked the proposal banning school talks on LGBTQ issues to a separate, widely backed bill that strictly penalises paedophilia, making it much harder for opponents to vote against it.

The move, which critics say wrongly conflates paedophilia with LGBTQ issues, triggered a mass rally outside parliament on Monday, while several rights groups have called on Fidesz to

withdraw the bill.

Fidesz lawmakers overwhelmingly backed the legislation on Tuesday, while left-wing opposition parties boycotted the vote.

Under amendments submitted to the bill last week, below-18s cannot be shown any content that encourages gender change or homosexuality. This also applies to advertisements. The law sets up a list of organisations allowed to provide education about sex in schools.

Gay marriage is not recognised in Hungary and only heterosexual couples can legally adopt children. Orban's government has redefined marriage as the union between one man and one woman in the constitution, and limited gay adoption.

Critics have drawn a parallel between the new legislation and Russia's 2013 law that bans disseminating "propaganda on non-traditional sexual relations" among young Russians.

Poland's conservative governing party, Law and Justice (PiS),



Critics say law against 'promoting' homosexuality to children effectively bans educational programmes and publicity of LGBTQ groups.

Fidesz's main ally in the European Union, has taken a similarly critical stance on LGBTQ issues. Budapest and Warsaw are at odds with the EU over some of their conservative reforms.

The European Parliament's rapporteur on the situation in Hungary, Greens lawmaker Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, slammed

the new law on Tuesday: "Using child protection as an excuse to target LGBTIQ people is damaging to all children in Hungary."

Orban has won three successive election landslides since 2010, but opposition parties have now combined forces for the first time and caught up with Fidesz in opinion polls.

Alibaba's Jack Ma is 'lying low', says co-founder

BBC - Joe Tsai, who co-founded the Chinese e-commerce giant with Mr Ma, told CNBC he speaks to him every day.

"He's actually doing very, very well. He's taken up painting as a hobby. It's actually pretty good," said Mr Tsai.

Mr. Ma has been noticeably absent after falling foul of China's regulators in November.

He had been set to become China's richest man yet again following the dual stock market debut of his digital payments company Ant Group – an affiliate of Alibaba in Hong Kong and Shanghai – which was worth about \$34.4bn (£26.5bn).

What was meant to be the world's biggest initial public offering was halted by Chinese regulators at the eleventh hour, citing "major issues" over regulating the company.

It is believed that Mr. Ma's criticism of the Chinese financial sector in October prompted the move.

Some analysts saw it as an attempt by Beijing to humble a company that had become too powerful and a leader who had become too outspoken.

At a financial technology conference, he had compared traditional banks to "pawn shops", lauding the merits of the digital banking system instead, as well as stressing that future lending decisions should be based on data, not collateral.

Ant Group runs Alipay, the main online payment system in



China's best-known entrepreneur, Jack Ma, is "lying low" and avoiding the spotlight, according to an Alibaba executive

China, which has eclipsed cash, cheques and credit cards.

Alibaba, which owns a third of Ant Group, saw its share price plunge on stock markets after the suspension was announced.

Following this, China announced an antitrust probe into Alibaba, which is China's largest e-commerce platform.

This culminated in Alibaba being fined \$2.8bn by Chinese regulators in April, who said it had abused its market position for years.

And two days later, Ant Group announced a drastic restructuring plan, with regulators forcing it to act more like a bank than a tech firm.

Mr. Tsai, who is also the executive chairman of Alibaba, said he disagreed with the idea that Mr. Ma had become a maverick-like figure.

"The idea that Jack has this enormous amount of power, I think that's not quite right," he said. "He is just like you and me. He's a normal individual."

He added that after all his efforts, Mr. Ma now just wanted to focus on the things he really wanted to spend time on, like philanthropy work and hobbies.

However, Mr. Tsai said the firm was moving forward: "I think you have to separate what's happening to Jack and what's happening to our business."

"Our business is under some kind of restructuring on the financial side of things, and also in antitrust regulation."

"We had to pay a big fine, but we've gotten that behind us, so we're looking forward."



You can definitely save money buying fresh fruits and vegetables in season. Most of the times we get so caught up in shopping for produce for a specific recipe that we don't realize we are spending more for some items just because they are not in season.

How can you tell what is in season? If you are not that familiar with what's in season, you can always check the Vegetable Market or a local farmer. If you notice an abundance of certain fruits and vegetables, that is a good sign those fruits and vegetables are in season.

Here is a list of fruits and vegetables that are in season.

Item	Price
Butternut	\$3.00 per lb
Cassie (Spineless Prickly Pear, Opuntia)	\$5.00 per bag
Eggplant	\$3.00 per lb
Mango	\$5.00 per bag
Raspberry	\$5.00 per bag
Sweet potato	\$3.00 per lb
Tamrind	\$5.00 per bag
Tomato	\$3.00 per lb
Zucchini	\$3.00 per lb
Green papaya	\$2 - \$5 depending on size
Ripe papaya	\$3 per lb

(Prices at the Vegetable Market on Friday 11 June 2021)

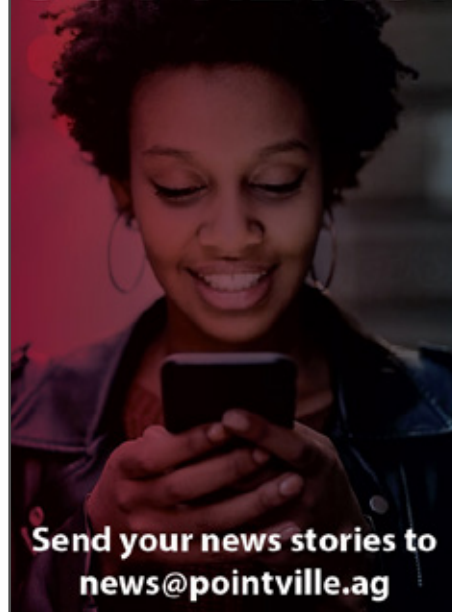
For more information on price control goods contact
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French Open: Men's Final

ROLAND GARROS, France -- Novak Djokovic became the first man in the Open Era (52 years) to win all four Grand Slam titles twice, thanks to a battling 6-7 (6-8), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 victory over fifth-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas at Rolland-Garros on Sunday.

Djokovic rallied back from two sets down for the second time in a fortnight – and six times in his career – to overcome the 22-year old Tsitsipas and secure a second Rolland-Garros crown, five years after he captured his first.

The world's No. 1 clinched his 19th major title, which puts him one adrift of the men's all-time record holders, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, who currently top the leader board with 20 each.

Sunday's final was a rematch of last year's Rolland-Garros semi-final, which was also won by Djokovic in five sets over the Greek. The epic final lasted four hours and 11 minutes.

Men's French Open
Champion: Novak
Djokovic

NBA Playoffs Round Up

Phoenix Suns sweep the Denver Nuggets

The Phoenix Suns swept the Denver Nuggets on Sunday night when they won 125-118 in a physical contest.

Chris Paul had 37 points and seven assists to lead the Suns. He got good support from Devon Booker who had 34 points and 11 rebounds.

Regular season MVP Nikola Jokic was ejected from the game in the third quarter after he was assessed with a flagrant-2 foul. He had 22 points and 11 rebounds. It was, however, Will Barton who



Phoenix Suns

led the Nuggets with 25 points. Michael Porter and Monte Morris had 20 and 19 points respectively for Denver. The Suns now await the winner of the Los Angeles Clippers versus Utah Jazz series, and will play in the Western Conference final.

Atlanta Hawks even series against Philadelphia 76ers

Atlanta Hawks restored order in their series against the Philadelphia 76ers when they narrowly won on Monday night. After trailing by as many as 18 points, the No. 5 seed Hawks defeated the No. 1 seed 76ers 103-100 to even the series.

A sore shoulder could not prevent Trae Young from lead-

ing the way for the Hawks with 25 points and a play-off career high 18 assists. Joel Embiid tallied 17 points and a career high 21 rebounds for the 76ers in a losing cause. Embiid also played with a torn cartilage.

Meanwhile, Bogdan Bogdanovic top-scored for the Hawks with 22 points, while Tobias Harris was the top scorer for the Philadelphia 76ers with 20 points. The series is tied two games apiece. Game 5 is tonight in Philadelphia.

Los Angeles Clippers versus Utah Jazz

The Los Angeles Clippers are now level in their series against the Utah Jazz, thanks to a 118-104 win at home, behind solid

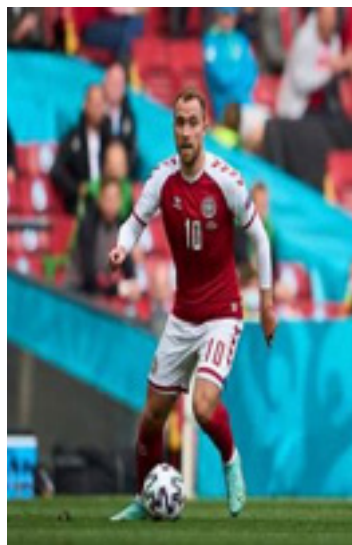
performances from their star players. Kawhi Leonard and Paul George know that it takes the two of them to make things go right if the Los Angeles Clippers are going to advance beyond the second round of the NBA playoffs for the first time. Each scored 31 points on Monday night to lead the Clippers to victory over the Utah Jazz. For the Jazz, Donovan Mitchell turned in another huge performance to lead all scorers with 37 points. Joe Ingles (19 points) and Bojan Bogdanovic (18 points) both played good supporting roles.

The series is tied 2-2. Game 5 is tonight in Utah.

Footballer collapses on field

COPENHAGEN, Denmark – Denmark football star Christian Eriksen was awake in hospital and ‘doing fine’, Danish Football Union said on Saturday after he collapsed on the pitch during the Euro 2020 game against Finland in Copenhagen.

Danish players were in tears as medical staff tried to revive the Inter Milan player who collapsed suddenly. After around 15 minutes,



Christian Eriksen



On stretcher: Christian Eriksen

Eriksen was stretchered off the field, followed by the Denmark team, while Finland's players also left the pitch. “Christian Eriksen is awake and is undergoing further tests” at the hospital, the Danish Football federation said on Twitter after the player was carried off the field,

having received CPR by medical personnel. “We’ve been in contact with him and the players have spoken to Christian,” DBU (Danish football organization) director Peter Moeller told Danmarks Radio. Following a request made by players of both teams, UEFA agreed to

restart the match with the last four minutes of the first half being played. A five-minute halftime break preceded the second half. Denmark eventually lost the match 1-nil, but the result was unimportant, given what had happened earlier in the evening.

World Water Safety Day



Tomorrow (Thursday 17th June 2021), tens of thousands of children and adults at aquatic facilities around the world will unite for the 12th year in a row to make noise that Swimming Lessons Save Lives. This event will be taking place over a 24-hour period at hundreds of aquatic centres, swim schools and waterparks. With a whole year of learn-to-swim programs in 2020, the need to provide children with access to formal swimming lessons this summer is more important than ever. Tragically, in the United States, drowning remains the leading cause of death for children ages 1-4, and the second largest leading cause of accidental death for children under 14. Research shows participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning by 88% among children aged 1-4, yet many children do not receive formal swimming or water safety training.

Water Safety Antigua will be serving as an official Host Location Facility for the WLSL 2021 event. Parents are invited to learn more about this phenomenal event by visiting WLSL.org. To register for the local event, persons can sign up at www.watersafetyantigua.com. *The local event is aimed at children over the age of 6, up to adults.*

DEWS

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7:00am - 8:30am



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Faf du Plessis Suffers Memory Loss after Concussion

REUTERS – South Africa batsman Faf Du Plessis said he suffered memory loss after sustaining a concussion during a Pakistan Super League (PSL) T20 match in Abu Dhabi on Saturday, but is confident of making a return to action. Du Plessis collided with Quetta Gladiators teammate Mohammed Hosnain while trying to save a boundary in their 61-run defeat to Peshwar Zalmi. The 36-year-old lay prone on the ground while the Gladiators' physio attended to him before he got up and was taken to hospital. "Thank you everyone for all the messages of support," du Plessis tweeted on Sunday. "I'm

back at the hotel recovering. Have concussion with some memory loss but I will be fine. Hopefully be back on the field soon." Opener Saim Ayub replaced du Plessis as a concussion substitute. The Gladiators also had to use a concussion substitute in their previous match when West Indies all-rounder Andre Russell was hit on his helmet by a Mohammad Musa bouncer in the match against Islamabad United. Russell was checked over by a physio and was allowed to bat on but was out the very next ball. He was taken to hospital, with Naseem Shah playing as concussion substitute.



Faf du Plessis