

MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 218 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

# PM: TEACH CLIMATE CHANGE IN SCHOOL

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Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs, recently concluded a three-day workshop which allowed 27 participants to strengthen their knowledge, innovation, and management practices. The training session forms part of FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme under Innovative Protected Cultivation Systems Project, which will be implemented in four major beneficiary countries, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada, and Barbados. The project will be implemented over a period of two years with an allocation of US\$500,000, which will be shared amongst the beneficiary countries. [Photo: Ministry of Agriculture/Office of the Prime Minister]

#### **Local News**



# PM Browne wants climate change featured in school curriculum

Prime Minister Gaston Browne says he favours having climate change taught as a subject in schools as it is currently the most significant threat to human existence.

Fresh from attending the annual United Nations summit on climate change, COP 27, PM Browne said it is important to increase awareness about climate change among all members of society.

"The scientists have indicated that if global temperatures rise beyond 1.5 degrees then our civilization would be imperilled.

"It means that we would be under water and all our infrastructure would be lost.

"In fact, we would become climate refugees if that happens. That is something we have to continue to fight. In fact, I feel so strongly, I believe it's something that ought to be taught in our schools," he said.

Describing climate change as "the most existential threat" facing Antigua and Barbuda and other small island states, Browne reiterated that its implications impact all of humanity.

"If global temperatures continue to rise then we won't have a planet on which to live. It is therefore a serious issue," he explained.

According to PM Browne, it has



Prime Minister Gaston Browne addressed COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt last week

now been scientifically proven that the global temperature increase is the result of the increase in the use of fossil fuels beginning during the industrial revolution.

"What the scientists are saying is that we have to reduce emissions and to transition into renewables such as solar, wind energy and hydro power as well."

He noted that the government is currently installing a combined solar and wind plant.

Browne also pointed out that the recommendation of the scientific community now is that fossil fuels ought to remain in the ground.

"This is where the fight is as most

industrialised countries have well-established fossil fuel industries. They consume a lot of fossil fuel, and they have these huge oil companies that make billions of dollars in profits each year. In fact, for this year, it is projected that they would make up to two trillion dollars in profits.

"So, they are making all this profit while the planet is burning. There is something fundamentally wrong about that," he said.

Oil companies, with their huge resources, often pay lobbyists to attend meetings like COP27 to minimise the impact of climate change and railroad attempts to reverse the damage being caused.

The prime minister added that many politicians have been muzzled on speaking out or taking action to address climate change as they are "sponsored" by oil companies which deny the reality and dangers of climate change.

"These are some of the issues we are fighting against," Browne pointed out.

Environment Minister, Sir Molwyn Joseph travelled on Saturday bound for COP27 in Egypt where he will head the Antigua and Barbuda delegation at the conference which runs for the remainder of the week.

#### APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Monday, 14th November 2022	Tuesday, 15th November 2022	Friday, 18th November 2022
Whenner's Road, Section of Tindale Road near the Seventh Day Adventist Church	Section of Renfew near Dickey Hill	Section of Old Road near the Primary School
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 11:00 AM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
_	Piccadilly, St. James, Red Hill, and English Harbour	_
	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.



#### **Local News**

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# Media laws will be amended to include online publications

The government is considering amending legislation related to the media to include and regulate the operations of online news media outlets operating in Antigua and Barbuda. This position follows court sanctions against two online publications who were required to issue public letters of apology for articles they published via their portals.

Minister of Information, Melford Nicholas, said regulating online news media has been discussed with Attorney General, Steadroy Benjamin, who will examine the matter.

Last Thursday, Nicholas said in his capacity as information minister, he has been concerned about the laxity in the rules governing online publications.

He added that online publications, such as Antigua Newsroom, have been invited to participate in the government's weekly Cabinet Briefings along with mainstream media houses, however, they have not accepted these invitations.

"There needs to be a new legislative framework governing these issues. The question now is, what current legislation would govern these entities that are doing major publications. From my perspective, that would be the Newspaper Act. Clearly, electronic production of news as is now being done, how do we bring sanctions to bear on a media house if they are not prepared to comply?

"At the very least, for the protection of all concerned, a media house ought to be able to publish its editor [and] producer. We should know the name of the editor in the event of libel or tort so that he [or] she could be brought to answer questions," Nicholas said.

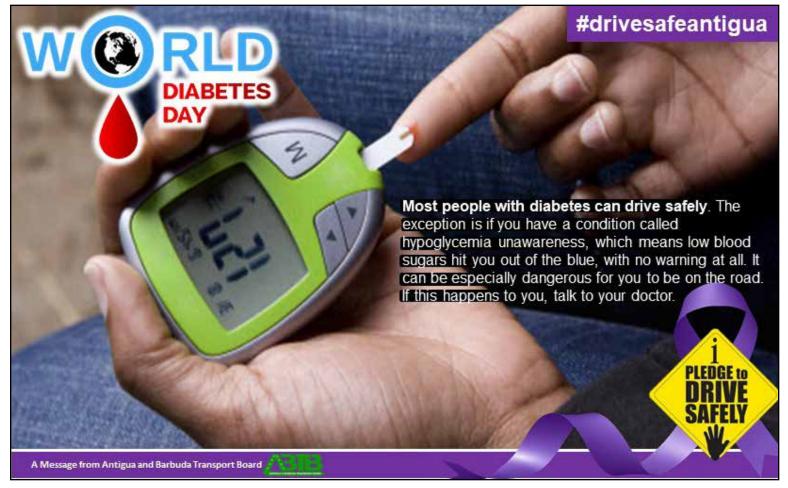
Nicholas revealed that he first drew attention to these online media sources

during a parliamentary session in 2021 when one such outlet published "reckless statements" which he thought action should have been taken to address.

Last week, President of the Democratic National Alliance (DNA), Joanne Massiah, called for the establishment of a Broadcasting Commission who will monitor and hold media workers accountable for their work and conduct.

Massiah's statement was triggered after the host of a programme on an United Progressive Party aligned radio station described some supporters of the Antigua Barbuda Labour Party as "political prostitutes".

Information, Broadcasting and Telecommunications Minister Nicholas has said a Broadcasting Commission can only come into being after major changes are made to the Telecommunications Act.



#### **Local News**



## MoU signed to assist A&B in ecological transition

Antigua and Barbuda will soon receive financial assistance that will help it to meet its environmental commitments.

The assistance will come from NOAH ReGen, an international consortium offering ocean states a comprehensive solution to fast-track their ecological transition, including tools for valuing their natural resources, unlocking new sources of income (such as carbon credits), attracting private funds, and tracing blended finance projects for maximum impact.

It aims to help Antigua and Barbuda unlock new sources of revenue, such as carbon credits and opportunities in the Blue Economy, developing a traceable and circular system of reinvestment into UN SDGs and the ability for the government to negotiate Debt-for-Na-



ture swaps using part of the

The announcement was made last week in Egypt where the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference is being held.

Speaking following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said, "Whilst Antigua and Barbuda and other SIDS await funding arrangements for addressing loss and damage risks from climate change, it is important for us to understand that the existential

threats of more frequent and aggressive hurricanes, droughts, and flooding will need significant funding and it is, therefore, timely for us to identify and design potential lines of revenue that can be derived from carbon mitigation and offset credit measures.

"We expect this collaboration with NOAH ReGen to assist us to address our financial challenges to survive climate change."

NOAH's founder and CEO Frédéric Degret said,"Antigua and Barbuda is a perfect pilot country for a global solution."

Once the NOAH Proof of Concept programme is successfully completed for Antigua and Barbuda, it is believed the model could be easily rolled out to other Small Island Developing States ((SIDS).

The collaboration is now entering phase one. NOAH ReGen will soon conduct a detailed analysis of the nation's protected areas and then, together with its international carbon verification partners, identify reliable sources of carbon credits that can be put in the global market and traced along their entire lifespan.

The government has already committed to reinvesting the majority of the profits into local sustainability projects, in alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



#### **Local News**

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# Fernandez lauds government's St. John's Harbour policy decisions

Tourism Minister Charles "Max" Fernandez has credited the government's development policies for St. John's Harbour for the successes now being experienced this cruise tourism season.

Minister Fernandez made the point as he welcomed the inaugural visit of the Norwegian Getaway at the Heritage Quay pier on Saturday.

He said the decision to allow Global Ports Holdings Ltd. (GPH) to manage the cruise ports is now paying dividends to the country.

Fernandez said the growing popularity of Antigua and Barbuda as a preferred destination among cruise tourists provides ample evidence that the government's decision was correct.

"This is a sign that we are doing



Capt. Luigi De Angelis with Tourism Minister, Charles Max Fernandez

something right because we were the first to sign with GPH.

"Since we have signed, the Bahamas, which gets over a million cruise

passengers per year, has also signed. So too has St. Lucia, and (GPH) are now finalising to sign with the San Juan Port in Puerto Rico and they are also in discussion with a few more islands," Fernandez revealed.

The tourism minister took the position that Antigua and Barbuda "must be doing something right" if the other Caribbean territories are finding value in partnering with GPH.

Minister Fernandez also pointed out some of the benefits of the arrangement with GPH.

"One is the kind of capacity that none of us could single handedly do. In addition, the kind of expertise they bring is unmatched as GPH is [one of] the largest operators of cruise ports

cont'd on pg 8



#### **Local News**



# A&B receives high marks for port development

The captain of one of the two cruise ships that were in port on Saturday has praised Antiguan and Barbudan authorities for the significant improvements made to the St. John's Harbour.

Speaking with reporters at the Heritage Quay Pier on Saturday during the Norwegian Getaway's inaugural call, Captain Luigi De Angelis said he was impressed with the positive changes since his last visit to the country six years ago.

"I consider myself someone who has visited Antigua several times over the last twenty years. My last visit was six years ago and coming in today with the ship, I was really, really amazed with the progress and changes that welcomed me in terms of terminal, piers, facilities and other amenities that I felt safe and welcomed on arriving in Antigua," he said.

Captain De Angelis said he had looked forward to the visit just as much as his 3,308 guests.

He added that the call is one of several that Norwegian Getaway will make to St. John's this winter cruise season.

"Antigua is one of the destinations that many of our guests want to visit.



Capt. Luigi De Angelis with APG Operations Manager, Rawle Reynolds

We will be making additional stops at Antigua every ten to twelve days up until the beginning of summer, 2023.

"It's an ideal itinerary and Antigua is certainly one of the popular destinations," Captain De Angelis said.

Meanwhile, Operations Manager of Antigua Cruise Port, Rawle Reynolds, has reported that the industry has seen a significant rebound from the last two COVID-affected cruise seasons.

Reynolds said while a few lingering issues remain to be resolved, all signs point to a hugely successful season.

"We have seen a [resurgence] of the cruise sector as we are about back to 95 percent...where it was before.

"There are one or two logistical stuff that we have to pay attention to, but overall things are looking up," he said.

As part of preparations to welcome each cruise ship, Reynolds explained that there is a comprehensive checklist that must be completed before vessels can dock.

The checklist covers many areas including passenger safety and the safe arrival of the vessel in the harbour.

There are also COVID-19 protocols that remain in place for the protection and security of all persons aboard the ships.

"Prior to the pandemic, a welcome ceremony such as we are having today would have taken place on board the vessel, but we are here on the pier as cruise lines are still not taking any chances with the possibility of an outbreak of any disease on board," Reynolds said.

The other vessel to call on Saturday was the Celebrity Silhouette which arrived with over two thousand passengers.

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in the world as they manage most of the ports in the Mediterranean.

"They have a tremendous amount of experience, as well as direct links with the cruise lines, so that's a very good partner to have," he said.

Minister Fernandez explained that GPH's capacity also brings additional economic benefits.

He explained that if Antigua and Barbuda welcomes one million cruise passengers each year, this would mean that the Environment Division would collect US\$1 in revenue per passenger while the St. John's Development Corporation would generate US\$1.50 in head tax.

These projections are

expected to increase in coming years. GPH has also played a significant role in the development of the fifth pier and was key in clearing the US\$20 million loan for the construction of the Redcliffe Street Pier.

#### **NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that MICHAEL DANIEL EUTROPE of 250 Jolly Harbour, St Mary's Antigua is applying to the Ministry for Naturalization and that any person who knows any reason why Naturalization should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of facts to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

#### **Local News**

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#### **Missing Swetes** woman found

that Jowana Lee has been located.

On Sunday evening, police and the family both confirmed that contact had been made with the 29-year-old Swetes woman.

Jowana's family became concerned for her safety after she left home to go to Liberta last Wednesday but never returned home.

She was not seen or heard from after that point.

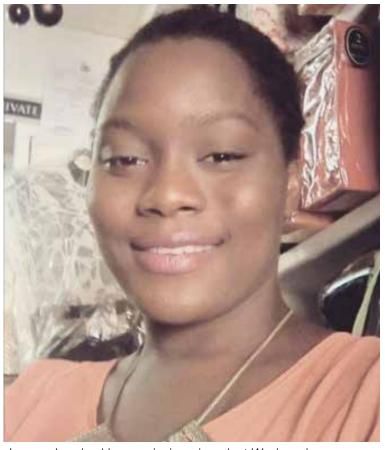
A family member reported her missing at the

Police have confirmed All Saints Police Station on Saturday after their efforts to contact her, by telephone and other means, failed.

> Following the public notices for information about her whereabouts, it was reported that she was located.

No details have been released about Jowana's whereabouts in the three days that she was out of contact.

Police say they are still investigating the circumstances of her disappearance.



Jowana Lee had been missing since last Wednesday.



#### **Local News**



#### VACANCY NOTICE: ACCOUNTING OFFICER

We are an automotive dealership based in Antigua seeking a highly motivated, competent and reliable professional to join our accounting team.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Assist the finical controller with all accounting operational transactions including Billing and Collection, A/R, A/P
- Be responsible for keeping customer's charge accounts up to date and accurate
- Responsible for contacting customers on overdue payments
- Performs journal entries as necessary.
- Assist with monthly bank reconciliations
- Perform sub-ledger to general ledger reconciliations when and where necessary
- Asist with the preparation of monthly management accounts.
- Participate in the monthly intragroup reconciliations.
- Assist in month-end and year-end close process
- Assist with internal and external audit requests.
- Any other duties that may arise within the department

#### Qualifications

• Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance or level 2 ACCA.

#### **Other Requirements**

- A minimum of 2 years' experience in a similar role
- Must be able to learn and apply knowledge quickly, and meet deadlines.
- Must be highly organized, detail oriented, maintain accuracy, and self-check work.
- Able to work well in a team environment.
- Must have good work ethic and integrity, dependable, adaptable, cooperative, and motivated to take on new responsibilities.
- Professional written and verbal communication abilities and general office skills.
- Data entry skills and proficiency in using an accounting software /computer application, including MS Office.

Deadline for the receipt of applications is November 25,2022, with the names and contact information for 2 referees able to provide professional references on your behalf.

Email applications to: Accting.officer@gmail.com

# UK visitor numbers to Antigua and Barbuda exceed 2019 summer levels

#### By Josie Klein

Antigua and Barbuda has exceeded its 2019 UK visitor numbers for four months of 2022.

Chief executive of the twin-island's tourism board Colin James said the UK is doing "phenomenally well" in its recovery from the pandemic, as it remains the destination's second highest source market, after the US.

"The number of UK visitors over the last four months is higher than it was in 2019, which at the time was our best ever year for travellers coming from the UK," he told Travel Weekly.

"From July to October, we saw a 9% increase in UK visitors compared to the same period three years ago which is fantastic."

James put the success of the UK market down to the trade, which he said was the "main distribution channel" for the destination.

"We are a smaller destination than a lot of others so we don't have a massive marketing budget to be spent on advertising and getting our name out there," he said.

"We rely heavily on the trade as our main distribu-

tion channel which is why we want to support them with training and fam trip opportunities.

"We want to have brought 100 UK agents on fam trips to visit the destination by the end of next year so they can learn more about what we offer."

James also cited an increase in airlift compared to 2019 as a reason for increased UK visitors.

"In 2019 we had four seasonal Virgin Atlantic flights a week operating from Heathrow, but that has increased to five which is great for bringing more Brits over.

"That goes alongside our daily seasonal British Airways flights from Gatwick so that has helped boost UK visitor numbers."

James went on to say the twin-island destination is launching a campaign to target more UK travellers next year.

The campaign, calling Dialling Up Our Britishness, aims to highlight the strong cultural and historical links between the countries, and to make UK travellers feel at home while they holiday in Antigua and Barbuda.



INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

#### **AVIATION FUEL TRUCK DRIVER**

#### DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 17TH, 2022

The West Indies Oil Company Ltd (WIOC) is one of the premier petroleum service providers in the Caribbean. The Company is on a steady growth trajectory with the current expansion of its facility and new service offerings and therefore is investing in innovation, technology and its people.

To help take the Company through this exciting phase, WIOC has a career opportunity for the right professional:

#### Responsibilities:

- · Transport Jet A Fuel on and off highways in compliance with local traffic laws, company policies and procedures.
- · Perform daily pre/post operational and safety inspections of truck and trailer and report any maintenance/safety issues using the Vehicle Inspection Checklist and notifying supervisors.
- Document and report any malfunctions of equipment, maintenance concerns about the condition/road worthiness of the truck and the condition of loading and off-loading equipment to the Supervisor.
- · Responsible for the conducting and documentation of 'Quality Checks' on the Jet fuel as per aviation and petroleum standards.
- · Responsible for the loading and offloading of Jet Fuel at the WIOC and Airport terminals respectively.
- · Ensure repairs and maintenance are performed on the truck and trailer in a timely manner by scheduling maintenance as needed.

#### Responsibilities (cont'd):

- · Ensure mileage and fuel quantity logs and reconciliation are completed, accurate and reported.
- · Ensure that the assigned communication device (e.g. tracking device) in the vehicles is fully charged and in proper working order before each trip.
- Interact with customers in a professional and courteous manner at all times.

#### **Qualifications & Required Skills**

- · Associates degree in Mechanical/Technical Maintenance preferred or minimum 6 CSEC/GCE or CXC subjects, inclusive of Mathematics & English.
- · A minimum of (3) years' experience in a similar role.
- Strong interpersonal and customer service skills.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- A valid Antigua & Barbuda class D3 Driver's License.

Please apply by emailing your Curriculum Vitae, Cover letter and proof of D3 Drivers License in confidence to hrmanager@westindiesoil.com by November 17th, 2022. Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.





### **Opinion**



# Sod to say mum's on the way

By Tony Deyal

As a youngster living near a Baptist Church, I used to sing along with my favourite hymn, "I have a sword in my hand, Help me to use it now." Now, I have a sod in my hand and if I don't use it well, the great judgement day will drop on my head so soddenly, it will be Sodom and Gomorrah for me. Here's why. However, before we go there, here are some points to pun-der. Why did Trump hold his press conference at Four Seasons Total Landscaping?

Because America told him to sod off. Why did the grass cross the road? To get to the other sod. Here's one a bit longer, "My friend Ray just passed away. He was on the donor list. Apparently, they used his eyes to give some poor blind sod his eyesight back. Its a miracle really, now he's got ex Ray vision." Now here's one that helps to put it in perspective, "What weapon do British people use to make their enemies go away?

A sod off shotgun ..." Finally, for total understanding of where I'm heading next, "Someone has been adding better grass to my yard!" What a sod!

The English word "sod" has several meanings many of which are taboo, offensive or just slang. "Sod" is also an insult because, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, it is an abbreviation of "sodomite" or "One who practices sodomy." It can also be used as a vulgar term of abuse for a male person. Even though the "sod" is the surface of the earth, with the grass and roots growing in it, when people say "sod it", "sod you", "sod that" and even "sod off" they are angry and making it clear what they think about something or, most times, somebody.

"Sod off" is a baddie because it is an extremely rude way of telling someone to go away or leave them alone. If you say about a friend, "The poor sod hasn't been out for weeks", it is a joke of sorts. The person who said it might be a "cheeky" sod.

The question then is whether the Trinidad and To-bago (T&T) media and some of the others in the region and beyond are merely cheeky sods who are trying a double entendre on a national leader, or are so conscientious of their role as the employees



Tony Deval

of a respected national newspaper that they try to use the most appropriate word either for the event, the main protagonist in a major national occasion, or both.

At first, I thought it was merely T&T and they had it in for their Prime Ministers. First, they published that the present Prime Minister had turned sod for a government development and then turned sod again for a fishing facility and was it again at a police station, a Pan Theatre and an Interchange. It was then my Trini friend called me on WhatsApp from New York and sounded very upset and concerned.

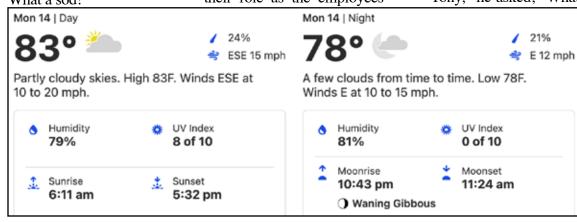
"Tony," he asked, "What

is this I'm reading? The Prime Minister turning sod? And it seems that he doing it at major national events, choosing public functions to get on at his worse." Even though I found his take on the word and events initially very funny, I stopped him right there. "Wait! Hold on!" I demanded.

"You have it wrong. The

sod they're writing about is dirt and the Prime Minister is digging up dirt for major constructions that will improve our nation." At that point, my friend changed his tactics, "But you eh think he dig up enough dirt on the Opposition already and now he digging up on the fishermen, the police, the steelband people and even government buildings? What wrong with he? You think that they have something in the soil that send him off?"

I did not answer my friend immediately, giving him a minute to settle down and then I explained, "Well, cont'd on pg 11



### **Opinion**

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#### cont'd from pg 10

for the record, the previous Prime Minister, Kamla Persad, turned sod with the Chinese Ambassador." My friend did not take this well. "She as bad as he! She have a temper too! I don't know why they eh turn sod on one-another." I stirred and fanned the fire a bit more. "Not just them," I explained. "The former head of CARICOM with the former PM of Guyana turned sod together. In Grenada, the PM, the Right Honourable Keith Mitchell, turned sod in Beausejour."

My friend interrupted, "That kind of behaviour proves he might be right but he definitely not honourable." That was going too far. I had to stop him in his tracks. I told him, slowly and softly, that "sod" is "dirt" and turning sod just means they are digging up a spot where they are promising to build something so they could get some early coverage and show-off a little about how much they are doing for their people. It doesn't matter if the project never comes off, they get their kudos up front.

"You have to understand that while the PMs of Guyana, Jamaica and even Barbados do that 'sod' business," I added, "they're not alone in the show-offing. The British, Canadians and even as far away as Australia they do that for publicity."

My friend paused and then said, "But Tony that is not all that I read about the Trinidad politicians. They have this thing where instead of doing the job they getting paid for, they let their mothers take over the business while they spreading joy somewhere else."

Reminding him that he also had a girl-friend named Joy, I set him right on this one as well. "It is not the mothers of the politicians the media people are referring to; it is their silence on certain issues that are important to the public." "Tony," he angrily shouted, "stop trying to fool me. I read in the papers that the PM mum on the Attorney General's role in the Ocean Pelican matter and I ask myself why, if we paying him to do his work, he have his mum doing it. The Express say that Rowley mum on medical charges and given all the work she doing, that is expected. He even have she on a reshuffle. The Guardian say so."

I stopped him immediately. "My friend, this was a hard-working lady who even came to Trinidad to work and she did everything possible to make sure her children grew up well. The PM is a good example of the kind of mum she was. However, you are not the only person who raise this 'mum' business with me.

One of them said if the present Minister of National Security mum on everything, why we paying him and not his mum? Now I see Al-Ra-

wi mum on Cabinet's knowledge of the indemnity deal. She was a Member of Parliament and I sure she is doing a better job than her son."

I added, "Let me say again that the word 'mum' also means when you stay silent about something and you say 'mum's the word' to mean shut up." He responded quickly, "I have to go. My son crying and his mum not here. Dad's the word he shouting."

\*Tony Deyal was last seen saying the worst thing is when a PM turns sod and then mum and then sod again when questions are asked about the cost and the contractor.



MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2022

## Josette Christine Michael 1941 – 2022

Eulogy

"THERE ARE THOSE WHO GIVE WITH JOY AND THAT JOY IS THEIR REWARD"

By Hon. Asot A. Michael M.P.





PAGE 13

My family and I mourn the passing of our mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and Aunt.

She has left a large hole in her hearts – one that can never be filled. She was our guide, our mentor, our seer. It was to her we turned in time of trial, and to her we looked at times of doubt.

She was always there. No time was inconvenient. No concern was too trivial. No problem too great. Hers was the hand that wiped away our tears. Hers was the voice that stilled our fears. Hers was the constant presence throughout the years.

In the firmament that lit our world, her precious light has been extinguished, and it hurts that it is so. The pain of loss we each now feel will not easily dissipate, nor will the grief that grips our every thought. It is not easy to console ourselves. For how can any soul, which has benefitted from such great love, such immense selflessness, such enormous generosity, be consoled.

The loss is huge. It tears at our very being, and the temptation is to rage against the coming of her night, and the dark pall that engulfs us all. But we know we must look to her Christian life, to her fervent faith in the goodness of God and her belief in the purpose of His plan, to understand our deep loss.

Her time in mortal coil has ended. Her trials are over. Her job is done. God, the Father, has summoned her home, to his side. And, we must rejoice that she is at peace, and in happiness, and that no hurt or evil will befall her. This must be our comfort amid our grief; it must be our solace in our sorrow; it must be our joy for her. For she is where she deserves to be... in the bosom of the Lord.

My friends our family is blessed that we do not mourn alone.

In this Church are gathered a host of witnesses to the lives that Josette Michael touched; to the multitude of persons who called her friend; to the numbers who held her in high regard.

Our family knows that you, too, grieve at her passing and that you join us in mourning her.

### **Josette Michael Eulogy**



Together, we mourn the passing of Her Excellency Josette Michael, a friend of everyone, an enemy of no one; a philanthropist, business owner and long serving ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda. She was 81.

Today we reflect with pride on the life and times of a woman of quintessential faith, whose firmly held belief in a living God, grounded her every concern and interaction with all. She believed that all should be free to be themselves; to be happy, healthy. All should have access to education so that each of us can achieve our full potential as Christians living side by side in a competitive but Godly world.

At the tender age of 7, Josette left her home in Guadeloupe to attend the St. Ursuline Convent, one of two major boarding schools for girls in Barbados. Children from all over the Caribbean attended that school. Her time there started a journey of independence of thought and exposed her to many cultures and different languages. She went to the convent unable to speak English, only French, and the nuns separated her from her sisters, forcing her to learn English to interact with children from various cultures. She learned to speak English fluently and also learnt Spanish.

Being away from her parents and her paternal home for ten years at a Roman Catholic school served her well.

She shared the St. Ursuline Convent journey with her dear cousin and eventual sister-in-law Marie-Therese Shoul and best friend Belen Mini from Venezuela, who kept in touch with her until death.

Perhaps it was this early experience in being a free thinker and fending for herself that grounded her as a woman of God who was morally compelled to support and identify with many charitable causes and charities themselves. Often giving of herself, her time and putting her money where her heart was.

She gave to all, irrespective of their walk of life. She always had time for and was ready and willing to assist those less fortunate in life than her, whether it was meal, a garment, access to medical treatment or educational opportunity. She helped in whatever way she could, and she did it without publicity. Her generosity simply knew no bounds.



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Josette married Patrick Asot Michael of Antigua in April 1962.

She was an integral part of her husband's business on High Street - Patrick A. Michael - Antigua's Premier Shopping Center, which opened in 1969. In her heyday, this store was the most successful in St. John's.

It was known for men's and women's clothing, French perfumes, shoes, housewares, Roamer Watches of Switzerland, Lladro, Lalique and Waterford crystals and Cannon linens. When the famous Forsyth menswear manufacturer in the Caribbean took the region by storm in the 1970s, they chose Patrick Michael's store to be the distributor in Antigua.

When it came to Christmastime, and buying gifts for family and loved ones, her store for most was simply the first stop if not the only one. It became an irresistible draw for customers and onlookers during the Christmas shopping experience. The lights, decorations and musical sound of Christmas were first to reflect the festive and Christian celebration in St. John's Antigua.

Whilst Josette excelled admirably with the growth and development of her customer focused retail business, Patrick devoted significant sums of the profits into the Antigua Labour Party to which he was unswervingly committed.

Josette supported him in every step as a devoted wife, but she too identified with the causes of the then ALP. In her Christian conscience she felt that the ALP offered all Antiguans and Barbudans the opportunity for a better quality of life through the creation of jobs and the provision of educational opportunities. Things that we now take for granted but which were simply beyond the reach of the average Antiguan and Barbudan in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Many may believe that we are drawn to the glamor and thrust of the political world. It is not glamor and thrust of politics that drives and commits us; it is Josette's Christian beliefs and principles for which she lived and died. She instilled in us that we are servants of Our Lord, and we must use the blessings that he has given in service for our fellow human beings.

That she stood by and supported the political spending preferences of her husband and son is a mark of her truly outstanding character as an empathetic, understanding Christian woman committed to living her life in service for others.

### **Josette Michael Eulogy**



Her marriage to Patrick brought her much joy. But it was not without issue. When she fell victim to the unfortunate twists and turns that marriage sometimes has to offer, she held fast to her vows and remained determined to see the union through, for richer or poorer times; for the better or worse; in sickness or in health; in good times or bad times, "till death do us part".

When the business went under, Courts came to Antigua in the 1980s, and rented the property for two years while the company built its own store.

Then Sealey Factory rented the building for eighteen months. It was the first Sealey showroom in Antigua. They signed an agreement to purchase the property for 5.4 million EC dollars. Josette tore up the agreement and told the Chairman of Sealey Factory from Jamaica and I quote, "I have a son. I will never sell that building. You can rent it but you cannot buy it."

Josette took the time to rethink, renew and rebuild.

After Sealey moved out, came the era of Shoe Palace Bally of Switzerland, which opened in 1989 and operated successfully until Josette's retirement.

The practice of devoting funds, generated from her leadership and management of the family business to the Antigua Labour Party, did not end with her husband's passing in 1991. Indeed, it was adopted and carried on by me, with her blessing and is alive and well today.

In sacrifice and service, she found true meaning in the ebb and flow of life, and she contributed decisively to her family, her community, her generation and her country.

A family woman to the bone, she honored and cared for her parents with unconditional love and unswerving commitment. She made it her duty to be the one of their five children to accompany Winnie and Jean Sarkis to Mayo Clinic twice a year for their medical check ups.

When her father fell and sustained a broken hip, he had to be airlifted to Rochester, Minnesota for surgery. When he was asked who did he want to accompany him, he replied "Zezette", as she was fondly referred to in the family circle. She left her husband, children and business to be with her Mom at her father's bedside after surgery in the ICU for twelve and a half weeks in 1984.



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She loved her siblings dearly but shared a special bond with her eldest sister Hugette Venutolo and baby brother Tony Sarkis. Shirley Sarkis was Josette's best friend before they she got married to her brother Tony and they remained best friends for life.

She also loved and respected all her husband's sisters – the late Gisele Michael, Lolita Aflak, Janet Boustany and Marie-Therese Shoul.

She never ran for office; but in her own right, Her Excellency Josette Michael was a politician too, blessed with a heart for service and the astuteness of a mind created for strategic thinking.

Her service to country as Ambassador for many years was no sinecure. She was well suited for the responsibility, and she served with distinction, purposefully, quietly and without fanfare.

One of her greatest joys was to invite people to the Dry Hill Great House to enjoy her special meals with a French touch prepared at highest standards of culinary excellence.

She loved it so much that she brought her expertise to a downtown restaurant called *Josette's* that accompanied the Patrick A. Michael Antigua's Premier Shopping Center.

There, she entertained the late Dr. Charley Locker, the manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Victor Enerson, the late Time H. Kendall, QC, the late Rowan Henry, QC, Mr. Clarence Lord, the late Leonard Tim Hector, Hugh Marshall Sr., and the late Sir Lester Bird.

These are just a few of Antigua's creative and brightest minds, legal luminaries, and politicians who would frequent her restaurant and back office after working hours.

She received people from all walks of life into her home to eat and drink and be happy.

Her hospitality was unsurpassed.

She entertained many an Antiguan family and high-profile visitors to the island at her Dry Hill residence. She walked and dined with persons of high authority, but she never lost the common touch.

#### **Josette Michael Eulogy**



Politicians, businessmen, professionals, academics and ordinary, everyday people, seeking advice on matters of government - all had a seat at the table for lunch on Sundays.

I can recall persons like Aziz Hadeed and Sir Ramez Hadeed, Wills Martin, Allen Stanford, Dr. Joseph John, Elias and Salem Hadeed, Dr. Errol Cort, Tony Astaphan, John Fuller and Robin Yearwood.

There was hardly ever any space for us, her children, to sit on our own mother's table for a Sunday lunch.

I remember the visits of her special guests like - Sir Vivian Richards, Bob Washington, Johnny Cochrane, Louis Farrakhan, Jessie Jackson; former Prime Minsters - Dr. Denzil Douglas of St. Kitts/Nevis, Dr. Keith Mitchell of Grenada, David Thompson (deceased) of Barbados, Rosie Douglas (deceased) of Dominica; current Prime Ministers – Roosevelt Skerrit of Dominica and Dr. Ralph Gonsalves of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

As an ambassador for Antigua and Barbuda, she used her international contacts effectively for the national good.

After the ravages of Hurricane Luis in 1995, as a friend of Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, she convinced the Board of Governors of the Mayo Foundation to make a major contribution of hospital supplies and medication.

She organized by telephone, assistance from the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association from the President, Ms. Michelle Paige, two thousand miles away to send over 40 containers of generators, tarpaulin, lumber, water, and food supplies.

And she encouraged her brother, Tony, to charter six flights to Antigua from Guadeloupe with food water and relief supplies.

These planes were the first to land at V.C. Bird International Airport after the hurricane.

She acted in these circumstances, not for recognition, or praise, but because to her it was the right thing to do. She was fortunate to have these contacts and as she saw it as her obligation to put them in the service of her Nation and people.



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Decades earlier, when Antigua and Barbuda attained Associated Statehood in 1967, Josette gave up her house for the inauguration ball of the new government.

The historic event was hosted by Princess Margaret and Sir Vere Cornwall Bird in the presence of Prime Minister Lester Pearson of Canada, Prime Minister Errol Barrow of Barbados and President Forbes Burnham of Guyana. The cost of the celebration was shared equally by Josette's father-in-law and her uncles-in-law Mitchell Michael and Maurice Michael.

She enjoyed a special relationship with the late Sir Lester Bird, former Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda. They were best friends and she was a true confidante.

He had the greatest respect for what he would often describe as her astute political brain and people skills. In crucial matters of national development, investment facilitation and government operations, she had his ear.

Her wise, honest counsel facilitated appointments of attorneys general, commissioners of police, knights, ambassadors and other senior servants of the State.

On her 60th birthday, Sir Lester reflected on their gift of friendship:

Loyal souls we were, and are, to the surprise of many - Bewildered, as they stand afar
Bemused to see how deep our caring
Transcending politics & hypocrisy and deleterious games so pregnant in this narrow world.

We have travelled far, we have travelled wide; No gulf develops, no anger flares For deep within our minds The purity of our love for each other reigns.

Let not age dim our wits, or change our course For ours is a Bond which has no end.

She was respected across the political divide and always operated with deep love and respect for the land of her mother's birth that she, a citizen of France, chose to make her home.

### **Josette Michael Eulogy**



She wanted nothing more than to see Antigua flower and prosper on the world stage as a small island state of happy, healthy, peaceful, resilient people.

Josette anchored her family on the foundation of love, devotion and service, and she made her life a mission to care, to help... to guide, to nurture... to enlighten, to inspire.

She valued education and was very proud of the achievements of her children and grandchildren.

In her last years, she paid great attention to and shared many special moments with her grandchildren and great-grandchild, named after her husband, Patrick Michael.

She began home gardening and maintained the magnificently landscaped grounds of the Dry Hill Estate and the newly renovated Great House with pride.

More than any other female member of the larger Michael family, she left her footprint on this island and enhanced the legacy of the Michael family.

The thousands of visitors from near and far who visited her household will never forget the excellence in hospitality that became the hallmark of engagements at the Dry Hill Estate at the entrance to the famous and historic Fort James.

Her family will always cherish their memories with her, a woman who valued strength and unity of family.

Josette was their one and only matriarch, and will always be dearly loved.

Mommy was an advocate and an enforcer of correct behavior, a consummate disciplinarian. And with her, transgressors always seemed to accept their correction without question because they knew that whenever they got it right, the same lady would be right there to recognize and reward them. She did not only intervene to correct what was done wrong; she also praised success by highlighting what was done right.

Mommy was blessed with a strong mind, a great heart. She was a woman of true faith whose hands were always ready to serve. She raised us up not merely to do things right but to do right things.



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Josette learnt from her parents the joy one gets from loving and helping poor people.

They were her friends. She was humble, ordinary, forthright and kind. And she taught us – Teresa-Anne, Soraya, Louise Hughes (the daughter she adopted from her cook) and myself, the same lessons. You can see her children and grandchildren following her lead.

We came to know the joy of her style of living and loving and giving and caring.

As a child of God, a lover of life, a model of independence and self-reliance, an indefatigable soldier against evil and injustice, Mommy's soul, inspired and ablaze, cleared the road to new and better days for the family she grounded through the storms of life with an anchor that kept our souls steadfast and sure while the billows rolled.

At the completion of the earthly journey of this good and faithful servant, as she finds fulfillment in the accomplishment of her mission of betterment, I quote the famed Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran:

For what is it to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun? And what is it to cease breathing, but to free the breath from its restless tides, that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?

Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing. And when you have reached the mountaintop, then you shall begin to climb. And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.

Dance, Dear Josette... dance on.

Her Excellency Josette Michael... 1941 to 2022. She lived with a commitment to equal opportunity and a passion for alleviating poverty and building self-reliance. She died with the fervent hope that injustice will not continue to infect the politics of national development; freedom will never weep; and there will be no sleeping at the wheels of progress and prosperity.





And I call upon you all who have gathered with us – her family – to pay a final tribute to her and to say farewell, to take comfort in the fact that, as Jesus Christ Our Lord promised, his resurrection has conquered death and granted life to all who believe in him.

Though our beloved Josette has died, yet she shall live, and in that life by faith, she shall never truly die.

We are in a long night of grief, but joy will come in the new mornings ahead when we remember Josette, when we recall her gentle smile and her generous laugh, and when we see her in the good that she gave – and in seeing her, we will rejoice.

We honour Her Excellency Ambassador Josette Michael.

May she rest in peace, and rise in Glory.





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### Regional News



# Barbados-born special adviser to UN Secretary General calls for ban on fossil fuel

CMC - The Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Climate Action, Selwin Hart, says to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis, the world must abandon fossil fuels as quickly as possible.

"There is no argument around the science at all. But of course, developing countries, especially the poorest, will need assistance to make the transition to a renewable energy future," said Hart, who is from Barbados and has acted as a negotiator in the past during several UN Climate Conferences (COPs).

He said the focus should be on helping remove the barriers that developing countries face to accelerate their transition to renewables.

"For example, the cost of capital, renewable energy investments by their nature are very intensive. Eighty percent of the investment must be upfront, because you have to buy the solar panels and the battery storage and the installation, and that's costly", Hart said, adding, however, that the running costs are zero because there is no need to buy any oil or diesel to power a renewable energy station.

Hart, who has served in several climate change leadership positions, including as a climate adviser for the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), chief climate change negotiator for Barbados as well as the coordinator and lead ne-



Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Climate Action, Selwin Hart

gotiator on finance for the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS), gave a striking example of the unfair conditions countries in the developing world face when it comes to the energy transition.

"I'll compare Algeria and Denmark. Denmark has some of the worst potentials for renewable energy [while] Algeria's potential for renewable energy is probably 70 times higher. But Denmark has seven times more solar panels than Algeria. The reason is the cost of capital," Hart said, referring to the return expected by those who provide capital for business.

He said the international community needs to "throw the kitchen sink" at solving this problem.

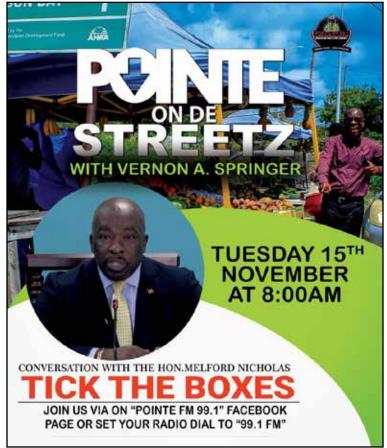
For Hart, mobilising the trillions of dollars needed to make the transition should be the focus, instead of pouring capital into new fossil fuel projects, which he sees as a real risk that could lead to investing in stranded assets or passing debts onto future generations.

"Fossil fuels are a dead end, as the secretary general has said...We need to increase renewable energy deployment to around 60 percent of total energy capacity over the course of the next eight years, which means roughly a tripling of install capacity over the course of this decade," Hart said, noting that this is more than possible, because the world has tripled its renewable energy capacity over the last decade.

"We just need to do it again this decade. The technologies are there, the finance is there.

"It just needs to be deployed in the right place, where the emissions are and where the population growth and energy demand is", he urged.

Governments representing over half of the global GDP, including the United States and the United Kingdom, set out a 12-month action plan with 25 collaborative actions to be delivered by COP28 to help make clean technologies cheaper and more accessible everywhere.



#### **Regional News**

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# **UN urges Dominican Republic to cease deportations of Haitians**

CMC - The UN's main human rights agency is calling on the Dominican Republic to halt the deportations of Haitian migrants at a time of unrest in their country.

"Continued armed violence and systematic human rights violations in Haiti do not currently allow for a safe, dignified and sustainable return of Haitians to the country," the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said in a statement.

Haitian officials say between August 1 and October 31, at least 60,204 had been deported including 22,656 Haitians last month.

Türk also urged Haiti to take measures to prevent xenophobia and discrimination against Haitians, who are fleeing the Caribbean Community



A Dominican Republic officer stands guard over Haitians awaiting deportation. [Photo: ERIKA SANTELICES | Credit: AFP/Getty Images]

(CARICOM) country as a result of the gang wars and political unrest, with migrants seeking refuge across the region.

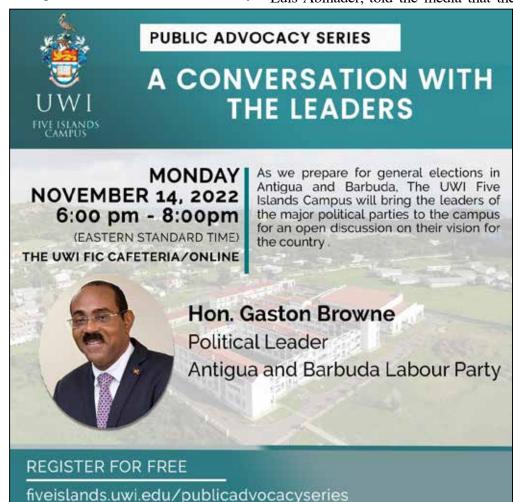
Reacting to Türk's statement, the President of the Dominican Republic, Luis Abinader, told the media that the statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights calling on the Dominican Republic to stop the deportations of Haitians to their country of origin, were unacceptable.

"The migration policy of each country is within the jurisdiction of each government, which makes these statements unacceptable and irresponsible".

He rejected Türk's statement, recalling that the Dominican Republic is the country that has suffered the most economically from the illegal migration of Haitians.

He said also the Dominican Republic has shown the most solidarity with Haiti and therefore no one could "ask more of the Dominican Republic" and that country will not only "multiply the immigration control operations" but also "increase deportations" starting next week.

After the earthquake that struck Haiti in 2010, the number of Haitians in the Dominican Republic doubled to two million, most of whom illegally crossed after the border opened for international aid. Human Rights Watch estimated that 70,000 documented Haitian immigrants and 1,930,000 undocumented immigrants were living in Dominican Republic.



### **Regional News**



# St. Kitts PM Dr. Terrance Drew saves elderly passenger's life on flight from Miami

CMC - Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis Dr. Terrance Drew stabilised an elderly traveller on a trip from Miami, Florida to Basseterre, St. Kitts. The prime minister, who is also a medical doctor, was also a passenger on the flight.

It is reported that sometime during the flight, the man began having complications and fell unresponsive.

The SNR reported that the flight attendant requested aid from anyone on board with medi-

CMC - Prime Minister cal knowledge, and Prime St. Kitts and Nevis Dr. Minister Drew, a Cuban rance Drew stabilised and American-trained internal medicine physician, from Miami, Florida to responded.

The patient was ultimately revived.

Dr. Drew recommended that the passenger be removed from the flight and examined in a specialised facility.

He was sent to the JNF hospital for additional medical care.

The flight's crew, passengers, and patient's family congratulated the Prime



St Kitts PM Dr. Terrance Drew on a flight from the US to SKN saved a passenger's life

Minister for his life-saving service," underlining his medical intervention. willingness to assist in any

The Prime Minister capacity he stated, "My life is one of knowledge.

service," underlining his willingness to assist in any capacity he may lend his knowledge.

# Dominica preparing to relocate families from flood affected areas

CMC - Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has revealed plans to relocate families in the east and southeast of Dominica who were negatively impacted by floods and landslides last

weekend

In giving an update on Friday, on the recovery process in the aftermath of last week's floods, Skerrit said the government is looking at safe locations and the residences have already indicated their willingness to move.

"We have started discussions in the Government and I have shared this with the residents who I met during

my visits to San Sauveur and Petite Soufriere that we have to look at relocating. We have done this before and we can do it again."

Skerrit said he hopes the move will not take the residents too far away from the communities they once called home.

The prime minister stated that the weather events like the trough that recently affected the country, will be a new reality for Dominica and Caribbean states due to climate change.

Last Sunday's incident, which negatively impacted the communities of Castle Bruce, Petite Soufriere, San Sauveur, La Plaine and Delices, claimed the life of Henson Durand when a landslide covered his home.



The flooding and landslides in Dominica have displaced several families and killed one person.



### International

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# Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell: Republican anger over midterms

BBC - News that Democrats have held the US Senate after midterm elections this week has sparked recriminations within the Republican Party.

Critics of former President Donald Trump blamed him for the poor showing while other Republicans faulted their Senate leader, Mitch McConnell.

The White House, meanwhile, made its strongest indication yet that President Joe Biden will run for re-election.

The race for the US House of Representatives remains uncalled.

Republicans are still favoured to win the lower chamber of Congress which would severely hamper President Joe Biden's plans but their likely majority is shrinking as votes continue to be counted.

Over the weekend, US networks projected that Democrats had held two Senate seats in Arizona and Nevada, retaining control of the upper chamber.

"This is the third election in a row that Trump has cost us the result," Maryland's Republican Governor Larry Hogan, a long-time critic of the ex-president, told CNN on Sunday.

"He said we would be tired of winning. Well I'm tired of losing."

But the real test, says BBC's North America correspondent Anthony Zurcher, will be whether Trump allies



Critics of Donald Trump blamed the former president for the party's poor showing [Getty Images]

turn on him in the days and soon. weeks ahead.

History suggests the party controlling the White House usually loses seats in a midterm election, and Democrats' performance this year is considered the best for a sitting party in at least 20 years.

"The pundits in Washington said we couldn't win because history, history, history," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told ABC's This Week programme.

But Democrats "never accepted the punditry" and focused on "the contrast between themselves and their opponents", the senior California Democrat said.

Mrs Pelosi was among a handful of party officials on Sunday who backed President Biden for re-election in 2024.

Senior White House adviser Anita Dunn told CBS News the president was not influenced by "what the other side is doing or what another candidate may be doing", and will announce his decision again, he will likely be in a rematch of his 2020 race with Mr Trump, who is widely expected to formally announce for 2024 this coming Tuesday.

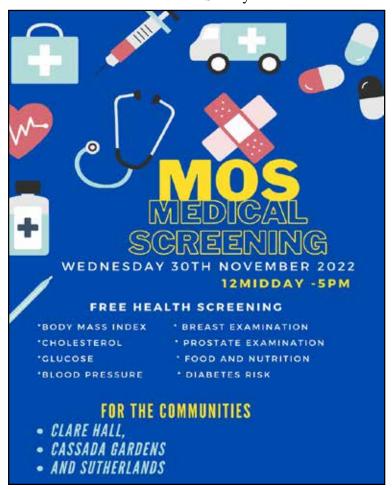
The potential announce

The potential announcement is upending and scrambling old allegiances within the party, with some allies of the former president attacking his detractors, most notably Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell.

"The Republican brand, set by Mitch McConnell on down, is not exciting, is not persuasive, is not convincing to voters," former Trump White House adviser Stephen Miller told Fox News Sunday.

She said the midterm results were "hugely consequential" for the party's agenda and Mr Biden believes he is "the best person to continue the progress that we have made".

If Mr Biden does run



### International



# Six dead, dozens wounded in Turkey explosion

BBC - At least six people have been killed and 81 wounded in an explosion in a busy area of central Istanbul, Turkish authorities have said.

The blast happened at about 16:20 local time (13:20 GMT) on a shopping street in the Taksim Square area, the Turkish city's governor Ali Yerlikaya said.

Vice-President Fuat Oktay said the blast was thought to be a terrorist attack carried out by a woman.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the perpetrators would be punished.

Speaking at a news conference in Istanbul, he condemned what he called the "vile attack" and said "the smell of terror" was in the air.

Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag told Turkish media a woman had sat on a bench in the area for more than 40 minutes, leaving just minutes before the blast took place.

No one has so far claimed responsibility for the blast.

Government minister Derya Yanik wrote in a tweet that a government ministry employee and his young daughter were among the victims.

BBC correspondent Orla Guerin, who is in the area, said there was a heavy police presence around Is-



tiklal Street, which had been cordoned off. Helicopters were circling overhead as ambulances went back and forth.

Many shopkeepers standing in their doorways on the normally bustling street looked stunned, she said, adding that the incident will have come as a shock to many in the city.

Hayat, who was in an internet café on Istiklal Street when the blast took place, said there was turmoil following the explosion.

"I saw people running around and wounded people were passing by the internet café towards the hospital," she said. "It was a frenzy."

Another eyewitness,

Cemal Denizci, was about 50m (54 yards) from where the blast took place when it happened. "There was black smoke. The noise was so strong, almost deafening," he told AFP.

20-year-old Eyup told the BBC "there is fear" among residents of Istanbul following the attack, adding that more people may choose to stay away from crowded areas like Taksim.

In the wake of the attack, condolences to Turkey have poured in from around the world.

The US said it stood "shoulder-to-shoulder" with its Nato ally in "countering terrorism," according to a statement from White

House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre.

French President Emmanuel Macron wrote in a tweet in Turkish: "We share your pain... We are with you in the fight against terrorism."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, also writing in a tweet in Turkish, said: "The pain of the friendly Turkish people is our pain."

Countries including Pakistan, Italy and Greece also expressed their solidarity.

Istiklal street - one of the city's main arteries which is usually packed with shoppers - was previously targeted by a suicide bomber in 2016.

### International

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### Tens of thousands protest Mexican president's electoral reform plan

Reuters - Tens of thousands took to the streets in Mexico on Sunday to protest President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's plan to overhaul the country's electoral commission INE in what they fear would concentrate power in the hands of the government.

Lopez Obrador, who put the plan forward in April, has long criticised the country's electoral authorities, including accusing them of helping to engineer his defeats when he ran for the presidency in 2006 and 2012.

He has said that the reform would let citizens elect electoral authorities and reduce the influence of economic interests in politics. It would also cut financing for political parties and limit advertising time.

Last week, Congress started discussing the plan.

It sparked widespread concerns that the changes could presage a power grab because it gives the president more control over the electoral systems.

In the past, Lopez Obrador pursued contentious policies by pitching referendums - including on the cancellation of a part-built airport - to claim popular mandates for his objectives.

Protesters in Mexico City, many holding plac-



Demonstrators march against the electoral reform proposed by Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador and in support of the National Electoral Institute (INE) in Mexico City, Mexico, November 13, 2022. REUTERS/Luis Cortes

ards and banners or wearing t-shirts with slogans "defending the INE", started at the Angel of Independence monument.

It gathered momentum during the day as protesters moved on Reforma Avenue towards the Monument to the Revolution.

A Reuters witness estimated tens of thousands protesters had taken part while a police officer on Reforma who witnessed the march estimated 50,000.

Organisers number at hundreds of

thousands but some political allies of Lopez Obrador gave far lower estimates.

It is one of the biggest marches against Lopez Obrador's policies so far.

"Democracy in Mexico is in danger," said Ana Lilia Moreno, an economist who attended the march in the capital with her eightyear-old daughter.

"I hope that many young people - and even those who are normally not interested in politics - will attend, that they will value our institutions, and will

defend what our parents and grandparents built to mature politically."

Protesters shared images from other cities on social media.

Lopez Obrador posted a video message on his Twitter as he celebrated his 69th birthday - but did not address the protests.

His ruling Morena party and its allies would need a two-thirds majority in Congress to make changes to the constitution. Currently, the party is short of that majority.

### **Sports News**



# T20 World Cup: England beat Pakistan to win pulsating final in Melbourne

BBC - England beat Pakistan by five wickets in a pulsating final in Melbourne to win the Men's T20 World Cup and become double world champions.

Chasing 138 in front of a raucous Pakistan-supporting crowd, they fell to 45-3 and 84-4 amid electric fast bowling.

But, under intense pressure at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground, Ben Stokes wrote himself further into the folklore of English cricket by finishing on 52 not out.

He was there at the end, as he was in the 2019 50-over World Cup final, as this current white-ball side provided another of English cricket's greatest wins.

As the equation tightened, Stokes capitalised on a cruel injury to Pakistan left-armer Shaheen Afridi and took England to victory with six balls to spare.

The win, thanks in large part to a superb bowling performance from Sam Curran and Adil Rashid, means England become the first team



England's storming win over India makes them favourites to win the T20 World Cup, but Pakistan have also found their form in recent days [Dave Hunt/AAP Image/Reuters]

to hold the men's 20 and 50over world titles. It is also their second T20 world title following victory in the West Indies in 2010.

As Stokes pulled away after hitting the winning runs, he roared - his celebration reminiscent of his other iconic knock in the 2019 Ashes Test at Headingley.

He was soon mobbed by his team-mates before they ran to celebrate in front of the few England fans among this massive crowd of 80,462.

The pitch was tricky but England had looked strong favourites after their bowling performance restricted Pakistan to 137-8.

England, though, know finals are never easy. Their experience at Lord's in 2019 showed that.

Pakistan have the best pace attack in the world and the crowd erupted as early wickets fell in the chase.

This is also a weekend in which England's Red Roses lost a rugby union World Cup final and the men's rugby league side were beaten in a



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*cont'd from pg 30*World Cup semi-final.

But Stokes stayed calm throughout, even as the equation tightened to a situation where 41 runs were needed from 30 balls, to steer his side home with his first T20 international fifty.

His innings also banished memories of the 2016 T20 World Cup final, when he was crushed by Carlos Brathwaite's four consecutive sixes in the final over as West Indies took the title.

After a shock defeat by Ireland and a washout against Australia in the group stage, England needed to win all their remaining games to lift the trophy, just as they did in the 2019 50-over World Cup.

Pakistan - and the crowd - sensed their moment when, with 54 needed from 45, Harry Brook sliced leg-spinner Shadab Khan straight to long-off. But in taking the catch Shaheen, who had bowled Alex Hales in England's first over, injured himself - a moment that proved crucial.

He returned to the field to bowl the 16th over but after one delivery he limped off the field. That left part-time spinner Iftikhar Ahmed to finish the over and Stokes took his chance, smacking a four through extra cover and a six over long-off to bring the game under England's control.

Moeen Ali followed by hitting seamer Mohammad Wasim for three fours in the next over and the result was all but secure, even though Moeen was bowled in the 19th over.

Pakistan's pace bowlers can take little blame. Haris Rauf had England captain Jos Buttler caught behind for 26 and Phil Salt taken at mid-wicket in a thrilling spell.

He and Naseem Shah, who somehow went wicketless in four sensational overs, did all they could to secure what would have been Pakistan's second T20 title.

England were similarly impressive with the ball, albeit after a nervy start from Stokes, who began the match with a no-ball and then a wide.

Pakistan's fearsome opening pair of captain Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan were surprisingly cagey early on and Rizwan was bowled in the fifth over by Curran for 15.

Leg-spinner Rashid then had the dangerous Muhammad Haris caught at long-on with his first ball and in his third over delivered a crucial blow.

Babar had steadily reached 32 but Rashid foxed him with a googly and took a fine low return catch. Rashid followed that with five dots to Iftikhar to complete a remarkable wicket-maiden in the heat of a World Cup final.

From there, Pakistan did not recover. They lost seven wickets for 53 runs in the last nine overs.

Curran was deservedly named player of the tournament for a series of stunning performances and once again his mix of slower yorkers and bouncers proved almost impossible to hit - he conceded just 12 runs off his four overs.

Shan Masood was Pakistan's highest scorer with 38 from 32. He chipped Curran to deep square leg in the 17th over, which allowed Chris Jordan to help close out the innings.

Jordan, who retained his place after Mark Wood failed to recover from injury, added the wickets of Shadab Khan and Mohammad Nawaz as only 18 runs came from the last four overs.



### **Sports News**



# Manchester United claim stunning victory over Fulham

BBC - Manchester United snatched a dramatic 93rd-minute winner through substitute Alejandro Garnacho as they beat Fulham in a thrilling final Premier League match before the Qatar World Cup.

In a pulsating second half at Craven Cottage, Fulham looked to have earned a point before the 18-year-old Argentine raced through and arrowed a shot into the bottom corner past Bernd Leno.

Fulham's Dan James had earlier came off the bench to grab an equaliser from Tom Cairney's low cross to give the hosts what looked to be a well-deserved point after David de Gea had made a number of fine saves.

Christian Eriksen, who suffered a cardiac arrest during a Euro 2020 match for Denmark against Finland in June 2021, had put the visitors ahead in the first half with his first United goal, sliding in to finish at the back post from a low cross from Bruno Fernandes.

But Garnacho's winner with practically the last kick of the match gave United the three points.

The Premier League now takes a six-week break because of the Qatar World Cup, which begins on 20 November, with no domestic top-flight matches until



Teenager Alejandro Garnacho was the match-winner after replacing Anthony Martial in the 72nd minute [Getty Images]

26 December.

The win leaves United fifth, 11 points behind leaders Arsenal and three points behind fourth-placed Tottenham with a game in hand on Antonio Conte's side.

Fulham have either been promoted to or relegated from the Premier League in each of the previous five seasons, but are well placed to end that up-and-down run as they sit ninth, having already matched the five wins they gained in their previous top-flight campaign in 2020-21.

The result was harsh on Fulham, who had looked to be getting another excellent result at home after they had won three times at Craven Cottage and drawn 2-2 with Liverpool in the opening match of the season.

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#### Fritz beats Nadal at ATP Finals; Ruud downs Auger-Aliassime

AP - Rafael Nadal's bid to win one of the few titles missing from his glittering career started poorly as he was beaten in straight sets by eighth-seeded Taylor Fritz in their opening match at the ATP Finals on Sunday.

After a close-fought opening set, Fritz dominated the second as the American secured a 7-6 (3), 6-1 victory over the top-seeded Nadal.

"It feels great. I felt like coming out first match, especially for my hopes of getting out of the group, it was going to be really important," Fritz said. "I came out and played a great match, and I couldn't be happier."

Fritz strengthened his grip on the match when he broke Nadal's serve in the fourth game of the second set.

Nadal fought valiantly to stay in the match and managed to save four break points in the sixth game but Fritz prevailed at the fifth time of asking to leave him



Spain's Rafael Nadal reacts after missing a point against United States' Taylor Fritz during their singles tennis match of the ATP World Tour Finals, at the Pala Alpitour in Turin, Italy, Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022. (AP Photo/Antonio Calanni)

closed it out when the Spaniard sent a forehand long.

It was only Nadal's second singles match since the U.S. Open as he has struggled with injuries and also became a father for the first time in October.

Nadal has never won

serving for the match. He the ATP Finals title in 10 attempts. He finished runner-up in 2010 and 2013.

> Earlier, third-seeded Casper Ruud, who lost in the semifinals last year, eased to a straight-set victory over tournament debutant Felix Auger-Aliassime in the other Green Group

match.

The match was largely dominated by serving and a solitary break in the seventh game of the second set proved enough for the Norwegian player to secure a 7-6 (4), 6-4 win over the fifth-seeded Canadian.

"I think this is some of the best level that I have played since the U.S. Open," said Ruud, who lost the final at Flushing Meadows to Carlos Alcaraz. "The last couple of months have been a little bit of a struggle, I have to honestly say that, but you have to accept it as well.

"You will face difficult moments in your career, and maybe these last couple of months was one of those ... It doesn't matter how hard you practice if you don't win matches, so today was a great win for me."

Novak Djokovic, Stefanos Tsitsipas, Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev complete the lineup in Turin.

#### cont'd from pg 32

But Garnacho, who has represented both Spain and Argentina at younger age groups, scored his first Premier League goal to enhance his rapidly blossoming reputation.

He only made his United debut in April, scored his first goal for the club against Real Sociedad in the Europa League 10 days ago and produced an impressive late cameo, providing two assists, in United's 4-2 Carabao Cup win over Aston Villa on Thursday.

But United needed a superb performance from De Gea - overlooked for the Spain World Cup squad - to keep Fulham from taking the lead as the hosts played superbly in the second half after James, who spent two years with United, equalised.

United have 14 players that have been named in squads for Qatar, but Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo was again not involved because of illness, which also kept him out of Thursday's match.

Fulham were without top goalscorer Aleksandar Mitrovic, who has scored nine goals in 12 Premier League games this season, as his foot injury again ruled him out, with the Serbia striker hoping to be fit for his country's World Cup opener against Brazil on 24 November.

There will now be no top-flight football until 26 December but this match was a dramatic, thrilling way for the first half of a Premier League season like no other to come to a halt.



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# PMS return to winning form in schools' football league

Princess Margaret School (PMS) rebounded from a 3-1 loss to Antigua State College in their previous outing to return to winning ways in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Division in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Friday, 11th November.

The senior boys of Princess Margaret also had to come from behind to overcome St. Mary's Secondary School 3-1 in the second game of a double-header at the King George V. Ground.

National Under-17 striker Tejahno Jarvis gave St. Mary's Secondary a 1-0 lead with a 10th minute conversion. But Dahvia Hughes scored an equalizer for Princess Margaret in the 26th minute.

Princess Margaret then took a 2-1 lead via a 41st minute conversion from Howayne James and Rajay Watsonscored their third and final goal of the matchto seal his team's victory.

It was the second time both teams were meeting in the league with Princess Margaret trouncing St. Mary's Secondary 5-1 when they clashed in the first round.

Antigua Grammar School and Jennings Secondary fought to a 2-2 draw in the first game of the double-header at King George V. Grounds.



Princess Margaret School's Under-20 Boys' team with their coach Rolston 'Lexie' Phoenix. They beat St. Mary's Secondary in their Secondary Schools' Football League encounter at the King George V. Ground on Friday, 11th November, 2022. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

Jordan Francis and Javere Joseph were the goal scorers for Antigua Grammar School who had prevailed 2-1 against Jennings Secondary when both sides met in their first-round league encounter.

Antigua State College were also held to a 2-2 draw by defending champions Ottos Comprehensive School in their second-round encounter at the Golden Grove playing field.

Antigua State College suffered their only loss so far in the competition when they were beaten 1-0 by Ottos Comprehensive during their first-round meeting.

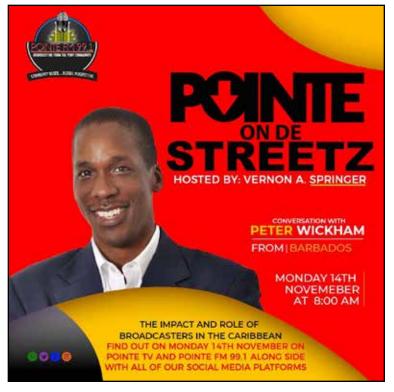
Glanvilles Secondary recorded their first win in the East Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Division with

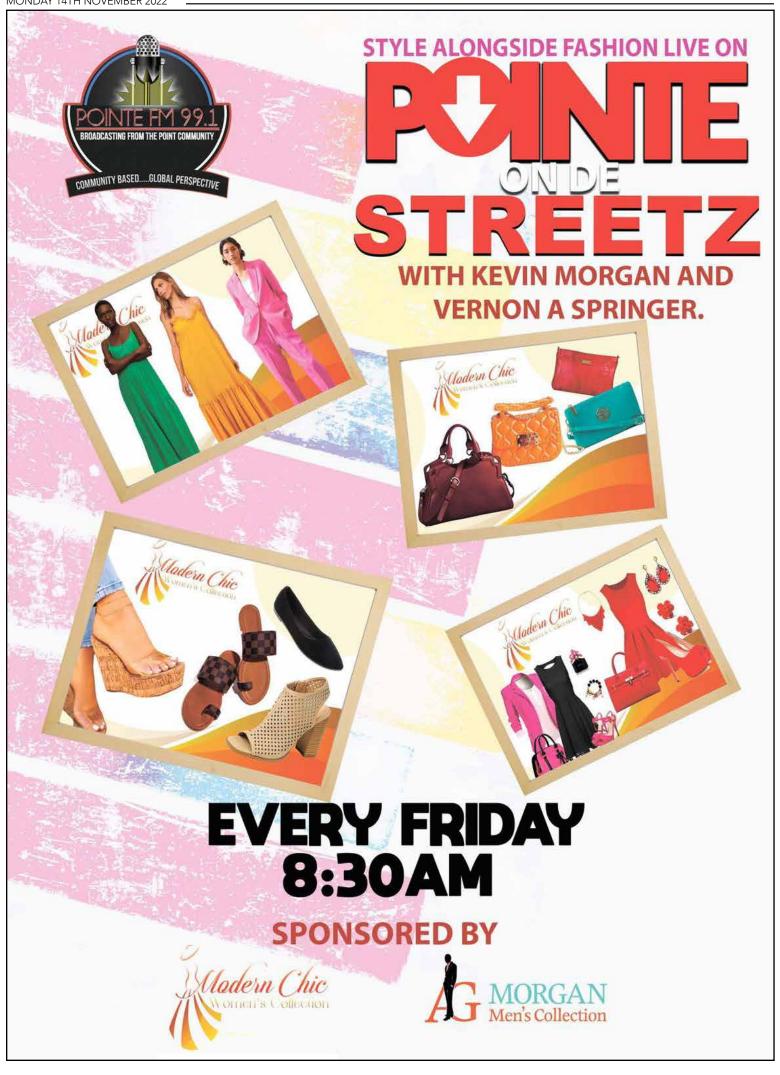
a 2-1 victory against Sir Novelle Richards Academy at Police Recreation Ground on Thursday, 10th November. Randy Thomas and Xarik Richards were the goal scorers for Glanvilles Secondary, while Kenrieque Pennyfeather scored for Sir Novelle Richards Academy.

Irene B. Williams Secondary defeated Pares Secondary 3-0 at the Swetes playing field with Railique Browne netting a brace and Tijahni Isaac scoring once.

All Saints Secondary were held to a 0-0 draw by the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) in their encounter at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

All Saints Secondary and Antigua State College also fought to a 0-0 draw in their Under-20 Female Division affair at the same venue.





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# ECAB claim third win in business volleyball league

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) claimed their third win in four encounters in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League at the indoor facility at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, 12th November.

ECAB, who suffered their first and only loss thus far in the competition when they narrowly lost 2-1 against the Media in their previous outing, returned to their winning ways by surging to a straight-set 25-18, 25-15 victory against the Friends and Family of Island Academy (FFIA) in the first game of Saturday's double-header.

It was the third loss in four games for FFIA, who had notched up their first win by pulling off a 2-1 victory against 77 Bus in their previous outing.

Sandals secured their third win in four encounters as they romped to a straight set 25-22, 25-23 victory against MEDSO in the second game on Saturday.

Sandals also overcame Nate's Photography in straight sets, winning 25-23, 25-23 in the first game of a double-header on Wednesday, 9th November.

After ending ICONS' perfect four-



The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank claimed their third win in four encounters in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's Business League at the indoor facility at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, 12th November. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

match start to the competition in their previous encounter, Police extended their winning streak by recording their third win in four outings with a comfortable straight-set 25-11, 25-14 victory over Zammine Shipping on Thursday, 10th November.

After losing their first four encounters, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) claimed their first victory by default because the Media failed to show up for their game which was slated to take place last Thursday.

Cup holders APUA maintained

their perfect start in defense of their title by surging to their fourth win in as many outings with a straight-set 25-17, 25-20 victory against 77 Bus on Wednesday. It was the third loss for 77 Bus in four encounters.

The round-robin competition will continue with a double-header at the YMCA Sports Complex on Wednesday, 16th November.

Friends and Family of Island Academy will face Treasury at 6:30 pm and Zammine Shipping will meet Sandals at 7:30 pm.

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Kyle Hope (69), Zachary McCaskie (51) and Captain Shai Hope (50).

Shamar Springer provided some late fireworks with a 17-ball 41, including three fours and two sixes. Joshua James took two for 61 from 10 overs for the West Indies Academy.

Despite a knock of 50

from opener Keagan Simmons and 36 from Kevlon Anderson, the West Indies Academy were bowled out for just 197 in 44 overs as Carter starred with five wickets for 30 runs in nine overs.

Leg-spinner Javed Leacock provided good support by picking up three for 63 from his 10 overs.

Their fourth loss in five matches has eliminated the West Indies Academy from reaching the semi-finals. It has left the West Indies Academy languishing in the cellar position of the Zone B preliminary group on four points.

The Leeward Islands still lead Zone B with 14 points from five games,

while the Scorpions now have 12 points, two more than the Barbados Pride.

The top two teams at the end of the preliminaries will advance to the semi-finals, which will be played at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium later this week. The final will take place at the same venue on Saturday, 19th November.

# Sports DEWS MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2022

# Hurricanes suffer first loss in regional Super-50 Cup

The Leeward Islands Hurricanes tumbled to their first defeat in the Cricket West Indies (CWI) CG United Insurance Super50 Cup at the Coolidge Cricket Ground here on Friday, 11th November.

It came in the form of a four-wicket loss against the Jamaica Scorpions who increased their chances of advancing to the semi-finals with their victory, which was achieved via a revised target using the Duckworth/ Lewis method after a rain interruption.

Captain and wicketkeeper/batsman Jahmar Hamilton top-scored with a half-century as the Leewards Hurricanes were bowled out for 207 in 48.5 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat first.

The Leewards started poorly and were reduced to 26 for three within the first 10 overs before Hamilton and Terrance Ward staged a mini-fightback with a 100-run fourth wicket partnership.

However, after left arm spinner Dennis Bulli broke the partnership by dismissing Hamilton for 54 off 64 balls in which he struck six fours and a six, the Lee-



Brandon King struck a half century to lead Jamaica Scorpions to a four-wicket win over the Leeward Islands Hurricanes in the CWI CG United Insurance Super50 Cup at the Coolidge Cricket Ground here in Antigua & Barbuda on Friday, 11th November. (File photo)

wards could not sustain the recovery as the Hurricanes lost their last seven wickets for just 81 runs.

Terrence Ward made 32 off 72 balls, while Jeremiah Louis struck 31 off 45 balls. Louis shared in a 39-run eight wicket stand with Hayden Walsh Jr., who made 17 off 22 balls, to help take the Leewards eventual total past the 200-run mark.

Bulli continued his excellent wicket-taking form by picking up three for 46 from his 10 overs. Fast bowler Sheldon Cottrell snapped up two wickets for six runs, Peat Salmon captured two for 32 in nine overs and medium pacer Nicholson Gordon took two wickets for 38 runs.

The Jamaica Scorpions then achieved victory at 182 for six from 36.5 overs. The Scorpions victory target was adjusted to 179 off 40 overs after a rain delay during their reply.

The Scorpions success-

ful chase was led by a 102-run opening partnership between Brandon King, who hammered 87 off 97 balls with eight fours and three sixes, and Chadwick Walton, who made 41 off 62 balls with three fours and two sixes.

Captain Rovman Powell made 27 not out off 21 balls. Left-arm spinner Daniel Doram took two for 16 off eight overs, while left-arm pacer Colin Archibald claimed two for 30 from eight overs.

The Jamaica Scorpions can book a place in the semi-finals with a win over the West Indies Academy in the last Zone B preliminary group match at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium today, Monday, 14th November.

Jonathan Carter had a five-wicket haul to help the Barbados Pride to an 82-run victory over the West Indies Academy at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in on Friday.

The Academy won the toss and bowled first and that decision turned out to be the wrong one as the Pride amassed 279 for six off their 50 overs, thanks to half-centuries from openers

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