



# CURFEW HOURS, MANDATE WARS SOON DONE!

**SEE PAGE 10**

*Mrs. Rachel Amelia 'Edith' James Lloyd turned 104 yesterday, Thursday 18th November 2021. Mrs. Lloyd, also known as 'Mother', is the 2nd oldest centenarian in Antigua and Barbuda. Mother is said to enjoy lots of local dishes, with fungi being her favorite. She now resides at a care home in Crosbies where she is reportedly the most "talkative" one. According to the care home's nursing aid, "Mother is so healthy. She has no hypertension, no sugar, she responds well and always leads in prayers and worship in the morning. She loves to sing." Parliamentary Representative Hon. Charles "Max" Fernandez visited 'Mother' Lloyd to help her celebrate this significant milestone and wished her continued health and long life.*

- INSIDE:**
- COVID cases hugging zero tight once more
  - Plan to plant 100K trees per year gets \$\$\$ to match
  - SLU Opposition Leader stripped of parliamentary pay

# Brace for possible price increases caused by high freight rates

*The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is warning that global consumer prices will rise significantly in the year ahead until shipping supply chain disruptions are unblocked and port constraints and terminal inefficiencies are tackled.*

The recovery of the global economy is threatened by high freight rates which are likely to continue in the coming months, according to UNCTAD's Review of Maritime Transport 2021 published on 18 November.

UNCTAD's analysis shows that the cur-

rent surge in container freight rates, if sustained, could increase global import price levels by 11% and consumer price levels by 1.5% between now and 2023.

"The current surge in freight rates will have a profound impact on trade and undermine socio-economic re-

covery – especially in developing countries – until maritime shipping operations return to normal," said UNCTAD Secretary General Rebeca Grynspan.

"Returning to normal would entail investing in new solutions – including infrastructure, freight technology and digitalization – and

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trade facilitation measures,” she said.

### ***What triggered the spike in freight rates and costs?***

Demand for goods surged in the second half of 2020 and into 2021 as consumers spent their money on goods rather than services during pandemic lockdowns and restrictions, according to the report. Working from home, online shopping, and increased computer sales, all placed unprecedented demand on supply chains.

This large swing in containerized trade flows was met with supply-side capacity constraints – including container ship carrying capacity; container shortages; labour shortages; continued on-and-off COVID-19 restrictions across port regions, and congestion at ports.

This mismatch between surging demand and de facto reduced supply capacity, then led to record container freight rates on practically all container trade routes.

For example, the Shanghai Containerized Freight Index (SCFI) spot rate on the Shanghai-Europe route was less than \$1,000 per TEU in June 2020. It jumped to about \$4,000 per TEU by the end of 2020 and rose to \$7,395 by the end of July 2021. On top of this, cargo owners faced delays, surcharges and other costs, and still en-

countered difficulties to ensure their containers were moved promptly.

### ***Everyone is affected, but not equally***

The impact of the high freight charges will be greater in small island developing states (SIDS), which could see import prices increase by 24% and consumer prices by 7.5%. In least developed countries (LDCs), consumer price levels could increase by 2.2%.

Supply chains will be affected by higher maritime trade costs. Low-value-added items produced in smaller economies, in particular, could face serious erosion of their comparative advantages.

In addition, concerns abound that the sustained higher shipping costs will not only weigh on exports and imports, but could also undermine a recovery in global manufacturing.

The report says sustained high rates are already affecting global supply chains; noting that Europe, for example, has been facing shortages of consumer goods imported from Asia such as home furnishings, bicycles, sports goods, and toys.

According to the report, a surge in container freight rates will add to production costs -- which can raise consumer prices and slow national economies, particularly in SIDS and LDCs where consumption and

production highly depend on trade.

The high rates will also impact low-value-added items such as furniture, textiles, clothing and leather products, whose production is often fragmented across low-wage economies well away from major consumer markets. UNCTAD predicts consumer price increases of 10.2% on these.

The analysis further predicts a 9.4% increase in rubber and plastic products; a 7.5% increase for pharmaceutical products and electrical equipment; 6.9% for motor vehicles; and 6.4% for machinery and equipment.

The impact of the high freight rates will not be evenly spread, even within Europe, and will be generally greater in smaller economies.

It is suggested that prices would rise by 3.7% in Estonia and 3.9% in Lithuania, compared with 1.2% in the United States and 1.4% in China. This differential also reflects a greater “import openness” – the ratio of imports to GDP – which is typically higher in smaller economies.

Manufacturers in the United States rely mainly on industrial supplies from China and other East Asian economies; so continued cost pressures, disruption and delays in containerized shipping will hinder production, according to the report.

A 10% increase in container freight rates together with supply-chain disruptions is expected to decrease industrial production in the United States and the euro area by more than 1%, while in China production is expected to decrease by 0.2%.

UNCTAD emphasizes that transport costs are also influenced by structural factors – including port infrastructure quality, the trade facilitation environment, and shipping connectivity – and there is potential for significant improvements.

### ***Addressing high freight rates***

UNCTAD urges countries to

consider a portfolio of measures that span hard and soft infrastructure and services. Improving the quality of port infrastructure would reduce world average maritime transport costs by 4.1%; while costs would be reduced by 3.7% by better trade facilitation measures; and by 4.4% by improved liner shipping connectivity.

It calls on governments to monitor markets to ensure a fair, transparent and competitive commercial environment, and recommends more data-sharing and stronger collaboration between stakeholders in the maritime supply chain.

The report urges continued monitoring and analysis of

trends to find ways of cutting costs, enhancing efficiency and smoothing delivery of maritime trade. It also emphasizes the need for smaller economies to diversify by graduating to higher-value-added products [in order] to be more resilient to external shocks.

In the medium to longer term, the maritime supply capacity will also be affected by the transition of the industry towards zero-carbon shipping. To ensure that the necessary investment in ships, ports, and the provision of new fuels is not delayed, it will be important for investors to count on a predictable global regulatory framework.



The advertisement features a yellow Suzuki Vitara SUV shown from a rear three-quarter view, driving on a road with orange and white diagonal stripes. The car's license plate reads 'VITARA'. In the top right corner, there is a logo consisting of two interlocking hexagons. The text on the right side of the ad reads: 'Suzuki Vitara', 'Fully Loaded All Grip 4WD', 'Time to Play', and 'Starting at \$76,600'. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'HADEED MOTORS LTD.' featuring a stylized mountain and the text 'Give us call 481-2500'.

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# FM Greene discusses matters of concern with French diplomat

Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene held discussions on Thursday with the deputy head of the French embassy in St. Lucia, Marc Mertello, on a range of issues of concern for both Antigua and Barbuda and France.

Reporting on the outcome of the meeting, permanent secretary in the ministry, Anthony Liverpool said Greene expressed the need for better people-to-people contact with citizens of the French overseas departments of Guadeloupe and Martinique. One way of helping to make this possible is for more Antiguan and Barbudans to learn French which will make communications between residents of the two departments and nationals much easier.

Greene fully endorsed a suggestion for the resuscitation of French classes among teachers and students in the school systems but also the establishment of an institute where the language could also be taught to adults. Greene, whose portfolio responsibilities also include trade, said improved communications will also lead to better trade ties between the twin-island nation and the French departments.

The discussion also included finding mechanisms for coop-



*Foreign Minister E.P. Chet Greene (right) with French diplomat Marc Mertello.*

eration between Antigua and Barbuda and in particular Guadeloupe, one of the country's closest neighbours, on the issue of search and rescue. Over the years, local fisher folks as well as their counterparts from Guadeloupe have gone missing in the waters that separate Antigua and Barbuda and that department.

"It is expected that Antigua and Barbuda and France will sign a search and rescue cooperation agreement coming out of the discussion," Liverpool reported.

Other matters discussed included the recently signed maritime boundaries delineation

agreement that establishes the maritime boundaries between Antigua and Barbuda and France. This has been a long-standing thorny issue between the two countries with accusations and counter accusations of encroachments between the two. The signing of the agreement will likely bring this to an end.

An air services agreement between the two nations was also discussed. This would improve greatly the direct connections between Antigua and Barbuda and France.

The French embassy in St. Lucia serves the territories of the OECS.



# Unvaccinated students being allowed back in school

by *Shelton Daniel*

Herd immunity has been achieved among secondary school students because more than 80% of those who fall within the 12-17 year age group that is eligible for vaccination against COVID-19 have been inoculated. This information has come from the Cabinet of Ministers following its

weekly meeting on Wednesday, which is said to have lasted seven hours. According to the post-Cabinet briefing notes: "In balancing the benefits against the risks, the Cabinet has agreed that face-to-face learning of all secondary school students, whether vaccinated or not, shall commence on Monday, November 22, 2021."

Expounding further on this during the live post-Cabinet media briefing on Thursday morning, Information Minister Melford Nicholas said as follows:

"So far, we are tracking that of an approximate population of about 7,200 eligible students in the school system, more than 6,200 of them have already been vaccinated – or at least have already taken a first dose – and that puts us above the 80% mark."

"We have made a determination that, in accordance with [this] and in lieu of the requirement that we do not want to have any further disruption to the education of our students, and given the challenge of operating a dual system of persons attending school face-to-face on intermit-

tent days, and at the same time for teachers to provide for remote learning for students who could not be in the school class room, it turned out that [this] is infeasible, the resource constraints are significant, teachers cannot pay attention to both audiences, or could not provide training facilities for both of those environments."

"And so we have taken a decision that in lieu of the fact that we have achieved 80% in the secondary schools for eligible students and we have already achieved a greater number as far as the teachers and the rest of the staffing in the schools are concerned – more than 90% of the public school teachers have been vaccinated."

"We are satisfied

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Dated the 15th day of November, 2021

  
Registrar of Lands





that the environment is a lot safer now for the rest of the students to return to, inasmuch as we still want all eligible students to ... come forward and be vaccinated, we've taken a decision to allow these students back in school as of Monday [when] unvaccinated students in both public and private schools will be allowed to return to schools with one caveat: that they will have to return with a rapid antigen test that indicates their negative status, and this will continue for the rest of the term and into the new term as well, on the basis that they will have to do it twice per month – every two weeks they will be required to undergo one of these tests [which] are available at the clinics free of charge to students.”



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# Cabinet briefs this week

by *Shelton Daniel*

The Minister responsible for telecommunications and information technology (Melford Nicholas) informed Cabinet that mobile number portability is now closer to reality, and that implementation will start early in the new year.

Nicholas also informed his colleagues – during their regular weekly meeting on Wednesday – that the Barbuda Land Registry will be ready early in the New Year and will be digitized.

Number portability refers to interchangeability within a telecommunications space whereby telephone subscribers can switch from one service provider to another without having to acquire a new number, so that numbers issued by one provider can be used for subscription to the services of another provider. The Minister of Information (also Melford Nicholas) whose portfolio includes the issuance of the new COVID-19 vac-

cine ID cards, reported that more than 16,000 cards have been distributed, but 2,500 are not yet distributed and remain in the production team's possession

Agriculture Minister

Samantha Marshall requested and was voted (approved for) \$100,000 for the purchase of fruit tree seedlings that are to be developed by the Green Castle and Christian Valley agricultural

stations. The seedlings will then be distributed to homeowners and others, in order to plant 100,000 trees a year to combat drought and global warming.

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# Soon, no more curfew; unvaccinated public servants can return to work

by *Shelton Daniel*

The contention over public sector vaccine mandates is over.

Cabinet is satisfied that sufficient levels of inoculation have been achieved and, “As a consequence ... agreed that all public sector workers – whether vaccinated or not – are to return to work on December 1st 2021.”

The Cabinet briefing notes, however, also point out that “those who are still not vaccinated by December 1st 2021 will be subject to a COVID-19 test every two weeks” at no charge – at least until the end of the year when the cost structure will be reviewed to see if it can be sustained.

During the live post-Cabinet media briefing on Thursday morning, Information Minister Melford Nicholas explained that, “The same is going to be true as of the 1st of December for any business that achieves the 80% or more vaccination compliance rate. We have been approached by a

number of institutions – including the Bankers’ Association – to give consideration to that regime.

“We have noticed that a number of businesses and industry groups have become compliant ... Therefore, as of the 1st December, any business that has achieved that 80% compliance rate or more will be permitted to have their remaining employees return to work with the same caveat that they will be required to be tested.”

Minister Nicholas was careful to explain that the Rapid Antigen Tests for COVID-19 that are available at the public clinics will be provided free of cost to students and public servants (Government footing the bill) but employees of banks and other private sector entities will have to shell out \$50 on each occasion, which is twice monthly. Persons are, however, at liberty to have their testing done at certified private facilities.

Interestingly, “Private sector entities are to is-

sue their own exemption certificates on the grounds of religion and/or medical reasons. The government sector will continue to require exemptions from acceptable medical practitioners and reputable religious institutions following submission of the appropriate application.”

Also, “Visitors to Antigua and Barbuda and [returning] nationals ... who wish to visit bars, clubs, dine-in restau-

rants, and places of entertainment, are to present their vaccination certificates that they presented on arrival in the country for them to be allowed entry” into these places.

“The restrictions imposed on people travelling from high-COVID-infected countries such as the Dominican Republic, Brazil, India, and South Africa, will also be lifted on January 1st 2022.”

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# UWI Five Islands Public Advocacy Series to explore 'Digital Transformation in Post-COVID World'

The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus will explore the topic of digital transformation as it restarts its Public Advocacy Series.

The series – now into its second year – started in the 2020/2021 academic year and has examined several topical areas including supply chain management and blockchain technology.

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Five Islands Campus, Professor Densil Williams explained that the series was critical in discussing issues affecting Antigua and the Caribbean.

"The Public Advocacy series for academic year 2021/2022 will continue the tradition of bringing cutting-edge research to bear on critical discourses in mat-

ters which impact national and regional development," he stated. "It is our hope that policy makers at all levels of the system will use the information to inform the development of data-driven policies to transform their organization and the wider economic landscape in which we operate."

This speaker at the Campus' Public Advocacy Series for November will be Professor Bharat Anand. He is the Vice Provost for Advances in Learning at Harvard University, and the Henry R. Byers Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School (HBS).

Professor Anand is an expert in digital strategy, media and entertainment strategy, corporate strategy, and organizational change. He



*Professor Bharat Anand*

has authored several papers, as well as a book on digital transformation in content industries.

Professor Anand will bring his vast knowledge and experience to discuss the topic 'Digital Transformation in a Post-COVID World', especially as countries begin reopening their economies and navigating the pandemic.

The virtual event

takes place on Friday, November 19, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Caribbean Time). Opening remarks will be delivered by Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal, Professor Densil Williams and followed by Professor Anand's feature presentation.

Participants will be able to pose questions directly to Professor Anand during

the discussion segment.

Persons can register online at the Campus' website: <https://fiveislands.uwi.edu/publicadvocacyseries/>.

### **More about Professor Bharat Anand**

Professor Anand created Harvard Business School's first executive program on digital strategies for media companies, and was a faculty co-founder of HBS' interdisciplinary research initiative on digital issues.

He has authored numerous case studies in business and corporate strategy, including those on Danaher, The Economist, International Management Group, News Cor-

poration, Random House, and Schibsted.

His research and case writing have received various awards, and his work has been profiled in numerous media outlets, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Entrepreneur, Fast Company, Forbes, Fortune, Inc., and Bloomberg.

His work on digital transformation has influenced both start-ups and established companies, and he has advised leading organizations and entrepreneurs across the globe.

In his current role as Vice Provost, Professor Anand leads Harvard University's strategic efforts around online learning, and around le-

veraging technology to create more effective teaching tools, strategies, and resources for residential teaching. He was part of the leadership team that helped the University transition to remote teaching in 2020, and he currently chairs Harvard's Future of Teaching and Learning Task Force.

Professor Anand received his B.A. in economics from Harvard College magna cum laude, and his PhD in economics from Princeton University. He is a recipient of the Greenhill Award for outstanding contributions to Harvard Business School, and the Apgar Award for Innovations in Teaching.

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# COVID Dashboard Update for November 17th 2021

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness & the Environment revealed NO new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Eighty-seven (87) samples were processed.

One (1) recovered case was recorded, increasing the total to 3,961. Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed

COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is 4,129; which is inclusive of 60 active cases.

There are 11 hospitalized cases: seven (7) mild; two (2) moderate; and two (2) severe.

Meanwhile, Antigua and Barbuda has fully vaccinated 54,698 individuals while six thousand and ninety-one (6,091) have only received their first dose.

The dashboard has been updated to reflect these changes.

Life | Medical

Davier Joseph

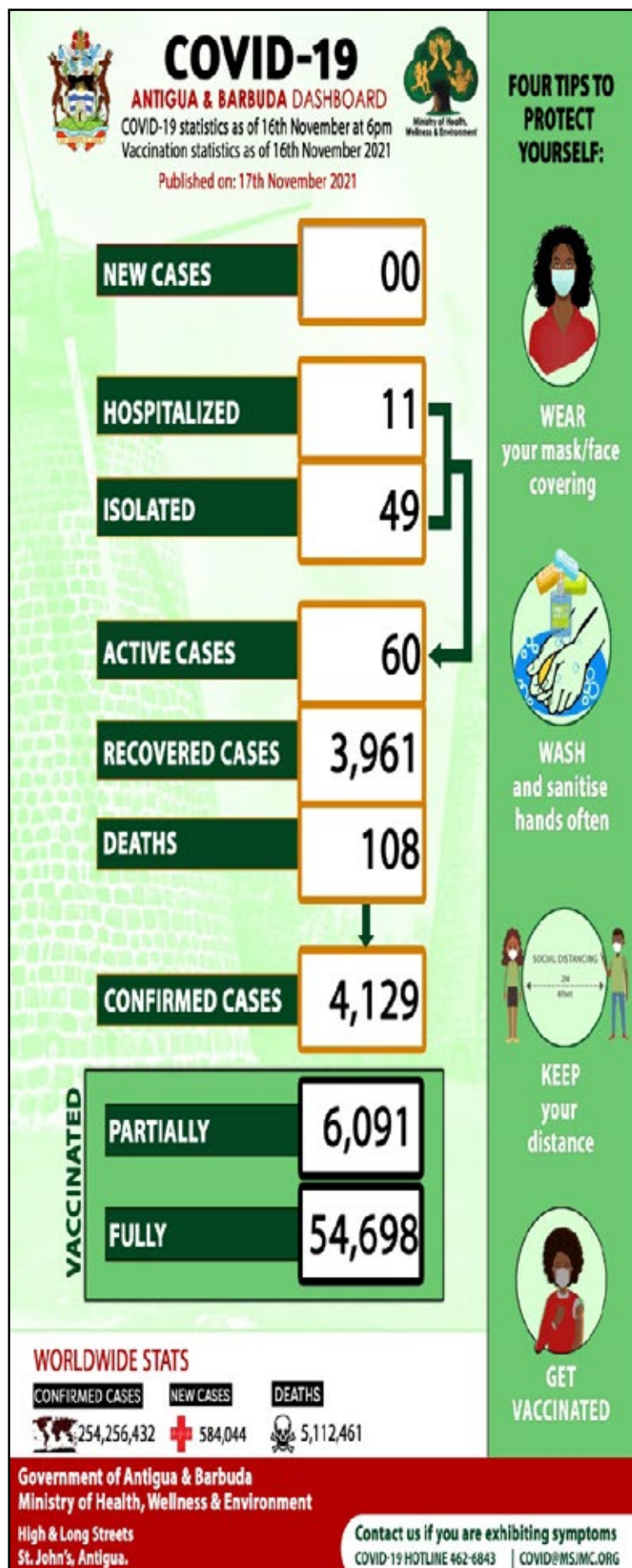
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# World Bank recommendations not enough for Caribbean countries to prepare for new climate shocks



**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)*

A new analysis by the World Bank provides a troubling analysis of the new shocks that Caribbean countries can expect from the worsening effects of climate change, particularly as there is no slowing

down in its magnitude. But the recommendations place the entire burden of preparation for these new shocks entirely on the governments that are already faced with beleaguered economies.

Nowhere in the analysis – titled “360° Resilience: A Guide to Prepare the Caribbean for a New Generation of Shocks” – is there any recommendation that the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the major polluting countries should do more to help these countries which are victims of the conditions of climate change and glob-

al warming to which they are the least contributors.

In its introduction, the analysis states quite clearly that, “Caribbean countries are not prepared for the new challenges posed by climate change, compounded by uncertainty on future tourism markets and a lack of fiscal space. The strategies that have worked in the past will not be enough in the future. Climate change threatens to intensify natural hazards and brings new sources of volatility through impacts on health, agriculture yields, and coastal landscapes.”

Investigating each country toward 2050 – less than 30 years away – the analysis suggests that, even with moderate CO2 emissions, 13 percent of nearshore hotels will experience beach loss resulting in a 17 percent decrease in tourism revenue for the region by 2050.

Specifically, the analysis projects that – the absence of adaptation – by 2050, countries like Trinidad and

Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Lucia, and The Bahamas, will see a large proportion of hotels unable to profit from proximity to a sandy beach.

The scenario is equally troubling with regard to flooding, loss of land mass from sea level rise, the impact of hurricanes, financial instability, and other socio-economic effects such as the loss of skilled workers through migration.

The report makes three broad recommendations for governments to build resilience to the new generation of shocks that it anticipates is coming. These are: increase government efficiency; empower households and the private sector; and reduce future physical risk.

Each of these recommendations are high cost and require funding that Caribbean governments do not have, particularly in the current COVID-19 crisis whose effects will last for years to come.

The analysis admits



that the 2008 global financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic have had devastating effects, with debt-to-GDP ratios increasing by approximately 15% between 2008 and 2010. It also records that the pandemic's impact on debt-to-GDP ratio has also been adverse. Apart from Guyana, which started producing oil in 2020, all countries saw an increase in debt-to-GDP ratio between 2019 and 2020.

Against this background, it is nearly impossible to figure how governments could pay to implement the recommendations in the report, particularly as the Paris Club (a group of powerful countries) is refusing to write-off or reschedule burdensome debt.

Additionally, the IMF, World Bank and other European-based agencies continue to impose the criterion of per capita income – rather than evident

vulnerability – for access to concessionary financing.

Further, the lending policies of the international financial institutions are not sufficiently aligned to development needs. For instance, the report states, “In the absence of appropriate funding and asset management systems for adequately maintaining coastal protection infrastructure, governments should consider alternative strategies, including natural barriers and managed relocation.”

The latter two suggestions are not free of cost. Managed relocation of populations should not continue to be deferred in places such as Belize, Guyana and Suriname. But significant costs are involved and, therefore, will not be easily achieved.

The report also rightly recommends that governments should invest in digi-

tal infrastructure and build digital skills to strengthen businesses and build human capital. It points out that many sectors of the society would benefit, including tourism, education, and provision of financial services.

Indeed, many Caribbean countries started down this path prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several sectors, especially education and financial services, benefitted during the pandemic. But the decline in revenues and significant GDP loss caused governments to slow investment in favour of building public health facilities and supporting the vulnerable, including the poor and unemployed. Unlike the governments of rich countries, they did not have the option to print money that their economies did not generate.

The report is valuable for the data it provides showing that a large proportion of the

region's assets is exposed to hurricanes and landslides, and that a significant portion is also exposed to floods and earthquakes – all of which are set to worsen. The analysis solidly substantiates that the region is vulnerable

However, it falls short by missing the essential point that –given the battering these economies have had over the last 40 years, plus the significant socio-economic and financial blows that they have endured from COVID-19 – international assistance is urgently required.

The resilience that Caribbean governments are being told to build is not the result of their abuse of the global environment. Those who are responsible for the damage should compensate.

*(Responses and previous commentaries: [www.sirronaldsanders.com](http://www.sirronaldsanders.com))*

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# Barbados Gov't revising customs tariffs to 'ensure it doesn't lose out on revenue'

*Barbados Today* - Government will be revising its master list of duties on imported goods, Finance Minister Ryan Straughn announced in Parliament on Tuesday, claiming that "updated tariffs" will ensure the State is not cheated out of revenue.

Decades after the value-added tax (VAT) was introduced to bring an end to most duties, imposts and indirect taxes, Straughn has followed previous administrations in introducing a new Customs Bill that may slap higher rates of duties on goods.

Straughn dismissed any notion that Customs was charging excessive duties on items, explaining that products appeared more expensive here than what may be seen online because of the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) of the item, on which the duties are calculated.

Singling out Part 11 of the new bill which speaks to the calculation of customs value of goods, he explained that, globally, duties have been calculated on the CIF.

But at a time of rising commodity prices due primarily to the disruption in the global supply chain, the finance minister dangled the possi-



*Finance Minister Ryan Straughn.*

bility of absorbing some of the costs associated with the importation of some items.

"Yes, in the short-term there may be some issues that we can resolve with respect to whether we cap the freight or what have you," he told lawmakers.

But that hope appeared slender as he further said that based on information from Customs, "We have not necessarily seen the increase in the per kilogram freight cost that have been cited as consistently or considerably different from the

pre-pandemic level."

He added: "That is just from looking across the range of products that have been imported, and we are monitoring the situation very carefully to see how the Government can respond. But we have to mine the data, and we will continue to mine the data with respect to that."

Casting further doubt on any significant ease in the taxation of goods in the heavily import-dependent nation, the finance minister said it was unlikely for Government to absorb

costs at this time owing to a decline in revenue, and it would need to increase funding in some areas.

"The capacity for Government to absorb is contingent on the amount of revenue we are capable of collecting within the context of the COVID environment," he said.

Straughn suggested that Barbadians import items from within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) as their first choice, pointing to the duty-free status that regional goods are supposed to enjoy under the CARICOM Single Market & Economy (CSME).

Made-in-CARICOM goods would have to carry a certificate of origin in order to benefit from the duty-free status. The tax framework does not, however, cover the base price of the item, which may be higher than a comparable good imported from outside the community.

"It is nothing that the customs officers do," he declared. "It is nothing that any of us in here do. This is an agreed framework within the context of CARICOM and, therefore, Customs, in exercising one of its critical roles, is to try to determine the origin of specific goods."



# Remittances to region projected to reach record high

**Jamaica Gleaner** - Remittance flows into Latin America and the Caribbean will likely reach a new high of US\$126 billion in 2021, registering a solid advance of 21.6 percent compared to 2020, according to estimates from the World Bank's Migration and Development Brief released on Thursday.

Growth was exceptionally strong due to economic recovery in the United States and additional factors, including migrants' responses to natural disasters in their countries of origin and remittances sent from home countries to migrants in transit.

Mexico, the region's largest remittance recipient, received 42 percent (\$52.7 billion) of the regional total.

The value of remittances as a share of GDP exceeds 20 percent for several smaller economies: El Salvador (26.2 percent); Honduras (26.6 percent); Jamaica (23.6 percent); and Guatemala (18 percent).

The World Bank said the adverse effects of COVID-19 and Hurricanes Grace and Ida contributed to higher remittance flows to Mexico and Central America.

"Other main drivers include recovery in employment levels, and fiscal and social assistance programmes in hosting countries, particularly the United States," it added.

In 2022, remittances are expected to grow at 4.4 per cent, mainly due to a weaker growth outlook for the United States.

Overall, the World Bank said remittances to low-and-middle-income countries are projected to have grown a strong 7.3 percent to reach \$589 billion in 2021.

This return to growth is more robust than earlier estimates and follows the resilience of flows in 2020 when remittances declined by only 1.7 percent despite a severe global recession due to COVID-19, it noted.

"The immediate impact of the crisis on remittance flows was very deep. The surprising pace of recovery is welcome news. To keep remittances flowing,

especially through digital channels, providing access to bank accounts for migrants and remittance service providers remains a key requirement. Policy responses also must continue to be inclusive of migrants, especially in the areas of access to vaccines and protection from underpayment," said Dilip Ratha, lead author of the brief and head of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development.

For a second consecutive year, remittance flows to low-and-middle-income countries (excluding China) are expected to surpass the sum of foreign direct investment (FDI) and overseas development assistance (ODA).

The World Bank said this underscores the impor-

tance of remittances in providing a critical lifeline by supporting household spending on essential items (such as food, health and education) during periods of economic hardship in migrants' countries of origin.

"Remittance flows from migrants have greatly complemented government cash transfer programmes to support families suffering economic hardships during the COVID-19 crisis. Facilitating the flow of remittances to provide relief to strained household budgets should be a key component of government policies to support a global recovery from the pandemic," said Michal Rutkowski, World Bank Global Director for Social Protection and Jobs.

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# St. Kitts & Nevis Opens Embassy in Abu Dhabi



**St. Kitts Observer** – St. Kitts-Nevis has opened an embassy in Abu Dhabi, with Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris saying it will help strengthen the relationship between the Caribbean country and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). A government statement said Harris, who is attending the EXPO 2020 in Dubai, signed the agreement with the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Interna-

tional Cooperation of the UAE, Khalifa Shaheen Almarar. “The opening of the Federation’s Embassy in Abu Dhabi, which was previously delayed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, will help in the strengthening of the relationship between the Governments and peoples of St. Kitts and Nevis and the UAE,” according to the statement.

Earlier, Prime Minister Harris said the Federation’s participation

in EXPO 2020 provides visitors more than just a glimpse of the cultural and heritage aspects of the country. “EXPO 2020 gave voice to our abilities and ambitions and allowed us to exchange ideas and to create opportunities to become more connected partners. This is consistent with the theme of ‘Connecting Minds, Creating the Future,’” Prime Minister Harris said.

“St. Kitts and Nevis

is working towards becoming a sustainable and eco-friendly tourism destination, hence our strategic focus during EXPO 2020 on sustainability. We are a small nation with big ambitions.

“We are resolved to reducing our dependency on fossil fuels by re-orienting our policies, our investments and legislative agenda to accommodate wind, solar and geothermal energy,” he added.



# No Pay for St. Lucia's Opposition Leader Allen Chastanet



*Saint Lucia's Leader of the Opposition, Allen Chastanet.*

**St. Lucia News Online** - Saint Lucia's Leader of the Opposition, Allen Chastanet, was on Tuesday stripped of emoluments for the over 100 days he did not attend the three sessions of the national parliament since the July 26 General Elections.

Chastanet, the island's immediate past-Prime Minister, took the oath of office as the elected MP for Micoud South at Wednesday's fourth sitting of the House of Assembly since the Saint Lucia Labour Party (SLP) won the last general elections with a handsome 13-4 majority, which metamorphosed into a 15-2 parliamentary majority, with the two independents siding with the SLP government.

But no sooner was he sworn-in, Speaker Claudius Francis inter-

vened with a lengthy presentation about the former prime minister's lengthy absence, the reasons and explanations, and the way they were communicated.

Speaker Francis also quoted Erskine & May, the authoritative parliamentary publication, and drew on precedents from Trinidad & Tobago to make the case that in the absence of certain provisions, the Speaker has the authority to determine the withholding of emoluments of Members of Parliament in certain circumstances.

Arguing that British parliamentary practice can also be employed, the Speaker went on to make an overall case for the State not remunerating the former PM for the period he was absent from the parliament and not taking up office.

After presenting his case, the Speaker concluded that Mr. Chastanet should not be paid as Opposition Leader for the entire period of his absence.

He also ruled that while the Opposition Leader's "personal emoluments" will be affected, his Constituency allowance on which employees and rental of his Constituency office, will be paid.

Speaker Francis also indicated he had met with the Micoud South MP on the issue and the Member has until November 30 to respond.

In the meantime, Mr. Chastanet goes without parliamentary pay for the over-100 Days he spent abroad after being elected by the Micoud South constituency to serve in the 17-member House of Assembly.

# Germany to place tighter curbs on unvaccinated



*Chancellor Angela Merkel announced the measures following a meeting with state leaders.*

**BBC** - Germany is set to introduce tighter curbs on people who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 as cases in the country hit a record high.

Restrictions for unvaccinated people will be introduced in areas where hospital admissions exceed a set threshold, Chancellor Angela Merkel and leaders of Germany's 16 states agreed. Under the rules, the unvaccinated will be excluded from certain venues. Mrs. Merkel described the situation with COVID in the country as "dramatic". "We need to quickly put a brake on the exponential rise" in cases and intensive care unit occupancy, she said.

The number of daily cases in Germany rose sharply on Thursday to more than 65,000 - by far the highest figure since the pandemic began.

The new rules, agreed in a crisis meeting, mean that in areas with a hospitalisation rate of more than three COVID patients per 100,000 people over the past seven days, only the vaccinated and those who have recovered from

the virus will be allowed to access public spaces like sporting events, cultural shows and restaurants.

The majority of the country's states currently exceed this threshold. Areas with a hospitalisation rate of more than six will have to introduce a "2G plus" rule, requiring people to be tested as well as vaccinated, and regions with a rate of more than nine will have to introduce further measures like restrictions on contact.

Mrs. Merkel and the other leaders also agreed on Thursday that healthcare and care home employees must be vaccinated to control the spread of the virus.

Their announcement came after Germany's lower house of parliament voted in favour of a new set of COVID measures, including limiting access to public transport and the workplace to only people who have been vaccinated or tested.

These measures still need to be agreed by parliament's upper house on Friday, and some conservative politicians have threatened to block the bill.

The states of Saxony and Bavaria have already imposed so-called 2G rules, placing restrictions on unvaccinated people in response to a surge in cases. Germany is not the first European country to introduce restrictions on people who have not been vaccinated against COVID.

Both the Czech Republic and Slovakia on Thursday announced tighter restrictions for unvaccinated people in a bid to encourage vaccine uptake. Under the rules approved by the Czech government, only those who are vaccinated or have recovered from COVID in the past six months will be allowed to enter restaurants, attend certain events and use various other services from Monday. Slovakia's Prime Minister Eduard Heger described new measures there as a "lockdown for the unvaccinated". Austria earlier this week placed about two million people who have not been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 into lockdown. It means they are only allowed to leave home for limited reasons like working or buying food.

"We are not taking this step lightly, but unfortunately it is necessary," Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg said.

Two provinces in Austria - Upper Austria and Salzburg - will go into full lockdown from Monday, media reports say.

Overall, Europe has again become the area most seriously affected by the pandemic.

The World Health Organization warned on Thursday that there will be a "hard winter ahead" for the region.



# UK inflation at 10-year high sets stage for interest rate rise within weeks

CNN - Britain looks set to become the first major economy to hike interest rates since the COVID-19 pandemic began, after inflation data showed prices rising at the fastest rate in a decade.

Driven by higher energy and transport costs, the UK Consumer Prices Index rose by 4.2% in the year to October, according to official data released Wednesday.

That's the biggest jump in the index since November 2011.

A rapid recovery in demand following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, shortages of goods and workers, and soaring energy costs, are pushing up prices around the world.

The United Kingdom is also feeling the fallout from Brexit, which adds to the cost of doing business with the European Union, its biggest trading partner.

But the October inflation data was even higher than analysts were expecting. The pound edged up against the US dollar and hit its highest level against the euro since February 2020 as investors bet on an increase in UK interest rates.

"The upside surprise in the October inflation data supports our expectation that the Bank of England will hike the

bank rate by 15 basis points to 0.25% at its next monetary policy committee meeting on 16 December," wrote Kallum Pickering, senior economist at Berenberg, in a research note.

Higher official interest rates can raise the cost of borrowing for businesses and households, as well as encouraging people to save more, thereby taking some of the heat out of inflation.

The Bank of England slashed interest rates to a record low of 0.1% in March 2020 as part of a package of emergency measures to shore up the economy after activity collapsed because of the pandemic.

Investors had been expecting the central bank to begin to raise rates when it met earlier this month. Instead it opted to stay the course as it waited for more data on the job market, concerned that unemployment could rise as UK government support for employers lapsed.

Some of those concerns about jobs are likely to have been assuaged by news on Tuesday that UK unemployment fell to 4.3% in September, even as the country's furlough program ended.

"When coupled with yesterday's decent labor market release, the bigger-than-expected



Gasoline prices at filling stations in the United Kingdom hit an all-time high in late October.

leap in CPI inflation in October makes an interest rate hike in December even more likely," said Paul Dales, chief UK economist at Capital Economics.

Inflation is now running at twice the Bank of England's 2% target level, while economic growth is slowing, raising the specter of a period of "stagflation".

The central bank's own chief economist has

already warned that inflation could surge above 5% in early 2022.

Transport costs played a big part in the latest inflation spike. The UK Office for National Statistics said Wednesday that average gasoline prices — which hit a record high late last month — jumped by 22% in the year to October to 138.6 pence per liter (about \$8.50 per gallon).

**Free COVID-19 rapid antigen testing for school children with exemption from the COVID-19 Vaccine.**

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Ministry of Health, Wellness and The Environment

# New HIV drug given every two months hailed as 'incredible news'

The UK National Health Service (NHS) has been given the green light to offer people living with HIV the first "long-acting injectable" to keep the virus at bay.

Charities have hailed the "incredible news" which offers an alternative to adults living with HIV who have to take daily antiretroviral drugs.

Many people living with HIV can keep the virus at very low levels by taking antiretroviral tablets each day.

These drugs keep the number of virus particles in the blood – also known as the viral load – so low that it cannot be detected or transmitted between people.

But now an estimated 13,000 people will be eligible for the injectable treatment in England which means they no longer need daily treatment but will have two injections every two months.

This means they can reduce the days they receive treatment from 365 to six per year.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence said that cabotegravir (also called vocabria and made by Viiv Healthcare) with rilpivirine (also called Rekambys and made by Janssen) can be offered to adults who have managed to keep HIV viral load to a low level through daily antiretroviral medicines.

Clinical trial results show that cabotegravir with rilpivirine is as effective as oral antiretrovirals at maintaining a low viral load, Nice said.

Meindert Boysen, deputy chief



executive Nice, said: "Despite scientific advances HIV is still incurable, but the virus can be controlled by modern treatment.

"However, for some people, having to take daily multi-tablet regimens can be difficult because of drug-related side effects, toxicity, and other psychosocial issues such as stigma or changes in lifestyle.

"We're pleased therefore to be able to recommend cabotegravir with rilpivirine as a valuable treatment option for people who already have good levels of adherence to daily tablets, but who might prefer an injectable regimen with less frequent dosing."

Debbie Laycock, head of policy at Terrence Higgins Trust, said: "It's incredible news for people living with HIV in England and Wales that they will be able to access the

first long-acting injectable treatment on the NHS as an additional treatment option.

"HIV is now a manageable virus. However, it is lifelong so it is important that taking treatment is as easy as possible.

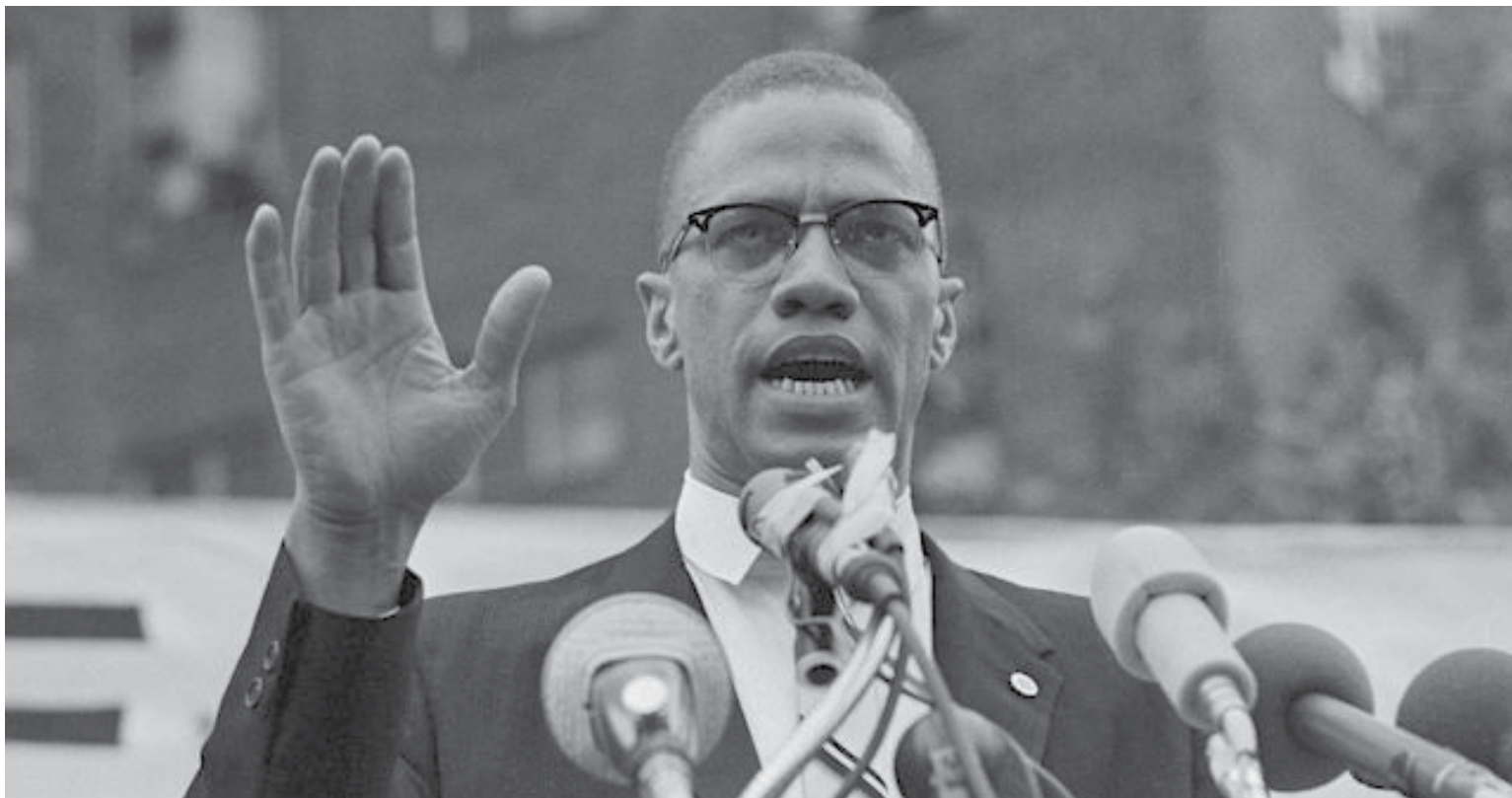
"This new injectable treatment option could help people in house-shares for example who do not wish to share their HIV status and will no longer have to worry about hiding their medication.

"Pill fatigue is also an issue for some people living with HIV who struggle with the idea of taking antiretroviral drugs every day.

"Long-acting injectable treatment is also a better option for those who have difficulty swallowing medication. This is a great step forward as we work towards ending new cases of HIV by 2030."



# US judge vacates convictions of two men for murder of Malcolm X



Two men who spent decades in prison in the United States for the 1965 murder of Black civil rights leader Malcolm X have been exonerated, acknowledging a gross miscarriage of justice in one of the most high-profile murders in American history.

In her ruling on Thursday, New York State Supreme Court Justice Elen Biben acknowledged that Muhammad Aziz, 83, and Khalil Islam, who died in 2009, were wrongfully convicted.

Biben dismissed their convictions after New York prosecutors and the men's lawyers said a renewed investigation uncovered evidence that the two men were not involved in the killing.

"I regret that this court cannot fully undo the serious miscarriages of justice in this case and give you back the many years that were lost," the judge told Aziz and the family of Islam who were present in the court.

"I'm an 82-year-old man who was victimised by the criminal justice system," Aziz told the judge.

"I do not know how many more years of creative activity I have," he said, citing "immeasurable harm caused to me during the last 55 or 56 years".

One of the US civil rights era's most controversial and compelling figures, Malcolm X rose to fame as the Nation of Islam's chief spokes-

person, proclaiming the Black Muslim organisation's message at the time: racial separatism as a road to self-actualisation. He famously urged Black people to claim civil rights "by any means necessary".

"We have obtained dozens and dozens of reports from the FBI and the NYPD's Bureau of Special Services and Investigations," said Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance.

"These records include FBI reports of witnesses who failed to identify Mr. Islam and implicated other suspects," Vance said.

The investigation revealed that then-FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had ordered multiple

witnesses in the case not to tell police or prosecutors that they were FBI informants, Vance said.

Many of the uncovered documents indicated Aziz and Islam were innocent – but were not disclosed to their defence lawyers at the time. "Without these files it is clear these men did not receive a fair trial and in our purview their convictions must be vacated," Vance said.

Near the end of Malcolm X's life, he split with the Nation of Islam and, after a trip to Mecca, started speaking about the potential for racial unity. It earned him the ire of some in the Nation of Islam who saw him as a traitor.

# **VACANCIES Registered at OSEC**

## **(Effective November 18, 2021)**

### **ASSISTANT BAR MANAGER**

Minimum 2 years' experience in a similar position within a hotel environment

Tertiary qualification in Hotel or Bar Management or its equivalent from a recognized university

Must be HACCP Certified | Must have current food & beverage handling licenses/permits

Complete working knowledge of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages

Must have a passion for teamwork and very strong leadership skills

### **ASSISTANT FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER**

Minimum 4 years' experience as a Food & Beverage Manager at a five star hotel

Diploma/Degree in Hotel Management required | Second language would be an asset

Must have a genuine passion for food and able to work within a busy environment & thrive under pressure | Must be a team-player | Must be service-oriented

Effective communication skills | Leadership/People Management skills

### **AUTO MECHANICS INSTRUCTOR**

Minimum 3-5 years' experience working in the Auto Mechanic industry

5 CXC Passes (including English & Mathematics) or Tertiary Level Completion

Knowledge of career and technology skills and competencies in Auto Mechanics

Experience in teaching in a classroom setting with diverse students is a plus

### **AUDIOVISUAL TECH/ IT SUPPORT**

Associate degree in instructional media and technology or related field in addition to a minimum of two years' professional audio-visual experience | InfoComm CTS certification highly desirable

Advanced knowledge of circuitry, electricity, electronics, and the ability to read and follow schemata and technical manuals | Experienced with video recording, editing and production

Strong working knowledge of AV switching control systems (e.g. Extron, Crestron)

Superior interpersonal skills with demonstrated ability to work well with people.

Excellent communication skills | Must be available to work evening and weekend hours

Must be able to lift and carry 50 pounds on a regular basis



## **BABYSITTER/NANNY**

Minimum 1 year experience in a similar role | Must be **FULLY VACCINATED**

Early Childhood Certification required | Must have experience working with babies

High School Diploma | Must have a valid Driver's license

## **BAKER/PASTRY MAKER**

Minimum 4 years' experience in a similar role | High School Completion

Artistic and creative in decorating cakes and other confections including chocolate and sugar art decorations | Excellent knowledge in the use of patisserie and their various possible combinations

## **BARBER**

Minimum 2 years' experience

## **BEACH & SPORTS SUPERVISOR**

Minimum 1 year experience in a supervisory role and two years' experience in similar Beach & Sports role | Minimum High School Diploma or equivalent | Must be able to lift at least 40 pounds

Must be able to Windsurf, Sail (e.g. Sunfish, Hobby Cat), Kayak, Water-ski, Snorkel and provide instruction/lesson in the same | First Aid, Boat Masters & Valid Driver's License required

Must be able to speak, read and write English | Fluency in other languages preferred

## **CHEF**

Minimum 2-3 years' experience in a similar role | **MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED**

## **CLUB SANDALS SUPERVISOR**

Minimum two (2) years' supervisory experience | Associates Degree/Diploma in Hotel/Business Management | Certification from a recognized vocational/technical institution in relevant field

## **COOK (RESTAURANT)**

Minimum 1 year experience | Must be trustworthy & reliable

## **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

## **DENTAL ASSISTANT/HYGIENIST**

5+ years' experience as a Dental Assistant/Hygienist | Good Understanding of Dental/Medical software

Ability to assist in making clinical diagnosis | Perseverance, Motivation, Confidence

Flexibility, Communication, Teamwork | Problem Solving, Leadership, Organization

General computer skills including Microsoft Suite & Google Docs

## **DOMESTIC CLEANER**

Minimum 2 years' experience as a Domestic Cleaner

## **FARM HELPER**

Minimum 1 year experience working on a Farm

## **FINANCE ASSISTANT**

Minimum 1-2 years in a similar role | Minimum Associate's Degree in Accounting

Experience in accounts payable, accounts receivable, bank reconciliations

Positive attitude and willingness to grow and learn | Organized and can work with tight deadlines

Ability to be extremely flexible, efficient and punctual | Analytical & critical thinker

Strong verbal and written skills | Must be able to work independently as well as part of a team

Proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Excel is a must)

## **FINANCIAL RISK OPERATIONS ANALYST**

Minimum 2 years' experience | Flexible schedule is a must

High School & College Completion necessary | Excellent management of customer service skills

Knowledge of financial-management principles, policies, and procedures is an asset

Must be self-motivated, innovative, with strong interpersonal skills, and possess the ability to work effectively with limited supervision

Ability to work autonomously or in a team environment | Strong proven verbal and written skills

Exceptional attention to detail to ensure high level of accuracy on all activities

Technologically self-sufficient on MS Office applications, specifically Excel, with the ability to learn new software, as required

Customer Service, Analytical, computer skills, attention to details, strong interpersonal skills



## **FINANCIAL RISK OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR**

Minimum 3 years' experience in financial and risk data analysis

High School & College Completion necessary

3+ years' people, process, and operational management experience

Familiar with online financial risk, trends, analysis, and third-party verification and management solutions | Understanding of current internet technologies, regulation trends, policies and legal rulings | Strong written and verbal communication skills

Understanding of governance and compliance activities, processes, and standards

Proven track record in communicating and influencing senior leadership

Draws on experience and knowledge to assess and analyze facts and available information to come to quick and appropriate decisions | Advanced MS Office working knowledge

## **FOOD & DRINKS MANAGER**

Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar role

Must be certified in Food & Beverage | Must be able to multi-task

## **FOOD & SERVER ATTENDANT**

Minimum 3-5 years' experience | High level of Professionalism & Confidentiality required

Must have a friendly personality with excellent customer service skills

## **FRONT OF HOUSE ASSISTANT (SERVER/BARTENDER)**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience in a similar role | **MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED**

## **GYM TRAINERS (PART-TIME)**

Minimum 2 years' experience as a Personal Trainer

## **HAIRDRESSER**

Minimum 2 years' experience

## **HANDYMAN**

Minimum 2 years' experience in the construction field | Secondary School Completion

Knowledge of different areas in the construction field | Must be able to work independently

## **HEAD CHEF (RESTAURANT)**

Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar role

### **KITCHEN ASSISTANT (FAST FOOD RESTAURANT)**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience in a similar role | **MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED**

### **LABOURER**

Minimum 3 years' experience in a similar role | Secondary School

Completion | Must be physically fit

### **LABOURER/GROUNDS ATTENDANT**

Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar role

Must have knowledge propagating and maintaining plants

Must be a team player & must have a Driver's license | **MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED**

### **LABOURER TO THE CARPENTER**

Minimum 7-10 years' experience in working with a Carpenter

Knowledge in the field of Woodwork required | Must be physically fit & have personal transportation

Must be honest, skilled and fluent in the English Language

### **LINE CHEF (FINE DINING RESTAURANT)**

Minimum 3 years' experience in a similar role | Food Handlers Certificate required

Certificate from a Reputable Culinary School OR 5 years in Reputable restaurant

Must be punctual, motivated, passionate & disciplined | Able to work unsupervised

### **MANICURIST**

Commission-based

3+ years proven work experience in manicures, pedicures, Gel application and nail art

Excellent customer service and communication skills

### **MARINE TECHNICIAN**

Minimum 12 years' experience | Boatmaster 1 Qualification required

High school Diploma | Strong communications skills required;

Must be able to drive and operate Boats | At least a little navigational knowledge

Practice experience with tools and equipment used in marine maintenance

Ability to read and understand technical manuals | Good verbal and written communication skills



## **MARKETING MANAGER (HOTEL)**

Minimum 5 year experience in a similar role | Minimum High School Diploma or equivalent

Must be able to perform job functions with attention to detail, speed and accuracy; Must be creative and a clear-thinker | Must reflect a positive attitude at all times

Relevant Qualifications required | Must have a valid Driver's License

Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite & Adobe Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere, After Effects etc.) | Web design preferable

## **MASONRY INSTRUCTOR**

Minimum 3-5 years Mason experience | Experience teaching in classroom

setting with diverse students a plus | Technical Diploma and/or Certification in Construction trade

5 CXC Passes (including English & Mathematics) or Tertiary Level Completion

## **MECHATRONIC TECHNICIAN**

Experience in Blow Molding and Distillery applications | Hi and low-pressure compressor process

Ability to troubleshoot electromechanical system | Boiler overhauls and maintenance

Knowledge of Fiber Optic communications & VFD programming | Process Operations

Plc experience | Experience dealing with Pumps and motors repairs

## **MULTILINGUAL BARTENDER**

Minimum 3 years' experience | Fluency in English & Additional Language required

## **MULTILINGUAL CLERK**

Minimum 3 years' experience | Fluency in English & Additional Language required

## **NIGHT DUTY MANAGER**

Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality Management, Business Management or any related field

Experience in a Night Manager role within the hospitality industry

Good communication and written Skills | Excellent leadership skills & Customer service skills

Ability to work independently as well as part of a team

Proven experience with front office management systems

## **ONCOLOGY NURSE**

Degree in Nursing required | Oncology Nursing Certification preferred

Experience in Oncology Nursing & Chemotherapy IV Infusion

Must be knowledgeable and competent in care and access of central lines and in-dwelling catheter

Ability to work independently and as a member of a multidisciplinary team

Well-developed communication and interpersonal skills

## **OPERATIONAL CONTROL ANALYST (FINANCE)**

Minimum 2 years' experience in a similar role

Phenomenal verbal/written communication skills and grammar required

Excellent computer skills (Windows, Excel, Outlook, etc.)

Ability to learn new tasks, procedures and software quickly

Strong analytical abilities and effective follow-through | Exceptional attention to detail

Excellent ability to prioritize and complete a high volume of tasks quickly and professionally with minimal guidance | Ability to meet deadlines, maintaining a sense of urgency

Exceptional organization and multi-tasking skills | Ability to work extended and flexible hours if required | High degree of initiative and commitment along with a strong work ethic

## **PLUMBING INSTRUCTOR**

Minimum 3-5 years' experience working in the Plumbing industry

5 CXC Passes (including English & Mathematics) or Tertiary Level Completion

Technical Diploma and/or Certification in Construction trade

## **PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER**

Minimum 2 years' experience | High School Completion | **MUST** be Early Childhood Certified

## **ROOM ATTENDANT (PART-TIME)**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience | High School Completion | **MUST** be fully vaccinated

## **ROOM ATTENDANT (HOTEL)**

Minimum 3-5 years' experience

Must have a friendly personality with excellent customer service skills

High level of Professionalism & Confidentiality required



### **SECURITY OFFICER**

Minimum 1-2 years' experience | Must be able to lift at least 60 lbs. | **MUST** be fully vaccinated

### **SKILLED CARPENTER**

Minimum 10 years' experience as a Carpenter | Secondary/Vocational School Completion

### **SPA THERAPIST**

Minimum 3 years proven work experience as a Spa Therapist

Must be certified as a Massage Therapist

Hands on experience in massage techniques, manicures, pedicures, waxing and face/body therapies

Excellent customer service skills | Positive attitude

Computer literate with Microsoft Office experience | Great oral and written communication skills

### **WAREHOUSE MANAGER**

A degree in Management, Inventory and/or Supply-chain management or related discipline

3+ years' experience in warehousing/fleet management | Good organizational skills

Computer literate | Knowledgeable of inventory and supply management policies and procedures

Knowledgeable of dynamics inventory system | Good oral & written communication skills

**DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS is Friday 26th November, 2021**

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## Weekend Vaccination Saturday 20th November



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Be Seen.**



# Mike Tyson reportedly had sex before fighting for fear of killing opponents due to excess energy!

MIKE TYSON was so scared of killing opponents he would need to have sex with groupies moments before fights to take 'the edge' off his rage.

Tyson was fuelled with so much pumping emotional energy that he would also cry before heading into the ring to eviscerate opponents.

That is the insight from one of his closest friends, recalling Tyson's mindset and talent on the 35th anniversary of becoming the youngest heavyweight champion in history.

Tyson's confidante, ex bodyguard and chauffeur Rudy Gonzalez revealed that his 'dark side' along with the New Yorker's raw talent and elite training from boxing legend Cus D'Amato made him unstoppable in the mid-80s.

Gonzalez watched the then 20-year-old channel rage, grief and an inner psychological torment to destroy Trevor Berbick in round two, to make history in the title fight on November 22, 1986.

Gonzalez said: "One of the greatest secrets with Mike was that he needed to have sex in the dressing room before fights.

"I would have to find a groupie, it did not matter who it was. He'd say, 'If I do not get laid I will kill this guy right now.'

"Mike had to get laid to disengage some of the strength he had. So I had girls tucked away in bathrooms and changing rooms.

"Sometimes he'd go in with them for a minute, bang the s\*\*\* out of them, snap his neck and say: 'Okay this guy is going to live tonight.'

"His biggest fear was that he would kill someone in that ring. He knew he could do it.

"I still see some of the guys he



*Tyson (left) was feared by all who came across him in the boxing ring.*

fought. I was there at ringside seeing these huge men crying, bones shattering or their blood flying everywhere.

"It is no exaggeration to say Mike was like a train hitting these guys. Having sex was his way of disengaging that power and loosening up a bit."

Gonzalez, whose book about his Tyson experiences - *The Inner Ring* - is being developed into an animated movie, added: "Someone once asked me why does Mike need four armed bodyguards, and I said 'We are not here to protect him. We are here to protect you from him.'"

Legendary trainer Cus D'Amato, who became Tyson's legal guardian after Tyson had served time in juvenile prison, guided the teen criminal from a street fighting hoodlum into a polished power-punching boxing phenom.

However a year before the history making Berbick showdown, D'Amato passed away.

Gonzalez said: "Mike used to break down in tears before fights. He had an anxiety problem where he would be in despair with anxiety of not feeling good enough or not wanting to screw it up.

"He never recovered the loss of

Cus, because he found someone special who had faith in him and saved him from the depths of hell.

"He used everyone one of those emotions for as long as he could - and that is why he walked into the ring with all that and beat the s\*\*\* out of Berbick."

After D'Amato died, Tyson often returned to his deceased mentor's old home, even though he'd moved out.

"We'd go back to the house where Mike would sit in Cus' chair and transform into him. He liked to sleep in the attic of that home. He held on that love for as long as he could," Gonzalez said.

"Years after Cus died, he asked me to drive to the house and parked in the driveway. He would stay in the back and cry for hours."

Gonzalez has made headlines in the past with a book about his time with Tyson as he witnessed his fall from reigning champion to a convicted rapist.

He watched Tyson break down learning that his entire fortune was lost after signing over much to companies he never owned - given that he could not read properly.

He claimed that he witnessed 'deceit, betrayal, and fraud perpetrated' upon Tyson.

# Mickey Arthur, Grant Flower in isolation after SL fielding coach McDermott tests Covid-19 positive before WI Tests

Sri Lanka fielding coach Shane McDermott has tested positive for Covid-19 days out from the start of the first Test between Sri Lanka and the West Indies in Galle starting November 21. He is now self-isolating, away from the team hotel.

McDermott's was the only positive result from a round of testing that saw all players and staff tested, however he is understood to have been in close contact with head coach Mickey Arthur, batting coach Grant Flower and physio Brett Harrop - all of whom are self-isolating as well.

While the coaching staff had been training with the national team in Galle in recent days, according to the head of Sri Lanka Cricket's Medical Committee Prof. Arjuna De Silva, none of the players are being considered as close contacts.

"There has been no direct contacts when it comes to the players,"

De Silva confirmed. "Anti-body tests will be done on the close contacts tomorrow, while another round of testing will be conducted prior to the start of the first Test."

All of Sri Lanka's players and coaching staff are double vaccinated, and as such there is little chance of the start of the first Test being impacted, he added. This is not Sri Lanka's first run-in with Covid-19. Ahead of their tour of the West Indies at the start of the year, Arthur and three players tested positive, while a video analyst and Flower tested positive ahead of a home series against India in July.

The latest case comes amid a gradual reopening of the country in recent weeks following a largely successful vaccination drive that, according to government estimates, has seen over 90% of those over 20 years of age double vaccinated.

It also follows the end of a near six-week long lockdown implemented at the



***Sri Lanka coach Mickey Arthur is also self-isolating after being deemed a close contact of McDermott.***

height of Sri Lanka's third wave midway through August. Nearly 5,000 daily infections were being reported at the time, however by the time the lockdown was lifted on October 1 that number had dropped to around 1,000, before dropping to as low

as 500 by mid-October.

Recent weeks however have seen case numbers slowly creep up, with the adherence to health guidelines growing increasingly lax among the public - particularly in the densely populated Western Province.



# Lionel Messi and Argentina unaware they had qualified for Qatar World Cup after Brazil draw



*Lionel Messi had no idea his nation were heading to the World Cup*

Lionel Messi and Argentina had no idea they'd qualified for the World Cup next winter after their draw with Brazil.

The two South American nations played out a goalless draw that was enough for the Copa America champions to qualify.

However many of their players didn't know the point was enough to seal qualification.

Argentina knew certain results needed to go their way, but fortune was on their side.

Uruguay had lost 3-0 against Bolivia in La Paz; Colombia and Paraguay drew and – crucially – Ecuador beat Chile.

Argentina look likely to qualify as South America's runners-up, with

Brazil leading the way, although that could still change.

Messi, who remained unsure of the state of affairs, said after the draw: "I arrived with just enough, mostly because of the rhythm, and this was a very intense match. I'm fine, otherwise I wouldn't have played.

"I have been standing for a long time and it is not easy to play with the rhythm that this game demanded.

"I couldn't get much into the game. I knew it was going to be locked with a lot of friction."

He then added: "The important thing is that we continue well, that we did not lose, and we continue to grow. Hopefully, next day we can qualify definitively, but we are close."

Argentina boss Lionel Scaloni also had to check with a staff member that his side had qualified for next winter's event.

He has led his nation to their first cup success for decades, but was keen to keep a lid on things.

"I don't like to make things bigger, you know how I am, but it's to be really proud of this team," he said.

"Having achieved the classification so far from the end, in a very tough tie and seeing how the matches are going, is to be proud and thank the players.

"With winning the Cup, qualifying for the World Cup and we remain undefeated, the year is magnificent, dreamed of."

*Giannis Antetokounmpo was the MVP in the 2021 NBA*



## NBA: GIANNIS ANTETOKOUNMPO STARS AS THE BUCKS BEAT THE LAKERS

Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 47 points as reigning NBA champions Milwaukee Bucks claimed a 109-102 win over the Los Angeles Lakers. The Greece-born star scored 28 first-half points on his way to recording his best scoring figures this term.

Khris Middleton also moved level with Ray Allen on top of the Bucks' all-time three-pointers list as they won for

the first time at home since 19 October. LeBron James was again absent for the Lakers with an abdominal strain.

The four-time NBA champion is hoping to return to action when the Lakers face the Boston Celtics on Friday.

Talen Horton-Tucker replied with 25 points for the visitors, with Russell Westbrook also contributing 19 points. But it was not enough to

prevent the Lakers from slipping to back-to-back defeats for the third time this season.

Elsewhere, Devin Booker hit 24 points as the Phoenix Suns beat the Dallas Mavericks 105-98 to claim their 10th consecutive win.

The Charlotte Hornets stopped the Washington Wizards from continuing their five-game winning streak with a 97-87 victory.

James Harden recorded 27 points as the Brooklyn Nets registered a 109-99 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers to sit second in the Eastern Conference.

Terrence Ross notched 19 points as the Orlando Magic secured their second win at Madison Square Garden this season, by beating the New York Knicks 104-98.

**DEWS**