

MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 183 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

PM CHIDES DEVELOPED NATIONS FOR FAILING TO FULLY SUPPORT SIDS



Prime Minister Gaston Browne was a featured speaker at the Global Citizens Festival in New York on Saturday where he expanded on the impact of Climate Change and Loss and Damage on SIDS. Also appearing during the festival were performers including Mariah Carey, Usher, Charlie Puth and Metallica.

PAGE 2 Local News PM Browne takes UN Security Council to task at UNGA

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, on Friday called on the United Nations Security Council to live up to the ideals for which it had been established as he lamented the myriad of challenges confronting the global community, including climate change and the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Browne, addressing the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) said that nearly eight decades after its formation and a promise of peace and security, "our peoples would have been right to expect greater achievement of global peace and prosperous development".

But he told the international community that this has not happened and instead 77 years have passed with the promise of the leaders of the world's big powers of saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war and promoting social progress and better standards of life, all but an illusion.

Browne said that the five victorious nations of the Second World War assigned to themselves, permanent membership of the UN Security Council, assuming responsibility to implement the promises of the Charter not only in their own interests, but also on behalf of the many nations, "which



Prime Minister Gaston Browne did not choose them, and which had no option but to trust them.

"It is a disappointment that small countries, such as mine, would be less than candid, less than honest, if we did not convey our sentiments to the permanent members of the Security Council. We are obliged to ask: What happened to the commitments, which were chiselled into the UN Charter, as binding obligations on all, but particularly those in the Security Council, who took to themselves the task of guardianship of peace and development?"

Browne said lest the global community has forgotten, he was taking the opportunity to remind of those commitments that included a need to "practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security".

But he said that today

"our world is now gripped in a fearful atmosphere of economic and financial instability, and the worry of expanded warfare" with every country being confronted with escalating inflation, food shortages, high prices, and increasing debt.

"There should be no doubt, in this Assembly, that trust in the Security Council has been diminished by the actions taken within its membership," Browne said, noting that many small "defenceless nations now feel gravely unprotected by the weakening of the international legal order, which was our first, last and only define against aggression".

He said even worse, the development prospects and the hard work of the small countries to rise up from poverty, are being retarded by the high prices and severe disruptions that began with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and that are being exacerbated by the war on Ukraine.

"Therefore...we call on the permanent members of the Security Council to recommit themselves to the role, which they assumed and pledged to safeguard. Peace must be restored for the world's sake... and soon. It is the Permanent Members of the Security Council – all of them – which have that primary obligation."

Browne warned that to abandon that obligation in the pursuit of selfish desires, legitimises the call for reform and an expansion of the Security Council.

He said concerted action by the Security Council is necessary to prevent major human rights violations, stop ongoing breaches and address global conflicts.

"If this fails to happen with the urgency that is required, it may call for the General Assembly to initiate its own global actions, and to authorise their implementation. I do not anticipate that this call for action by the General Assembly would be welcomed by the permanent members of the Security Council."

The Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister said climate change is also a major issue confronting the global community, recalling last December, due to a veto cast by one of the five permanent members, the UN Security *cont'd on pg 3*



Local News

cont'd from pg 2

Council had to reject a draft resolution, framing the problem of climate change as a threat to international peace and security.

"That draft resolution was co-sponsored by one hundred and thirteen member states, representing the second highest number of countries to support a draft resolution in the history of the Security Council," Browne said, asking whether it is fair that the evidence-based resolution, which emanated from the concerns and anxieties of so large a host of nations, should be vetoed by a single country?

"Climate Change remains the single greatest, common threat to all mankind. More so, for small island developing states (SIDS), which lack the financial resources to adapt to mortal shocks, and to rebuild in their aftermath," Browne said, adding that SIDS have a legitimate and urgent concern.

He reminded the international community that collectively, SIDS contribute the least to CO2 emissions – a mere 0.2 per cent – yet they remain the greatest victims, not only because of unattended loss and damage to lives and livelihoods, but also because the very existence of those countries is fatally endangered.

"The effects of global warming are universal; they reach every country. But it is vital that we all understand that, in as much as global warming is universal, its damaging effects are not the same; the burden falls mostly on the poor in small developing nations, such as mine.

"That is why, as the representative of the people of Antigua and Barbuda, I must stand up for their rights; including their right to livelihoods and to life."

But Browne made it clear that his voice cannot be stilled while danger gathers in the skies above Antigua and Barbuda and that he has no choice but to fight unrelentingly for climate justice.

"Distinguished Colleagues, many are beginning to lose faith in the Security Council. We must not be forced to lose faith also in the collective authority of this UN General Assembly. That is why my government urges this Assembly to act on behalf of the smallest and most powerless among us, and in the interest of global justice."

Browne urged that the resolution being sought by Vanuatu from the UNGA in the coming months: to request the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to give an advisory opinion that would clarify the legal obligations of states to protect human rights and environments from climate change.

"If our nations are indeed gravely concerned about the ravages of climate change, which has spared no country, they will support the Vanuatu request. Not to support the Vanuatu resolution would be a vote to circumvent a decision on the legal obligations of each nation.

"Not to support Vanuatu would be a vote to prolong this period of abuse, thereby imperilling human civilisation," Browne said, drawing attention to an initiative taken by Antigua and Barbuda, in solidarity with Tuvalu and Palau.

"We are three small island states which have been buffeted and battered by the effects of Climate Change. On the eve of COP 26 in Glasgow last year, we launched The Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (COSIS). The Commission's purpose is to develop and implement fair and just global environmental norms and practices."

He said in this connection, it will seek an opinion from the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, regarding the binding obligations of its member states, to mitigate the effects of their greenhouse gas emissions, or to pay for the loss and damage they cause. Browne said that this effort is separate from, but complementary to, the Vanuatu initiative, adding "our small countries have talked ourselves hoarse since the 1980s, pointing to the perilous circumstances into which our people and our countries are being plunged".

Like other Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders, who have addressed the UNGA, Browne said billions of dollars had been pledged in climate finance and not delivered.

"Promises were repeated, year after year, each with a zealousness that, on the evidence, was meant to placate and divert, but not to perform and deliver, commensurate with the loss suffered and the damage caused.

"The stage now seems set for this year's COP 27 to fail, despite the genuine efforts of some industrialised nations, to address the grave concerns of the majority of the world's people to turn climate change into Climate action."

Browne said that the Group of 20 countries, meeting on August 31, failed to produce a joint statement on climate change, "sending an ominous signal that, yet again, the meeting of the COP in November will be long on words, but very short on deeds".

He said at the COP-26 meeting in Glasgow last year, world leaders acknowledged that their pledges to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions have not met the previously agreed goal of pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

"They vowed to do better. It appears now that they will not. And this is despite the fact that, as Secretary-General Guterres observed, we are in a climate emergency that is literally setting our planet on fire."

He said small states individually and collectively under the Antigua and Barbuda's chairmanship of AOSIS, will attend COP 27 in Egypt and argue strenuously to establish a new loss and damage response fund. (CMC)

Local News Antigua & Barbuda, Kenya pledge to strengthen relations

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne and President of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. William Suto, have pledged to continue strengthening and deepening bilateral relations.

The leaders held discussions on the margins of the General Debate of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York.

Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Kenya established diplomatic relations in June this year at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Rwanda.

Prime Minister Browne extended congratulations to President Suto, who was sworn in as the fifth President

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

of the Republic of Kenya earlier this month and expressed his government's vision to work with Kenya to advance the interest of sustainable development, trade, peace and prosperity to the benefit of the people of both nations.

Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Kenya currently enjoy close multilateral relations, with both countries currently co-chairing the Sustainable Blue Economy Action Group within the Commonwealth.

Both leaders participated in the inaugural Africa-CARICOM Summit on 7th September 2021, under the theme, "Unity across continents and oceans: opportunities for deepening integra-



Prime Minister Gaston Browne (left) and Dr. William Suto, President of Kenya [Photo: Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations in New York] tion".

In June 2022, CAR-ICOM established an Embassy in Nairobi, a move which was led by the Government of Barbados. President Suto

Mon 26 | Day Mon 26 | Night 23% 23% E 12 mph E 13 mph Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 86F. A few clouds from time to time. Low 79F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph. Winds E at 10 to 15 mph. Humidity Humidity UV Index UV Index 73% Extreme 82% 0 of 10 Moonrise Moonset Sunrise Sunset 3 ۰. 6:28 am 6:42 pm 5:57 am 6:00 pm Waxing Crescent

reiterated his offer to Prime Minister Browne for Antigua and Barbuda to establish an Embassy in Kenya.

"The establishment of an Embassy would also solidify trade and economic ties between the two countries," he said.

Prime Minister Browne said that his government will favourably explore the establishment of an Embassy in Kenya and initiated discussions on the possibility of direct airlift between Kenya and Antigua and Barbuda.

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE APUA These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers. Wednesday, 28th Thursday, 29th Monday, 26th Friday, 30th September 2023 Villa (in the vicinity of All Saints (from gas station **Golden Grove Extension** Herberts Highway (from the Poly Clinic) to Tender Heart Daycare) (in the vicinity of Mr. Fish La Petite Daycare & Preschool & Shrimp Supermarket) to corner leading to Scott's Hill) 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Section of Sir Sydney Walling Hodges Bay (small area in the Highway (areas opposite the vicinity of old golf course road) Transport Board near T's Tire Shop)

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

Antigua & Barbuda to support St. Kitts & Nevis' bid for accreditation to Green Climate Fund

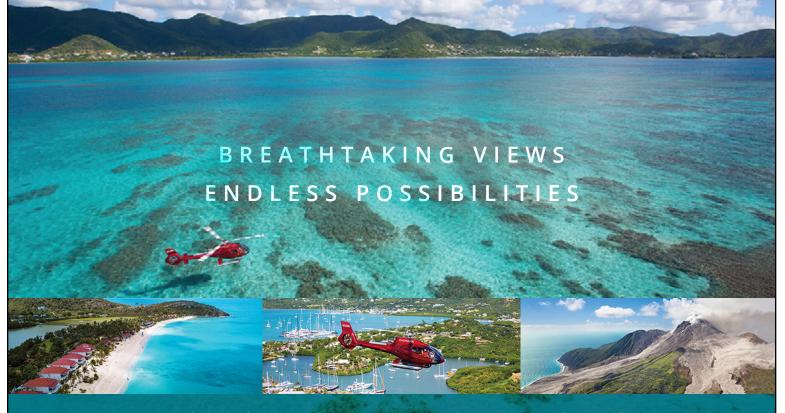


Minister of Health, Wellness and Environment, Sir Molwyn Joseph with St. Kitts and Nevis' Minister of Energy and Climate Action, Dr. Joyelle Clarke [Photo: GIS St. Kitts & Nevis] St. Kitts and Nevis is moving closer towards addressing climate-related challenges, as Antigua and Barbuda has given a commitment to supporting its neighbour's accreditation bid for Green Climate Funding (GCF) and its efforts to address plastic pollution.

On the fringes of the 77th UN General Assembly, co-chairperson of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), Sir Molywn Joseph, Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Environment, met with his St. Kitts and Nevis ministerial counterpart, Dr. Joyelle Clarke.

During this meeting, Dr. Clarke expressed her country's intention to address the issue of "single-use plastic" through legislation. "Following the session, Minister Molwyn [Joseph] and I had a small debriefing and agreed on further bilateral meetings between Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis, so that we can move forward together to accreditation to the Green Climate Fund as well as the Adaptation Fund, and addressing plastic pollution."

St. Kitts and Nevis' Minister of Energy and Climate Action said the recent meeting with Sir Molwyn was an important step ahead of her country's participation in high-level sessions on renewable energy, particularly as the region hopes to take a unified approach to its participation in COP27, which will be held in Egypt from 6th - 18th November, 2022.



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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS



The lawyer representing Customs brokers Rowan Matthew and Foster George is expected to petition the High Court as early as today for bail on behalf of his clients who were remanded to prison on Friday.

Matthew, George and Customs Officer Jeanette Browne were arrested last week and jointly charged with conspiring to defraud

and fraudulent conversion.

The charges arise from the investigation that was undertaken at the Customs and Excise Division, following claims of fraud amounting to millions of dollars, and where it is alleged that Prime Minister Gaston Browne's signature was forged in business transactions.

The Customs two brokers face additional charges of obtaining by false pretenses and making false declarations

They are now before the court with a total of five charges.

Appearing in St. John's Magistrates' Court on Friday, Customs Officer Jeanette Browne was granted bail in the sum of \$ 10,000, with a cash component of \$ 2,500.

Her bail conditions in-



clude providing two sureties, surrendering her travel documents and reporting to Coolidge Police Station every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

14th November is the date set when committal proceedings in her matter are expected to commence.

Meantime, despite pleading with the chief magistrate to grant bail to Rowan Matthew and Foster George on Friday, Andrew O'kola was unsuccessful and the duo was remanded to His Majesty's Prison.

They were arrested in late July along with Joezine Christian, a Customs officer who works as a cashier and were jointly charged with conspiracy to commit fraud. Christian was also charged with cheating the public revenue and corruption in public office.

All three were subsequently granted bail. Lawyers for the two men had moved to the High Court over the carnival weekend to secure their freedom.

Bail was granted in the amount of \$10,000 to them during what was described as a rare sitting of the High Court on a weekend.

There are reports that more arrests are expected to be made as a result of the investigation.



Local News

Gov't committed to improving support for young cancer patients

Last week, the head a solution. of the Paediatric Department at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis, expressed concern that childhood cancer patients are often unable to receive treatment locally.

According to the doctor, diagnosing cancer in young patients can be challenging, and when they are diagnosed, many will need to travel abroad for treatment due to a shortage of resources in Antigua and Barbuda.

Due to children's age and the fact that they are not yet fully developed, the sometimes very aggressive medicines and therapies used to treat adult cancers cannot be applied to them.

Her comments came ahead of an appeal for the public to wear gold last Friday as the annual commemoration of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month continues this September.

Dr. Belle-Jarvis' concerns were addressed by Cabinet spokesman, Melford Nicholas, on Thursday, who disclosed that this particular concern had not been brought to the attention of the Cabinet.

According to Minister Nicholas, however, the government is committed to ensuring that this issue is explored in the coming week with a view to finding

He went on to confirm that health care remains a high priority for the government of Antigua and Barbuda and pointed to the recent purchase of equipment to improve the treatment options for patients presenting with renal issues.

"I can assure you that health care remains one of the top priorities of this government. If there is going to be a need for procurement of additional equipment, it will have the attention of not only the minister [of health], but the Cabinet."

As an example of the government's proactive measures to improve health care, Minister Nicholas said equipment was sourced to provide local treatment for renal illnesses like kidney stones. Before this equipment was sourced, patients would be required to travel as far away as Trinidad and Tobago for treatment.

"We would have looked at the procurement of that type of equipment and technology to allow the sonar treatment and the sonar busting of these stones, so, if there is going to be a need for additional equipment, I'm sure the Minister of Health will bring it at the appropriate time before the Cabinet for its consideration and allocation of funding."





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JOB TITLE: MARKETING MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

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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. Deadline for submission: September 30th, 2022. Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.

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Local News PAGE 8 **Cabinet wants APUA to do** a better job of protecting electricity infrastructure

The Cabinet wants APUA to do network during storms. a better job protecting the electricity transmission lines to reduce outages during the passage of tropical storms like Fiona which affected Antigua a week ago.

Speaking at the post Cabinet briefing on Thursday, Information Minister Melford Nicholas said the Cabinet expressed the position that APUA should undertake a "more aggressive" approach to pruning trees.

These overgrown tree branches are a major contributor to the problems with downed electricity lines and damage to transformers in the distribution

In a detailed update on some of the issues faced by the utility company following the passage of Tropical Storm Fiona, Nicholas reported that APUA said several of its feeders went out of service during the storm which caused power outages in several communities for periods of up to 36 hours.

"APUA has indicated that in a number of instances getting access to private properties to be able to prune some trees has proven to be challenging. Notwithstanding, the Cabinet did indicate that we expected more and better from APUA in respect to an ongoing programme to prune trees," he stated.

Nicholas disclosed that as he visited communities in his constituency, St. John's City East, one resident informed him that a tree on an abandoned property caused electricity lines to spark during the storm.

He said APUA must be aware of the importance of pruning trees, especially during the hurricane season.

APUA's Transmission and Distribution manager, Lyndon Francis, confirmed that approximately 50 percent of Antigua lost power during the storm, in part because of interferences caused by unpruned, overhanging trees.





The redevelopment of the Halcyon Cove Resort is now in progress.

Recently, the north wing of the hotel was demolished to make way for a new 250room structure.

The redevelopment of the hotel follows an agreement between the government and the Canada-based Sunwing Group who will partner to reconstruct the hotel.

This is the first of a multiphase initiative that will see the development of several luxury bungalows on the hillside overlooking the resort.

The Cabinet's spokesman, Melford Nicholas, said the hotel's reopening will increase the country's room stock which is a key consideration of airlines when determining airlift to a destination.

"Clearly, tourism continues to be our leading economic driver, and of course, the recent developments with regard to stay-over visitors are quite encouraging.

The minister of tourism has related to us that both the hotel association and the tourism authority produced statistics to show that during the three summer months - which ordinarily don't usually have high occupancy levels - at this time were showing levels better than even 2019, which at that



time saw record numbers visiting the island," Minister Nicholas said last Thursday.

Nicholas believes that Antigua and Barbuda is still reaping the benefits of the demand in the key source markets for Caribbean holidays following COVID-19.

This, he said, is confirmed by the statistics gathered by the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

"Once we put these facilities in play we hope that the hotel association and the tourism authority will continue to ensure that the country's tourism industry remains vibrant," he stated.

The information minister explained that Sunwing International has entered into an arrangement with the lease-holder of the property which will see them combine their resources to restore the property to its former glory.

The Halcyon Cove Resort - one of the nation's first upscale hotel properties - is a visible monument to Antigua and Barbuda's embryonic tourism sector which took root in the early 1960's.

It sits on one of the most beautiful beaches in the

country. In the second phase of its redevelopment, bungalows will be built on the hillsides that overlook the hotel.

Both construction phases - each of which is expected to last more than two years - will employ more than 450 workers.

Three years ago, Sunwing International was also involved in the redevelopment of the Royalton, formerly the Grand Royal Antiguan Resort, which saw the previously rundown property restored to a once again world-renowned 5-Star property.



DISCONNECTION NOTICE

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S Apua

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PAGE 10 Local News Scores of nationals gain Scores of nationals gain employment with MSC Cruises Ninety-two Antiguans

Ninety-two Antiguans and Barbudans have been offered employment opportunities aboard Italian-owned Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) cruise vessels following a recently concluded job recruitment drive in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and Investment.

Nine of the 92 successful applicants were presented with their letters of intent by representatives of MSC at the Ministry of Tourism and Investment last Thursday.

During the meeting, Minister of Tourism and Investment Charles Fernandez charged the applicants to use the opportunity afforded



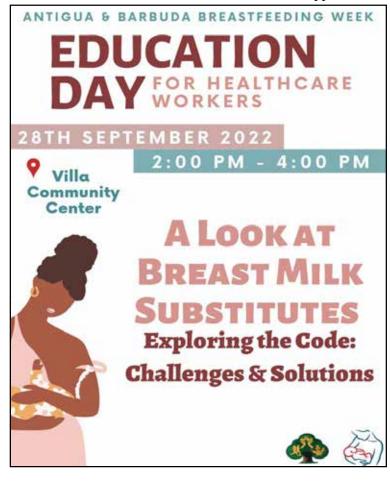
them to be proud ambassadors of their country and to market destination Antigua and Barbuda.

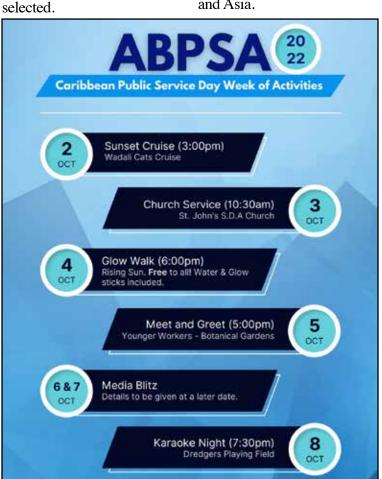
"Take this opportunity and see it as a training experience and not just as a job. You have a lot of responsibilities as you are going there to represent us and lead the way for more of these opportunities to become available for other Antiguans", Minister Fernandez said.

MSC onboard recruiter Georgia Dowdell, who was in the country to conclude the recruitment drive, congratulated the successful candidates for putting their best foot forward and for being selected. "It was great to be in Antigua to meet with you and understand who you are, your interests and your ambitions", she noted.

Policy and Project Specialist within the Ministry of Tourism & Investment Simone Richards, said the successful candidates will be guided through the next steps before being assigned cruise vessels on which they will work.

MSC operates a fleet of 19 cruise ships and offers cruises within the Caribbean, Northern Europe, South America and Southern Africa, as well as the Mediterranean, United Arab Emirates and Asia.







Local News

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month closes with calls for greater awareness

Around the world each year, suicide Prevention Awareness Month is commemorated each September.

Suicide remains a significant health and social crisis, accounting for approximately 703, 000 deaths globally. It is also the fourth leading cause of death among the 15 - 29-year olds.

While this mental health issue affects people of all races, religions, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds, 77% of global suicides in 2019 occurred in low- and middle-income countries.

In 2022, Guyana and Suriname both made the unenviable top ten list reporting a staggering 40.3 and 24.5 suicides per 100,000 of the population.

Antigua and Barbuda was at the very bottom of the list of nations in 2019, having reported 0.4 deaths less than 1 per 100,000- but the country is not immune to this problem.

In 2022 alone, three suspected suicides have been recorded.

In 2021 there were also several of these tragedies.

This year, World Suicide Prevention Day was commemorated under the theme "Creating hope through action".

As part of our effort at Pointe Xpress to raise awareness, we reached out to mental health professional, T'Mira Looby who



shared some insight on the issue and solutions for those who may find themselves in need of support.

"To my knowledge, individuals have both private and government options. Like myself, there are several qualified mental health practitioners that offer private counselling services. There are also government departments, such as the Directorate of Gender Affairs and the Family and Social Services division, that I believe offer psychosocial support to targeted beneficiaries. I would encourage individuals to reach out and inquire directly," Looby told Pointe Xpress.

She also addressed some of the factors which may play a role in leading a person into despair for which they convince themselves suicide is the only solution.

"Suicidal ideation is a potential consequence for someone who is struggling with certain personality and mood disorders, such as bipolar and depression. At this point, the person has most likely transcended into a state of hopelessness and may consider suicide as the sole option for emotional reprieve.

"This is one of the reasons why access to mental health services is so important. Accessing support in a timely manner might help to prevent the issue from escalating and becoming so unmanageable to the point where a person is now contemplating suicide," she explained.

In light of these factors, Looby explained that it is important for people to be able to identify the signs that a loved one may be experiencing a mental health crisis which may increase their risk of contemplating suicide.

"You would want to look out for warning signs that show a significant change in the person's thoughts, feelings, and behaviours. Specifically those which seem out of character for that person, disrupt their daily functioning, and that appear to be occurring over an extended period of time.

"For example, if he/she

is acting anxious and is easily irritated, isolating him/ herself from family and friends, experiencing frequent mood swings, talking about feeling stuck/trapped or being a burden, talking about death or wanting to die, giving away personal items, and talking about feelings of hopelessness and having no purpose in life.

"Early intervention is important for managing emotional distress. Individuals can utilise helpful coping strategies and/or access specialised services if necessary," she said.

While a person in the throes of a mental health crisis may be unlikely to personally seek out help, it is important to know that help is available and can be accessed from licensed mental health professionals through both public and private avenues. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please reach out and ask for help from any medical professional, guidance councellor or other trusted member of the community who can help guide you to getting the personalised and confidential therapy services that are required.

Government agencies including The Directorate of Gender Affairs and the Family and Social Services Division, which both provide psychosocial help, can also be accessed by calling (268) 560-5207.

PAGE 11

Opinion

POINCEXPRESS

Comet the hour By Tony Deyal bodied and symbolized. Others, in-

In "Julius Caesar", William Shakespeare made an important point about the death of royalty, "When beggars die there are no comets seen; the heavens themselves blaze forth the death of princes." That was then. This is now. When beggars die there is no comess seen. But you see and hear plenty before, during and after the death of royalty.

In the case of Queen Elizabeth the Second, she was neither expected nor expecting to be queen but when her grandfather, King George V, died in 1936 his first-born son, King Edward VIII, took over the job. He lasted 325 days until he adamantly chose to keep Wallace Simpson, the love of his life, and give up the British throne. This is how the Calypsonian, Blind Blake and later, Harry Belafonte, interpreted the King's behaviour, "It was love, love alone / Caused King Edward to leave his throne." Elizabeth's father, George VI, became King and Elizabeth, at 25, while touring Kenya learned that, in the oldest and greatest of British traditions, "The King is dead. Long live the Queen."

It was not an easy transition. During the Second World War, Princess Elizabeth became a mechanic, learning how to service and drive military vehicles. On the last day of the course, George VI saw his daughter, in her greasy overalls, working underneath a car. Try as she would, she could not get the car started. "What?" asked the King with a smile. "You haven't got it going yet?" He had surreptitiously removed the distributor.

Pulitzer Prize-winning Harvard Professor, Caroline Elkins, writing in TIME said, "For many Britons, the Queen was a steadying force, revered by her subjects for the virtues—duty, honor, and devoted service—she embodied and symbolized. Others, including those from the former empire, refuse to mourn, condemning Elizabeth II for alleged direct knowledge of and complicity in British colonial crimes, including murder and torture. Some see her complicity as more subtle, obscuring through decades of reassuring rituals and acts of omission the systemic racism and extreme violence upon which Britain's imperial power, and hers, depended."

When the Queen and Prince Phillip visited Jamaica in 2002, even though the sun never set on her empire, the lights went out on them. I saw it as a mixed message and to some extent a warning from the Almighty. It has been said that the sun never set on the British Empire because even the Almighty would not trust an Englishman in the dark. In the same vein, it was possible that the blackout in Kingston reflected Britain's loss of power and status in the fifty years of the Queen's reign and HE was planning to reign her in or out. Or then again, whether outage or outrage, it could have been an attempt by the same Almighty to point out to us our inadequacies in maintaining the institutions left to us by the British when power (including the utilities thereof) changed hands.

What I found interesting is that when I looked at the rigidly groomed Senior Citizen that Elizabeth II had become, I still saw traces of the young mechanic. She had not wanted to be queen and had started to pray for a brother when it was clear that she was next in line. She fell in love with Prince Phillip when she was 13 and pursued him until they got married in 1947, a wedding that Winston Churchill described as a "bright ray of color on the hard gray road we have to travel." What always took surprise's me was her sense of humour. In the Baha-



Tony Deyal mas, when her host used a silver pencil, taken from his pocket, to swizzle a drink, the Queen commented, "That's all right in our company, but what happens in high society?"

On May 28, 2018, one of my favourite stories about the Queen was on the British television programme, Antiques Road Show. Despite my wife's comments ("I really love antiques and that is why I married you!"), a former palace footman told a story he heard from the royal chauffeur. The Queen, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret were invited to a friend's house that was on a country lane. A constable on his bike decided to stop the car from passing through. The chauffeur quietly explained to the constable who was inside the car and suggested that he let them pass. The constable was not convinced and replied cheekily, "If you think I'm going to believe that, then I'm Roy Rogers on Trigger." The Queen quietly wound down her window and, when he saw her, the young policeman was stunned. She then said kindly, "Young man, I think you better ride off on Trigger." However, the Queen then wrote to the chief constable commending the young policeman for his dedication, and he was subsequently promoted.

I was not promoted, or even decont'd on pg 14

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Biden administration pushing for tough U.N. sanctions against Haiti gang leadaers

By Michael Wilner and Jacqueline Charles

The United States is preparing to circulate a resolution at the United Nations Security Council today that would establish a new framework for sanctioning Haiti's gang leaders, and is not taking international intervention off the table as the country spirals into lawlessness, a senior State Department official told McClatchy. Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Brian A. Nichols said in an interview that gang leaders fuelling Haiti's worst security crisis in decades - and those who finance and support them, including supplying firearms - "are in the crosshairs, and their actions to destabilise Haiti will be



A woman shouts anti-government slogans during a protest organised by friends and relatives of Biana Velizaire, who was kidnapped and held for several days by gang members, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, Sept. 27, 2021. Haitian police on Monday launched a special operation in response to the recent surge of kidnappings conducted by gangs. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

met with international travel and financial sanctions." The Biden administration is hoping for swift passage of the resolution "in the coming days," Nichols said. "The resolution will create a United Nations framework to place sanctions on gang leaders, and those who support and facilitate and fund their activities," he said. "Those sanctions would target their financial resources and ability to travel." The Haitian government has all but lost control over security in the Caribbean nation, and U.S. officials say the country reached a crisis not seen since the early 1990s.

On Friday, specialised teams of the Haiti National Police from Port-au-Prince were still trying to access a women's prison just north of the capital after 145 women escaped. Gangs blocked the police response by setting fire to a police substation and firing on cops. At the same time, a powerful gang leader — a former cop named Jimmy Cherizier, who goes by the moniker "Barbecue" - was on his ninth day of holding over 188,000 barrels of fuel hostage, blocking access in cont'd on pg 15

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moted, but closer to being deboated, floated and bloated when I got my first opportunity to see the Queen from close up. We grew up singing God Save The King and, when the Queen was crowned on June 2, 1953, I was an eight-year-old in Standard Three and we all sang the new lyrics "God save our gracious Queen", and then received small tokens of the event and a large treat.

This is why, steeped in all the lore and always curious, I wanted to take a look at the Britannia anchored in the Gulf of Paria during the Queen's visit to Trinidad and Tobago in early November 1985. I had a little boat and we headed out one morning to where the royal yacht was anchored offshore. We approached it at speed, and that was part of our undoing. The yacht was well guarded and, perhaps fearing an attack of some sort, two fast vessels moved out to intercept us and maybe shoot across our bows or even sink us. I cut the engine, and we put our hands up, scared spitless. A loud, crisp command came over a public-address system commanding us to move away. Fortunately, the engine started with one tumble and we hauled gas out of there so fast that even the dolphins could not keep up with us.

But I kept up with the Queen and the big question now is, "What happens to the British Monarchy in the days and years ahead?" In 1992 things looked really bad for the Queen and her menage. An Oklahoma newspaper listed, "Andrew's separation, Fergie's nude photos, Anne's divorce, Di's love tapes, Charles' philandering and fears that Edward the youngest would come flying out of the closet any day. Now, so many years later, despite the sniping and griping, her death caused even Boris Johnson to talk sense, "As is so natural with human beings, it is only when we face the reality of our loss that we truly understand what has gone. It is only really now that we grasp how much she meant for us, how much she did for us, how much she loved us."

*Tony Deyal was last seen asking whether King Charles can trust P.M. Truss who once saw Royalty as "disgraceful" but now boasts about being "a strong supporter".

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and out of the country's largest fuel terminal.

"You will get access to the terminal when we die," Cherizier said, directing comments to interim Prime Minister Ariel Henry while holding up an M-4 automatic weapon and standing amid the flaming barricade his gang coalition had erected in front of the Varreux fuel terminal.

Haiti's neighbours have called for robust action from the United States and other permanent members of the Security Council. At least one, the Dominican Republic, has publicly requested a return of a multinational peacekeeping force, arguing that Haiti's instability and rampant gang violence are increasingly becoming a threat to the region. Such a move would require Haiti to once more go under what is known as Chapter 7, which is an article of the U.N. charter that enables the Security Council to deploy international forces in a peacekeeping mission. After 13 years, it was ended in Haiti in 2017 when the U.N. Security Council, pushed by the United States and others, finally withdrew its military and peacekeeping operations in Haiti. If Haiti's government asks for that assistance, "the international community would certainly consider such a request," Nichols added.

But "Haitian authorities have not asked for boots on the ground," he said, "and there isn't currently any discussion of a Chapter 7 response to the situation in Haiti." In lieu of a return of blue-helmet peacekeepers, the United States has been focused on bolstering the country's beleaguered 12,000plus Haiti National Police force. The Biden administration has been vetting members for a new SWAT team for the Haiti National Police, as part of an effort with France to train members of a new anti-gang unit in Port-au-Prince. Canada and the United Nations have been pushing for support for a \$28

million security basket fund, where donors can put their money, to help fund the ill-equipped force and a new shipping-container inspection project managed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

At the end of the donors meeting Friday, the United States announced a \$3 million contribution to be added to Canada's donation of 10 million Canadian dollars. The Haitian government has also donated \$1 million directly to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the container project.

This is not the first time sanctions have come up with respect to Haitian gangs. In December 2020, the United States Department of Treasury sanctioned Cherizier and two former members of then-President Jovenel Moïse's government for their involvement in a 2018 massacre in Port-au-Prince's La Saline neighbourhood that left scores dead.

Despite the sanctions, and despite massacres being widely condemned by the United Nations Security Council, Cherizier continues to roam freely, tightening his grip on the capital through his heavily armed coalition known as G-9 Families and Allies. Over the summer, China had pushed for an end to the weapons supply to Haiti's gangs and tried to push an embargo as the U.N. Security Council considered extending its political mission in the country. Though Beijing voted for the extension, it was disappointed that the final resolution did not have tougher language on a gang arms embargo.

Haiti observers point out that any sanctions will need to come with heft, given the ability of powerful and corrupt figures in the country to create chaos when their interests are threatened. Though the recent protests flared up after the government announced a hike in fuel prices, the government and others have blamed the violence and pillaging on arms traffickers, smugglers and oligarchs opposed to recent efforts at the seaports to crack down on \$600 million in uncollected duties and the shipment of illegal arms and weapons. At the same time, they would like for the United States to play a more active role in sanctioning and arresting Haitians, especially in light of recent comments by both a top Biden aide and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau this week that oligarchs and the elite are contributing "to the instability in Haiti" and influencing the dynamics in the region.

Nichols said that the United States would like to see the resolution include sanctions against "those who would provide illicit weapons to the gangs in Haiti," but noted that the resolution had yet to be circulated among Security Council members. "I think that's also a very important step. However, nothing in the resolution should prevent the legitimate transfer of weapons to Haiti's governmental security forces," he said. "We carefully control the licensing of weapons sales to Haiti already. The challenge is tracking the illicit smuggling of weapons to gangs and other illicit persons." The assistant secretary said the threat of sanctions "in the last few days has had a calming effect on the situation on the ground in Haiti," although details of the potential resolution have not previously been made public. In his address to the U.N. General Assembly this week, President Joe Biden called on the world to take action on Haiti and said the country is facing an "enormous human crisis." "I think that the passage of a resolution and creation of a framework will continue that calming effect," Nichols said. "Until specific individuals are referred to a sanctions committee, and then sanctioned internationally, that's when you'll see the transformative nature of this. So, I don't think just having the framework is sufficient. We have to designate specific people."

Business

PM Davis accuses international financial regulators of discrimination

By Dillon De Shong

Prime Minister Philip Davis has said there are elements of racism in the motives of developed countries as they push for greater regulation of the financial services sectors of "black-governed" states and former European colonies.

In his address to the United Nations General Assembly today, Davis said the Bahamian financial industry is one of the best

regulated in the world, yet it has been under attack by international bodies such as the European Union and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

"Why is it that European States that operate frameworks akin to that of blacklisted countries are not even being [considered] eligible for inclusion on this list? Why are all the countries being targeted, small

Life | Medical

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Prime Minister of the Bahamas, Philip Davis KC, at the UN General Assembly. [Photo: UNGA] "When Banks Leave: The and vulnerable and former colonies of European Impacts of De-Risking on states?" he asked. the Caribbean and Strate-

"We find it astounding that the two to three trillion dollars, which is estimated to be laundered in the developing countries, are never flagged as causes for concern."

He said the evidence is mounting that these attacks on the financial sectors of smaller states are not motivated by compliance but "darker issues of prejudged discriminatory perceptions".

"Black governed countries also matter," he declared.

Davis said his government would support efforts to reform the global financial sector, but it should apply to all countries and not some.

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley made a similar plea to the US Congress last week when she gave testimony during a special hearing of the House of **Representatives** Committee on Financial Services titled: gies for Ensuring Financial Access".

She said Caribbean Community (CARICOM) states have lost over 30 per cent of their correspondent banking relationships due to unfair and arbitrary classifications of the regional financial sector from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the OECD.

"Those correspondent banks, over the course of the last ten to 12 years, have made a judgement that we are simply too small, as I've just told you, in order to get involved because the enhanced due diligence means increased cost of regulation, increased cost of compliance. And rather than do business with us, they say, 'Thank you but no thank you.'"

She noted that the pressure is driving some countries to go underground in their financial dealing, and it is defeating the purpose of financial regulations.



Regional News

Guyana's Ambassador to Suriname summoned following recent statement regarding Guyanese fishermen

CMC – Guyana's Ambassador to Suriname, Keith George was recently summoned by the interim Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business, and International Business, and International Cooperation (BIBIS), Krishna Mathoera following statements made by Guyanese government officials regarding the issue of Guyanese fishermen in Surinamese waters.

This move made by the Government of neighbouring Suriname has since prompted the Guyana Government to act and the Foreign Ministry on Saturday released a statement chronicling its efforts to diplomatically resolve the issue.

Despite these efforts, Guyana said the desired outcome has not been achieved and Guyanese fishermen continue to be harassed by Surinamese authorities.

Notwithstanding, the government said it remains committed to good neighbourly relations with Suri-

name.

In the statement on Saturday, the government of Guyana said the issue was discussed at the presidential level in 2020 and following a meeting in November of that year, Guyana asked Suriname to issue licences to Guyanese fishermen to fish offshore Suriname.

The statement added that Suriname agreed to this and indicated that it would establish a government-owned company to be the business partner of the Guyanese fishermen with which they will sign a Vessel Basing Agreement, and which will take care of the registration of the vessels of the Guyanese fishermen. This was in keeping with Suriname's fishing legislation.

"The Government of Suriname also proposed the conclusion of a Fisheries Agreement between the two countries which would also address the granting of licences. Guyana continued



Ambassador Keith George

to engage in the discussions with Suriname in good faith with the expectation that they would result in a mutually beneficial arrangement," the statement noted.

The Minister of Agriculture in Suriname also requested the names of the middlemen from whom the Guyanese fishermen were renting their licences.

The Government of Guyana said it complied with all the other requirements of Suriname for the setting up of the company and "after some reluctance on the part of the Guyanese fishermen, the names of the middlemen were eventually handed over to the Surinamese Government."

However, Guyanese officials have stated that while the foregoing diplomatic and political initiatives were being undertaken, Guyanese fishermen continued to be harassed in Surinamese waters as they attempted to continue to ply their trade for their subsistence and that of their families.

"Matters escalated this year when Suriname confiscated three Guyanese fishing vessels along with their nets and engines and sold the catch. Following the conclusion of the matter, Guyana reached out to Suriname to release the vessels on humanitarian grounds, but there was no accommodation to this effect," the foreign affairs ministry said.

Police probe multi-million-dollar drug seizure at Jamaican airport

CMC – The police have launched a probe following the seizure of US\$25 million worth of cocaine at the Ian Fleming International Airport in the eastern parish of St. Mary earlier this week.

The Jamaica Constabulary Force reported that members of the Narcotics

Division seized the cocaine during an operation that included representatives from law enforcement agencies in the United States.

It was reported that on Thursday at approximately 7:00 pm (local time), the operation was carried out and this resulted in the seizure of more than 1,000 pounds of cocaine contained in 10 bags.

The Jamaica Observer says the police theorised that a major transnational criminal organisation is responsible for seized drugs at the recently upgraded airport.

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Regional News



SKN's ex-DPP Valston Graham says he was not pushed out of office

CMC - Former director of public prosecution (DPP) for St. Kitts and Nevis, Valston Graham, has dismissed suggestions that he had been forced to step down from his post as a result of a change in government.

"I've seen a lot of comments and people saying that I have been ousted. I have not been ousted. My contract has come to an end, and that's the simple matter as it is," said Graham, who is expected to return to the British Virgin Islands, where he has a private practice.

"So, I thought it important, persons who are close to me have said to me "I think you should really clear the



Valston Graham

air." I don't think that perception is something that was done by the attorney general. He simply did his job, to notify the public of a change. That comes under his remit, and I take no issue with that whatsoever."

The notice announcing the end of the former DPP's tenure was widely circulated on social media indicating that the contract ended on September 19 and the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs will be seeking a replacement locally and regionally.

Graham, speaking on a radio programme, said he shared his intention not to renew his contract with the previous and current holders of the Office of the Attorney General.

"Now, my departure from office is purely a matter of my decision making... I never sought for my contract to be renewed, and I need that to be made blatantly and expressly clear. At no point in time did I seek to have my contract renewed. I did no such thing... and that was communicated to the previous attorney general and the current attorney general when I met with him when he first came in office," Valston Graham said.

He said he was leaving the position having made effective changes during his tenure.

St. Lucia calls on gun makers adhere to their international obligations

CMC – St. Lucia has called on manufacturers, exporters and importers of conventional weapons to live up to their commitments as it urged the international community to assist the Caribbean in fighting a surge in criminal activity and gun violence.

In his maiden address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Prime Minister Phillip J. Pierre told the international forum that while St. Lucia and the rest of the Caribbean are not manufacturers of conventional weapons, "our countries have been plagued by a proliferation of illegal small arms and light weapons, resulting in a surge in criminal activity and gun violence".

He said St. Lucia has always been a strong advocate of the international frameworks, such as the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (UN-POA) and the Arms Trade Treaty; which are two examples of multilateral instruments aimed at mobilising international cooperation to curb the illicit trade in conventional arms and ammunition.

St. Lucia calls on the major manufacturers, exporters and importers of conventional weapons in our hemisphere to live up to their commitments, under these instruments, to lend the necessary expertise and technical assistance and cooperate in good faith to stem the tide of unregulated conventional arms and ammunition," Pierre said.

In his wide-ranging address, Pierre said that the global community has reached a watershed moment in its history because, "we, the members of the United Nations have not adhered to the rules and principles of the organisation that we created 76 years ago, as a multilateral answer to mankind's propensity to use arms against his fellow man, instead of joining with him to turn them into tools for peace and development.

"We have arrived at this watershed moment, because we have failed to adhere to the agreements we have negotiated multilaterally to solve the problems that have confronted us – problems invariably of our own making.

"We have come to this watershed moment, because small developing countries continue to suffer from an inequitable world order, in which the rich and powerful do not right the wrongs they commit against the weak."

Pierre said St. Lucia and the rest of the Caribbean, despite their small sizcont'd on pg 19

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POIN

es, a deliberate desire to be a source of peace and friendship to all, despite their democratic traditions, and despite the earnest efforts to make the development of its people a primary objective, "we find ourselves in a world stacked against us and frustrating our development at every turn.

"Sadly...a survey of the global political-economy of the last four decades reads like a cascading series of crises, and a frustrating tale of arrested development and dashed hopes for the people of the Caribbean."

He said in every decade since 1980, the Caribbean countries, including St. Lucia, have faced the ill-winds of a harsh and global environment, to which we are forced to change course without reward, and with little to show for our efforts.

"In the 1990s, it was the entry of the United Kingdom into the European Single Economy which removed any lingering protections from which we benefited and which placed us at greater exposure to a world of liberalised trade, with no consideration for our specific historical circumstances.

"Then came the decade of the 2000s, in which the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was formalised and with which came an even harsher reality of trade liberalisation that has not lived up to its promise of cheaper goods and services for all.

"Instead, we have mostly witnessed declines in the demand for our primary com-



St. Lucia's Prime Minister Phillip J. Pierre modities like bananas, sugar and rum. If anything, the new rules of trade have taught us harsh lessons on how global institutional arrangements are designed to punish us when we are accused of wrong, but fail to reward and protect us when we are wronged," Prime Minister Pierre said, adding that the experience of Antigua and Barbuda is instructive in this regard, a reference to St John's decision to challenge the US at the WTO.

Pierre said that St. Lucia's diversification into financial services is also threatened by an uneven regime of negative regulations as well as the impact of climate change.

He said climate change is no longer breaking news or a matter of debate that it is one of the biggest crises facing mankind.

"But the solutions to the universal climate change emergency are not mystifying. From the 2015 Paris Agreement, where we agreed that limiting global warming to below 1.5° C would help us stay alive, to COP 26 in Glasgow, we have followed the science, negotiated, compromised and agreed upon the solutions." Pierre said the problem is that these agreements have been broken or simply ignored.

"Those who are the biggest perpetrators of the climate crisis and who were supposed to take the corresponding greatest action, have not followed through on their commitments," Pierre said, adding that the quantum of financing for climate justice, needed by developing countries and agreed upon by the developed countries, has not materialised.

"The multilateral development financial institutions have yet to change their systems to make it easier for developing countries to access the financing required to adapt to climate change and build climate resilient economies.

"Developing countries; already saddled with debt, must be given the means to be able to deal with climate change. We must act together to save our people and our planet. It is regrettable, therefore, that recent political differences between two of the biggest polluting countries, have led to a halting of cooperation between them on climate issues." Pierre said that the future of the planet must never be held hostage to the politics of superpower rivalry, urging the developed countries to act upon the solutions to climate change that they have agreed upon.

Pierre said that it was also important for there to be a special regime for small island developing states (SIDS) which for decades have called on global financial institutions to carve out a special regime that takes into account their smallness and vulnerabilities to climate change.

"This is not an unreasonable demand. We have insisted that many of the challenges that we face have come from the external environment and are not of our own making. Given our small size and our miniscule levels of industrial pollution, we are among the least responsible for global warming, but given our small size and our vulnerable economies we are among the most defenceless to the ravages of climate change."

Pierre said that for three decades, from the Adoption of Agenda 21, through to several General Assembly resolutions and the SAMOA Pathway, there have been calls for the adoption of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) for SIDS.

He said the MVI will replace the unreliable and unfair Gross National Income (GNI) index that precludes SIDS from accessing badly needed low-cost and concessional financing for their development.

International AROUND THE WORLD



Iran summons UK envoy amid anti-government protests

AP - Iran's Foreign Ministry said Sunday it summoned Britain's ambassador to protest what it described as a hostile atmosphere created by London-based Farsi language media outlets. The move comes amid violent unrest in Iran triggered by the death of a young woman in police custody.

The state-run IRNA news agency reported the ministry also summoned Norway's ambassador to Iran and strongly protested recent remarks by the president of the Norwegian parliament, Masud Gharahkhani.

The death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in custody after being detained by Iranian morality police launched unrest across Iran's provinces and the capital of Tehran.

Protests over Amini's death have spread across at least 46 cities, towns and villages in Iran. State TV has suggested that at least 41 protesters and police have been killed since the protests began Sept. 17. An Associated Press count of official statements by authorities tallied at least 13 dead, with more than 1,200 demonstrators arrested.

Running clashes between demonstrators and security forces have continued to erupt. A member of the Basij, a volunteer force with Iran's Guards, was killed by protesters last night in Teh-



In this Sept. 19, 2022, photo taken by an individual not employed by the Associated Press and obtained by the AP outside Iran, a police motorcycle burns during a protest over the death of a young woman who had been detained for violating the country's conservative dress code, in downtown Tehran, Iran. Iran's Foreign Ministry said Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022, that it summoned Britain's ambassador to protest what it described as a hostile atmosphere created by London-based Farsi language media outlets, amid violent unrest in Iran triggered by the death of the young woman in police custody. (AP Photo, File)

ran, semi-official Fars news agency reported Sunday. Another Basij member, who was in a coma since Thursday after street clashes, died in Urmia, West Azerbaijan province on Sunday, IRNA reported.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry's website said it summoned Simon Shercliff, the U.K.'s ambassador to Iran, on Saturday and protested the hosting of critical Farsi-language media outlets. The ministry alleges the news outlets have provoked disturbances and the spread of riots in Iran at the top of their programmes.

Iran said it considers the news agencies' reporting to be interference in Iran's internal affairs and acts against its sovereignty.

The crisis in Iran began as a public outpouring of anger over the Sher cliff death of Amini, who was arrested by the morality police in Tehran for allegedly wearing her Islamic headscarf too loosely. The police said she died of a heart attack and was not mistreated, but her family has cast doubt on that account.

Amini's death has sparked sharp condemnation from Western countries and the United Nations.

Pro-government rallies were also held on Sunday in several cities across Iran. Thousands attended a rally in the capital's Enghelab, or Revolution Square, waving Iranian flags. Some officials, including cabinet spokesman Ali Bahadori Jahromi, attended the rally in Tehran.



International **Powerful typhoon hits north** Philippines, thousands evacuated

AP – A powerful typhoon slammed into the north eastern Philippines on Sunday and was barrelling across the main Luzon island toward the capital in a densely populated path where thousands have been evacuated to safety.

Typhoon Noru hit the coastal town of Burdeos on Polillo Island in Quezon province shortly before nightfall.

With sustained winds of 195 kilometres (121 miles per hour) and gusts of up to 240 kph (149 mph), it was expected to weaken slightly when it hits the Sierra Madre mountain range but will remain dangerously ferocious, forecasters said.

"The typhoon is strong and we live by the sea," said Marilen Yubatan, who left her shanty in Manila with her two young daughters. "If we fall into the water, I don't know where I will end up with my children."

The typhoon gained considerable strength from a storm with sustained winds of 85 kph (53 mph) on Saturday into a super typhoon just 24 hours later in an "explosive intensification" over the open sea, Vicente Malano, who heads the country's weather agency said.

Thousands of villagers were evacuated - some forcibly - from the typhoon's path, as well as from mountainside villages prone to landslides and flash



Residents carry their children as they evacuate to safer grounds to prepare for the coming of Typhoon Noru at the seaside slum district of Tondo in Manila, Philippines, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022. The powerful typhoon shifted and abruptly gained strength in an "explosive intensification" Sunday as it blew closer to the north eastern Philippines, prompting evacuations from high-risk villages and even the capital, which could be sideswiped by the storm, officials said. (AP Photo/ Aaron Favila)

floods. Coastal communities could be hit by tidal surges as high as 3 metres (about 10 feet) in Quezon province, including Polillo island and nearby Aurora province.

"The combined effects of storm surge and high waves breaking along the coast may cause life-threatening and damaging inundation or flooding," the weather agency warned.

In Manila's seaside slum district of Tondo, some residents left their homes with bags of belongings and hurriedly walked to a nearby evacuation centre as the sky darkened and rains started to fall.

Melchor Avenilla Jr., who heads Ouezon's disaster-response office, said law

enforcers were under orders to forcibly move people who refuse to leave their homes. "But so far we've been able to do this by just appealing to people," Avenilla told AP by phone.

Several provinces and cities, including the densely populated capital Manila, suspended classes and government work Sunday and Monday. The typhoon's eye could pass about 40 to 50 kilometres (25 to 30 miles) from metropolitan Manila, "which is nearly a direct hit," Malano said.

Fishing boats and inter-island and cargo ferries were restricted to port as a precaution, the coast guard said, stranding cargo trucks and more than 2,500 passengers. More than 30 flights at Manila's airport, mostly bound for domestic destinations, were cancelled.

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The typhoon is forecast to sweep through the main Luzon Island overnight and into the South China Sea on Monday. It's on track to hit Vietnam later in the week still maintaining its powerful winds.

About 20 storms and typhoons batter the Philippines each year. The archipelago also lies in the "Pacific Ring of Fire," a region along most of the Pacific Ocean rim where many volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur, making the Southeast Asian nation one of the world's most disaster-prone.

International AROUND THE WORLD



South Korea says North Korea test-fired missile toward sea

AP – North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile Sunday toward its eastern seas, extending a provocative streak in weapons testing as a U.S. aircraft carrier visits South Korea for joint military exercises in response to the North's growing nuclear threat.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile launched from the western inland town of Taechon flew 600 kilometres (370 miles) cross-country on a maximum altitude of 60 kilometres (37 miles) before landing in waters off North Korea's eastern coast.

South Korea's presidential office said National Security Director Kim Sunghan called an emergency National Security Council meeting where members denounced the launch as a clear violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and accused the North of raising tensions in the region.

The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said the launch did not pose an "immediate threat to U.S. personnel or territory, or to our allies," but still highlighted the destabilising impact of North Korea's illicit nuclear weapons and missile programmes.

The launch came as the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan and its strike group arrived in South Korea for the two countries' joint military exercises that aim to show their



People watch a news programme showing a file image of a missile launch by North Korea at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022. North Korea fired a shortrange ballistic missile Sunday toward its eastern seas, extending a provocative streak in weapons testing as a U.S. aircraft carrier visits South Korea for joint military exercises in response to the North's growing nuclear threat. (AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

strength against growing North Korean threats.

South Korea's Foreign Ministry said its nuclear envoy Kim Gunn held telephone calls with Sung Kim, U.S. President Joe Biden's special representative for North Korea, and Funakoshi Takehiro, director-general for Asian and Oceanian affairs at Japan's Foreign Ministry, to discuss trilateral cooperation in face of North Korean threats.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said in a statement Tokyo is "doing its utmost" to gather information on North Korea's launch and confirm the safety of ships and aircraft, although there were no immediate reports of damages.

The North Korean threat is also expected to be a key agenda when U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris visits South Korea next week after attending the state funeral in Tokyo of slain former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

North Korea has dialled up its testing activities to a record pace in 2022, testing more than 30 ballistic weapons, including its first intercontinental ballistic missiles since 2017. North Korea is exploiting a divide in the United Nations Security Council that deepened over Russia's war on Ukraine to speed up arms development.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has punctuated his weapons tests with repeated threats that the North would proactively use its nuclear weapons when threatened, increasing security concerns for its conventionally armed rival South Korea.

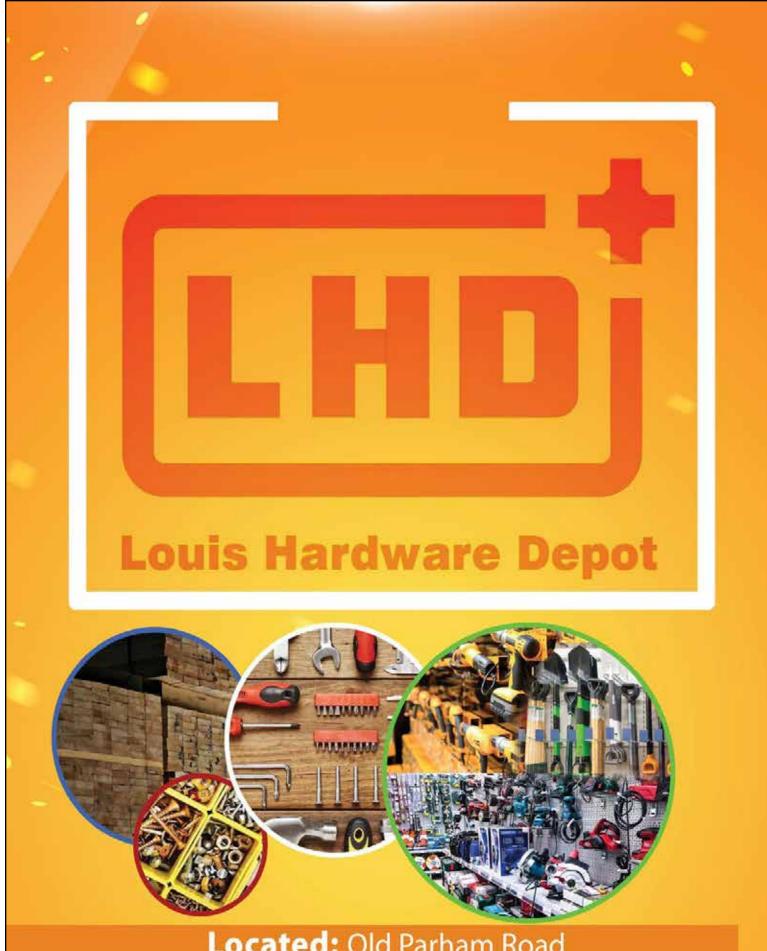
The flight details announced by Seoul's military

suggest that North Korea could have tested a nuclear-capable short-range weapon modelled after Russia's Iskander missiles, which travel at relatively low altitudes and are designed to be manoeuvrable in flight, making them harder to be intercepted by missile defences.

Kim Dong-yub, a professor at Seoul's University of North Korean Studies, said it was notable that the missile flew 600 kilometres (370 miles) from its Taechon launch point — roughly the distance to South Korea's southern port Busan, where the Reagan arrived Friday.

The Iskander-like missiles are part of a growing arsenal of short-range, solid-fuel systems North Korea has been developing since 2019. The North describes some of those weapons as "tactical," which experts say communicate a threat to arm them with small battlefield nukes and proactively use them during conflicts to blunt the stronger conventional forces of South Korea and the United States, which stations about 28,500 troops in the South.

North Korea has so far rejected U.S. and South Korean calls to return to nuclear diplomacy, which have been stalled since 2019 over disagreements in exchanging the release of U.S.-led sanctions against the North and the North's disarmament steps. MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2022



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Sports News



Kipchoge clocks 2:01:09 for world record in Berlin Marathon

AP - Two-time Olympic champion Eliud Kipchoge bettered his own world record in the Berlin Marathon on Sunday.

The Kenyan star clocked 2 hours, 1 minute, 9 seconds to shave 30 seconds off his previous best mark of 2:01:39 set on the same course in 2018.

"My legs and my body still feel young," the 37-yearold Kipchoge said. "But the most important thing is my mind, and that also feels fresh and young. I'm so happy to break the world record." Ethiopia's Tigist Assefa unexpectedly won the women's race in a course record of 2:15:37 – 18 minutes faster than she had ever run before. It was the third fastest time ever.

"I wasn't afraid of my rivals, even though they had faster times than me," the 26-year-old Assefa said.

Kenya's Rosemary Wanjiru was second on her debut in 2:18:00 – the second fastest debut ever run – just ahead of Ethiopian runner Tigist Abayechew in 2:18:03.

Kipchoge and Assefa's combined time of 4:16:46







Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge crosses the line to win the Berlin Marathon in Berlin, Germany, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022. Olympic champion Eliud Kipchoge has bettered his own world record in the Berlin Marathon. Kipchoge clocked 2:01:09 on Sunday to shave 30 seconds off his previous best-mark of 2:01:39 from the same course in 2018. (AP Photo/Christoph Soeder)

ensured the marathon was the fastest ever. The men's record has now been set eight times in a row in Berlin, favoured by runners for its flat course.

It's Kipchoge's fourth win in the city, equalling the record set by Haile Gebrselassie. The Ethiopian great – like Kipchoge now – also set two world records (in 2007 and 2008) in Berlin.

Kipchoge set off at a furious pace on Sunday, covering the first 10 kilometres in just 28:23 and clocking 42:32 at the 15k-mark, hinting at a sub two-hour attempt.

He broke the two-hour barrier in Vienna in 2019 when he ran 1:59:40 in a race that did not conform to regulations.

Kipchoge and Belihu completed the half marathon in just 59:51. Adola and Kenyan runners Abel Kipchumba, Mark Korir and Bethwel Yegon followed in 1:01:25.

"I planned to go out fast in the first half," Kipchoge said.

The last pacemaker dropped off at the 25k-mark, leaving Kipchoge on his own, but Belihu remained on his heels.

Kipchoge slowed somewhat in reaching the 30k-mark in 1:25:40. Belihu was unable to keep up and followed 21 seconds behind before dropping further back.

By this stage it was just a question of whether Kipchoge would break his own record. He did.

Compatriot Mark Korir was second, nearly five minutes behind, followed by Ethiopian runner Tadu Abate. Belihu, who had stayed longest with Kipchoge, finished fourth in 2:06:40.

Sports News POINCEXPRESS PAGE 25 **Amazon Warriors make** playoffs with impressive win

Guyana Amazon Warriors secured their place in the 2022 Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) playoffs with a 37-run win over Trinbago Knight Riders.

Trinbago Knight Riders won the toss and chose to field in this must-win game, with Amazon Warriors opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz giving the fans at Providence stadium a spectacle, scoring 60 from 42 balls to ignite the Warrior's innings and help take them to 173/6.

In their chase, the Trinbago Knight Riders built a steady opening partnership through Tim Seifert and Colin Munro, but wickets then fell throughout their innings as the Amazon Warriors were spurred on by a vocal home crowd. The Knight



[Photo: CPL/Getty Images] Riders finished 136 all out and lost by 37 runs.

Guyana Amazon Warriors suffered an early setback in their innings as Ravi Rampaul showed his effectiveness in the PowerPlay by taking the wicket of Chandrapaul Hemraj. Gurbaz would then play some spectacular shots to accelerate the run rate. Sunil Narine, who did not bowl until the 12th over, would claw the Knight Riders back into the game by taking the key wickets of Shakib Al Hasan and Romario Shepherd. A remarkable late blitz from Odean Smith, scoring 23 runs from 7 balls, would then catapult the Warriors to 173/6.

Trinbago Knight Riders had a good start in their chase, Seifert and Munro keeping up with the run rate, but led by Shakib, the Warriors fought back to take wickets, including some spectacular fielding to dismiss Nicholas Pooran. Once captain Kieron Pollard was out stumped, the Knight Riders faced an uphill battle and finished on 136 all out.

The result means that Trinbago Knight Riders have been eliminated from play-off contention.

Final: Guyana Amazon Warriors 173/6 (Gurbaz 60, Shakib 35; Narine 2/23, Dupavillon 1/13) beat Trinbago Knight Riders 136 all out (Patel 34, Munro 30; Al Hasan 3/20, Sinclair 2/26) by 37 runs.

All-rounder Fraser comes into **13-member squad for last CG United ODI**

Women's Selection Panel has announced the 13-member squad for the third and final CG United One Day International (ODI) against New Zealand Women to be played on Sunday, 25 September at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium.

Right-arm pacer Cherry-Ann Fraser comes into the squad to replace Shamilia Connell. Fraser had an impressive 6ixty and Women's Caribbean Premier League showing with her team, Guyana Amazon Warriors, taking four wickets in each tournament format.

Lead Selector for Women's cricket, Ann Browne-John said, "The CG United ODI Series has been a return to

The Cricket West Indies (CWI) play for the team since their last encounter would have been the World Cup in February to April. Although the team is in the rebuilding process, the first two matches turned out to have very close results, which augurs well for the future.

> The captain, Hayley Matthews, led from the front with her bowling and batting in the second match. It is also the time to start exposing some of the younger players, evident in the fact that Shabika Gajnabi was given the responsibility of batting at Number 3. Another young player, Cherry Ann Fraser has been included in the squad for the final ODI as the panel strives to continue player development and exposure to in

ternational cricket."

The first two matches of the CG United ODI Series have been very close encounters. New Zealand won the first by five runs on the DLS Method and then took the second by two wickets in a nailbiter.

West Indies squad for 3rd CG United ODI: Hayley Matthews (Captain), Shakera Selman (Vice Captain), Aaliyah Alleyne, Afy Fletcher, Cherry-Ann Fraser, Shabika Gajnabi, Chinelle Henry, Kyshona Knight, Natasha McLean, Chedean Nation, Karishma Ramharack, Stafanie Taylor, Rashada Williams

All matches will be played at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

Sports News



Premier League teams advance to knockout quarter-finals

premier league teams to advance to the quarter-finals of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Joma Caribbean Cool & Smooth Knockout Cup competition over the weekend.

A four-goal blitz by Shafeeq Joseph spurred All Saints United to an emphatic 11-0 victory over Real Blizzard FC in the round of 16 of the knockout competition in the first game of Saturday's triple-header at the AB-FA's Technical Centre at Paynters.

Joseph scored in the 6th, 9th, 17th and 47th minutes, while Zafique Drew and Leroy Graham each recorded a brace. Drew had conversions in the 22nd and 31st minutes, while Graham found the back of the net in the 38th and 64th minutes.

The other goals for All Saints United, who led 8-0 at halftime, were scored by Gidson Francis in the 15th minute, Ajarnie Thomas in the 41st minute and Daryn James in the 51st minute.

All Saints United joined fellow premier league side Ottos Rangers FC and Villa Lions FC, who were the first two teams to book their spots into the quarter-finals by virtue of winning their second-round matches last week.

The other premier league teams to advance to the knockout quarter-finals recently are Greenbay Hoppers FC, Grenades FC, Parham FC, Five Islands FC, Willikies FC, Pigotts Bullets FC and Old Road FC who all won their matches in the round of 16 to secure their spots in the final eight.

Greenbay Hoppers came from behind to trounce Potters Tigers 7-2 in the second game on Saturday. Omar Henry scored in the 3rd minute to give Potters a 1-0 lead.

Javorn Stevens scored an equalizer

All Saints United is among several for Hoppers in the 13th minute before a Xavier Graham's 41st minute conversion gave Potters a 2-1 half-time lead.

> But Tamorley "Ziggy" Thomas and Kareem Wilson each recorded a brace as Hoppers scored six goals without conceding any in the second half to turn the match around and secured victory to advance into the next round.

> Thomas scored Hoppers' second equalizer in the 60th and he also had a 70th minute conversion. Wilson scored in the 72nd and 80th minutes. The other goals for Hoppers were scored by Eugene Kirwan in the 69th minute and Roan Harris in added on time (90+2).

> A brace by Rick Gordon inspired Grenades FC to a 3-0 victory over Green City FC in the third game on Saturday. Gordon scored in the 69th and 78th minutes after a Keanu Barrett's 38th minute conversion had given Grenades FC a 1-0 halftime advantage.

> Inspired by a hat-trick from Kenya Benjamin, Parham trashed former premier league champions English Harbour FC 5-0 in the second match of a double-header on Friday, 23rd September.

> Benjamin scored in the 5th, 19th and 31st minutes to give Parham a 3-0 halftime advantage. Second half goals by J'twan Brown in the 63rd minute and Andy Daniel in the 71st minute sealed Parham's emphatic victory.

> But it was a lot harder for Five Islands to secure their spot into the last eight as they prevailed 7-6 on penalties to beat Jennings United in the other encounter on Friday.

> Deanglo Earl snatched an equalizer in the 65th minute for Jennings United to salvage a 2-2 draw with Five Islands at the end of regulation, send

ing the game into a penalty shootout to decide their outcome.

It was the second time in the match that Jennings United had to come from behind to draw level with their opponents. Alex Phillip gave Five Islands an early lead when he found the back of the net in the 3rd minute.

But the lead did not last too long as a Kiemon Samuel's 8th minute conversion drew Jennings United level. Shortly after, a Shaquelle Graham's 13th minute strike gave Five Islands a 2-1 lead which lasted until Earl scored Jennings United's equalizer.

Following a goalless first half, second -half goals by Novelle Francis in the 71st minute and Djarie Sheppard in the 85th minute propelled Willikies to a 2-0 victory against Bolans FC on Thursday, 22nd September.

Pigotts Bullets defeated Attacking Saints 3-0 with two goals by Akeem Isaac in the 52nd and 67th minutes and a 44th-minute conversion by Isaac Hughes.

A hat-trick by Raheem Deterville inspired Old Road FC to a 4-1 victory over Point West Ham FC. Deterville scored in the 7th, 44th and 75th minutes and the other goal for Old Road was converted by Kayan London in the 26th minute.

Anderson Lightfoot scored a consolation goal for Point West Ham in the 70th minute.

The ABFA knockout cup will continue with another double-header at its Technical Centre today Monday, 26th September.

Tryum FC will face Fort Road FC at 5:30 pm and Swetes FC will tackle FC Master Ballers at 7:30 pm.

Cedar Grove Blue Jays will meet John Hughes tomorrow (Tuesday) in a match that was rescheduled from Thursday, 22nd September.



Sports News

Anjo Wholesale among winners in business basketball league

Anjo Wholesale achieved their third win in four matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League over the weekend.

Cohen Desouza shot a game-high 22 points to lead Anjo Wholesale to an impressive 75-37 victory over Sledge O'Ballers in the feature match of a triple-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday night.

Humroy Wright sank 14 points and Leroy Percival chipped in with 11 points for the victors, while Noel Ryan scored eight points for Sledge O'Ballers, who were beaten for the first time in three matches.

The Board of Education also claimed their third win in four encounters, as they pulled off a 59-45 victory over Mill Reef on Saturday night.

Kirwan Peterson scored 18 points, Kareem Blair produced 16 points and Earl Lavishere contributed 10 points for the Board of Education. Kacey Williams shot a game-high 19 points and Errol Quallis had 13 points for Mill Reef, who lost for the

Anjo Wholesale achieved third time in four outings.

Fitzroy Rewinding recorded their second win in five matches as they claimed a 53-43 victory over Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew in last Saturday's opening game.

Amare Browne scored 19 points for Fitzroy Rewinding, while Rickie Willock had a top score of 13 points for Fearless Crew.

Health First Pharmacy's Fearless Crew won for the first time in six matches as they snatched a 46-44 victory over Galley Bay Resort on Thursday night.

Daysher Samuel produced 10 points for Fearless Crew, while Tyea Ladoo shot a game-high 19 points for Galley Bay.

Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care prevailed 45-40 against Anjo Wholesale. Tehran Zachariah produced 15 points and Adonis Humphreys chipped in with 11 points for the winners.

Cohen Desouza sank 17 points and Xavier Meade converted 12 points for Anjo Wholesale.

Graphic Impact Shooters notched up their third win in as many matches by coasting

cont'd from pg 28

and Willock netted once as they exploited defensive lapses to give Young Lions a revenge-victory after Warriors had beaten them in the ABFA's Knockout competi-

tion last month.

The Antigua-Nevis Cup was expected to conclude last night (Sunday)with the final two matches and a presentation ceremony at the Old Road football field. to an emphatic 72-40 drubbing of Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

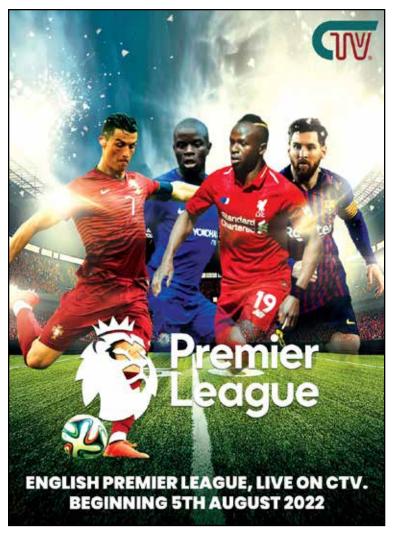
Tavarus Benta shot a game-high 22 points, Sean Nicholas scored 17 points and Yannick Samuel contributed 10 points for Graphic Impact Shooters.

Baldwin Anthony Jr. scored 12 points, while Damien Floyd and Jamar Bird each contributed 10 points for Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre who lost for the fifth time in as many encounters.

The business basketball league will continue with another triple-header at the JSC Sports Complex this evening, Monday, 26th September.

Anjo Wholesale will take on Vendors at 6:30 pm, the Board of Education will clash with Sledge O'Ballers at 7:30 and Pointe FM will face Mill Reef at 8:30 pm.

In tomorrow's triple-header, Mill Reef will oppose Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre at 6:30 pm, Sandals Antigua will challenge Fitzroy Rewinding at 7:30 pm and defending champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board will clash with Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care at 8:30 pm.





Bath United wins first two matches in Antigua-Nevis cup



The Bath United Football Club of Nevis on arrival at the V.C Bird International Airport in Antigua and Barbuda on Friday, 23rd September, for their participation in the Antigua-Nevis Cup football tournament. (Photo courtesy Young Warriors FC)

Nevisian visitors Bath United underlined their intent to capture the inaugural Antigua-Nevis Cup football tournament when they came from behind to overcome hosts Young Warriors 3-1 to claim their second win in as many matches at the Pigotts Playing Field on Saturday evening.

For the second successive night, the youthful Warriors let slip an early lead as they conceded a needless freekick from which Bath equalized on the stroke of half-time through Venreece Richards' precise left-footed lob into the top corner from an acute angle on the right-hand side of the penalty area.

Jahvorn Joshua had giv-

en Young Warriors a 1-0 lead when he pounced on a loose ball inside the box to hit low past the Bath goalkeeper Vibert Stephens in the 24th minute.

Stephens made amends by giving the Nevisians a 2-1 lead when he slotted home a 52nd-minute penalty, which was awarded after a foul was committed by a Warriors' defender, who was subsequently red-carded.

Forward Omarion Bartlette scored Bath United's third goal and entrenched his position as the top marksman when he rifled home a stinging left-footer to take his tally to three goals in two matches.

Home club Pigotts Bullets, who were beaten 2-0 by Bath United in Friday's firstround of matches, kept their title hopes alive by overpowering Young Lions of Old Road3-0 in Saturday's first game of the four-team competition.

Goals by Akeem Isaac, Casean Stevens and Elijah McDonald fired Bullets to their first win in two matches to atone for Friday's opening game loss against Bath United. Isaac netted mid-way through the first-half before Stevens converted a header and McDonald sealed the win by scoring Bullets' third goal with low drive into the far corner of the net.

Double strikes by Young Lions' Zavier Joseph and Omarion Bartlette of Bath United inspired their clubs to comfortable wins on the opening night of the inaugural four-team Antigua-Nevis Cup football tournament at the Pigotts Playing Field on Friday.

Joseph strikes aided by Jalan Willock's conversion capped a fine second-half comeback by Young Lions who overcame Young Warriors 3-1 in the first game.

Bartlette's brace after half-time helped the Nevisians blanked Pigotts Bullets 2-0 on their own ground.

Reuben Rubel had given Young Warriors a 12th minute lead, which they held until early in the second half, before Joseph scored twice *cont'd on pg 27*

Editor: Eboni Brandon, Published by Pointville Communications, Lower North Street, St. John's, Antigua (268) 562-4989 Editorials: editor@pointville.ag. advertising: Sales@pointville.ag. Reporting: news@pointville.ag