



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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CLARE HALL MAN BECOMES 2022'S FIRST HOMICIDE VICTIM

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POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

PO

First homicide of 2022 recorded

Allan Dowdie of Clare Hall has become the country's first homicide victim this year.

In a bizarre and seemingly unprovoked turn of events, Dowdie was standing under a shed outside the Clare Hall Secondary School when a male assailant approached and allegedly shot him.

Dowdie was in the habit of sitting under that vendors' shed each afternoon.

The incident was particularly traumatic as students of the school were standing nearby when the incident occurred and were drenched in the victim's blood in the aftermath of the shooting.

According to the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, the incident occurred shortly after 4pm on Thursday. Dowdie was pronounced dead at the scene by a medical doctor at 5:53pm..

Shortly after the incident, grizzly photos of the deceased man began circulating on social media.

There was outcry by

members of the family over the callousness of the recordings, which were taken moments after the shooting, as they had not yet been informed.

The graphic images of Dowdie's body, captured by a self-proclaimed "independent journalist" were not blurred.

Police have since issued an appeal to anyone with information to come forward and confidentially disclose. Calls are being fielded by the Criminal Investigation Department at 462-3913 or Crime Stoppers at 800-TIPS (8477).



Allan Dowdie



Fri 11 | Day

81°

11%
 E 19 mph

Sunshine and clouds mixed. High 81F. Winds E at 15 to 25 mph.

Humidity
64%

UV Index
10 of 10

Sunrise
6:35 am

Sunset
6:07 pm

Fri 11 | Night

74°

20%
 ENE 16 mph

Clear to partly cloudy. Low 74F. Winds ENE at 10 to 20 mph.

Humidity
74%

UV Index
0 of 10

Moonrise
1:54 pm

Waxing Gibbous

Moonset
2:37 am

Fernandez slams Pringle for being disingenuous, lacking leadership

The Member of Parliament for St. John's Rural North began his presentation on the 2022 budget by chiding Opposition Leader Jamal Pringle on his two hour presentation.

Charles "Max" Fernandez wasted no time on Thursday denouncing Pringle for criticising the budget in its entirety, as well as the socioeconomic environment in Antigua and Barbuda, without offering a single meaningful solution.

"I listened to the member from All Saints East and St. Luke's lamenting how difficult it is for people in terms of jobs and so on, that is his view of it. And not once in that hundred and thirty so minutes, did he indicate one plan or idea towards creating one job. And yet it is so important to him.

"And he's had such great difficulty with [the budget] - he's implied that it's an election budget - you think he'd come with some plans, some ideas, on how [to improve] it.

"[He] talks about diversification, but what are the plans? Nothing!" Fernandez

scolded the first term politician.

Meanwhile, Tourism Minister Fernandez has reported that Antigua and Barbuda is one step closer to becoming a home port.

A home port is the point at which a cruise originates.

According to Minister Fernandez, the completion of the fifth berth in St John's has rekindled the interest of several cruise lines in using Antigua and Barbuda as a home port.

"A home porting incentive package has been developed by GPH (Global Ports Holding) and has been well received by the cruise lines to the point where five cruise lines have indicated strong interest in using Antigua as home port by 2023," reported Fernandez.

Home porting would result in significant economic benefits for the country as many passengers will need to fly into the country and stay over ahead of their cruise.

He noted that significant upgrades have been made to the country's human resources and infrastructure which



MP Charles "Max" Fernandez

will contribute to the continued growth of the local cruise tourism sector and the burgeoning plans for an expanded and evolved cruise sector.

On Tuesday, Antigua and Barbuda made history when it welcomed a record seven ships carrying more than 5100 passengers. Minister Fernandez indicated that this was a sign of better things to come for the country as

in February, the country is set to welcome to its shores more than 40,000 cruise passengers. Last Thursday during Prime Minister Gaston Browne's 2022 budget presentation, he declared that tourism was the leading contributor to Antigua and Barbuda being able to record 5.3 percent economic growth in 2021 in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

My bank keeps me **out front.**

Samantha Marshall: Agriculture is shining

Agriculture Minister Samantha Marshall has highlighted the strides made in the agricultural and fisheries sectors in the country.

In her contribution to the 2022 budget debate, she expressed gratitude to farmers and fishermen for their commitment, despite the challenges that were experienced at the height of the pandemic.

The Saint Mary's South MP credited them for "being resilient and producing to the best of their ability," adding due to their determination, agriculture and the fisheries sectors have recorded growth.

"Mr. speaker, the Gaston Browne administration, despite the pandemic, we ramped up our support to the agriculture sector, which made a contribution to our gross domestic product, seeing approximately a two percent growth in 2020, and in 2021 fisheries growing by two percent, making a contribution, fisheries alone of \$32 million to the GDP."



Agriculture Minister Samantha Marshall

Minister Marshall said despite the successes of the sectors, the main opposition party continues with its criticism of agriculture. She told the house their attacks aimed at the government are also attacks on the hard work of the employees within the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs.

The minister credited the minis-

try's partners for their support in developing the sector, more so during the pandemic, highlighting projects in Barbuda also to include beekeeping, drip irrigation, seedling distribution and providing other technical support for farmers on the sister isle. Focus is also placed on entrepreneurial development.

"The reality is that the department of environment has been offering grants and loans with a small interest rate for farmers specifically, or persons related to the agriculture sector. So, you might be into agro-processing, you can get a loan or you may suit the grant, which is about ten or 20 thousand, or even equity," the minister told parliament.

She acknowledged that more attention has to be placed on the fisheries department of her ministry to prevent vandalism at its facilities in Point and Parham.

"We have taken the position now

cont'd on pg 5

Police reveal new details in Thomas shooting

Following the shooting death of Shanell Thomas, police have revealed additional details.

According to police, on Wednesday night they received reports that the escaped prisoner was at the Stables Night Club.

On their arrival to the night spot in Cassada Gardens, police spotted Thomas, 34, and required that he cooperate and turn himself in.

Police say Thomas moved to retrieve an object

from his waist and, acting defensively, they drew their weapons and discharged them in his direction.

The police statement did not indicate what the object Thomas reached for was.

The convicted kidnapper and robber was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre where he succumbed to his injuries.

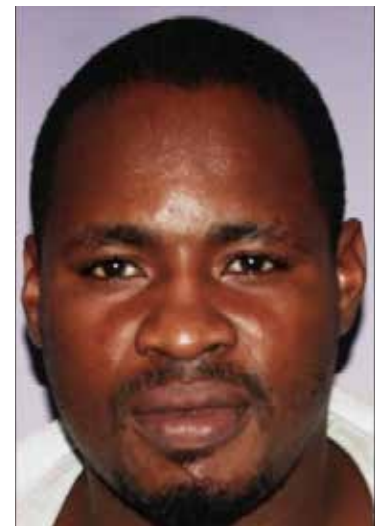
Thomas escaped the Prison Farm at Diamond's Estate on Tuesday. His

short lived time on the run ended in under thirty-six hours after an early morning shoot out on Wednesday with police.

He escaped capture in this first stand off with the Special Services Unit in New Winthropes after he shot at police and fled into nearby bushes on foot.

The second encounter which led to his death took place less than 20 hours later.

Thomas would have completed his sentence at



Shanell Thomas

Her Majesty's Prison in 2026.

Sir Ronald Sanders calls for comprehensive legal framework on liability for oil spills

Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS), Sir Ronald Sanders, has called for a more comprehensive international legal framework for dealing with liability for oil spills and ecological damage.

Ambassador Sanders' call was made at the Permanent Council of the Organization yesterday (February 9) during consideration of a Declaration, expressing the OAS's "distress at the serious environmental, economic, social and life and health consequences of the populations affected by oil spills in Peru since January 15, 2022".

Antigua and Barbuda co-sponsored the Declaration with Peru and several other member states of the OAS.

Recalling that the January oil spill was the second such incident in 9 years, originating from operations owned by the Spanish oil company, Repsol, Sanders said Antigua and Barbuda "welcomes an investigation of this incident and stands in solidarity with the Government of Peru in the expectation that whoever is found responsible for this oil spill will be held to account for reparation".

The Peruvian President Pedro Castillo had earlier declared at a rally that his government would "sanction the company that's been polluting our sea."

While Repsol, on this occasion, has engaged in cleaning up the spill of an estimated 11,000 barrels of oil, Sanders told the OAS "We are also troubled that



Sir Ronald Sanders

the Peruvian economy, especially its tourist industry, has been severely impacted since beaches have been damaged and are not usable", adding that "there, but for fortune, could be my small country or yours".

Sanders argued "All of this points to the need for more a comprehensive international legal framework for dealing with liability

for oil spills and ecological damage. It also calls for more definitive agreements between oil companies and individual states for dealing effectively with ecological disasters of this kind". He said the OAS should consider establishing machinery to provide legal and other assistance to small countries in negotiations with large oil companies.

The OAS Permanent Council unanimously adopted the declaration which appealed "to international and regional financial and development institutions to provide emergency humanitarian aid" to Peru.

cont'd from pg 4

that we are going to be investing significantly in ensuring that security is put in place."

Upgrading plants to meet international standards that will boost exports is also a priority for the fisheries minister.

Marshall took aim at the opposition for

being void of ideas, yet still she stated, they continue to disregard the efforts of the government that has made significant progress in all aspects of national development.

"They are all actors, they have no script, and they are in a serious effort to try and persuade our people here in Antigua and Barbuda that we are failures."

My bank keeps
me **out front.**

- ✓ Out front of my finances
- ✓ Out front of my bills
- ✓ Out front in business

Caribbean cannot ignore escalating tensions over Ukraine

By Sir Ronald Sanders

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

Global tension is rising concerning Ukraine, the second largest country in Europe after Russia which it borders. Ukraine was a part of the defunct Soviet union, declaring its independence in 1991 when the Union dissolved.

Should regions, as geographically distant from Ukraine as the Caribbean, care about the hostility that is escalating over it between Russia and the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Or-

ganisation (NATO) which includes the United States (US) and Canada?

The short answer must be yes. Every region in the world would be impacted by a conflict over Ukraine. The Caribbean would be affected by higher prices for oil and gas that would result from Russia cutting off oil supplies to Europe and the consequent competitive bidding in the markets from which Caribbean countries now purchase these commodities. This would have been bad news for Caribbean economies at any time but, coming in a period when these countries are still struggling to recover from the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, higher oil and gas prices would plunge many economies into further decline.

There would also be a knock-on effect on the cost of

imported goods and services, including food and the provision of vital utilities such as electricity and water.

Beyond the economic and financial impact on the region if oil and gas prices rise, small Caribbean countries which came to independence by exercising the right to self-determination and which treasure their sovereignty and territorial integrity, would have to be very concerned should Russia invade Ukraine to bring it back under Russian control.

Any diminution in the sanctity of these norms of international law would pose a threat to Caribbean Community (CARICOM) states, such as Belize and Guyana, which are faced with territorial claims.

The root of the problem in the Ukraine rests in two things: the belief by the

Russian government and especially President Vladimir Putin that Ukraine is, historically, part of Russia; and President Putin's further conviction that NATO countries wish to use Ukrainian territory as a staging post against Russia. Putin had repeatedly said that "we (Russia) are categorically against any further NATO expansion eastwards because it poses a threat to us". He adds, "It's not us who's advancing to NATO, it is NATO coming to us and its illogical to talk about Russia's aggressive behaviour".

In 1991, when Ukraine became independent from the dissolved Soviet Union, it declared itself 'neutral'. No doubt, it did so, because even then it was wary of Russian ambitions to control its neighbouring states. Ukrainian concern turned out to be justified when, in 2014, Russia encouraged forces in Crimea to declare it an independent Republic effectively annexing it to Russia.

The Crimea is physically a peninsula of Ukraine where Russia has, traditionally, stationed its Black Sea Fleet at the Port of Sevastopol. Russia's annexation of the area appears to have been a response to the Ukrainian government's attempt to join the European Union (EU) – a move that was seen as a further step to link Ukraine to European countries that are

cont'd on pg 7

BARBUDA EXPRESS

SUNDAY
AB 12:00
BA 3:45

MONDAY
AB 7:00
BA 10:00

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
AB 7:00
BA 3:45

SATURDAY
AB 7:00
BA 10:00

TYPHOON EXPRESS

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
(FROM CRABBS)

AB 10:30
BA 3:45

CONTACT US FOR RESERVATIONS +1 268 764-2291
THANK YOU!

UPDATED SCHEDULE

cont'd from pg 6

also part of NATO.

In recent years, Russian unease over Ukraine increased over the Ukrainian government's expressed desire to join NATO, and the latter's pledge in 2008 to allow it to do so, although no date was set and still does not exist.

Russia has now amassed over 100,000 troops near Ukraine and sent a detachment of warships into the Black Sea. All this has been interpreted by the Ukrainian government, NATO and the Western media as intent by Russia to invade.

Putin appears to have two objectives: the first is to stop Ukraine from joining NATO and the second is to limit the expansion of NATO to include any countries other than its present membership.

For their part, leading NATO nations, including the US have made it clear that they will not negotiate NATO's membership with Russia.

Thus, the standoff continues, and tensions heighten amid recent efforts from NATO leaders to engage Russia in a dialogue. An en-

counter between the Russian and British Foreign Ministers was summed-up by the Russian as "a mute talking to a deaf perso". And a visit to Moscow by French President Emmanuel Macron for talks with Putin showed no sign of a solution. Russian-US talks also proved unproductive.

The danger of the Caribbean region being thrust into this row became evident when Sergei Ryabakov, who led the Russian delegation in a meeting with US officials on January 12, said he would not confirm or exclude Russia sending "military assets" to Venezuela and Cuba. US National Security Adviser, Jake Sullivan, described the Russian statement as "bluster".

Bluster or not, the Caribbean cannot ignore events surrounding Ukraine – a country with which all CARICOM countries have diplomatic relations as they do with Russia and the NATO member states.

Considering contingency arrangements for oil and gas supplies – and their prices – is one thing that Caribbean governments should be collectively considering. They

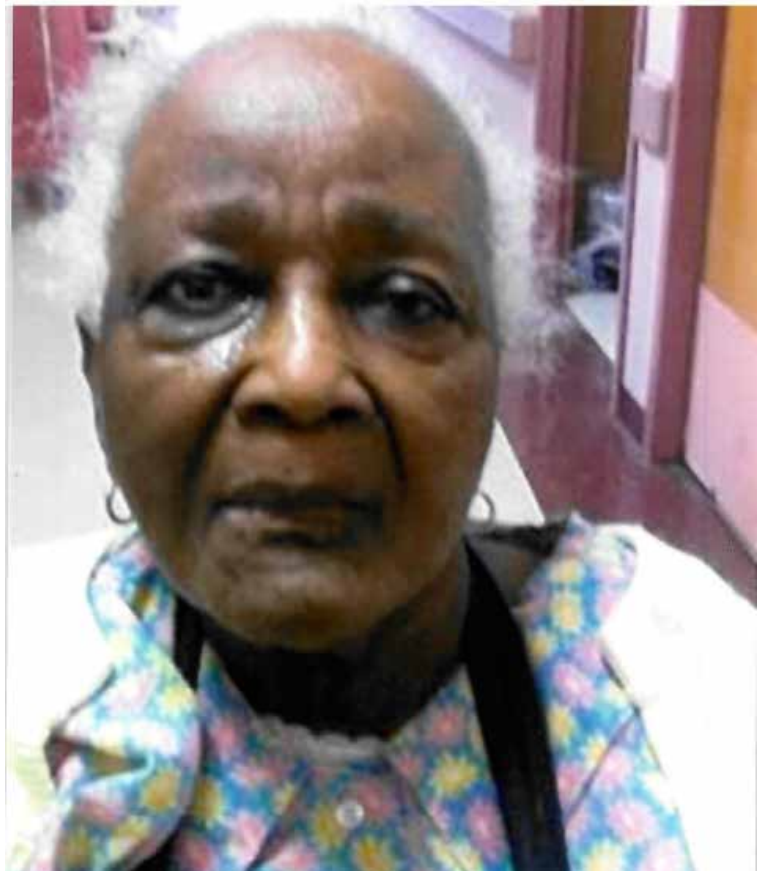
should also be jointly indicating their concern to Russia, that however tempted it may be to do so, military intervention in Ukraine should not be contemplated and would not have the support of governments that uphold and respect international law.

In every international forum, Russia and the NATO

nations should hear Caribbean governments, in a unified voice, calling for diplomatic engagement and not conflict to reach a solution to this problem that would leave Ukraine's territorial integrity intact.

Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com

Pointe Xpress extends warm birthday wishes to Mathilda Viola Henry James who celebrates her 101st birthday today. Happy Birthday Ms. James!



My life is online
and so is **my bank.**



Major carnival events excluded from 2022 schedule

The nation will learn before the end of the month what activities will form part of the schedule of activities for carnival 2022.

At its weekly Cabinet meeting on Wednesday, Minister Michael Browne, who has portfolio responsibilities for Cultural Industries, confirmed the return of Labour Day and Carnival celebrations this year.

Two carnival celebrations were cancelled due to COVID-19, but the desire to return the country to normalcy has led to restrictions being eased that will allow for a scaled back version of the annual summer festival.

While the schedule is being finalised, revellers will be disappointed to learn that the main events that make up the summer festival will not be included for fear that they could become super-spreader events.

"We do know that T-Shirt Mas is out, precisely because thousands of people participate in it annual-



ly, and it has grown, and it is the kind of super-spreader event given the nature of COVID," Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst said during yesterday's Post-Cabinet Press Briefing.

"We believe that J'ouvert might also be out precisely for the same reasons as the T-Shirt Mas, and without a doubt the last lap would also have to be ex-

cluded."

He said the safety of citizens and residents is paramount, and government is insistent that activities will not be planned that will endanger the health and welfare of people, particularly the youth.

All planned events will be coordinated with social distancing and other COVID-19 protocols to re-

duce the likelihood of the virus spreading.

Carnival serves as a major booster for the country's economy and is marketed as one of the premier festivals Antigua and Barbuda offers the world.

Discussions are being held with stakeholders to ensure all events, once finalised, are held in a safe environment.

Traffic Department better equipped to manage traffic

The Traffic Department is better equipped and prepared to manage the traffic situation in the country having received an additional nine new police motorcycles to its fleet.

On Thursday, the Permanent Secretary in the



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Cabinet acknowledges contributions of late PS Greene

The late Permanent Secretary of the Passport Office is being remembered for her dedication to her duties as a civil servant.

Jocelyn Greene passed away on Wednesday while recovering from a medical procedure.

Her passing has shocked her colleague permanent secretaries and the staff of the Passport Office and by extension the ministry of Foreign Affairs where she served for several decades.

Cabinet took time on Wednesday to acknowledge Mrs. Greene's contributions and expressed condolences to her husband, daughter and relatives.

"The entire civil service has suffered quite a blow by her untimely death," the Cabinet documented in its notes.



Jocelyn Greene

cont'd from pg 8

Ministry of Works, Ambassador Clarence Pilgrim officially handed over the much needed vehicles to Police Commissioner Atlee Rodney during a brief ceremony at Police Headquarters.

Commissioner Rodney took the opportunity to express gratitude to the Ministry of Works and the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

for coming to the aid of the police at a time when it is much needed.

He said the traffic department is in a better position to respond to traffic collisions and other traffic-related matters in a timelier manner.

Rodney also called upon the public to practice safe and courteous driving habits, as well as to obey the traffic laws in an effort to minimize collisions.

He admonished his drivers to lead by example and demonstrate to the public the proper use of the roads.

Head of the Traffic Department, Assistant Superintendent Rodney Ellis welcomed the timely donation and gave the assurance that the motorcycles will be well taken care of and effectively utilized to the benefit of managing traffic on the roads.





ECSE DAILY NEWS REPORT

This is the Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange's daily update for 10 February 2022.

On the Eastern Caribbean Securities Market on Thursday, 200 Cable & Wireless St Kitts & Nevis Ltd shares traded at \$3.75 per share, falling \$0.13 or 3.35% from its previous closing price. Also, 125 Grenada Co-operative Bank Ltd shares traded at \$9.51 per share while 125 Grenada Electricity Services Ltd shares traded at \$10.95 per share, both unchanged from their previous closing prices.

Here are the latest closing prices for the equities listed on the ECSE:

The Bank of Nevis Ltd	.....	\$3.50
Bank of St Vincent and the Grenadines Ltd	.....	\$9.06
Cable & Wireless St Kitts & Nevis Ltd	.....	\$3.75
Dominica Electricity Services Ltd	.....	\$3.50
East Caribbean Financial Holding Company Ltd	.....	\$3.75
Grenada Co-operative Bank Ltd	.....	\$9.51
Grenada Electricity Services Ltd	.....	\$10.95
Grenreal Property Corporation Ltd	.....	\$5.40
Republic Bank (Grenada) Ltd	.....	\$45.00
St Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank Ltd	.....	\$2.80
St Lucia Electricity Services Ltd	.....	\$20.00
S. L. Horsford & Company Ltd	.....	\$2.00
TDC Ltd	.....	\$1.25

And today's financial tip:

Why do public companies produce an Annual Report?

Public companies are legally required to report their financial results on an annual basis. This report, known as an Annual Report, includes the balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, description of company operations and comments on the company's future prospects. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that the company's Board of Directors and senior managers are held accountable to shareholders for their management of the company.

Relationships

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Love and logins: Who gets custody of passwords in a breakup?

By Leanne Italie

Emily Taffel didn't pull the password plug when she divorced her first husband, and she didn't cut off the boyfriend who followed. Now remarried with four stepchildren, she continues as a model of civility when it comes to exes and logins.

The 41-year-old in Coral Springs, Florida, and her first husband didn't have kids, much money or own a house when they divorced. What they did have were subscriptions to Netflix and Hulu.

"We each paid for one of them and share. That was literally our divorce agreement," Taffel said. "It was written right in there. We're still doing it."

When boyfriend Sam came along but the romance ended three years later, they maintained close ties and joint custody of additional services, sharing logins and the cost to this day among themselves and Taffel's ex-husband. Taffel and her current husband have added more and shared down the line over a decade after her first marriage ended.

"I know it seems crazy," she said. "The ex-boyfriend and the ex-husband aren't friends, but through me everybody is very amicable."

In this era of cybersecurity concerns and calls



This image provided by Ryan Cohen shows, from left, Ryan Cohen, his wife, Emily Taffel, and Taffel's former boyfriend, Sam Rubman, on Feb. 3, 2022, in Coral Springs, Fla. In the era of intense cybersecurity and calls for multifactor lockdown of all things digital, the three share several logins to streaming services. [Photo credit: Ryan Cohen via AP]

for multifactor lockdown of all things digital, that approach points to a thorny issue when love goes wrong: What to do about the logins?

8 in 10 Americans who are in a relationship share passwords across nearly every digital platform, ranging from social media to email and cell phone to mobile wallets, said Harold Li, vice president of the encryption service ExpressVPN.

"In the digital era, shar-

ing passwords is a sign of trust and affection akin to the gift of a letterman jacket or an exchange of school locker combinations," he said. "However, while it may seem like a romantic gesture at the moment, it poses serious risks to your personal privacy, which even the closest of relationships need."

And when relationships end, whether romantic or of the friendship variety, he recommends a thorough "digital divorce."

Sisi Cronin, 33, in Napa, California, is still logged in to her college boyfriend's Netflix account, with her own profile. While they don't live near each other, they remain friendly after going their separate ways when she was 23.

"One time about three years ago he sent me a kind of funny message saying, hey, Netflix has decided to limit how many people can be on, would you mind getting your own? And

cont'd on pg 12

Relationships

cont'd from pg 11

I just wrote back saying I'd rather not. We haven't talked about it since," she said. "When you've got all these different subscription platforms it's ideal to not be paying for all of them yourself, right?"

Nick Leighton of the etiquette podcast "Were You Raised by Wolves" equates the changing of shared passwords after a breakup to returning the sweater left behind by the ex.

"Be mindful of the fact that when a person discovers their login no longer works, it'll be a clear reminder that the relationship is indeed over, which may cause hurt feelings," he said. "In a relationship, asking someone for their password can make some people uncomfortable, so it's often better to wait until they volunteer to share rather than putting them on the spot. It should also be noted that sharing passwords might possibly violate the terms of service."

Things don't always go swimmingly when logins aren't cut off post-breakup.

"Change the password. In the age of perpetual watch histories being widely available, nobody wants to know that their ex just watched 'The Notebook' on Netflix. It stirs up all sorts of emotions," said John Capo, an assistant professor of communications at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

"Were they think-

ing about me when they watched it? Who did they watch it with? Why were they awake at midnight, anyway? Remember when we used to watch 'The Notebook'?"

Brian Penny, 40, in Tucson, Arizona, doesn't have the heart to leave an ex out in the cold on his HBO Max and Hulu accounts.

"She's struggling with work and it doesn't cost me anything, but it does show her name because she added herself as a profile," he said. "I do wonder what the next girlfriend will think about seeing another woman's name in my account. I've already reasoned I would say it's a cousin or friend."

Hari Ravichandran, founder and CEO of the digital safety provider Aura, noted the prevalence of password sharing among some, but warned against it.

"It's no secret that password-sharing is a way for consumers to get around the cost of paying for multiple services," he said in a statement. "What consumers aren't considering is that these behaviors make them vulnerable to digital crime when people outside your household — even ones you trust — have your passwords on their devices."

Researchers have found a variety of reasons people maintain streaming ties after a breakup — convenience, finances and

post-breakup friendships among them. A downside: When a vindictive ex deliberately wreaks havoc with algorithms to mess up ads and suggested viewing, or creates a profile to rile up a current love interest. One sharer said the parents of an ex stayed logged into one of his sites for two years after they broke up and sent him a gift card out of the blue as thanks.

Chandler Sterling in Los Angeles shows up as a generic "guest" profile on the Netflix and Hulu accounts of a former long-term girlfriend. He also uses his parents' cable TV subscription with his Apple TV for access to pretty much anything, including sports.

"Yes, I'm 34, and yes, I make over six figures at my job, but I won't pay for something if I don't have to," he said. "My ex has never directly confronted me about the guest profile on Hulu. On Netflix, she changed the guest account's profile picture to the guy from the show 'Lucifer,' so I think she's sending me a message about how she feels. ... I have zero guilt for all this cloak and dagger mooching."

Penny said he wasn't sure if or when he would remove his ex.

"Our relationship didn't end well at all," he said. "I think a part of me leaves it alone so she leaves me alone. The peace of mind is worth it."

Case Number : ANUHMT2020/0147

FILED
HIGH COURT
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Submitted Date: 04/02/2022 12:19
Filed Date: 04/02/2022 12:20
Fees Paid: 22.00

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
CLAIM NO: ANUHMT 2020/0147

BETWEEN:

CANDICE WILLIAMS
AND
STEVE ALLINGTON LAKE

Petitioner
Respondent

ORDER

BEFORE: THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE JAN DRYSDALE (IN IN OPEN COURT)

APPEARANCES: Talia N. DaCosta of Stapleton Chambers; Counsel for the Petitioner
No Appearance for or on behalf of the Respondent

PRESENT: Candice Williams, the Petitioner

DATED: THE 19TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2022

ENTERED: THE 4TH DAY OF February, 2022

UPON THE PETITIONER filing a Petition for Divorce
AND UPON HEARING Counsel for the Petitioner MS. TALIA N. DACOSTA

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. That the hearing of the Petition for Divorce is adjourned to the 09th day of March, 2022.
2. The Petitioner shall have carriage of this Order.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT

THE REGISTRAR

Filed by Stapleton Chambers, Attorneys at Law whose offices are situated at Suite 60, Stapleton House, Stapleton Lane, St. John's Antigua, Tel: 1(268) 962-7165 Fax: 1(268) 962-7967, email: stapletonchambers@gmail.com The address for service of the Petitioner is the same.

Apple reveals small number of users had Siri recordings kept despite opting out

Apple has revealed that it has recently fixed a bug that inadvertently led to a small portion of users having their Siri audio recordings kept and reviewed by the company.

ZDNet reports a change to the latest iOS 15.4 beta which will ask users if they want to opt-in to helping Apple improve Siri and dictation by allowing Apple to review the recordings.

This is because Apple has revealed that it had to fix a bug introduced in iOS 15 that led to some recordings being kept and recorded inadvertently despite people option out:

However, Apple found a bug in iOS 15 that enabled the setting for some users who had previously opted out. In other words, recordings were

being kept for some users who had opted out of the setting instead of being deleted. Apple has since deleted the erroneous recordings.

Apple says it turned off the setting for “many users” in iOS 15.2 to fix the bug, its full comment stated:

“With iOS 15.2, we turned off the Improve Siri & Dictation setting for many Siri users while we fixed a bug introduced with iOS 15.

“This bug inadvertently enabled the setting for a small portion of devices. Since identifying the bug, we stopped reviewing and are deleting audio received from all affected devices.”

Siri is one of the best iPhone features available for all sorts of



[Photo credit: iMore]

everyday tasks such as setting timers or recording reminders, sending texts, and requesting songs on Apple Music.

Kia and Hyundai: Nearly 500,000 owners of cars in the US told to park outside due to fire risk

Hyundai and Kia have told owners in the United States to park their cars outside due to a possible defect that can cause vehicles to catch fire.

The car companies have also issued a recall on almost 500,000 cars after a problem was discovered in the computer control module of an anti-lock brake system. Vehicles with the issue can spontaneously catch fire in the engine compartment, even when the car isn't on.

Hyundai has issued a recall for 2016-18 model Santa Fe SUVs, 2017-18 Santa FE Sport SUVs, 2019 Santa Fe XL models and 2014-15 Tucson SUVs.

Kia has recalled the



Almost 360,000 Hyundai models have been recalled, along with over 120,000 Kia vehicles [Photo credit: Sky News]

2016-18 K900 sedans and 2014-16 Sportage SUVs. In total, Kia is recalling 126,747 cars and Hyundai is recalling 357,830 cars.

Owners in the US have been urged to take their cars to dealers, who will inspect the anti-lock braking

control module, which is a computer system that controls the emergency braking system.

A new module may be installed as well as a replacement fuse that controls the electric current on the anti-braking unit at no

cost to the owners.

The new fuse will reduce the amount of power going into the module.

South Korean automaker Hyundai owns a controlling interest in Kia and the two companies share engineering in various models. However, in the United States, they operate as two separate companies.

In documents filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Kia said it is aware of three cars catching fire.

The cars can still be used but they should be parked away from buildings and structures.

Hyundai confirmed to Sky News that the recall will not affect any UK cars.

'Lord forgive me'... Minister Marion Hall walking away from calling

Minister Marion Hall, the dancehall icon-turned Christian, has announced that she is walking away from her calling.

Hall, known in the dancehall space as Lady Saw, made the announcement on Instagram Tuesday and started trending almost instantly.

"May the Lord forgive me," she wrote.

Hall also conceded that her detractors, both Christians and non-Christians had won.



Marion Hall

and will no longer be doing any preaching on social media," she said.

Dancehall producer Cordel 'Skatta' Burrell is supporting Hall.

"Lady Saw is a dancehall icon and deserves to be celebrated on the biggest platform for our music. She's got so much more to offer," Burrell posted on Instagram.

"We welcome her with open arms to deliver whatever song she wishes to perform because she's great at any and everything she does on the stage."

"Congratulations on your mission to take me down. You've successfully done so and I've decided to walk away from my calling

Denzel Washington just broke his own Oscar nominations record

Denzel Washington keeps making history. The iconic actor, known for his roles in movies like "Training Day" and "Malcolm X," just picked up his tenth Academy Award nomination, this time for best actor in "The Tragedy of Macbeth" -- making him the most nominated Black actor in Oscar history and breaking his own record.

Even before Tuesday's nominations were announced, Washington was the most nominated Black actor in history, receiving his ninth nod in 2018 for his work in "Roman J. Israel, Esq."

But even with this accomplishment, Washington hasn't actually won

the award in 20 years. He only has two Oscar statues to show for his work -- the first for "Glory," at the 1990 awards, and the second for "Training Day," in 2002.

Still, he is prolific. With this year's nomination, Washington has now been nominated for the Academy Awards in every decade since the 1980s. His first was a supporting actor nod in 1988 for "Cry Freedom."

The Oscars historically have not been kind to Black actors. Though Sidney Poitier became the first Black man to win the best actor award in 1964, Washington was only the second in 2002. And only one Black woman has ever won the best actress award -- Halle



Denzel Washington [Photo Credit: CNN]

Berry, in 2002 for her work in "Monster's Ball."

Meanwhile, Meryl Streep, whose feature film debut preceded Washington's by four years, continues to hold the most acting Oscar nominations of all time with 21 nods. Following Streep is Katharine Hepburn, who received 12 nom-

inations and four wins, the most of all time.

Photo caption: Denzel Washington arrives at the premiere of "The Tragedy of Macbeth" on Thursday, Dec. 18, in Los Angeles. On Tuesday, Washington received his tenth Oscar nomination for his role in the film.

What a 'blaccent' is, and why it's wrong

Blaccent. The term is making headlines this week after comedian, actress and rapper Awkwafina addressed criticism that she's used a "blaccent," or Black accent, and other elements of African American language and mannerisms during her career.

Critics say the entertainer has used a "blaccent" for years, including in her 2012 parody rap song "My Vag" and in acting roles in such films as "Crazy Rich Asians" and "Ocean's Eight." This weekend, the Asian American star, born Nora Lum, released a statement explaining her view of the racial dynamics at play.

"My immigrant background allowed me to carve an American identity off the movies and tv shows I watched, the children I went to public school with, and my undying love and respect for hip hop," she wrote. "I think as a group, Asian Americans are still trying to figure out what that journey means for them -- what is correct and where they don't belong."

To gain a deeper understanding of what "blaccent" is -- and isn't -- we talked to Nsenga K. Burton, co-director of the film and media management concentration at Emory University, who has studied depictions of race in Hollywood.

What's a 'blaccent'?

A "blaccent" is speaking in a way that mimics or mocks Black vernacular by a person who is not Black,



Entertainer Awkwafina has issued a statement addressing accusations that she's used a "blaccent" in her work [Photo credit: CNN]

Burton says.

Another commentator defines it this way: "'Blaccent' is a term describing the fake accent racists and cultural appropriators use when they mimic Black people," says Mikki Kendall, an author and diversity consultant. "Black people have accents, but we don't all have the same one and yet somehow those two groups always use the same accent when they imitate Black people."

How does it differ from cultural appreciation?

"Blaccent" is part of the ever-evolving debate around cultural appropriation, or the act of adopting customs from another culture without the proper level of respect or acknowledgment.

Some people have described a «blaccent» as something different -- a form of cultural appreciation. But Burton says that's

not the case.

"Cultural appreciation is when you have an affinity for someone's culture without appropriating or exploiting it for financial gain or cultural influence," she says.

"Cultural appropriation," she adds, "is when you appropriate someone's culture for financial gain and influence without acknowledging the origins of that cultural practice or reinvesting your financial gains into the community from which the culture was taken."

But whether or not someone gives credit or financial support to the Black community, it's "never acceptable to use a blaccent," Burton says.

"Some people claim they can use it because they grew up around Black people and love Black culture. If that's the case, then support all of Black culture. Don't just borrow the most popular

parts of it for your personal enjoyment and gain while ignoring the larger issues like anti-Black racism and state-endorsed violence that Black people face."

Why is Awkwafina under fire?

Awkwafina is not the first person to be criticized for appearing to appropriate Black culture and vernacular for financial gain and influence. But instead of a full-fledged apology, she issued a statement Saturday explaining how her cultural influences growing up -- movies, TV and hip hop -- formed her identity, adding to the backlash.

Soon after, Awkwafina tweeted an apology of sorts, saying "I apologize if I ever fell short, in anything I did."

"Lum's unwillingness to address the issue head on or to respond to detractors without presenting herself

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as a victim of social media is what has led to the fallout around her use of a 'blaccent' as a tool for success," Burton says.

Britni Danielle, an African American author and writing coach who lives in Los Angeles, said on Twitter that Awkwafina botched her attempt at an apology. "Awkwafina could have just said: 'You were right. I did use a blaccent to make a name for myself and that was wrong. I wholeheartedly apologize, and I'll do better from now on.'"

So why is using a 'blaccent' offensive?

Burton says it creates a dangerous paradox by celebrating Black culture -- but only when highlighted by non-Black people.

"Non-Black celebrities are celebrated in entertainment for appropriating African American culture, especially our vernacular, while African Americans are either demonized or

overlooked when speaking in Black vernacular," she says.

"The main problem is an unwillingness of non-Black celebrities to admit their appropriation of Black culture for their personal gain and to share their profits and celebrity with the very communities whose culture they poach."

It's not clear whether Awkwafina has credited Black artists for her performing style, shown public support for anti-racism efforts or shared her financial success with the Black community.

One activist describes a "blaccent" as an affectation that can be abandoned when it's inconvenient.

"It's not just that people cosplay blackness, it's that they flip that performance off like a switch the instant they need to distance themselves from blackness," added Bree Newsome, a Black artist and activist, on Twitter.

"They don't have that blaccent

around the cops & they also don't show up for racial justice issues. It's minstrelsy."

"Blaccents" and other cultural appropriation can create financial opportunities for non-Black people but don't benefit the custodians of Black culture, Burton says.

"They want our rhythm but not our blues," she adds. "You won't march for Breonna Taylor, donate to social justice organizations or use your platform to bring awareness to issues impacting African American communities, but you will talk like us for your personal and professional gain."

Burton cited the example of Black creators on TikTok, who've protested the lack of credit they receive when their dance moves are co-opted by White influencers.

"Black people also deserve the same opportunities and financial gains as non-Black folk appropriating our culture. It just isn't right."

APPLICANT(S) MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER

HAPPY WEEKEND

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Expiration Date: 10-FEB-27

ATB
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A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

Snoop Dogg takes helm of Death Row Records as label's new owner

Snoop Dogg has taken over a popular record label that launched his stellar career.

The rapper-mogul acquired Death Row Records' brand from MNRK Music Group, which is controlled by a private equity fund managed by Blackstone, the investment firm announced Wednesday. The terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Snoop Dogg said he's excited about acquiring the label's brand.

"I am thrilled and appreciative of the opportunity to acquire the iconic and culturally significant Death Row Records brand, which has immense untapped future value," the 50-year-old Snoop Dogg said in a statement.

"It feels good to have ownership of the label I was part of at the beginning of



Snoop Dogg performs at Rupp Arena in Lexington, Ky., on Nov. 20. [Photo credit: Getty Images]

my career and as one of the founding members. This is an extremely meaningful moment for me."

Snoop Dogg found his springboard to success during the 1990s while on Death Row Records. The label was founded in 1992 by Dr. Dre, Suge Knight, the D.O.C. and Dick Griffey in the immediate aftermath of the breakup of N.W.A.

David Kestnbaum, a senior managing director at

Blackstone, said he's looking forward to seeing Snoop Dogg at the helm of Death Row.

"We are excited to put the Death Row Records brand back in the hands of a legend like Snoop Dogg," Kestnbaum said. "We wish him success in the years ahead as the brand moves forward under his leadership and vision."

The label's records, including Dre's first solo al-

bum "The Chronic" and Snoop Dogg's debut "Doggystyle," are considered classics of the hip-hop genre that defined an era.

Tupac Shakur became the label's star artist later in the '90s before he was shot and killed in Las Vegas in 1996 while riding in a car driven by Knight. Shakur's death brought on a decline for the label, which led to decades of decline for Knight.

Knight lost Death Row after it went into bankruptcy in 2006. He served time in prison and had a knack for being near violence that eventually caught up with him.

"Snoop is clearly the executive to take Death Row into its next 30 years," said Chris Taylor, president and CEO of MNRK Music Group.

'Jeopardy!' champ Amy Schneider quits day job after record-breaking run

"Jeopardy!" champ Amy Schneider said she's quitting her day job after her record-breaking run.

The now-former software engineer manager announced her decision on social media Tuesday.

"Some of you may have heard, but I quit my day job yesterday!" the 42-year-old wrote on Twitter. "It's a bit nerve-wracking to pivot from software engineer to... public figure, I guess?"

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Amy Schneider [Photo credit: Seattle Times]

Julia Fox knows Kanye has 'residual feelings' for Kim - here's if she's worried they'll get back together

Ever since they started dating, fans have been curious to know Julia Fox's response to Kanye West's pleas to get back together with Kim Kardashian. Does she ever worry that the pair will reunite?

Well, for now, it seems the *Uncut Gems* actress, 32, doesn't feel all too threatened about her beau's advances toward his estranged wife. Julia opened up about her "natural" and "organic" romance with the Yeezy founder during an appearance on the *Call Her Daddy* podcast on February 9, 2022, where she revealed how the pair defines their relationship after a month of dating. "I call him my boyfriend and he calls me his girlfriend," Julia explained, before noting that she's aware that the rapper may still have some "residual feelings" for his ex, who filed for divorce from Kanye in February 2021 after nearly seven years of marriage.

"I'm sure there's still some residual feelings, and that's normal, it's human," Julia said of Kanye's lingering feelings for Kim, with whom he shares kids North, 8, Saint, 6, Chicago, 4, and Psalm, 2. "I also know that he's with me now. And that's all that matters," she added. Later, the actress insisted that their relationship is the real deal, "Time will tell, you'll just see."



Julia Fox, Kanye Weste and Kim Kardashian. [Photo credit: Style caster]

During her *Call Her Daddy* appearance, Julia also subtly addressed rumors that she's "channeling" Kim's style amid her romance with Ye. The actress acknowledged that while there are similarities, it's a testament to Kanye's influence—rather than an attempt to copy the *Keeping Up With the Kardashians* star.

"It was like we were on the Kanye workout plan. We got to work. We were like, 'OK, we're gonna do this. If I'm gonna be seen with you, I need to step it up a little bit,'" she said, adding, "I definitely do need to be nudged a little bit and pushed out of my comfort zone and I love that because I don't think anyone has been able to succeed in that. 'Cause I'm stubborn and I'm

gonna wear the things that I'm comfortable in."

According to Julia, the rapper "wants me to be the best version of myself," which, apparently, sometimes means looking an awful lot like Kim. "We've worn some similar looks. I thought it was cool that she had worn it," Julia conceded. "It is unfortunate, because women are always being pitted against each other, and there are 10 years of history that they have prior. I don't want to ever step out of line and speak on something that I have no place speaking on."

She added, "If anything, I think the conversation should be, wow, it's amazing to see how heavily influenced Kim was by Kanye."

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Schneider, who took the internet by storm with her historic appearance on "Jeopardy!" first made headlines in November 2021 after becoming the first openly transgender contestant to qualify for

the show's Tournament of Champions, an all-star competition that happens annually, featuring the best contestants from the previous year.

Her impressive winning streak continued in 2022, when she went on

to become the fourth player — and the first woman — to earn more than \$1 million in non-tournament play.

She is also the second longest-running contestant in "Jeopardy!" history, and the show's most successful

woman with 40 consecutive wins.

By the time her reign ended on Jan. 26, she had earned nearly \$1.4 million in winnings, scores of new social media fans, as well as an established spot in the pop culture hall of fame.

UNC leader calls on T&T National Security minister to resign

Trinidad and Tobago's opposition Leader Kamla Persad-Bissessar has expressed horror over the Trinidad and Tobago Coast guard opening fire on a migrant vessel, "murdering" a baby.

Speaking at the United National Congress (UNC) virtual meeting on Monday, the former prime minister called on National Security Minister Fitzgerald Hinds to resign, or for the people to demand that Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley replace him.

Persad-Bissessar said the incident has made international news, as she also noted the escalating homicide rate in T&T.

"What a heart-rending, -breaking thing to see our Coast Guard, the Coast Guard of Trinidad and Tobago, firing on a migrant vessel, murdering a baby.

"We are making international news because of that... I await the explanation. I cannot see if you have a migrant vessel, how can you open fire?

"You see women and children, did they have weapons? Did anyone raise a weapon against you? Why would you shoot?

"You have things to do if you say they coming to ram you, you could have taken evasive action, why did you have to shoot?

"Was that what you call reasonable force? A young



Kamla Persad-Bissessar [Photo credit: Trinidad Express]

baby is killed by the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard. Ethelbert, resign now!" she said. Ethelbert is Hinds' middle name.

Turning to crime, Persad-Bissessar noted that Hinds has said it was not his duty to keep people safe.

She said there have been candlelight protests in vain, and people are living in fear as killings are taking place in broad daylight.

Criminals are even more emboldened now, and have no care for human life, she said.

She said it is tragic that Hinds is National Security Minister, as she claimed this alone sends a message to the criminals that na-

tional security is treated as a joke.

"I am calling on citizens to demand that Rowley replace Hinds.

"Those who wish to remain silent about this, don't come and complain later on when you or your family or when one of your loved ones becomes a victim," she said, noting that there have been some (65) murders for the year already.

Persad-Bissessar said crime fighting encompasses policy and action, adding there is need for a proper process of appointing a Commissioner of Police, and having an independent Police Service Commission (PolSC).

Persad-Bissessar announced that the UNC will be commencing legal action to obtain the legal opinions which recommended scrapping the 2021 merit list for Police Commissioner.

She reiterated her call for PolSC members to resign, adding that some members are unfit to hold office.

Relating that a woman "was in tears" telling her about her experience with one of the new PolSC members, she said: "Why don't you all have some shame and do the decent thing and resign? Because the UNC is going to expose you all to this country, even if we have to go to the courts."

Dominica: Do not go near the Boiling Lake, public warned again

Members of the public in Dominica who continue to venture near the Boiling Lake have been told to stop this reckless and irresponsible act.

Dominica's Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division states it has come to their attention that persons have attempted to go into the Boiling Lake during this period of instability.

The Division says the reason behind such acts remains unclear but states these acts are considered irresponsible, reckless, and unwarranted as doing so puts the lives of the visitors and its Officers at risk, especially in the event of a rescue.

It says as this current episode continues, the risk of harmful gases such as Carbon Dioxide and small



Boiling Lake, Dominica [Photo credits: Loop News]

steam explosions is heightened.

The public is reminded that the Boiling Lake is closed to visitors unless prior approval is received from the Forestry Division or the Office of

Disaster Management.

Anybody caught swimming, walking or doing any other such activity in or surrounding the Boiling Lake will be dealt with accordingly.

Haiti: Croix-des-Bouquets residents call for help after days under gang lockdown

Heavily armed gangs erected barricades around Croix-des-Bouquets, cutting off access to Port-au-Prince and neighboring towns for six days, according to residents who spoke with local media.

On Feb. 3, residents said, armed individuals seized a truck and beat the driver, forcing him to put the vehicle across the National Road #8 located in eastern Croix-des-Bouquets. Since then, the road leading on one way to Port-au-prince and on the other to the Dominican Republic has been blocked to travelers.

Gunfire has been heard daily for the past two weeks,



A street in Croix-des-Bouquets, a town near Port-au-Prince. [Photo credit: Fandom]

residents said. It was particularly intense in the early morning hours of Feb. 7 around Cotard and Michaud, where the blocked road is located.

Croix-des-Bouquets residents who were interviewed on several local stations said different com-

munes are totally paralyzed. Residents have stayed inside their homes and no cars were seen on the roads. The armed men thoroughly search the passengers of the rare motorcycles that manage to make their way alongside the truck erected in the street.

Numerous families have fled their houses after armed bandits broke in to steal their belongings or set fires to the homes. The families who stayed behind cannot leave their homes because of the daily gunfire.

Local media also reported that at least one person was killed over the weekend.

On Feb. 2, the Haitian National Police said police carried out several operations aimed at weakening the gangs in downtown Croix-des-Bouquets. Some bandits were arrested and others killed, PNH had said in its twitter account.

Moon warns of crisis if North Korea resumes long-range missile tests

Al Jazeera - South Korean president says efforts must be made to stop Pyongyang from resuming nuclear or long-range tests.

The Korean peninsula would be plunged “instantly” into crisis if North Korea resumed testing of nuclear or long-range missiles, outgoing South Korean President Moon Jae-in said, calling for dialogue and diplomacy to prevent that from happening.

January was a record month for North Korean missile testing with leader Kim Jong Un hinting he could order new nuclear tests or intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launches for the first time since 2017.

“If North Korea’s repeated missile launches go as far as to breach (Kim’s self-imposed) moratorium, that would instantly bring the Korean Peninsula back to the crisis situation of five years ago when there were concerns of war,” Moon said in written comments provided to a number of media outlets in Seoul on Thursday.

“The political leaders of related nations should engage in persistent dialogue and diplomacy to prevent a similar crisis.”

The renewed tensions between Pyongyang and Washington have been a major setback for Moon, a dovish liberal and son of



South Korean President Moon Jae-in expressed disappointment over the collapse of diplomacy with North Korea, which carried out a flurry of missile tests in January. [Photo credit: AP Photo]

northern war refugees who staked his single presidential term on his ambitions for inter-Korean rapprochement.

South Korea’s presidential election is in March, and Moon will leave office in May after serving a five-year term.

Moon admitted he appears to have run out of time, saying it is unlikely a last-minute summit with Kim or the adoption of his proposal for a declaration ending the 1950-1953 Korean War will happen before he leaves office.

Kim orchestrated a highly provocative run of nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests in 2017 that triggered a verbal exchange of war threats between him and then-US President Donald Trump, before a series of unprecedented summits between

the two leaders that failed to achieve any major breakthrough.

Moon said his most rewarding achievement was helping “shift the direction toward dialogue and diplomacy rather than military confrontation” and his biggest regret was the failure of the US-North Korea summit in Hanoi, which collapsed over sanctions relief.

“It is very regrettable that the summit ended in ‘no deal’ when the continuation of dialogue should have been ensured at least,” he said, arguing that a smaller, phased deal should still have been pursued when it became clear that a “big deal” was out of reach.

He urged a return to top-down diplomacy, saying it would hopefully be “only a matter of time” before Biden and Kim meet.

“If the North Korea-US talks resume and the leaders of North Korea and the United States historically meet once again, I hope they could reach substantial progress in the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula, the implementation of a peace process and the normalisation of US-North Korea relations,” Moon said.

In a phone call with his US and Japanese counterparts on Thursday, South Korean Defence Minister Suh Wook said the recent launches posed a “direct and serious threat”, and promised to bolster response capabilities based on the US alliance.

Biden’s administration has said it is willing to meet the North Koreans any time without preconditions, but Pyongyang says it will not resume negotiations unless Washington and Seoul drop “hostile policies” such as military drills, sanctions, and arms buildups.

Despite the stalled talks and increase in tensions, Moon says “necessary communication” with Kim has continued, and he does not think Biden has returned to the “strategic patience” policies of the Obama administration because he continues to make practical efforts to resume dialogue.

“We cannot afford to give up this task,” he said.

Sweden declares pandemic over, despite warnings from scientists



The last set of coronavirus disease PCR tests are collected as Sweden changes its approach
 [Photo credit: Reuters]

Sweden scrapped virtually all of its few remaining pandemic restrictions on Wednesday and stopped most testing for COVID-19, at the same time as strain on the healthcare techniques remained excessive and a few scientists begged for extra endurance in preventing the illness.

Sweden's authorities, which throughout the pandemic have opted towards lockdowns in favor of a voluntary strategy, introduced last week it might scrap the remaining restrictions — successfully declaring the pandemic over — as vaccines and the much less extreme omicron

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Iraq pays last chunk of \$52.4 Billion Gulf War reparations - UN

Reuters - Iraq has completed payment of \$52.4 billion to compensate individuals, companies and governments who proved damages due to its 1990 invasion and occupation of Kuwait, the United Nations reparations body said on Wednesday.

The U.N. Compensation Commission, set up by the U.N. Security Council after the seven-month occupation of the emirate and U.S.-led defeat of Saddam Hussein's troops in the Gulf War, received a portion of proceeds from Iraqi oil sales. The rate varied over the 30 years and was most recently 3%.

In all, about 2.7 million claims, with an asserted value of \$352.5 billion were



A young girl in Kuwaiti national dress looks up at pictures of hundreds of people missing since the 1990-1991 Gulf Crisis
 [Photo caption: Reuters]

lodged, but the UNCC approved payment of \$52.4 billion covering 1.5 million successful claims.

The largest claim approved by the UNCC was for \$14.7 billion in damages incurred by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC)

after departing Iraqi troops set fire to oil wells.

"With the final payment of compensation made on 13 January 2022, all compensation awarded by the Commission has now been paid in full," the Geneva-based body said in a statement fol-

lowing a closed-door meeting of its Governing Council.

"The Government of Iraq has fulfilled its international obligations to compensate all claimants awarded compensation by the Commission for losses and damages suffered as a direct result of Iraq's unlawful invasion of Kuwait," it said.

Bathsheba Crocker, U.S. ambassador to the U.N. in Geneva, tweeted on Tuesday after talks with Qahtan Al-Janabi, Iraqi under-secretary for multilateral and legal affairs, and other diplomats ahead of Wednesday's meeting: "We commend Iraq for completing payments for all UNCC claims, a historic achievement."

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variant have cushioned extreme circumstances and deaths.

"As we all know this pandemic, I might say it's over," Minister of Well being Lena Hallengren instructed Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter.

"It's not over, however as we all know it by way of fast adjustments and restrictions it's," she mentioned, including that COVID-19 would not be categorized as a hazard to society.

As of Wednesday, bars and eating places will likely be allowed to remain open after 11 p.m. once more, and with no limits on the variety of company. Attendance limits for bigger indoor venues have been additionally lifted, as have been vaccine go necessities.

Swedish hospitals have been nonetheless feeling the pressure, nevertheless, with round 2,200 individuals with COVID-19 that required hospital care — about the identical as throughout the third wave of the pandemic within the spring of 2021.

As free testing was diminished earlier this month and successfully stopped from Wednesday, nobody is aware of the precise variety of circumstances.

"We must always have a bit of extra endurance, wait at the very least a few extra weeks. And we're rich sufficient to maintain testing," mentioned

Fredrik Elgh, professor of virology at Umea College and one of many staunchest critics of Sweden's no-lockdown coverage.

"The illness continues to be an enormous pressure on society," he mentioned.

Sweden's Well being Company mentioned this week that large-scale testing was too costly in re-

lation to the advantages. Sweden spent round 500 million Swedish crowns (¥6.3 billion) per week on testing for the primary 5 weeks of this 12 months and round 24 billion crowns for the reason that begin of the pandemic.

On Wednesday, Sweden registered 114 new deaths the place the de-

ceased was contaminated with the virus.

In complete, 16,182 individuals have died both of the virus or whereas contaminated by it. The variety of deaths per capita is way larger than amongst Nordic neighbors however decrease than in most European international locations.

Pointe Xpress Weekend Puzzle

ACROSS

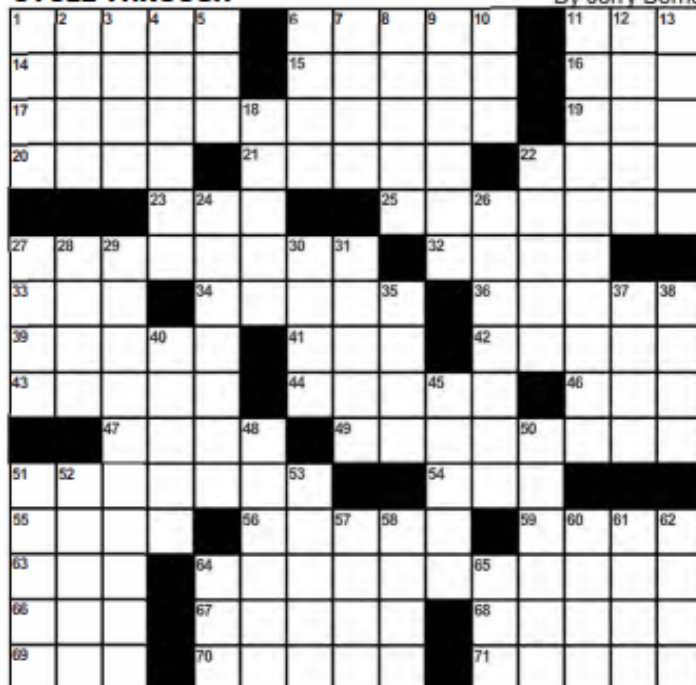
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) Wooden carpentry pin | 42) Instruct |
| 6) Easy way to draw | 43) Capital of South Korea |
| 11) "Gotcha!" | 44) Fiat |
| 14) Editorialize verbally | 46) Thing for savers |
| 15) Not inner | 47) Basilica area |
| 16) Be light, in a poker game | 49) Computer cable |
| 17) Airplane's undercarriage | 51) Uncooked condition |
| 19) April payment | 54) Important time in history |
| 20) "May I get you anything?" | 55) Sound bounce-back |
| 21) Desert delight | 56) Best-seller list entry |
| 22) "Buona ____" (Italian greeting) | 59) Beliefs, for short |
| 23) Bother, in a title of the Bard | 63) Expert fighter pilot |
| 25) Like a cozy infant | 64) Advantageous situation |
| 27) "Arabia" man | 66) "Before," when before |
| 32) Architect's detail | 67) Varsity starters |
| 33) Chicken-king tie | 68) Chill-inducing |
| 34) Changes course suddenly | 69) The Erie mule |
| 36) One who's attained nirvana | 70) Director Almodovar |
| 39) Concealed, informally | 71) Sports commentator |
| 41) Drysdale or Johnson | Musburger |

DOWN

- 1) Big name in pineapples
- 2) Certain birthstone
- 3) Comes in first
- 4) Make desirable
- 5) Hawaiian souvenir
- 6) Augustan attire
- 7) Floor coverings
- 8) Dined wearing pajamas
- 9) Brings to a stop
- 10) "To ____ is human ..."
- 11) Marriott, for one
- 12) Open-eyed
- 13) Group of six
- 18) "There's ____ here but us ..."
- 22) Cubic meter
- 24) Pass on to another
- 26) Splash, as grease
- 27) Scottish guys
- 28) Common lotion ingredient
- 29) Wild West coach support
- 30) Turn over, as land
- 31) Wear away
- 35) Peeved mood
- 37) Piece of farmland
- 38) Just one of those things?
- 40) Eco-friendly fertilizer
- 45) Joyfulness
- 48) Assets, collectively
- 50) Poker player who takes risks
- 51) Gathers, as crops
- 52) Capital of Ghana
- 53) Positioned, as artillery
- 57) Ski lift
- 58) Classy wheels
- 60) Arid
- 61) Important street
- 62) "Don't expunge that!"
- 64) Salary limit
- 65) Cotillion star, informally

CYCLE THROUGH

By Jerry Berns





STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Format

3-persons scramble

The Package

One round of 18 holes green fees
One round of 18 holes cart fees
Morning Snack with juice, coffee or tea from **(8:30am)**
Newman-style Lunch Special
Two drinks tickets
Ice cold bottled water in coolers on the course

Prizes

1st & 2nd Net Winners – 1st & 2nd Gross Winners
1st & 2nd Junior Winners
Closest to the pin on holes number 2, 8, 11, 13 & 15
Closest to the line on the 18th

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Sir Curtley Ambrose holds talks with Guyana's President

His Excellency Dr. Irfaan Ali met with former West Indies fast bowler Sir Curtley Ambrose on Thursday at State House.

The two shared ideas and had a comprehensive discus-

sion about the game.

Sir Curtly, who is one of the greatest fast bowlers of all time, is in Guyana to conduct a three-day fast bowling clinic in Berbice. He was accompanied by President of the

Berbice Cricket Board (BCB) Hilbert Foster, and two young cricketers, Jonathan Rampersaud and Surendar Kisoollall. The President was presented with artwork and a BCB coaching manual by Sir

Curtly and Rampersaud on behalf of the board.

Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Vickram Bharrat, who is a patron of the BCB, was also at the meeting.

China's naturalised Olympians face different reactions

Eileen Gu and Beverly Zhu were both born and raised in the US before deciding to represent China, but their outstanding fortunes at the Beijing Olympics highlight the fine line between love and condemnation for the host nation's naturalised athletes.

Freestyle skier has inspired ecstasy and adulation among Chinese fans, but figure skater Zhu has endured a torrent of online abuse after two blun-

der-filled performances.

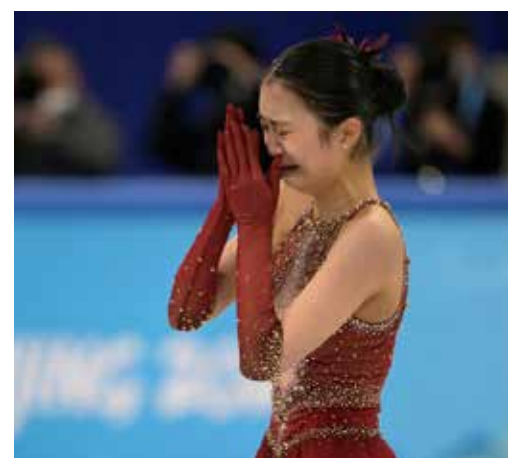
The 18-year-old Gu by winning gold in the inaugural women's Big Air on Tuesday has cemented herself as one of the faces of the game.

The mood was widely different for Zhu, who compete under her Chinese name Zhu Yi.

The 19-year-old broke down in tears on Monday after falling twice during her routine, after a tumble the previous day almost cost China a place in the final. But her distress failed to win much forgiveness on Chinese social media, where she savaged for the mistakes.

On the Twitter-Like Weibo, the hashtag #ZhuYiFellOver racked up 230 million views.

"I don't know why someone like this was allowed to represent China,"



Beverly Zhu wrote one user.

The abuse was so intense that authorities appeared to censor some post.

In recent years, the country with a population of 1.4 billion has recruited some foreign-born players to boost its national squads, notably for football and ice hockey.



Eileen Gu

Joe Clarke taken off England blacklist after standby call for West Indies

Joe Clarke, the Nottinghamshire batter, has been taken off England's blacklist after being placed on standby for next month's Test tour to the Caribbean.

The *Evening Standard* reported that Clarke is among a number of non-travelling reserves for March's Test series against West Indies, who will be called upon in the event of a squad member contracting Covid-19 or being ruled out through injury.

Andrew Strauss, the ECB's interim managing director, refused to confirm the names of the players on England's standby list at Lord's on Wednesday, but clarified that James Anderson and Stuart Broad - the high-profile omissions from the squad - were not included.

"There are a number of non-travelling reserves," Strauss said. "We have identified a group of players who could come in if there are injuries, so we have asked them to prepare themselves as if they might get a call-up at some stage."

Clarke was mentioned in a court case involving his former Worcestershire team-mate Alex Hepburn, who



Joe Clarke has been placed on standby by England [Photo credit: Getty Images]

was sentenced to five years in prison in 2019 after he was found guilty of raping a woman in 2017 and has since been released.

The pair shared a flat in Worcester and during the course of his trial, the jury heard from the prosecution how Hepburn had "dehumanised" women as part of a "sexual conquest competition" on WhatsApp with Clarke and another ex-Worcestershire player, Tom Kohler-Cadmore.

Neither Clarke nor Kohler-Cadmore was arrested, nor suspected of an offence. Both were fined by the ECB, handed back-dated suspensions, and told they would not be considered for England selection until further notice.

Kohler-Cadmore was part of the England Lions tour to Australia in 2019-20 and named in an enlarged training group at the start of the following summer, but Clarke - once a regular feature in Lions squads - has not played for England at any level in the years since.

Clarke spoke about his involvement in an interview with ESPNcricinfo in 2020, saying at the time: "If I could take back everything that happened, in terms of the whole situation for all the parties involved, then I would. It runs through my mind every day."

Clarke's first-class form has been solid over the last two years - he has averaged 36.53 with two hundreds since the start of the 2020 season - but he has flourished in T20 cricket, impressing for Nottinghamshire in the Blast and recently for Melbourne Stars in the BBL.

Senegal Afcon winners receive land and cash

Senegal's president Macky Sall rewarded each member of the national team with plots of land and \$87,000 after their success at the Africa Nations Cup (Afcon).

Each member received more than \$87,000 (64,000 euros) during a ceremony at the presidential palace.

Fans gathered during the ceremony to cheer and clap for the national team members outside the gate.

President Macky



thanked the team for their creative genius and making the dream of the nation

come through.

Senegal defeated Egypt 4-2 during a penalty shoot-

out on Sunday, 6th February in the final of the Africa Cup of Nations in Cameroon.

Ex-Bangladesh player on trial



Former Bangladesh batter Nasir Hossain has gone on trial charged with adultery after another man claimed he illegally married his wife.

Nasir, 30, who represented Bangladesh more than 100 times, married Tamima Sultana in February 2021. Her first husband Rakib Hasan has filed charges of adultery against the player, claiming he is still married to her.

Bangladeshi men, but not women, can be tried for adultery in the country, although cases are rare.

If found guilty Nasir could face a

maximum punishment of seven years in jail. Tamima has been charged for forgery.

Farid Uddin Khan, who represents the cricketer and Tamima, said "Adultery cases are rare. Usually it's tough to prove. We are confident these charges cannot be proved."

Both Nasir and Tamima have been granted bail.

Nasir played 19 Tests, 65 one-day internationals and 31 T20 internationals for Bangladesh, but has not represented his country since 2018.

EPL to remove all COVID-19 measures

The Premier League hopes to phase out all Covid-19 emergency measures by the end of the month.

More than 20 games were called off in December and January because of coronavirus outbreaks at several clubs. A record 103 Premier League players and staff tested positive from 20-26 December but cases have since dropped.

The requirements for face coverings in indoor areas will be removed from today (Friday) before other measures are relaxed.

"While requirements to ensure social distancing indoors is maintained, restrictions such as wearing face coverings indoor areas and limiting treatment time will be removed," the Premier



League said.

The Premier League's Covid-19 Emergency Mea-

asures remain under regular review, expiring at the end of this month.

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Indies Men's team. Fans in India and around the world have always had a great love and following for the West Indies teams and players.

"In a busy year of intense cricket with India due to tour the Caribbean later in 2022, we're excited about this association with an action-packed ODI and T20I Series ahead of us."

Speaking on the sponsorship, Kartik Mohindra, CMO, Pernod Ricard India, said: "For a whole generation of cricket fans, West Indies embodied the perfect blend of unmatched talent, positive attitude and unparalleled flair.

"In the last decade, the team has

rediscovered that unique spirit and has players who have helped the Caribbean win two T20 World Cups.

"Royal Stag has over the years celebrated all these qualities, which makes this association even more special.

"What's more, several players in this squad are adored in India because of their remarkable game-changing performances in T20 cricket.

"Royal Stag has been synonymous with the excitement and pulsating action of limited overs cricket for almost two decades now.

"By becoming the official sponsor of the West Indies for the ongoing se-

ries, we continue our association with the magic of the sport."

The West Indies are in the sub-continent for three ODIs and three T20Is. The three ODIs form part of the ICC ODI Super League with top seven teams automatically qualifying for the 2023 ICC World Cup.

The series started on Sunday, February 6 and will run until Sunday, February 20.

The ODIs are being played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad while the T20Is will be played at Eden Gardens in Kolkata, where West Indies won their second T20 World Cup title in 2016.

Empire Football Club planning 60th anniversary celebrations

The Empire Football Club has begun planning for the celebration of its 60th anniversary.

In a statement issued Thursday, the club announced that it has established a steering committee which will spearhead all activities commemorating the milestone.

Although the celebration will run throughout 2022, the pinnacle of the planned events will occur from July 31 through August 07.

Highlights of the Feature Week will include the finals of the Under 13 tournament and the Awards Banquet.

The 60th Anniversary Steering Committee will be co-chaired by Claude Laviscount in New York and Erica Edwards in Antigua.

The club has indicated that additional details about its 60th anniversary schedule of events will be unveiled in the coming weeks.



CWI welcomes Seagram's Royal Stag as sponsors of the West Indies Men's team for tour of India

Cricket West Indies (CWI) on Thursday announced a partnership with Seagram's Royal Stag as the West Indies Men's official team sponsor for their on-going tour to India.

The Seagram's Royal Stag brand will appear on the front of the West Indies playing shirts for the six matches of the tour – three One-Day Interna-

tionals (ODIs) and three T20 Internationals (T20Is).

The new agreement sees CWI extending its commercial partnerships into the world's largest cricket market in India with the West Indies team being one of the most recognizable global sporting teams.

The West Indies teams and players

continue to be a fans' favourite around the world with nearly half a billion people a year watching West Indies home matches.

Dominic Warne, CWI's Commercial Director said: "We are really pleased to announce this new partnership with Royal Stag and our West

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