

WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 171 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

WANTED!

Slippery suspect evades police, ABDF



**Story on
Page 2**

Local News



Police on the hunt for “armed and dangerous” man

A wanted bulletin was issued yesterday for Tony Henry who police believe is armed and dangerous.

Henry, whose address has been given as Pares Village or Collins area, is wanted in relation to firearm

and ammunition offences, a statement outlined.

According to police, on Sunday 4th September, 30-year-old Henry escaped from a motorcar that was intercepted by the Special Services Unit (SSU) and the

Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force during a joint stop and search operation in the Wallings area.

In the vehicle from which he escaped, the law enforcement officers discovered a modified flare

gun and several rounds of ammunition in addition to a quantity of cannabis.

The vehicle was towed to police headquarters.

No further information was released regarding other crimes Henry may have committed.

The police are appealing to Henry to surrender himself at any police station.

Anyone knowing his whereabouts is asked to contact the nearest police station, the Criminal Investigations Department on 462-3913, or Crimestoppers on 800-Tips (8477).

Wed 07 Day		Wed 07 Night	
87°	24% S 6 mph	78°	19% S 3 mph
Intervals of clouds and sunshine in the morning with more clouds for later in the day. High 87F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.		Mainly cloudy. Low 78F. Winds light and variable.	
Humidity 73%	UV Index Extreme	Humidity 84%	UV Index 0 of 10
Sunrise 5:54 am	Sunset 6:15 pm	Moonrise 4:26 pm	Moonset 2:50 am
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KEEP WHAT'S LEFT

PM calls for end of the Russia-Ukraine conflict

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is urging both Russia and Ukraine to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict between them which continues to have a negative impact on the entire world, but especially on small vulnerable states such as Antigua and Barbuda.

During a courtesy call from the new ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Antigua and Barbuda, Tatang Razak, PM Browne said prolonging the war serves no one's interest.

Noting that his country will be hosting the G20 countries' summit in November this year, Ambassador Razak said that the Russia-Ukraine war is already having a deleterious impact as questions have arisen about which nations will attend.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signalled his willingness to attend, but his presence may cause other nations to skip attending the meeting.

Responding to the ambassador's concerns, PM Browne said Antigua and Barbuda will be paying close attention to the summit.

"The situation in Ukraine is having an impact globally; we have seen an escalation in food prices and fuel prices have increased as well. We had

various challenges prior to this situation in Ukraine such as COVID-19 along with climate change, so to have this unnecessary war - absolutely senseless war - taking place in Ukraine, we are hoping that Indonesia can serve as an honest broker and bring the parties together at the G20 Summit," he said.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the US President, Joe Biden, will attend the meeting as host nation Indonesia could use this opportunity to hammer out an agreement between the warring sides.

Describing the conflict as a "proxy war" with western countries throwing their support behind Ukraine, and Russia having taken the position that it is fighting more than Ukraine alone, PM Browne, who has abstained from taking a side in the conflict, said he believes that no one will claim victory if the conflict is prolonged further.

"I don't see why this war should be prolonged. For what? In whose interest?" he asked.

He added that a protracted dispute will only serve to add to global instability and the loss of the lives of thousands of innocent people.

On matters closer to home, the prime minister noted that while the rela-



Prime Minister Gaston Browne received a courtesy call from the new ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Antigua and Barbuda, Tatang Razak, on Tuesday

tionship with Indonesia only started in 2011, he is thankful for the assistance that Antigua and Barbuda has received from the Southeast Asia country.

He also renewed the government's invitation for that country to estab-

lish a base in St. John's that will serve the people of the OECS. He said the offer of land to build an office on stands as this will allow Indonesia to cement its presence in the region and expand its sphere of influence in the Caribbean.

Hurricane Irma – 5 years after

It's been five years since Hurricane Irma devastated Barbuda with category 5 winds. In its wake, the island's 1500 residents were left in a state of shock and bewilderment as they came to grips with the massive destruction to property, infrastructure and their lives.

In the wee hours of 6th September, 2017, Barbuda was struck by the worst disaster in its recorded history however the mainland, Antigua, was spared much of the storm's ravages.

The hurricane's severe impact took a toll not just on infrastructure, but also the livelihoods of Barbudans, as well as their mental and physical health. They were left without water, electricity, and food which was compounded by the complete loss of all agricultural crops.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has said, however, that despite the setbacks, Barbuda has rebounded and enjoyed remarkable record growth following the devastation of Hurricane Irma in 2017.

Browne told reporters on the eve of the anniversary of the storm, that developments on the sister isle have proven the resilience of Barbudans.

"Barbuda has emerged to be one of the most significant luxury islands in the Caribbean. No one would have expected that. Barbuda is now poised to eclipse St. Bart's, based on the investments that we have attracted," Browne said.

The prime minister continued that apart from the hundreds of millions spent by the Peace Love and Happiness project on Barbuda, several other investors are gearing up to pump more money into Barbuda.

"PLH has built luxury homes, condominiums, and one of the finest golf courses in the world. We also heard announcements recently by Robert De Niro and his partner that they would be spending a few hundred million dollars on the Paradise Found project," Browne said.

Pictured Below: Beneficiary: Akuwaah Benjamin. Level 4. Before & After



Pictured Below: Beneficiary: Brad Frank De Souza. Level 4. Before & After



He said 95 percent of Barbudans who lost their homes have either received a new home or are currently having their homes rebuilt.

"I feel happy about the progress made. We built back better. The people have gotten far better homes that are more climate resilient. They got them for free. They are very lucky, because at no point in the history of this country people would have lost their homes and gotten a free home," he said

Immediately after the storm, Prime Minister Gaston Browne travelled the world soliciting funding from donors, including the European Union and the People's Republic of China.

This July, Prime Minister Browne and Minister for Barbuda Affairs, Samantha Marshall, attended the EU Housing Support to Barbuda Project in collaboration with the government's final handover ceremony in Barbuda.

The Housing Support to Barbuda

project was funded by the European Union to support the Government of Antigua and Barbuda in its efforts to move swiftly to address the recovery of Barbuda in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

The project implementation partner was the UNDP, which worked in close collaboration with the Office of the National Authorizing Officer (ONAO). The government led this project along with other key national and governmental partners, including the Ministry of Works and the Barbuda Council.

"Please accept our sincere gratitude for the continued collaboration and partnership with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda whose leadership was instrumental in facilitating the achievements under the project," the prime minister stated.

In total, 104 homes have been rehabilitated using the "Build Back Better" approach.

Residents risk prosecution for silence on child abuse

Those who are aware of, but fail to report cases of child abuse in all forms, risk being prosecuted.

Minister of Social Transformation Dean Jonas said last week it is one of the issues his ministry has discovered, which continues to hamper the work of arresting this social ill.

According to the St. George's MP, while Antigua and Barbuda has strong leg-

islation in the Child Protection Act, the system fails to operate as it should in some instances as there are families who choose to remain silent when a child in the home is abused.

In July, the government announced its intention to implement measures to deal with the growing problem of adult men who prey on minors.

While stating that the



Minister of Social Transformation Dean Jonas

Child Protection Act is adequate in its current form, there has been acknowledgement of the need to raise public awareness about the laws relating to the abuse of minors and the penalties that can be applied to those who violate them.

Minister Jonas said the ongoing public education campaign has been key in uncovering instances in which some people who are aware of child abuse fail to report it.

He has served notice that those who fail to live up to their obligation to protect minors will face prosecution.

"One of the main problems that we discovered is that whenever there are instances of child abuse, family members and other persons generally don't report

it. Believe it or not, one of the things we have put in the legislation is to enable the police and the courts to prosecute persons who do not report instances of child abuse no matter what the abuse is."

He added, "So, if you or anyone is aware that a child is being abused and it is reported in the family that you knew about it and did not report it you can be prosecuted, fined and jailed for that even though you are not the abuser."

The social transformation minister is encouraging the general public to break the silence and report all cases of suspected child abuse.

He said emphasis will be placed on enforcing all aspects of the country's laws protecting children.



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Work at ABICE underway, Education Minister speaks on new partnership

Groundbreaking for the upgrade of the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) facility is set to take place this week. Minister of Education and Sports, Daryll Matthew, while speaking on state media earlier this week, made the announcement.

Matthew explained that the architectural drawings for the proposed new look for ABICE have received full approval, and with the addition of the £4 million grant from philanthropist David Harrison, work is expected to “start any day now”.

“The project has started. I can tell you that as of last Thursday, I believe the construction drawings are now complete. We have received, I believe, a million pounds already that is already supporting the construction drawings, the engineering drawings, the cleaning of the site, the surveying of the land, the testing of the soil. So, that work has already started and I believe ground should be broken any day now,” Matthew revealed.

Construction is to be completed by October 2022, when Harrison will visit Antigua and Barbuda.

It will also be named after him: The Harrison Centre Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education.

Minister Matthew also



Minister of Education and Sports, Daryll Matthew

hinted at efforts his ministry is presently undertaking to ensure that the programmes offered at the educational institution meet international standards. A partnership with one of the top technological institutions in the Dominican Republic is among the new ventures on the cards, according to Matthew.

In this new partnership, Matthew explained that there will be an exchange programme involving both the lecturers and students of both institutions. These partnerships geared at elevating ABICE are among the most recent undertaken by the government.

In April this year, a two-year initiative was launched by the government, in partnership with the Caribbean Development Bank and the European Union, aimed at implementing a framework to provide certification for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in the country.



Antigua Cruise Port

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Maintenance and Engineering Manager

JOB SUMMARY

Maintenance and Engineering Manager shall perform duties related to the operational requirements of GPH (Antigua) Ltd./Antigua Cruise Port under general direction of the Director of Operations and Projects.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

1. Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or a closely related field.
2. 5 years' experience as a Maintenance Manager or Engineering Manager.
3. Previous responsibilities for design, construction and maintenance of complex public facilities.
4. Knowledge and experience in planning and managing port-related projects
5. Knowledge of contract management.
6. Knowledge of public procurement processes.
7. Knowledge of building code regulations of Antigua and Barbuda.

Director of Operations and Projects

JOB SUMMARY

The Director of Operations and Projects is primarily responsible for the management of the entire operations team and for the smooth operation of the various processes that contribute to the services provided by Antigua Cruise Port. The role is very wide and encompasses many operational areas including Project Management.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

1. Bachelor's Degree in Port Management, Project Management Engineering or related field.
2. Proven ability to work and thrive within fast paced start-up environment.
3. Experience of reporting for government or grant funded projects with multiple partners.
4. Business process analysis, development, implementation re-engineering experience.
5. Understanding, avid interest and appreciation of climate change issues in the Caribbean today, gained through personal or professional experience.
6. Understanding of Health & Safety legislation.
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Police Week 2022



Pre- Events

- Saturday 20th August 2022- Hike to Mount McNish 5:30am
- Wednesday 24th August 2022-Netball, YMCA 6pm
- Friday 26th August 2022- Fitness Jam, King George to Police Ground 4pm
- Sunday 28th August 2022 -Road Race All Saints Fire Station to Police Ground 5am

- **Saturday 3rd September 2022**

Police Cricket Team VS Parish League Team, Police Grounds 1pm

Queen Show, Antigua Recreation Grounds 8pm

Police Week

- **Sunday 4th September 2022**

Church Service – Swetes Wesleyan Holiness Church 9am

Brunch – Police Head Quarters

- **Monday 5th September 2022**

Opening Day – Police Head Quarters 10am to 2pm

Malcolm Nicholas Cup Competition – Corner of Market and High Street 4pm

- **Tuesday 6th September 2022**

Inter-force Shooting Competition – SWFGPA 9am

Sports Final Matches- Football, Cricket – Police Grounds 3pm

- **Wednesday 7th September 2022**

Sick and Shut In

Calypso – Antigua Recreation Grounds 8pm

- **Thursday 8th September**

Veterans Cocktail – SWFGPA – 5pm

- **Friday 9th September 2022**

Sports day/ March Pass – Police Grounds 10am

- **Saturday 10th September 2022**

Full Bore Shooting Competition – Crabbs Shooting Range 10am

Variety Concert -Antigua Recreation Grounds 8pm

- **Sunday 11th September 2022**

Beach Bash – Ffyers Beach 10am



Local News



Unsolved Antigua & Barbuda: Missing Without a Trace Pt 1. The Strength of a Father

By Shahein Fitzpatrick

Many individuals would completely break down and be rendered unable to cope if they were confronted with the reality that a loved one who was with them one day was gone the next and is nowhere to be found.

Despite the ambiguity surrounding the whereabouts of his 26-year-old son Kevorn "Sardis" Bailey, Gregory Bailey remains a pillar of strength for his family who he is determined to keep together.

Kevorn, who is dark in complexion and is 5 feet 3 inches tall, was reported missing on 29th August, 2022. He was last seen near the Independence Drive service station opposite the Ministry of Agriculture's

head office.

On Tuesday, as he carried out his responsibilities as the country's Director of Agriculture, the elder Bailey took a moment to speak with Pointe Xpress about how he is coping with the agony of not knowing where his son is.

"Life has taught me that life goes on with or without you, and if you can't help yourself, you can't be of help to anyone. So, I decided to get myself by the bootstrap and march," he said.

Along with attributes gained under the watchful eye of his mother, who he described as having great inner strength, Bailey said he has relied on the focus and structure his work brings to

his days as a coping mechanism that allows him to divert his thoughts and maintain a sense of control over the worrisome uncertainty surrounding his son.

"It's a natural strength, in my opinion. Life goes on, it runs in the family, and my mother was a strong woman. I am not a person who is wired to sit down and wallow in my thoughts. Sometimes you need a little diversion to lessen the burden, and sometimes the job atmosphere may give that distraction. Even if [only] cognitively, I am still challenged."

Kevorn's father remarked that his eldest child "was known to be a relational youngster who connected easily with those



Gregory Bailey. [Photos: Shahein Fitzpatrick]

with whom he came in contact".

He remains hopeful that wherever he may be, his son is alive and will be found.

Meanwhile, no new information about Kevorn's whereabouts has been brought to the attention of authorities. This is according to Police Public Relations Officer, Inspector Frankie Thomas, who offered Pointe Xpress the assurance that investigation into Kevorn Bailey's vanishing remains a priority and is still underway.

With Kevorn's whereabouts still unknown, anyone with information that may help solve this mystery is urged to call Police Headquarters at (268) 462-0125.

We're Backkkkk

The Police Drama Group is back with a play called **School call Eeeeen**

Written and directed By **Owen Jackson**

Antigua Recreation Ground

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Saturday 10th September 2022



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Local News



CXC Registrar calls for unified approach to tackling issues in education sector

A unified approach to improving educational systems across the region is one of the many calls Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) Registrar, Dr. Wayne Wesley, made during his address at the official launch of this year's CXC results in St. Lucia.

Dr. Wesley was adamant that in order for things to improve within the educational sector, stakeholders must "seek to not be confrontational" but instead find avenues "to work together".

"The dreams and aspirations of the young people of this region rest with us and demand that we work collaboratively to support their ambitions, moving forward working together. Working together with the ministries of education, working together with the local registrars, working together



CXC Registrar, Dr. Wayne Wesley

er with the examination committee, working together with the technical advisory committee, working together with the principals, working together with the teachers, working together with the parents, working together with the markers and moderators for the examination.

"CXC doesn't see itself as an entity in and of itself, but rather a regional enterprise that is comprised of all these stakeholders I have named just a moment ago," Wesley said.

He continued that the regional body could not have achieved the successes they did this year without the input of all stakeholders.

He added that "education represents the key for transformation" in the region and must be a focal point for all the Caribbean nations, and even more so after the initial two crippling years of the coronavirus pandemic.

Despite the need for continued improvement, Dr. Wesley commended the students for rising above the adversity brought on by the pandemic and encouraged them to continue reaching for the stars.

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Letter to the Editor



Antiguans and Barbudans ain't buying "no pig in bag"

Dear Editor,

I had intended in this letter to highlight the uselessness of the United progressive Party's political strategy or lack thereof. However, I have decided to postpone that to deal with two current issues.

Firstly, the bruhaha caused by Dean Jonas MP, at a Town Hall Meeting, attended by the three candidates vying for the St. George's seat, Algonon Watts of the UPP, DNA candidate Kelton Dalso and Jonas himself. And secondly, to analyze the general elections on St. Kitts/Nevis, the installation of the new government and the appointment of the Cabinet.

Further to compare and contrast the quality of those persons who offered themselves to the electorate, and are now forming that Cabinet, with those of the UPP, offering themselves as a viable alternative to the incumbent government of Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

During the various presentations Dean Jonas opined that Watts was neither qualified nor fit to hold high office, in that he had no tertiary education. This criticism "cut the UPP hierarchy. Their activists and supporters to the bone".

Although the truth be told, it has been said publicly multiple times that Watts never completed secondary school – allegations that he has never publicly denied. Supporters of the UPP have taken serious umbrage and have weighed in with many silly comments like the Father of the had no university education; Sir George Ryan chimed in with the inane statement that "studiation beats education", a saying attributed to the late J.A.N Browne Esq., and borrowed by Sir George, but

which as so many of his interventions, make absolutely no sense.

Charles Tabor Esq., not to be outdone, averred that honesty, integrity and transparency trumped tertiary education and professional competence, or words to that effect. None of them are apparently living in the fast paced technologically advancing 21st century.

The UPP needs to understand that a large segment of the voting public, other than the party's base, entertain serious doubts and misgivings, as to whether the UPP's slate of candidates are of the quality that conform to a viable opposition, let alone, a government.

The questions are constantly being asked, apart from the party leader (who is a lawyer with some government experience), how do these candidates match up to the present incumbents; and most of all, which of these new members can one visualize as being able to hold and execute ministerial portfolios.

I say without fear of contradiction that any serious political party, 6 months shy of a general election, would have long ago named its shadow cabinet, which would enable the candidates to face the media, espouse and defend its party's policies and enable the voting public to assess their ability and competencies.

Instead, all we have is the political leader (not the leader of the opposition) in his captain's corner, ensuring that he keeps the opposition leader in the backroom, criticizing every and anything, looking smart and well dressed and offering no meaningful insight into the party's policies.

To date he has been unable to in-

troduce and flesh out the party's plans and policies for governance.

The voters will not "cut the UPP any slack". The UPP must get its act together and "crap or get off the pot".

Finally, on this point, in addition to appointing its shadow cabinet, the party must publish substantial biographies of its prospective candidates and also papers enumerating the policies they intend to adopt if elected; and how they intend to fund these policies and programmes; particularly in light of the many promises to abolish a raft of taxes at a substantial cost to the Treasury plus millions of dollars of payments to Liat and Jolly Beach workers.

Which brings me to my next topic, which is the recent general elections in St. Kitts & Nevis. It has been said that "comparisons are odious".

However, a comparison between the quality, experience and professionalism of the new St. Kitts Cabinet (which was in opposition until the elections) and the "UPP's dream Team to redeem", speaks volumes.

Dr. Terrance Drew, Prime Minister, is a Medical Doctor, Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Geoffrey Hanley is a medical doctor and holds portfolios for Education, Youth, Social Development, Gender Affairs, Aging and Disabilities; Dr. Denzil Douglas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Economic Development, International Trade, Investments, Industry and Commerce, is a Medical Doctor and former Prime Minister; Honourable Garth Wilkin is the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs; he is a highly respected attorney, with university honours and a part of a most presti-

cont'd on pg 13

Grenada to host OECS CEO Breakfast forum

Grenada will host the second Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) chief executive officer (CEO) Breakfast Forum on September 14, the St. Lucia-based OECS Commission has announced.

It said that the event, in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UNICEF, will be held under the theme “Re-Imagining the OECS: Discover Opportunities and Innovate Forward”.

The Commission said that the discussions will focus on social development, particularly in areas such as youth innovation, innovative health, digital education, and transformational youth justice.



“The CEO Breakfast will create a space that brings together the region’s innovators, international voices, and partners for development to co-create, scale, and sustain solutions related to mutually agreed development challenges,”

the OECS Commission said, adding that representatives of civil society organisations, development partners, social entrepreneurs, academia, youth leaders, and government agencies are expected to attend.

“The event underscores

the aspiration of the OECS Commission, USAID, and UNICEF to amplify their relationship by advancing cooperation initiatives that are dynamic, agile, innovative, and that promote the co-creation of sustainable solutions that will reinforce efforts in the OECS region to cultivate an environment where people thrive, the natural environment is resilient and economies are reinvented but malleable enough to be recalibrated during times of crisis.”

The OECS groups the islands of Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands. (CMC)

cont'd from pg 12

gious law firm (compare with Charles Tabor & Chaku Symister); Senator the Honourable Dr. Joyelle Clarke PHD in Geography and Geology, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment; and the remaining cabinet being known persons of repute in their respective fields of endeavour.

I pose the following questions that so many voters do: which members of this dream team are Ministerial material?

Can Antiguan seriously contemplate putting their future and the future of their children and grandchildren in the hands of any of the UPP candidates?

Apart from the political noise generated by some of their hopefuls and the self-pronouncements that they will prevail and form the government and

the political gimmickry which passes for the party’s campaign strategy, is this a winning formula for the party and is it resonating with voters other than the party’s base? I think not.

Harold Lovell and the UPP must understand that Antiguan voters, whatever our shortcomings, are not stupid.

They will vote for the party that they consider to be better able to improve their lives and in doing so, they will measure the accomplishments of the party in power. They will certainly compare the ABLP’s candidates with those of the UPP.

Truth be told, the constant negativity of the UPP, its penchant for opposing any and all policies of the sitting government, even if good for the country, is “grinding the electorates’ gears”.

Finally, these are extremely difficult times. There is Covid still hang-

ing around; monkey pox threatening, the war in Ukraine, causing high fuel prices particularly in Europe, inflation, shortage of goods and services, high prices and pressures on the local economy.

The government has no control over any of these factors but has shown that it can manage the economy in difficult times.

The ABLP government is a known and proven entity. The UPP, on the other hand, led this country to the precipice of economic disaster and has not to date indicated how it would do things differently.

Neither has it presented its plans and policies which will enrich the lives of the population.

These are the reasons why the voters are saying to Harold, “We ain’t buying no pig in bag.”

NOMAD

Tourism



Caribbean tourism stakeholders to meet in the Cayman Islands next week

The Acting Secretary General of Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), Neil Walters, says he believes the interaction between the media and regional and international tourism stakeholders later this month in the Cayman Islands will be substantive and “serve to strengthen existing relationships and lead to productive outcomes for the sector.”

Tourism ministers, directors, and other stakeholders will participate in the CTO’s “Destination Media Briefings” in the British Overseas Territory on September 12 which marks the opening day of activities for the CTO Business Meetings and Caribbean Aviation Day Event, which ends on September 15.

The CTO said that this year’s briefings will take on special significance as they will be the first to be staged in person since the onset of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

It said with the global travel industry gradually returning to normal and Caribbean destinations already headed towards full re-openings, the briefings will represent perhaps some of the most important since their inception.

“The value of our re-



CTO Secretary General, Neil Walters

gional and international media partners and the critical role they play in helping to strengthen the Caribbean tourism brand through the heightened visibility they provide can never be understated.

“As such, CTO is heartened by the response of media and member countries to these Destination Media Briefings, especially as they are occurring in an in-person format. Along with the return to in-person meetings, these are good signs of the return to normalcy,” said Walters.

The organisers said 15 countries have confirmed their participation in the Briefings which will be an all-day affair, with the host,

the Cayman Islands being the first country to present.

Members are expected to share critical information ranging from current arrival numbers, and projections for the upcoming season, along with ongoing developments and future initiatives at their respective destinations.

“Nearly 20 regional and international media entities have confirmed their attendance at the Briefings, a strong indicator of the extensive opportunities which will be available to member countries, in helping to promote their messaging and maximise exposure,” the CTO said.

“I am immensely proud to be the host of this highly

anticipated and prestigious event and I look forward to kicking off the destination briefings by presenting insights from the Cayman Islands marketing initiatives as we, like all of our Caribbean neighbours, focus on rebuilding our respective tourism industries,” said Cayman Islands Minister of Tourism & Transport, Kenneth Bryan said.

“Today’s travellers are seeking more in-depth and authentic cultural experiences than ever before and the destination briefings will also provide a platform to speak about the distinctive and appealing attributes of our three Cayman Islands, and the travel trends that drive visitation.”

The CTO Business Meetings and Caribbean Aviation Day are being held in collaboration with the Cayman Islands Ministry of Tourism and The International Air Transport Association (IATA).

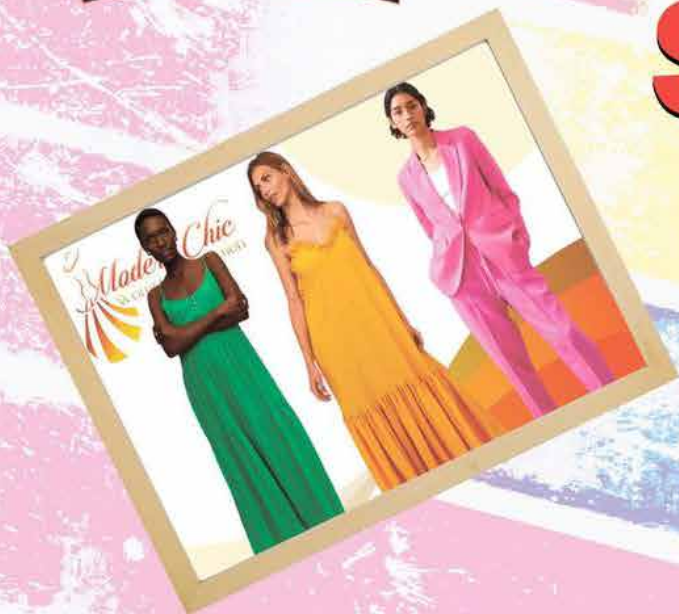
Meanwhile, the CTO said that its Caribbean Tourism Youth Congress resumes after a two-year break and will be held on September 15.

It is jointly sponsored by Sandals Barbados Resorts & Spa and the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism. (CMC)



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Regional News



Three children die in Westmoreland, Jamaica house fire

CMC - Three children, including twins, who were expected to return to their classrooms on Monday, died in a fire that destroyed their home in Springfield, Westmoreland in the westernmost parish of Jamaica on Sunday night, the Police's Corporate Communications Unit (CCU) has confirmed.

The children, aged seven to nine years, attended the Sheffield Primary School in Westmoreland. Their 12-year-old sister, who also suffered serious burns, is being treated at hospital.

Media reports said that the fire was triggered by candles that were lit by the children because of a power outage in the area.

The children were being cared for by their single father Adrian 'Bonez' Anthony Laing, who hours be-

fore their deaths, had posted pictures of their uniforms, bags, and shoes on social media.

"Thank u Jah, I am ready for the new school term with my kids...I have no time to waste...it's not been easy as a single dad but I am holding on," he wrote, adding that he had already ironed their clothes.

Laing had also posted on social media, a photo believed to be of the children's mother, asking anyone knowing her whereabouts to contact the nearest police station.

In August 2021, he posted a message on his page stating that he cried night and day, and prayed she was okay after she went missing.

Police and fire officials are investigating the cause of the blaze.



St. Lucian appointed new CDEMA Chairman



St. Lucia's Minister of St. Lucia's Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Shawn Edward

CMC – The Barbados-based Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) says St. Lucia's Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training Minister, Shawn Edward, has been appointed chairman of the regional disaster agency.

It said Edward was appointed during a recent virtual meeting of the ninth Extraordinary Meeting of Council of Ministers and he replaces the former attorney general and minister of legal affairs and justice in St. Kitts-Nevis, Vincent Byron Jr., who

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Guyana condemns Suriname's harassment of Guyanese fisherfolk

CMC - The government of Guyana is condemning "in its strongest possible terms" what it says is the most recent harassment being meted out to Guyanese fisherfolk by the Surinamese government.

In a statement issued late on Monday, Georgetown said that the actions are being taken against local fisherfolk even as the neighbouring Dutch-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) neighbour has failed "to grant licences to our fishermen in keeping with a commitment made to... Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali ...on 26 November 2020, during a visit to Suriname".

According to the government-issued statement, during that visit, Agriculture Minister Zulfikar Mustapha met with his Surinamese counterpart, Parmanand Sewdien, and requested the issuance of 150 licences which will allow Guyanese fishermen to ply their trade in Suriname Ocean waters.

Mustapha recalled the



earlier discussions between Ali and President Chandrikapersaud Santokhi, that there should be an agreement on the issuance of the number of licences requested by Guyana.

The statement said that Sewdien also indicated that his government would form a company that will deal with the issuing of licences to the Guyanese fishermen.

"At the last meeting of President Ali and President

Santokhi in Georgetown, it was agreed that by January 1 2022, arrangements would have been put in place to facilitate the issuance of the 150 SK licences to Guyanese fishermen.

"Taking into account this decision, the Minister of Agriculture of Guyana communicated the names of the persons interested in being issued licences via a letter dated 16 November 2021 to his Surinamese counterpart.

"To date, the government of Guyana has not been advised on the status of the establishment of the company referred to, nor on the issuances of the licences," the statement said.

It said in the absence of the issuance of these licences, "our fisherfolk continue to face harassment at the hands of the Surinamese authorities, including fishing vessels that are stranded in Suriname and cannot return to Guyana for fear of losing their licences.

"The government of Guyana, therefore, calls on the government of Suriname to not renege in its commitment and to make known the current position of the issuance of the licences."

Paramaribo has not officially responded to the statement from Georgetown.

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held the post for two years.

CDEMA said Edward has been involved in comprehensive disaster management (CDM), having ably led in its advancement in the education sector in St. Lucia through CDEMA's Caribbean Safe Schools Initiative.

"It is both an honour and a privilege to serve the region's lead disaster agency as chairman of the Council. I am grateful for

the opportunity given to me by my prime minister, Philip J. Pierre, to take on this responsibility on behalf of the government and people of St. Lucia and by extension the people of the Caribbean.

"I give the assurance that I will execute my duties as diligently and effectively as possible to advance the development of a more responsive and resilient region in the management of natural disasters," Edwards said.

Chile's Boric reshuffles cabinet after voters reject new constitution

Reuters – Chile's President Gabriel Boric announced a major overhaul of his cabinet Tuesday after voters overwhelmingly rejected a new constitution that was key to his ambitious agenda.

Just six months into his presidency, Boric announced replacements for his ministers of mining, energy and the interior.

He also replaced the minister secretary-general, who oversees the president's legislative agenda.

In a speech at La Moneda presidential palace, Boric said the cabi-

net overhaul was "one of the hardest things" he has done, but it was necessary to broaden the government's coalition.

"You can't govern superficially," Boric said. "It hasn't been easy, but changes are never easy."

Boric named Carolina Toha, an experienced centrist politician who served as mayor of Santiago and as a minister under former President Michelle Bachelet, to replace Izkia Siches as interior minister.

Siches, a doctor by trade who gained popularity during the pandemic,



Chile's President Gabriel Boric speaks about the results of the referendum at the government palace La Moneda in Santiago, Chile September 4, 2022. Fernando Ramirez/Chile Presidency/Handout via REUTERS

net overhaul was "one of the hardest things" he has done, but it was necessary to broaden the government's coalition.

Giorgio Jackson, a former student protest leader alongside Boric, will be replaced by Ana Lya Uriarte as minister secretary-general of the presidency.

Jackson will stay in the cabinet and was named minister of social development.

The president also announced replacements for the health minister, energy minister and others.

This is the first major overhaul to Boric's cabinet and follows the resignation of Social Development Minister Jeanette Vega in late August.

Boric, Chile's youngest president, promised ambitious social reforms and rose to power on a wave of optimism fueled by hopes over a new progressive

constitution.

But public opinion for the president and the proposed constitution quickly dropped, and voters overwhelmingly rejected a progressive new constitution on Sunday.

Nearly 62% of voters rejected the text, compared to nearly 80% that had voted to draft a new one in 2020.

Boric said he plans to draft a new constitution with support from congress and other political factions.

Hundreds of student protesters demanding a new constitutional convention amassed outside La Moneda presidential palace before the cabinet reshuffle.

Police dispersed them with water cannons and tear gas.



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Boris Johnson urges Tories to get behind Liz Truss in farewell speech

BBC – Outgoing Prime Minister Boris Johnson has urged Conservatives to get behind his successor Liz Truss during a "tough time", in his farewell speech.

Mr Johnson has met the Queen at Balmoral Castle in Scotland, where he tendered his resignation as PM.

Ms Truss has been formally appointed by the British monarch, before making her first speech as prime minister.

The UK's third female prime minister will announce her cabinet later.

Her victory in the Tory leadership contest on Monday marked the end of Mr Johnson's turbulent premiership, less than three years after the Conservatives won a landslide in the 2019 general election.

In the face of a mounting economic crisis, Mr Johnson's successor has promised immediate action to deal with soaring energy prices, as well as tax cuts aimed at staving off a recession.

Her plan, due on Thursday, is expected to include a freeze on energy bills worth billions of pounds, but the details of that policy are yet to be announced.

Simon Clarke, who backed Ms Truss for the leadership and is tipped to become levelling up secretary, told the BBC he was anticipating "a major intervention" on energy bills.



The Queen met her new prime minister at Balmoral

He said energy "will be the government's most immediate priority upon entering office" and insisted the commitments Ms Truss made during the campaign on tax "still absolutely stand".

In his speech, Mr Johnson alluded to the ominous challenges Ms Truss will inherit when she takes office, acknowledging that this was "a tough time for the economy".

"This is a tough time for families up and down the country," Mr Johnson said in front of No 10 Downing Street. "We can and we will get through it and we will come out stronger the other side."

In a pointed plea to his Conservative colleagues following a fractious party leadership race, Mr Johnson said "it's time for politics to

be over, folks".

"It's time for us all to get behind Liz Truss and her team and her programme and deliver for the people of this country," he said.

Paying tribute to his colleagues in government, Mr Johnson said they were the people who "got Brexit done", delivered "the fastest vaccine rollout in Europe", and "organised those prompt supply of weapons to Ukraine".

Reflecting on the future of his career, Mr Johnson compared himself to "one of those booster rockets" that "has fulfilled its function".

"I'll be gently re-entering the atmosphere and splashing down invisibly in some remote and obscure corner of the Pacific," he said.

He then likened himself to Cincinnatus, a Roman

statesman and military leader who battled against an invasion before returning to his farm.

Some classics scholars pointed out Cincinnatus came out of retirement for a second term as leader of Rome.

Mr Johnson has not said publicly what he will do after leaving office but there is speculation that he will remain as an MP for his Uxbridge and South Ruislip constituency.

His former adviser Will Walden told the BBC's World At One he did not believe Mr Johnson would return to frontline politics.

"That is for two reasons - I don't think the Tory Party is used to going back in time... but more than anything, he needs to earn some money and he needs to move on," he said.

Rallies show Pakistan's ex-PM Khan remains political force

AP – Since he was toppled by parliament five months ago, former Prime Minister Imran Khan has demonstrated his popularity with rallies that have drawn huge crowds and signalled to his rivals that he remains a considerable political force.

On Tuesday, he addressed some 25,000 supporters in the northwestern city of Peshawar, the capital of deeply conservative Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan.

Khan said he would soon organise a mass march to the capital, as a culmination of his campaign to force the government of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to hold a snap election, which some analysts say Khan might win due to his growing popularity.

“I will soon give you a call for a march on Islamabad,” Khan told the cheering crowd, then asked: “Are you ready for it?”

“Yes,” came the response from his supporters.

Sharif has rejected the demand for early elections, saying the vote should take place as scheduled in 2023.

As during previous rallies, Tuesday's speech was not shown live by TV stations on instructions from the country's media regulatory agency. The regulators have banned broadcasting his live speeches, purported-



Supporters of Pakistani opposition leader Imran Khan's Tehreek-e-Insaf party attend a rally, in Peshawar, Pakistan, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022. Since he was toppled by parliament five months ago, former Prime Minister Imran Khan has demonstrated his popularity with rallies that have drawn huge crowds and signalled to his rivals that he remains a considerable political force. (AP Photo/Mohammad Sajjad)

ly because of his recent critical remarks about the military and judiciary. Viewers also had difficulty accessing the speech via YouTube and other social media.

Since his ouster, Khan has claimed that the current government came into power under a plot by the U.S. which allegedly disagreed with his more independent foreign policy; Washington has denied such a claim.

Khan had served as prime minister for over three-and-a-half years until he was brought down by an

alliance of political parties in a parliamentary no-confidence vote in April.

In a new twist to his comeback campaign, the former cricket star-turned-Islamist politician faces terrorism charges for allegedly threatening police and a judge at a rally last month in Islamabad. At the time, Khan sharply criticised the authorities for having arrested his close aide Shahbaz Gill on charges of inciting troops to mutiny against top army generals.

Khan could face several

years in prison under Pakistan's 1997 anti-terrorism law, which grants police wider powers. He is currently on a type of bail that shields him from arrest until Sept. 12.

In Tuesday's speech, Khan again attacked Washington, saying his removal from office was the result of a U.S.-organized plot and collusion with Sharif. Both have denied the allegation.

Khan said Pakistan should not allow its soil to be used for attacks against any country.

Tiafoe ends Nadal's 22-match Slam streak in US Open 4th round

AP — Frances Tiafoe's vision was blurry from the tears. He was thrilled — overwhelmed, even — when the last point was over and it hit him that, yes, he had ended Rafael Nadal's 22-match Grand Slam winning streak Monday and reached the U.S. Open quarterfinals for the first time.

"I felt like the world stopped," Tiafoe said. "I couldn't hear anything for a minute."

Then Tiafoe found himself "losing it in the locker room" when he saw that NBA superstar LeBron James gave him a Twitter shoutout.

"Bro," Tiafoe said, "I was going crazy."



Frances Tiafoe, of the United States, celebrates after defeating Rafael Nadal, of Spain, during the fourth round of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Monday, Sept. 5, 2022, in New York. (AP Photo/Eduardo Munoz Alvarez)

What meant the most to Tiafoe about his 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory over 22-time major champion Nadal in the fourth round at Flushing Meadows, though, was

looking up in his Arthur Ashe Stadium guest box and knowing his parents, Constant and Alphina, were there.

"To see them experience me beat Rafa Nadal —

they've seen me have big wins, but to beat those 'Mount Rushmore' guys? For them, I can't imagine what was going through their heads," said Tiafoe, a 24-year-old American seeded 22nd at the U.S. Open. "I mean, they're going to remember today for the rest of their lives."

His parents both emigrated to the United States from Sierra Leone in West Africa amid its civil war in the 1990s. They ended up in Maryland, where Constant helped construct a tennis training centre for juniors, then became a maintenance man there; Alphina, Frances said, was "a nurse, working

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Leeds manager Marsch charged by FA over 'respect' comments

AP — Leeds manager Jesse Marsch has been charged with making improper comments to the media by the English Football Association after he was sent off during Saturday's Premier League game against Brentford.

The American was shown a red card for protesting a refereeing decision and then accused the match officials of showing him a "lack of respect" in his post-match interviews.

The FA said Tuesday that Marsch was charged with breaching its rule E3, which regulates what can be said about match officials to the media. He has until Friday to respond and faces a possible suspension.

Marsch said he was incensed because Brentford was awarded a penalty after a video review in the first half



Leeds United manager Jesse Marsch is shown a red card during their English Premier League soccer match against Brentford at the Gtech Community Stadium, London, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022. (Andrew Matthews/PA via AP)

but the VAR official then chose not to review an incident where Leeds could have had a possible penalty in the second half.

"That lack of VAR visit in the end to me is a lack of respect," Marsch said after the game.

Brentford won the game 5-2.

Dinamo stuns big-spending Chelsea 1-0 in Champions League

AP — Mislav Oršić must wish he could play English teams every week.

The Croatia forward ran from the halfway line and produced a deft finish in the 13th minute to lead Dinamo Zagreb to a surprising 1-0 win over Chelsea in their opening Group E match in the Champions League on Tuesday.

Add that goal to Oršić's feats against English clubs in the Europa League: a winner against West Ham last season and a hat trick to eliminate Jose Mourinho's Tottenham in 2020-21.

It marked a memorable start by Dinamo to its first group-stage campaign in Europe's top competition since 2019-20, having reached this point by coming through three qualifying rounds.

As for Chelsea, it was the latest disappointing result in an unconvincing start to the season for a club that spent nearly \$300 million on refreshing its squad in the summer transfer window.

The two-time European champions dominated the

match in the Croatian capital but were let down by poor finishing, which dovetailed with scrambling defence and some great saves by Dominik Livaković for the hosts.

"We are clearly not where we need to be, or where we can be," said Chelsea manager Thomas Tuchel, whose team has already lost to Leeds and Southampton in the Premier League.

Asked specifically what he didn't like about Chelsea's performance, Tuchel said: "At the moment, everything is missing."

In the second half, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang — making his debut for Chelsea after a deadline-day move from Barcelona and wearing a mask to protect his injured cheek — had a goal disallowed for a narrow offside against Ben Chilwell in the build-up. Then, in a frantic finish, Reece James smashed a shot against the post before Livaković made a stunning double stop to deny Mason Mount then Hakim Ziyech.

Ultimately, the smash-



Chelsea's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang laughs during the Champions League group E soccer match between Dinamo Zagreb and Chelsea at the Maksimir stadium in Zagreb, Croatia, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022. (AP Photo/Darko Bandic)

and-grab win was earned thanks to the early goal by Oršić, who met a headed flick-on by Bruno Petković in midfield by chesting the ball forward inside his own half past Chelsea defender Wesley Fofana and racing clear of the newly signed French defender toward goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga.

As he approached Kepa, Oršić lifted the ball over the keeper and it bobbed into the net.

Dinamo looked dangerous in the rare attacks it had in a performance underpinned by defensive dis-

cipline and, from one counterattack, Stefan Ristovski powered in a rising shot that was tipped onto the crossbar by Kepa, who was selected ahead of Edouard Mendy.

"It's an underperformance from us," Tuchel said. "We have the same story as always — we have an OK start, we don't finish our half-chances, we don't feel it when the game is already there to put to bed in the first 15-20 minutes, then we concede one counter-attack which is far too easy."

"And from there, we struggled."

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two jobs, working overtime through the nights." Frances and his twin brother, Franklin, were born in 1998, and soon would be spending hour upon hour where Dad's job was, rackets in hand. Maybe one day, went the dream, a college scholarship would come of it.

"It wasn't anything supposed to be

like this," Tiafoe said Monday evening, hours after by far his biggest victory.

He is the youngest American man to get this far at the U.S. Open since Andy Roddick in 2006, but this was not a case of a one-sided crowd backing one of its own. Nadal is about as popular as it gets in tennis and heard plenty of support as the volume rose after the retractable roof

was shut in the fourth set.

"It's something to tell the kids, the grandkids: 'Yeah, I beat Rafa,'" Tiafoe said with a big smile.

He served better than No. 2 seed Nadal. More surprisingly, he returned better, too. And he kept his cool, remained in the moment and never let the stakes or the opponent get to him.

Samuel expresses satisfaction with Flyballers at men's netball tournament

Founder of Flyballers Netball Rapheleen Samuel is commending her team for its participation at the recent inaugural Americas Netball Men's Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Flyballers, who represented Antigua and Barbuda at the 1-4 September tournament, lost all four matches to finish in the cellar position of the five-team round robin competition at the Arnos Vale Sporting Complex.

Samuel, who also served as the team's assistant coach, said she is satisfied with Flyballers' performance since they competed according to rules they were not aware of at the tournament.

"I was surprised by the overall standard and quality of netball that was played at the tournament. The netball that we played back home in Antigua is totally different than the netball we played at this tournament here in St. Vincent," Samuel stated.

"The netball that we played here at the tournament in St. Vincent is more competitive, more aggressive and just totally different.

"We were not aware of the new rules and regulations and certain stuff so we now know that there are certain rules that are now implemented in the game that we had not known about while playing netball in Antigua.

"So we were surprised by a lot of the calls that were made in the games and it kind of frustrated the players a little bit because there were a lot of real contact like pushing allowed in this tournament and our players were not accustomed to that.

"When we play back home in Antigua there is very little contact allowed because any little pushing or so, the referees will whistle for a foul, so the heavy contact allowed in this tour-



Assistant coach Rapheleen Samuel, second right, and the Flyballers Netball team on arrival at the inaugural Americas Netball Men's Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Thursday, 1 September, 2022. (Photo courtesy ABNA)

ament was a big surprise for us."

Flyballers went under 32-40 against Grenada Spice Boys in their final encounter on Sunday in the tournament which was won by Jamaica Suns, who prevailed 52-33 against Vincy Warriors in the last match to win the tournament with an unbeaten record.

Flyballers had made a poor start to the tournament as they were on the receiving end of a 74-18 trashing at the hands of South Africa's Proteas Pumas in their opening encounter.

They also came up short in their second encounter against the host nation as St. Vincent's Vincy Warriors ran away with a commanding 56-18 victory over the Antiguan side and Flyballers were beaten 65-32 by the Jamaica Suns in their third outing on Saturday, 3rd September.

Samuel said the overall standard of the tournament was very high and expressed her satisfaction with the way Flyballers competed at the event.

"When I looked back at the whole

tournament, when we played our first game against South Africa, we realized this is not the type of game that we play back in Antigua so we tried to adjust in the different quarters.

"So I was there and I saw what took place, so I am not going to be hard on the players. I saw the type of netball the other guys were playing was way different than us," Samuel said.

"In terms of my satisfaction with the way my team played at the tournament, I am giving them a seven out of 10 grading.

"The three points that I will not give them is because of things they could have done a lot better such as taking their time and passing the ball and using a bounce pass instead of a lobbed pass. So for overall performance, I give my players a seven out of 10 grading."

The Flyballers netball team will return home to Antigua and Barbuda from St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Thursday.

Sports News



Hughes claims maiden title at the end of summer golf series

Young Tyler Hughes has won the last tournament of the Striving For Excellence Golf Junior Programme Summer Series at Cedar Valley.

After illness forced him to miss the previous week's penultimate tournament of the summer series, the Paradise Water 2-Day championship on 27-28th August, Hughes returned with a big bang by outclassing his rivals to claim his maiden golf title on Sunday.

Playing in the A.S. Bryden and Sons Back to School 18-hole Junior Championship, Hughes, who plays off a 17 handicap, shot a gross score of seven over par, 77, to win the title.

His Net Score of 60 was two shots clear of the 62, which was shot by runner-up Kamarlie Thomas, and four ahead of the 64 scored by third-place finisher Marquise George.

Hughes, who attends the Antigua Grammar School, was indeed elated with the

win.

There were victories as well for Isaiah Forde and little Kamal Vaswami.

Forde excelled in the A flight ahead of sisters Jenah and Jade Andrew and fourth-place finisher Jaden Charles.

Vaswami took care of business in the 3-hole contest, which he captured ahead of Kyion Joseph, who finished second. Kyle Pringle claimed third place ahead of Jordan Sipio.

Sunday's summer season ending tournament was sponsored by A.S. Bryden in conjunction with its Fruta brand of products for which the company serves as main distributors in Antigua and Barbuda.

A.S. Bryden's Brand Manager Fana Allaway, who presented prizes to the outstanding performers, said her company's support of the summer series is part of its long association with the development of the golf programmes at Cedar Valley.



Tyler Hughes, centre, accepts his prize from A.S. Bryden's Brand Manager Fana Allaway, right, while Norman Wynter, who is the proprietor of Eighteen Plus One Restaurant, looks on. (Photo courtesy Marlon George)

Other sponsors for last Sunday's championship included the proprietors of Eighteen Plus One Restaurant, Newman and Michelle Wynter.

The Golf Junior Programme Summer Series was held simultaneously with the Striving For Excellence Youth, Sports and Education Development Summer Camp from 5th July to 4th September.

The young junior golfers will now be taking a short break from competition, but will resume their rivalry for supremacy in the fall tournaments from next month.

The fall junior tournaments, which comprise four competitions, will commence with the GolfZone/Wadadli Cats Junior 2 Person Scramble on Sunday, 30th October.

ABDRA to facilitate event at North Sound on Sunday

The Antigua and Barbuda Drag Racing Association's (ABDRA) home, the North Sound International Raceway, will once again be buzzing with activity this weekend with the staging of another event at the facility.

The Leo Club of Antigua will be utilizing the facility at North Sound to stage its car show on Sunday, 11th September.

Sunday's car show is part of ABDRA's initiative to rent or lease its facilities to other organizations in its effort to raise funds to maintain and develop the North Sound International Raceway.

This is all part of a series of events being hosted at the North Sound International Raceway since racing activities returned to the facility follow-

ing a break in July for the return of carnival festivities in the twin-island state.

The post-carnival activities resumed at the North Sound International Raceway with ABDRA's staging of an event it called "Back to School" on Sunday, 7th August.

ABDRA also re-started its hosting
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of Tension Tuesdays on 9th August and then facilitated The Biker's Society in hosting the Wadadli Bike Fest on 21st August.

ABDRA hosted another edition of its Tension Tuesdays on 23rd August. Its first event for this month was slated to take place at the North Sound International Raceway last evening, Tuesday, 6th September.

The major event being planned by ABDRA is its hosting of a Test and Tune event at the race track on Sunday, 25th September.

Public Relations Officer for the

Antigua and Barbuda Drag Racing Association, Brandon Matthew, said more activities are likely to be held at the facility during the remainder of the year.

"There are other events in the pipeline. We have been receiving requests for persons to host things there such as car shows and other race events via private promoters, so things are definitely happening," Matthew stated.

Matthew said anyone wishing to utilize the facility at the North Sound International Raceway may contact any member of the executive of the ABDRA. He said prices will vary to

use the facility based on the nature of the planned event to be hosted there.

"The prices are varied. It depends on what someone may want to do and how they would like us to facilitate what they wanted to do, so there isn't really a set price at this time," Matthew stated.

"Interested persons can contact any member of the ABDRA executive, they can send us an email or they can even contact me to begin with. My number is 774-0495 and we can speak from there and I will direct them where they need to go and who they need to contact."



The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda presents

Police Calypso Competition

Antigua Recreation Grounds
Wednesday 7th September 2022
8pm
\$20.00

Judges and Hosts:

- Dè Instructor
- Lady Moses
- Spraket
- Silky Smooth
- I Queen
- Calypso Birdy
- Panampanana
- De Dagger
- Tranada
- De Trooper
- Matoumba
- Lady Roberts

Boxing reignites in Antigua & Barbuda

By Shahein Fitzpatrick

There are hopes to carry the boxing torch to other Caribbean nations as the sport is being kept alive in Antigua and Barbuda.

Anthony Severin, the coach of the country's only boxing gym, Uprising Boxing, spoke to Pointe Xpress this week about his goals for the sport's future advancement and development.

"We had many hopes for the growth of boxing in Antigua and the Caribbean before the pandemic, but it had slowed us down," said Severin. "Post-pandemic was a fight to reignite boxing again, but ultimately after much effort, we are burning again."

August saw the island's first demonstration in three years under the banner 'No Retreat, No Surrender'. It was organised by Severin and his Uprising force.

Over 15 boxers competed, receiving awards and financial compensation for their efforts.



[Photos: Shahein Fitzpatrick]

More than 300 people attended the showcase to observe the country's up-and-coming stars, reported the coach, who hopes to double the turnout for the second showcase on Sunday, 30th October, over Antigua and Barbuda's independence weekend.

"This is only the beginning of the flames. We want to host a bigger and better tournament this time. We'll urge

our neighbouring islands to participate and compete against our best fighters. So far, we've been in touch with St. Lucian fighters who are eager and prepared to attend."

The fights will begin at 5:00pm, but gates will open at 3:00pm, allowing attendees to participate in family-friendly sporting activities. Food and beverages will be sold at the event along with event tickets to support the sport's development in Antigua and Barbuda and the Caribbean.

The long-term objective is to create a Caribbean league with boxers vying for a Caribbean belt.

"Instead of looking beyond, it is time for us to look within, use what we already have, and take responsibility for our growth within the Caribbean," Severin ended.

Additional information on event tickets and how the public can support the growth of boxing can be obtained by calling Coach Anthony at 268-724-5461.

