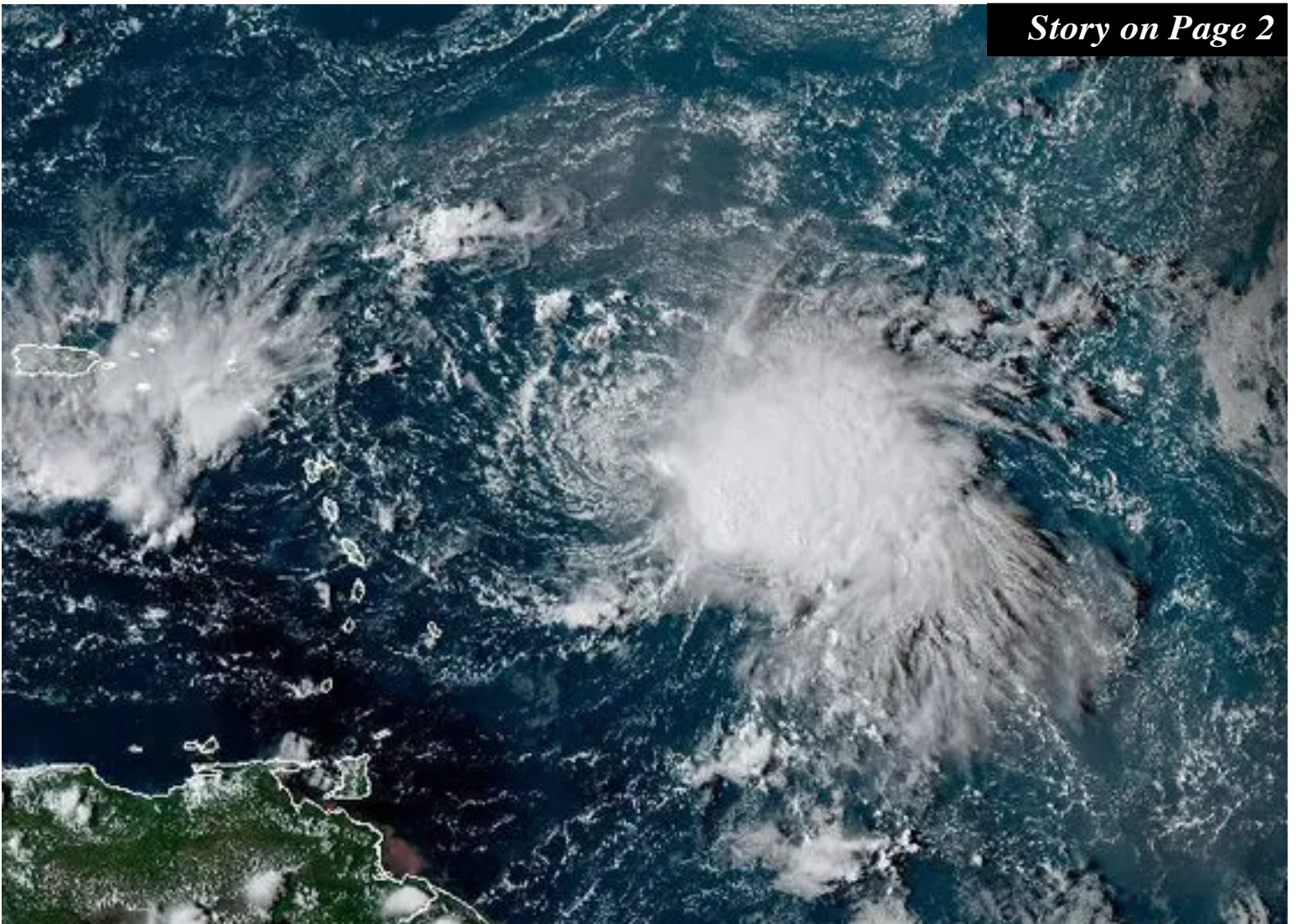


FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 178 | [WWW.POINTVILLE.AG](http://WWW.POINTVILLE.AG)

# TROPICAL STORM FIONA STRIKES THIS WEEKEND



*Story on Page 2*

*A satellite image of Tropical Storm Fiona as it approached the Leeward Islands on Thursday evening.*

# Local News



## Tropical Storm Fiona approaches the Leewards

A very slow-moving Tropical Storm Fiona is on course to impact several of the Leeward Islands, including Antigua and Barbuda, which are all now under warning advisories.

A Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours.

Guadeloupe, St. Barthélemy, and St. Martin are all under tropical storm watch advisories.

Fiona is forecast to bring heavy rain, rough

surf, coastal rip currents and strong gusty winds.

Late Thursday, also under warning were Saba and St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, Anguilla. Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands were cautioned that they too would be under storm warnings by Thursday evening.

Winds up to tropical storm force - 39 to 73 mph will begin to impact the countries affected by the warning on Friday night. It is expected that Fiona will dump 3 to 6 inches of rain



across the islands.

Maximum sustained winds were estimated at 50 mph on Thursday evening, and the National Hurricane Center anticipated strengthening to 55 mph. Thereafter, a plateau in intensity is expected as it continues west. The National Hurricane Center has asked ships within 300 miles of the storm's position to record and submit weather observations every three hours, which will aid in forecasting and modelling efforts.

An Air Force Hurricane Hunter plane was also dispatched yesterday to investigate the storm.

Computer generated models suggested that once the storm passes near or over Puerto Rico, it will veer northward.

While it is uncertain at this point where it will ultimately go due to a host of atmospheric variables, the

US-based National Hurricane Center predicts that Fiona may strengthen into a hurricane which could be of concern to Bermuda and the east coast of the US in days to come.

Fiona is the sixth named storm of what, until now, has been a relatively quiet Atlantic hurricane season. The Atlantic basin is running at about 47.4 percent of accumulated cyclone energy, or ACE, a measure of overall storm activity.

The 2022 Atlantic hurricane season has been the slowest start to a season since 2014, defying expert predictions of a particularly active season. In contrast, the hyperactive 2021 season had already produced 20 named storms by this time and was nearing the point of entering the Greek alphabet which happens only when all names have been exhausted.



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

with

**The Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA)**

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□ **Receptionist**

For more information on the employment opportunities and details for submission of applications, please visit the following websites [www.eccaa.aero](http://www.eccaa.aero) or [www.oecs.int](http://www.oecs.int).

**The deadline date for receipt of applications is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**



## Antigua and Barbuda to remain part of Commonwealth if referendum is successful

Prime Minister Gaston Browne, who has indicated his intention to hold a national referendum on the question of Antigua and Barbuda becoming a republic, says the country will remain part of the Commonwealth of Nations if the vote is successful.

Speaking in the House of Representatives at a special session to pay tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday, Browne noted that republicanism does not translate to Antigua and Barbuda's exit from the Commonwealth.

He noted that many countries which comprise the Commonwealth are republics, including three in the Caribbean, Dominica, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

"In her 70 years as our Sovereign, Elizabeth II was also head of the Commonwealth of Nations. When she became head of this voluntary association, its membership was only eight countries of which three were republics. Today, fifty-six nations comprise the Commonwealth and thirty-five of them are republics, with another five having their own monarchs.

"Her Majesty The Queen, did not stand in the way of her realms transitioning to republican status



*Prime Minister Gaston Browne*

if that was the expressed wish of their peoples," he said.

According to the prime minister, under the Queen's stewardship, sixteen members of her realms became republics, and each remained part of the Commonwealth, readily accepting her as "the symbol of their voluntary association".

Notably, the five newest members of the Commonwealth are all African nations: Mozambique, Cameroon, Rwanda, Togo and Gabon.

"This fact, in itself, is testimony to the worldwide regard in which Queen Elizabeth II was held, and the great value that was placed in the quality of her leadership. It is no wonder that throughout the world, including in countries where she was not Queen

and which are not members of the Commonwealth,

there has been spontaneous and heart-felt outpouring of grief at Her Majesty's passing," the prime minister remarked.

Following the Queen's death last Thursday, PM Browne reiterated his earlier position that if the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party is successful in the upcoming general elections, his government will hold a referendum on whether the country should adopt a republican constitution.

## UTILITIES ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

### DISCONNECTION NOTICE

APUA would like to remind both residential and commercial customers to stay connected by Managing Your Account. Customers are reminded to settle Electricity and Water accounts that are overdue by 30 days or in arrears. Disconnections will be carried out during the period **September 19th to September 30th, 2022.**

**Please be advised that reconnections are carried out within 1-2 business days after payment.**



## WE ARE HIRING

OUTDOOR WORLD LIMITED

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#### JOB TITLE: MARKETING MANAGER

#### JOB SUMMARY

We are seeking an innovative marketing manager to promote our company's brand and services. In this role, you will be optimizing our marketing strategies, managing the marketing department's budget and ensuring that all marketing material is in line with our brand identity. To ensure success, you will need extensive knowledge of marketing strategies and the ability to identify new business leads. In your role, your expertise should translate into increased brand awareness and profitability. The scope of responsibility will include the Group of Businesses associated with Mr. Robert Shoul. This includes but is not limited to: Outdoor World Antigua and St. Marten, Automotive Art, Distribution Division, Tropic Wear and Buccaneer Beach Club.

#### OBJECTIVES

1. Lead the execution of marketing programs from start to finish, leveraging support and driving collaboration with both internal and external partners.
2. Analyze customer insights, consumer trends, market analysis, and marketing best practices to build successful strategies
3. Establish positioning, identify target audiences, and develop marketing plans with specific objectives across different channels and segments
4. Create, maintain, and conduct analytics reporting across multiple platforms and extract key insights for future campaign development and go-to-market strategies, complete with formal proposals and recommendations on tactics
5. Partner with email, performance marketing, and web teams to design, test, and evolve lead-nurturing tactics

#### QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

1. Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in marketing, business, or related field
2. Five years' experience in Marketing at a senior level
3. Excellent written and verbal communication skills
4. Proven experience developing marketing plans and campaigns
5. Strong Budget-management and project management skills
6. Knowledge of traditional and digital marketing, content marketing, and social media marketing
7. Proficient in Microsoft Office, Adobe Suite, and web editing packages.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please send your cover letter and resume to [hr@autoartanu.com](mailto:hr@autoartanu.com).  
**Deadline for submission: September 30th, 2022.**  
 Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.

## Case committed for youth who allegedly attacked minor



16-year-old Jerkeem Jackson

Among the many matters lined up for the High Court's January assizes is the case of Darrell Giddens, the young man alleged to have attacked and wounded 16-year-old Jerkeem Jackson.

On 29th April this year, Jackson was critically injured by three males who attacked him as he walked along a byroad in Ottos.

The incident, which was caught on camera, landed Jackson in the Intensive Care Unit for about two weeks. While there, he endured multiple life saving surgeries to address brain haemorrhaging and a fractured skull.

Giddens was arrested and charged with wounding with intent to murder just days after Jackson's release.

The 21-one-year-old alleged attacker has appeared before the St. John's Magistrates' Court a few times since his arrest, but only yesterday was the matter finally committed to the January assizes by Chief Magistrate Joanne Walsh.

When his matter finally comes up some time next year, Giddens will appear before a High Court judge to answer to the charges against him. If he denies committing the crime, he will be placed on trial.

Jackson, meanwhile, who has reportedly been left with permanent damage as a result of the brutal attack, remains steadfast on his difficult road to recovery with the support of his family who have remained by his side.

# CABI extended to home improvements

Government is providing an additional fillip to the national construction boom by offering Construct Antigua and Barbuda Initiative (CABI) benefits to persons carrying out home improvements, up to a predetermined value.

News of this development came following this week's Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

"The Cabinet, by policy, is extending the Construct Antigua and Barbuda Initiative (CABI) to the repair of decrepit homes that do not

exceed \$100,000.00.

"The new policy will result in the elimination of the ABST and the Duty on building supplies, but the homeowner will be required to pay the RRC," the Cabinet stated.

The Cabinet has not set a time limit on this policy, according to the notes. This announcement is expected to be warmly greeted by homeowners who may be contemplating traditional year end repairs to their homes.

The move is designed



to keep the cost of home improvements affordable which in turn is hoped to keep material prices, which

have steadily increased over the past two years due to supply chain and other inflationary issues, in check.



## COMMERCIAL BANKS IN ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TO CLOSE AT 12 NOON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

The Antigua & Barbuda Bankers Association wishes to advise the public that member organisations will close at 12 noon on Friday, September 16th 2022 due to the passage of Tropical Storm Fiona. The association urges the public to make the necessary precautions to protect life and property, and to remain safe as the storm passes.



## AOSIS: UNGA77 must be a milestone for loss and damage response finance

During the ongoing 77th UN General Assembly (UNGA), it is imperative that governments show their leadership in the fight against the climate crisis by calling for the advancement of loss and damage response finance at this year's pivotal United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP27.

This is the position of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) which says its inhabitants are nearing their limit, and it is urgent that the world unite in support of Loss and damage response finance for the world's most climate-vulnerable countries, ahead of COP27.

This issue is of critical importance for people of Small Island Developing States represented by AOSIS, which has continuously advocated for a dedicated multilateral fund to help the most vulnerable countries recover from extreme climate disasters and slow-onset impacts.

The G77 and China are also proponents of this fund, and AOSIS is looking to the rest of the international community to rally behind this urgent issue.

During UNGA, AOSIS will hold intergovernmental meetings and high-level discussions where loss and damage talks will take center stage. The AOSIS Climate Coordinators and Heads of Delegations meeting on September 15th and the AOSIS Leaders Breakfast on September 22nd will focus on driving support for the adoption of loss and damage response finance as an official agenda item at COP27. AOSIS is making it clear that this is a first step, and commitment to establish the fund must be the end goal at COP27.

The organisation is already at work on a draft framework for a loss and damage response fund.

"We have run out of time to waste

- our islands are being hit with more severe and more frequent climate impacts and recovery comes at the cost of our development," said Ambassador Walton Webson, AOSIS Chair.

"GDP losses from tropical cyclones average at 3.7% per year. My home of Antigua and Barbuda is still picking up the pieces from Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 which wiped out Barbuda.

"That hurricane season cost the Caribbean a record-breaking \$300 billion in damages. Where are we finding the money to rebuild? Why must our islands, which contribute the least to the emissions that cause this crisis, pay the highest price?

"The IPCC Working Group report makes it clear that for our vulnerable countries there are severe impacts that simply cannot be addressed by adaptation efforts.

"There is presently no multilateral fund that is fit for purpose to address the immediate needs of territories which lose lives, livelihoods, lands, ancestral monuments, historical artefacts, and more due to climate disasters.

"Having talk shops on this until 2024 by way of the Glasgow Dialogue does not serve our people who are experiencing loss right now. During UNGA77, governments must come together and pledge to make things right for our climate vulnerable countries at COP27 with strong support for loss and damage response finance. The world is watching," he continued

The devastating floods in Pakistan and record-breaking heatwaves in Europe and the US are fresh reminders that climate change is wreaking havoc on lives and livelihoods. Instances of severe impacts on island territories include:



*Ambassador Walton Webson*

- In 2004, Hurricane Ivan ravaged Grenada, causing damages costing twice the island's GDP.

- In 2017, Hurricanes Irma and Maria caused catastrophic damage to Antigua and Barbuda, totaling US\$136.1 million with the tourism sector accounting for 44% of this cost.

- In 2020, Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Harold devastated Northern Vanuatu, resulting in more than US\$500 million in L&D. Development aid to Vanuatu for recovery was less than US\$100 million.

- In the Cook Islands, cyclones and rising temperatures damage crops and decrease water availability. Islanders have been forced to leave their homes and livelihoods behind.

- Tuvalu is continuously threatened by sea level rise. Groundwater is no longer drinkable, saltwater intrusion damages crops, fisheries are dwindling, and families are more prone to water-borne disease. Loss of land is beyond adaptation efforts.

- Marine heatwaves have doubled in frequency, causing widespread coral bleaching and reef degradation. Islands which are dependent on tourism and marine life for food are losing marine and coastal ecosystems.

## Government close to agreement to tackle sargassum problem

The Antigua and Barbuda government is “days away” from signing an agreement with a United Kingdom-based company that is proposing to use technologically advanced methods to resolve the annual sargassum seaweed problem.

Minister Responsible for the Blue Economy, Dean Jonas, said discussions with the company Seaweed Generation are at an advanced stage and he anticipates that an agreement will be signed in the coming week.

“The company will use drone-like technology with an underwater device that will harvest the seaweed out at sea and remove them before they reach to any of the country’s beaches and shoreline,” Jonas explained.

Additionally, the company has committed to sharing its technology with both the government and the Centre for Oceanography and the Blue Economy of the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus.

In its proposal, Seaweed Generation said it has developed the AlgaRay, a vessel which couples efficiency in tackling Sargassum with preventing the seaweed reaching the shoreline.



“One AlgaRay will be capable of sinking 8,000 tonnes of CO2 per annum. At full size, the AlgaRay will be the world’s largest underwater glider and have the most impressive data gathering and sensor array of any sub-surface vehicle. Seaweed Generation is seeking to form a long-lasting partnership with Antigua and Barbuda in the formation of an international hub for Sargassum management and removal,” the document stated.

Jonas said the proposed use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), whose technology will be shared with local tech-

nicians, and the prospects for local employment, have both captivated his interest.

The company is proposing to manufacture the steel AlgaRay vessels here in Antigua and Barbuda utilising local skilled labour. The company projects that in five years, twenty vessels will be manufactured in the country. It will also provide employment to the people who will be trained to operate the vessels.

According to Jonas, the prototype vessel is already being tested in the waters around Antigua and Barbuda.

## Prison Visiting Committee renamed

History was made on Thursday morning when His Majesty's Prison Visiting Committee was sworn in.

The group, chaired by Bishop Charlesworth Browne, was sworn in during a brief ceremony at Government House by Governor General's Deputy, His Excellency Sir Clare Roberts.

Sir Clare has assumed duties in the absence of Governor General Sir Rodney Williams who is in the Unit-

ed Kingdom participating in several events ahead of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral on Monday.

The Prison Visiting Committee is responsible for the welfare of all prisoners and has been around for decades as a creature of the country's constitution.

Yesterday's ceremony, however, was the result of the transition of the country's Head of State from the late Queen Elizabeth II to her son,



King Charles III.

The prison too has followed suit and has been re-

named His Majesty's Prison to reflect the change in the Head of State.



# Finance

# Ethereum is ditching its 'miners.' Why?

By David Hamilton

A complex software change to the cryptocurrency ethereum holds the potential to dramatically reduce its energy consumption — and resulting climate-related pollution. But the transition known as “the merge” is not going to do the trick by itself.

With the change enacted late Wednesday, ethereum — the world’s second most valuable cryptocurrency after bitcoin — has effectively eliminated the energy-intensive task of “mining” new coins on its blockchain. Mining requires enormous computing power, which translates to huge energy consumption and, in many areas, greater greenhouse gas emissions at older power plants.

By itself, however, the ethereum change won’t eliminate crypto’s expected environmental impact, although it’s expected to help a great deal. The backers of bitcoin have so far shown little interest in doing away with mining.

**BACK UP A SECOND. WHAT IS CRYPTOCURRENCY?**

Cryptocurrency is a type of digital money secured via encryption in a publicly viewable and purportedly unalterable way.



An ethereum ATM is seen in Hong Kong, Friday, May 11, 2018. A complex software change enacted Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022, to the cryptocurrency ethereum holds the potential to dramatically reduce its energy consumption — and resulting climate-related pollution. But the transition known as “the merge” is not going to do the trick by itself. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung, File)

Using these currencies, people can make direct financial transactions without any need for a bank or other financial intermediaries.

They run on constructs called blockchains, which consist of digitally signed transaction records that document every time a crypto coin is transferred or spent. Blockchains are also known as distributed ledgers because synchronised copies are stored on computers around the world; these copies also make it extremely difficult to alter, insert or destroy

blockchain records.

## IS CRYPTO BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT?

Researchers who have studied cryptocurrency are alarmed by its enormous energy usage. A recent report by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy cited research findings that as of August 2022, annual electricity consumption for cryptocurrency exceeded that of individual nations such as Argentina or Australia.

This problem, however, isn’t inherent to cryptocurrency. Most of that energy

is used for mining, a computationally intensive process for verifying blockchain transactions that also distributes new coins as rewards for competing miners. Crypto mining favours well-resourced groups that can put together a lot of specialised computers and supply them with electricity as cheaply as possible.

That can have unexpected external effects. Prior to the plunge in cryptocurrency values earlier this year, demand for computer graphics cards soared, pushing up prices

*cont’d on pg 9*



*cont'd from pg 8*

and emptying store shelves — much to the chagrin of gamers. Such cards turned out to be ideal for crypto mining rigs. Cities and states in the U.S. have also pushed back against crypto firms' plans to build mining sites in their jurisdictions, citing not only power usage but noise.

**SO WHAT DOES THE ETHEREUM CHANGE DO?**

Primarily, the software update eliminates the need for miners. Where ethereum previously set miners against each other to solve complex cryptographic puzzles and win new coins as rewards, it now requires parties who want to help validate transactions to put some skin in the game by “staking” a certain amount of ether, the ethereum coin.

Parties from this pool are randomly chosen to validate a block of transactions; a wider group of ether

holders will then check their work. Successful validators get paid a reward in ether that is generally proportional to the size of their stake and the length of time they've held it.

**WILL THAT HELP THE ENVIRONMENT?**

The ethereum merge may not sound like much, but it could have dramatic effects. Alex de Vries, an economist and founder of the Diginomist consultancy that focuses on the environmental impact of cryptocurrencies, calculates the shift will result in energy savings of between 99% and 99.99% for ethereum. (De Vries emphasises that his work has not yet been peer reviewed.)

“It's a really small change to the code that's going to have a very big impact on environmental sustainability,” he said. Prior to the merge, ethereum was doing up to 900 billion calculations per second that are now

not needed anymore.

According to his calculations, ethereum was responsible for about 44 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year. If he's correct, these will now be drastically reduced.

On the other hand, bitcoin's energy usage and greenhouse gas emission is significantly larger than ethereum's — and there doesn't seem to be much enthusiasm for moving away from bitcoin mining.

Ethereum's merge was long planned and involved years of preparation by its developer teams, said Lena Klaassen, co-founder of the Crypto Carbon Ratings Institute, a German company that specialises in measuring crypto environmental impacts. “Such ambitions never existed for Bitcoin and thus I don't expect that Bitcoin will transition” away from mining any time soon, she said.



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## US warns monkeypox could mutate to resist antiviral drug

By Matthew Perrone and Mike Stobbe

U.S. health officials are warning against overuse of the lone drug available to treat monkeypox, saying that even a small mutation in the virus could render the pills ineffective.

The Food and Drug Administration updated its guidance this week for Tpoxx, which has been prescribed to tens of thousands of patients with the virus.

In an online update, FDA officials cautioned that a single molecular change to monkeypox “could have a large impact on the antiviral activity of Tpoxx.” Since viruses are constantly evolving to overcome obstacles to infection, including drugs, regulators stressed that doctors should be “judicious” in prescribing the medication.

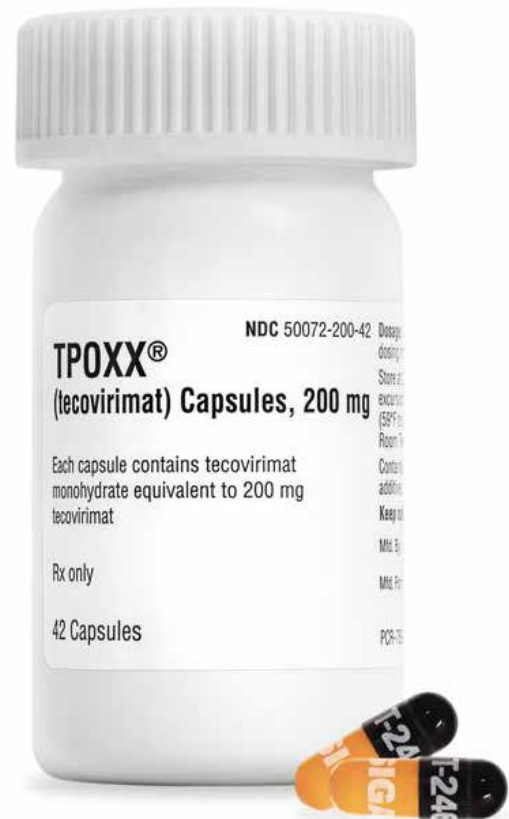
Meanwhile, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Thursday said Tpoxx should no longer be given to otherwise healthy adults who are not suffering severe symptoms.

“For most patients with healthy immune systems, supportive care and pain control may be enough,” agency officials said in a statement.

The moves to scale back Tpoxx’s use follow weeks of criticism from HIV advocates and other patient groups who have urged the Biden administration to make the antiviral drug more widely available. Tpoxx is approved for the related smallpox virus, and its use against monkeypox is considered experimental and tightly controlled by federal officials.

Doctors wishing to prescribe the drug must submit an application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, documenting their patient’s needs and agreeing to track their results and any side effects. Officials have shipped 37,000 courses of the drug to physicians.

Tpoxx works by targeting a single protein found on monkeypox, smallpox and similar viruses. The



*This undated image provided by Siga Technologies shows the drug TPOXX. The drug may be effective at treating monkeypox. U.S. health officials are warning against overuse of the lone drug currently available against monkeypox, saying that even a small mutation to the virus could render the medication ineffective. (Courtesy of Siga Technologies via AP)*

FDA said this week that research in labs, animals and people suggests multiple ways in which monkeypox could develop resistance to the therapy.

The update came as

federal officials on Thursday expressed cautious optimism about the trajectory of the outbreak, noting that new cases have fallen about 50% since their peak in August.

During a White House briefing, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky attributed the decline to vaccinations, educational outreach and individuals reducing behaviours linked to spread. The vast majority of U.S. cases have been in men who have sex with men, though officials emphasize that the

*cont'd on pg 11*

Fri 16   Day		Fri 16   Night	
<b>86°</b>		<b>77°</b>	
54%	NE 18 mph	66%	E 40 mph
Watching the tropics. Overcast with rain showers at times. High 86F. Winds NE at 15 to 25 mph. Chance of rain 50%.		Tropical storm conditions possible. Windy with periods of rain. Low 77F. NNE winds shifting to SSE at 35 to 50 mph. Chance of rain 70%. 1 to 2 inches of rain expected.	
Humidity <b>78%</b>	UV Index <b>Extreme</b>	Humidity <b>89%</b>	UV Index <b>0 of 10</b>
Sunrise <b>5:55 am</b>	Sunset <b>6:08 pm</b>	Moonrise <b>10:45 pm</b>	Moonset <b>11:27 am</b>
		Waning Gibbous	



*cont'd from pg 10*

virus can infect anyone.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease official, noted that resistance is always a risk when using antiviral drugs.

"That's why we're uncomfortable when you only have a single drug," Fauci told reporters. He added that a recently launched study of Tpoxx supported by the National Institutes of Health will track signs of mutation that could lead to resistance. The study is expected to enroll more than 500 patients across 60 U.S. sites.

Last month, the Biden administration invoked rare emergency powers to stretch the nation's limited supply of monkeypox vaccines. And last week a separate declaration expedited the use of experimental tests for the virus.

But no changes were made to allow emergency use of Tpoxx, stoking complaints from groups representing gay and bisexual men.

The U.S. government's national stockpile contains more than 1.7 million courses of Tpoxx, originally manufactured for use during a potential bioterrorism attack.

The FDA approved the medication in 2018 under its "animal rule," which allows approval based on animal data when human testing is unethical or unfeasible. Smallpox was declared eradicated in 1980 by the World Health Organization, ruling out the possibil-

ity for human studies.

Even though the drug was approved for smallpox, its effectiveness was measured in monkeys infected with monkeypox, considered a reasonable predictor of smallpox's effect on humans. Animals receiving Tpoxx survived at higher rates than those on a placebo. But FDA officials have

cautioned that results in animals must be confirmed in human testing.

"Without human trials, we don't know if Tpoxx is beneficial for humans with monkeypox," FDA commissioner Dr. Robert Califf told Senate lawmakers at a hearing this week.

The CDC reported last week that 3.5% of patients

tracked through its Tpoxx programme reported side effects, mainly headache and nausea.

The agency has only gotten back about 200 forms from physicians documenting patient's initial symptoms and results, accounting for less than 1% of the doses shipped since the start of the outbreak.

## Pointe Xpress Weekend Puzzle

### ACROSS

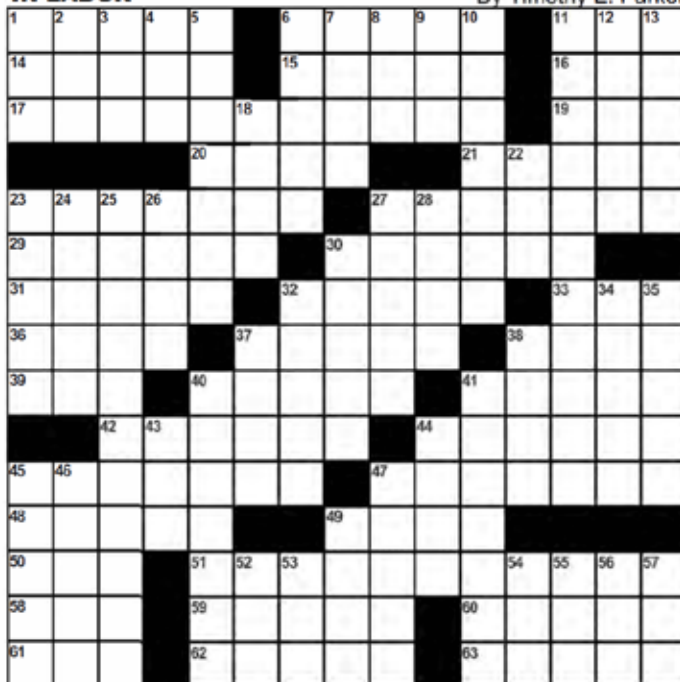
- 1) Make pigtailed
- 6) Trendy place to go downhill
- 11) Agent for trips?
- 14) Wavelike design
- 15) Brahman, for one
- 16) Ring bearer, often
- 17) Busy bodies?
- 19) Card to keep
- 20) Apple leftover
- 21) "Four" at the fore
- 23) Movie theater purchase
- 27) Knight to remember
- 29) Many have chapters
- 30) Erase
- 31) Claims on homes, e.g.
- 32) Chops finely
- 33) Nipper's co.
- 36) Darned thing
- 37) This makes five in this puzzle
- 38) Broadway star Verdon
- 39) Hurricane heading, sometimes
- 40) Popular game
- 41) Beside
- 42) California county
- 44) Far from eager
- 45) Opens a map
- 47) More expressionless, as a stare
- 48) Hauled away
- 49) Exec, in slang
- 50) "How was \_\_\_ know?"
- 51) Computer user's locale
- 58) Dog that's far from a purebred
- 59) Arctic inhabitant
- 60) Event with cowboys and lassos
- 61) Inquire
- 62) Requires
- 63) Brenda who was drawn out

### DOWN

- 1) Mercedes competitor
- 2) "Winnie-the-Pooh" baby
- 3) Requirement for a useful balloon
- 4) Aggravate
- 5) Some church officers
- 6) Squash type
- 7) Ad headline, often
- 8) Letters on tires
- 9) "Yadda, yadda, yadda"
- 10) Snuggles down
- 11) It's done in some tanneries
- 12) Pelvic bones
- 13) Apprehension
- 18) \_\_\_ d'oeuvre (appetizer)
- 22) "Dig in!"
- 23) Sign of life
- 24) Bermuda vegetable
- 25) Complicated, eccentric person
- 26) Bop on the head
- 27) Little leapin' lizard
- 28) Pub offerings
- 30) Funeral hymn
- 32) Ding-\_\_\_ (doorbell sounds)
- 34) Perfume by burning
- 35) Rage
- 37) Breeze component
- 38) Hidden valley
- 40) Variety of apple
- 41) Images representing posters
- 43) Lobster eggs
- 44) Came down to earth
- 45) Central New York town
- 46) "We didn't do it!"
- 47) Some sculptures
- 49) Prepare to crash
- 52) Half and half
- 53) Have regrets
- 54) "Sesame Street" viewer
- 55) Potato state (abbr.)
- 56) "\_\_\_ the ramparts ..."
- 57) Word partnered with "neither"

### IN LABOR

By Timothy E. Parker



## 38th Miami Carnival set for October

Miami Carnival, the ultimate cultural experience that combines the various elements of Carnival with the beauty of Miami will be held over Columbus Day Weekend in October. The annual event features four signature events, junior carnival, panorama, J'ouvert and a costumed parade and concert, and brings visitors and participants from across the globe, all of whom come to celebrate Caribbean culture.

The Miami Carnival Day is hosted and presented by the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau and lends a cultural authenticity to the arts and culture landscape that is undeniable. The carnival boasts support from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor, and Board of County Commissioners.

Over 30,000 masqueraders are set to compete for prizes and Miami Carnival Band of the Year bragging rights. Patrons will be judged on creativity,

craftsmanship, and presentation.

In addition to the 38th Annual Parade of Bands and Concert on Sunday, the weekend will also include a mega soca concert showcasing over 20 international artistes from Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Antigua, Haiti, St. Lucia, and South Africa, all of whom will highlight the rich Caribbean tradition of culture, pageantry, and diversity.

The Miami Broward One Carnival Host Committee, which has world-class expertise and a passion for carnival, has again set the stage to produce an international show-stopping event that features Caribbean culture, creative self-expression, and entrepreneurship while transforming Miami into an economically vibrant cultural landscape.

The Official Miami Carnival J'ouvert will feature an all-new J'ouvert Jam Zone. Live performances by Iwer George, Skinny Banton, and Tallpre. In addition, attendees will be given paint and powder and a complimentary drink courtesy of RTD Babuxca.



Signature events and dates are as follows:

- Junior Carnival – October 1, 2022, at Central Broward Regional Park, Lauderhill, FL
- Panorama – October 7, 2022, at Central Broward Regional Park, Lauderhill, FL
- J'ouvert – October 8, 2022, at Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition, Inc., Miami, FL
- Parade of Bands and Soca Concert – October 9, 2022, at Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition, Inc., Miami, FL

## Cardi B pleads guilty, resolving case over NYC club brawls

Grammy-winning rapper Cardi B resolved a yearslong criminal case stemming from a pair of brawls at New York City strip clubs by pleading guilty Thursday in a deal that requires her to perform 15 days of community service.

The 29-year-old “WAP” singer agreed to a conditional discharge just as her case was about to go to trial, saying in a statement: “Part of growing up and maturing is being accountable for your



actions.”

Cardi B, a New York City native whose real name is Belcalis Almanzar, plead-

ed guilty to two misdemeanor charges stemming from the August 2018 fights. Ten other counts, including two

felonies, were dismissed. Two co-defendants also pleaded guilty.

According to prosecutors, Cardi B and her entourage were targeting employees of Angels Strip Club in Flushing, Queens, over an apparent personal dispute.

In one fight, chairs, bottles and hookah pipes were thrown as the group argued with a bartender. She and another employee had minor injuries.

“No one is above the  
*cont'd on pg 13*



## Rapper Mystikal to be arraigned on rape, other charges

By Janet McConnaughey

The Grammy-nominated hip-hop performer Mystikal is scheduled for arraignment on charges accusing him of raping and choking a woman, and illegally possessing drugs at his Louisiana home.

Charges the performer will face during his arraignment Monday will include first-degree rape, which carries an automatic life sentence if Tyler is convicted.

“My client is innocent of all charges,” attorney Joel Pearce said in a text message Thursday. He said the rapper, whose given name is Michael Tyler, had a court order to protect him from the woman, and he is “the true victim.”

Pearce said he hopes he will be allowed to present evidence supporting bond for Tyler, who has been held without bond since the end of July.

A judge denied bond on Aug. 4, but Pearce, who did not then represent the performer, said it was not a full bond hearing that would



*Rapper Mystikal performs during the Legends of Southern Hip Hop Tour at the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, March 19, 2016. The Grammy-nominated hip-hop performer is scheduled for arraignment Monday, Sept. 19, 2022, on charges accusing him of raping and choking a woman and of illegally possessing drugs at his home in Louisiana. (Photo by Robb D. Cohen/Invision/AP, File)*

take evidence in Tyler’s favour.

Tyler was arrested July 31 on charges accusing him of choking and raping the woman at his home in Prairieville, an Ascension Parish community of about 33,000 near Baton Rouge.

A news release Wednesday from the district attorney’s office said Tyler was indicted last week on

10 counts including rape, domestic abuse battery by strangulation and false imprisonment. Investigators who searched his home found “evidence to corroborate the victim’s account of the rape along with a variety of illegal narcotics,” the statement said.

An Ascension Parish grand jury brought the charges in two indictments

handed up Sept. 6, The Advocate reported.

District Attorney Ricky Babin said in an email that because they are part of an ongoing criminal matter, the indictments are not public records under state law.

Pearce represented Tyler on rape and kidnapping charges that prosecutors in northwest Louisiana dropped in December 2020. Those charges, brought in 2017, had kept him jailed nearly 18 months before he was released on \$3 million bond.

Mystikal told The Associated Press in April 2021 that he now is proud of lyrics he can imagine rapping to God.

His 2000 hit “Shake (It Fast)” earned a 2001 Grammy nomination for best rap solo. In 2003, his “Tarantula” was nominated for best rap album and the single “Bouncin’ Back” for best male rap solo.

He pleaded guilty to sexual battery later in 2003. He served six years in prison.

*cont’d from pg 12*

law,” Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz said in a statement. “In pleading guilty today, Ms. Belcalis Almanzar and two co-defendants have accepted responsibility for their actions. This Office is satisfied with the resolution, which includes appropriate community service.”

In 2019, Cardi B rejected a plea

deal that would have given her a conditional discharge. Prosecutors then presented the case to a grand jury and obtained an indictment that included the two felony charges.

“I’ve made some bad decisions in my past that I am not afraid to face and own up to,” said Cardi B, adding that she wanted to set a good example for her two children.

“These moments don’t define me and they are not reflective of who I am now,” she added. “I’m looking forward to moving past this situation with my family and friends and getting back to the things I love the most—the music and my fans.”

Cardi B’s chart-topping hits include “I Like It” and the Maroon 5 collaboration “Girls Like You.”

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## Body of newborn found in Jamaica's Rio Cobre River

CMC – The Jamaican St Catherine North Police Department has initiated an investigation into the circumstances that led to the body of a newborn floating on the Rio Cobre near Buck

Town in the parish on Wednesday.

Police suspect the body was thrown into the river elsewhere and floated to where it was found. The newborn, believed to be that of a female, was dis-

covered at 1:30 p.m., after which the St Catherine Fire Brigade was contacted.

It is reported that a resident retrieved the body after the fire department's attempts were unsuccessful.

## Dutch PM Mark Rutte speaks on the impact of slavery as he ends official visit to Suriname

CMC – Prime Minister of The Netherlands, Mark Rutte has ended a two-day official visit to Suriname after indicating that he used the visit to learn more about the social impact of slavery on the Dutch-speaking country.

“Recognition is the beginning of our present. I hope to learn more about the social impact of this visit. I want to hear first-hand what the slavery past means today for the different population groups in Suriname,” said Rutte.

Rutte told the National Assembly that slavery was an inhumane system and there was need to recognize the system more than 150 years later.

“Recognition of the horrible suffering inflicted on the enslaved, acknowledgment of the struggle and resistance that there was and of course recognition of the social impact of the period of slavery in our present,” said Rutte.

“I want to understand the impact of the past so that the recognition that needs to



*Prime Minister of The Netherlands, Mark Rutte*

come can be as healing and reconciling as possible. That is my wish and that of the entire Dutch government,” said Rutte.

National Assembly chairman, Marinus Bee, in his speech said slavery remains a thorny point with the Kingdom of the Netherlands still failing to make an official apology for the suffering caused by history.

Bee pointed out that, despite the end of the colonial

era, Suriname is treated almost like a stepmother when trying to enter the Netherlands.

“It seems nowadays more the rule than the exception that Surinamese are arbitrarily denied entry into Dutch territory without giving a thorough reason for rejecting the required visas for the Schengen area,” said Bee, adding that Parliament cannot escape the impression that the criteria used in

the allocation agreement are of no added value in contemporary decision-making.

Rutte said the relationship between the Netherlands and Suriname has been disrupted at government level for too long and that a delegation of private sector officials underlines his desire to improve relations between the two countries.

“We work together and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead.”

In recent years, the Netherlands and Suriname have been working together through the Makandra programme in which various projects are carried out in Suriname on Euros to ten million expanding programs in education and water management.

Mark Rutte told the National assembly that the budget will be increased by four million Euros to ten million expanding programmes in education and water management.

“In this way, we give substance to the renewed bilateral relationship with each other,” Rutte stated.

## US continues to support fight against HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean

The United States says it remains a committed partner in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean and around the world and has contributed nearly US\$20 billion since 2002 to the Global Fund dealing with the impact of the virus.

Addressing a forum aimed at maximising learning, coordination and synergies among recipients of Global Fund Multi-Country Grants, Simone Jackson, coordinator of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) said since its creation in 2003, PEPFAR has invested nearly US\$100 billion in the global HIV/AIDS response and saved over 21 million lives, preventing millions of HIV infections and accelerating progress toward controlling the global HIV/AIDS pandemic in more than 50 countries.

"We have partnered with countries and organisations in the Caribbean since 2010, providing technical assistance and facilitating direct service delivery throughout the region. Currently, our focus is on Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, with addi-

tional support for regional programming through Pan-Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP)," said Jackson, who is attached to the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator and Health Diplomacy (S/GAC) at the US Embassy in Jamaica.

She said while the United States, a founding contributor of, and the largest single donor to, the Global Fund, next week, President Joe Biden will host the seventh replenishment conference in New York City on the margins of the UN General Assembly.

"The U.S. has pledged to match one dollar for every two dollars contributed by other donors for Global Fund's 7th replenishment. This means we are committed to providing an additional six billion US dollars to fund the next three-year cycle of grants."

But she told the delegates to the conference that ends on Thursday, as PEPFAR enters its 20th year, it finds itself at a turning point.

"Years of scientific advances and targeted interventions have put the end of the AIDS epidemic in sight. However, persistent



*Simone Jackson coordinator of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)*

challenges such as stigma and discrimination, high prevalence rates among certain key populations, and competing health priorities such as COVID-19 and NCDs threaten the progress that we have all worked so hard to achieve."

She said as a result, PEPFAR is reimagining its future to better address these issues and make the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic a reality.

The Joint Regional Dialogue among Key Stakeholders and Partners of

the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) is a result of a collaboration with the Global Fund, the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) platform and the consortium of Sub-Recipients consisting of the Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP), the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC) and the Centro de Orientación e Investigación Nacional (COIN) of the multi-country grant.



## Ukraine's president: Mass grave found near recaptured city

AP – Ukrainian authorities found a mass burial site near a recently recaptured northeastern city previously occupied by Russian forces, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Thursday night.

“A mass grave of people was found in Iziurm in the Kharkiv region. The necessary procedures have already begun there. More information - clear, verifiable information - should be available tomorrow,” Zelenskyy said in his nightly televised address.

Associated Press journalists saw the site in a forest outside Iziurm on Thursday. A mass grave bore a marker saying it contained the bodies of 17 Ukrainian soldiers. It was surrounded by hundreds of individual graves

**cont'd on pg 18**



*Oleg Kotenko, the Commissioner for Issues of Missing Persons under Special Circumstances uses his smartphone to film the grave a Ukrainian soldier in the recently retaken area of Iziurm, Ukraine, Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022 who had been killed by Russian forces near the beginning of the war. A mass grave of Ukrainian soldiers and unknown buried civilians was found in the forest of recently recaptured city of Iziurm. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)*

## Death toll in Jordan building collapse rises to 10

AP – Jordanian rescue teams pulled another body from the rubble of a collapsed building in the capital on Thursday, bringing the death toll from the incident to 10.

It remained unclear what caused the collapse of the four-story residential building in Amman on Tuesday. Ten people were wounded. Rescue teams have been searching for survivors and on Wednesday saved an infant. The number of people still missing is unclear.

A spokesman of the official public security directorate said the death toll rose to 10 with the discovery of the body Thursday.

Authorities have charged three people with multiple counts of causing death and harm in the building collapse.

State media identified



*Jordanian Civil Defence rescue teams conduct a search operation for residents of a four-story residential building that collapsed on Tuesday, killing several people and wounding others, in the Jordanian capital of Amman, Wednesday Sept. 14, 2022. On Thursday, Jordanian rescue teams pulled another body from the rubble of the collapsed building, bringing the death toll from the incident to at least 10. Ten people were wounded. It remained unclear what caused the collapse. (AP Photo/Raad Adayleh, File)*

the suspects as one of the building's owners, its maintenance contractor and its maintenance technician.

The building was located

in Jabal al-Weibdeh, an older district of the Jordanian capital that is popular among wealthier residents and expatriates but also in-

cludes some poorer areas.

Jordan is a close Western ally that has long been seen as a bastion of stability in the volatile Middle East.

*cont'd from pg 17*

with only crosses to mark them.

Zelenskyy invoked the names of other Ukrainian cities where authorities said retreating Russian troops left behind mass civilian graves and evidence of alleged war crimes.

"Bucha, Mariupol, now, unfortunately, Izium. ... Russia leaves death everywhere. And it must be held accountable for it. The world must bring Russia to real responsibility for this war," he said.

Russia's forces left Izium and other parts of the Kharkiv region last week amid a stunning Ukrainian

counteroffensive. On Wednesday, Zelenskyy made a rare trip outside Ukraine's capital to watch the raising of the national flag at Izium's city hall.

Sergei Bolvinov, a senior investigator for Ukrainian police in the eastern Kharkiv region, told British TV broadcaster Sky News that a pit contained more than 440 bodies was discovered near Izium after Kyiv's forces swept in. He described the grave as "one of the largest burial sites in any one liberated city."

"We know that some (of the people buried in the pit) were shot, some

died from artillery fire, from so called mine-explosion traumas.

"Some died from airstrikes. Also, we have information that a lot of bodies have not been identified yet" Bolvinov said.

Ukraine's deputy interior minister, Yevhen Enin, said Thursday night that evidence of the occupying Russian troops setting up multiple "torture chambers" where both Ukrainian citizens and foreigners were detained "in completely inhuman conditions" was found in cities and towns recaptured during Kyiv's sweeping advance into the Kharkiv region.



# Mexico arrests general in case of missing students

AP – Mexican authorities have arrested a general and two other members of the army for alleged connection to the disappearance of 43 students in southern Mexico in 2014, the government announced Thursday.

Assistant Public Safety Secretary Ricardo Mejía said that among those arrested was the commander of the army base in Iguala, Guerrero in September 2014, when the students from a radical teacher's college were abducted. Mejía said a fourth arrest was expected soon.

Mejía did not give names of those arrested, but the commander of the Iguala base at that time was José Rodríguez Pérez, then a colonel. Barely a year after the students' disappearances and with the missing students' families already raising suspicions about military involvement and demanding access to the base, Rodríguez was promoted to brigadier general.

Last month, a government truth commission re-investigating the case issued a report that named Rodríguez as being allegedly responsible for the disappearance of six of the students.

Interior Undersecretary Alejandro Encinas, who led the commission, said last month that six of the missing students were allegedly kept alive in a warehouse for days then turned over to Rodríguez who ordered them killed.

The report had called the disappearances a "state crime," emphasising that authorities had been closely monitoring the students from the teachers' college at Ayotzinapa from the time they left their campus through their abduction by local police in the town of Iguala that night. A soldier who had infiltrated the school was among the abducted students, and Encinas assert-



Family members and friends march seeking justice for the missing 43 Ayotzinapa students in Mexico City, Aug. 26, 2022. Mexican authorities have arrested a general and two other members of the army for alleged connection to the disappearance of the 43 students in southern Mexico in 2014, the government announced on Sept. 15, 2022. (AP Photo/Marco Ugarte, File)

ed the army did not follow its own protocols and try to rescue him.

"There is also information corroborated with emergency 089 telephone calls where allegedly six of the 43 disappeared students were held during several days and alive in what they call the old warehouse and from there were turned over to the colonel," Encinas said. "Allegedly the six students were alive for as many as four days after the events and were killed and disappeared on orders of the colonel, allegedly the then Col. José Rodríguez Pérez."

Numerous government and independent investigations have failed to reach a single conclusive narrative about what happened to the 43 students, but it appears that local police pulled the students off several buses in Iguala that night and turned them over to a drug gang. The motive remains

unclear. Their bodies have never been found, though fragments of burned bone have been matched to three of the students.

The role of the army in the students' disappearance has long been a source of tension between the families and the government. From the beginning, there were questions about the military's knowledge of what happened and its possible involvement. The students' parents demanded for years that they be allowed to search the army base in Iguala. It was not until 2019 that they were given access along with Encinas and the Truth Commission.

Shortly after the truth commission report, the Attorney General's Office announced 83 arrest orders, 20 for members of the military. Then federal agents arrested Jesús Murillo Karam, who was attorney general at the time.

# Sports News



## Tropical Storm Fiona forces postponement of first CG United Women's ODI between West Indies and New Zealand

Cricket West Indies (CWI), in conjunction with the New Zealand Cricket (NZC) Team Management have agreed to the postponement of the 1st CG United One Day International scheduled for Friday 16 September, due to the passage of Tropical Storm Fiona, which is likely to pass over Antigua and the Leeward Islands on Friday.

CWI and NZC will confirm the rescheduled date and any implications for dates in the wider eight-match itinerary featuring

three CG United ODIs and five T20Is in due course.

A decision will also be made on the 2nd CG United ODI scheduled for Sunday 18 September subject to the impact of the storm.

Both teams want to ensure that, if possible, the full eight-match Series can be played since points won in the CG United ODI Series contribute towards the new ICC Women's Championship which provides a direct pathway to qualification for the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in 2025. The



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T20 International (T20I) Series plays a key role in both teams' preparations for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in 2023.

It is also the West Indies Women's first home international cricket since September 2021.

CWI Director of Cricket, Jimmy Adams said, "We have put player safety at the forefront of this decision and will be working very closely with New Zealand Cricket to protect all the international matches via a revised schedule if possible.

"We are very keen to get as much high-quality competitive cricket for our Women's team as possible, especially in this period leading into next year's Women's T20 World Cup."

Once the matches are rescheduled, fans will pur-

chase tickets for any of the matches at [tickets.windiestickets.com](https://tickets.windiestickets.com), the official Windies Tickets service presented by Mastercard.

For all matches, adults can purchase general admission tickets online at US\$5.00, with free admission for children under the age of 16 when accompanied by a paying adult.

Seniors benefit from half price tickets. The stadium ticket office will open on the day of the rescheduled 1st CG United ODI with printed tickets available for EC\$15.00/US\$5.00.

All eight matches will be streamed live on the Windies Cricket YouTube channel.

Live ball-by-ball scoring will also be available on the [www.windiescricket.com](https://www.windiescricket.com) Match Centre.



## CWI announces Kebra Nanton as new Chief Financial Officer

Cricket West Indies (CWI) is pleased to announce the appointment of Kebra Nanton as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Ms. Nanton, a national of Antigua & Barbuda, officially joined the organisation on 1 September 2022 and is based at the new CWI headquarters at Coolidge Cricket Ground, Antigua.

Ms Nanton brings to the role a wealth of experience in the accounting field having previously worked as the Chief Financial Officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority. She has also held senior roles in the accounting departments at the Mount St John's Hospital and LIAT (1974 Ltd).

Kebra has a strong sporting background as a former captain of the Antigua and Barbuda women's basketball team, where she played locally and regionally for two decades. Back in 2018 she created history when she was elected as the first female President of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association.

Ricky Skerritt, President of CWI, said, "We are delighted to have Ms Kebra Nanton join CWI as our new CFO. Her appointment followed a rigorous and competitive recruitment process, and she is the ideal person to take up this crucial role. Kebra is highly accomplished



in both accounting and Information Technology and, with her background as an outstanding sportswoman and administrator, we can also expect her to quickly become an effective member of our leadership team."

Ms Nanton said, "I am honoured to accept the responsibilities of Chief Financial Officer at Cricket West Indies. My involvement in sports, from the perspective of a player and as an administrator, has shaped the trajectory of my life. I am genuinely pleased to combine my love for sports and my professional training and experience in Business and Finance, in this new role. I am looking forward to this exciting opportunity."

Her portfolio includes Financial Analysis and Forecasts, Management Accounting, Data Analytics, and an extensive understanding of multiple

accounting software programmes. She holds a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Mississippi Valley

State University and a master's degree in Business Analytics from NYU Stern School of Business.





## Reality check at last-place Leicester as Rodgers faces heat

By Steve Douglas

This season is already proving to be a big reality check for Leicester.

Six years ago, the club from the east Midlands was delivering soccer's greatest fairytale, winning the English Premier League at pre-season odds of 5,000-1.

Only last year, Leicester was winning the FA Cup for the first time and embarking on another season in Europe.

Now?

Last place in the league on just one point from six games. On a run of five straight losses. Seemingly out of money. And a coach publicly at odds with the club leadership.

"This isn't the club that it was two years ago," said Brendan Rodgers, Leicester's beleaguered manager.

In a sense, Leicester is back to where it was eight years ago.

In 2014-15, the team spent almost the entire season battling relegation — the Foxes were bottom of the standings at Christmas, on just 10 points from 17 games — only to produce the greatest of great escapes and stay up after winning seven of its last nine games.

Claudio Ranieri was hired and the rest is history.

Is Rodgers the man to lead another revival?

Not the way he is talking.



Leicester City manager Brendan Rodgers on the touchline during the English Premier League soccer match between Brighton & Hove Albion and Leicester City at The Amex Stadium, Brighton, England, Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022. (Steven Paston/PA via AP)

After a recent loss to Manchester United, it felt like Rodgers was almost throwing in the towel, saying in a clear message to Leicester's board: "With the greatest respect, we have not had the help in the market this team needed."

Rodgers had a point. In a transfer window featuring record spending by England's top-flight clubs totalling about \$2.2 billion, Leicester actually made a profit of about \$65 million. Its only signings were a third-choice goalkeeper on a free transfer and an unheralded defender, Wout Faes from French club Reims, for \$17 million on the deadline day. Faes was essentially

a replacement for Wesley Fofana, sold a couple of days earlier to Chelsea for around \$80 million.

Leicester chairman Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha explained that the board's lack of activity in the transfer market was down to a need for "compliance with the game's sustainability regulations" after an increase in net spend in recent seasons. There are also plans to expand King Power Stadium and the surrounding site.

"Building the club to a level where we are less reliant on player trading takes good management; strategic, sustainable investment; success on the pitch; and

time," Aiyawatt wrote in a letter to Leicester's fans in a matchday programme.

The big question is, will Rodgers be given time?

Leicester's most recent match was a humiliating 5-2 loss at Brighton that prompted more questions about Rodgers' future.

"I am not daft, I understand football," said Rodgers, who insisted he would not be walking away.

And why would he, given he has a contract at Leicester until 2025 and would be entitled to a big payoff if he was fired.

Leicester, it appears, cannot afford to fire him so the situation is delicate

*cont'd on pg 23*



# Halep out until next year after nose surgery

AP – Two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep has undergone nose surgery to improve her breathing and will not play again until next year.

In a post on Twitter on Thursday, the ninth-ranked Romanian wrote that she felt “completely exhausted” after her first-round loss to qualifier Daria Snigur at the U.S. Open last month. She then decided to follow medical advice and have an operation to help her breathing issues that have affected her “for many years” and were getting worse.

Halep posted a picture in her tweet, showing her nose bandaged.

“I felt it’s the right time to do it and also to do something for myself as a person,” she wrote. “That is why I did also the (a)esthetic part.”

In the long Twitter post, Halep said she was close to ending her tennis career in February because she didn’t believe she could get back into the top 10. She said she rediscovered



*Simona Halep, of Romania, returns a shot to Daria Snigur, of Ukraine, during the first round of the US Open tennis championships, Monday, Aug. 29, 2022, in New York. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)*

her passion for the sport after choosing to work with a new coach, Patrick Mouratoglou.

“2022, you have been an interesting year full of everything!” wrote

Halep, who won the French Open in 2018 and Wimbledon in 2019. “See you on court, 2023! I feel I still have a lot to do on a tennis court and still have some goals.”

**cont’d from pg 22**

heading into a trip to Tottenham on Saturday, one of seven matches taking place in the upcoming round of the Premier League. Three games are off because of logistical issues following the death of Queen Elizabeth II last week and the buildup to her funeral on Monday.

If Rodgers is to stay, he has to make Leicester harder to beat. The team has conceded 16 goals in six games — only Bournemouth has allowed more — with newly installed goalkeeper Danny Ward proving an

ineffective shot-stopper and a huge downgrade from Kasper Schmeichel, who was Leicester’s captain and locker-room leader before opting to join Nice in the offseason.

Rodgers has dropped Wilfred Ndidi back into central defence, which has in turn weakened the midfield. Faes might be handed a debut against Tottenham, thereby restoring Ndidi into his rightful place.

Then there’s the question marks over Jamie Vardy, the only survivor from Leicester’s title-winning team.

The striker recently signed a new deal through 2024, but is now 35 and has been ineffective this season.

Vardy was rested by Rodgers against Brighton and the two strikers who started, Kelechi Iheanacho and Patson Daka, both scored.

Most would say Leicester’s squad is too good to go down and there are good fixtures to come, with promoted teams Nottingham Forest and Bournemouth following Tottenham.

But there’s no doubt things have gone stale at the

club and there has to be uncertainty over whether Rodgers has the desire to build another team, with Vardy and defensive lynchpin Jonny Evans in the twilight of their careers, Belgium midfielder Youri Tielemans in the last year of his contract, and star playmaker James Maddison likely wanting to play at a higher level in the next seasons.

That’s a big rebuilding job for Rodgers and there’s no money to underpin it.

Those league and cup titles suddenly seem a distant memory.

# Sports News



## ABCF postpones Schools' Invitational Meet

The Antigua and Barbuda Cycling Federation (ABCF) has postponed its Schools' Invitational meet, which was slated to take place at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Sunday, 18th September.

President of the ABCF St. Clair Williams said the Schools' Invitational meet has been postponed until Sunday, 13th November, because he will be attending the 2022 UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) Road World Championships in Wollongong, New South Wales in Australia, from 18th to 25th September.

The Union Cycliste International is the worldwide governing body for cycling and more than

1,000 of the top international cyclists from over 70 nations will compete for a gold medal and the coveted rainbow jersey at the 2022 UCI Road World Championships in Wollongong.

It is one of the top five sporting events in the world and is watched by more than 300 million viewers around the globe.

According to Williams, the Schools' Invitational, which will now take place on 13th September at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium is a two-stage event, comprising a Last Man Standing and a Circuit Race.

"So we will be having two different types of races at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium. We are going to have different categories or

different age groups.

"So we are going to have the 10 to 13 age group and then the 14 to 18 age group so boys and girls that fall in those categories, we will have races for them," Williams said.

"It is going to be a Last Man Standing and a Three-Lap Race. For the Last Man Standing race, it will involve all the participants starting together and go around the designated course.

"The last person that crosses the finish line at the end of the designated course will be removed from the race until the last two cyclists are left. Then the last two remaining cyclists will have a sprint finish to decide the winner.



*President of the Antigua and Barbuda Cycling Federation, St Clair Williams. (File photo)*

"Then we will have another race, which will be three laps as fast as you can and may the best boy or girl win."

## Sandals edge Pointe FM in business league basketball

Sandals snatched a narrow three-point win in overtime against Pointe FM in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League at the JSC Sports Complex on Wednesday night.

Playing in the feature match of a triple-header, both teams didn't disappoint as they engaged each other in a keenly contested affair, which was snatched by Sandals 58-55 in overtime.

Both teams finished all square at 47-47 at the end of regulation to send the game into overtime.

Devorn Benjamin scored 15 points, Coy Quinland and Keroi Lee each contributed 14 points and Lincoln Weekes chipped in with 11 points for Sandals to record their second win of the tournament.

Rolando Hamilton sank 15 points, Daniel Perez converted 13 points and Josue David scored 12 points for Pointe FM who also suffered a narrow five-point loss to Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care in the opening game of the competition last Sunday.

Cup-holders Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board continue their quest to make a successful title defense by

notching up their second win in as many matches with a 57-38 victory over Fitzroy Rewinding in Wednesday night's opening game.

Darnell Azille scored nine points and Russell Daley and Kevorn Cornwall each contributed eight points for Transport Board. Daleonte Phillip converted 13 points and Eric Joseph scored 10 points for Fitzroy Rewinding.

Vendors also recorded their second win in as many outings by securing a 53-31 victory against Mill Reef in the second game on Wednesday night.

*cont'd on pg 25*



## Large number of teams register for business league volleyball

At least 13 teams have registered to compete in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League slated to start early next month.

The 13 teams confirmed their participation in the league, which is due to start on Saturday, 8th October, by meeting the ABAVA's requirements to participate before yesterday's (Thursday, 15th September) deadline date for registration.

Teams had been given up to last night to register with the ABAVA at a meeting, which was held for teams to complete their registration, collect a copy of the regulations and discuss matters pertaining to the upcoming league.

One of the coordinators of the ABAVA business volleyball league, Emroy Lee, said the national association is quite pleased with the number of teams that have registered, which is more than the eleven that participated in 2019, the last time the business league was held and was won by APUA Inet.

"So far we have had a good turnout actually, more than we expected. We thought after the Covid-19, things were going to be different, but we have a very good turnout," Lee stated.

"We have 13 teams confirmed and the competition is set to start on 8th October. Following the completion of registration, we will be able to determine when the league will finish.



Members of the APUA Inet team that won the 2019 ABAVA Business Volleyball League. (Photo courtesy ABAVA)

However, we are likely to finish sometime in December because we usually try to have the league completed before the heart of the Christmas season holidays. We know people want to get their Christmas things in order and we don't want any distractions."

Lee also stated that the Business Volleyball League is one of the most keenly anticipated competitions that is organized by the ABAVA.

"People always look forward to business league volleyball," Lee said.

"For me, other than an international or regional tournament with overseas teams, the business volleyball league is the most keenly anticipated competition that is organized by the national association. It is even

bigger than our national domestic club leagues."

Lee said relaxed rules are generally used in the officiating of the games. He said it is a mixed team competition, but at least two players of the same gender must be on the court at all times during the matches.

"It is a regular volleyball competition, but we relaxed the rules a lot because we are going to have quite a lot of players who are not regular volleyball players as well as those who have not played the game in a long time," Lee said.

"We cannot be too hard on them because business league volleyball is all about fun. Yes, we like competition, but it's mainly about allowing the participants to have as much good fun as they can while playing the game.

"It is a mixed team competition so basically each team must have at least two players of the same gender on the court at all times. We play as regular team volleyball, but we only allow the maximum best of three sets instead of the best of five sets."

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Craig Massiah scored 17 points for Vendors and Errol Quallis scored 15 points for Mill Reef.

Following a break this evening (Friday) the business basketball league will resume with a dou-

ble-header at the JSC Sports Complex tomorrow evening (Saturday).

Pointe FM will tackle Sledge O'Ballers at 7:30 and the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre will challenge defending champions the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board at 8:30pm.

## Coach commends Miller for his leadership of Leewards U-15s

Young Jennings Tigers allrounder Matthew Miller is being praised for the way he led the Leeward Islands team at last month's Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Under-15 Boys Championship in Grenada.

Matthew, the team captain, led the Leeward Islands into their final round match against Barbados with a chance to win the title at the 19th to 27th August tournament.

But the Leewards missed out on lifting the title by losing their final match by 16 runs to eventual champions Barbados at the Grenada National Stadium on Friday, 26th August, in a tournament which was changed from a 50-over aside contest to a T20 format competition for the last three rounds of matches after rain forced the first two rounds of matches to be abandoned.

Coach of the Leewards Under-15s, Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph said Miller led the team brilliantly and got the full support of his players during the tournament in Grenada.

"I think Matthew Miller's captaincy was quite good. His leadership was key to the team's success. I think when you have a leader who commands and understands what needs to be done, at that age, it helps the other players to fall in line," Joseph said.

"Matthew has been around for a while and I thought he was a little older mainly because he has been playing cricket for a while. He has been playing in the Jennings team since he was about nine or 10 years old.

"He has always been around Jen-

nings and his brother Paul Miller is also a good captain. Matthew is a student at the Antigua Grammar School and being the coach there as well, when it comes to captaincy, you have to understand certain things.

"So he fits the bill and he really pulled along the other players, who all looked up to him."

Joseph, who is a former senior Leeward Islands team skipper and is currently the Leeward Islands Cricket Board's (LICB) Chairman of Selectors, said more competitions will be held for the Under-15s in an effort to help keep the young squad together.

"From the feedback that I am getting, there is definitely going to have tournaments, so that is a good plus. I think once we have tournaments and they are able to play a few more games, it will go a long way in their development," Joseph stated.

"The only way you can learn certain things about cricket is by being exposed to the game. I think if you look at the way those guys from Barbados played against us in the final match, you could tell the difference.

"They have more experience because they have been playing cricket in the Sir Garfield Sobers tournament and they play a lot more competitive cricket than us. Many of the guys on the Barbados team have been playing together for a while.

"A few of the Leeward Island players have that experience as well, but we needed a more combined effort and that is the only things that I think



Young Antiguan allrounder Matthew Miller. (File photo)

that they had over us.

"But with tournaments coming on stream, I have no doubt that these players are going to come to fruition for us in the Leeward Islands."