



THURSDAY 16TH JUNE 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 116 | [WWW.POINTVILLE.AG](http://WWW.POINTVILLE.AG)

# APUA: NEIGHBOUR'S ELECTRICITY VIOLATION MAJOR FACTOR IN EMPIRE KEEPER'S DEATH

*Story on Page 3*



A delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister E.P. Chet Greene (right) is in Switzerland participating in the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference. Minister Greene is accompanied by Joy-Marie King, Director of International Trade (left) and H.E Ambassador Colin Murdoch, Permanent Representative to the WTO (centre). Story on page 5



# Local News

## Police probe suspected electrocution of Empire FC goalkeeper

Police are investigating the death of Judah Bowers, who is believed to have been electrocuted at his home in Green Bay on Tuesday evening. The tragedy has plunged his family, friends and the football fraternity into mourning as they struggle to come to grips with his passing.

According to a STRATCOM report, 22-year-old Bowers was in his backyard hanging out laundry sometime around 9:15 pm, when the clothesline made contact with live electrical wire that was connected to a fence.

An unresponsive Bowers

was discovered on the ground by a relative who contacted the Emergency Medical Services for assistance.

The young man was transported by ambulance to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre where he was pronounced dead by a medical doctor at 9:34 pm.

Police say a post mortem examination will determine his exact cause of death.

The Empire Football Club goalkeeper has been described as a humble and hardworking young man by those who knew him, as they come to terms with the shock of his sudden and untimely death.



Judah Bowers

# PHONEARAMA

# SALE

"WE HAVE THE BEST PRICE"

**DON OFFICIAL**

**ACCESSORIES**

**Tel: (268) 775-4488**

**\$349 & UP**

**7" AMAZON FIRE TABLET**

**\$299**

**UNIQ 7" INCHES TABLET WIFI**

**\$599 & UP**

**SAMSUNG PHONES**

**\$299 & UP**

**ZTE & HYUNDAI PHONES**

**\$99**

**BLU Z4 PHONE**

**STORE HOURS: 9AM TO 5PM**

**DON OFFICIAL STORE - UPPER NEVIS STREET**

**CALL: 775-4488 NOW | WHATSAPP: 720-4488**

## Electrical violations at neighbouring property led to Bowers' electrocution

Antigua Public Utilities Authority has completed its own investigation into the cause of the electrocution of Judah Bowers on Tuesday and its result is disturbing.

According to APUA, its examination of the situation revealed utility violations at the property next door to the 22-year-old's home where he lost his life.

In a statement, APUA explained their Electricity Business Unit discovered that the property where the incident occurred shares a fence with an apartment building.

The apartment building's electricity was being supplied by a temporary service that breached the National Electrical Code and APUA's standard.

According to APUA, an extension cord running along and intertwined through a shared chain link fence supplied the apartment with electricity.



Due to exposure to the elements, however, the insulation on the extension cord deteriorated, exposing metal wire that made direct contact with the fence that separates the two buildings, energising it.

According to available information, the clothesline where Bowers was hanging his washing two nights ago was attached between the chain link fence and a tree in the yard.

Authorities say this was disaster that was just waiting to happen.

In offering condolences to the family



of the Empire FC goalkeeper, APUA issued an appeal for people to "desist from unsafe practices of breaching the electrical installation code and standards".

"We strongly caution customers to only engage with qualified electricians for their internal wiring requirements. APUA only approves temporary electrical supply to assist with the construction and repair of buildings.

"Temporary electrical supply should not be used for regular domestic accommodation outside of construction and repair purposes", APUA admonished.

The utilities company said it will engage its staff in a vigorous audit of temporary services and compliance.

Thu 16   Day		Thu 16   Night	
<b>86°</b>	5% ESE 13 mph	<b>78°</b>	11% ESE 9 mph
Cloudy. High 86F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.		Cloudy. Low 78F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph.	
Humidity <b>68%</b>	UV Index <b>8 of 10</b>	Humidity <b>78%</b>	UV Index <b>0 of 10</b>
Sunrise <b>5:33 am</b>	Sunset <b>6:42 pm</b>	Moonrise <b>9:21 pm</b>	Moonset <b>7:39 am</b>
		○ Waning Gibbous	



### 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, 13th June 2022	Tuesday, 14th June 2022	Wednesday, 15th June 2022	Thursday, 16th June 2022	Friday, 17th June 2022
Section of Hodges Bay near Stella Maris  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Section of Jennings near the Secondary School  8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Buckley Line near the Round- about  8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Jolly Hill to Bolans  8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Golden Grove & Whenner Road  8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
—	Section of Scotts Hill south of the Potters Cemetery  8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	—	—	—

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.



# Local News



## PM Browne recognised for 'bravery and courage'

Venezuela's ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Carmen Velasquez has singled out Prime Minister Gaston Browne for his "bravery and courage" for the stance he took in support of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua at the recently concluded Summit of the Americas.

Ambassador Velasquez made the remarks at a flag-raising ceremony on Wednesday at the Office of the Prime Minister to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Antigua and Barbuda and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

"I would like to recognise the bravery and courage of the prime minister during the Summit of the Americas where he stood his position on the exclusion of Cuba and Venezuela.

"We extend sincere thanks to you, prime minister, for standing in solidarity with our nation. Antigua and Barbuda can always count on the solidarity and friendship of Venezuela," she remarked.



*Prime Minister Gaston Browne presenting Venezuelan ambassador Carmen Velasquez with Land Certificate*

Ambassador Velasquez noted that the relationship between the two nations has strengthened over the years, even through the current challenges that Venezuela has faced because of sanctions imposed on that country by

the United States of America.

"In difficult times we have been together, as brothers, to support each other, because we believe in the relationship between equals, between sovereign states, because we are also united by a conviction: Latin America and the Caribbean united without exclusions," she said.

The ambassador noted that the Venezuelan Institute for Culture and Cooperation also opened 40 years ago, and has over the years helped thousands of residents to learn the Spanish language.

During the ceremony, the ambassador presented Prime Minister Browne with a plaque commemorating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between both nations on June 15, 1982.

PM Browne also presented the ambassador with the deed to land gifted by his administration to the Venezuelan government for the purpose of the construction of an embassy here.



*The Plaque presented by the Ambassador Velasquez to Prime Minister Browne*

## The 12th WTO Ministerial Conference extended

The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference being held in Geneva, Switzerland has been extended by a day and is now scheduled to end 16th June, 2022.

This decision comes as members remain locked in intense negotiations on several issues with the objective of attaining consensus.

Key areas include: Fisheries Subsidies; Agriculture; The Work Programme on E-commerce and Moratorium on the application of customs duties on electronic transmissions; Trade and Health, notably agreeing on a WTO response to COVID-19 and a waiver of certain aspect of The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) to enable diversification of production of COVID-19 vaccines; and WTO re-

form.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, E. P. Chet Greene, indicated that "the negotiations are at a critical stage and compromises will be required if meaningful outcomes are to be achieved centred around sustainability, development and livelihoods."

Greene further expounded that "this illustrates the existential crisis currently plaguing the WTO and by extension the multilateral trading system".

Antigua and Barbuda's delegation to MC12 comprises E. P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H. E. Ambassador Colin Murdoch, Permanent Representative to the WTO and Miss Joy-Marie King, Director of International Trade.



*From left: E. P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Miss Joy-Marie King, Director of International Trade and H. E. Ambassador Colin Murdoch, Permanent Representative to the WTO.*

## STUDENT SAFETY POLICY





**STATE INSURANCE**  
COMPANY LIMITED

Live in a better State of mind

[www.sicantigua.com](http://www.sicantigua.com)  
[info@sicantigua.com](mailto:info@sicantigua.com)  
 1 (268) 481-7800\04







# Local News



## A&B joins in observing Int'l Domestic Workers' Day

Domestic workers across the country are being encouraged to take the day off today as Antigua and Barbuda joins the rest of the world in observance of International Domestic Workers' Day.

Antigua Trades and Labour Union (AT&LU) Domestic Workers' Coordinator, Andie Stephen, said the call for a rest day should not be viewed as a form of industrial action. Rather, it should be considered a non-mandatory day of rest, with compensation, as a form of appreciation for this important category of workers.

In Antigua and Barbuda, the AT&LU has lobbied for representation on behalf of domestic workers, with General Secretary, Alrick Daniel, credited for adding the new section to the union eight years ago.

Since then, Antigua and Barbuda in 2018, ratified the International La-

bor Organization's Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

"We have grown from a small group to over seventy-five members registered with the union at this time.

"It has been a journey, and as the coordinator for domestic workers, a lot of work has gone into us putting together this section and ensuring the ladies in the section are well protected," Andie Stephen remarked.

She noted that the AT&LU also negotiates with employers on behalf of

domestic workers for better working conditions and living standards.

In observance of the day, domestic workers, and their union, will march through the streets of the city celebrating the unity they have forged, while raising awareness of the representation they continue to receive from the AT&LU.

"We are going to start at V. C. Bird Bust. We are going to make our way up Market Street, left unto Newgate Street, right unto Popeshead Street and we will end at the union's headquarters at 46 North Street, where we will have a few speeches just to culminate the day," Stephen told Pointe Xpress.

The International Labor Organization states, "Although they provide essential services, domestic workers rarely have access to rights and protection. Around 81 per cent are in informal employment – that's twice the share of informal employment among other employees. They also face some of the most strenuous working conditions.

"They earn 56 percent of average monthly wages of other employees, and are more likely than other workers to work either very long or very short hours. They are also vulnerable to violence and harassment, and restrictions on freedom of movement. Informal domestic workers are particularly vulnerable".



A branch of the Antigua Trades & Labour Union

**BARBUDA EXPRESS**  
ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE

**SUNDAY**

AB 12:00 PM  
BA 3:45 PM

**MONDAY**

AB 6:00 AM  
BA 8:00 AM

**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY**

AB 7:00 AM  
BA 3:45 PM

**SATURDAY**

AB 8:00 AM  
BA 3:45 PM

**TYPHOON EXPRESS**

**MONDAY**  
ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE

AB 3:45 PM  
(OVERNIGHT IN BARBUDA)

**TUESDAY**

BA 6:00 AM TO ST. JOHN'S

**WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**  
(CRABBS DEPARTURE)

AB 10:00AM  
BA 3:00PM

**UPDATED SCHEDULE**

**CONTACT US FOR RESERVATIONS**  
+1 268 764-2291

## Youth hydroponic programme to strengthen community food production and livelihood opportunities

The GARD Center (Gilbert Agricultural and Rural Development Center) is a grassroots non-profit, non-government organization which operates under the auspices of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA).

The Center is very pleased to announce its continuous partnership with the Sandals Foundation through its funding of the "Climate Smart Agriculture For Youth- Hydroponic" Project.

For the past thirty-two (32) years, the Center has been working arduously with at-risk youth, men and women in the community to engage them in various forms of sustainable agriculture for the 21st century.

With a primary focus of raising climate smart agriculture practices amongst young people towards long term food security, the Climate Smart Agriculture for Youth – Hydroponic programme seeks to:

- Create awareness of the present and future threats related to climate change and agriculture.
- Make youth aware of the contributions they can make in the agriculture

sector for a better future, especially through the application of climate-smart practices in agriculture, during this COVID-19 period.

- Train a total of 20 youth in hydroponics systems.

- Build the capacity of participants to construct a hydroponic unit and provide a starter kit to include seeds, rockwool and a water pump.

The programme support forms part of the Sandals Foundation's 40 sustainable community projects being executed across the Caribbean to commemorate its parent company's 40th anniversary.

Through its broad scale investment in a number of farming and agriculture educational programmes, the philanthropic arm of Sandals Resorts seeks to

strengthen the Caribbean's food security and livelihood opportunities.

This partnership is in collaboration with the Agricultural Extension Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

The GARD Center will expand its Climate Smart Agriculture programme that focuses on Hydroponics systems.

## ATTENTION MUSIC USERS

Have you contacted **eccorights** for your **PUBLIC PERFORMANCE LICENCE?**

Avoid **COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT!**

## CONTACT US TODAY!

**MAIN OFFICE:** (758) 451-6436

**ANT AGENT:** (268) 779-2935

**DOM AGENT:** (767) 616-8000

**SKN AGENT:** (869) 762-7139

**SLU AGENT:** (758) 717-1726

**SVG AGENT:** (784) 495-1248

[vcazaubon@eccorights.com](mailto:vcazaubon@eccorights.com)

[antiguaagent@eccorights.com](mailto:antiguaagent@eccorights.com)

[dominicaagent@eccorights.com](mailto:dominicaagent@eccorights.com)

[st.kittsagent@eccorights.com](mailto:st.kittsagent@eccorights.com)

[st.luciaagent@eccorights.com](mailto:st.luciaagent@eccorights.com)

[st.vincentagent@eccorights.com](mailto:st.vincentagent@eccorights.com)



## New COVID-19 infections remain low

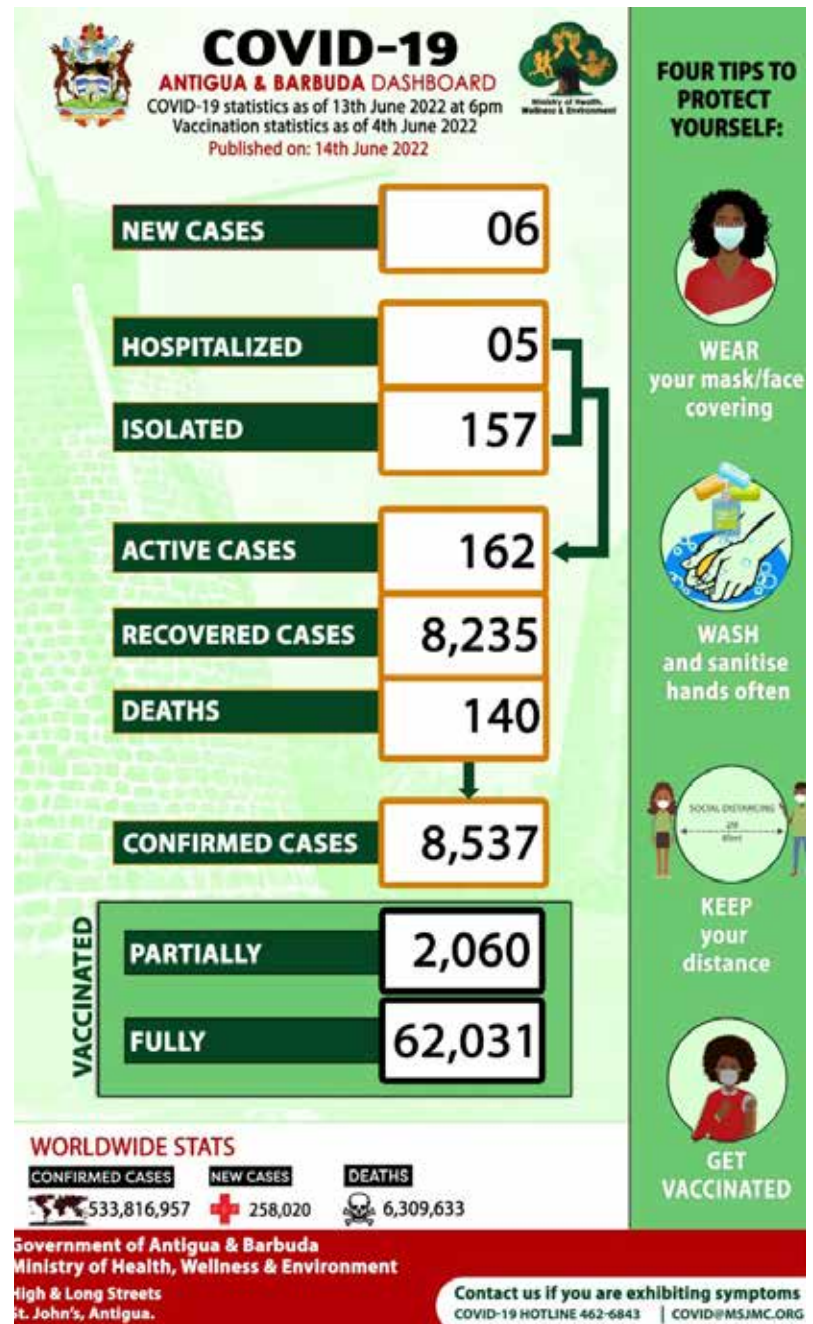
The most recent report received by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment revealed six (6) new laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda as of Monday 13th June, 2022 at 6pm.

Thirty-eight (38) samples were processed.

Consequently, the to-

tal number of persons with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda is eight thousand five hundred and thirty-seven (8,537); which is inclusive of one hundred and sixty-two (162) active cases.

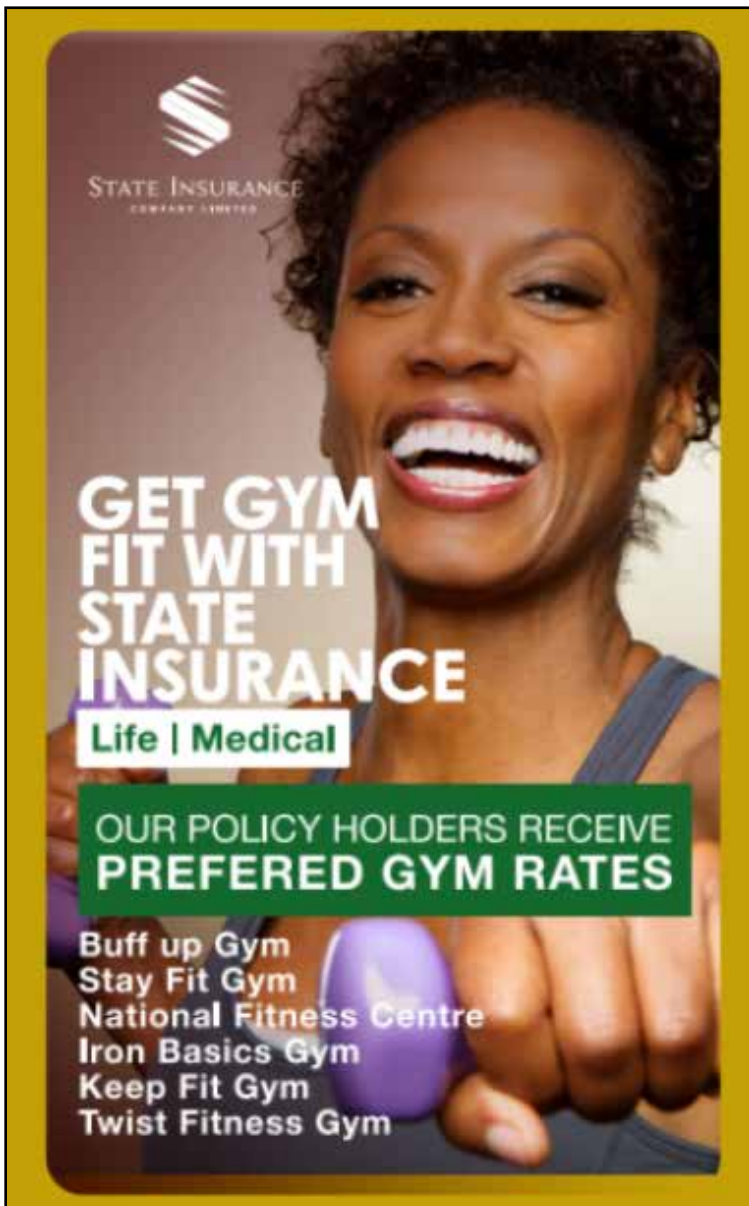
There are five (5) hospitalised cases; two (2) moderate and three (3) mild.



## Clarification

In the Tuesday 14th June, 2022 issue of Pointe Xpress, the article “**Haitians’ escape exposes a more serious problem**” stated that Lt. Col. Edward Croft, head of the ONDCP ... “*has indicated that the possibility exists that one or more persons within the facility’s security detail may have been compromised and participated in facilitating the Haitians’ escape from custody.*”

We wish to correct this statement to clarify that Lt. Col. Croft specifically said “**some people**” were compromised and are suspected of having facilitated the escape of the Haitians, although he did not specify who these individuals may be, or the agency or agencies these people may have been identified within.



**STATE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED**


**GET GYM FIT WITH STATE INSURANCE**  
 Life | Medical

**OUR POLICY HOLDERS RECEIVE PREFERRED GYM RATES**

Buff up Gym  
 Stay Fit Gym  
 National Fitness Centre  
 Iron Basics Gym  
 Keep Fit Gym  
 Twist Fitness Gym



# LIFTING THE WEIGHT OF MISCARRIAGE

IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 

## PANEL DISCUSSION AND BOOK LAUNCH

*featuring*



**JIHAN A. WILLIAMS**  
PREGNANCY LOSS  
SUPPORT ADVOCATE



**GLEN TOUSSAINT**  
MISCARRIAGE  
SUFFERER



**MICHELLE GEORGE TOUSSAINT**  
MISCARRIAGE  
SUFFERER



**REGINA APPARICIO**  
ASSOCIATE CLINICAL  
PSYCHOLOGIST



**FEONA CHARLES RICHARDS**  
DIRECTOR, FAMILY AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES DEPT



**COLIN J. JENKINS**  
MEN'S ADVOCATE



**ZAHRA AIRALL**  
MODERATOR

**THURSDAY 16TH JUNE 2022 | 6:00PM**  
**VENUE: JULEES**  
(CORNER OF CROSS AND TANNER STREETS)

**COPIES OF THE BOOK "LIFTING THE WEIGHT OF  
MISCARRIAGE" WILL BE ON SALE AT EC\$40**



# Pets



## Dog health: Don't buy a bulldog until breed is reshaped, vets plead

By Helen Briggs

The flat faces bred into bulldogs can cause a “life-time of suffering” and vets are urging people not to buy one.

The bulldog has twice the health risks of other dogs, a study has found.

Urgent action is needed to reshape the breed and stop the UK joining the list of countries where the dog is banned, say Royal Veterinary College experts.

They want people to stop buying English bulldogs and two other popular breeds - the French bulldog and the pug - until breeding issues are addressed.

They're also calling on the public to stop “promoting” the dog on social media by posting and liking pictures.

The bulldog has soared in popularity over the past decade.

The breed, also known as the English or British bulldog, earned comparisons with Winston Churchill for its jowly face, and was historically seen as a symbol of courage and endurance.

A fashion for ever more extreme features, such as a flat face, wrinkled skin and squat body, has made the breed prone to health complaints, raising welfare concerns.

With their large bulging eyes and flat face, the dogs are undeniably “cute”, said Dr Dan O'Neill of the Roy-



al Veterinary College, one of the authors of the study, but their extreme body shape after years of selective breeding has become their downfall.

“For breeds such as English bulldogs where many dogs still have extreme conformations (a dog's structure and appearance) with poor innate health, the public have a huge role to play by demanding dogs with moderate and healthier conformations,” he said.

“Until then, prospective owners should stop and think before buying a flat-faced dog.”

The English bulldog was once a muscular and athletic breed, but over the years has become a popular pet, with a trend towards a short skull, protruding jaw, skin folds and a squat build.

The public has an important role to play in driving change by not posting pictures of the dogs on social media or liking posts, thereby “inadvertently advertising” them, Dr O'Neill said.

But he admitted the “phenomenal” popularity of the bulldog is understandable,

given the psychological effect they have on us. With their large heads, big eyes and docile temperament, they remind us of babies, triggering our nurturing instincts.

“We interpret this as the dogs being cute, and this is totally understandable and, in fact, very hard to fight against as a human,” he said.

“What we deem is cute from the outside, if you're living the life as that dog, is anything but cute. It is, in many cases, a lifetime of suffering.”

The breeding of the bulldog is already banned in several countries, and, according to an expert working group of vets and welfare groups, including the Royal Veterinary College, the same could happen here if nothing is done.

Owners who already have one should look out for health issues such as eye problems, difficulty breathing and skin fold infections, and seek veterinary advice if concerned, they say.

Veterinary historian, Dr Alison Skipper, of King's College London, said many of the diseases linked to

body shape had been known by breeders for more than a century. Responsible breeding, prioritising health, could “improve the welfare of this popular and iconic breed,” she said.

And The Kennel Club said a ban risked driving the problem underground.

“We urgently want to see people choosing dogs not just because they like the way they look, which is often driven by celebrity and social media, and instead find breeders who use the health tools available and breed a non-exaggerated dog, where health comes first, as described in the breed standard,” said spokesperson, Bill Lambert.

The study, published in the journal of Canine Medicine and Genetics, compared the health of thousands of English bulldogs kept as pets with that of other dog breeds. It found English bulldogs were twice as likely to have one or more disorders in a single year than other dogs.

The commonest health complaints were infections in skin folds (38 times more likely than in other dogs), an eye disorder known as cherry eye (26 times more likely), protrusion of the lower jaw (24 times more likely) and breathing problems (19 times more likely).

A recent study by the same team found pugs were also at high risk of health complaints.



## Why you may have a thinking digital twin within a decade

By Jane Wakefield

Most of us have been told by a friend that we have a doppelgänger - some stranger they passed on the street who bore an uncanny resemblance to you.

But imagine if you could create your very own twin, an exact copy of yourself, but one that lived a purely digital life?

We are living in an age where everything that exists in the real world is being replicated digitally - our cities, our cars, our homes, and even ourselves.

And just like the hugely-hyped metaverse - plans for a virtual, digital world where an avatar of yourself would walk around - digital twins have become a new, talked-about tech trend.

A digital twin is an exact replica of something in the physical world, but with a unique mission - to help improve, or in some other way provide feedback to, the real-life version.

Initially such twins were just sophisticated 3D computer models, but artificial intelligence (AI) combined with the internet of things - which uses sensors to connect physical things to the network - have meant that you can now build something digitally that is constantly learning from and helping improve the real counterpart.

Technology analyst Rob Enderle believes that we will have the first versions of thinking human digital twins "before the end of the decade".

"The emergence of these will need a huge amount of thought and ethical consideration, because a thinking replica of ourselves could be incredibly useful to employers," he says.

"What happens if your company creates a digital twin of you, and says



*Some experts say that thinking digital twins of humans may be just a decade away.*

'hey, you've got this digital twin who we pay no salary to, so why are we still employing you?'?"

Mr Enderle thinks that ownership of such digital twins will become one of the defining questions of the impending metaverse era.

We have already started the journey towards human twinning - in the form of the above mentioned avatars - but these are currently rather clunky and primitive.

In Meta's (formerly Facebook) virtual reality platform, Horizon Worlds, for example, you may be able to give your avatar a similar face to your own, but you can't even provide it with any legs because the technology is at such early stages.

Prof Sandra Wachter, a senior research fellow in AI at Oxford University, understands the appeal of creating digital twins of humans, "it is reminiscent of exciting science fiction novels, and at the moment that is the stage where it is at".

She adds that whether someone will "be successful at law school, get sick, or commit a crime - will depend on the still debated 'nature versus nur-

ture question'.

It will depend on good luck and bad luck, friends, family, their socio-economic background and environment, and of course their personal choices."

However, she explains, AI is not yet good at predicting these "single social events, due to their inherent complexity. And so, we have a long ways to go until we can understand and model a person's life from beginning to end, assuming that is ever possible."

Instead, it is in the fields of product design, distribution and urban planning where the use of digital twins is currently the most sophisticated and extensive.

In Formula One racing, the McLaren and Red Bull teams use digital twins of their race cars.

Meanwhile, delivery giant, DHL, is creating a digital map of its warehouse and supply chains to allow it to be more efficient.

And increasingly our cities are being replicated in the digital world; Shanghai and Singapore both have digital twins, set up to help improve

*cont'd on pg 12*

# WHO looks into reports of monkeypox virus in semen

By Natalie Grover and Jennifer Rigby

The World Health Organisation is looking into reports that the monkeypox virus is present in the semen of patients, exploring the possibility that the disease could be sexually transmitted, a WHO official said on Wednesday.

Many cases in the current monkeypox outbreak, largely centred on Europe, are among sexual partners who have had close contact, and the agency reiterated that virus is mainly transmitted via close interpersonal contact.

In recent days, scientists say they have detected viral DNA in the semen of a handful of monkeypox patients in Italy and Germany, including a lab-tested sample that suggested the virus found in the semen of a single patient was capable of infecting another person and replicating.

Catherine Smallwood, monkeypox incident manager at WHO/Europe, said it was not known whether recent reports meant the monkeypox virus could be sexually transmitted.



“This may have been something that we were unaware of in this disease before,” she told a press briefing.

“We really need to focus on the most frequent mode of transmission and we clearly see that to be associated with skin to skin contact.”

More than 1,300 cases of the viral disease have been reported by about 30 countries since early May. Most cases have been reported in men who have sex with men.

The outbreak has triggered concern since the virus is rarely seen outside of Africa, where it is endemic, and

the majority of the European cases are not related to travel to the continent.

As the outbreak spreads, the WHO has recommended targeted vaccination of close contacts, including healthcare workers, but has warned it is already seeing a rush to stockpile vaccines.

“Once again, a ‘me first’ approach could lead to damaging consequences down the road,” said Hans Kluge, WHO’s regional director for Europe.

“I beseech governments to tackle monkeypox without repeating the mistakes of the pandemic – and keeping equity at the heart of all we do.”

*cont'd from pg 11*

the design and operations of buildings, transport systems and streets.

In Singapore, one of the tasks of its digital twin is to help find new ways for people to navigate, avoiding areas of pollution. Other places use the technology to suggest where to build new infrastructure such as underground lines. And new cities in the Middle East are being built simultaneously in the real world and the digital.

French software company, Dassault Systemes,

says it is now seeing interest from thousands of firms for its digital twins technology.

So far its work has included using digital twins to help a hair care firm digitally design more sustainable shampoo bottles, instead of endless real-life prototyping. This cuts down on waste.

And it is enabling other firms to design new futuristic projects - from jetpacks, to motorbikes that have floating wheels, and even flying cars. Each has a physical prototype too, but the

refining of that initial model happens in the digital space.

But the real value seen in digital twins is in healthcare. Dassault Systemes’ Living Heart project has created an accurate virtual model of a human heart that can be tested and analysed, allowing surgeons to play out a series of “what if” scenarios for the organ, using various procedures and medical devices.

The project was founded by Dr Steve Levine, who had personal reasons to want to create a digital twin.

His daughter was born with congenital heart disease, and a few year’s back, when she was in her late 20s and at high risk of heart failure, he decided to recreate her heart in virtual reality.

Boston Children’s Hospital is now using this technology to map out real patient heart conditions, while at Great Ormond Street hospital in London, a team of engineers is working with clinicians to test devices that may help children with rare and difficult-to-treat heart conditions.



## St. Vincent gov't seeking to ease burden on citizens due to higher fuel prices

CMC - The St. Vincent and the Grenadines government says it has taken emergency steps to prevent the fuel surcharge on electricity bills from surpassing the record high of EC\$0.67 cents (One EC dollar=US\$0.37 cents) per unit in 2008. Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves said he had given instructions "so that we can keep the bill which is coming out (Tuesday) in some reasonable frame."

The fuel surcharge this month has jumped from EC\$0.58 cents per kilowatt-hour to EC\$0.72 cents per unit, an increase of EC\$0.14 cents per unit.

"The bill is going to go up," Gonsalves said, as he told a radio audience of an emergency meeting with the director general of finance and planning.

"I'm trying to shield the people as much as possible from the burden because this is a poor people's government. This is a working people's government," Gonsalves said.

"The highest that it has ever been is in 2008 when it was 67 cents, approximately, per unit per kilowatt-hour, the fuel surcharge," he said, noting that back then, unrefined diesel sold for US\$147.50 a barrel.

"Now this would have taken it higher," he said, adding that he called the VINLEC chief executive officer, Thornley Myers, who is in Canada, and Minister of Finance Camillo Gonsalves, who is attending the annual Caribbean Development Bank meeting in Turks and Caicos.

He said a similar call was made to the director general of finance and planning "as we had to do something."

"Basically, what we are going to do, we are going to split the 14 cents. Let the consumer pay seven and we pay seven," he said, adding that this will benefit VINLEC's 47,000 consumers, including close to 42,000 domestic consumers.

"We will keep it below what the highest point has ever been. But still, it will increase. VINLEC will absorb about EC\$500,000 of that. And the government will put a number close to EC\$300,000," Gonsalves said, adding "if this has to be repeated next month, we'll have to probably reduce the way that formula is between the government and VINLEC."

"It's a difficult period. And, as always, I have to come to the people and be very honest. If we were to absorb all of it, it will cost us about EC\$1.6 million, and when you take into account that we are already doing over a million dollars a month in providing the subsidy on the gasoline [and diesel] at the pump..."

Gonsalves said a consumer who pays EC\$135 will see an increase slightly less than EC\$10, about half of what it would have been had it not been for his government's intervention.

## Bahamas Opposition legislator Adrian Gibson arrested

CMC - Bahamian Opposition legislator, Adrian Gibson, has been granted US\$150,000 bail after he appeared in court on Monday on charges of abuse of power while he served as executive chairman of the Water and Sewerage Corporation.

However, Gibson, 37, an attorney, and six other defendants, were all remanded into custody until their bail is signed.

Gibson, who appeared before Assistant Chief Magistrate Carolyn Vogt-Evan, faces a total of 56 counts on allegations that he failed to declare his interest in con-



Adrian Gibson

tracts awarded by the corporation.

Gibson faced 31 of his 56 charges alone, while together with the remaining six accused, faced a combined total of 101 charges.

Prosecutors allege that

Gibson gained a financial advantage of more than one million US dollars from contracts granted to a maintenance and restoration company and he laundered the illicitly obtained funds by purchasing properties

and vehicles.

Gibson was not required to plead to the charges.

The prosecution also alleges that the opposition legislator, who served as chairman of the utility company during the term in the office of Prime Minister Hubert Minnis, was aided by Elwood Donaldson, the corporation's former general manager; his cousin, Rashae Gibson; his campaign general Joan Knowles; Jerome Missick, Tonya Demeritte and Peaches Farquharson.

The charges range from false declaration, bribery, fraud, receiving and money

**cont'd on pg 14**

# Regional News



## Dr. Keith Mitchell warns against tampering with CBI programme as Grenada election campaign heats up

CMC – Grenada's Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell says the Citizenship by Investment Program (CBI) must be "run and managed" by Grenadians hinting at the main opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) being used by persons who want to "control this country of ours."

But the 44-year-old NDC leader, Dickon Mitchell, has brushed aside these suggestions telling the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) that while there is a need for more transparency in the programme, the NDC "is being funded by a grassroots campaign to a large extent by local Grenadians who desire change."

"We are not funded by any CBI company (and) that's the reality we do not have any big donors, we do not have any secret donors, we do not run the Citizenship by Investment Programme...it is being run exclusively by a New National Party government,"

he added.

Grenada is among several Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries with a CBI programme that provides citizenship to foreign investors who make a significant contribution to the socio-economic development of these islands.

Addressing a rally of his ruling New National Party (NNP) as he prepares for the June 23 general election, Prime Minister Mitchell, 75, told supporters the CBI programme "must be run and managed with no inherent conflict by people who oversee that programme."

"And the only loyalty is to the people of Grenada, Carriacou, and Petite Martinique."

"There are those who have their friends, who believe they want to control this country of ours. We are a welcoming people to all and sundry, but you must come here and respect the people of this land," Mitchell said, adding "who wants



Grenada's Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell

to sell out this country will not come through the New National Party."

But the NDC leader, who is also an attorney, described the statement by Prime Minister Mitchell as "laughable and borderline insane."

"We are not being funded by any CBI company," he said, adding that "the only person who is capable of selling any country, the

only persons capable of being bought is the New National Party".

Meanwhile, the Organization of American States (OAS) has announced that its observer mission for the general election will be led by Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, a former United Nations Resident Coordinator, and United Nations Development Program Resident Representative for Barbados and the OECS.

Grenada has formalised an agreement with the OAS to observe general elections where 41 candidates contest for the 15 seats in the House of Representatives or the Lower House of Parliament.

Apart from the OAS, CARICOM is also expected to mount a mission to Grenada for the polls.

*cont' d from pg 13*  
laundering.

All the accused were informed that their case will be heard in the Supreme Court.

Under the conditions of bail, all the accused are required to sign in at the nearest police station every Friday.

In the last five years, momentum has been building against corruption in Latin America and the Caribbean. High-level

politicians were found guilty of corruption in Guatemala and Brazil, and a wave of legal action against the perpetrators of grand corruption swept across the continent.

The 10th edition of the Global Corruption Barometer – Latin America and the Caribbean shows that most citizens think their governments are not doing enough to tackle corruption and that corruption levels have increased in the past 12 months across the region.



## Russia again cuts natural gas exports thru European pipeline



Robert Habeck, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection, takes part in the East German Economic Forum (OWF) in Bad Saarow, Germany, Monday, June 13, 2022. (Patrick Pleul/dpa via AP)

AP – Russia's Gazprom announced a reduction in natural gas flows through a key European pipeline for the second day in a row Wednesday, creating further energy turmoil for Europe as it tries to reduce its extensive use of Russian oil and natural gas amid the war in Ukraine.

The state-owned energy giant said on Twitter that deliveries through the Nord Stream 1 pipeline to Germany would be cut again Thursday, bringing the over-

all reduction through the undersea pipeline to 60%.

The drop in shipments of gas used to power industry and generate electricity would amount to some 16 billion cubic metres by the end of the year, or around 10% of total European Union gas imports from Russia, according to Simone Tagliapietra, an energy policy expert at the Bruegel think tank in Brussels.

The new cut came a day after Gazprom said it would *cont'd on pg 16*

## Suspects confess to killing British journalist and Brazilian guide - reports

AP – Brazilian suspects in the disappearance of British journalist Dom Phillips and his Brazilian guide Bruno Pereira have confessed to killing and dismembering the men, broadcasters CNN Brasil and Band News reported on Wednesday.

The federal police had said in a statement on Wednesday they were still searching for Phillips and Pereira in what they described as a homicide investigation, following the arrest of two suspects in the case. Reuters witnesses saw police take a masked and hooded man out on the river where the men vanished.

Police have not commented on the reported confession.

The suspects are fisherman Amarildo da Costa, known as "Pelado," and his brother Oseney da Costa, 41, or "Dos Santos."

Amarildo was arrested last week on weapons charges and is being held while police investigate his involve-



Federal Police officers escort a man accused to be involved in the missing of British journalist Dom Phillips and indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, who went missing while reporting in a remote and lawless part of the Amazon rainforest, near the border with Peru, in Atalaia do Norte, Amazonas state, Brazil, June 15, 2022. REUTERS/Bruno Kelly

ment in the case. Oseney was taken into custody on Tuesday night.

The suspects' family have denied they had any role in the men's disap-

pearance.

Public defenders representing the brothers could not immediately be reached for comment.

## Biden announces new \$1 billion in weapons for Ukraine

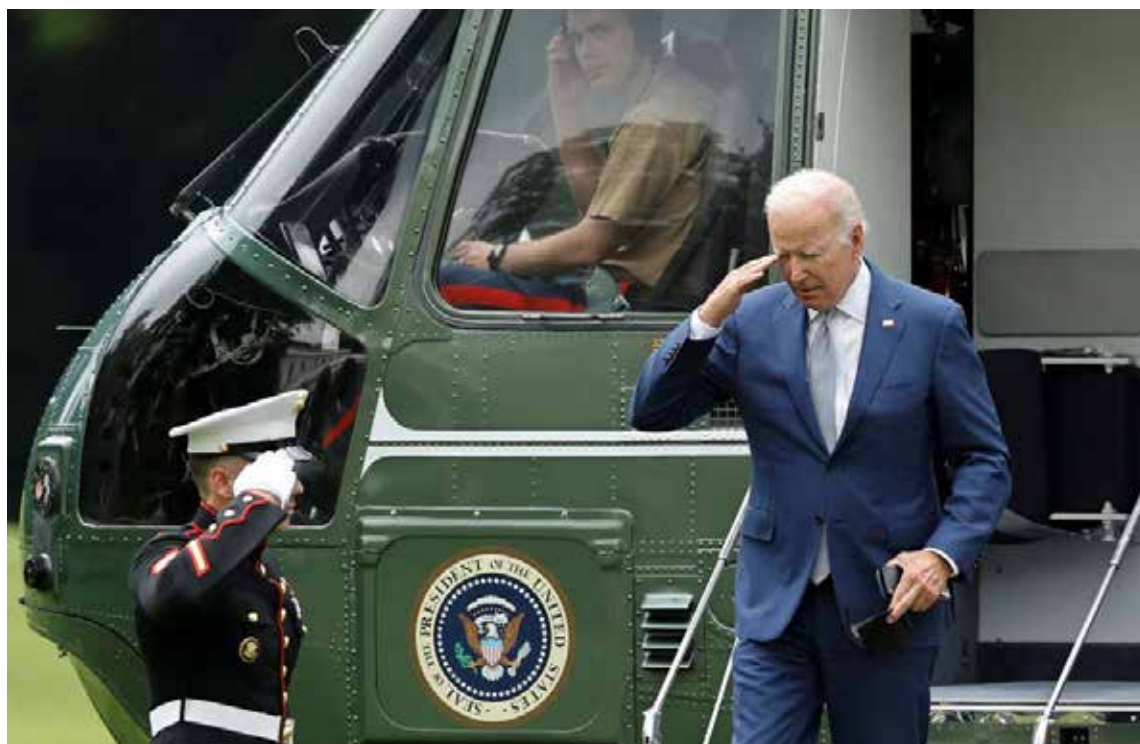
Reuters – President Joe Biden on Wednesday announced a fresh infusion of \$1 billion in weapons for Ukraine that sources familiar with the package said included anti-ship rocket systems, artillery rockets, and rounds for howitzers.

In a phone call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Biden said he told the embattled leader about the new weaponry.

“I informed President Zelenskyy that the United States is providing another \$1 billion in security assistance for Ukraine, including additional artillery and coastal defence weapons, as well as ammunition for the artillery and advanced rocket systems,” Biden said in a statement after the 41-minute call.

The president also announced an additional \$225 million in humanitarian assistance to help people in Ukraine, including by supplying safe drinking water, critical medical supplies and healthcare, food, shelter, and cash for families to purchase essential items.

The aid packages, which



come as U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin is meeting with allies in Brussels, could be split into two categories: transfer of excess defence articles from U.S. stocks and other weapons being funded by the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI), a separate congressionally authorised programme.

Three sources familiar with the details, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that one package of about \$350 million was expected

to include more rockets for Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) that had been sent to Ukraine and artillery rounds for M777 howitzers and spare parts.

A second package, anticipated to amount to more than \$650 million and funded using USAI, could include ground-based Harpoon anti-ship missile launchers, secure radios, night vision and training.

Ukraine is pressing the United States and other West-

ern nations for speedy deliveries of weapons in the face of increased pressure from Russian forces in the eastern Donbass region.

In May, the Biden administration announced a plan to give Ukraine M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems after receiving assurances from Kyiv that it would not use them to hit targets inside Russian territory. Biden imposed the condition to try to avoid escalating the Ukraine war.

*cont'd from pg 15*

reduce flows by 40% after Canadian sanctions over the war prevented German partner Siemens Energy from delivering overhauled equipment. It blamed the same issue for the additional reduction.

But German Vice Chancellor Robert Habeck said Wednesday that Gazprom's initial move appeared to be po-

litical rather than a result of technical problems. He said the new developments “clearly show the Russian side's explanation is simply an excuse.”

“Obviously, the strategy is to unsettle people and push up prices,” Habeck said.

Gazprom also told Italian gas giant Eni that it would reduce gas through a different pipeline by roughly 15% on

Wednesday. The reason for the reduction has not been made clear, and the Italian company said it was monitoring the situation.

The reduced flows to two of Europe's biggest importers of Russian natural gas follow Russia's previous halt of gas supplies to Bulgaria, Poland, Finland, the Netherlands and Denmark.



## Blatter, Platini face 20-month suspended jail sentences

AP – Prosecutors in the fraud trial of former FIFA president Sepp Blatter and vice president Michel Platini asked Wednesday for both men to get 20-month suspended prison sentences.

Blatter and Platini, a former France national team captain who was president of European governing body UEFA, faced sentences of up to five years for financial wrongdoing but actual jail time was considered to be unlikely ahead of their 11-day trial. Verdicts are expected on July 8.

The 86-year-old Blatter's legal jeopardy increased Wednesday when prosecutors in FIFA's home city Zurich confirmed to The Associated Press they had opened criminal proceedings against him in a separate complaint filed by soccer's world body in 2020.

Blatter and his long-time right-hand man, former FIFA secretary general Jérôme Valcke, are now formal suspects in an investigation of alleged mismanagement relating to the FIFA World Football Museum project in central Zurich. The new details were first reported by a Swiss financial news website.

Earlier Wednesday at the Swiss federal criminal court in Bellinzona, prosecutor Thomas Hildbrand also asked the three judges



*The former president of the World Football Association (FIFA), Joseph Blatter, speaks as he arrives at the Swiss Federal Criminal Court in Bellinzona, Switzerland, Wednesday, June 8, 2022. Blatter and the former president of the European Football Association (UEFA), Michel Platini, will stand trial before the Federal Criminal Court from Wednesday, over a suspicious two-million payment. (Alessandro Crinari/Keystone via AP)*

es for Platini to pay FIFA more than 2.2 million Swiss francs (\$2.2 million) in compensation.

Blatter and Platini deny fraud and lesser charges relating to a FIFA-approved \$2 million payment to the France great in 2011. At the time, Platini was UEFA president, a FIFA vice president and was expected to succeed Blatter, likely in 2015.

Platini said in a statement published after the court session that he was "serene and confident."

"The indictment of the prosecutor today is devoid of any basis," Platini said. "The debates of the trial proved that this criminal procedure had no reason to exist."

The prosecution argued

there was no legal or contractual basis for FIFA to pay Platini's invoice for working as a presidential adviser in Blatter's first term between 1998 and 2002. FIFA also paid \$229,000 of social security taxes in Zurich.

Both have long denied wrongdoing and claim they had a verbal deal in 1998 for Platini to get extra salary that FIFA could not pay at the time. Platini signed a contract in August 1999 to be paid 300,000 Swiss francs (\$300,000) annually.

Their defence previously failed at the FIFA ethics committee, which banned them from soccer and removed them from office, the FIFA appeals committee, and later in separate appeals at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Blatter has said FIFA accounted for the money properly, and Platini has claimed the allegation came to light in September 2015 to block him from campaigning to be FIFA president.

In June 2015, Blatter announced his plan to resign early as president in fallout from a sprawling American corruption investigation. A separate but cooperating case by Swiss prosecutors led to the Platini payment being investigated.

Blatter and Platini testified last week and both are expected to make closing statements at the end of the trial on June 22.

Two federal criminal proceedings and one at canton (state) level are now ongoing against Blatter and also Valcke.

FIFA asked Zurich prosecutors to look at the \$140 million renovation of a downtown Zurich building for a museum long seen as a pet project of Blatter that opened in 2016. The loss-making museum is tied to a longterm FIFA rental of apartments and offices on the site owned by insurance firm Swiss Life.

Lawyers for Blatter said 18 months ago the museum allegations are "baseless and are vehemently denied."

Federal prosecutors including Hildbrand are also investigating a FIFA loan of

*cont'd on pg 19*

# Sports News



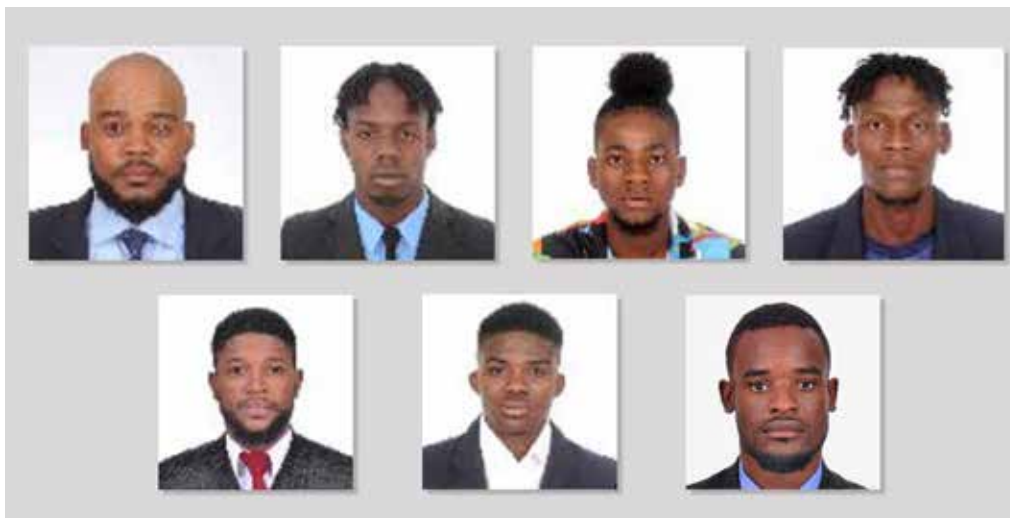
## Another member of Haiti's Special Olympics delegation gone missing

CMC – Law enforcement officials in Florida have confirmed that a seventh member of Haiti's Special Olympics delegation has disappeared even as the search continues for the six others who went missing after checking into their hotel last week.

The deputies of the Sheriffs of Osceola County said 25-year-old Louis Jacques Wilguens, who was due to return to Haiti on Sunday was last seen on Saturday getting off the bus at the All-Star Sports Resort around 4:30 p.m., wearing red sandals, blue jeans and a white Special Olympics shirt with the word Haiti written on it.

As in the previous case when the six others went missing, the authorities say they do not suspect foul play and are urging anyone with information to contact the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

Last week, the authorities named Atione Joseph Mithon, 32; Nicholson Fontilus, 20; Peter Mianovich Berlus, 19; Anderson Petit-Frere, 18; Steevenson Jacquet, 24 and Oriol Jean, 18, as having gone missing.



They are all associated with the country's soccer team that participated in the Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando.

The police said the group was last seen at the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex. All six men left behind their personal belongings.

Haitians have in the past been making dangerous voyages by sea to enter the United States illegally. Many have lost their lives as a result, but others continue in a hope of escaping poverty and crime in the French-speaking Caribbean Commu-

nity (CARICOM) country.

"Many of those who resort to dangerous sea crossings are fleeing the political instability and socio-economic insecurity of the region, which has put severe strains on communities throughout the Caribbean."

As of May, the US Coast Guard reported almost 3,900 interceptions of Haitian nationals, more than double the number reported a year ago.

In addition, the UN said at least 175 Haitians have been reported to the coast guard as missing or deceased.

## George Washington University to drop 'Colonials' moniker

AP – George Washington University is dropping its "Colonials" moniker because "it can no longer serve its purpose as a name that unifies," the school announced Wednesday.

GW will keep using "Colonials" until a new name is introduced. That is expected by the 2023-24 academic year.

"A moniker must unify our community, draw people together and serve as a source of pride," said Grace Speights, chair of the university's Board of Trustees.

"We look forward to the next steps in an inclusive process to identify a moniker that fulfills this aspiration."

The school has used "Colonials" since 1926.

A special committee looked into the name's history and delivered a report to the school president in March 2021.

According to an online statement from the university, a that committee determined that supporters of "Colonials" view it

as referring to "those who lived in the American colonies, especially those who fought for independence and democracy," while opponents see the term as referring to "colonizers who stole land and resources from indigenous groups, killed or exiled Native peoples and introduced slavery into the colonies."



## Ministry of Sports to host camp for young netballers

The Netball Unit in the Ministry of Sports will be conducting a camp over two phases during the latter part of this month and in early July at the YMCA Sports Complex.

The first phase of the camp will be held over two days on 22nd and 23rd June from 2pm to 5pm.

The second part of the camp for the young netballers will be conducted over three days on 4th, 6th, and 7th July from 9am to 12:30pm.

One of the coaches in the Netball Unit in the Ministry of Sports, Olena Knight, said the camp is open to anyone who is interested in learning or improving their skills to



Netball coach in the Ministry of Sports Olena Knight. (File photo)

play the sport.

Knight said registration

is free and can be done on the day of the event.

"To be a part of this camp you don't have to pay any fee at all. They can just show-up at the YMCA and we will register them there," Knight said.

"There is no registration form, but what we did was to send out letters to all the heads of the secondary schools so that they may be aware of what is going on.

"However, we are conducting these training sessions for all those who are interested at both government and private schools."

Knight said the overall objective of the initiative is to give as many players as

possible the opportunity to develop the fundamentals of netball.

Any person who is seeking more information about the upcoming camp may contact coach Knight at 723-9160 or coach Ruby Williams at 723-9439.

Following a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Netball Unit in the Ministry of Sports hosted its Inter-schools' Under-16 Netball championships in March to April at the YMCA.

Teams from eight secondary schools contested the event, which was won by the girls of Princess Margaret School.

*cont'd from pg 17*

\$1 million in 2010 to the Trinidad and Tobago soccer federation. The suspects are Blatter, Valcke and former FIFA finance director Markus Kattner, who testified in court Tuesday about the Platini payment.

The loan was later waived and effectively gifted soccer money to Jack Warner, then a FIFA vice president, weeks before he was a candidate in the Caribbean islands' general election. Warner then became a government minister.

Valcke is also awaiting a federal appeals court verdict in Bellinzona after a retrial in March on charges linked to use of a Qatari-owned villa in Sardinia and World Cup broadcast rights. The three defendants include soccer and broadcast executive Nasser al-Khelaifi, the president of French champion Paris Saint-Germain.

### WADADLI ELITE BASKETBALL EXPOSURE CAMP

**DATE: JUNE 24TH - 26TH**

**TIME: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**COME MEET ANTIGUA'S OWN COACH**

**JERMELLE "SPEEDY" FRASER**

- FORMER NCAA AND PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER

- NCAA COACH

- PRO PLAYER DEVELOPMENT COACH

**\$300 PER PARTICIPANT, FOOD, FAMILY, FUN, SLAM DUNK, 3 POINT, SKILL CHALLENGE AND MUCH MORE....**



**LOCATION: JSC**

45EC CVX JHONSONS VILLAGE SIMON BOLIVAR DR PIGEONTS ANTIGUA BARBUDA

# Sports News



## Wadadli Elite Academy to stage basketball camp

Wadadli Elite Academy's Administrator and Assistant Coach Byron Andrew said the organization will be hosting its first ever "Exposure Basketball Camp" at the JSC Sports Complex later this month.

Assistant Coach at Lemoyne College in Syracuse, New York, Jermelle "Speedy" Fraser, who is also a professional trainer that works with the United States National Basketball Association's (NBA) players, will be one of the facilitators at the three-day camp, slated for 24th to 26th June from 5pm to 9pm.

Andrew, the business owner and operator of Eye Mobile Vision Care (EMVC), said that Fraser, who was

born in Antigua, has worked with players such as New York Knicks guard Kemba Walker.

"I am going to be putting on a camp from 24 to 26 of this month. But I will have a college coach coming in. He is also a professional trainer. He has played professional basketball in Europe and college basketball in the United States. He had trained people like Kemba Walker and work out players who are in the NBA right now," Andrew said.

"So he was actually born in Antigua, so he is going to be coming down to Antigua to do this three-day camp. We are going to be looking at some players to see what kind of op-



Administrator and coach of Wadadli Elite Academy Byron Andrew. (Photo courtesy EMVC)

portunities they can be given and it is just for us to once again put a light on basketball in Antigua and see what we really have.

"I may also have one of the recruiters that I work along with in Europe so he will be coming down as well too. So some of these older guys who think they can play professional basketball, we will probably bring them in for some workouts so he can have a look at them and see if they have what it takes to be able to play potentially overseas. So these are some of the things that I have planned for the 24th to 26th June."

Registration fee is EC\$300 to attend the camp, which will also feature slam dunks, three-point shootouts and skills challenge competitions.

The Wadadli Elite Basketball Academy is the brainchild of Andrew, who started the organization approximately eight years ago.

Although he is the chief admin-  
*cont'd on pg 21*

**WEST INDIES** vs **BANGLADESH**

**FAMILY FUN ZONE!**

EC \$7.50 KIDS  
EC \$15 ADULTS PER MATCH DAY

BOUNCY CASTLE | TRAMPOLINE | BALL PIT  
FACEPAINTING | CRICKET SKILLS ZONE

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**  
18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE - 10AM - 6PM  
**SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM**

For Match Tickets: Visit [windiescricket.com](http://windiescricket.com)  
or the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium



# Sports News

*cont'd from pg 20*

istrator of the organization, Andrew also performs the role of assistant to head coach Irwin “Wanga” Armstrong, who is an experienced former coach of both the national junior and senior teams, the Antigua Pitbulls and Wadadli Bulldogs.

Since its inception, Wadadli Elite Basketball has been instrumental in getting over 20 of its members to acquire athletic scholarships to high schools and colleges in the United States and to play professionally in Europe.

Andrew said the Wadadli Elite Basketball Academy, which also competes in the Antigua and

Barbuda Basketball Association’s (ABBA) domestic league programme, will continue to provide opportunities to assist young Antiguan and Barbudans to develop their basketball skills, to attain a college education and aid in their development of being good citizens of the twin-island state.

“We are going to continue to put our children in a position to capitalize on these basketball opportunities whether it is by playing in local tournaments or travel out as a team to play against regional teams,” Andrew stated.

“Maybe even in a year or so, go back on a tour of the United States to play

in some tournaments, and even bringing in coaches to see if we can get them opportunities into a high

school, a prep school, or to go to a university or even to go to Europe to play professional basketball.”



IT'S OUR GAME

**WEST INDIES** vs **BANGLADESH**

1ST TEST

**Antigua**

**JUNE 16-20 | 10AM-5PM**

SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM

**GET TICKETS!**



**PLATINUM** FM  
We Entertain You **97.9**

**STEELPAN MELEE**

WITH **KHAN KC CORDICE**

**5PM-6PM**

**TUESDAYS**

**WV**

**LIVE**

## Black Hawks remain perched atop standings of two-day contest

PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks are still leaders of the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Two Day Competition.

The Black Hawks became the first team to book their spot in the semi-finals when they crushed Caribbean Union Bank Bethesda by an innings and 71 runs in the seventh round of matches last weekend.

Liberta's fifth win in seven outings lifted the Black Hawks to 69 points and ensured they remain at the top of the 10-team round-robin contest.

With the top four teams at the end of the preliminaries advancing to the semi-finals, Liberta are already assured of a place in the final four.

The Black Hawks, who have already won the ABCA Super-40 and the Cool & Smooth T20 Explosion competitions, have won all but two of their seven matches in the two-day competition.

With just two more rounds of matches remaining in the preliminaries, only current second place holders Empire Nations can surpass the 69 points already accumulated by the Black Hawks.

Empire beat All Saints



*PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks continue to lead the standings after seven rounds of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's Two Day Competition. (File photo)*

Pythons by 100 runs last weekend to record their fourth win in seven outings to move into second place in the standings with 57 points.

Defending champions Pigotts Crushers are two points behind Empire in third place in the standings.

All Saints Pythons, with two wins, four draws and one defeat, are currently in fourth place with 45 points.

The men from All Saints are just three points ahead of New Winthorpes Lions who are in fifth place after also recording two wins, four draws and one loss in their seven matches.

Jennings Tigers are currently in sixth place with 40 points from a record of one win, five draws and one de-

feat from their seven matches.

They are four points ahead of Bolans Blasters who have won three matches, but have lost their other four encounters.

They are followed by Rising Sun Spartans in eighth place with 27 points from their seven encounters. Rising Sun have so far secured two wins, four losses and a draw from their matches.

Bethesda Golden Eagles are currently second from bottom of standings with 21 points.

The Golden Eagles have recorded just one win, four losses and two draws from their seven matches.

Winless Combined Schools, who have lost all

seven matches so far, are occupying the cellar position without a point.

There will be a break in the two-day competition this weekend, because the ABCA has postponed all matches that were scheduled to be played on 18th and 19th June.

The competition will resume on 25th and 26th June, when the penultimate round of preliminary matches will be played.

The final round of preliminary matches will be contested on 2nd and 3rd July.

The semi-finals will be contested on 9th and 10th July and the two-day competition will conclude with the final on 16th and 17th July.