

SCHOOLS' REOPENING RESET FOR OCTOBER!

SEE PAGES 5-7



DURING THE RECENT UK CHIEFS OF DEFENCE CONFERENCE HERE IN ANTIGUA, this photo of some participants visiting *HMS Medway*, one of two British ships stationed in the Caribbean to counter illicit trafficking at sea and provide humanitarian support in the event of natural disasters and other crises. The conference focused on maritime security discussions. The final day was hosted aboard the ship and addressed by Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

INSIDE: Vaccinate or test or stay home now official Gov't policy!
COVID numbers continue relentless rise!

Public servants, either get vaccinated, or get tested regularly – or stay home and lose your job!

by Prime Minister Gaston Browne (speech in Parliament, Thursday 9 September 2021)

We have a problem. And, as the most significant, the largest employ-

er in this country, we have an obligation to provide a safe working environment to workers in this country; certainly those in the public sector, and I hope that others in the private sec-

tor will follow. We cannot continue to play with this debilitating and deadly disease. The time has come for us to call a spade a spade. Those who want to go and protest, fine, go and protest – but

respect the laws. And the laws are very clear: no more than 10 people are supposed to congregate. And if you break the laws there are consequences.

I know there will be lots of hate

PROBATE

FORM P7

(Rule 15)

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ANUHPB 2021/0174

In the Estate of "RUBEN ERSKINE" a.k.a. "REUBEN MANASSEH ERSKINE" a.k.a. "REUBEN ERSKINE" a.k.a. "MANASSEH NEHEMIAH ERSKINE", late of Bolans Village, St. Mary's, Antigua, Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

SECOND PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that an Application has been filed by DAISYLYN LEWIS of Bolans Village, St. Mary's, Antigua, for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the lawful Attorney of two of the children of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 31st day of January, 1993.

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

Dated the 17th day of August, 2021

TALIA N. DACOSTA
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
STAPLETON CHAMBERS

VACANCY

CHIEF RISK OFFICER

SUMMARY:

This is an Executive position that monitors the implementation of and compliance to effective risk management policies and procedures; plan proactively to manage the risks within the financial institution's operating environment; perform risk mitigation; perform corporate and internal investigations; address data privacy and data protection matters; develop risk analytics and mitigation strategies with the Board of Directors and Senior Management, and reports directly to the Board of Directors (Risk Management Committee) and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS:

- A minimum of five years with a medium to large financial institution and five years of relevant insurance or financial services industry experience with a heavy emphasis on insurance risk management or risk management implementation and execution.
- Previous experience in building, leading, and managing the enterprise risk management function of a medium to large financial institution is required.
- Self-managed, self-motivated, and used to operating in a demanding, profit-driven environment and be driven to deliver quality results on time, with a high degree of integrity, ethically, and professionalism.
- Possess the capability and desire to evaluate Senior Management's effectiveness in the allocation and management of resources relating to risk and risk management and comply with established corporate policies and procedures, including corporate governance, code of conduct standards, and the business ethics and conduct policy.
- Able to liaise professionally, proactively, and proficiently with the regulator on an ongoing and ad hoc bases.
- The candidate must be an effective, highly professional finance professional that inspires confidence in colleagues and within the broader financial institution
- Excellent leadership, analytical, critical thinking, and communication skills and a strong ability to deliver risk management frameworks, strategies, and processes across the wider business areas and to the Board of Directors and Senior Management
- Sound knowledge and experience in corporate strategy, business planning, and enterprise risk management oversight are desirable.

EDUCATION:

- Bachelors degree in Risk Management, Insurance, Actuarial Science, Banking, Finance, Economics, Law, or related field is desirable. A Master's degree would be an asset.
- Professional Certification in Insurance Risk Management, Risk Management, or Enterprise Risk Management is preferable.
- Financial Institution working knowledge of COSO ERM Framework and/or ISO 31000 ERM Framework as the two widely accepted, international, standards for risk management.

Send applications to include resume & cover letter
to: nibbsandassociates268@gmail.com

Deadline for receipt: September 13th, 2021

speeches after this, but I'll take the hatred ... I have a duty to tell the people of Antigua and Barbuda about the risk they are faced with if we do not act, and act now.

I want to say to those political elements who continue to use subterfuge and to undermine the system, you need to stand down. You need to join in the fight. COVID is the most significant fight facing the Ca-

ibbean at this time. Not climate change – COVID!

I want to issue a clarion call to the Caribbean people: We can do better. We have 99% literacy in the Caribbean. We are among the most vulnerable people in the world. Part of our vulnerability has to do with our ancestry, what happened to us during colonialism and slavery; that we were given all the bad foods; that

Europe left this region under-developed; that we have a prevalence of NCDs [non-communicable diseases] including diabetes, obesity – we are more vulnerable than North Americans and Europeans.

[Therefore] we should be rushing for those vaccines even more so than those who live in North America and Europe, because we are more vulnera-

ble. Structurally, we are vulnerable, and yet still we are being extremely selfish; taking the position that we have the choice as to whether or not we get vaccinated – putting an entire civilization at risk! It is totally inappropriate behavior for Antiguan and Barbudans, and for Caribbean people, to be so irresponsible. Here in Antigua and Barbuda, all of us, each and every one of us, we have

JOIN THE BURGER LINE

Supreme XL \$19.99

New! KFC Chicken Sandwich \$16.99

CCB, Zinger, Twister \$15.25

Fish Burger \$13.50

2 x Chicken Little \$9.99

Make a combo add a drink & fries \$19.99

VALUE TASTE PREMIUM

#StaySafe

FOR DELIVERY **736-7845 / 562-9444**
or DOWNLOAD THE APP...
 Apple Store / Google PlayStore

#KFCANU #SOCIALDISTANCING #MADEFRESHEVERYDAY **@kfcanu** **@kfcanu**

a responsibility to stand up in every forum and speak about vaccinations. Vaccinations are not new. If we didn't have [them] during the last century, many of us would have had debilitating diseases. Many of us would have died.

This is a very serious issue. I had signaled to the people of Antigua and Barbuda, months ago, that if we have to

make vaccinations mandatory in this country, we will do it. We are not afraid to do it.

We recognize, however, that as leaders we must be tolerant. And I am satisfied that we have exercised sufficient tolerance in this country, and the time has come for us to act ... We cannot put our political interests above the national interests. There

comes a time when we have to stand alone and make decisions in the national interests, and that time has come.

Just yesterday [Wednesday] my Cabinet took a decision that **ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS MUST GET VACCINATED OR GET TESTED AT LEAST TWICE MONTHLY – OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE**

WORKPLACE ... AND, IF YOU DON'T COME TO WORK AFTER A PERIOD OF TIME – YOU ABANDON YOUR JOB – YOU LOSE YOUR EMPLOYMENT.

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne, is also the current chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

The New Nissan 2022 PRO4X Reach Beyond Your Objective. Power Up Your PRO Side

go through everything like a PRO with the help of the differential blocking and the 4WD off-road system; discover the combination of strength and precision that comes from decades of designing authentic all-terrain Nissan trucks.



Reopening of schools further pushed back to October!

by Shelton Daniel

Schools across Antigua & Barbuda – whose reopening for the 2021-2022 Academic Year was already postponed by a week from September 6 to September 13 – will not be throwing

their doors open to receive students for regular classes until October 4.

This is because the Cabinet of Ministers, at its regular meeting on Wednesday – marked by what are said to have been particularly intense

deliberations – decided to delay the reopening by another three weeks.

This is because of the still rising number of COVID-19 infections in the twin-island state and fears that the mass mingling of students,

teachers and other school staff, could cause a very serious further exacerbation of the situation nationally. The high number of new infections and the lower age groups in which they are increasingly presenting, indicate,



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

Submit community notices to
news@pointville.ag

according to experts, that the surge is being driven primarily by the much more highly transmissible and – in many cases, deadly – Delta variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

According to the post-Cabinet briefing notes released on Thursday morning: “Cabinet agreed that the number of students and teachers who have been vaccinated would not support the intended ambition to open schools safely for face-to-face instruction on Monday 13 September 2021, as had been anticipated weeks ago.

“Face-to-face instruction will therefore be delayed for three additional weeks to enable all students [12- to 17-years-old] and their teachers to become vaccinated. Janitors and cleaners and other personnel at schools who have frequent contact with students, especially, are

also to be vaccinated in the weeks ahead.”

Information Minister Melford Nicholas, during the weekly live post-Cabinet press conference on Thursday morning, indicated that so far about 1,500 minors within that age group in Antigua have received one jab of the two-dose inoculation with the Pfizer vaccine which is approved for use in persons younger than 18. The vaccine recently became available to Antigua and Barbuda, but stringent storage requirements have prevented it from being deployed as yet on the sister isle of Barbuda.

Of the roughly 8,000 strong demographic that is deemed eligible for it in the country, Nicholas said the number who have actually taken the jab is encouraging – though not satisfactory – but authorities are confident that this number will gain momen-

tum in the days and weeks ahead.

The three week postponement of the reopening of schools represents the exact time gap that is required to space out the first and second doses of the Pfizer vaccine – 21 days – as opposed to the 90 days indicated for the more prevalently-administered AstraZeneca vaccine; the first to be rolled out in Antigua and Barbuda since February this year.

“Everyone, includ-

ing the 12-to-17-year-olds, their parents or guardians, and all adults who have not yet taken their COVID-19 vaccination are encouraged to do so now in order to avoid hospitalization and possibly death ...,” the Cabinet notes point out.

But despite the further pushing back of the already-postponed reopening of schools, Cabinet has announced that, “All teachers will be required to report to work on Monday,

KC SHIPPING LTD.
Agents For:

CALL & SIGN UP TODAY
(268) 562-9023/4
Email: antiguainfo@kingsocean.com

OUR NEW SERVICE

SHOP IT AND SHIP IT
ANTIGUA BROKERAGE AND PICK UP SERVICE

YOU SHOP & SHIP WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST

ENROLL TODAY

You will:

- Sign up for program
- Submit invoices by email
- Pick up your package(s) at our office

We will:

- Clear your package(s) at customs
- Bring it to our offices for collection
- Create one bill for your duties, B/L, cost, Brokerage and Handling fees

Call us for more information.



September 13, and several incoming classes will actually enter their classrooms for orientation. Special Needs youth are also expected to engage in face-to-face learning. However, other students will be required to utilize e-learning during the three-week period. Laptops are to be distributed to many students.” Based on previous statements by Director of Education Clare Browne, teachers have already returned to the classrooms since September 6 to prepare for the reopening whose pendency has now been extended for another month beyond the initially planned date. It is unclear if the educators will remain engaged in classroom preparations for the entirety of that period. The explosion of new cases is reported to be severely challenging for the vaccine delivery system and the capacity of current health care facilities suited for providing the COVID management healthcare. It is also said to have stretched the health system’s contact-tracing to near breaking point.

However, a raft of contingency measures to make up for the shortfalls is also being mobilized and rolled out in response.



PRESS RELEASE

Sandals Foundation Funds GARD Center's Hospitality Programme to Support More Students



More students will now be able to enroll in the Hospitality programme at the Gilbert Agricultural and Rural Development (GARD) Center following sponsorship provided by the Sandals Foundation.

As part of efforts to support skills training for at-risk youth, the Sandals Foundation has invested some US \$30,000 to sponsor the programme which provides a second chance to some of Antigua's most vulnerable and

promising young people. The donation covers the cost of the programme's operations, kitchen equipment and supplies, training material, administrative expenses, fees associated with trainers and coordinators, as well as transportation cost for participants.

June Jackson, Executive Director at the GARD Center says, "In comparison with previous semesters where only 15 persons could be trained, now we will be able to train over seventy (70) at-risk youth and women, and offer both day and evening courses."

GARD Center provides continued learning opportunities for vulnerable young people and women between the ages 17 to 35 years old who struggle with low self-esteem, literacy and academic qualifications, as well as lack technical or work-related skills and experience.

Hospitality courses include Basic Baking, Decorating, Food and Beverage, Customer Service, Food Processing Courses and the latest addition - Soap Making.

In addition to the technical instruction, students also receive training in life skills, Mathematics, English and Information and Communication Technology. This holistic programme, Jackson says, "produces a well-rounded person, who is able to go out in their preferred field of work more confident and prepared."

Heidi Clarke, Executive Director at the Sandals Foundation, says its longstanding support of the GARD Center, forms part of its sustainable investment in the region's education and community development programme.

"GARDC provides a second chance to some of our communities most vulnerable groups - young people who need positive guidance and someone to believe in their potential, as well as women, who are often marginalized. We at the Sandals Foundation are honoured to support the enhancement of their training programmes which have, in the past, included climate-smart agricultural courses. Together, we're helping GARDC provide much needed psychosocial intervention for the vulnerable, as well as create linkages to the island's largest employment industry – tourism."

Sandals Resorts has been a key beneficiary of graduates of GARD Center who have all exemplified the highest levels of professionalism. "We really have a good relationship with Sandals because after the training sessions

these students are able to go to the resort on a 10-week work experience programme. Based on the performance of students, the hotel sometimes emails GARDC requesting students for full time hire," said Jackson.

Twenty-one year old Kimisha Joseph, a past hospitality student says transitioning into the workforce proved surprisingly seamless after graduating the programme. "I expected it to be difficult and for us to have a hard time, especially when we were about to finish and transition into the work world itself, but the programme was quite simplified which made it easy for us to push through and persevere. GARD Center actually made it easy for us to transition into the work world."

Persons interested in enrolling into the 2021/2022 academic year may apply through the GARD Center's website www.gardc.org or through their Facebook page. Applications will be accepted up to the second week of the programme.

UK's Chief of Defense Staff Conference hosted in Antigua and Barbuda deemed successful



Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Hon. Gaston Browne, addressing the conference aboard the HMS Medway.

The Chiefs of Defence from Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Belize, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, with the UK, gathered in Antigua and Barbuda between 1 and 3 September to discuss regional cooperation.

The gathering of Chiefs was augmented by virtual participation from Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines; and CARICOM IMPACS [Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime & Security], CDEMA [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency] and the Regional Security System (RSS).

They agreed a number of initiatives within training and education designed to improve collective capacity to deal with the security challenges that confront the region. The Chiefs of Defense were very grateful to the Governor Gen-

eral and Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda for participating in the conference.

The UK was very pleased to also be able to bring alongside in St. John's one of two British ships currently stationed in the region. **HMS Medway**, a river-class offshore patrol vessel, is permanently assigned to the region and is active in countering illicit trafficking at sea, in working with allies and partners across the region, and in being prepared, along with RFA Wave Knight, to provide humanitarian support in response to crises, especially during the hurricane season.

HMS Medway was therefore able to host the final day of the conference, with the focus on maritime security discussions. The Chiefs of Defense were also able to review the UK's commitment to maritime security and disaster relief in the region, with an in-depth discus-

sion of maritime issues.

Last year, HMS Medway with RFA Argus seized narcotics with a UK street value of around XCD \$1.4 trillion. They also provided support in the aftermath of Hurricane Eta. This year, RFA Wave Knight has transported, on behalf of the Barbados government, 75 tonnes of humanitarian stores to St Vincent and the Grenadines, and has supported relief operations in Haiti following the earthquake. The ship supported US helicopters and used the UK's Wildcat helicopter to survey damage and move CDEMA personnel.

Most recently, the Wildcat helicopter has assisted with the installation of new volcanic monitoring equipment in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, thereby replacing a vital capability lost during the previous eruptions.

Suicide: It is time to be concerned!

World Suicide Prevention Day will be observed on Friday 10th September 2021.

"Creating Hope through Action" will be the theme until 2023.

Suicide is identified as a major mental health problem in many regions.

What of Antigua and Barbuda? When will we become concerned enough to treat this issue with some measure of urgency?

Suicide is defined as the act of intentionally killing oneself. In an effort to combat the issue of suicide, there must be a collaborative effort among multiple sectors within the society. The health and education sectors, non-governmental agencies, civic society and church groups all have vital roles to play in addressing the problem.

Suicide is a global occurrence, not limited to race or status, and facts have shown that 77% of the world's suicides in 2019 took place in low- and middle-income countries. Statistics from

the World Health Organization (WHO) also indicate that more than 700,000 persons die as a result of suicide each year.

Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death in youths between the ages of 15-19 years. The most common methods used to perform the act worldwide are: the ingestion of poisonous substances, overdosing on drugs, hangings, and firearms.

The link between suicide and mental health has long been highlighted by medical experts. Certain mental health conditions including bipolar disorders, personality disorders, and manic depression, increase the likelihood of suicide attempts. Other factors attributing to suicide risk are: alcohol abuse, drug abuse, terminal illnesses, the breakup of relationships, and financial hardships.

In many instances, suicides are preventable.

However, they can only be prevented through information-sharing, along with timely interventions. Those with the necessary capabilities need to offer support to those who are vulnerable and are displaying signs of extreme stress or depression.

Suicide remains a complex matter which no singular approach can remedy. Consequently, those with the authority to change laws and implement policies should take steps to tackle this issue soonest.

If progress is to become a reality, all barriers regarding suicide must be dismantled with a vigorous educational awareness campaign. Such campaigns must take place within communities to increase their effectiveness.

Every suicide attempt should be viewed as an indication that someone needs immediate assistance. A suicide attempt should never be treated

with triviality; not when a desperate soul is crying out, "I need help!"

There is stigmatisation attached to those with mental health disorders as well as those who have attempted suicide. It is that stigma which creates a barrier to those who are willing to seek help but do not wish to be judged harshly by society.

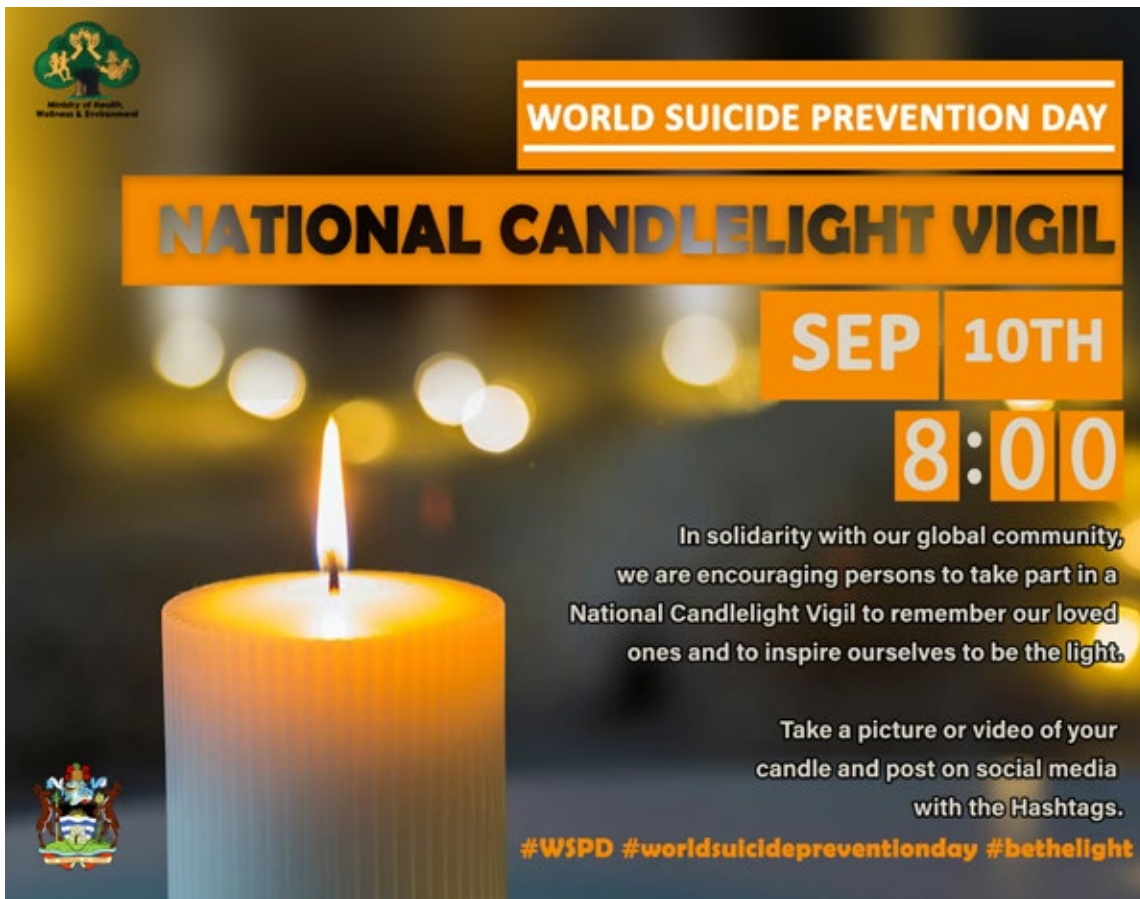
Psychiatric nurses are available at the public health clinics for those with family members or friends in need of counselling. In severe cases, a referral is made to the Clarendon Psychiatric Hospital where doctors are responsible for care and treatment.

King Progress sang a song which is quite applicable for such a time as this. **"WE MUST LEARN TO CARE"**. Other words to remember: "Sometimes it takes only one act of kindness and caring to change a person's life." (Jackie Chan).

To family and friends

of suicide victims, we at the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment do empathize and hope that you will find solace in the midst of your grief. You are also encouraged to participate in our CANDLE LIGHT VISUAL ON FRIDAY 10th SEPTEMBER AT 8:00 PM.

POST A PICTURE OF YOUR CANDLE ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH #WSPD #WORLD SUICIDE DAY # BE THE LIGHT.



WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

NATIONAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

SEP 10TH

8:00

In solidarity with our global community, we are encouraging persons to take part in a National Candlelight Vigil to remember our loved ones and to inspire ourselves to be the light.

Take a picture or video of your candle and post on social media with the Hashtags.

#WSPD #worldsuicidepreventionday #bethelight

New 2022 Nissan Frontier 3 Automatic Models with NissanConnect Apple CarPlay and Android Auto

01 PRO4X



02 Fully Loaded



03 Basic



Old Parham Road | St. John's | Antigua | 481-2500

Venezuela talks – mountain went forth and produced a mouse



By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and Massey College in the University of Toronto. The views expressed are entirely his own)

capable of collaboration, the rival political groups in Venezuela would pick their spurious claim to two-thirds of Guyana's territory as a show of unity.

It was predictable that, in an attempt to show that they are

ly and rightly rejected this grand but cheap show of solidarity, displayed at yet another attempt to broker an agreement between the warring Venezuelan parties.

The Venezuelans were meeting in Mexico from September 3 to 6, in Norway's third effort to mediate between the factions led by President Nicolás Maduro and pretender Juan Guaidó. Their joint statement "ratified Venezuela's rights" over what they call "Guayana Esequiba".

Of course, the statement changed nothing in Venezuela and did not improve the lives of its people, millions of whom have already voted with their feet. More than five million Venezuelans have fled the country, making Venezuela the country with the world's second largest refugee crisis, exceeded only by war ravaged Syria. Indeed, the statement was met with a shrug by most Venezuelans except the political-military regime that have long held ambitions

to seize the Guyana territory.

What the rival political factions in Venezuela should be focussing on is improving the dire conditions in which most Venezuelans live and restoring an economy and a country of which the Venezuelan people can be proud and to which the refugees can return.

But that's the hard part. It would call for political compromise by the opposing parties, including the ceding of power by leading politicians on both sides; an agreement on an independent electoral machinery to organise Presidential and other elections in a transparent and trusted manner; open election campaigns with guaranteed media freedom; observation of the elections by international groups; credible machinery for spending the country's oil and gas revenues; an agreed social welfare programme that does not discriminate politically; a judicial sys-

Guyana's President Irfaan Ali, quick-

tem that is independent; a military that stays out of politics; and an interim government comprised of the major political parties until elections are held.

The likelihood of achieving these major but necessary measures is extremely remote. Yet, both within Venezuela and in its diaspora and refugee community, there exists remarkably talented and skilled people in the areas of governance, economic development and finance. Given a stable political climate, they could rebuild their country,

It is right that Mexico, Norway and others should try to promote an agreement that would end the political impasse that has plagued the country and contributed to its rapid economic and social decline. But the joint statement on Guyana, that they oversaw from the Venezuelan factions, has not advanced their efforts in any way. The mediators merely grabbed the one thing that would not be contentious to Venezuelan parties. It gave the Venezuelan people no greater hope of rising out of the morass into which their

country has sunk.

Responding to the joint statement by the Venezuelan Government and Opposition, the Guyana foreign ministry described it as “an overt threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana” and went on to say, “Guyana cannot be used as an altar of sacrifice for settlement of Venezuela’s internal political differences”. In diplomatic but cutting language, the Guyana government said that while it “welcomes domestic accord within Venezuela, an agreement defying international law and process is not a basis for mediating harmony”.

The Venezuelan contention with Guyana is before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and Guyana says it will remain there, rebuffing a remark from Jorge Rodriguez, president of the Venezuelan Congress and leader of Maduro’s negotiating team, calling on Guyana “to resume the path of negotiations in order to reach an agreement on the territory.”

But Guyana has never negotiated with Venezuela on any “agreement on the

territory”. Guyana has always maintained that the Essequibo is Guyana’s territory, an assertion that it has been prepared to put before the ICJ for a decision in keeping with a decision by the UN Secretary-General. For its part, Venezuela has rejected an independent hearing by the world’s leading international judges, indicating a lack of faith in the merits of their demand for Essequibo.

The Venezuelans base their claim on a memorandum, written in 1944, by an American lawyer, Severo Mallet-Prevost, who was a junior counsel for Venezuela at an 1899 Arbitration that settled the boundary between Venezuela and Guyana (then British Guiana). Shortly after Mallet-Prevost received from the Venezuelan government the Order of the Liberator for services to Venezuela, he allegedly wrote a note to his law partner that was opened after his death in 1949. In the note, he alleged the settlement of the boundary was the result of collusion between the British judges, the Russian President of the Tribunal

and the American Judges. That is the pretext for the Venezuelan claim.

It is no wonder that no Venezuelan government wants to lay a case before the ICJ and prefers to cajole Guyana into direct negotiations where its military capacity, that it has used in the past, could be employed as leverage.

Great hope was placed in the talks in Mexico by the Venezuelan factions. At a meeting of the Organization of American States, I publicly expressed support for any further attempt to end the political impasse that would help Venezuela to rebuild in the interest of its people.

If the joint statement on Guyana by the Venezuelan politicians is all that the mediation produced, then the mountain went forth and produced a mouse.

The countries of the Americas must continue to hope that the talks, when they resume, will yet prove productive for the Venezuelan people.

Responses and previous commentaries: www.sir-ronaldsanders.com

TALKING POINT

TUESDAY - FRIDAY
10:30AM TO 1:30PM

DR. MASERATI **SENATOR COLIN BROWNE**

Guyana police arrest youth for double murder

St. Lucia Times – KOABE Grant, a 23-year-old carpenter of Sophia, on Wednesday admitted that he shot and killed Guyana Defence Force (GDF) Lance Corporal Daniel Fraser and his girlfriend on September 1, 2021, over the alleged rape of a close relative, a police source has said.

Fraser, 26 and his 23-year-old girlfriend, Sheniqua Hodge, were gunned down while on their way to his Lot 598 'A' Field, Sophia home.

Grant was subsequently arrested and taken to the CID at the Brickdam Police Station where, under questioning, he reportedly related that, in November 2020, Fraser and two others raped a close relative. Following that incident, Fraser was in the habit of disrespecting and threatening him, the man reportedly told investigators.

After feeling frustrated over the entire situation, Grant, on September 1 at about 20:30 hours, left his mother's home at Meadow Brook and visited the said relative's home.

At about 23:00 hours

he left that location on his black BMX bicycle to visit a friend and, on his way there, he saw Fraser in 'C' Field Sophia having drinks. Upon seeing him, Fraser allegedly made insulting remarks toward Grant and reminded him about the rape incident.

Guyana Chronicle understands that Grant who was annoyed and angry, returned to his mother's home where he retrieved a handgun that he claims he found some time ago. He later confronted Fraser in 'B' Field Sophia. After shooting Fraser and his girlfriend he dropped the gun and returned to his mother's home.

Reports indicate that Grant's relative did make a report about the rape which allegedly occurred in February 2021. However, the woman refused to seek medical attention and pursue the case.

According to reports, Hodge, who resided in Barbados, was in Guyana on vacation for about three months and was staying at her friend Tashanna George's South Sophia, East

Coast Demerara home.

The young couple had been reportedly dating for just over a year.

According to the police, Fraser was shot once to the chest. Hodge, on

the other hand, was shot thrice; once in the chest and in the right knee. The third bullet entered her abdomen from the right side and exited on the left.



KOABE Grant, a 23-year-old carpenter charged with murder.

Gangs Now Run Haiti, Filling a Vacuum Left by Years of Collapse

The St. Kitts-Nevis Observer - The buildings are abandoned, the cars burned out, the trash piled high into barricades. To the south is the area devastated by last month's earthquake, to the north is the capital, Port-au-Prince where, in July, the president was murdered in his home.

The misery of Haiti, facing natural disaster on top of political crisis, has been amply documented.

However, to grasp the challenge, look in the once-teeming neighborhood of Martissant, now hollowed-out, abandoned and covered in gray dust. It is a choke point in the hands of rival gangs who have driven thousands from their homes, closed a major hospital, shut down fuel distribution routes, and barred farmers from the markets.

Nothing moves without the gangs' consent.

"In Haiti, more than a failing state, we have a non-existent state," said Joseph Harold Pierre, an economist.

Elections are being planned to replace assassinated president Jovenel Moise, and humanitarian aid is being rushed to those hit by the earthquake and subsequent tropical storm.

However, it is clear there will be no solution in Haiti until the government can tame the gangs. As Mathias Pierre, minister of elections until recently, put it, the armed groups are essentially terrorist organizations that have taken over entire neighborhoods and are using the local populations as human shields.

Haiti is the poorest and the most unequal nation in the Americas. Since 2018, GDP has fallen 18 percent to US\$13.4 billion, according to the World Bank. Per capita GDP is just US\$1,176 — its lowest level since 2010 — and on par with Cambodia and Kenya. Nearly 60 percent of the population lives in poverty; nearly half the population, or 4.4 million, needs immediate food assistance; and 1.2 million suffer from extreme hunger, according to the UN's World Food Programme. Julien Barto-



GANG LEADER- Barbecue, whose real name is Jimmy Cherizier, center left, walks as residents chant "Barbecue for life" in his neighborhood in Lower Delmas, a district of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, May 24, 2019.

letti, the head of Doctors without Borders in Haiti, suggests thinking about Haiti as a war zone. His organization was forced to shutter its 15-year-old hospital in Martissant this summer after it came under gang gunfire. At least three staff members have been kidnapped, one murdered and dozens are among the 20,000 Haitians who have fled due to gang threat.

"You have front lines, with gangs against gangs," he said. "In Martissant, you have an area with no people and destroyed houses. It's empty."

Pierre said that between 2016 and last year, gang violence likely cost the country US\$4.2 billion per year, or 30 percent of its GDP, as it scared off foreign investors and caused fuel shortages that paralyzed parts of the country and sent inflation soaring.

According to the National Human Rights Defense Network, there are more than 90 gangs in the country, likely with thousands of members and far more powerful than the police. Rape and kidnapping are common.

Pierre Esperance, the group's executive director, said gangs, a fixture since the 1990s, grew powerful and emboldened under successive administrations that undermined state controls.

"Haiti has regressed in terms of the rule of law, because all key state institutions were destroyed under the Jovenel

Moise administration," he said. "The police, the judicial system, all of them. We have no functioning institutions."

Since 2018, the courts have operated about four months out of the year, he said, and impunity is rampant. He also said international partners provide aid, but do little to fight corruption.

The government knows its limitations. Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry, who has been on the job less than three months, put it gently when he told the Organization of American States (OAS) that criminal violence is one of the forces driving the "chronic instability that has bedeviled us".

Haitian central bank governor Jean Baden Dubois said chronic unemployment exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic has added to the problem.

Now, "Gangs are the biggest employers," he said in an interview. "We need to create jobs while we are putting the gangs out of a job."

One day last month, Sinea Fritsner, 28, crossed himself, tucked his yellow Mack cargo truck behind an unmarked police car, and gunned the engine through a desolate mile of devastation in Martissant. For months, the gangs had simply kept the road shut. It was reopened only after they declared a kind of humanitarian truce so aid could get from Port-au-Prince to the southwest.

St. Vincent Public Service Union to sue gov't over vaccine mandate

IWN SVG - The law dictating mandatory vaccination for some categories of public sector workers in St. Vincent and the Grenadines may be tested in court soon.

The Public Service Union said, on Tuesday, that it has instructed its lawyer to sue the government over the matter.

The union's president, Elroy Boucher, acknowledged that even as the membership of the union voted for a four-day strike this week, individual members might be afraid that they could lose their job if they take part in the industrial action.

"The union is not addressing in this manner purely from an industrial action standpoint. The union has also instructed its lawyers to take legal action. This is not a one strategy," Boucher told a joint press conference of the PSU, the Teachers' Union, and Rise Hairouna, on Tuesday. He noted that in Guyana, the trade unions filed a case against the statutory rules and order (SR&O) that the government passed in that country. "I very much expect here in St. Vincent for us to do the same... So we have the nurses and the rest of the public service covered; whatever is necessary for us to safeguard their jobs, we will so do."



Boucher said that under the proposed SR&O in SVG, it is ironic that a worker for whom vaccination is required would not be dismissed for not being vaccinated, but for breaking the rules by going to their workplace while being unvaccinated.

"And that I find rather interesting. So you turn up for your job and they are locking you out. You enter the compound, they say illegally, and you are actually charged for misconduct for entering the compound illegally."

Boucher said that the government is hoping that 10 days will pass with the worker being off the job.

"... the Public Service regulation states [that] if 10 days pass and you haven't turned up for your job you have abandoned your job...

"But are you really absent? And that is something for the lawyers to really deal with. Are you really absent if you have been going to work?"

"... one of the questions that I asked earlier is whether we needed something to trigger legal action. That is, I was of the view and still of the view that the amendments should have been challenged as being unconstitutional.

"But the lawyers, of course, given the fact that that is their area of expertise, can best strategize how they go about that. That is for them to advise us on.

"But it is expected that some sort of challenge will be made, whether it is to the SR&O in the event that they become the subsidiary law that the government is intended for them

to become, or the amendments themselves. We expect that to be done.

Meanwhile, speaking at Tuesday's press conference, Jomo Thomas of Jomo Thomas Chambers, the legal representatives of the PSU and Teachers' Union, said that he believes that the government has a case to answer regarding its handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

"My own view, and I have articulated this before, is that, at least procedurally, our government has gone about what it is doing in an improper fashion," Thomas said.

He noted that the government speaking about having declared a public health emergency in March 2020.

"And I have asked the attorney general for that SR&O — I think it is 18 of 2020 — because I want to see what it's grounded in. Because I don't get an impression that it is grounded in the constitution of St. Vincent and the Grenadines."

Thomas said that Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves "talks around these questions — we have statutory and constitutional authority, but the constitution of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which is the highest law of the land".

Trinidad: \$94K trips to NYC? Ministry accountant in hot water for alleged fraud

Loop TT - An accountant employed with the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service was charged with six counts of misbehavior in public office on September 8. Davica Roop-Boodoo, 40, who has 18 years of service with the government, was granted bail in the sum of \$200,000 with a surety by Justice of the Peace Steven Young. Roop-Boodoo allegedly made unauthorised requests for travel to New York in the months of August and September 2021 from a travel agency which is utilised by the Ministry.

The travel and accommodation amounted to \$94,000 covering return air travel for several persons including accommodation at the Hilton Hotel and the Marriot Hotel, New York. The visit to New York was intended for personal use. The requests were found to be fraudulent after a direct inquiry was made by the travel agency to the Ministry following several failed attempts to receive payments. The accused was arrested on September 6.

She was charged on September 8 following the advice of Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Roger Gaspard SC and is expected to appear before the Port of Spain Magistrates' Court on November 15.

The charges were laid by PC Ramsankar of the Fraud Squad.



Davica Boodoo (Photo courtesy of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service)

Biden announces new vaccine mandates that could cover 100 million Americans



The new announcements move beyond what Biden announced earlier this summer when he required federal workers be vaccinated but allowed for those who opted out to be subject to stringent mitigation measures. Now, federal employees will have 75 days to get vaccinated or risk being fired.

CNN - President Joe Biden on Thursday imposed stringent new vaccine rules on federal workers, large employers and health care staff in a sweeping attempt to contain the latest surge of Covid-19. The new requirements could apply to as many as 100 million Americans -- close to two-thirds of the American workforce -- and amount to Biden's strongest push yet to require vaccines for much of the country. "We've been patient, but our patience is wearing thin, and your refusal has cost all of us," Biden said, his tone hardening toward Americans who still refuse to receive a vaccine despite

ample evidence of their safety and full approval of one -- the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine -- from the US Food and Drug Administration.

He said vaccinated America was growing "frustrated" with the 80 million people who have not received shots and are fueling the spread of the virus. And he acknowledged the new steps would not provide a quick fix.

"While America is in much better shape than it was seven months ago when I took office, I need to tell you a second fact: We're in a tough stretch and it could last for awhile," Biden said in an early evening speech

from the White House.

At the center of Biden's new plan is directing the Labor Department to require all businesses with 100 or more employees ensure their workers are either vaccinated or tested once a week, an expansive step the President took after consultation with administration health officials and lawyers. Companies could face thousands of dollars in fines per employee if they don't comply.

Biden also signed an executive order requiring all government employees be vaccinated against Covid-19, with no option of being regularly tested to opt out. The President signed an accompanying order directing the same standard be applied to employees of contractors who do business with the federal government.

He also said 300,000 educators in federal Head Start programs must be vaccinated and called on governors to require vaccinations for schoolteachers and staff.

And Biden announced he would require the 17 million health care workers at facilities receiving funds from Medicare and Medicaid to be fully vac-

inated, expanding the mandate to hospitals, home care facilities and dialysis centers around the country.

"We have the tools to combat the virus if we come together to use those tools," Biden said at the outset of what was billed as a major speech to tackle the latest phase of the Covid-19 pandemic. The new rules amount to the most dramatic steps to date to get more Americans vaccinated. Once cautious of vaccine mandates, the Biden administration is now wholly embracing them as vaccine hesitancy persists among certain groups.

Administration officials acknowledged the requirement for large employers could be challenged in court. But they said their hope was to provide cover of federal rules to businesses who want to require vaccines for employees.

The new rules come as the Delta variant tears through communities across the country, causing upticks in hospitalizations and deaths particularly in areas where vaccination rates remain low.

COVID-19: Long waits for ambulances continue in England

BBC - The average response time was around eight-and-a-half minutes in August; the target for urgent calls is seven minutes.

Data also reveals the number waiting for routine operations rose to a record high of 5.6 million in July.

The NHS in England is set to receive an extra £5.4bn over the next six months.

The money has been allocated to help the health service respond to COVID-19 and to tackle the backlog caused by the pandemic. Since it began, hospitals in England have treated more than 450,000 patients with coronavirus.

MPs this week also voted for a longer term plan for a new tax to fund health and social care.

NHS England figures show that waiting times for ambulances were slightly shorter, on average, in August than in July. But they were still more than one minute longer than the seven-minute target for responding to the most urgent calls. These are for people who are struggling to breathe or have had a cardiac arrest.

The average response time for an ambulance that can take a patient to hospital - rather than a paramedic coming by bike or car - for this category in August was close to the worst on record - 11 minutes 10 seconds.

And for category 2 emergency calls - which cover heart attacks, seizures and road traffic acci-

dents - the average wait was more than 38 minutes, despite a target of 18 minutes.

Heart specialist Dr. Aseem Malhotra believes his father's death in July could have been prevented if an ambulance had arrived more quickly.

His father, Prof Kailash Chand, had complained of chest discomfort before asking for help from neighbours who were also

ther being attached to a heart monitor via a videocall.

"It was the flat line. There was nothing to shock.

"We had missed that window. My father was gone." Dr. Malhotra said if he'd known the ambulance would take so long, he would have asked the neighbour to take him straight to hospital.

North West Ambulance says it is investigating the incident. The



Patients needing ambulances for life-threatening calls are often waiting longer than they should, latest NHS England figures show.

doctors. They called an ambulance because they believed Prof Chand had had a cardiac arrest, and tried to resuscitate him.

Dr. Malhotra was on the phone to them at the time.

"I stayed on the line - 10 minutes passed, 15 minutes passed, 20 minutes passed.

"It took over 30 minutes before the ambulance arrived," he said.

Dr. Malhotra then saw his fa-

figure of 5.6 million people waiting to start routine NHS hospital treatment is the highest since records began in August 2007, and up from 5.45m in July.

Nearly 1.8 million have been waiting longer than 18 weeks, while more than 293,000 have been waiting for more than a year.

That number has fallen - a sign of efforts to tackle the backlog caused by COVID.

UN warns Afghanistan needs money to prevent total breakdown

(Reuters) – The United Nations warned on Thursday that the freezing of billions of dollars in Afghan assets to keep them out of Taliban hands would inevitably spark “a severe economic downturn” and could push millions more Afghans into poverty and hunger.

UN special envoy on Afghanistan, Deborah Lyons, said a way needed to be found to get money quickly flowing to the country “to prevent a total breakdown of the economy and social order” and with safeguards to ensure it is not misused by the Taliban.

Lyons told the UN Security Council that Afghanistan could be set “back for generations.”

“The economy must be allowed to breathe for a few more months, giving the Taliban a chance to demonstrate flexibility and a genuine will to do things differently this time, notably from a human rights, gender, and counter-terrorism perspective,” Lyons told the 15-member council.

Much of the Afghan central bank’s \$10 billion in assets are parked overseas, where they are considered a key instrument for the West to pressure the Taliban. The US Treasury Department said it is not easing Taliban sanc-



UN special envoy on Afghanistan, Deborah Lyons

tions or loosening curbs on the Islamist group’s access to the global financial system.

The International Monetary Fund has also blocked the Taliban from accessing some \$440 million in new emergency reserves.

“The Taliban seeks international legitimacy and support. Our message is simple: any legitimacy and support will have to be earned,” senior US diplomat Jeffrey DeLaurentis told the Security Council.

Russia and China both argued for the release of Afghanistan’s frozen assets.

“These assets belong to Afghanistan and should be used for Afghanistan, not as leverage for threats or restraints,” China’s deputy UN Ambassador Geng Shuang said.

WOMEN AND GIRLS

At the start of 2021, half of Afghanistan’s population - more than 18 million people - needed help. The UN Development Programme (UNDP) warned on Thursday that Afghanistan was facing universal poverty by the middle of next year.

The Taliban last month seized power 20 years after they were ousted by a US-led invasion for refusing to hand over al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

Afghanistan’s UN Ambassador Ghulam Isaczkai, who was appointed by the US-backed government ousted by the Taliban, urged the Security Council to “withhold any recognition of any government in Afghanistan unless it’s truly inclusive

and formed on the basis of free will of the people.”

Taliban leaders have vowed to respect women’s rights in accordance with sharia, or Islamic law. Under their 1996-2001 rule, however, women could not work and girls were banned from school. Women had to cover their faces and be accompanied by a male relative when they left home.

Lyons said the United Nations was receiving increasing reports of those curbs again being placed on women’s rights.

“They have limited girls’ access to education in some regions and dismantled the Department of Women’s Affairs across Afghanistan,” she added.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by a Taliban gunman in Pakistan as she left school in 2012, urged the Council to recognize “girls’ education is a powerful tool for building peace and security” and protect Afghan women and girls.

“I raised my voice for every girl’s right to go to school. I saw a gunman stop my school bus, call my name, and fire a bullet at me. I was 15 years old,” she told the Security Council on Thursday. “This is a story that many Afghan girls may share if we do not act.”

Justice Dept. sues Texas over state's new abortion law



Attorney General Merrick Garland announces a lawsuit to block the enforcement of new Texas law that bans most abortions at the Justice Department in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 9, 2021

(AP) — The Justice Department on Thursday sued Texas over a new state law that bans most abortions, arguing that it was enacted “in open defiance of the Constitution.” The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Texas,

asks a federal judge to declare that the law is invalid, “to enjoin its enforcement, and to protect the rights that Texas has violated.”

“The act is clearly unconstitutional under long-standing Supreme Court precedent,” Attorney General Merrick Garland said at a news conference announcing the suit.

The Justice Department argues the law unlawfully infringes on the constitutional rights of women and violates the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution, which says federal law supersedes state law. Federal officials are also concerned other states could enact similar laws that would “deprive their citizens of their constitutional rights,” he said.

“It is settled constitutional law that ‘a State may not prohibit any woman from making the ultimate decision to terminate her pregnancy before viability,’” the lawsuit reads. “But Texas has done just that.”

The Texas law, known as SB8, prohibits abortions once medical professionals can detect cardiac activity — usu-

ally around six weeks, before some women know they’re pregnant. Courts have blocked other states from imposing similar restrictions, but Texas’ law differs significantly because it leaves enforcement to private citizens through civil lawsuits instead of criminal prosecutors.

Pressure had been mounting on the Justice Department not only from the White House — President Joe Biden has said the law is “almost un-American” — but also from Democrats in Congress, who wanted Garland to take action. Earlier this week, Garland vowed the Justice Department would step in to enforce a federal law known as the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act.

That law, commonly known as the FACE Act, normally prohibits physically obstructing access to abortion clinics by blocking entrances or threatening to use force to intimidate or interfere with someone. It also prohibits damaging property at abortion clinics and other reproductive health centers.

AVAILABLE VACANCIES AT OSEC

(effective September 7, 2021 – valid until September 23, 2021)

We at the Labour Department's ONE STOP EMPLOYMENT CENTRE (OSEC) ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY TO ASSIST JOBSEEKERS FIND EMPLOYMENT AND/OR TRAINING DURING THIS PANDEMIC AND CLOSURES OF MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA.

ONE STOP EMPLOYMENT CENTRE IS A PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CENTRE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT THAT OFFERS COMPLIMENTARY SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (FREE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES) INCLUDING SERVICES TO BOTH JOBSEEKERS AND EMPLOYER.

SOME OF THESE SERVICES INCLUDE (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) FREE MONTHLY WORKSHOPS, COMPUTER & QUICKBOOKS CLASSES, CAREER COUNSELING, RESUME & COVER-LETTER ASSISTANCE, IN ADDITION TO RECRUITMENT AND SCREENING SERVICES TO EMPLOYERS.

OUR CENTRE IS A PART OF THE MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, PUBLIC SAFETY & LABOUR. OVERALL, OSEC OFFERS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES TO JOBSEEKERS, EMPLOYERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS – AT NO COST TO BOTH JOBSEEKERS AND EMPLOYERS.

ASSISTANT COOK (RESTAURANT)

Minimum 5 years' experience

Must have extensive knowledge of Indian Cuisine to include Marinades, Sauces & Appetizers etc.

Must be a team-player

ASSISTANT PHARMACIST

Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar role

Must be a Licensed Pharmacist in Antigua & Barbuda

Must pay strict attention to detail

Must be able to analyze information received whether written or verbal

AUDIT ASSOCIATE

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting required

Great communication & analytical skills

Excellent written & verbal communication skills

Strong computer skills; Able to work in a team environment

AUDIT SENIOR/SUPERVISOR

Minimum 3-4 years' experience of progressive public accounting experience

In-charge auditing experience desirable

Bachelors' Degree in Accounting required

CPA or ACCA or similar license required

Excellent analytical, organizational and engagement management skills

Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Strong computer skills including proficiency in Microsoft Office and audit preparation software

BAKER

Minimum 5 years' experience

Secondary School Completion

BOAT CAPTAIN

Licensed Boat Operator with 10 or more years' experience as a captain

Boat Safety Training Certification

Firm knowledge of marine craft communication, signaling and navigation systems

Basic Knowledge of weather as its changes and affect the operation of sea going vessels

Maintenance and engineering experience or understanding

Strong Customer Services Skills

Ability to react quickly in emergencies

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions

Skill in making necessary minor and emergency repairs to marine equipment and docks

Excellent leadership, etiquette and communication skills

CASHIER

Minimum 2 years' working experience as a Cashier

Secondary School Certificate

Must be able to speak English & Spanish

CASHIER CLERK/STORE CLERK

Minimum 1 year experience

High School or College Completion

Must be Computer Literate

Must be efficient with strong attention to detail

Must be a fast learner and customer service-oriented

CLEANER

Minimum 3 years' experience

COMMERCIAL HELICOPTER PILOT

Must have a minimum of 1000 Commercial Flying Hours

ECCAA Commercial Helicopter License required

Must have a good personality

Must be a team-player and able to work

COMPOUND SUPERVISOR

At least 20 years' experience within the Boatyard & Marina Industry

Must be fluent in English, French & Italian

Great Customer Relation skills

Knowledge of Antigua & Barbuda Health, Safety & Trespassing regulations

Must be physically strong; Strong attention to detail is necessary

COOK (ROTI MAKER)

Minimum 3-4 years' experience

Secondary School Completion; Must have a valid Food Handler's License

Must have experience in preparing Indian dishes

Must have a valid Driver's License

DECKHAND/SNORKEL GUIDE

Basic Boating experience required; Must not be prone to motion sickness

High School Completion | Must be a competent swimmer

Boatmaster 3 license desirable but not required

DENTIST

Must be a Registered General Dentist with a minimum of 10 years' experience
Diploma or Certificate of Course or Training of Root Canal & Children Dentistry

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCT OPERATIONS

Minimum 10 years' experience
Excellent Strategic thinking along with good leadership and analytical skills
Strong Decision making skills required

DRIVER/OPERATOR

Minimum 3 years' experience
High School Completion along with Trade School Diploma
Must be able to drive and operate Heavy Machinery & Equipment including
Grader, U-Box/18 speed transmission equipment
Must pay attention to detail | Must be punctual, honest, empathetic and trustworthy
Must possess an F6 Driver's license
Must be flexible to work on weekends and public holidays | Must be an effective team player

EXECUTIVE CHEF

Minimum ten years' culinary experience in an upscale environment with a
minimum of five years'
experience in a culinary leadership with a luxury/ultra-luxury resort.
Bachelor's Degree in Culinary Arts, Hotel Management or other relevant fields
Exceptional internal/external guest relations skills
Demonstrated project management experience in organizing,
planning and executing large-scale projects from conception through implementation
Demonstrated experience in leading and developing staff
Strong verbal and written communication skills
Demonstrated knowledge of hospitality systems/software
Solid business acumen with Professional presentation
Must be able to speak, read and write English; Fluency in other languages preferred

FARM MANAGER

Minimum 5 years' experience | Farming experience preferred
Secondary School Completion; Must be Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite
Must be knowledgeable in the maintenance & repairs of small engines
Must have a valid Driver's License

FINANCE MANAGER

At least five years of financial, auditing and accounting experience within an
international organization or multinational company
Bachelor's degree in accounting or finance with CPA/ACCA designation
Strong Knowledge of QuickBooks and SAP
Highly Proficient in NetSuite
Advanced PC skills, particularly knowledge of MS Word and MS Excel software
Strong analytical skills with ability to set priorities, complete work with minimal supervision,
and meet deadlines Ability to work in a dynamic organization
Excellent communication skills | Result oriented with strong organizational skills

FOOD AND BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR

2+ Years relevant food and beverage experience in a luxury hotel environment

Strong leadership, problem solving, customer service, communication and organization skills

Proficiency in Microsoft Office

FRONT OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

At least three years' working experience in office administration or similar position

Knowledge of administrative or clerical procedures

Knowledge of basic bookkeeping | Excellent knowledge of MS Office (especially Excel & Word)

Proficient in the use of QuickBooks

Knowledge of customer service principles and practices | Good organizational and multi-tasking abilities

HOTEL MANAGER

Minimum 10 years of experience in the Hospitality industry with applicable International and Caribbean experience

Extensive managerial experience is required, with at least 2 years' experience at the Executive level and a track record in leading Hotel Company with good business and standards

Respectful, passionate, and leads by example with an engaged and positive approach

Articulate, creative, and curious underscored by strong analytical skills; Knowledge of Opera PMS and Micros Symphony

Internationally versed and stays abreast of market trends in the luxury hospitality

Thorough knowledge of luxury guest experience expectations and is culturally astute

Exceptional communication and persuasion skills underscored by a high level of emotional intelligence

An eye for detail, with exceptional ability to prioritize, organize, follow-up and effective problem resolutions skills

Extensive knowledge of forecasting and budgeting, statutory legislation, and industrial relations

KITCHEN ASSISTANT

No experience required | Secondary School Completion

LEAD TOUR SPECIALIST

Minimum 1 year experience of working in a customer service environment

Previous sales and supervisory experience is an asset

Good command of written and spoken English

Minimum of High or Secondary School Diploma

Must be computer literate with knowledge of Microsoft Office Software: Access, Excel, Outlook etc.

LEGAL CLERK

Minimum 1-2 years' experience as a Legal Clerk

Must be Computer Literate | Must be proficient in the use of QuickBooks

LIVE-IN MAID/NANNY

Minimum 4 years' experience in a similar role

High School Completion | Good communication skills

Must have a valid Driver's license | Must be able to cook

Must have knowledge of the basic lifesaving support (CPR-certified) | Must be a good swimmer

MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED

MESSENGER/CLEANER

Minimum 1 year experience

MULTILINGUAL REAL ESTATE SALES AGENT

8 plus years of proven experience as a Real Estate Agent or Real Estate Salesperson within a global market.

Proven track record of leading the real estate functions in a fast-paced, growing company. Real Estate License is a plus.

Ability to understand and present contracts.

Ability to maintain secrecy and confidentiality on multiple new projects impacting the current workforce and maintain trustworthiness of the Chairman and members of executive management.

Ability and flexibility to travel both locally, regionally and internationally throughout the year.

Strong negotiating and selling capabilities.

Excellent communication skills and presentation skills with the ability to network.

Multilingual (both written and verbal)

Working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications

PADI OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR

Minimum 1 year working experience as a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor

Must have issued at least 50 certifications & logged at least 1000 dives

Boatmaster 3 License required

Higher Level Boating & TEC Diving Qualifications is an asset

PLUMBER

Previous plumbing experience, ideally gained within a hotel or commercial building environment

Minimum High School Completion with CXC passes in English and Maths

Qualification in General Plumbing & Maintenance required; Pumps; Pools; Sewage

Plants and related equipment

SECURITY OFFICER

Minimum 3 years' experience as a Security Officer | Excellent communication skills

SENIOR MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Minimum 5-6 years' experience in a similar role

High School Diploma

Must have formal technical training or diploma

In-depth knowledge of HVAC, electrical, plumbing and hydraulic systems

Must be able to speak Italian | Must work well under pressure and meet tight deadlines

Effective problem-solving and accounting abilities

Good Communication skills; Good Organization & Execution skills

Strong analytical and solutions creations skills

SPA MANAGER (Hotel

3+ Years of managerial experience in a 5-star luxury hotel or resort spa

Degree/Diploma in Spa Management/Business Management/Hospitality Management or similar

SOUS CHEF (Hotel)

3+ Years experience required

Strong leadership, problem solving, customer service, communication and organization skills

Proficiency in Microsoft Office

Basic Food Hygiene Certificate

VIP HOST (CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT)

Minimum 1-2 years' experience

High School & College Completion necessary | Excellent communication skills (verbal & written)

Ability to work well under pressure; Ability to work effectively as part of a team or alone

Must be self-motivated; A quick learner and a creative/critical thinker

WAREHOUSE/SALES CLERK

Minimum 2 years' experience in a similar role | Secondary School Completion

**DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS is
Thursday 23rd September 2021**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT IN ORDER TO REGISTER
YOU MUST BRING WITH YOU THE FOLLOWING:
VALID PASSPORT | SOCIAL SECURITY &
MEDICAL BENEFITS CARDS
RESUME | CERTIFICATES/DIPLOMAS
OSEC IS LOCATED ON REDCLIFFE STREET**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL 562-8533/34**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CLASSIFIED



**The Ministry of Health,
Wellness and the
Environment**

**Pfizer Pre-Registration
Contact**

788-8299 or 780-8461 or 736-8299

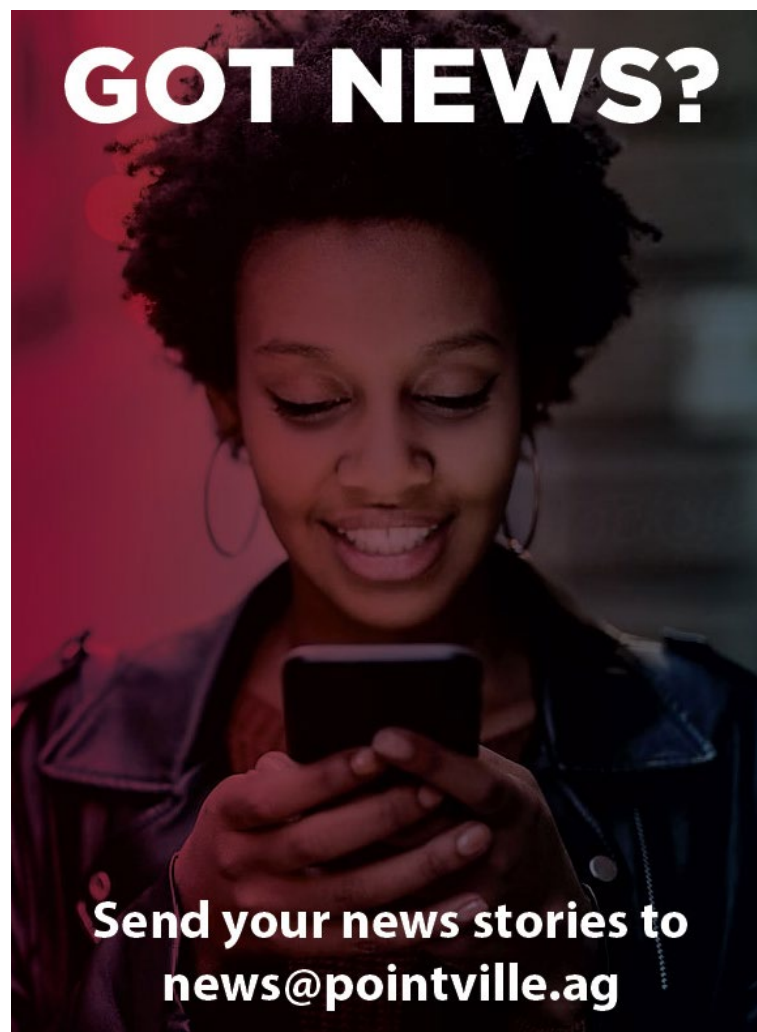
**Mondays through Thursdays
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Fridays from 9:00am to 3:30pm**

Who? Anyone 12 years and older.

'GLENROY ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION'

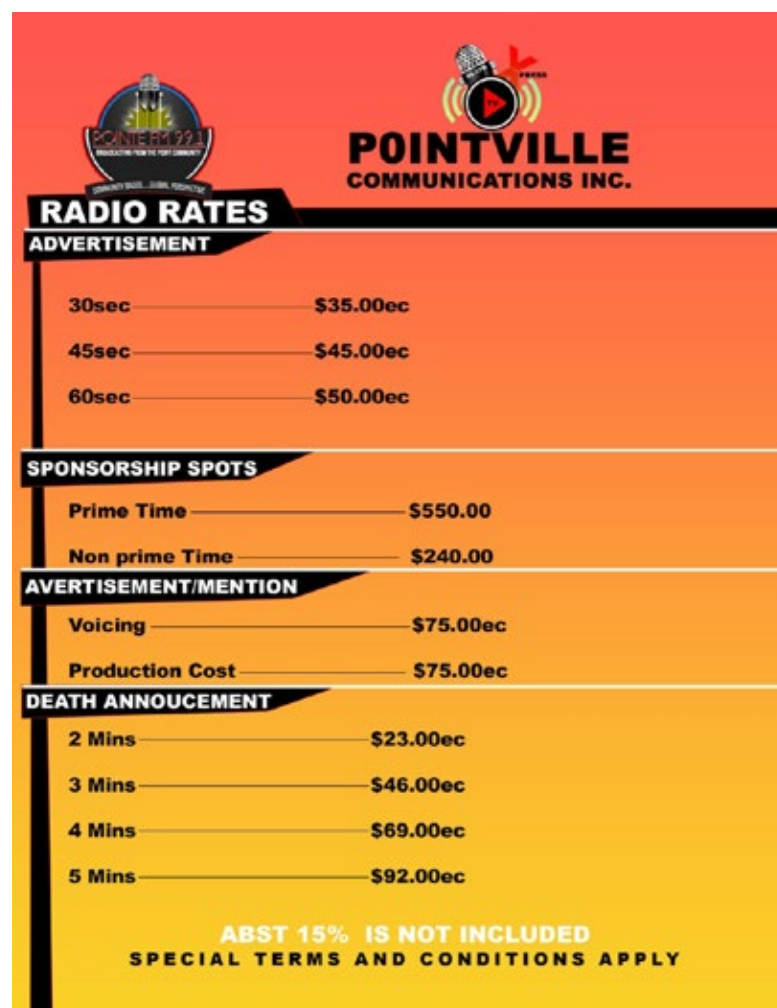
FROM
FOUNDATION TO
FINISH WE DO IT
RIGHT

**CONTACT US AT
TEL: 779-8971 / 778-2792**



GOT NEWS?

**Send your news stories to
news@pointville.ag**



**POINTVILLE
COMMUNICATIONS INC.**

RADIO RATES

ADVERTISEMENT

30sec	\$35.00ec
45sec	\$45.00ec
60sec	\$50.00ec

SPONSORSHIP SPOTS

Prime Time	\$550.00
Non prime Time	\$240.00

ADVERTISEMENT/MENTION

Voicing	\$75.00ec
Production Cost	\$75.00ec

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

2 Mins	\$23.00ec
3 Mins	\$46.00ec
4 Mins	\$69.00ec
5 Mins	\$92.00ec

**ABST 15% IS NOT INCLUDED
SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY**

Sublime Bishop hundred helps Windies stun England

BECKENHAM, England, CMC – Right-hander Teddy Bishop hit a sublime hundred to supervise a brilliant run chase as West Indies Under-19s pulled off a two-wicket victory over their English counterparts in the third Youth One-Day International here yesterday.

In pursuit of a challenging 240 at Kent County Ground, the Caribbean side overhauled their target with three overs to spare, with Bishop carving out a high-quality 133 off 117 deliveries.

The knock comprised 20 fours and came on the heels of his unbeaten 97 two days ago when West Indies U19s agonisingly went down by one wicket.

They suffered a heavy 166-run defeat in last Saturday's opener at the same venue.

Choosing to bat first, England U19s racked up 239 for nine off their 50 overs with George Bell top-scoring with 44, Thomas Aspinwall weighing in with 41, and William Luxton getting 27.

Captain Tom Prest was an early casualty in the second over for four with the score on six but Luxton's run-a-ball knock with five fours saw England U19s rebuild through a second-wicket



STANDING TALL! Stroke-maker Teddy Bishop pulls elegantly during his superb 133 against England Under-19s yesterday. (Photo courtesy CWI Media)

stand of 47 with George Thomas (18).

Both fell in the space of three deliveries in successive overs to reduce the innings to 53 for three. But Bell patched things up, first in a 28-run fourth-wicket stand with Barbados-born Jacob Bethel (13), and then in 38-run sixth wicket partnership with Alex Horton (21).

Bell, who faced 80 balls and hit a four and six, added a further 39 for the seventh-wicket with Archie Lenham (19) before falling in the 37th over. But Aspinwall belted two fours in a busy 53-ball knock to inspire a 40-run, eighth-wicket partnership with Nathan

Barnwell who produced a cameo unbeaten 25 off 22 balls to ensure the tail wagged.

Left-arm spinner Anderson Mahase (2-42), left-arm seamer Nathan Edward (2-46), and fast bowler McKenny Clarke (2-52), all finished with two wickets each.

West Indies U19s then suffered a wretched start, losing both openers Justin Jagessar (5) and Anderson Amurdan (4) cheaply to leave the innings stumbling at 12 for two in the fifth over before Bishop grabbed the spotlight.

The Grenadian put on 69 for the third wicket with Ackeem Auguste (18); 37 for the fourth

with wicketkeeper Rivaldo Clarke (16); before combining in a critical 73-run partnership with Giovonte Depeiza (21) to fire the Rising Stars to 191 for four.

Depeiza and Anderson Mahase (2) perished in quick succession to leave the run chase tentatively placed at 205 for six in the 43rd over. Bishop added a further 23 for the seventh wicket with Edward (17 not out) before finally departing in the 46th over, bowled by left-arm spinner James Coles. But with only 12 runs required from 27 balls, Edward held his nerve and saw the visitors home.

Ravi Rampaul, Roston Chase included in West Indies 15-man T20 World Cup squad, Holder among reserves



Ravi Rampaul and Roston Chase have been called for the West Indies World Cup squad for next month's International Cricket Council's (ICC) Men's T20 World Cup 2021 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Chris Gayle has also been named in the 15-man squad announced today but there is no place for Odean Smith or Sherfane Rutherford, two of the top performers in the 2021 Hero CPL this year.

West Indies are the defending world champions and only two-time winners of the ICC T20 World Cup, winning in 2012 against Sri Lanka at the Premadasa in Colombo, then four years later in 2016 against England in Kolkata. The West Indies now have the opportunity to create further

history by becoming the first team to win a hat-trick of ICC T20 World Cup victories.

"The squad is one with good depth and strength in all departments. There is tremendous T20 experience along with World Cup-winning experience which should stand the team in good stead," said Chief Selector Roger Harper.

"This squad is made up of many world-beating players who, once knitted into a world-beating team, will be extremely difficult to beat. I expect the team to do very well and with the 'rub of the green' I think the team has a good chance of defending the title."

Harper said Rampaul will add quality to the squad.

"Ravi Rampaul is a highly experienced bowl-

er, who performed well in the last CG Insurance Super50 Cup and the current Hero CPL to date. He will boost the team's wicket-taking options in the power-play and the middle phase and will provide another option for the death overs," Harper said.

"Roston Chase has shown that he is a very capable T20 player. He performed well in the CPL in 2020 and has been outstanding in the 2021 edition so far. He has shown the ability to knit the innings together while still scoring at a fast rate with a low dot-ball percentage. He will be an excellent foil for the explosive players in the team."

The full squad comprises Kieron Pollard (Captain), Nicholas Pooran (Vice-Captain),

Fabian Allen, Dwayne Bravo, Roston Chase, Andre Fletcher, Chris Gayle, Shimron Hetmyer, Evin Lewis, Obed McCoy, Lendl Simmons, Ravi Rampaul, Andre Russell, Oshane Thomas and Hayden Walsh Jr.

The travelling reserves include Darren Bravo, Sheldon Cottrell, Jason Holder and Akeal Hosein.

West Indies have been drawn in Group 1 and will play five group games against England, South Africa and Australia along with the winner of Round 1 Group A (Sri Lanka, Ireland, the Netherlands, and Namibia) and the runner-up from Round 1 Group B (Bangladesh, Scotland, Papua New Guinea, and Oman).

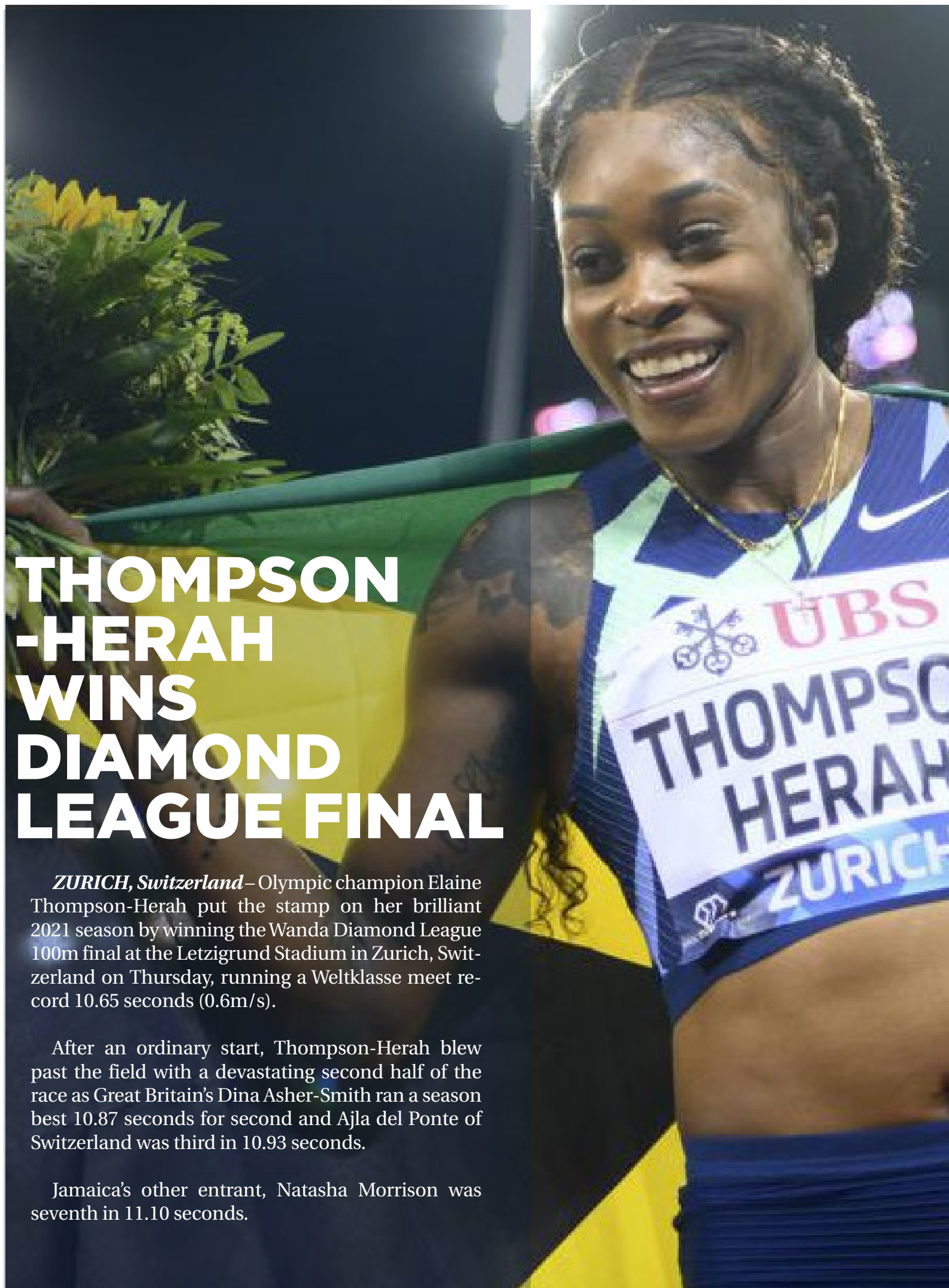
West Indies' first group game will be against England in Dubai on October 23.

THOMPSON-HERAH WINS DIAMOND LEAGUE FINAL

ZURICH, Switzerland – Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah put the stamp on her brilliant 2021 season by winning the Wanda Diamond League 100m final at the Letzigrund Stadium in Zurich, Switzerland on Thursday, running a Weltklasse meet record 10.65 seconds (0.6m/s).

After an ordinary start, Thompson-Herah blew past the field with a devastating second half of the race as Great Britain's Dina Asher-Smith ran a season best 10.87 seconds for second and Ajla del Ponte of Switzerland was third in 10.93 seconds.

Jamaica's other entrant, Natasha Morrison was seventh in 11.10 seconds.



JAMAICA EARN VALUABLE DRAW IN COSTA RICA IN WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

Jamaica's Reggae Boyz secured their first point of the FIFA World Cup qualifying final round with a 1-1 draw with hosts Costa Rica Thursday evening.

Jimmy Marin put Costa Rica ahead three minutes in with a point-blank header after a mix up in the Jamaican defence.

Jamaica looked the better team in the second

half, however, and a well-placed cross from left-back Kemar Lawrence found Shamar Nicholson unmarked in the area.

He was able to beat Keylor Navas in the Costa Rica goal in the 47th minute.

Jamaica however remain eighth and last in the table.

Fraser-Pryce

DEWS