



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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# DPP GUILTY OF “PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT”

*...will be dismissed if appeal fails, says PM*

*Story on Page 2*



The Verandah Resort and Spa has just completed exciting major upgrades to its rooms and amenities. *Story on Page 11.*

## DPP Armstrong found guilty of “professional misconduct”; Ag. DPP identified

Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin has assured the nation there will be no disruption to the work of the office of the Director of Public Prosecution following recent developments in relation to Chief Prosecutor Anthony Armstrong.

In an interview with Pointe Xpress, Minister Benjamin said someone has been identified to act in the position. He declined disclosing that person's name however, noting that procedure must be complied with before this information can be revealed.

On 28th January, 2022, Jamaica's General Legal Council found Anthony Armstrong guilty of professional misconduct.

The matter against Armstrong, which was placed before the GLC in 2019, was related to allegations of misconduct with respect to the sale of three properties.

According to the GLC, Mr. Armstrong was found “guilty of professional misconduct” for acting in con-

travention of the laws of Jamaica when he signed a document as a witness for someone who was not physically present.

While it has only just been made public, the GLC's decision was handed down on 28th January.

Attorney General Benjamin said he is fully aware of the situation having met with Mr. Armstrong on the issue.

“On Friday, he came to my office and explained the circumstances to me and he offered to tender his resignation. However, he said he intends to appeal the decision, and in those circumstances, it was decided that due process must be given a chance to take place,” the attorney general revealed.

The DPP will proceed on special leave until the appeal is heard and a decision is returned.

“Special leave from my understanding is in the first instance three months and can be extended to a year. He will do so,” Mr. Benjamin



*Anthony Armstrong*

explained. “Any outstanding vacations will be taken after the period if it is necessary.”

During the transition from Anthony Armstrong to the acting DPP, work is expected to continue uninterrupted, the attorney general assured, adding that the operations will proceed as normal and justice will be done in all circumstances.

“It was felt it was proper to have due process and that the DPP be allowed to prosecute his appeal and the

appropriate measures put in place during that period,” Attorney General Benjamin affirmed.

Speaking on his Pointe FM radio show over the weekend, Prime Minister Gaston Browne reiterated his administration's stance on good governance noting that the holder of the office of the DPP should be above reproach. Therefore, until such time as Mr. Armstrong is successful in his appeal, he will be deemed unfit to serve. Further to this, Prime Minister Browne made it clear if Armstrong is not exonerated, he will be expected to demit the office.

Jamaica-born Anthony Armstrong was appointed DPP by the Judicial and Legal Services Commission in 2005. He succeeded Dominican Gene Pestaina, now deceased, who held the position in an acting capacity.

Mon 07 | Day

**81°**

5%  
ENE 16 mph

Some clouds in the morning will give way to mainly sunny skies for the afternoon. High 81F. Winds ENE at 10 to 20 mph.

Humidity  
**63%**

UV Index  
**10 of 10**

Sunrise  
**6:36 am**

Sunset  
**6:06 pm**

Mon 07 | Night

**73°**

7%  
ENE 13 mph

Partly cloudy. Low 73F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph.

Humidity  
**72%**

UV Index  
**0 of 10**

Moonrise  
**11:07 am**

Moonset  
**--**

Waxing Crescent



# Accession Message



## SANDRINGHAM HOUSE

5th February, 2022.

Tomorrow, 6th February, marks the 70th anniversary of my Accession in 1952. It is a day that, even after 70 years, I still remember as much for the death of my father, King George VI, as for the start of my reign.

As we mark this anniversary, it gives me pleasure to renew to you the pledge I gave in 1947 that my life will always be devoted to your service.

As I look ahead with a sense of hope and optimism to the year of my Platinum Jubilee, I am reminded of how much we can be thankful for. These last seven decades have seen extraordinary progress socially, technologically and culturally that have benefitted us all; and I am confident that the future will offer similar opportunities to us and especially to the younger generations in the United Kingdom and throughout the Commonwealth.

I am fortunate to have had the steadfast and loving support of my family. I was blessed that in Prince Philip I had a partner willing to carry out the role of consort and unselfishly make the sacrifices that go with it. It is a role I saw my own mother perform during my father's reign.

This anniversary also affords me a time to reflect on the goodwill shown to me by people of all nationalities, faiths and ages in this country and around the world over these years. I would like to express my thanks to you all for your support. I remain eternally grateful for, and humbled by, the loyalty and affection that you continue to give me. And when, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me; and it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service.

And so as I look forward to continuing to serve you with all my heart, I hope this Jubilee will bring together families and friends, neighbours and communities – after some difficult times for so many of us – in order to enjoy the celebrations and to reflect on the positive developments in our day-to-day lives that have so happily coincided with my reign.

Tom Servant

Elizabeth R

# PM Browne appeals to more locals to take up agriculture

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has again underscored the critical importance of Antiguan and Barbudans playing a greater role in ensuring the country's food security.

He is urging more people to become involved in agriculture both at the household level and commercially as Antigua and Barbuda must work towards ensuring it can feed its own people and become less reliant on North American imports.

The prime minister noted that this becomes all the more important as it has been proven that the quality of produce imported to the region is often of poor nutritional quality.

This, he remarked, applies to both livestock and produce.

Over the weekend, PM Browne noted that the pandemic has served to highlight the importance of agriculture, as in the early stages of the pandemic, deficiencies in the region's ability to feed itself were laid bare after global transportation was affected.

As such, he said the stigma of the past attached to agriculture must be

abandoned as it is not only necessary to ensure the nation's food security and food sovereignty but it is also a sustainable and lucrative business endeavour.

"The government presides over the administration of the sector to help to organise farmers, to provide training and so on. What a lot of people do not recognise is that agricultural production is actually, for the most part, carried out by the private sector.

"You may have the government from time to time carrying out a small input to production, but production is actually controlled by the private sector. And that is the reason why we have been encouraging more investments in that sector from the private sector.

"People have a way of saying, 'Oh the government not producing enough produce, enough meats,' but that is really not the function of the government; that's a function of the private sector.

"And the good thing is, more and more of our people - especially our youth - recognise that agriculture is



*Prime Minister Gaston Browne*

a sector in which they can generate sustainable profits and more and more people are getting involved," said Browne.

He continued that in spite of the negative comments surrounding his own decision to enter farming, his intention was to serve as an example to the community and contribute to filling the local production shortfall.

"I wanted to be an example to the rest of the population to encourage more investments in agriculture.

"Now you see in the budget we have set a target to increase our food and meat production to an aggregate of \$250 million. Currently we're only at about 10 percent of that. So when you hear those ignorant people in UPP saying that we're competing with farmers it is utter nonsense! The more food that is produced locally, it's the more foods we will displace from abroad," the prime minister explained.

Mr. Browne also noted that locally grown foods, while perhaps less aesthetically pleasing, have far greater nutritional value which in turn will result in a healthier population which creates less of a burden on the country's health care infrastructure.

"When you buy all these beautiful  
*cont'd on pg 5*



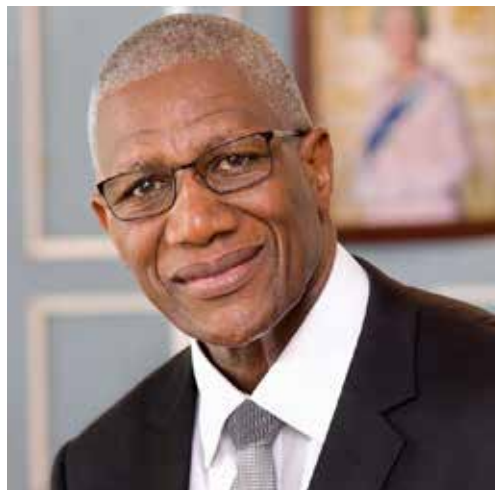
## Sir Rodney Williams to attend Commonwealth Heritage Skills Programme

The biggest-ever Commonwealth heritage project, marking Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, will be announced at the HQ of the Barbados National Trust on 9 February, as part of a Conference of the Islands aimed at developing a deeper understanding of the shared needs and opportunities for the heritage of the Caribbean.

The 5-year Commonwealth Heritage Skills project, funded by the UK philanthropic charity the Hamish Ogston Foundation, will build heritage skills with up to twenty practical projects on buildings and sites across the Commonwealth. Regional partners include the Commonwealth Heritage Forum, the Caribbean Heritage Network and the University of the West Indies.

The project will provide a tiered training programme for young people in all levels of heritage conservation through short and long term courses both in the UK and in different Commonwealth regions coupled with practical work at buildings and sites at risk across the Commonwealth.

H.E. Sir Rodney Williams, the Governor-General of Antigua and



*H.E. Sir Rodney Williams*

Barbuda and the founding patron of the CHF said: "I am delighted to be able to open this important conference to explore a sustainable future for the heritage of the Commonwealth islands of the Caribbean and train our peoples in the skills we need to support such an important element of our economies."

Philip Davies, Chairman of the Commonwealth Heritage Forum, said: "With funding of up to £4.5 million over 5 years, this initiative offers an unprecedented opportunity for all those interested in the future of the built heritage of their islands to make their views known. Our aim is to sup-

port and help the Caribbean Heritage Network, regional stakeholders and champions, so we can all better understand regional needs and priorities."

Tara Inniss, the Chair of the Caribbean Heritage Network stressed: "Historic buildings and places have a crucial role to play in re-establishing the tourist economies of the islands post-Covid, but also in the battle against climate change by re-using the embodied energy they contain. We want to hear from you. All are welcome."

The Conference of the Islands will be held at Wildey House, Bridgetown, Barbados. It will be available online from 10am to 2pm on 9th and 10th February 2022. For those joining online, the Zoom link is: <https://tinyurl.com/4zh8z3dr>.

Funded by the UK High Commission in Barbados, the conference will find out what local people and organisations believe are the most pressing heritage threats and challenges to their islands, their priorities for saving the heritage at risk that they value, what sites might become potential projects for training, and what, and where, are the skills gaps.

*cont'd from pg 4*

fruits and vegetable coming in from the United States, you're not getting the necessary [vitamins] and minerals out of them. You're eating, yes, you're filling your stomach, but they're not as nutritious. And that is why we say you have to grow more nutritious food locally.

"So our local foods,

even though they don't look as nice and pretty with all them chemicals and so on they use to make their food look good in the United States, the reality is they have better nutritional value and they're better for health care.

"Let us not forget too, the issue of microbial organisms and bacteria and so on

that you're finding in foods, the medicines that we use now [are less effective or] do not work against them.

"The need for us to produce our own food and to become food secure is becoming absolutely necessary. Recently the Ministry of Agriculture had to ban the importation of meats from Brazil because of the

poor quality meats that are coming out of Brazil.

"They have their foot and mouth disease and so on and some of these producers, they just don't pay any attention and they export all this rotten food to us and they're literally undermining our health and development," concluded Prime Minister Browne.



# Labour Day and Carnival 2022 get green light

During the presentation of the 2022 budget last week, Prime Minister Gaston Browne hinted at least twice that Carnival celebrations could take place this year, albeit scaled back versions with restrictions in place due to the pandemic.

The speculation has been removed however, as over the weekend, the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda revealed that both Labour Day and Carnival will return this year.

For the past two years the customary Labour Day celebrations were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pan-






demic. This year however, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, the Cabinet announced last week that Labour Day plans will proceed come Monday 2nd


May, 2022.

Additionally, the newly appointed Minister of Cultural Industries, Michael Browne, reported that a limited form of Carnival is

being planned for this summer.

As expected, large, close contact events which have the potential to become ground zero for another wave of COVID-19 will not be allowed. This will likely mean the absence of j'ouvert, mas, street parades and mega fetes. However, the Cabinet disclosed last Friday that a schedule of events will be announced, after careful consultations with all relevant stakeholders, that will herald the return of the summer festival which has been absent, save for virtual events, since 2019.





**Sir Lester Bryant Bird, KNI**  
21 February 1938 - 9 August 2021

"By the time we reached the signing of the Treaty in Basseterre, I think most of us who were there had already gone through the whole process and feeling for an Integrated situation"

Antigua & Barbuda is embedded in history for being a leading role in the institution of the OECS.

with Sir Lester a Co-Founder signing the Treaty of Basseterre on June 18th 1981.

#drivesafeantigua

## More housing projects announced as demand grows

Multiple government initiated, residential developments are being undertaken simultaneously across the country as the government has given priority to a rising local demand for houses.

Housing Minister Maria Bird-Browne says cognizant of the government's mandate, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Renewal is forging ahead with new projects in order to "empower our Antiguans and Barbudans with a piece of their rock".

In addition to Paynters, Dredge Bay and constructing homes on private lands, more areas have been identified where the government's housing programme will be extended.

Recently, preparation began for the construction of several houses at Oliver's Estate, with similar projects also earmarked for St. Mary's South.

"In Oliver's Estate we're going to be doing 400 homes there. We've started 35 already, and we're going heavy and we're looking at another area at Tomlinson's. So that's going to be the next site for 2022. We're going to start prepping soon and we're going heavy into housing," Bird-Browne said on a radio programme on Friday evening.

In St. Mary's South, she revealed Jennings Village and Bolans have been identified as locations where additional houses will be constructed. A show house is nearing completion in Jennings, where 76 residential dwellings will be made available for successful applicants. Another 72 will be constructed in Bolans.

The homes are being made available for low and middle-income earners, starting from \$ 175,000 up to \$ 280,000, the minister revealed.

"We are definitely not dropping the ball, we're going to make sure we deliver on this mandate to make housing available and more affordable for the people of Antigua and Barbuda."

Describing it as a housing revolution, Minister Maria Browne-Browne declared, except for the current administration, no other government has made housing a priority for citizens. She revealed the demand for housing is great and her ministry is in receipt of a large number of applications, and while there will come a time when lands will become scarce, until then she has committed to meeting the demands of applicants.

The St. John's Rural East MP stated



*Housing Minister Maria Bird-Browne*

a different housing plan is being formulated for her constituency, where crown lands are unavailable. Minister Bird-Browne spoke of pocket housing projects for the area she represents, the first of which will be Cassada Gardens. Talks on purchasing lands from private owners and land swaps were initiated.

"We are negotiating with some private landowners to see how best we can get on to some other parcels, and have these pocket housing developments. They won't be as large as the ones you're seeing in Paynters and in Oliver's [Estate] coming up, but they will be there in the constituency, and that's mainly because most of the crown lands in the constituency have already been taken and are private. So definitely, rural east will not be left out."

In the interim, Minister Bird-Browne has executed a housing renewal programme in the constituency, where she provides materials or labour which allows eligible residents to carry out repairs on their homes in order to improve their living condition. This initiative is now only taking place on a small scale, she indicated that the plan is ultimately to expand the programme which will allow more residents of the St. John's Rural East Constituency to benefit.





# Tear gas, whips and gates

By Tony Deyal

“What do fish mean in Jamaican?” This came from an online page “MotivationJob” which, took the time and space to tell me what “Jamaicans say a lot”. I immediately knew that the Jamaican “fish” could not be a limbless cold-blooded vertebrate animal with gills and fins living wholly in water. This was too simple an answer for two reasons.

In the first place, Jamaica got the first place for making the first English Language movie in history (“The Harder They Come”) that needed subtitles in the United States, Britain and the rest of the English-speaking Caribbean. In fact, it was much harder to understand what the actors were saying than what they were doing.

The second was when I heard some Jamaicans in the hall-of-residence in the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Trinidad calling one of their fellow nationals “Pokey” which in Trinidad is slang for the female sexual organ. I eventually learnt that the young student was a farmer who had worked on a pig-farm and “Pokey” was Jamaican for “Porky”.

In Trinidad, there is a freshwater fish called a “guabine” (pronounced “wahbeen”) which has a large mouth and dog-like teeth that earned it the name “wolf-fish”. A calypsonian, Lord

Inventor, in 1961 applied the term “wahbeen” to women of loose morals (dem wahbeen women we have so low, if a razor-blade fall dey go pass below), and The Mighty Sparrow later sang about “Wahbeen and grog (rum) and pan beating fine” being so much on his mind that he left New York every year to return to Charlotte Street in Port-of-Spain to enjoy his carnival especially on “Ash Wednesday”, the day after carnival.

Given that “Baxide!” supposedly means “Oh my god!” and “lick” means “hit” (and not “passing the tongue over something to taste it”), the Jamaican fish gave me neither a shark nor a shock. The explanation was, “Another seemingly innocent, but sexually charged word in Jamaican Patois, is fish. But unlike buddy, there is nothing ‘good’ associated with fish, as the word means ‘gay’ or ‘homosexual’.” I also learnt that “B” in Jamaican slang means “backside” or “baxside” and was “used as a curse term”. This led me to wonder what the rest of the letters of the Jamaican alphabet stood for – definitely not “apple”, “dog” or even “cat” etc.

What got me into this fishy business was that I wanted to find out whether Jamaicans, like most other Caribbean people, pronounced the word “job” as “jab”. One of my Ja-



Tony Deyal

maican colleagues explained, “You have to have patience. A job can be a jab but a jab can also be a job and a job can also be a job.” In other words, you need the patience of the biblical Job (pronounced “Jobe”) to understand them. As my friend Jimmy quipped, “These days the only place you can find a good job is in the Bible.”

As a youngster growing up in a little village in Central Trinidad, and going to an Anglican School, I had no problem with job, jab or Job. Everyone from the Leeward or Windward Islands, mainly Grenadians and Vincentians, as well as the people from India and their descendants, pronounced

*cont'd on pg 9*



## APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 7th February 2022	Tuesday, 8th February 2022	Wednesday, 9th February 2022	Thursday, 10th February 2022	Friday, 11th February 2022
Section of Patterson near the Horse Stable	Fort James and Dry Hill	CUB Bank	Upper Fort Road west of the Woods Mall Center	Galleon Bay Hotel
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
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Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.



# Guest Editorial

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“job” as “jab”. Like our present COVID days, people were all looking for jabs, had one, lost one, did not want any, or were jabless through no fault of their own.

In those days too, “tear” meant “to pull or be pulled apart”, “to move very quickly”, “a hole in a piece of paper or cloth” or “a drop of salty liquid that flows from the eye, as a result of strong emotion, especially unhappiness or pain.” The word “gas” was “a substance in a form like air that is neither solid nor liquid” which was used in cars that were just becoming available in Trinidad for the much richer people only, and lamps or “gaslights” which, with candles and “torch-lights”, were for most us the only light sources available with which to do our homework.

Recently, in the days of COVID, the two names “tear” and “gas” were put together by police in a tearing hurry who, tearing through the Queen’s Park Savannah in Trinidad, without warning and without any subsequent tears of remorse or regret, even for those people engaged in a “prayer and reflect”, loosed three canisters of tear gas on all those gathered there, little children included.

You would think that the political leadership would have said “That tears it” and take immediate action to curtail the police and fire the “Acting” Commissioner for acting so stupidly. Unfor-

tunately, they seem to have become even more blinded than the people who were the victims of the tear-gas attack. “What they need,” one of my Jamaican friends insisted, “is some on-the-jab training from one of our heavyweights like Trevor Burbick who would not only give them one jab but a ‘jab-jab’ and then a knock-out punch.” What he did not know is that in Trinidad a “jab-jab” is a character in the annual carnival who depicts the plantation overseer armed with a whip which was used on the slaves and Indentured immigrants. In fact, for a very long time the persons overseeing the workers were known as “Drivers”!

Despite the appalling memory the “whip” has for all of us, the Parliaments of the Caribbean are still following the pattern and in the footsteps of the British. Each party has a “whip” or enforcer whose task it is to ensure party discipline and guarantee that their colleagues attend all voting sessions and vote according to their party’s official policy. Hearing legislators refer to Parliament as the “House”, I would subject all of them to some house training especially in manners, respect and telling the truth, as well as drop some whips on them for not realising that those who forget or ignore history are doomed to repeat it.

I would not mind becoming a whip in any of the parliaments of the region so that I could deal with those

members who deserve a hiding for hiding behind their posts and positions and using them for their own enrichment or that of their friends and family. It is better than wondering whether to be a writer specialising in Caribbean politics or to go to jail for whipping a big shot Minister. That takes up too much time weighing the prose and cons. I am not like the lumberjack who cut down 82,546 big trees. He knew the exact number because he kept a log. Ideally, I would like to have Bill Gates as my boss. He said he chooses a lazy person to do a hard job because a lazy person will find an easy way to do it. What Bill doesn’t know is that only a few of the Prime Ministers in the Caribbean or their hand-picked Cabinets need Gates to work that out for them.

What I feel should not

happen in any regional democracy is for these same Prime Ministers to take away the rights of anyone especially those people who do not infringe upon, or threaten, the rights of anyone else. If I were a Prime Minister, or the Leader of the Opposition, my members, supporters and I would be out on the road every day trying to convince my fellow nationals to take the vaccines. That is the only way we can move from threats of job loss, jail, tear-gas and gun talk to achieve what Louis Carroll in *Alice In Wonderland* calls “Jabberwocky”, which is a combination of “gallop” and “triumphant” and means “to march on exultantly...”.

*\*Tony Deyal was last seen saying that a pin has as much head as some Prime Ministers and a good deal more point.*

## Weekend Crossword Solution

VOID WHERE PROHIBITED

By Kyle Kelly

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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17					18							19		
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# Experts appeal for protection of wetlands

A senior official in the Department of Environment believes more needs to be done to preserve the nation's wetlands.

Speaking on the occasion of World Wetlands Day last Wednesday, Technical Coordinator, Dr. Helena Jeffrey-Brown, highlighted the role wetlands play in small island states, where they decrease flooding, prevent soil erosion where mangroves are present, aid in sustaining marine life and store carbon thereby helping to eliminate the effects of global warming.

She said existing legislation provides for the wetlands to be identified and protected, an exercise the division is pursuing.

"This process is going to involve a collaboration with all the different agencies that manage water resources. Our legislation says this is what we're supposed to do, and this is what we're



Joseph Prosper

attempting to roll out at this time, to ensure our wetlands are protected," Dr. Jeffrey-Browne noted.

They will also pursue other projects that seek to protect the island's water sheds to help prevent contamination.

Meanwhile, Conservationist Joseph Prosper has identified an invasive



Dr. Helena Jeffrey-Brown

species that poses a threat to wetlands in Antigua and Barbuda; *Typha Domengensis* or Southern Cattail.

The Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International in the United Kingdom outlined when invasive, the plant can replace other valuable plant commodities.

*cont'd on pg 11*

# COVID-19 dashboard update

The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment revealed one hundred and twenty-one (121) new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Tuesday 1st February, 2022 at 6pm.

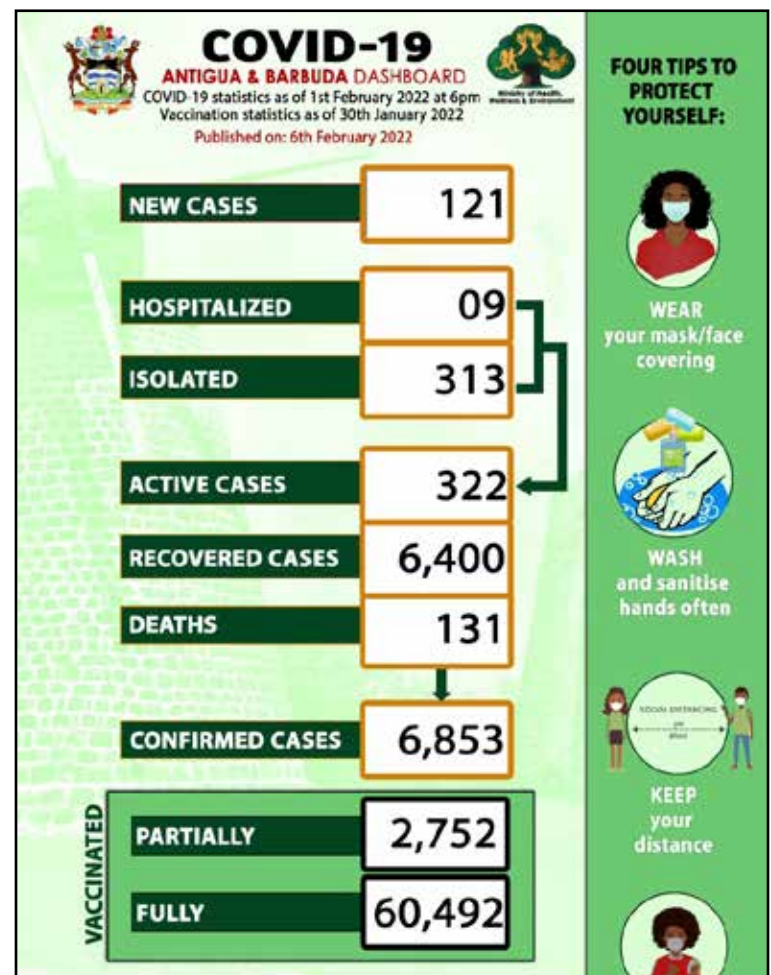
Three hundred and fifty-two (352) samples were processed.

Eighty-two (82) recovered cases were recorded.

Four (4) COVID-19 related deaths were recorded

at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre; two (2) on January 29th and two (2) on February 1st.

Consequently, the total number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is six thousand eight hundred and fifty-three (6,853); which is inclusive of three hundred and twenty-two (322) active cases. There are nine (9) hospitalized cases; two (2) severe, one (1) moderate and six (6) mild.





## The Verandah unveils new upgrades

The Verandah Resort and Spa has unveiled a new look and several upgrades to better serve its guests.

The resort, which is part of the Elite Island Resorts portfolio, recently unveiled newly renovated Waterfront Suites.

It now also boasts a new coffee shop and its Rasta Beach Pool has been redesigned to include a deck and Baja shelf.

These rollouts join favourite amenities at The Verandah including two lighted tennis courts, a watersports center, an 18-hole mini golf course and its full-service spa, Tranquility.

The Elite Island Resorts repertoire includes other Antigua-based properties St. James' Club, Hammock Cove and Galley Bay Resort.



At present, the resort requires guests 16 and above to present proof of vaccination at check-in.

The Verandah Resort and Spa,

which opened its doors in 2007, offers 180 one and two bedroom suites and luxury villas which are spread across 30 acres of beachfront property.



*The new coffee shop at The Verandah [Photo credit: CaribJournal]*



*The redesigned Rasta Beach Pool [Photo credit: CaribJournal]*

**cont'd from pg 10**

Mr. Prosper said the problem with the Southern Cattail is that its seeds are spread by the birds and wind, which result in the plant "dominating the wetland areas of Antigua and Barbuda". According to Prosper, the value of the wetlands must be preserved and as such, the plants must be eradicated or managed.

He wants private land-

owners to destroy the plants when they are uprooted from their properties, instead of leaving them to get into waterways, where new plants can thrive.

"The aim is that if they're removing them from the wetland areas, to actually take them somewhere and dispose them, burn them, take them to some isolated place where the impact is reduced," he advised.





# Seven things that make you look older, according to science

By Michael Martin

Youth may be wasted on the young, but many people who are older can squander a youthful appearance with everyday activities that lead to premature aging.

“You can’t change what you were dealt with genetically but you can take control of other factors which will help to stay looking younger,” says Dr. Eugene D. Elliott of MemorialCare.

These are seven things that tend to make us look older as soon as we do them—and, over time, kick off bodily processes that result in the visible, permanent signs of age.

## 1. Drinking Too Much Alcohol

Alcohol has a number of immediate effects on the body, none of them too pretty. It dehydrates the skin and causes inflammation, which can cause facial flushing, swelling and broken capillaries, all of which make you look older than you are. In a 2019 multinational study of more than 3,200 women, those who drank more than eight drinks a week had more “upper facial lines, under-eye puffiness, oral commissures, midface volume loss, and blood vessels” than women who drank moderately or abstained.



## 2. Not Drinking Enough Water

Not drinking enough water can lead to dehydration, which can show up on your face in the form of dryness, crow’s feet, fine lines and dark circles. How much is enough? According to the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, an adequate daily fluid intake is about 15.5 cups a day for men and about 11.5 cups for women. (That includes fluids from water, beverages and food.) About 20% of our daily fluid intake comes from food, with the rest supplied by drinks.

## 3. Smoking

Tobacco smoke contains hundreds of toxins, while smoking constricts blood vessels and decreases the circulation of oxygen and nutrients to the skin. It sounds like a recipe for premature aging, and science backs it up. In a study published in the journal *Plastic*



and Reconstructive Surgery, researchers compared the facial features of 79 sets of twins; they found that those who smoked at the time, or smoked five years or more than their twin, had more undereye bags, lip wrinkles and jowls.

## 4. Not Wearing Sunscreen

Getting too much sun can result in dry skin and sunburn, not the freshest and most youthful of looks. Over time, UV light exposure can damage the skin and cause long-term changes. “These changes include photoaging (premature aging of the skin because of sun exposure),” says Harvard Medical School. “In photoaging, the skin develops wrinkles and fine lines because of changes in the collagen of a deep layer of the skin called the dermis.” To avoid this, wear a sunscreen of at least 30 SPF, with a broad spectrum of protection against UVA and UVB rays. If you’re heading to the pool or beach, make sure it’s water-resistant.

## 5. Eating Too Much Sugar

Collagen and elastin are two compounds within the skin that keep it tight, plump and youthful. One major underminer of this skin support system: Sugar, also known as glucose and fructose. According to a study published in the journal *Clinical Dermatology*, when



*cont’d on pg 13*



## Dame Georgiana Ellen “Nellie” Robinson DNH, MBE

Dame Georgiana Ellen “Nellie” Robinson DNH, MBE was born on 7th December 1880 in St John’s, Antigua and Barbuda. She was the second child in George and Margaret Robinson’s family of eight.

Miss Robinson broke down color and class barriers when she opened her own school for children of all races, classes, and faiths, TOR Memorial, in Antigua where British colonialism had imposed class and race inequalities upon people of non-white backgrounds.

She spent a considerable number of years in the United States where she received her education and later worked as a domestic helper and nanny.

Upon returning to Antigua, she furthered her education at Coke Memorial College after which she sat, and successfully completed the Senior Cambridge Examination.

Having witnessed discrimination against and the exclusion of people of color both in the U.S. and at home, Dame Georgiana thought she had to do something to empower her own people.

Four years after her return home, Miss Robinson opened the Thomas Oliver Robinson (TOR) Memorial School in April 1898 at age 18. The

school was named in honor of her late older brother who encouraged her to pursue her dream of opening a school.

Mother Rob, as she was affectionately called by her students, opened the doors of her school to anyone desirous of accessing a quality education and opening the door to a better life.

Dame Nellie successfully operated it under a nondiscriminatory policy, pioneering admission for children born to unwed parents who, at the time, were barred from attending local secondary schools.

TOR Memorial school set an example that would later be followed by other institutions. Her pioneering efforts paved the way for equal access to education for all children in Antigua and Barbuda.

Although many black Antiguan and Barbudans could not afford a fee-paying school in that era, Dame Georgiana’s school awarded scholarships that ensured that children from poor families would be able to get an education.

Over the years, the TOR Memorial became so widely recognised that Dame Nellie began to attract students from St. Croix, Montserrat, Panama, Tortola and St. Kitts and Nevis.

Miss Robinson’s efforts to the improvement of her nation were not lim-



*Dame Georgiana Ellen “Nellie” Robinson*

ited to education. In 1912 she joined the Water Preservation Committee on which she played an important role in early efforts to expand the reach of pipe-borne water in the country.

Nellie Robinson served as headmistress of TOR Memorial School for 52 years until her retirement in 1950. Just over two decades after her retirement, she died on 29th April 1972 in St. John’s.

Georgiana Ellen “Nellie” Robinson was posthumously bestowed the honour of Dame Companion of the Order of the National Hero during Antigua and Barbuda’s twenty-fifth anniversary of independence in 2006. She is the only woman, to date, to have been awarded Antigua and Barbuda’s Order of the National Hero.

*cont’d from pg 12*

high levels of glucose and fructose are consumed, they link to amino acids in collagen and elastin, damaging them and inhibiting the body’s natural repair process.

### 6. Not Getting Enough Sleep

During sleep, various body systems—ranging from

the brain to the skin—undergo renewal and repair. Getting less than you need can show up on your face. According to a study published in Clinical and Experimental Dermatology, women who got quality sleep experienced 30% better skin-barrier recovery than women who got poor sleep, and had “signifi-

cantly lower intrinsic skin aging.”

### 7. Stressing Out

Running around seeming freaked-out or constipated isn’t just a bad look in the moment—over time, being chronically stressed can age us on the cellular level. That’s according to Harvard Medical School, which re-

ports that chronic stress can shorten our telomeres, the structures inside each cell that contain genetic information. As telomeres get shorter, cells age and eventually die. Not only is this the literal process of aging, people with shorter telomeres are at risk of chronic conditions like heart disease and cancer.

## Obesity in CARICOM is the highest compared to the rest of the world

By Victoria Cruickshank-Taylor

Obesity is no longer only a problem in developed countries but is now a critical issue for developing countries, including CARPHA Member States (CMS), especially since this disease is affecting a significant number of children.

The Caribbean has some of the highest rates of overweight and obesity in the Americas with adults ranging from 18.9% in Antigua and Barbuda to 31.6% in the Bahamas.

Alarming, overweight and obesity prevalence levels in children aged 5-9 years in CARICOM countries are increasing, and highest in the Bahamas at 39.5% and lowest in Saint Lucia at 26.1%.

The prevalence of obesity in Caribbean children is two to three times higher than the World.

With the obesity epidemic in children and adolescents, the future seen through the risk factor lens for Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) looks dismal, as these young persons will be the future working generation but living with higher rates of NCDs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of persons with obesity, and other NCDs. It is not yet clear why there is a link between COVID-19 and obesity, however an increased susceptibility to respiratory problems, inflammation, and immunological disturbances in people living with obesity may all be contributing factors. Obesity also has a number of NCD comorbidities such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease which have also been shown to increase risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes.

Obesity is caused by a combination of genetic, environmental factors and behavioural factors, such as physical inactivity and unhealthy diet. However,



Photo credit: Corbis

er, the obesogenic environment, which is usually driven by factors outside of the individual's control, makes the healthy choice the difficult choice to make.

Persons with obesity also face stigma and discrimination due to their weight that can lead to poor emotional well-being, and low self-esteem.

Realising that a whole of society approach is necessary to reduce the burden of obesity and diet related NCDs, CARPHA continues to support its member states and collaborate with regional and international organisations in an effort to minimize the impact of obesity in the Caribbean region.

Some initiatives spearheaded by CARPHA to combat childhood obesity include the Six-Point Policy Package which sets out priority areas for action on mandatory food labelling, nutritional standards and guidelines for schools, and reduction in the marketing of unhealthy foods.

CARPHA, in collaboration with Ministries of Health and Education in Grenada and Saint Lucia, implement-

ed an intervention in schools to promote healthy environments and diets to prevent obesity and diabetes. 'Reversing the Rise in Childhood Obesity' was funded by the World Diabetes Foundation. As part of the project, a recipe book Kids Can Cook Too was developed to support sustained healthy eating behaviours of children.

Caribbean countries should recommit efforts to fighting childhood obesity by:

Developing, implementing or enforcing policies aimed at facilitating the consumption of healthy diets and increasing physical activity, such as, clear and simple front of packaging labelling.

Combating social stigma associated with obesity

Ensuring access to care for persons who want help to maintain a healthy weight

Individuals can do their part by becoming more physically active by moving more and reducing the consumption of salt, fats and sugar and increasing the consumption of fruits and vegetables.



## Thousands of Guyanese to benefit from free government wi-fi

CMC- The Government of Guyana, through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), has begun the installation process of 1,000 free internet access hubs across five regions.

Dubbed 'The 1,000 Hubs Project', the initiative, which is a collaborative effort between the Industry and Innovation Unit at OPM and the National Data Management Authority (NDMA), will result in thousands of persons benefiting from free Wi-Fi.

The hubs will be outfitted with the 1,000 internet boxes (LTE/WiFi CPE) presented to the Government by Chinese multinational technology corporation, Huawei, in November last year.

During that presentation, Prime Minister Mark

Phillips had said that the donation will assist his Government in its aim to bridge the digital divide in Guyana.

The LTE boxes are capable of transferring 4G networks outdoors at over 300 metres and just below 100 metres indoors to more than 100 users at a time.

Head of the Industry and Innovation Unit, Shahrukh Hussain, said that Pomeroun- Supenaam (Region Two), Essequibo Islands-West Demerara (Region Three), Demerara – Mahaica (Region Four), Mahaica-Berbice (Region Five) and East Berbice – Corentyne (Region Six) were selected because of the proximity of the LTE towers on the coast.

Residents of Region Six were the first to benefit



from the initiative.

Hussain has urged community members to make full use of the free Wi-Fi spaces.

He said the initiative takes the total free government internet access points in Region Six to approximately 66.

The hubs are geared to complement the current installation of ICT hubs in approximately 200 communities through the ICT

Access and eServices for Hinterland, Poor and Remote Communities Project, also under the Prime Minister's direct supervision.

The Government of Guyana has been promoting ICT development, in the budget that was presented last month, It was announced that \$1.3b will be allocated to support the rapid development of the ICT sector this year.

## Jamaica's finance minister says Jamalco restoration on track for June

Loop - Finance Minister, Dr Nigel Clarke, has said restoration work on the powerhouse at the Jamalco alumina refinery in Clarendon is on track, and will take place over three phases.

The powerhouse was destroyed in an explosion and subsequent fire on August 22 last year.

On September 29, then Mining Minister Robert Montague told Parliament that the closure of the plant was costing up to US\$500,000 daily.

Clarke, who was responding to questions from Opposition Spokesman on Energy, Phillip Paulwell, in



*Jamaica's Minister of Finance Dr. Nigel Clarke*

the House of Representatives last week, said phase one of the restoration efforts should be completed by June 2022, by which time "Jamalco expects the recommencement of operations

at up to 50 per cent of capacity using steam from a set of boilers now being installed."

Clarke added that "It is expected that mining operations and associated jobs will begin to be restored in the weeks prior to the resumption of production."

The finance minister, who has responsibility for Clarendon Alumina Production (CAP), which handles the Government's 45 per cent share in the operations of Jamalco, also shared that by the end of September 2022, Jamal-

*cont'd on pg 16*

# Government of Dominica concerned about Russia-Ukraine border conflict

Loop - The government of the Commonwealth of Dominica has expressed concern about the situation along the Russian Federation-Ukraine border.

In a statement issued on Saturday, Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit said the tension between both nations needs to be addressed.

“We believe that the issues relating to tensions between Russia and Ukraine, need to be addressed through diplomatic efforts. A military solution will not redound to the benefit of any nation.”

“The matter poses a threat to international peace and security and will lead to unprecedented implications for the global community. The world can ill-afford armed conflict during this period of global uncertainty,

which will result in adverse social and economic impacts; and political strife,” the Prime Minister noted.

“Dominica calls for de-escalation dialogue to ease tensions and secure a nonviolent resolution to the conflict; and the charting of a path to peace for the safety and security of all,” Skerrit said.

In a recent move, US President Joe Biden announced to send additional troops to Europe this week amid ongoing fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine.

However, Moscow has also placed an estimated 100,000 troops along Ukraine’s borders but denies plans to invade. It is adamantly opposed to Ukraine being a member of the Nato military alliance.

Eight years ago, Russia



Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit

grabbed Ukraine’s southern Crimea peninsula and backed a deadly rebellion in Ukraine’s eastern Donbas area, causing tensions.

Moscow accuses Ukraine of failing to follow the Minsk Agreement, an international agreement aimed at restoring peace

in the east, where Russian-backed separatists controlled large swaths of land and at least 14,000 persons have been killed since 2014.

According to the US government, the US troops stationed in Ukraine will not fight in Ukraine, but rather, protect their friends.

*cont’d from pg 15*

co expects to be back at 100 percent production, which should mark phase two of the recovery efforts.

“Production costs should then be lower than in phase one, but still not at the most efficient levels possible, because in phase two Jamalco will still be relying on the temporary steam solution,” explained Clarke.

He said phase three is to involve the rebuilding of the powerhouse, and the bauxite company is now considering a number of strategic options to achieve that goal. It is projected that completion of the reconstruction of the powerhouse will be achieved by 2024.

Meanwhile, Clarke said all mining activities which were suspended from

October 6, remain on hold, except for limited reclamation and rehabilitation works that are ongoing.

“The expectation is that with boilers now arriving and installation commencing, phase one production will begin by the end of June. As such, mining activities are expected to resume, to some extent, in the weeks prior to the phase one resumption,” the finance minister said.

In terms of insurance, Clarke also told the House that Jamalco submitted a claim for the full policy limit of US\$250 million for which its operations were insured.

The minister explained that while a claim was made for the full amount, the insurance policy has many layers

and a consortium of insurers and re-insurers provided coverage for different layers of insurance and in different amounts.

Responding to Paulwell’s question about whether the claim was settled in full, Clarke said “If the meaning of settlement is whether full payment has been made, then the answer would be ‘not yet’, as payment is expected to be made over time as Jamalco rebuilds and restores. However, the expectation is that the claim will be settled in full over the course of time.”

Clarke said insurance proceeds received so far total US\$68 million, which has been used to fund the clean-up, asset preservation and phase one restoration activities.



## Camilla will be Queen: Elizabeth II uses Platinum Jubilee message to elevate Charles' second wife

(CNN) - Britain's Queen Elizabeth II has used the historic milestone of her Platinum Jubilee to redefine the future of the monarchy, calling for the Duchess of Cornwall to be known as Queen Camilla when Charles becomes King.

When Charles married Camilla in 2005, the couple announced she intended to be known as "Princess Consort" despite having a right to the title of Queen. It was seen as a recognition of the sensitivities around a title that was destined for Charles' first wife, Diana.

It's the same reason Camilla doesn't use the title of Princess of Wales.

The Queen would be expected to consult her direct heirs Charles and William before making such a significant announcement about titles, which suggests they both agreed and felt the British public is ready to accept Camilla as Queen.

The 95-year-old monarch laid out her vision for institution's transition in an extraordinary message released as she reached the 70th anniversary of her accession to the throne.

"I would like to express my thanks to you all for your support. I remain eternally grateful for, and humbled by, the loyalty and affection that you continue to give me," the Queen said.

"And when, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me; and it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service."

It's a hugely significant intervention from the monarch, who is the only person who can define royal titles.

Camilla became something of a public pariah following the breakdown of Charles and Diana's union in the mid-90s.

Diana had blamed Camilla for ruin-



*Queen Elizabeth II is the longest reigning monarch in British history. [Photo credit: CNN]*

ing her marriage, saying in a 1995 television interview, "There were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded." A year earlier, Charles had also appeared on television and confessed his infidelity, but maintained he had only been unfaithful once his marriage had crumbled.

Positive public sentiment for the Princess of Wales was only further cemented when she was killed in a Paris car crash in 1997.

In the intervening years, Camilla retreated to the shadows, supporting Charles quietly from a distance.

But as time has gone by, sentiment toward the Duchess of Cornwall has softened. And the Queen's moves to future-proof the monarchy reflects Camilla is no longer viewed as the royal mistress but a central figure in "the firm."

On Saturday, Prince Charles and Camilla announced they were "touched and honoured by Her Majesty's words" according to a spokesperson.

Elizabeth ascended to the throne on February 6, 1952, following the death of her father, King George VI, at the age of 56.

Throughout her reign, Elizabeth has often used landmark moments to reaffirm her devotion to her duties, and did so once more in her message on Saturday, despite the fact she is nearing her

96th birthday.

"As we mark this anniversary, it gives me pleasure to renew to you the pledge I gave in 1947 that my life will always be devoted to your service," she said.

The Queen also expressed "a sense of hope and optimism" for the year ahead, before conveying her gratitude to her family for their support and paying tribute to her late husband, the Duke of Edinburgh.

"I was blessed that in Prince Philip I had a partner willing to carry out the role of consort and unselfishly make the sacrifices that go with it. It is a role I saw my own mother perform during my father's reign," she shared.

The monarch ended her message by restating she looked forward "to continuing to serve you with all my heart" and shared her hope her jubilee would provide an opportunity for people to come together after the difficulties of recent years.

Traditionally, the Queen marks her Accession Day at her countryside retreat of Sandringham in Norfolk, about 100 miles north of London. It's a chance for her to reflect upon the death of her father away from the glare of the public. In keeping with previous years, no public engagements occurred on Sunday.

The Queen did host a special reception earlier Saturday for some Sandringham community members on the eve of her Platinum Jubilee.

The Queen appeared to be in great spirits during the engagement, according to Britain's PA Media news agency. She held a wooden walking stick and carried her trademark black handbag as she made her way around the room, joking and laughing with guests.

It was the largest gathering the sovereign has attended since October, when she hosted a reception to mark the Global Investment Summit at Windsor Castle.

## Trump tirade on 'racist' DAs echoes other racist tropes

AP — Looking out at a sea of faces at a Texas fairground, most of them white, former President Donald Trump seethed about his legal troubles and blamed them on malicious prosecutors.

"These prosecutors are vicious, horrible people. They're racists and they're very sick, they're mentally sick," Trump said, before warning his audience: "In reality, they're not after me. They're after you."

He repeated his charge of racism, but skipped over an obvious detail: Those prosecutors are Black.

His diatribe left the clear impression that Trump, who rode the politics of white grievance into the White House, thinks he can't possibly be treated fairly by Black officials.

The comments carry the echoes of racist messages that have proliferated in recent years — that Black people and other minorities are taking power, and that they will exact revenge on white people, or at the very least treat white people as they have been treated.

That's among the fears stoking the white supremacy movement, the so-called "white replacement theory" that people of color will supplant whites in the country's power dynamics and social structure.

"These are the same justifications that they use for Jim Crow laws and their mistreatment of African Americans. So this is just a rerun of what we've seen in our country," said one Black district attorney, Brian Middleton of Fort Bend County, Texas, which lies southwest of central Houston.

Trump attacking prosecutors is nothing new. When his business and political dealings are investigated, he often strikes back with accusations of misconduct and witch hunts.

The former president has long been



*New York Attorney General Letitia James speaks during a rally in support of home care workers in New York. [Photo credit: AP]*

accused of bigotry. Before the 2016 election, Trump called U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel a "hater" who could not be fair to him in a fraud case involving Trump University because of the judge's Hispanic heritage and because Trump vowed to build a wall between the U.S. and Mexico.

And after 2017 demonstrations by white supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia, turned violent, he said at a news conference that there were "very fine people, on both sides."

He had never accused his prosecutors of racism before — but then, until the start of the year, one of those attorneys was Cyrus Vance Jr., who is white.

Now he faces an array of Black prosecutors: New York Attorney General Letitia James; Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, Vance's successor and the first Black person to hold that office; Fani Willis, the Fulton County, Georgia, DA; even Rep. Bennie Thompson, the leader of the congressional investigation into the Jan. 6

insurrection. And critics say Trump's rhetoric has escalated, perhaps because he recognizes that some among his base are receptive to more overt racism.

"It intensifies that discourse and makes it explicitly racial," said Casey Kelly, a communications professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln who for years has pored over transcripts of Trump's speeches.

At a recent rally in Arizona, he said -- falsely -- that white people in New York were being sent to the back of line for antiviral treatments.

And now Trump is using the investigations against him — and the prosecutors behind them — as "evidence of a larger systemic pattern that white people don't have a place in the future of America and he's the only one that can fight on their behalf," Kelly said.

Michael Steele, who more than a decade ago was the first African American to chair the Republican National Committee, said Trump was being

*cont'd on pg 19*



AP — Russia is reporting a record daily count of new coronavirus infections, a tenfold spike from a month ago as the highly contagious omicron variant spreads through the country.

The figure of 189,071 new infections released by the state coronavirus task force on Sunday was about 2,800 cases more than the previous day and continued a surge that began in mid-January, when daily new cases were around 17,000.

Although the number of infections has increased dramatically in recent weeks, the task force reported that daily deaths from COVID-19 are holding steady or marginally declining: 661 more deaths were recorded Sunday, compared with 796 on Jan. 6.

For the entire course of the pandemic, the task force has reported 12.8 million in-



*A teenager receives a dose of Russia's Sputnik M (Gam-COVID-Vac-M) COVID-19 vaccine in Krasnodar. [Photo credit: AP]*

fections and 335,414 deaths, the highest death toll by far in Europe.

Despite the soaring infections, Russian President Vladimir Putin told Russia's top business association last week that authorities are not planning any lockdowns or other additional restrictions. Moreover, the government lifted the seven-day self-isolation restrictions for those who come into contact with

COVID-19 patients.

Russia has had only one lockdown, for six weeks in 2020, and in October 2021 many people were ordered to stay off work for about a week. But beside that, life in most of the country remained largely normal.

In recent weeks, a growing number of Russian regions have started introducing restrictions for those under 18, as offi-

cials noted that the current surge is affecting children much more than the previous ones. In many areas, schools have either switched to remote learning or extended holidays for students. In St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city, minors have been temporarily barred from most public places.

Russia started vaccinating children aged 12-17 only last month with the domestically developed Sputnik M jab, which is the same composition as its Sputnik V but contains a smaller dose. According to media reports and social media users, only small amounts of the vaccine for teenagers have been made available.

Only about half of Russia's 146 million people have been vaccinated so far, even though the country was among the first in the world to roll out COVID-19 shots.

*cont'd from pg 18*

Trump.

"If he can race bait it, he will. These prosecutors, these Black people are coming after me — the white man," Steele said.

"They didn't just wake up and say, 'I'm gonna waste city resources and state resources to go after Donald Trump,'" said Steele, a member of the Lincoln Project, a Republican group opposed to the former president. "Whether the prosecutors are Black or white, his corruption is still the same. It's him, his actions, his behavior, his decisions — and that's where the onus

lies."

There is evidence that Trump's words have had consequences. Willis — the Georgia prosecutor who asked a judge to impanel a special grand jury to help probe possible "criminal disruptions" by Trump and his allies during the 2020 presidential election and its aftermath -- told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that threats and racist slurs against her have increased since Trump's rally in Texas.

In a letter to the FBI, Willis called Trump's rhetoric "alarming." She called on the FBI to help assess security at the county courthouse and

provide personnel to protect the area against possible attack, like the one on the U.S. Capitol a year ago.

Trump has his defenders. Harrison Fields, who worked in the Trump White House, now serves as a spokesman for U.S. Rep. Byron Donalds of Florida, a Trump ally and one of only two Black Republicans serving in the House. He said the country has more important matters to tackle.

Donalds sees Trump's remarks as "a nonstory, as do about 98% of the American public, who are not in the media, or who are not in the Democrat Party," Fields said.

# Skerritt: “Event a reminder we’re always stronger together”

As the ICC Under 19 Men’s Cricket World Cup 2022 reached its crescendo on Saturday, Cricket West Indies (CWI) President Ricky Skerritt lauded the diligence and commitment of the four host governments and tournament staff in delivering another world-class event.

Speaking in Antigua on Friday ahead of the tournament’s final between England and India, he noted that, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Under 19 Cricket World Cup took place “almost seamlessly which is a great credit to all who worked tirelessly to make it a reality in difficult circumstances”.

“We knew it would be extra tough hosting such a large sporting event during the pandemic, especially moving so many people around different countries with different protocols; 16 teams, match officials, event staff, and broadcast crews.

“Then we had to factor in the periodic (COVID-19) testing of everyone

associated with the tournament and, of course, we had some positive cases which we dealt with appropriately. It has proven a rigorous examination of our readiness; the systems we put in place; and of our ability to adapt and respond quickly to evolving situations,” he noted.

“Our people have done an amazing job to stay focused and to keep cricket playing. Congratulations to all the host countries as well as to our Tournament Director Fawwaz Baksh and the entire Project Team. I must single out our host governments for going above and beyond to ensure this event’s success. Thank you for such wholehearted and priceless support.”

Stressing this is the fourth International Cricket Council (ICC) global tournament being hosted by Cricket West Indies, Skerritt underscored the value of having “a growing cadre of sport-events professionals who are experienced in delivering events to world-class standards and capable of



CWI President Ricky Skerritt

remaining calm under pressure”.

“Our Tournament Director and other project staff have worked on previous World Cups which the region has hosted. The fact that we were able to stay on track with the tournament schedule is a glowing testament to them, as well as to the dedication of the host governments, the Local Organising Committees, the airlines, hotels, medical experts, transportation operators and other service providers with whom we worked.

“Everyone understood what was at stake. This has been a collective exercise in resilience and a determination to find solutions and to show our best in the face of adversity. It has been great teamwork – including with the ICC – and a sterling reminder that we are always stronger together.”

The President was thankful that COVID-19 hardly interfered with on-field action in the 23-day event; with only two matches in the Plate competition being cancelled because Canada could not field a team.

“Fans watching on television or via live streaming have been marveling at how we have pulled this off. It was viewing as usual – cricket being played in Guyana, St. Kitts, Trinidad and now Antigua – and ultimately that’s what will be remembered: the exploits of the next generation of international stars and the excitement they brought to the world.”



England captain, Tom Prest, and India captain, Yash Dhull, pose with the tournament trophy in front the statue of Sir Vivian Richards



## ABDA re-elect Trevor Cranstan as president

Trevor Cranston was re-elected for a second term as president of the Antigua



Re-elected ABDA President Trevor Cranston.

and Barbuda Draught's Association.

The election took place last Thursday at the association's headquarters on Lower All Saints Road.

Other members elected to serve are Barry Sebastian, vice-president, Julian Roberts, secretary, and Elvis Cordice treasurer. Eustace "Zocio" Samuel is the new public relations officer.

The floor members are Benard "King Premier" Willock and Amakusa Jerimiah.



New ABDA executive.

## Australia senior cricket coach resigns after rejecting contract

Former Australian player Justin Langer has resigned as head coach of the Australia men's team.

Cricket Australia said the 51-year-old, whose contract was due to expire in June, rejected a short-term extension.

Langer, who took over in 2018 following the Australian ball-tampering scandal, won the T20 World Cup and the Ashes in the past three months.

Langer's management team said his resignation was "effective immediately", ending months of specu-



Justin Langer

tion as to whether he could continue. Langer's manager James Henderson said that while the plan was to keep an "overarching head coach", Australian cricket was moving to a more "shared leadership model".

Cricket Australia chief executive Nick Hockley said he had hoped for Langer to be a part of the "transition", adding that he had "earned the right to defend the T20 World Cup when Australia hosts the tournament in October and November.

Langer's manager, James Henderson, tweeted: "As a player Justin retired on top after a 5-0 Ashes whitewash. Despite the views of a faceless few, he finishes his time as Australia cricket coach winning the T20 World Cup and the Ashes."

## India roll over West Indies in first ODI

India rolled over West Indies in the first One-Day-International by six wickets, bowling them out for 176.

The Caribbean side slumped to 79-7 before Jason Holder cracked 57 to pull his side back up to a respectable score in Ahmedabad.

In reply, skipper Rohit

Sharma top-scored with 60 after sharing a 84-run-opening stand with Ishan Kishan as India cruised home in the 28 over.

Barbadian and former skipper Holder reached his 2,000 ODI runs in the game.

The second of the three match series will be played on Wednesday at the same venue.





## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Liat (2020) Ltd, an aviation company which will be based in Antigua is seeking to recruit qualified and experienced individuals for the following positions:

### **Executive Management Roles:**

- Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Director of Human Resources
- Director of Flight Operations
- Director of Quality & Safety
- Director of Maintenance & Engineering

### **Flight Operation Roles:**

- Chief Pilot
- Chief Training Pilot
- Captains
- First Officers
- Flight Attendants
- Crew Planning Officers
- Flight Dispatchers
- Manager of Operations Control Center
- Manager of Inflight Services & Catering

### **Maintenance & Engineering Roles:**

- Aircraft Engineers
- Aircraft Mechanics
- Aircraft Technicians
- Chief Engineer
- Manager of Maintenance & Engineering

### **Information Technology Roles:**

- Hardware Technicians
- Network Administrators
- Database Administrators
- Helpdesk & ICT Support Technicians
- Systems Support Technicians

### **Ground Operation Roles:**

- Passenger Coordinators
- Baggage Coordinators
- Ramp Attendants
- Station Managers
- Ground Operation Manager
- Duty Managers

### **Management & Supervisory Roles:**

- Security Manager
- Legal Manager
- Human Resources Manager
- Quality & Safety Manager
- Cargo & Freight Manager
- Financial Controller
- Chief Commercial Officer
- Information Technology Manager
- Call Center & Reservations Manager

### **Logistical Support Roles:**

- Human Resources Clerks
- Finance/Accounting Clerks
- Call Center Clerks
- Courier Agents
- Storekeepers
- Personal Assistants
- Schedule/Yield Analysts
- Customer Service Representatives

Detailed information including respective job functions for all vacancies can be found at the following job portal <https://bit.ly/Liat2020JobPortal>

Compensation will be commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidates.

All applications must be submitted with a detailed curriculum vitae no later than March 1, 2022 to [aviationrecruitment268@gmail.com](mailto:aviationrecruitment268@gmail.com)



## India overcome England to win U-19 World Cup

England's batting let them down as India won the Under-19 Men's World Cup for the fifth time with a four-wicket victory in Antigua.

England won the toss and elected to bat at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.

After an early collapse, James Rew's magnificent 95 helped England recover posting 189 all out as India seamers Raj Bawa, 5-31, and Ravi Kumar, 4 for 34, rattled the batting line-up.

In response Bawa's 35 helped put India within striking distance before Nisshant Sindhu saw them home with an unbeaten half-century taking the Indians to 195 for 6.

Meanwhile, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Sunday announced cash rewards for the U19 World Cup-winning Indian team after they outclassed England in a hard-fought final on Saturday.

Led by Yash Dhull, India chased down 190 with 4 wickets and 14 balls to spare to be crowned the U19 World Cup champions for a record-extending 5th time.



India did not have their captain Yash Dhull and vice-captain Shaik Rasheed for a couple of matches after they contracted COVID-19. Nishant Sindhu who led the team in their absence later contracted COVID before returning to the knockout stages of the tournament.

India was unbeaten in the U19 World Cup 2022 as they hammered Australia by 95 runs in the semi-final before edging past a spirited England side in the final.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly sent his wishes to Yash Dhull's side, saying the cash prize to each player of just under US\$60,000

each is a small token of appreciation.

Yash Dhull follows an illustrious list of captains-Mohammad Kaif (2000), Virat Kohli (2008), Unmukt Chand (2012), Prithvi Shaw (2018) who have tasted success in the showpiece event in the past.

Raj Bawa, the grandson of Tarlochan Bawa -a member of the 1948 Olympic Gold -medal winning hockey team, became the first India bowler to pick up a 5-wicket haul in the final of the men's ICC tournament as his fiery spells helped restrict England to 189 in 44.5 overs despite winning the

toss and opting to bat on a good batting pitch in North Sound Antigua.

Ravi Kumar, shone with the new ball, removing in-form opener Jacob Bethell and captain Tom Prest in the first two overs.

Nishant Sindhu, was unbeaten on 50 as he helped India past the finish line despite England fighting hard with late wickets.

The High Commissioner of India to Antigua and Barbuda Dr. K. J. Srinivasa and Honorary Consul Vijay S.Tewani hosted a cocktail reception for the Indian U-19 team at the Royalton Hotel in Antigua.