

# EARLY CHILDHOOD & RESOURCE CENTRE DEDICATED IN BUCKLEYS



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## Early Childhood & Resource Centre dedicated in Buckleys

The Maria Holder Early Childhood and Resource Centre was dedicated yesterday, providing an institution where young children from the village of Buckleys will be molded in preparation for the future.

Sixty pre-schoolers will be enrolled in the new school year at the government owned facility, which can accommodate 100 students and has the capacity to provide daycare services for approximately 10 children.

Grant funding for the construction of the early childhood and resource centre was provided by the Maria Holder Memorial Trust, based in Barbados. At yesterday's opening ceremony, its chairman, Christopher Holder, described the project as one they have dreamed of having. He expressed satisfaction with the high standard of work and thanked those who played a role in the construction of the centre, which stands as a symbol of excellence.

"It is cutting edge, it is the best that there is on the island. I hope it won't remain the best for too long and that another building will be built, which will copy this, but then add to new technology and new ways of thinking, Mr. Holder said. He emphasized the importance of education, sharing a phrase that was often used by his late moth-



er, "Without education, you have nothing".

Minister of Education and Sports, Daryll Matthew, expressed appreciation to the Maria Holder Trust for its significant investment and gave an undertaking that their sacrifice and contribution will not be "taken for granted". Cognizant of the role early childhood education plays in the development of children, Matthew told yesterday's ceremony that the Gaston Browne administration has placed great emphasis on enhancing the country's education sector, especially in the developmental stages, of children between the ages of zero to five years old.

"It has been said that early childhood is the stage at which we lay core foundational skills for expected outcomes. For it is at this level my friends, we lay the foundation of poverty or

riches, industry of idleness, good or bad, by the habits we inculcate in our children.

"The Maria Holder Centre here at Buckleys, is designed to inculcate in our infants the right habits, to shape the trajectory of their development and create a more sustainable future for them and by extension for our nation," said Matthew. The minister of education and sports added it is the government's quest to build a more educated nation and pledged to provide the resources to achieve that goal.

"The Ministry of Education with the support from the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda, has partnered with the University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, to establish a face-to-face degree programme in early childhood education, commencing this September. It is for this reason that the Cabinet of Antigua and

Barbuda has taken the decision to establish six other early childhood centres here in the nation. And it is for this reason ladies and gentlemen that the Ministry of Education has committed 25 scholarships annually for the next five years to persons pursuing early childhood education."

The Maria Holder Early Childhood and Resource Centre, Buckleys, will also provide certificate training for 160 early childhood practitioners annually, workshops for parents of early childhood learners, research and community space for residents of the area.

Construction of the facility began in early February, 2020, but was halted due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, work was completed by Harrigan Construction in May, 2020.



# Extension of Amnesty under consideration

The government is giving serious consideration to extending the amnesty under which non-nationals living in the country illegally may regularize their statuses.

The amnesty implemented by the government, covers the period March 1st to April 30, 2022.

Chief Immigration Officer Katrina Yearwood said since the start of the programme, more two thousand persons have been processed by the department.

With three days to go before the programme ends, Yearwood is anticipating that the total number of people processed will exceed three thousand.

Reports are that the Immigration Department has seen a deluge of people making applications, hoping to take advantage of the window of opportunity provided for them to regularize their time in Antigua and Barbuda.

One immigration officer reported to Pointe Xpress that the department has seen people showing as early as 6:00 am, even though processing under the amnesty programme doesn't begin until 2:00 pm each day.

While the department asks that everyone makes an appointment in order to see an officer, accommodations have been made for 'walk-ins'.

It is believed that the 'walk-ins'

are the ones showing up at the department in the morning hours, as the earlier ones get their names booked to see an officer.

Immigration Minister E.P Chet Greene has confirmed that he will table a proposal before his colleagues at today's Cabinet meeting, asking them to consider an extension, in order that more people can be accommodated.

According to the minister, his proposal is based on the sheer number of people who turn up daily to be processed under the amnesty and the belief that there are many more who would also wish to be accommodated under the programme.



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# Local News



## APC to convert to natural gas, reduce carbon footprint

INOX India Pvt. Ltd. (INOXCVA) has been awarded a contract by Caribbean LNG Inc. for Design, Engineering & Supply for a Mini LNG receiving and regasification terminal that will be established in Antigua and Barbuda.

Caribbean LNG Inc., is a joint venture between Eagle LNG Partners and Antigua Power Company (APC) which was created to the Antigua LNG receiving terminal and to deliver low-carbon fuel solutions to the Eastern Caribbean.

Under the arrangement, the terminal will provide natural gas for APC's 40 mega-watt power plant.

It will also serve as a template and anchor plant to service power and other energy requirements to other coun-



Caribbean LNG Terminal (Photo: Eagle LNG)

tries in the Eastern Caribbean.

Speaking last Tuesday on the finalisation of the agreement, APC Director, Francis Hadeed said, "Caribbean LNG and our shareholders, Eagle LNG and APC, are proud to work with INOXCVA on this state-of-the-art modular terminal for Antigua and Barbuda,

that serves as a template for our plans throughout the Eastern Caribbean, and hub for cost-effective, low-carbon fuel supply to the country and region.

"With secure, affordable, sustainable, and reliable supply from Eagle LNG's facilities in Jacksonville, Flori-

*cont'd on pg 5*

## CRAZY TUESDAY



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*cont'd from pg 4*

da, USA, and the unmatched experience and know-how of APC, Antigua and Barbuda will benefit from the use of this lower-carbon fuel creating opportunities for the country, and the Eastern Caribbean region.

“Moving to gas also enables the greater integration of renewable generation in the country, and the introduction of bio-LNG and hydrogen into the fuel mix will further reduce carbon footprint and meet committed goals for the country on carbon reduction.”

Also commenting was Global Head - LNG at INOXCVA, Vijay Kalaria, who expressed some of the practical and strategic benefits of the move to establish the Mini LNG receiving and regasification terminal in Antigua and Barbuda.

“We are excited and honoured to have been given this opportunity to set up this prestigious ‘Mini LNG Terminal’ with Vacuum Insulated Storage Tanks and a regasification system to feed the gas-based power plant,” said Kalaria.

“Caribbean LNG’s terminal will be capable of receiving LNG through smaller ships while provisioning for LNG distribution and ship bunkering in the future.

“Our innovative design and modularized concept will ensure minimum site activity and enable faster implementation of the project.

“All major critical equipment to be installed in

the Mini LNG terminal will be manufactured in INOXCVA’s state of the art manufacturing facility in Kandla, India,” he continued in a statement issued last week.

A local source close to the project said the project comes not a moment too soon, particularly in light of the negative impact the war in Europe will continue to have on global gas supplies.

The contract between INOXCVA and Caribbean LNG Inc. will assure a steady, and affordable gas supply to APC which in turn will benefit the country and consumers.

Additionally, from an environmental standpoint, the move is being em-

braced by the government of Antigua and Barbuda, led by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, who has been a vocal advocate for action to combat the increasing risk posed to Small Island Developing States in particular by climate change.

APC’s move to natural gas will result in the company reducing its fuel emissions by a significant fifty percent.

The source also revealed, “It is a boot project over 13 years supported by a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) with ownership to the government at the end of the period.”

INOXCVA is one of the largest manufacturers of

Cryogenic Storage, Re-gas and Distribution Systems for LNG, Industrial Gases and Cryo-Scientific applications with operations in India, Brazil & Europe.

According to information provided by the company, its portfolio involves an extensive user base, spread across more than 100 countries and is serviced by a network of after-sales support associates in 25 countries.

The company is leading India’s efforts in adoption of LNG for industrial and automotive purposes whose strength lies in the design engineering, manufacturing, supply and commissioning of Cryogenic turnkey packaged systems.



## Twist Fitness's Opening Hours

**Monday- Friday**  
**5:30AM-8:30PM**

**Saturday**  
**9:00AM-5:00PM**

**5:00PM-7:00PM (WOMENS ONLY HOURS)**

**Sunday**  
**10:00AM-3:00PM**

# Local News

## India pledges more assistance to Antigua and Barbuda

India is looking to expand its ongoing programme of assistance to the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda.

That country's High Commissioner, Dr. Kotemal Srinivasa, was in St. John's on Tuesday for separate discussions with Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene.

During his discussions with the foreign minister, the high commissioner discussed the ongoing relationship between Antigua and Barbuda and India and ways to further deepen that relationship.

"The High Commissioner highlighted a number of areas of cooperation between the two countries. These include the offer of short-term courses in Information Technology education programmes, cooperation for the development of the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus and renewable energy through the International Solar Alliance, a grouping of nations that India spearheads and which Antigua



*Dr. K Srinivasa is on the extreme left, FA Minister E.P. Greene is centre with PS Anthony Liverpool on his left. With his back to the camera is the Indian Consul in Antigua, Vijay Tewani.*

and Barbuda recently became a member," Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Anthony Liverpool reported.

Liverpool also reported that India is also exploring the possibility of providing Antigua and Barbuda with technical experts from India who will work specifically in the areas of health and fisheries. The government of India will also consider offering scholarships to An-

tigua and Barbuda nationals to pursue tertiary education studies in India.

Some of the areas of study being offered include; Science technology and Innovation Policy, SME Financing Approaches and Strategies, Specialised Training Programme in Cyber Security and Malware Analytics, and Reverse Engineering.

According to Liverpool, India is also eyeing a

possible participation in the revival of Antigua Carnival this year. "As preparation for carnival 2022 moves into a higher gear, the High Commissioner has expressed a desire to have India participate in the 'Caribbean's Greatest Summer Festival' as a show of solidarity with the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda. While the exact nature of that participation is still to be determined, the Indian representative expressed a strong desire to have an Indian presence in the celebration," Liverpool added.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister, E.P. Chet Greene, has given a commitment to participate in this year's International Yoga Day on June 19, when he is expected to deliver special remarks for the occasion.

Wed 27   Day		Wed 27   Night	
<b>82°</b>	7% NNE 12 mph	<b>74°</b>	3% NE 10 mph
Partly cloudy. High 82F. Winds NNE at 10 to 15 mph.		A few clouds. Low 74F. Winds NE at 10 to 15 mph.	
Humidity <b>64%</b>	UV Index <b>Extreme</b>	Humidity <b>70%</b>	UV Index <b>0 of 10</b>
Sunrise <b>5:44 am</b>	Sunset <b>6:26 pm</b>	Moonrise <b>3:44 am</b>	Moonset <b>3:54 pm</b>
		● Waning Crescent	





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**AESTHETIC MEDICAL PRACTITIONER AND FAMILY**  
**PHYSICIAN WITH POST-GRADUATE TRAINING IN GENERAL AND SURGICAL**  
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**LOGOTHERAPY, RELATIONSHIP COUNSELING, SPIRITUAL COUNSELING,**  
**ADDICTION COUNSELING, AND MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY.**

# Local News



## Sandals couple donates music instruments to Sandals Foundation

United States educators and repeat guest at Sandals Grande Antigua – Cameron and Jessica Baker recently donated over a dozen recorders along with student activity workbooks and a teacher's guidebook with supporting discs.

The couple has been vacationing at Sandals since 2007 and has grown to love and appreciate the island as their very own home.

Jessica Baker said, "We currently teach in the Virginia Beach Public Schools and music education is what brought us together and Sandals is what keeps us together. We've seen the evolution of the Sandals Foundation and knowing the work that is done under the three important pillars of the Foundation – Community, Environment and

for us Education has just been a huge part of why we love the Sandals Foundation. Being able to come down to Antigua and see there was a need for music instruments, as music educators we could not pass up that opportunity."

The couple chose the recorders as their preferred instrument to donate as it is one of the first instruments that they provide in their public school systems. "So it was just a natural fit," Jessica added.

"The opportunity to spread joy of music in another country and to help provide an opportunity

for young students is so near and dear to our hearts. It is incredibly important to us that we can combine the things that we love about what we get to do on a daily basis with an organization that we love for doing so much within the community and specifically in education. It's just a tremendous opportunity we could not pass up." Cameron Baker added.

Sandals General Manager Matthew Cornall received the donation from the couple on behalf of the foundation.

The couple thanked Macy's publishing Company in New Jersey for helping them make the donation possible.

## Cocaine find leads to arrests



Three men are facing drug charges after cocaine was discovered in a car on Monday.

A STRATCOM statement detailed on Monday 25th April, around 11:15 am, the Narcotics Department conducted a drug operation at Jolly Harbour and found 2 kilos of cocaine hidden inside a car owned by a 36yr old man of Buckleys.

The vehicle owner, and two other male suspects were arrested and remain in custody assisting lawmen with their investigation, while the vehicle was impounded.

The illicit drug carries a street value of EC\$62,000.00.

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# ANTIGUA SAILING WEEK 2022 SCHEDULE

SCAN ME



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## THURSDAY APRIL 28

9:00 AM Committee Desk Open

## FRIDAY APRIL 29

9:00 AM Registration & Committee Desk Open

3:00 PM Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

## SATURDAY APRIL 30

8:00 AM Peters & May Round Antigua Race

9:00 AM Registration & Committee Desk Open

3:00 PM Bareboat Skipper Briefing @ Nelson's Dockyard

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

5:00 PM Steelpan recital from Original Steel Orchestra.  
Impressions are everything, so represent your crew in your best team outfits

7:00 PM 53rd Antigua Sailing Week Welcome and Peters & May Round Antigua Race Prize Giving

## SUNDAY MAY 1

8:00 AM Committee Desk Open

8:00 AM Shirley Heights Lookout Breakfast @ Shirley Heights Lookout

9:00 AM Chase the Race with Wadadli Cats @ Falmouth Harbour Marina

10:00 AM English Harbour Rum Race Day 1 Starts

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

4:00 PM English Harbour Rum Cocktail Bartender Competition

*Enter teams at Committee Desk or  
[www.info@sailingweek.com](mailto:www.info@sailingweek.com)*

5:00 PM English Harbour Rum Race Day 1 Prize Giving

6:00 PM DJ Nez

## MONDAY MAY 2

8:00 AM Committee Desk Open

10:00 AM ASW Race Day 2 Starts

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

5:00 PM ASW Race Day 2 Prize Giving

## TUESDAY MAY 3

8:00 AM Committee Desk Open @ Antigua Yacht Club

9:00 AM Chase the Race with Wadadli Cats @ Falmouth Harbour Marina

10:00 AM Axxess Marine Y2K Race Day 3 Starts

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

5:00 PM Axxess Marine Y2K Race Day 3 Prize Giving

6:00 PM 11th Edition Reggae in the Park

*(Gates open at 5:00PM)*

*Tickets available on Ticketing APP*

## WEDNESDAY MAY 4

10:00 AM Committee Desk Open

12:00 PM Lay Day @ Pigeon Point – Dinghy Racing, Team & Individual Beach Game Competitions including Tug of War!

## THURSDAY MAY 5

8:00 AM Committee Desk Open

9:00 AM Chase the Race with Wadadli Cats @ Falmouth Harbour Marina

10:00 AM Locman Italy Women's Race Day 4 Starts

3:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

5:00 PM Prize Giving Locman Italy Women's Race Day 4 Prize Giving

7:00 PM Seafood Thursday @ Nelson's Dockyard

## FRIDAY MAY 6

8:00 AM Committee Desk Open

9:00 AM Chase the Race with Wadadli Cats @ Falmouth Harbour Marina

10:00 AM Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Race Day 5 Starts

2:00 PM **LAWN BARS OPEN**

4:00 PM Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Race Day 5 Prize Giving

6:00 PM Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Final Awards & After-party @ Nelson's Dockyard. LIVE MUSIC!

## SATURDAY MAY 7

12:00 PM Dockyard Day - Harper's Office Depot School Art Competition Awards @ Nelson's Dockyard



# Workplace



## Critical questions for the performance review

In our last article we covered the value of performance evaluations and highlighted their importance to both employee development and an organization accomplishing its goals. We continue by articulating a few key questions that will help us as human resource (HR) professionals and team leaders achieve maximum value from the process.

We are often tempted to pose the traditional questions, what are your strengths, weaknesses, goals and are you satisfied? However, as team leaders, we should already know the answers to these questions and quickly recognise that they are not the best way to understand the drivers of satisfaction or dissatisfaction.

To delve deeper, we must ask the questions whose answers we may not like to hear but, that will offer real actionable insights that will positively impact both the employee and the

organisation. Here are our suggestions in no particular order.

How would you describe the level of feedback you receive from your supervisor? This question will help you understand how you might improve your feedback as a leader. Getting specific, relevant feedback is an essential element of ongoing development and improved employee performance. Lack of pertinent feedback leads to disengagement, low motivation and employee turnover and employees often complain that feedback isn't clear and frequent enough to offer guidance for improvement.

What type of flexibility do you want from your job? This allows you to know for certain how team members feel about the current state of flexibility in their workplace, rather than assuming you know what they want. Recognize that for one employee flexibility might

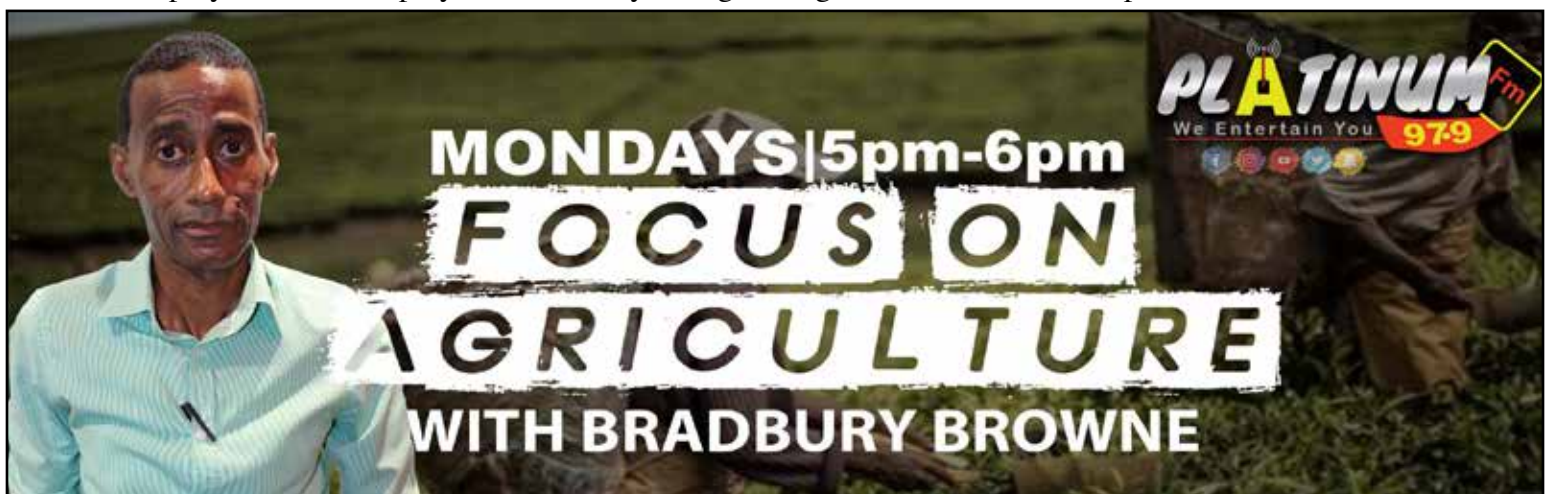
mean having the ability to work from home for a few days per week while others may want to have the autonomy to make decisions affecting their results or to schedule time-off or vacation based on their family's plans. Naturally, not everything may be accommodated, but a discussion can be had towards a compromise.

How do team dynamics impact your morale at work? Understanding how team members perceive the dynamics could assist in identifying red flags which could be addressed before they destabilize the team. We spend most of our waking hours at work, so hap-

piness and peace of mind while at work is crucial. Getting along with peers is vital to employee engagement and morale. Both of which can be negatively impacted by team conflict and unclear roles.

How fulfilling are your tasks at work? A perceived lack of purpose is a huge factor in employee turnover. Employees want to know that what they do is important and is connected to the objectives of the company. But, on a more granular level, people want to end their workdays feeling as if they have accomplished something and that they have

*cont'd on pg 12*







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# Workplace



*cont'd from pg 10*

made an impact. You should be curious as a leader about how fulfilled your direct reports are in their roles by finding out what tasks and responsibilities they find mundane and what stimulates their creativity or interest. Further, you may learn of skills within the team that could be better utilised for mutual benefit.

Do you feel as though you get the support you need for career development? As a leader, one of your key functions is to support your employees' growth. Professional development and personal growth are among the most important elements of employee engagement. Drill down and ask employees about their long-term goals and whether they feel these are attainable with the organisation or on their current team. If they are not achievable in their current role, ask what tasks or responsibilities they feel would best assist them in preparing to

meet their goals and discuss what they would need to make it possible.

What is something you would change about your job that would make you ten percent happier? By asking your employees what would make them more contented, you remove guesswork. This way you can specifically tackle any low-hanging fruit that may be getting in their way. Contentment is a powerful driver of creativity, initiative and motivation at work. This question also shows that you care about their wellbeing and understand that work is about more than output. In addressing the responses, discuss what you could do to meaningfully impact your team member's employment experience.

A healthy work relationship makes a huge difference in job satisfaction, employee engagement, and retention, and the performance review is one of the best opportunities to improve on that dynamic. Asking the right ques-

tions provides insight into how to address critical areas that may hamper success. So, pledge as a people leader to make effective use of performance reviews and commit to put your plans into action.

*The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda (HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, professional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began informally from 2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB's growing membership represents private and public organizations as well as independent consultants specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary. You may contact us via email at [hrpro.ab@gmail.com](mailto:hrpro.ab@gmail.com) or on Facebook and Instagram @HR-Pro268.*

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## Coming up with \$44 billion to buy Twitter was the easy part for Elon Musk

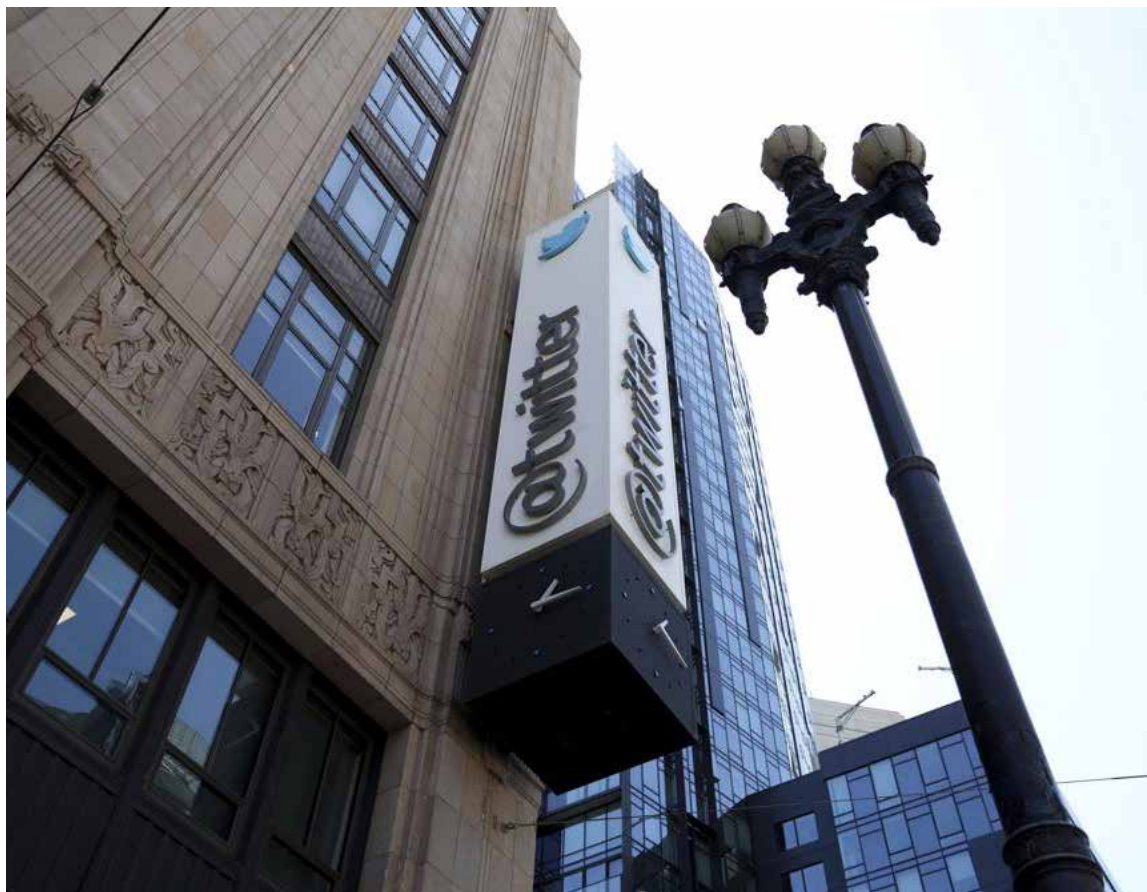
**By Matt O'Brien And Tom Krisher**

Next comes the real challenge for the world's richest person: fulfilling his promise to make Twitter "better than ever" as a lightly regulated haven for free speech.

His vision for improving the 16-year-old company leans heavily on a pledge to make speech "as free as reasonably possible" on the platform -- a commitment that's been celebrated on the political right and among followers of former President Donald Trump, whose account last year was permanently banned. For others who worry that Musk will give free rein to agitators who spew hate, lies and other harmful content, making the platform too toxic for advertisers and average users, Musk has offered few assurances.

"The extreme antibody reaction from those who fear free speech says it all," he tweeted Tuesday

Many of Musk's proposed changes reflect his own experience as a high-profile and outspoken Twitter user with more than 85 million followers and a swarm of pesky impersonator accounts that use his name and photo to promote cryptocurrency schemes. The statement announcing his acquisition of Twitter on Monday highlighted the need to defeat "spam bots"



*A sign is pictured outside the Twitter headquarters in San Francisco, Monday, April 25, 2022. Elon Musk reached an agreement to buy Twitter for roughly \$44 billion on Monday, promising a more lenient touch to policing content on the platform where he promotes his interests, attacks critics and opines on social and economic issues to more than 83 million followers. (AP Photo/Jed Jacobsohn)*

that mimic real users.

But what about Twitter's more than 200 million other users who aren't getting banned or flooded with spam? There's still a lot of uncertainty about whether his ideas are technologically feasible and whether these changes would benefit most regular users, or serve some other purpose.

"He's made it pretty clear he's not interested in making Twitter a profitable enterprise," said Joan Donovan, who studies misinformation at Harvard University. "It's about the power and the influence of Twitter

itself and its importance in our culture."

Experts who have studied content moderation and researched Twitter for years have expressed doubt that Musk knows exactly what he is getting into. And some of the problems he has identified aren't felt by most users.

"The spam bots, for him, are highly visible and somewhat personal," said Donovan. "Most people don't see a lot of these spammy accounts."

And for those unhappy with the company's crackdown on hate, ha-

rassment and misinformation, there are plenty of fledgling examples of "free speech"-focused social media platforms that have been launched in the past few years as Twitter antidotes, largely by conservatives. Many have struggled to deal with toxic content, and at least one has been cut off by its own technology providers in protest.

"This move just shows how effective (moderation features) have been to annoy those in power," said Kirsten Martin, a professor of technology ethics at the

**cont'd on pg 14**

# Technology



*cont'd from pg 13*

University of Notre Dame. "I would be worried as to how this would change Twitter's values."

The fact that no other bidders emerged in public before Musk's deal was a sign that other would-be acquirers might find Twitter too difficult to improve, said Third Bridge analyst Scott Kessler.

"This platform is pretty much the same one we've had over the last decade or so," Kessler said. "You've had a lot of smart people trying to figure out what they should do, and they've had trouble. It's probably going to be tough to make a lot of headway."

Musk received an effusive, if highly abstract, endorsement from Twitter co-founder and former CEO Jack Dorsey, who praised Musk's decision to take Twitter "back from Wall Street" and tweeted that he trusts Musk's mission to "extend the light of consciousness" — a reference to Dorsey's notion that "Twitter is the closest thing we have to a global consciousness."

But others familiar with Twitter say they're dismayed at Musk's successful bid for the company.

"Twitter is going to let a man-child essentially take over their platform," said Leslie Miley, a former Twitter employee who has also worked for Google and Apple. Miley, who was the only Black engineer at Twitter in a leadership position when he left the company in 2015, echoed doubts about Musk's grasp of the platform's complexities.

"I am not sure if Elon knows what he is getting," Miley said.

"He may just find that having Twitter is a lot different than wanting Twitter."

The more hands-off approach to content moderation that Musk envisions has many users concerned that the platform will reanimate accounts that propagated dangerous conspiracies and harassment.

Wall Street analysts said if he goes too far, it could also alienate advertisers — Twitter's chief revenue source. And it could make it harder to retain the San Francisco-based company's more than 7,500 employees, some of whom are already voicing concerns about the possibility of a backslide on content standards.

In Europe, officials reminded Musk about a new law, the Digital Services Act, that will force tech companies to step up policing of their online platforms.

"Be it cars or social media, any company operating in Europe needs to comply with our rules — regardless of their shareholding," tweeted Thierry Breton, the European Union commissioner in charge of the bloc's internal market.

"Mr. Musk knows this well. He is familiar with European rules on automotive, and will quickly adapt to the Digital Services Act."

Musk's takeover is not yet a done deal and still awaits the approval of a majority of Twitter's stockholders. Twitter previously scheduled its annual shareholders meeting for May 25, but a regulatory filing Tuesday said the company will be convening a special meeting "as promptly as reasonably practicable."

While there are likely to be some bumps along the way, there don't appear to be serious enough obstacles to stop the deal, according to Charles Elson, director of the Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware.

Twitter or Musk can walk away from the deal if it's not completed by Oct. 24, but if either Musk or Twitter is deemed responsible for the deal not going forward, they would have to pay a \$1 billion termination fee, according to details of the transaction contained in a regulatory filing published Tuesday.

The filing also showed that Twitter

will drop a "poison pill" measure it had earlier adopted to defend against Musk's takeover by making it prohibitively expensive.

Normally when companies go private, dissenting shareholders are forcibly cashed out. Some could challenge the stock price in court, contending that Musk should pay more, but that probably won't hold up the sale, Elson said.

It's likely that Musk would dissolve the current board and replace it with a new one that would agree with his management direction. And once Twitter is private, Musk will face fewer gripes from shareholders that often bring lawsuits, Elson said.

Private companies also don't face as much scrutiny from the Securities and Exchange Commission, which has been a finger in Musk's eye for years, often because of statements he's made on Twitter.

On Tuesday, shares of Twitter traded just under \$50, below the \$54.20 purchase price. Twitter will offer a glimpse into the health of its business when it reports its quarterly financial results Thursday.

Twitter's constituents aren't the only ones anxious about Musk's \$44 billion investment.

Shares of Musk's electric car company, Tesla, have lost about 19% of their value since Musk announced his stake in Twitter, including about a 12% decline on Tuesday. Analysts say investors are fearful that Musk will be distracted by the social media company and less engaged in running Tesla.

"He's going to be spending more time with another venture," Edward Jones Senior Equity Analyst Jeff Windau said of Musk, who also runs SpaceX, The Boring Co., which digs tunnels, and Neuralink, a computer-brain interface company. "There's a potential limit on the amount of bandwidth that you can apply to each of these companies."



## Harvard acknowledges slavery ties, sets up \$100m reparations fund

Harvard University in the United States has released a report on its historic ties to slavery and pledged \$100m to address the educational, social and economic legacies of slavery and racism.

Released on Tuesday, the report by a team of Harvard faculty found that slavery was an integral part of life at Harvard between the university's founding in 1636 and when slavery was outlawed in the US state of Massachusetts in 1783.

Harvard faculty and leaders enslaved more than 70 Black and Indigenous people during that timeframe, it said.

Moreover, Harvard maintained significant financial ties to donors who profited from slave trading and plantations in the American South and the Caribbean well into the 1800s, according to the report, which lays out recommendations.

Harvard President Lawrence Bacow said in an email that a committee would explore transforming those recommendations into action and that a university governing board had authorised \$100m for implementation, with some of the funds held in an endowment.

"Harvard benefited from and in some ways perpetuated practices that were profoundly immoral," Bacow wrote in a university-wide email.

"Consequently, I believe we bear a moral responsibility to do what we can to address the persistent corrosive effects of those historical practices on individuals, on Harvard, and on our society."

The move by Harvard comes amid a wider conversation in US higher education about redressing the effects of slavery, discrimination, and racism – and growing calls for the country to provide reparations to the descendants of enslaved people.



Other US universities have grappled with the issue, as well, and some have created funds in recent years to address the legacies of slavery.

A law enacted in Virginia last year requires five public state universities to create scholarships for descendants of people enslaved by the institutions.

While Harvard had notable figures among abolitionists and in the US civil rights movement, the report found "the nation's oldest institution of higher education ... helped to perpetuate the era's racial oppression and exploitation."

It also documented Harvard's exclusion of Black students during the period of segregation in the US and its prevention of scholars advocating an end to racism.

The faculty group that authored the report recommended Harvard provide continuing financial support for teachers and students seeking to understand and promote solutions to persistent racial inequities that plague descendant communities.

They recommended offering descendants of people enslaved at Harvard educational and other support so

they "can recover their histories, tell their stories, and pursue empowering knowledge".

They also urged the Ivy League school to fund summer exchange programmes for students and faculty from long-underfunded historically Black colleges and universities.

The report also recommended that Harvard honour and engage with Indigenous communities in New England, and for the US to recognise the legacy of Indigenous slavery and colonialism.

On Monday, US Representative Sheila Jackson Lee, a leading advocate of legislation to provide national reparations for slavery, gave a talk at Harvard.

"We need the energy of the nation," Jackson Lee said, according to a report in The Harvard Crimson student newspaper. "This is not done in anger, this is not done with a pointed finger — this is done with a gentle embracing and cleansing and restoring."

Harvard Professor Cornell Brooks also called reparations "preventative medicine" and a vehicle for shaping change.

# Regional News



## SKN: Motion of no confidence filed against PM Harris

CMC – A motion of no confidence has been filed against Prime Minister Dr Timothy Harris, whose coalition Team Unity government faces an uphill task in keeping its majority in the Parliament.

Informed sources told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) that the motion was filed on Monday and follows efforts by the factions within the government that was re-elected to office in 2022 to heal the rift.

Last week, seven legislators linked to the government wrote to Governor-General, Sir Samuel Weymouth Tapley Seaton, indicating that the prime minister does not command the support of the majority of elected members in the National Assembly.

But the Head of State has responded indicating that he is awaiting “formal advice” on the situation and would “revert to you at the earliest”.

Harris has himself called on the population to be aware of “certain misgivings in the public domain with respect to the issues raised by the Team Unity partners.

“I wish to assure you, as your Prime Minister that the country remains stable and every effort will be made to maintain the peace and tranquillity of our beloved Federation,” he added.

The coalition government com-



*Prime Minister Dr Timothy Harris*

prises Harris’s People’s Labour Party (PLP) the People’s Action Movement (PAM) and the Concerned Citizen’s Movement (CCM). The PLP controls two of the nine seats in the coalition government with the two other seats in the National assembly belonging to the SKNLP.

CCM leader and Nevis Premier, Mark Brantley, has maintained that Prime Minister Harris does not have the support of the majority of the members in Cabinet, adding that based on legal advice, the Governor-General “does in fact have the authority to act and therefore we have invited him to do so”.

Deputy Prime Minister Shawn Richards, who heads PAM, said they will follow the “rule of law and the constitution” adding “we will leave our fate in the hands of the people.

When a motion of no confidence is filed, the Speaker of the National Assembly is required to schedule a sitting of parliament within 21 days for the motion to be debated.

If the motion is passed, the Prime Minister may resign in three days or advise the Governor-General to dissolve the parliament.

If parliament is dissolved, the Prime Minister must call an election in 90 days.

## Grenadians await imminent announcement of election date

Grenadians are awaiting the announcement of the date for the next general election after Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell said he would be approaching Governor General Dame

Cécile La Grenade to dissolve Parliament.

Mitchell, addressing a meeting of his ruling New National Party (NNP) on Sunday, gave no indication as to when he would be ap-

proaching the head of state, but there has been widespread speculation that the polls, constitutionally due by 2023, will be held this year.

“As we move forward,

I want to say, there are two stages for a general election. The Prime Minister has to call on the Governor General to dissolve parliament – that is the first stage,” said

*cont’d on pg 17*



# Cuba thanks Russia for wheat donation

EFE – Cuba has thanked the Russian government for a donation of 19,526 tons of wheat, which reached the island a month late due to Western sanctions on Moscow for the invasion of Ukraine.

The Cuban authorities received the support of the Russian Government in an act at the Ministry of the Agri-Food Industry, which in the last year has already sent food and medical supplies to the Island, which is going through a serious economic crisis.

The Russian ambassador to Cuba, Andrei Guskov, said that this “important consignment” of “humanitarian cargo” had problems because the shipowner could not be paid “due to the sudden disconnection of sever-



al Russian banks” from the SWIFT international payment system.

He added that this measure was due to “the events related to Ukraine,” referring to the Russian invasion of the neighboring country, and stressed that Moscow is determined to continue supporting Cuba.

“We are willing to continue doing so, to the best of our ability. Even in the complicated global scenario that we are witnessing,” the am-

bassador added.

He affirmed that the “unilateral sanctioning attitude” of some countries will not triumph against the “firm will” of Russia and Cuba to maintain their bilateral “strategic association,” based on “friendship and solidarity.”

Guskov, who compared the sanctions against Russia with the United States embargo on Cuba, referred to three recent donations from his country of food and medical supplies.

In recent months, Cuba has received several donations from Russia, the United States, Japan, Nicaragua and Vietnam, among other countries, from both governments and private groups.

Most of the contributions were medical supplies and basic food, but in some cases several dozen buses were delivered.

Last year, the Island received 135 donations from 40 countries, mostly medical supplies and equipment for immunisation and the fight against the pandemic, according to official data.

Cuba has been going through a serious crisis for months due to the combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, the US embargo and failures in national macroeconomic management.

*cont'd from pg 16*

Mitchell, whose NNP has won all 15 seats in the Parliament in the last two general elections.

“In other words, the minute I do that, the minute that the Governor General issued that proclamation for the dissolution of Parliament, I am no longer a representative, I will still be the Prime Minister... I am explaining to you what the process is, so very soon, very soon, it might be a little sleep and wake you don't know, I will ask the Governor General to dissolve the Parliament of this country,” he told supporters in the parish of St Patrick where the party launched its candi-

dates for St Patrick West and St Patrick East constituencies.

“I am making it clear tonight, therefore, all constituencies get your canvas report ready, some say I am calling it in May, some say in June, some say when Santa Claus coming, well I am telling you that your election date will be announced soon,” said Mitchell, who traditionally announces the election date at a political meeting in a national broadcast.

Mitchell, one of the longest serving prime ministers in the Caribbean, has already hinted that the upcoming general election will be his last and the NNP is expected to face a rejuvenated



opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) that recently elected attorney Dickon Mitchell as its leader.

Prime Minister Mitchell is due to address the nation on Tuesday, two weeks after he promised to so.

# Caribbean governments urged to strengthen immunisation programmes

CMC – The UNICEF Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean, Jean Gough, says the decline in vaccination rates in the region is alarming and puts millions of children and adolescents at risk of dangerous yet preventable diseases.

“The solution to this issue lies within the strengthening of immunization programs and overall health systems,” Gough said as UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) reported that the complete vaccination schedule for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP3) in Latin America and the Caribbean has dropped from 90 percent in 2015 to 76 percent in 2020.

UNICEF said it is calling on governments in Latin America and the Caribbean to urgently strengthen or re-establish routine immunization programs, develop campaigns to increase vaccine confidence, and implement plans to reach all children and adolescents and their families with vaccination services; especially to the most vulnerable who do not have access to health services, due to their geographic location, migratory status or ethnic identity.

The organizations said the decline in vaccinations meant that one in four children in the region has not received the full schedule needed to protect them from multiple potentially life-threatening diseases.

They said that while a negative trend in vaccination coverage could already be observed prior to the pandemic, disruption of essential health services and the fear of catching the coronavirus (COVID-19) at a vaccination spot, have left countless children without some of the most basic vac-



*Jean Gough, UNICEF regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, greets an infant in a malnutrition clinic in Les Cayes, Haiti. Gough visited the southern seaport amid concerns over an increase in malnutrition and a drop in childhood immunizations (FILE PHOTO)*

cines.

The statement by UNICEF and PAHO comes as the UN bodies plan to immunize an estimated 140 million people during Vaccination Week in the Americas which is formally being launched in Dominica on Monday.

They said the 14-percentage point drop in vaccine coverage leaves nearly 2.5 million children without the complete DTP vaccination schedule. Of them, 1.5 million are “zero doses”: they have not even received the first dose of that vaccine.

UNICEF said that the more children are missed out, the easier it becomes for contagious pathogens to spread.

Pockets of under and unimmunized communities can then lead to outbreaks.

While in 2013 only five cases of diphtheria were reported in the region,

this number has jumped to almost 900 cases in 2018, respectively, according to PAHO data.

Measles sets higher alarms because it is caused by a highly contagious virus: in 2013 there were almost 500 cases; but in 2019, more than 23,000 people got the disease.

“As countries recover from the pandemic, immediate actions are needed to prevent coverage rates from further dropping, because the re-emergence of disease outbreaks poses a serious risk to all of society,” Gough said.

“This is an opportunity to restructure primary health care and reinforce the comprehensive and community approach that brings vaccines to the most vulnerable populations. We cannot lose the efforts of past decades and let dangerous diseases threaten the lives of children.”



## US urges more arms for Ukraine amid fears of expanding war

AP – The U.S. pressed its allies Tuesday to move “heaven and earth” to keep Kyiv well-supplied with weapons as Russian forces rained fire on eastern and southern Ukraine amid growing new fears the war could spill over the country’s borders.

For the second day in a row, explosions rocked the separatist region of Trans-Dniester in neighboring Moldova, knocking out two powerful radio antennas close to the Ukrainian border. No one claimed responsibility for the attacks, but Ukraine all but blamed Russia.

In other developments, Poland and Bulgaria said the Kremlin is cutting off natural gas supplies to the two NATO countries starting Wednesday, the first such actions of the war. Both nations had refused



*A woman from Luhansk region cries while sitting on the evacuation train in Pokrovsk, eastern Ukraine, Tuesday, April 26, 2022. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)*

Russia’s demands that they pay in rubles.

Poland has been a major gateway for the delivery of weapons to Ukraine and confirmed this week that it is sending the country tanks.

The potential effect of the cutoff was not immediately clear. Poland said it was well-prepared for such a move after working for years to reduce its reliance on Russian energy. Bulgaria gets over 90% of its gas

from Russia, and officials said they were working to find other sources.

Two months into the fighting, Western arms have helped Ukraine stall Russia’s invasion, but the country’s leaders have said they need more support fast.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin convened a meeting Tuesday of officials from about 40 countries at the U.S. air base at Ramstein, Germany, and said

more help is on the way.

“This gathering reflects the galvanized world,” Austin said, adding that he wanted officials to leave the meeting “with a common and transparent understanding of Ukraine’s near-term security requirements because we’re going to keep moving heaven and earth so that we can meet them.”

After unexpectedly fierce resistance by Ukrainian forces thwarted Russia’s attempt to take Ukraine’s capital, Moscow now says its focus is the capture of the Donbas, the mostly Russian-speaking industrial region in eastern Ukraine.

In the small city of Toretsk in the Donbas, residents are struggling to survive, collecting rainwater for washing up and fervently hoping for an end to the fighting.

## Beijing enforces lockdowns, expands COVID-19 mass testing

AP – Workers put up fencing and police restricted who could leave a locked-down area in Beijing on Tuesday as authorities in the Chinese capital stepped up efforts to prevent a major COVID-19 outbreak like the one that has all but shut down the city of Shanghai.

People lined up for throat swabs across much of Beijing as mass testing was expanded to 11 of the city’s 16 districts.

Another 22 cases were found in

the last 24 hours, Beijing health officials said at a late afternoon news conference, bringing the total to 92 since the outbreak was discovered five days ago. That is tiny in comparison to Shanghai, where the number of cases has topped 500,000 and at least 190 people have died. No deaths have been reported from the still-nascent outbreak in Beijing.

An initial announcement of testing in one Beijing district had sparked panic buying in the city of 21 million

on Monday, but the situation appeared to calm on Tuesday even as testing was expanded. Public transport appeared to be running largely normally and roads were filled with commuters.

“I’m not worried that Beijing would suffer from a shortage of supplies so I don’t plan to stock up,” said Zhang Yifan, who was on his way to get tested in Dongcheng district. “Because if people stock up blindly, it may cause a waste of resources. If people

*cont’d on pg 20*

## Hunger grips Burkina Faso due to increasing jihadi violence

AP—Martine Roamba's 10-month-old daughter weakly tugs at her mother's breast searching for milk.

The malnourished baby has been struggling to feed since birth as her mother hasn't had enough to eat to produce sufficient breastmilk since fleeing her village in northern Burkina Faso last year when jihadis started killing people.

Seated on a hospital bed with other severely malnourished children and their parents on the outskirts of Burkina Faso's capital, Ouagadougou, 30-year-old Roamba tries to calm her crying daughter.

"It's very worrying and we're praying to God that the baby doesn't deteriorate into an even worse situation," she said.

Hunger is soaring across conflict-ridden Burkina Faso, a result of increasing violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group, which has killed thousands and displaced millions, preventing people from farming.

Some 3.5 million people are food insecure, with nearly 630,000 expected to be on the brink of starvation, according to the latest food security report by the government and U.N.



*A malnourished baby is cared for in the pediatric department of Boulmiougou hospital in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, Friday April 15, 2022. (AP Photo/Sophie Garcia)*

agencies. This is an 82% increase from last year of people facing emergency hunger.

"The nutrition situation in (the country) is deteriorating more and more, there are more and more people in need," said Claudine Konate, a nutrition specialist for the U.N. Children's Agency, UNICEF. The country has to prepare for a growing crisis, she said.

At the hospital in Ouagadougou, the number of severely malnourished children arriving has doubled from two years ago and there isn't enough space or staff to care for them, said

Clarisse Nikiema, head of nutrition at the hospital.

"Because they were displaced, they are deeply impoverished and can't feed their families, so children become malnourished," she said. Sometimes after recovering, families refuse to leave because they don't want their children going hungry at home where there's no food, she said.

In January, mutinous soldiers ousted Burkina Faso's democratically elected president, and the ruling junta says that restoring security is their top priority. However, attacks have since increased with an 11% rise in incidents in February, according to the U.N. The violence is driving more people closer to starvation, say experts.

The situation is most dire in the northern Sahel region, where cities like Djibo have until recently been besieged by jihadi rebels for months, restricting the delivery of food aid. Other towns like Gorom Gorom, have almost no operating health centers. Only two out of 27 in the district are fully functioning, said Jean Paul Ouedraogo, representative for the Italian-based aid group Lay Volunteers International Association.

*cont'd from pg 19*

keep too much supplies at home, it will cause a shortage."

Beijing has locked down some apartment buildings and residential complexes and on Monday added a larger urban area measuring about 2 by 3 kilometers (1 by 2 miles). Workers put up blue metal fencing along part of the area Tuesday, and police restricted who

could leave. Residents are being kept inside their compounds.

Fears of a total lockdown have been fed by disruptions in the supply of food, medicine and daily necessities in Shanghai, a southeast coast business hub whose 25 million residents have only gradually been allowed to leave their homes after three weeks of confinement.



*A resident gets tested outside an office building in the Haidian district on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, in Beijing. China's capital Beijing is enforcing mass testing and closing down access to neighborhoods as it seeks to contain a new COVID-19 outbreak. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)*





# MATCH SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 25 - SATURDAY, MAY 7

COOLIDGE CRICKET GROUNDS

## GROUP 1

1. LIBERTA BLACKHAWKS
2. NEW WINTHORPES LIONS
3. BETHESDA GOLDEN EAGLES
4. PIGOTTS CRUSHERS

## GROUP 2

1. EMPIRE NATION
2. RISING SUN SPARTANS
3. ALL SAINTS PYTHONS
4. JENNINGS TIGERS

## MONDAY, APRIL 25

- 4 PM** BETHESDA GOLDEN EAGLES  
VS. PIGOTTS CRUSHERS
- 7 PM** LIBERTA BLACKHAWK  
VS. NEW WINTHORPES LIONS

## TUESDAY, APRIL 26

- 4 PM** ALL SAINTS PYTHONS  
VS. JENNINGS TIGERS
- 7 PM** EMPIRE NATION  
VS. RISING SUN SPARTANS

## THURSDAY, APRIL 28

- 4 PM** NEW WINTHORPES LIONS  
VS. BETHESDA GOLDEN EAGLES
- 7 PM** PIGOTTS CRUSHERS  
VS. LIBERTA BLACKHAWKS

## FRIDAY, APRIL 29

- 4 PM** RISING SUN SPARTANS  
VS. ALL SAINTS PYTHONS
- 7 PM** JENNINGS TIGERS  
VS. EMPIRE NATION

## TUESDAY, MAY 3

- 4 PM** NEW WINTHORPES LIONS  
VS. PIGOTTS CRUSHERS
- 7 PM** LIBERTA BLACKHAWKS  
VS. BETHESDA GOLDEN EAGLES

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

- 4 PM** RISING SUN SPARTANS  
VS. JENNINGS TIGERS
- 7 PM** EMPIRE NATION  
VS. ALL SAINTS PYTHONS

## FRIDAY, MAY 6

- 4 PM** SEMI-FINAL 1
- 7 PM** SEMI-FINAL 2

## SATURDAY, MAY 7

- 4 PM** THIRD PLACE MATCH
- 7 PM** FINALS

# Sports News



## St. Kitts and Nevis to Host Hero CPL Matches in 2022

The Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) has confirmed that St Kitts & Nevis will be hosting matches during the 2022 tournament which will run from 30 August to 30 September.

St Kitts & Nevis will host seven matches between 30 August and 4 September with the home team and current champions, St Kitts & Nevis Patriots, playing in four of those games.

Hero CPL will return to St Kitts & Nevis again in 2022 after the Federation successfully hosted the whole tournament in 2021.

Pete Russell, Hero CPL's CEO, said: "The 2021 Hero CPL was an enormous success, and we are hugely grateful to the government and people of



St Kitts & Nevis who were fabulous hosts. Warner Park is a fantastic venue, and we are very excited to be back there as the St Kitts & Nevis

Patriots get their championship defense underway in front of a home crowd."

The Hon. Jonel Powell, Minister of Sport for St Kitts & Nevis, said: "The hosting of the CPL in its entirety in 2021 in St Kitts & Nevis proved a success in every way for our people. Tremendous direct economic gains were made in our economy and to individuals at a difficult time due to the pandemic.

"Our people were able to receive some much-needed 'Covid relief' socially through the amazing matches, and our very own St Kitts & Nevis Patriots won its first CPL title in the most dramatic style.

"This is why we are very pleased to partner with CPL

once again as a host venue for their 2022 edition, and to have the opportunity to see our Patriots defend their title right here at historic Warner Park."

The 2022 season will take place in four countries, St Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Trinidad & Tobago and Guyana with the final set to take place at Providence on 30 September.

First started in 2013, the Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) is a franchise-based T20 format cricket tournament that combines two of the most compelling aspects of Caribbean life – dramatic cricket and a vibrant Carnival atmosphere. For further information visit [www.cpl20.com](http://www.cpl20.com).





## Mixed fortunes for Mahico in Parish League cricket

There were mixed fortunes for Mahico in the Antigua Commercial Bank (ACB) Caribbean Parish League's Richie Richardson Limited Overs Competition over the weekend.

Mahico trounced D&R Architecture Sea View Farm by 81 runs. D'hari Francis slammed an unbeaten 110 and Omaley Hegliger scored 41 in Mahico's total of 204 for eight off 30 overs.

Alfred Jarvis claimed two for 13 and Visual Gouin captured two for 32.

In reply, Sea View Farm were dismissed for 123, with Gouin getting a top score of 40 and Owen Graham making 31.

Dwayne Fordyce captured three for 19 and Taiem Tonge claimed three for 35.

But Mahico lost by eight wickets against PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks in their other encounter.

Mahico were bowled out for 121 in 32 overs, with Nathan Edwards scoring 40 and Tanez Francis getting 20. Karima Gorge bagged three for 20 and XaveekToppin picked up three for 34.

Liberta Blackhawks secured victory by scoring 122 for two. David Richardson struck 37 and Toppin chipped in with 29.

Both Police and Newfield won their two matches last weekend. Police maintained their unbeaten run this season by recording four-wicket



*The Mahico cricket team that played in last weekend's matches in the ACB Caribbean Parish League's Richie Richardson competition. (Photo courtesy ACB Caribbean Parish League)*

wins against Freetown and St Paul's.

Freetown batted first and scored 193 for five in 35 overs. Kenrick Scott slammed 79, Otis Thomas made 34, Cleton Payne struck 25 not out and Javier Drew chipped in with 24.

Damien Lowenfield claimed two for 26 and leg-spinner Lynton Africa captured two for 45.

Police secured victory by scoring 195 for six in 33.3 overs. Lowenfield cracked 62, Jeron Jones made 51 and captain Derek Mourillon contributed 25 not out. Payne took two for 24 and Wesley Williams captured two for 39.

St Paul's batted first

against Police and made 135 for six in their 35 overs. Ka-deem Henry struck 79 and Andra Samuel made 28. James Cornelius took two for 24.

Police achieved victory by scoring 138 for six in 20.1 overs. Damon Valentine made 32 not out. Samuel took two for 26 and Pernel "Roxy" Joseph picked up two for 29.

Newfield snatched a one-run victory over Willikies and prevailed by four wickets against neighbours Freetown.

Newfield made 172 for six in 32 overs against Willikies. Peter Bellanfanti cracked 42 and Shacoy Floyd scored 38. Daren Benta picked up two for 22 and Clarence Frederick captured two for

33.

Willikies were then dismissed for 171 in 26.3 overs with Benta hitting 59 and Eron Lawrence making 50. Amos Bruney snapped up three for 16 and Osafa Bourne captured three for 45.

Newfield then restricted Freetown to 183 for nine in their allotted 35 overs with Javier Drew scoring 44 and Kief Baltimore making 43.

Michael Dover claimed three for 28 and Shacoy Floyd picked up two for 27.

Newfield then achieved victory by scoring 186 for five in 34.3 overs. Kevin Pitman and Jewel Andrew each made 56 and Baltimore picked up two wickets for 26 runs.

# Sports News



## ABFA re-elect Gonsalves as president for fourth successive term

Everton “Batow” Gonsalves staved off a tough test from lone challenger Barbara Coates to retain the presidency and secured a fourth consecutive term at the helm of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) on Monday night.

Incumbent Gonsalves was re-elected president of the national football governing body after beating Coates, a floor member of the outgoing executive, by a 32-28 margin, in the second round of voting for the top administrative position of the ABFA, during its Extra Ordinary Congress at the John E. St Luce Finance and Conference Centre on Sir Sydney Walling Highway.

The second round of voting was needed to determine the winner of the presidency after Gonsalves won the first round of voting by a 35-25 margin, but failed to win the initial voting by a two third majority, which is required to declare a winner after one round.

Gonsalves was gracious in retaining his post as president of the ABFA and also commended Coates for putting up such a strong challenge in the elections.

“I want to thank my opponent for putting up such a spirited fight, that is how she behaves in our execu-

tive meetings, that is how I behave, but we kept it at a level of decency during the whole campaign period. I am so happy that football is the winner this evening,” Gonsalves said, shortly after being declared the winner.

“(I won because of) my hard work, my commitment to changing from the areas that require change with an all-inclusive mindset, because football requires all hands to the wheel. Football demands all of us if we are to take it to the level that is required.”

However, requests by two members of Coates’ nine-member slate, Derrick “Pretty Boy” Edwards of Jennings Grenades and Ivor “Ninja” Luke of Lion Hill Football Club, to withdraw their candidacy from contesting the posts for vice-presidents were denied by magistrate Conliff eClarke, who was part of a three-member team tasked with the responsibility of managing the elections.

Clarke said the ABFA’s constitution upon which the elections are being held does not provide a candidate with the option to abstain from the voting process.

He, however, advised them that although their names will remain on the electoral ballots, they are free to make an announce-



Challenger Barbara Coates, left, talks with Everton ‘Batow’ Gonsalves after he was re-elected president of the ABFA during its Extra Ordinary Congress at the John E St Luce Finance and Conference Center on Factory Road on Monday night. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

ment asking the delegates not to cast their votes in their favour.

Derrick later told OBSERVER media that he made the decision to withdraw his candidacy after Coates was defeated by Gonsalves. Edwards said Coates’ programme, which he supports, is different

from the one being put forward by Gonsalves, hence he had no interest in being part of an executive being led by the current ABFA’s president.

However, President of Pigotts Sports Club Bake-sha Francis-James, who is the other member on

*cont’d on pg 25*



*cont'd from pg 24*

Coates' slate vying for one of the vice president posts, and independent candidate Harry Elvin did not withdraw from the elections.

Francis-James, Edwards, Luke and Elvin all failed in their bid to secure the vice president posts. Edwards and Luke each received one vote during the voting.

Incumbent ABFA's vice-presidents; Gwen Salmon, who is President of the Hoppers Football Club (FC); Akeilah Hillhouse, President of SAPFC and Daryl Michael, President of the Rangers FC, were all re-elected to retain their positions as part of Gonsalves' slate.

The other five members on Gonsalves' slate were all elected as ABFA's executive floor members.

They are President of Swetes FC, Jason "Shadow" Knight, President of Old Road FC, Delta Browne,

President of Willikies FC, Darise James, Chairman of the Referees Committee, Rolston James and General Secretary of Fort Road FC, Cliff Williams.

Cliff Williams got 42 votes, the most by any candidate. Rolston James received the second highest with 38, while Knight secured the third highest with 31 votes.

Incumbent floor members Arlene Josiah of Empire and Curtis Charles of Liberta Blackhawks both failed to retain their posts as part of the nine-member slate of candidates that was put forward by Coates in the elections.

Josiah got 26 votes, while Charles received 21 votes.

The other members on Coates' slate, Anna Lynch of Hilltop FC, Pat "Ipa" Spencer of John Hughes FC and Michael Douglas of North Coast FC, along with independent

candidate Keithroy Black, all failed in their bid to be elected as floor members.

Despite failing in their bid to get elected, Coates, who is chairman of the football unit of the CPTSA Wings Sports Club, said she is happy with her campaign and is planning to contest the ABFA's presidency once again in four years time.

"I think it was an excellent campaign that we did. Not winning by four votes means that we pretty much won, even to go through our whole process, I am telling you, I am very happy about how we went about it," Coates said.

"We looked at the issues and I think for me it could be mainly because I am a woman. I think our society is not quite ready for a woman to run football, so hopefully, in four years time, they will change their mind."



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## Blackhawks make winning start in defense of T20 title

PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks made an impressive start to the defense of their title in the Cool and Smooth T20 Competition on Monday night.

Inspired by all-rounder Kofi James, Liberta trounced New Winthorpes Lions by 90 runs in the first encounter, which was the second match of a double header on the opening night of the competition at the Coolidge Cricket Grounds.

James, who opened the innings and was later named man of the match, slammed 77 off 42 balls with 10 boundaries (6X6 and 4x4) and fellow opener Uri Smith, cracked 51 off 45 deliveries with six fours and a

six in Liberta's total of 198 for three off their 20 overs.

James and Smith featured a 132-run opening stand before West Indies player Hayden Walsh Jr struck 36 off 24 balls and Karima Gore hammered an unbeaten 24 off nine deliveries, finishing the batting assault on the Lions' bowlers.

In reply, New Winthorpes were restricted to 108 for nine with Walsh Jr. capturing two for 11 in his four overs. Only four New Winthorpes batsmen reached double figures in their innings.

Pigotts Crushers also made a successful start to their campaign by pull-



Pigotts Crushers opener Kadeem Henry, left, accepts his man of the match award from member of the organizing committee Dario Barthley at the Coolidge Cricket Grounds on 25 April, 2022.

ing off a three-wicket win against Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles in the opening match of the competition.

Bethesda could only muster 110 for nine in their allotted overs after winning the toss and deciding to bat.

Overseas player, Nyeem Young top scored with 52 off 41 balls, including six fours and three sixes. Demari Benta captured three for 18, Stephan Matthew

picked up two for 13 and captain Elroy Francis Jr. claimed two for 14.

Opener Kadeem Henry, who was later named man of the match, struck an undefeated 38 off 41 balls, with six fours to lead Crushers to victory at 117 for seven off 17 overs.

Young capped a fine all-round display by snapping up four for 16 in his three overs. Pacer Jawakie Joseph captured two for 11 in his three overs.



PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks allrounder Kofi James, left, accepts his man of the match award from Regis Burton at the Coolidge Cricket Grounds on 25 April, 2022. (Photos courtesy Cool and Smooth T20)