

WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

ECONOMY REBOUNDED: CUSTOMS REPORTS POSITIVE GROWTH IN 2022

Story on Page 2



2023 got off to an impressive start with the arrival of four cruise ships at the St. John's Harbour yesterday. Antigua Cruise Port Manager, Donna Regis-Prosper, told Pointe Xpress that this month is on course to break Antigua and Barbuda's records for cruise tourist and cruise ship arrivals with 77 calls expected. File Photo: Pointe Xpress/Kavi Roberts

Revenue collections up 12 percent in 2022

One of the country's main revenue centres, the Customs and Excise Division, has reported that the revenue it collected in 2022 has almost returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu, reported that for the year just ended, collections topped EC\$382.09 million, an impressive increase over 2021's EC\$338.62 million. This translates to a EC\$43.47 million, or 12.84 percent, improvement.

He described 2022 as "a recovery year" in which the division was able to "claw" its way back to near pre-COVID revenue levels.

"The pre-COVID year yielded EC\$ 389.55 million, which means that the gap was only EC\$ 7.46 million, or 1.96 percent less than 2019," Boddu explained.

The comptroller said his depart-



Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu ment performed commendably as it continued to facilitate trade with the business community and was able to execute the annual Christmas Barrel initiative.

He praised his staff for their contribution to the successes recorded by the division.

"The year 2022 may have been

long and challenging, but through resilience and collaborative course of action, we contributed directly to the success of not only the department, but the nation of Antigua and Barbuda," he added.

Boddu also commended the department for the measures that have been implemented to modernise its operations.

"We have made significant steps in modernising and reforming, namely the looming update of ASYCUDA World 4.2.2, coupled with the relaunch of our website, various training opportunities afforded to different officers, which encapsulated the 2022 World Customs Organization theme "Scale up Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem," he said.

To: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. Johns
Antigua.

To: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
Gray's Farm
St. Johns
Antigua.

To: Your Worship
St. Johns Magistrate Court
Gray's Farm
St. Johns
Antigua.

Dear Sir/ Madame,

Re: Notice- Application for Tavern Licence

I, Barrimore Gore of Golden Grove, with registered business situate at Radio Range in St. Johns Antigua and Barbuda **DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that it is our intention to apply at the next sitting of the liquor licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Gray's Farm, St. John's, Antigua on Thursday 5th January, 2023 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (Intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as "Sweet BBBB's Snackette" situated at Radio Range in the parish of St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 29th day of October, 2022



PROBATE FORM P7

Rule 15

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

(Probate)

In the Matter of the Estate of EVERARD LLEWELLYN a.k.a. EVERADE EDMUND LLEWELLYN a.k.a. EVERADE E. LLEWELLYN a.k.a. EVERARD LLEWELLYN late of All Saints Road, St. John's, Antigua, Deceased

**ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
1st PUBLICATION**

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **RON CLIFTON LLEWELLYN** of 218-14 Sawyer Avenue, Queens Village, NY 11427 for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the son of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 23rd day of November, 2020.

Any person having an objection to the application for the grant of Letters of Administration shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 28th day of Dec 2022


Lenworth Johnson
Attorney-at-Law for the Applicant

Filed by **JOHNSONGARDINER**, Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant whose address for service is 51A St. Mary's Street, St. John's, Antigua

Elections preparations: Ballot paper printing starts today

Elections preparations move up another notch today when the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC) begins printing the ballot papers that will be used by voters on 18th January.

The ballot papers will be printed at ABEC's offices on the Queen Elizabeth Highway under the supervision of the accounting firm Grant-Thornton.

Spokesman for ABEC, Ian Hughes, said the final

list of registered voters will be published on 13th January.

It is a requirement under the law that the final list be published fourteen days, excluding Sundays and public holidays, after the Writ of Elections has been issued.

According to the election oversight body, approximately 60,919 people will be eligible to vote in the 2023 general elections in two weeks.



Meanwhile, the commission is now processing requests from people who may have lost or misplaced their voter identification cards.

Hughes said arrangements are being made to process hundreds of requests that have been made for new cards.

He explained that the commission will continue to process these requests right up to election day.

According to Hughes, the commission is pleased with the pace of the preparations ahead of this important exercise in the governance of the country.

Meanwhile, the people who will work on election day began training sessions today in the country's seventeen constituencies to prepare them for their tasks on 18th January. These sessions conclude on Monday.

AUCTION NOTICE

<u>REGISTRATION SECTION</u>	<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>PARCEL</u>
ENGLISH HARBOUR	35 2580A	447

Instructed by **ACB MORTGAGE AND TRUST COMPANY LIMITED**, I shall sell by **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Wednesday the 11th day of January 2023 at 11:00am the above residential property at Piccadilly.

The property is under the ownership of **TESSA DONAWA-DANIEL**. The land is a 43,500 sq. ft. (1 acre) plot with an approximate 6,969 sq. ft., 2 storey reinforced concrete building with 4 bedrooms and 3 ½ bathrooms.

The property is in a quiet residential area with a commanding view of the surrounding area.

The Auction shall be held on site.

Details of the Auction may be obtained from **Mr. Trevor Santos, Public Auctioneer** at telephone numbers: 464-7653 and 562-7653.

Dated this the 19th day of December 2022

Trevor Santos
Licensed Auctioneer



Local News

President Xi writes Governor General Williams on 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties

China's President Xi Jinping on Sunday exchanged congratulations with Antigua and Barbuda's Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams on the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Noting that Antigua and Barbuda is China's important cooperative partner in the Caribbean, Xi said since the establishment of diplomatic ties 40 years ago, bilateral relations have developed smoothly with "ever stronger political mutual trust, fruitful practical co-operation and ever deeper friendship between the two peoples".

"Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the two sides have come to each other's aid and navigated through the difficulties together, writing a new chapter in the friendly relations between the two countries," Xi said.

Expressing that he at-



taches great importance to the development of bilateral relations, Xi continued that he stands ready to work with Antigua and Barbuda to take the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties as a new starting point to deepen co-operation in various fields, promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and improve the future of China-Antigua and Barbuda re-

lations.














In his response, Sir Rodney said Antigua and Barbuda was pleased to join China in celebrating the anniversary, which is an important milestone in bilateral relations.

In recent years, under the leadership of President Xi, Sir Rodney pointed out that the relationship between Antigua and Barbuda

and China has grown closer and added that the twin island nation will continue to maintain and strengthen the existing relationship.

Also on Sunday, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang exchanged congratulations with Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

Li said China is willing to make joint efforts with Antigua and Barbuda to take the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries as an opportunity to promote the continuous and in-depth development of amicable China-Antigua and Barbuda relations to deliver more benefits to the people of both nations.

Wed 04 Day		Wed 04 Night	
82°		75°	
A few passing clouds, otherwise generally sunny. High 82F. Winds E at 15 to 25 mph.	17%  E 18 mph	Mainly clear skies. Low near 75F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.	18%  E 16 mph
 Humidity 70%	 UV Index 8 of 10	 Humidity 76%	 UV Index 0 of 10
 Sunrise 6:37 am	 Sunset 5:46 pm	 Moonrise 3:55 pm	 Moonset 4:39 am  Waxing Gibbous

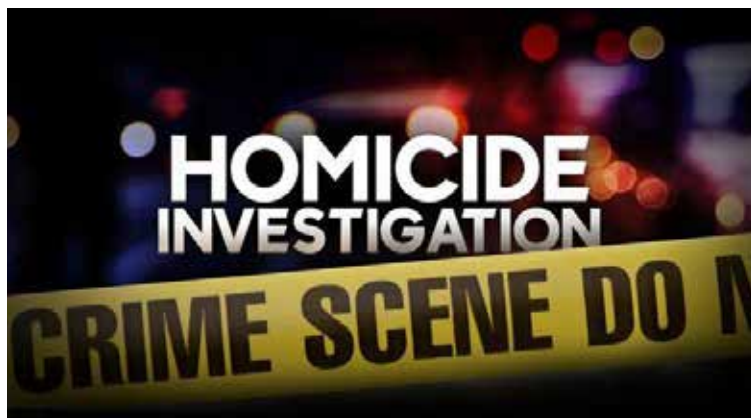
Police name New Year's Eve homicide victim

The police have identified the man who died under suspicious circumstances on New Year's Eve and whose death is now being treated as a homicide.

Police spokesman, Inspector Frankie Thomas, said the victim is 29-year old Tevin Roacher of Herberts.

Thomas said the police at first explored the theory that Roacher had been killed as a result of a traffic accident, but that theory has since been abandoned.

"Based on certain information that has now come to



hand, we are treating this as a homicide and the special unit is pursuing the investigation with this in mind. We have certain leads that we are pursuing based on the information at hand.

"We are also awaiting

the results of both the medical and forensic as part of their investigation. We are treating this as a homicide and are pursuing the leads as they come to hand," Thomas reported.

So far, police have only

confirmed that Roacher was allegedly shot in the chest.

Roacher was driving a Toyota Corolla in the vicinity of the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium when he crashed into a bus.

It was soon discovered that the car's driver had been shot once and a spent ammunition shell was found on the passenger side of the vehicle.

Reports suggest that another man ran from the car following the crash.

Roacher's death brought the number of homicides recorded in 2022 to ten.

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

NO	CONSTITUENCY	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING STATION	POLLING LOCATION/ADDRESS
1	ST. JOHN'S CITY WEST	A	[1] A-G	WESLEYAN HOLINESS BUILDING, BISHOPGATE STREET
			[2] H-M	WESLEYAN HOLINESS BUILDING, BISHOPGATE STREET
			[3] N-Y	WESLEYAN HOLINESS BUILDING, BISHOPGATE STREET
				SUB - TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A-B	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[2] C-F	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[3] G-I	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[4] J-L	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[5] M-P	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[6] Q-S	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
			[7] T-Z	VILLA PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLA AREA
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS			10	

Local News



Prime Minister's Home and Business Lighting Competition winners announced

The Ministry of Creative Industries and Innovation (MCII) announced the winners of the Prime Minister's Home and Business Lighting Competition on Tuesday.

In a statement which expressed gratitude to all participants, MCII pointed out the creativity and originality of the entries which made a positive impression on the judges.

"Our Judges were impressed with the creativity and ingenuity as scores of entrants displayed themes covering winter wonderland, merry wonderland, the festival of lights, and nativity scenes for both home and business."

The competition divided the country into zones which were further sep-

arated into residential and commercial entrants.

In the Business category, 1st place was taken by Shoul's Toys, Gifts and Housewares while 2nd place went to Shoe Palace and 3rd place to the George Pigotts Mall.

In the East, Chatura Phillip emerged the winner with Marilyn Marsh in 2nd place and Kay Lewis in 3rd.

Vernelle Weste took the top spot in the South. She was followed by 2nd runner up Philmore Braithwaite and 3rd place recipient Roland Joseph.

Rawlins Andrew took 1st place in the West followed by Dawn Peters who placed 2nd and Henson James

who placed 3rd.

In the North, 1st place was secured by Carolyn Perry while Saskia Stuart Young's entry secured 2nd place and Jean Pierre Shoul placed 3rd.

Successful participants in the residential category will receive a \$3000.00 first prize, \$2000.00 second prize and \$1000.00 third prize.

The winners of the business category received cash rewards in equivalent amounts.

All qualified entrants in the residential category received a 100 percent electricity waiver for December while commercial participants received a 50 percent waiver on their December bill.

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

2	ST. JOHN'S CITY EAST	A	[1] A - X	LIONS DEN, CROSS STREET
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A - B	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[2] C - F	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[3] G - I	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[4] J - L	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[5] M - P	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[6] Q - S	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[7] T - Z	PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				8

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS				
2023				
3	ST. JOHN'S CITY SOUTH	A	[1] A - W	EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH BASEMENT, REDCLIFFE STREET
				SUB- TOTAL
		B	[1] A - I	EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH BASEMENT, REDCLIFFE STREET
			[2] J - Z	EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH BASEMENT, REDCLIFFE STREET
				SUB- TOTAL
		C	[1] A - Z	EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH BASEMENT, REDCLIFFE STREET
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	D	[1] A - D	MARY E. PIGOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL, OTTOS
			[2] E - I	MARY E. PIGOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL, OTTOS
			[3] J - P	MARY E. PIGOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL, OTTOS
			[4] Q - Z	MARY E. PIGOTT PRIMARY SCHOOL, OTTOS
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS 8				
DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS				
2023				
4	ST. JOHN'S RURAL WEST	A	[1] A - B	TEMPLE ACADEMY, ARMSTRONG ROAD
			[2] C - D	ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, CHRISTIAN STREET
			[3] E - G	NAZARENE CHURCH, GRAYS FARM MAIN ROAD
	COUNTING CENTRE		[4] H - J	EXHIBITION & CULTURAL CENTRE, PERRY BAY
			[5] K - M	EXHIBITION & CULTURAL CENTRE, PERRY BAY
			[6] N - R	EXHIBITION & CULTURAL CENTRE, PERRY BAY
			[7] S - Z	EXHIBITION & CULTURAL CENTRE, PERRY BAY
				SUB- TOTAL
		B	[1] A - B	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[2] C - D	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[3] E - F	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[4] G - H	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[5] I - K	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[6] L - M	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[7] N - Q	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[8] R - S	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
			[9] T - Z	GREENBAY PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREENBAY
				SUB- TOTAL
		C	[1] A - Y	FIVE ISLANDS SCHOOL
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS 17				

Bankman-Fried set to enter not guilty plea in FTX fraud case



Former FTX chief executive Sam Bankman-Fried, who faces fraud charges over the collapse of the bankrupt cryptocurrency exchange, walks from the Manhattan federal court after securing bail in New York City, U.S. December 22, 2022. REUTERS/Jeenah Moon

By Jack Queen and Luc Cohen

Reuters- Sam Bankman-Fried entered a federal courthouse in Manhattan on Tuesday, Reuters video showed, ahead of a hearing in which he is expected to enter a plea of not guilty to criminal charges that he cheated investors in his now-bankrupt FTX cryptocurrency exchange.

Bankman-Fried is accused of looting billions of dollars in FTX customer deposits to support his Alameda Research hedge fund, buy real estate and make millions of dollars in political contributions, in what prosecutors have called a fraud of epic proportions.

A clean-shaven Bankman-Fried entered the court wearing a blue suit,

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DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS				
2023				
5	ST. JOHN'S RURAL SOUTH	A	[1] A - J	MINOAH MAGNET ACADEMY, RADIO RANGE
			[2] K - Z	MINOAH MAGNET ACADEMY, RADIO RANGE
				SUB- TOTAL
		B	[1] A - D	TINDALE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
			[2] E - J	TINDALE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
			[3] K - Q	GROUND FLOOR AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION OFFICE, VALLEY ROAD
			[4] R - W	GROUND FLOOR AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION OFFICE, VALLEY ROAD
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	C	[1] A - C	GOLDEN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GOLDEN GROVE
			[2] D - G	GOLDEN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GOLDEN GROVE
			[3] H - K	GOLDEN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GOLDEN GROVE
			[4] L - Q	GOLDEN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GOLDEN GROVE
			[5] R - Z	GOLDEN GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, GOLDEN GROVE
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS			11	

cont'd from pg 8

white shirt and dotted blue tie while carrying a backpack at around 12:40 p.m. EST (1740 GMT). He is scheduled to be arraigned at 2 p.m. EST before U.S. District Judge Lewis Kaplan.

A person familiar with the matter told Reuters last week that Bankman-Fried would plead not guilty. A lawyer for Bankman-Fried did not reply to a request for comment. It is not unusual for criminal defendants to initially plead not guilty. Defendants are free to change their plea at a later date.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate could face up to 115 years in prison if convicted.

Bankman-Fried rode a boom in the value of bitcoin and other digital assets to build a net worth of an estimated \$26 billion and become an influential political donor in the United States.

But FTX collapsed in early November after a wave of withdrawals and declared bankruptcy on Nov. 11, wiping out Bankman-Fried's fortune. He later said he had \$100,000 in his bank account.

The defendant was ex-

tradited last month from the Bahamas, where he lived and where the exchange was based.

Since his release on bond on Dec. 22, Bankman-Fried has been subject to electronic monitoring and required to live with his parents, Joseph Bankman and Barbara Fried, both professors at Stanford Law School in California.

The prosecution case was strengthened by last month's guilty pleas of two of Bankman-Fried's closest associates.

Caroline Ellison, who was Alameda's chief executive, and Gary Wang, FTX's

former chief technology officer, pleaded guilty to seven and four criminal charges, respectively, and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors.

Bankman-Fried, Ellison and Wang were also sued by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Ellison and Wang settled those civil cases.

FTX's new chief executive, John Ray, known for his work on energy company Enron Corp's bankruptcy, has said FTX was run by "grossly inexperienced" and unsophisticated people.

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

6	ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST	A	[1] A - B	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[2] C - D	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[3] E - G	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[4] H - J	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[5] K - M	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[6] N - Q	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[7] R - S	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
			[8] T - Z	ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, OLD PARHAM ROAD
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A - B	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[2] C - D	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[3] E - G	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[4] H - J	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[5] K - M	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[6] N - R	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
			[7] S - Z	CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				15

The Way We Think



The mindset that brings unlimited willpower

By David Robson

Many people believe willpower is fixed and finite. Yet powerful strategies exist that can help us increase it.

We all face demanding days that seem designed to test our self-control. Perhaps you are a barista, and you have some particularly rude and demanding customers, but you manage to keep your poise throughout. Or maybe you are finishing an important project and you have to remain in quiet concentration, without letting your attention slip to other

distractions. If you are on a diet, you might have spent the past few hours resisting the cookie jar while the sweet treats silently whisper “eat me”.

In each case, you would have relied on your willpower, which psychologists define as the ability to avoid short-term temptations and override unwanted thoughts, feelings or impulses. And some people seem to have much greater reserves of it than others: they find it easier to control their emotions, avoid procrastination and



Research shows that even if you're able to harness willpower to resist temptation, you may have less willpower for a task in the future Credit: Getty Images

stick to their goals, without some lucky people who, after a hard day at work, have the resolve to do something iron grip on their behaviour. the resolve to do something

Indeed, you may know **cont'd on pg 11**

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS				
2023				
7	ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH	A	[1] A - B	YORKS COMMUNITY CENTRE, YORKS
			[2] C - E	YORKS COMMUNITY CENTRE, YORKS
			[3] F - I	WESLEYAN JUNIOR ACADEMY, FORT ROAD
			[4] J - L	WESLEYAN JUNIOR ACADEMY, FORT ROAD
			[5] M - Q	WESLEYAN JUNIOR ACADEMY, FORT ROAD
			[6] R - S	WESLEYAN JUNIOR ACADEMY, FORT ROAD
			[7] T - Z	WESLEYAN JUNIOR ACADEMY, FORT ROAD
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A - C	CEDAR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CEDAR GROVE
			[2] D - G	CEDAR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CEDAR GROVE
			[3] H - K	CEDAR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CEDAR GROVE
			[4] L - Q	CEDAR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CEDAR GROVE
			[5] R - Z	CEDAR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CEDAR GROVE
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				
12				

The Way We Think

cont'd from pg 10

productive like a workout – while you give up on your fitness goals and fall for the temptations of junk food and trash TV.

Our reserves of self-control and mental focus appear to be shaped by mindsets. And new studies suggest powerful strategies for anyone to build greater willpower – with huge benefits for your health, productivity and happiness.

The depleted ego

Until recently, the prevailing psychological theory proposed that willpower resembled a kind of battery. You might start the day with full strength, but each time you have to control your

thoughts, feelings or behaviour, you zap that battery's energy. Without the chance to rest and recharge, those resources run dangerously low, making it far harder to maintain your patience and concentration, and to resist temptation.

Laboratory tests appeared to provide evidence for this process; if participants were asked to resist eating cookies left temptingly on a table, for example, they subsequently showed less persistence when solving a mathematical problem, because their reserves of willpower had been exhausted. Drawing on the Freudian term for the part of the mind that is responsible for reining in our impulses, this process

was known as “ego depletion”. People who had high self-control might have bigger reserves of willpower initially, but even they would be worn down when placed under pressure.

In 2010, however, the psychologist Veronika Job published a study that questioned the foundations of this theory, with some intriguing evidence that ego depletion depended on people's underlying beliefs.

Job, who is a professor of motivation psychology at the University of Vienna, first designed a questionnaire, which asked participants to rate a series of statements on a scale of 1 (strongly agree) to 6 (strongly dis-

cont'd on pg 12

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

8	ST. MARY'S NORTH	A	[1] A -E	JENNINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, JENNINGS VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	JENNINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, JENNINGS VILLAGE
			[3] K - R	JENNINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, JENNINGS VILLAGE
			[4] S - Z	JENNINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, JENNINGS VILLAGE
				SUB- TOTAL
		B	[1] A - E	BENDALS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BENDALS VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	BENDALS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BENDALS VILLAGE
			[3] K - P	BENDALS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BENDALS VILLAGE
			[4] Q - W	BENDALS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BENDALS VILLAGE
				SUB- TOTAL
		C	[1] A -G	WESLEYAN HOLINESS CHURCH BASEMENT, ALL SAINTS ROAD
			[2] H -O	WESLEYAN HOLINESS CHURCH BASEMENT, ALL SAINTS ROAD
			[3] P - Z	WESLEYAN HOLINESS CHURCH BASEMENT, ALL SAINTS ROAD
				SUB- TOTAL
		D	[1] A - C	MORAVIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE, CASHEW HILL
			[2] D - G	MORAVIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE, CASHEW HILL
			[3] H - L	MORAVIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE, CASHEW HILL
			[4] M - R	MORAVIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE, CASHEW HILL
			[5] S - Z	MORAVIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE, CASHEW HILL
				SUB- TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE			ANTIGUA STATE COLLEGE

TOTAL POLLING STATIONS

16

The Way We Think

cont'd from pg 11

agree). They included:

- When situations accumulate that challenge you with temptations, it gets more and more difficult to resist temptations

- Strenuous mental activity exhausts your resources, which you need to refuel afterwards

and

- If you have just resisted a strong temptation, you feel strengthened and you can withstand new temptations

- Your mental stamina fuels itself. Even after strenuous mental exertion, you can continue doing more of it

If you agree more with the first two statements, you are considered to have a “limited” view of willpower, and if you agree more with the second two statements, you are considered to have a “non-limited” view of willpower.

Job next gave the participants some standard laboratory tests ex-

amining mental focus, which is considered to depend on our reserves of willpower. Job found that people with the limited mindset tended to perform exactly as ego depletion theory would predict. After performing one task that required intense concentration – such as applying fiddly corrections to a boring text – they found it much harder to pay attention to a subsequent activity than if they had been resting beforehand. The people with the non-limited view, however, did not show any signs of ego depletion, however: they showed no decline in their mental focus after performing a mentally taxing activity.

The participants’ mindsets about willpower, it seemed, were self-fulfilling prophecies. If they believed that their willpower was easily depleted, then their ability to resist temptation and distraction quickly dissolved; but if they believed that “mental stamina fuels itself”, then that is what occurred.

People with the non-limited view on willpower did not show any signs of ego depletion: they showed no decline in their mental focus after performing a mentally taxing activity

Job soon replicated these results in other contexts. Working with Krishna Savani at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, for example, she has shown willpower beliefs seem to vary by country. They found that the non-limited mindsets were more common in Indian students than those in the USA – and that this was reflected in tests of their mental stamina.

In recent years, some scientists have debated the reliability of the laboratory tests of ego depletion, but Job has also shown that people’s willpower mindsets are linked to many real-life outcomes. She asked university students to complete twice-daily questionnaires about their activities over two non-consecutive weekly periods.

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DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

9	ST. MARY'S SOUTH	A	[1] A-C	BOLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLANS VILLAGE
			[2] D-H	BOLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLANS VILLAGE
			[3] I-L	BOLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLANS VILLAGE
			[4] M-R	BOLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLANS VILLAGE
			[5] S-X	BOLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLANS VILLAGE
				SUB- TOTAL
		B	[1] A-W	JOHNSONS POINT HEALTH CENTRE, JOHNSONS POINT
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	C	[1] A-J	URLINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, URLINGS
			[2] K-W	URLINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL, URLINGS
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				8

The Way We Think

cont'd from pg 12

As you might expect, some days had much higher demands than others, leading to feelings of exhaustion. Most of the participants recovered to some degree overnight, but those with the non-limited mindsets actually experienced an increase in their productivity the following day, as if they had been energised by the extra pressure. Once again, it seemed that their belief that “mental stamina fuels itself” had become their reality.

Further studies showed that the willpower mindsets could predict students' procrastination levels in

the run-up to exams – those with the non-limited views showed less time-wasting – and their ultimate grades. When facing high-pressure from their courses, the students with the non-limited views were also better able to maintain their self-control in other areas of life; they were less likely to eat fast food or go on an impulsive spending spree, for example. Those who believed that their willpower was easily depleted by their work, in contrast, were more likely to indulge in those vices – presumably because they felt that their reserves of self-control had already been depleted by their aca-

demic work.

The influence of willpower mindsets may also stretch to many domains, such as fitness. For example, Navin Kaushal, an assistant professor in health sciences at Indiana University, US, and colleagues, have shown that they can influence people's exercise habits; people with non-limited beliefs about willpower find it easier to summon up the motivation to work out.

A study by Zoë Francis, a professor of psychology at the University of Fraser Valley, found strikingly similar results. Following more than 300 participants over three weeks, she found

that people with non-limited mindsets are more likely to exercise, and less likely to snack, than those with the limited mindsets. Tellingly, the differences are especially pronounced in the evenings, when the demands of the day's tasks have started to take their toll on those who believe that self-control can easily run down.

Galvanising your willpower

If you already have the non-limited mindset about willpower, these findings might be a cause for self-satisfaction. But what can we do if we have been living under the assumption that

cont'd on pg 14

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

10	ALL SAINTS EAST & ST. LUKE	A	[1] A - C	ALL SAINTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[2] D - G	ALL SAINTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[3] H - K	ALL SAINTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[4] L - R	ALL SAINTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[5] S - Z	ALL SAINTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
				SUB- TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A - E	IRENE B. WILLIAMS SECONDARY SCHOOL, SWETES VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	IRENE B. WILLIAMS SECONDARY SCHOOL, SWETES VILLAGE
			[3] K - R	IRENE B. WILLIAMS SECONDARY SCHOOL, SWETES VILLAGE
			[4] S - Z	IRENE B. WILLIAMS SECONDARY SCHOOL, SWETES VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		C	[1] A - W	JOHN HUGHES PRIMARY SCHOOL, JOHN HUGHES VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		D	[1] A - E	OLD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLD ROAD VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	OLD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLD ROAD VILLAGE
			[3] K - R	OLD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLD ROAD VILLAGE
			[4] S - Z	OLD ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, OLD ROAD VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				

The Way We Think



cont'd from pg 13

our reserves of self-control are easily depleted?

Job's studies suggest that simply learning about this cutting-edge science – through short, accessible texts – can help shift people's beliefs, at least in the short term. Knowledge, it seems, is power; if so, simply reading this article might have already started to galvanise your mental stamina. You might even enhance this by telling others about what you have learnt; the research suggests that sharing information helps to consolidate your own shift in mindset, a phenomenon known as the "saying-is-believing effect", while also helping to spread the positive attitudes to others.

Lessons in the non-limited nature of willpower can come at a young age. Researchers at Stanford University and the University of Pennsylvania

recently designed a storybook to teach preschoolers the idea that exercising willpower can be energising, rather than exhausting, and that self-control can grow the more we practise it. Children who had heard this story showed greater self-control in a test of "delayed gratification", in which they were given the chance to forgo a small treat to receive a bigger treat later on, compared to their classmates who had heard another tale.

One useful strategy to change your mindset may be to remember a time when you worked on a mentally demanding task for the pure enjoyment of the activity. There might be a job at work, for example, that others appear to find difficult but you find satisfying. Or maybe it's a hobby – such as learning a new piece on the piano – that demands intense concentration, yet feels effortless for you. A recent study found

that engaging in this kind of recollection naturally shifts people's beliefs to the non-limited mindset, as they see proof of their own mental stamina.

To provide yourself with further evidence, you might begin with small tests of self-control that will bring about a desired change in your life – such as avoiding snacking for a couple of weeks, disconnecting from social media as you work, or showing greater patience with an irritating loved one. Once you have proved to yourself that your willpower can grow, you may find it easier to then resist other kinds of temptation or distraction.

You mustn't expect miracles immediately. But with perseverance, you should see your mindset changing, and with it a greater capacity to master your thoughts, feelings and behaviour so that your actions propel you towards your goals.

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS				
2023				
11	ALL SAINTS WEST	A	[1] A - D	J T. AMBROSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	J T. AMBROSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[3] K - Q	J T. AMBROSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			[4] R - Z	J T. AMBROSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALL SAINTS VILLAGE
			SUB-TOTAL	
		B	[1] A - I	BUCKLEYS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BUCKLEYS VILLAGE
			[2] J - Z	BUCKLEYS PRIMARY SCHOOL, BUCKLEYS VILLAGE
			SUB-TOTAL	
		C	[1] A - I	FREEMANSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL, FREEMANSVILLE
			[2] J - Z	FREEMANSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL, FREEMANSVILLE
			SUB-TOTAL	
	COUNTING CENTRE	D	[1] A - E	SEA VIEW FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL, SEA VIEW FARM VILLAGE
			[2] F - J	SEA VIEW FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL, SEA VIEW FARM VILLAGE
			[3] K - Q	SEA VIEW FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL, SEA VIEW FARM VILLAGE
			[4] R - Z	SEA VIEW FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL, SEA VIEW FARM VILLAGE
			SUB-TOTAL	
		E	[1] A - F	POST MILLENNIAL ACADEMY, LAW PASTURE
			[2] G - M	POST MILLENNIAL ACADEMY, LAW PASTURE
			[3] N - Z	POST MILLENNIAL ACADEMY, LAW PASTURE
			SUB-TOTAL	
			GRAND TOTAL	
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				
15				



ST MARY'S NORTH
ABLP BRANCH
WEHNER ROAD



04
JAN 2023
3 PM



ZONE 3



WHISTLE STOP

ENDING WITH PUBLIC RALLY AT MOCK POND



**MOLWYN
JOSEPH**

ST MARY'S NORTH



**SAMANTHA
MARSHALL**

ST MARY'S SOUTH



**E.P. CHET
GREENE**

ST PAUL



**COLIN
JAMES**

ALL SAINTS EAST
& ST LUKE

Finance

2023 to be tougher for global economy than 2022, IMF chief says

By Dan Burns

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva says one-third of the world's economies are expected to be in recession this year.

Reuters - For much of the global economy, 2023 is going to be a tough year as the main engines of global growth - the United States, Europe and China - all experience weakening activity, the head of the International Monetary Fund said on Sunday.

The new year is going to be "tougher than the year we leave behind," IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on the CBS Sunday morning news program "Face the Nation."

"Why? Because the three big economies - the U.S., EU and China - are all slowing down simultaneously," she said.

In October, the IMF cut its outlook for global economic growth in 2023, reflecting the continuing drag from the war in Ukraine as well as inflation pressures and the high interest rates engineered by central banks like the U.S. Federal Reserve aimed at bringing those price pressures to heel.

Since then, China has



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva attends a news conference following a meeting at the Federal Chancellery in Berlin, Germany November 29, 2022. REUTERS/Michele Tantussi

scrapped its zero-COVID policy and embarked on a chaotic reopening of its economy, though consumers there remain wary as coronavirus cases surge. In his first public comments since the change in policy, President Xi Jinping on Saturday called in a New Year's address for more effort and unity as China enters a "new phase."

"For the first time in 40 years, China's growth in 2022 is likely to be at or below global growth," Georgieva said.

Moreover, a "bushfire"

of expected COVID infections there in the months ahead are likely to further hit its economy this year and drag on both regional and global growth, said Georgieva, who travelled to China on IMF business late last month.

"I was in China last week, in a bubble in a city where there is zero COVID," she said. "But that is not going to last once people start travelling."

"For the next couple of months, it would be tough for China, and the impact on Chinese growth would

be negative, the impact on the region will be negative, the impact on global growth will be negative," she said.

In October's forecast, the IMF pegged Chinese gross domestic product growth last year at 3.2% - on par with the fund's global outlook for 2022. At that time, it also saw annual growth in China accelerating in 2023 to 4.4% while global activity slowed further.

Her comments, however, suggest another cut to both the China and global

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growth outlooks may be in the offing later this month when the IMF typically unveils updated forecasts during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

U.S. ECONOMY 'MOST RESILIENT'

Meanwhile, Georgieva said, the U.S. economy is standing apart and may avoid the outright contraction that is likely to afflict as much as a third of the world's economies.

The "U.S. is most resilient," she said, and it "may avoid recession. We see the labour market remaining quite strong."

But that fact on its own presents a

risk because it may hamper the progress the Fed needs to make in bringing U.S. inflation back to its targeted level from the highest levels in four decades touched last year.

Inflation showed signs of having passed its peak as 2022 ended, but by the Fed's preferred measure, it remains nearly three times its 2% target.

"This is ... a mixed blessing because if the labour market is very strong, the Fed may have to keep interest rates tighter for longer to bring inflation down," Georgieva said.

Last year, in the most aggressive policy tightening since the early 1980s, the Fed lifted its benchmark policy rate from near zero in March to

the current range of 4.25% to 4.50%, and Fed officials last month projected it will breach the 5% mark in 2023, a level not seen since 2007.

Indeed, the U.S. job market will be a central focus for Fed officials who would like to see demand for labour slacken to help undercut price pressures.

The first week of the new year brings a raft of key data on the employment front, including Friday's monthly nonfarm payrolls report, which is expected to show the U.S. economy minted another 200,000 jobs in December and the jobless rate remained at 3.7% - near the lowest since the 1960s.

DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS

2023

12	ST. GEORGE	A	[1] A-D	NEW WINTHORPES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW WINTHORPES
			[2] E-H	NEW WINTHORPES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW WINTHORPES
			[3] I-L	NEW WINTHORPES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW WINTHORPES
			[4] M-R	NEW WINTHORPES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW WINTHORPES
			[5] S-Z	NEW WINTHORPES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW WINTHORPES
				SUB-TOTAL
		B	[1] A-F	PIGOTT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, PIGOTT'S VILLAGE
			[2] G-J	PIGOTT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, PIGOTT'S VILLAGE
			[3] K-R	PIGOTT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, PIGOTT'S VILLAGE
			[4] S-Z	PIGOTT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, PIGOTT'S VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	C	[1] A-B	POTTERS PRIMARY SCHOOL, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[2] C-E	POTTERS PRIMARY SCHOOL, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[3] F-H	POTTERS PRIMARY SCHOOL, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[4] I-K	POTTERS PRIMARY SCHOOL, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[5] L-M	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[6] N-Q	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[7] R - S	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY, POTTERS VILLAGE
			[8] T-Y	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY, POTTERS VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS				

17

PM Henry urges Haitians to trust his government as US and Canada pledge continued support

CMC - Prime Minister Dr. Ariel Henry is urging Haitians to trust his government to restore democratic rule in the Caribbean Community CARICOM country as the United and Canada, two of its strongest allies, congratulated Haiti on its 119th anniversary of political independence while acknowledging the socio-economic and political challenges.

"In this year 2023, we will have to learn to trust each other. And I ask you to take me at my word when I speak of my Government's desire to do everything possible to reconstitute our democratic institutions. It is not with mistrust that we assemble a team to face together the dangers that hang over our common homeland," Prime Minister Ariel Henry said.

He said as all true democrats should seize the opportunity offered to them to join the national consensus and contribute together with the government to the definition of the roadmap which will include the strategies and actions to be implemented for the organisation of the next elections.

Henry said he hoped that in 2023 "the wish that our pupils, our students, and our teachers can return to school and university, from



Prime Minister Dr. Ariel Henry January 3rd in order to catch up, as much as possible, the days of classes missed since the start of the school year.

He said he was also wishing "courage and prosperity to all women and businessmen in the formal and informal sectors who have experienced difficult situations in recent months and who, despite everything, have not given up.

"I want to tell those who have had to close their doors under the unbearable pressure of armed gangs, that we are working so that they can resume their activities," Ariel Henry added.

Meanwhile, the two North American countries are engaged in efforts to bring some form of stability

to the country where opposition parties have been staging street demonstrations in their efforts to remove Prime Minister Henry, who came to office in July 2021 following the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, from power.

In addition, criminal gangs have been staging kidnappings for ransom and other violence acts in defiance of the police and the army.

Both the United States and Canada have imposed economic and travel bans on prominent Haitian nationals including former presidents, prime ministers and legislators, whom they have accused of supporting the efforts by the criminal gangs

and others to subvert justice and overthrow the government.

US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, in a statement, said last year has seen many challenges for the Haitian people as he congratulated them as they "commemorate your country's long history of independence and celebrate the start of a new year.

The US Secretary of State said while Haiti faces "a difficult road ahead in the new year", Washington "stands firmly with Haiti as it works to restore security, the rule of law, democratic institutions and economic stability."

Meanwhile, Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, joined in celebrating Haiti's Independence Day on Sunday, noting that, since 1804, on January 1 of every year, Haitians and people of African descent commemorate Haiti's declaration of independence.

He said the Haitian Revolution, which lasted 15 years, resulted in Haiti becoming the second independent nation in the Americas, the first independent nation in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the first country in the Western Hemisphere where Black people successfully overturned slavery.

<u>DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS</u>				
2023				
14	ST. PHILIP NORTH	A	[1] A - I	GLANVILLES SECONDARY SCHOOL, GLANVILLES VILLAGE
			[2] J - Y	GLANVILLES SECONDARY SCHOOL, GLANVILLES VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	B	[1] A - G	NELVIE N. GORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, WILLIKIES VILLAGE
			[2] H - N	NELVIE N. GORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, WILLIKIES VILLAGE
			[3] O - Z	NELVIE N. GORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, WILLIKIES VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		C	[1] A - W	NEWFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEWFIELD VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS			6	

<u>DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS</u>				
2023				
13	ST. PETER	A	[1] A - B	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
	COUNTING CENTRE		[2] C - D	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[3] E - F	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[4] G - I	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[5] J - L	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[6] M - Q	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[7] R - S	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
			[8] T - Z	PARHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARHAM VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		B	[1] A - J	PARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARES VILLAGE
			[2] K - W	PARES PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARES VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		C	[1] A - W	PRECISION CENTRE, INDUSTRIAL DRIVE, PAYNTERS
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL
TOTAL POLLING STATIONS			11	

Regional News



Brazil's Lula welcomed back by Latin American leaders

AP - Latin American leaders converged on Brazil to meet with President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on his first full day in office Monday, welcoming him back to power and hoping his country assumes a great role on the international stage.

Lula's predecessor, Jair Bolsonaro, rarely travelled abroad or received visiting heads-of-state and found himself increasingly isolated.

But South American heads of state – some of them fellow leftists, though not all – clearly welcomed Lula's third term in office and want greater participation from the continent's largest economy.

"It was a very powerful symbol of desire in the re-

gion that leaders want Brazil to be back," according to Oliver Stuenkel, a professor of international relations at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, a university. "Latin American leaders want an active, engaged Brazil."

On Monday, Lula met with presidents Argentina's Alberto Fernández, Bolivia's Luis Arce of Bolivia, Ecuador's Guillermo Lasso, Chile's Gabriel Boric and Colombia's Gustavo Petro. Other leaders also travelled to the capital, Brasilia, on Sunday and congratulated Lula on his inauguration, including Uruguay's President Luis Alberto Lacalle Po.

On Monday afternoon Lula also met with Wang Qishan, the vice president



Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, right, and Argentina's President Alberto Fernandez pose for photos during a bilateral meeting at Itamaraty Palace the day after Lula's inauguration in Brasilia, Brazil, Monday, Jan. 2, 2023. AP Photo/Eraldo Peres

of China, by far Brazil's biggest export destination. Although Bolsonaro toned down his attacks on China in the latter half of his administration, it is important for China to dialogue with Lula's administration and

ensure Latin America's biggest nation remains a true partner, Stuenkel said.

Lula is later scheduled to receive the president of Angola and representatives from Cuba, Venezuela and Peru.

Grenadians told to brace for tough 2023

CMC - Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell has warned Grenadians that 2023 will not be easy as his administration starts laying the foundational structures for a resilient country where citizens will be more equipped to face both internal and external challenges.

"The next 12 months will not be easy. Our team has set ambitious targets in year one because we have a clear vision for the future of our beloved nation," Mitchell said in his New Year's message.

"We are also mindful that 60 months, or five years, may seem like a long time but, in the scope of governance, it can go by very quickly," he added.



Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell

Dickon Mitchell, who led his National Democratic Congress (NDC) to a 9-6 victory over the New National Party (NNP) that had previously won all 15 seats in the last two general elections, said there is much to be done as the government seeks to set the island on a path toward sustainable develop-

ment and self-sufficiency.

"As we embark on this journey of transformation and positive change, our success, as a country and as a people, requires us to also transform our thinking. To move Grenada forward, at the pace that we would like, we need every Grenadian, at home and abroad, to be a part of our nation's progress".

He called on all citizens to contribute towards the development and transformation of the island, saying that among the threats facing the nation are climate change and the increasing cost of living.

"We need all hands on deck if we are to survive and thrive in a global

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<u>DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS</u>				
2023				
15	ST. PHILIP SOUTH	A	[1] A - L	FREETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, FREETOWN VILLAGE
			[2] M - W	FREETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, FREETOWN VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		B	[1] A - W	ST. PHILIP'S RECTORY, ST. PHILIP
				SUB-TOTAL
	COUNTING CENTRE	C	[1] A - J	METHODIST CHURCH, BETHESDA VILLAGE
			[2] K - W	METHODIST CHURCH, BETHESDA VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL

TOTAL POLLING STATIONS

5

<u>DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS</u>				
2023				
16	ST. PAUL	A	[1] A - B	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
	COUNTING CENTRE		[2] C - F	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
			[3] G - I	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
			[4] J - L	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
			[5] M - Q	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
			[6] R - S	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
			[7] T - Z	LIBERTA PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBERTA VILLAGE
				SUB-TOTAL
		B	[1] A - D	COBBS CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL, COBBS CROSS
			[2] E - J	COBBS CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL, COBBS CROSS
			[3] K - Q	COBBS CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL, COBBS CROSS
			[4] R - W	COBBS CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL, COBBS CROSS
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL

<u>DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES INTO POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATIONS</u>				
2023				
17	BARBUDA	A	[1] A - C	HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL, BARBUDA
	COUNTING CENTRE		[2] D - I	HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL, BARBUDA
			[3] J - O	HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL, BARBUDA
			[4] P - Y	HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL, BARBUDA
				SUB-TOTAL
				GRAND TOTAL

Regional News



CARICOM continues to make great strides says incoming Chairman Phillip Davis

CMC - Incoming Chairman of the Caribbean Community CARICOM, Bahamian Prime Minister Phillip "Brave" Davis says the regional body continues to make strides.

"Regional cooperation has never been more urgent and necessary. The shock of and response to the COVID-19 pandemic was a stark illustration of the limitations of working alone."

"Working alone, none of us will be able to overcome the existential threat posed by climate change. Working alone, none of us will be able to fully seize the opportunities of the new world order, where old certainties are fast disappearing, and new technologies favour the agile and the clever."

Davis said CARICOM and The Bahamas share common histories— trials, traumas, and triumphs.

"As regional neighbours, we have, through the years, encountered many of the same hurdles, beat down the same walls, and conquered the same challenges. And indeed,



Prime Minister Phillip Davis

we owe it to ourselves and each other to recognize that we are and always have been in this together."

"We are at a tipping point, where it is imperative that we build on and strengthen the foundations of the past 50 years. There is already much on the agenda," he added.

"Our community is making great strides towards ensuring food and nutrition security. And we are on track to reduce our food import bill by 25 percent by 2025."

According to the Bahamian prime minister, with the help of international partners, "we also want to make further progress on our plans to increase the use of renewable energy.

This is not only an alternative to expensive fossil fuel-based energy, but a critical means of reducing carbon in the fight against climate change."

He added that CARICOM will also continue to work closely and vigorously with other Low-lying Coastal and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) "to continue our advocacy on the many issues relating to climate change, which impact us all.

"In particular, we will aggressively push for the 'Loss and Damage Fund' agreed at COP27 in Egypt, to be made fully operational."

Concerning Haiti, Phillip Davis said the regional body is also determined to

help the country resolve its challenges.

"The beleaguered people of Haiti desperately need respite from the political, economic and security crises which have engulfed the country. We will continue to support all stakeholders to craft a Haitian led solution. For CARICOM, the resolution of the immediate crisis will be a first step towards the crafting of a long-term sustainable development plan for Haiti."

"My thanks to the President of Suriname, His Excellency Chandrikapersad Santokhi, for his superb stewardship of the Community over the past six months. With the help and support of my colleague Heads of Government, I look forward to building on his legacy."

"This New Year holds much promise for our Caribbean Community. Over the next 50 years, we will continue to seek to strengthen our partnership, so that the lives of all of our peoples are made better. A Prosperous and Productive 2023 to you all!"

cont'd from pg 20

climate that is increasingly unpredictable. The threat of climate change on its own, and the very real and existential effects that sea level rise holds for the future of our island state, is enough to help us realise that we need to band together.

"The negative fallout from the war

in Ukraine, on the heels of a devastating global pandemic, continues to adversely affect global supply chains, increasing the cost of food and fuel, and worsening an already high cost of living," he told citizens before explaining that saving the island from unpredictable event is a responsibility of nationals.

"In light of all of the above, no one is coming to save us. We must save ourselves. As we move forward into this New Year, with a solid plan to lay a foundation that will empower our people, I ask that we all embrace the opportunities to grow, to develop new skills, and unite for the betterment of all Grenadians," Mitchell said.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS

The University of the West Indies (UWI) is a dynamic, international institution serving the countries of the Commonwealth Caribbean. Its faculties and institutes offer a wide range of undergraduate, masters and doctoral programmes in Humanities and Education, Science and Technology, Engineering, Law, Medical Sciences, Sport and the Social Sciences. The institution represents the oldest of its kind within the region and has been responsible for producing outstanding leaders who have made remarkable contributions to regional development.

The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus (UWI FIC) is inviting applications from suitably qualified individuals for the post of:

FINANCIAL MANAGER BUDGETS, ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The successful candidate will be responsible for:

- Managing budgetary, payroll and employee benefits operations of the Five Islands Campus
- Production of monthly bank reconciliation, monthly payroll and the supporting of statutory deductions and filing of same with the relative bodies.
- Assisting with the preparation of monthly financial statements and the production of four-monthly financial statements of the Five Islands Campus for presentation to the University Finance and General Purposes Committee
- Assisting with the production of the Annual Accounts for presentation to the Annual Business Meeting of Council and other related reports.

Essential Qualifications and Experience:

- At least a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Accounting & Finance, Finance or any other related field.
- Minimum five (5) years' experience in an equivalent role or relevant post in accounting at a supervisory level.
- The candidate should currently hold a Professional Accounting designation (Chartered Accountant (CA) or Certified Accountant (ACCA) or Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified General Accountant (CGA) or in pursuit of any such professional accounting designation.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Experience with accounting software and/or financial information systems
- Proven knowledge of accounting procedures, guidelines and standards including IFRS
- Knowledge of and experience in using the Enterprise solutions such as Banner Finance and PeopleSoft HRMS as well as proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office Suite. Working knowledge of Access will be considered favourable.
- Well-developed analytical skills, problem solving skills, sound judgment and high attention to detail and accuracy.
- Sound knowledge of management principles and practices.

Applicants are required to submit a completed UWI employment application form, curriculum vitae, giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, the names and addresses of three (3) referees (one of whom should be from your present organisation), and copies of academic qualifications. **These should be sent by electronic mail to fiveislands.hrapplications@uwi.edu and addressed to The Director of Administration, University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, Five Islands, St. John's, Antigua.** The final date for applications is **January 6, 2023**. Standard UWI application forms may be downloaded from <https://cutt.ly/UE6XLig>. Applicants are advised to ask their referees to send reports under confidential cover to the above email address without waiting to be contacted. The successful candidate will be expected to assume duties in Antigua on **February 1, 2023**.

The University thanks all applicants; however, due to the volume of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Burkina Faso rights group alleges 28 dead in ethnic killings

AP - Volunteer militia groups supporting Burkina Faso's army have killed dozens of civilians of the ethnic Fulani group, including children, in the troubled country's west, a local rights group charged on Tuesday.

The military supporters killed nearly 30 civilians last week in Nouna town, a predominantly Fulani and Muslim community, according to Daouda Diallo, executive secretary of the civic group, the Collective Against Impunity and Stigmatization of Communities. Burkina Faso's Fulani people have been increasingly targeted by the military and local defence militias because they are suspected of supporting the West African country's Islamic extremist rebels that have been inflicting violence on the country for years.

"They (support militia) essentially targeted resourceful or influential people and the able-bodied members of the community, resulting in the loss of many human lives," said Diallo. The killings in Nouna were revenge attacks by volunteer fighters after jihadis attacked their headquarters, he said.

Burkina Faso's government said it has launched an investigation into the killings of at least 28 people. In a statement Monday, Armel Sama Burkina Faso's



Daouda Diallo, 39, One of Burkina Faso's most outspoken human rights defenders, poses for a photograph in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, Thursday Feb. 3, 2022. Diallo, Executive Secretary for the Collective Against Impunity and Stigmatization of Communities, a civil society group, accused on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2023, Defence fighters of targeting and killing dozens of civilians last week in Nouna town, which is majority ethnic Fulani. AP Photo/Sophie Garcia, File

prosecutor called on the population to remain calm during the investigation and said the government would arrest the perpetrators who conducted acts of "unprecedented gravity."

Extremist groups linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group have killed thousands and displaced nearly 2 million people in Burkina Faso over the past seven years. Lack of confidence in the government's ability to stem the extremist violence led to two coups in Burkina Faso last year.

Violence against the Fulani people has increased since the country's new junta leader, Capt. Ibrahim Traore, seized power in September, allege rights groups. Between October and January Diallo's group documented nearly 250

cases of extrajudicial killings compared to 95 in the previous four months, said Diallo.

There were more initiatives for dialogue between communities and the jihadis under the rule of the previous junta leader, Col. Paul Henri Sandaogo Damiba, which might have resulted in fewer killings, he said.

In an attempt to stem jihadi violence, the government has recruited tens of thousands of civilian volunteers to fight alongside the army. Both groups have been accused by rights groups of committing atrocities against civilians. Many Fulani community members say they're equally afraid of the jihadis as they are of the volunteer militias.

Burkina Faso's government didn't immediately

respond to questions about the alleged abuses. In his New Year's speech to the nation, Traore thanked the volunteer fighters for their patriotism.

But across Burkina Faso, residents charge that the volunteers are rounding up civilians and killing them.

In December, seven volunteers abducted a father and son from their shop in Kongoussi town in the Center North region, Yacouba Diallo, a resident who said he witnessed their abduction, told The Associated Press by phone. The men were found dead in the forest two days later, the father had two gunshots to his body and the son was slaughtered with a knife, said Diallo.

As jihadi violence escalates, conflict analysts warn these killings will increase.

"I think we are currently seeing a grim turn in the crisis in Burkina Faso, as there has clearly been an increase in extrajudicial killings in recent weeks and the events in Nouna are the culmination of this trend," said Heni Nsaibia, a senior researcher at the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project.

"There is an imminent risk of further mass atrocities in the near future, possibly committed by any of the parties involved in the conflict," he said.

Jerusalem: Palestinian anger over far-right Israeli minister's holy site visit

BBC - Palestinians have condemned a visit to a contested holy site in Jerusalem by a far-right Israeli minister as an "unprecedented provocation".

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who has called for a harder line towards the Palestinians, walked around the site surrounded by police.

Competing claims to the compound bitterly divide Israel and the Palestinians.

Tensions have risen with the advent of Israel's new nationalistic government.

Mr Ben-Gvir's visit was his first public act since the government, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, was sworn in five days ago.

The hilltop site is the most sacred place in Judaism and the third holiest in Islam. It is known to Jews as the Temple Mount, site of two Biblical temples, and to Muslims as Haram al-Sharif, the site of Muhammad's ascent to Heaven. The entire compound is considered to be al-Aqsa Mosque by Muslims.

Jews and other non-Muslims are allowed to go to the compound but not pray, though Palestinians see visits by Jews as attempts to change the delicate status quo.

Mr Ben-Gvir, leader of the Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) party, has long said that he wants to bring about



a change to the rules to allow Jewish worship at the site.

"The Temple Mount is open to everyone," he tweeted, accompanied by a photograph of him surrounded by a security cordon with the golden Dome of the Rock in the background.

Ahead of November's election, Mr Ben-Gvir said that he would demand that Benjamin Netanyahu introduce "equal rights for Jews" there.

However, Mr Netanyahu has sought to reassure Israel's allies that he will not allow any changes. A clause in his coalition deals states that the status quo "with regard to the holy places" will be left intact.

Mr Ben-Gvir was given the go-ahead for the visit after consulting Mr Netanyahu and security officials.

Following the 15-minute

walkaround, the Palestinian foreign ministry denounced what it described as "the storming of al-Aqsa mosque by the extremist minister Ben-Gvir and views it as unprecedented provocation and a dangerous escalation of the conflict".

Palestinian Prime Minister Muhammad Shtayyeh called for "thwarting the raids that aimed at turning the al-Aqsa Mosque into a Jewish temple", saying Mr Ben-Gvir's visit was "a violation of all norms, values, international agreements and laws, and Israel's pledges to the American president".

A spokesman for the Palestinian militant Islamist group, Hamas, which governs the Gaza Strip, called it a "crime" and vowed the site "will remain Palestinian, Arab, Islamic", AFP news agency reported.

In his tweet, Mr Ben-Gvir sent a message of defiance to Hamas, declaring: "No Israeli government that I'm a member of is going to bow to a despicable and murderous terror organisation... and if Hamas thinks that I'll be deterred by its threats, it needs to accept that times have changed and that there's a government in Jerusalem."

Tensions between Israel and Palestinians which escalated into violence at the site in May 2021 saw Hamas fire rockets towards Jerusalem, triggering an 11-day conflict with Israel.

A visit to the site in 2000 by Israeli right-winger Ariel Sharon, then opposition leader, infuriated Palestinians. Violence which followed escalated into the second Palestinian uprising, or intifada.

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Mexico prison break: Hunt for escapees turns deadly

BBC - At least seven people have been killed in a shoot-out in Mexico as officials searched for 30 inmates who staged a bloody prison break on Sunday.

Gunmen opened fire on state investigators who were hunting the escapees, killing at least two of them.

Five gunmen also died in the shoot-out, but it is not yet clear if any of the escapees were among those killed.

A gang called Los Mexicles, which has links to the Sinaloa cartel, is thought to be behind the violence.

Sunday's prison break in Ciudad Juárez was one of the deadliest in recent times, leaving 10 guards and seven inmates dead.

Suspected members of Los Mexicles took advantage of the busy visiting hours on Sunday morning as relatives flocked to the jail to wish their loved ones a happy new year.

They arrived in several armoured cars and opened fire on the guards at the entrance, according to local media.

At the same time, inmates set mattresses alight inside their cells to create confusion and distract the guards.

At first, officials said two dozen inmates had escaped, but the head of the state prison system has since announced that the number was "at least 30".

Among those who escaped is the leader of Los Mexicles, Ernesto Piñón



Members of the security forces are out in force after the prison break

de la Cruz, also known as El Neto.

El Neto, 33, has been in prison for 14 years serving a sentence for kidnapping and murder. An attempt by his gang to free him during a prison transfer in 2010 failed and he was injured.

He appears to have wielded enormous power from behind bars, where he enjoyed a more luxurious life than less well-connected prisoners.

Mexico's defence minister said 10 "VIP cells" had been "discovered" during a search of the jail.

El Neto's cell boasted a jacuzzi, a plasma TV and a safe containing 1.7m pesos (\$87,000; £73,000).

Police also found 16kg of marijuana, 4kg of crystal meth and 1.5kg of heroin, as well as several weapons.

Federal officials say the state of Chihuahua, in which the prison is located, is to blame for the lack of oversight, while Chihuahua officials say their requests to have El Neto moved to a federal institution with higher levels of security had been turned down.

Residents of Ciudad Juárez told local media they were terrified after the breakout, as El Neto is believed to have been behind a wave of killings in August 2022 known as "Black Thursday", in which 10 people without any links to criminal gangs were killed across the city.

Police are carrying out checks at nearby airports and on main highways to try and prevent him and his fellow escapees from leaving the state.

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The Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif is the most sensitive site in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Situated in East Jerusalem, it was captured by Israel from Jordan in the 1967 Middle

East war. Under a delicate set of arrangements, Jordan was allowed to continue its historical role as custodian of the site, while Israel assumed control of security and access.

Muslim prayer contin-

ued to be the only form of worship allowed there, although a bar on Jewish visits was lifted. Palestinians argue that in recent years, steps have been taken that undermine the status quo, with Orthodox Jewish visitors often

seen praying quietly without being stopped by Israeli police. The number of visits by Jews has swelled in the past few years, something Palestinians claim is part of a surreptitious attempt to take over the site.

Damar Hamlin: NFL player in critical condition after cardiac arrest

By Sam Cabral

BBC - American football star Damar Hamlin is in a critical condition after suffering a cardiac arrest during a primetime US National Football League game.

The Buffalo Bills player, 24, fell to the ground after colliding with an opponent during the first quarter of a match against the Cincinnati Bengals.

He received on-field medical attention for more than 30 minutes before being taken to a local hospital.

The NFL suspended the game for the night about an hour after the incident.

His team, the Buffalo Bills later confirmed the cardiac arrest in a statement and said that his heartbeat was restored on the field.

In a tweet early on Tuesday, the team said Hamlin is undergoing further testing and treatment and is currently sedated.

The emergency sparked an outpouring of support for Hamlin and brought attention back to the dangerous nature of America's most popular sport as the NFL season approaches its climactic playoff stages.

Hamlin was tackling Bengals receiver Tee Higgins in the stadium in Cincinnati, Ohio, when Higgins' helmet appeared to hit Hamlin in the chest. After initially getting to his feet, he fell on his back.

Players from both teams gathered around Hamlin as



Damar Hamlin

emergency medical staff gave CPR and oxygen. Several were seen visibly distressed, with many kneeling to pray and some in tears.

Television coverage repeatedly broke away from the scene on the field, while the crowd in Cincinnati remained silent during the ordeal.

Jordon Rooney, Hamlin's representative, wrote on Twitter: "His vitals are back to normal and they have put him to sleep to put a breathing tube down his throat. They are currently running tests. We will provide updates as we have them."

NFL games are rarely suspended because of injury. Commentators said the fact that gameplay had stalled was a sign of the shocking and severe nature of the emergency.

The two teams are among the top Super Bowl contenders this year, with their head-to-head coming in the prime-time Monday night slot in the penultimate week of the NFL's regular season.

The league's players' association wrote in a statement: "We have been in touch

with Bills and Bengals players and with the NFL. The only thing that matters at this moment is Damar's health and well-being."

Hamlin, a native of McKees Rock, Pennsylvania, was drafted from the University of Pittsburgh by the Bills in 2021.

He has drawn praise for hosting annual Christmas toy drives in his hometown since before he was a paid athlete.

An online GoFundMe page for the toy drive was reshared after Hamlin collapsed on Monday and has raised nearly \$3m (£2.5m).

Buildings across Cincinnati were lit up in blue on Monday evening, including Paycor Stadium where the incident occurred.

The safety of American football has been much debated in recent years but usually over concussion rather than cardiac risks.

Many former NFL players have the degenerative brain condition CTE which research has linked to repeated hits to the head.

Blunt trauma is common

in contact sports, but it's rare that it causes heart issues like this.

A direct hit to the chest can result in cardiac arrest. That's when the heart stops beating properly and is unable to do its job of pumping blood around the body.

It's different to a heart attack, which happens when blood supply to the heart muscle is cut off.

In Hamlin's case, medics were able to quickly get his heart beating again. It's not yet known what internal injuries he may have sustained from the incident and whether there has been any significant damage to his heart.

Good wishes for the stricken player have poured in.

Basketball star LeBron James said: "It was a terrible thing to see and I wish nothing but the best for that kid."

Arizona Cardinals defensive end JJ Watt wrote on Twitter: "Please be ok man. Please be ok", while retired Pittsburgh Steelers safety Ryan Clark told ESPN's SportsCenter show: "This isn't about a football player, this is about a human."

Bruce Sharpe, a Bills fan who was in the stadium when it happened, said it was "devastating".

"Everything got dead silent. Even the Bengals fans, you know, you don't want to see anything like that," he said. "We're just praying that everything's okay."

Sports News



Brazil prepares to bury Pelé in city he made soccer mecca

By **Mauricio Savarese**

AP - Forty-five years after Pelé played his last game, it's hard to imagine modern soccer, or Brazil, without him.

Geovana Sarmento, 17, waited in the three-hour line to view his body as it lay in repose at the stadium where he played for most of his career. She came with her father, who was wearing a Brazil shirt with Pelé's name.

"I am not a Santos fan, neither is my father. But this guy invented Brazil's national team. He made Santos stronger, he made it big, how could you not respect him? He is one of the greatest people ever, we needed to honour him," she said.

Pelé will be buried Tuesday in the city where he grew up, became famous, and helped make it a global capital of soccer. A Catholic Mass will be celebrated at the Vila Belmiro stadium before his casket is ushered through the streets of Santos to a nearby cemetery.

Brazil's newly inaugurated President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who was sworn in for a third term Sunday after a comeback victory, paid his respects at Vila Belmiro.

The soccer great died Thursday at age 82 after a battle with cancer. He was the only player ever to win three World Cups.

Thousands of mourners, including high school students and supreme court justices, filed Monday past the body of Pelé on the century-old field where he made his hometown team one of Brazil's best. Pelé's coffin, draped in the flags of Brazil and the Santos FC football club, was placed on the midfield area of Vila Belmiro.

Lula arrived at 9 a.m. and took part in a Catholic Mass as fans continued to walk past the coffin, and expressed his condolences to Pelé's widow, Mar-



The casket of late Brazilian soccer great Pelé is draped in the Brazilian and Santos FC soccer club flags as his remains are transported from Vila Belmiro stadium, where he laid in state, to the cemetery during his funeral procession in Santos, Brazil, Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023. (AP Photo/Matias Delacroix)

cia Aoki, holding her head between his hands. He left 30 minutes later.

The storied 16,000-seat stadium was surrounded by mourning fans, and covered with Pelé-themed decorations inside. Fans coming out of the stadium said they'd waited three hours in line, standing under a blazing sun.

Caio Zalke, 35, an engineer, wore a Brazil shirt as he waited in line. "Pelé is the most important Brazilian of all time. He made soccer important for Brazil and he made Brazil important for the world," he said.

In the 1960s and 70s, Pelé was perhaps the world's most famous athlete. He met presidents and queens, and in Nigeria a civil war was put on hold to watch him play. Many Brazilians credit him with putting the country on the world stage for the first time.

Rows of shirts with Pelé's number 10 were placed behind one of the goals, waving in the city's summer winds. A section of the stands was filling up with

bouquets of flowers placed by mourners and sent by clubs and star players — Neymar and Ronaldo among them — from around the world as loudspeakers played a song named "Eu sou Pelé" ("I am Pelé") that was recorded by the Brazilian himself.

The crowd was mostly local, although some came from far away. Many mourners were too young ever to have seen Pelé play. The mood was light, as people filtered out of the stadium to local bars, wearing Santos FC and Brazil shirts.

Claudio Carrança, 32, a salesman, said: "I never saw him play, but loving Pelé is a tradition that goes from father to son in Santos. I learned his history, saw his goals, and I see how Santos FC is important because he is important. I know some Santos fans have children supporting other teams. But that's just because they never saw Pelé in action. If they had, they would feel this gratitude I

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Ken Block: Rally driver and YouTuber killed in snowmobile accident

By Sam Cabral

BBC - American motorsport legend and YouTube star Ken Block has died in a snowmobile accident in Utah at the age of 55.

A competitive rally driver in series such as Rally America and Global Rallycross, he earned wide renown later in life for his "Gymkhana" video series on YouTube.

The 10-part series, in which he performed daring racing feats, earned him nearly two million subscribers.

Block also co-founded the skate-wear clothing brand DC Shoes.

Hoonigan Industries, another clothing company he owned, confirmed its founder's passing in a statement on Instagram on Monday.

"Ken was a visionary, a pioneer and an icon. And most importantly, a father and husband. He will be incredibly missed."

Block was riding a snowmobile up a steep slope in Wasatch County, Utah, when the vehicle upended, landing on top of him, the local sheriff's office wrote on Facebook.

He was pronounced dead at the scene from the injuries he sustained.

The news of his death emerged a day after US actor Jeremy Renner sus-



Ken Block

tained serious injuries while using a snow plough to clear snow outside his home in Nevada.

The sheriff's office in Utah said that Block had been riding with a group but was alone when the crash occurred.

A competitive rally driver since 2005, Block was Rally America's Rookie of the Year in his first season and went on to win rallycross medals at the X Games and podium finishes at the World Rallycross Championship.

He also competed in other action sports, including motocross, skateboarding and snowboarding.

But Block found a second wind on YouTube, where millions watched him navigate dangerous tracks and obstacle courses in a range of vehicles.

He was featured twice on the BBC's Top Gear programme, as well as in four EA Sports racing video games.

The BBC apologised after Block and Top Gear host Matt LeBlanc performed doughnuts that created black tyre marks near the Cenotaph during a 2016 episode. The footage was never aired.

The American Rally Association said it was "gutted" at the news of Block's passing.

"He was a massive influence on everything he touched, including the global world of rallying," it said in a statement on Facebook.

Fellow racers also paid tribute to Block, with former British Formula One world champion Jenson Button calling him "a talent that did so much for our sport".

British former rally driver Malcolm Wilson told BBC Radio 5 that Block was an "infectious character" who helped bring the sport of rally racing to a global audience, especially through his social media videos.

"What he did with cars, the stunts that he did were just truly amazing," Wilson said.

Nascar Xfinity Series driver Ryan Vargas said watching Block's videos "shaped my personality and interest in cars".

Block is survived by his wife, Lucy, and three children.

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feel now."

Among those at the stadium was Pelé's best friend Manoel Maria, also a former Santos player.

"If I had all the wealth in the world I would never be able to repay what this man did for me and my family," Maria said. "He was as great a man as he was as a player; the best of all time. His legacy will outlive us all. And that

can be seen in this long line with people of all ages here."

FIFA President Gianni Infantino told journalists that every country should name a stadium after Pelé.

"I am here with a lot of emotion, sadness, but also with a smile because he gave us so many smiles," Infantino said. "As FIFA, we will pay a tribute to the 'King' and we ask the whole world to observe a minute of silence."

Another fan and friend in line was Brazilian Supreme Court Justice Gilmar Mendes.

"It is a very sad moment, but we are now seeing the real meaning of this legendary player to our country," Mendes told journalists. "My office has shirts signed by Pelé, a picture of him as a goalkeeper, also signed by him. DVDs, photos, a big collection of him."

Pelé had undergone treatment for colon cancer since 2021. The medical centre where he had been hospitalised said he died of multiple organ failure as a result of the cancer.

Pelé led Brazil to World Cup titles in 1958, 1962 and 1970 and remains one of the team's all-time leading scorers with 77 goals. Neymar tied Pelé's record during this year's World Cup in Qatar.

Sports News



An Antigua Grammar School defender Dennison Stevens (#17) heads the ball away from Princess Margaret School's striker, Greg Williams, (centre in pink and grey jersey) during their Under-16 Boys' Division match in the Secondary Schools Football League at the Princess Margaret School playing field on Tuesday, 22nd November, 2022. (File Photo)

Secondary schools' football climaxes this month

The Ministry of Sports will wrap up the 2022/23 Secondary Schools' Football Programme this month.

According to Coordinator of the Schools' Football Programme, coach Rohan "Porridge" Benjamin, although Princess Margaret School (PMS) has already captured the league titles in the Under-20 Girls and Under-14 Boys divisions, the winners of the Under-16 and Under-20 Boys Divisions are still undecided.

Benjamin said the Under-16 Boys league title can be won by either the Antigua Grammar School or Clare Hall Secondary School.

The Antigua Grammar School will take on defending champions All Saints Secondary in the final match of the Under-16 Boys Division. Victory over All Saints Secondary will assure Antigua Grammar School of the title, but any other result might require goal difference to be used to determine the league champion.

Benjamin said the Under-16 Boys encounter will be played shortly after

schools reopen following the annual Christmas vacation.

"Where we are now, is that we would have completed the Female Under-20. PMS would have already won that one. We have also completed the Boys' Under-14s, and PMS would have also won that competition.

"We have a very tight race with one match to go in that division, which is the Boys Under-16s. That competition could go to either Clare Hall Secondary or the Antigua Grammar School.

"With one match to go, as soon as school resumes, within the first week, we will get that match off and running. It might come down to goal difference, but I think the Antigua Grammar School is in the best position to be crowned the Under-16 Boys' league champions."

The winners of the Under-20 Boys' League, which is divided into West and East zones, will also be decided during the month with four teams advancing to the semifinals.

The semifinalists are winners of the East Zone All Saints Secondary and second place finishers the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) and from the West Zone, Ottos Comprehensive School and the Antigua State College.

Benjamin said both semifinals will be contested on Tuesday, 10th January with the two winners advancing to the final, which will be played on Friday, 13th January.

Princess Margaret captured the Female Under-20 Girls' title by producing a sterling display in which they were undefeated in all their matches.

They also have the opportunity to capture another title when they meet the Antigua Girls High School in the final of the Girls' Knockout competition on a date to be decided.

Ottos Comprehensive won the Boys' Knockout Championship, prevailing 2-1 against Irene B Williams Secondary in the final at King George V Ground on 14th December, 2022.

John Hughes defeat Bolans to take second place in the First Division

John Hughes recorded their third win in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division on Monday.

Deno Bryan scored a brace as John Hughes prevailed 3-2 against Bolans at the ABFA's Technical Center at Paynters.

Bryan completed his brace by scoring the winner for John Hughes in the 80th minute.

Bryan converted his first goal in the 57th minute for a 2-0 lead after his teammate Terrance Thomas scored in the 7th minute to give John Hughes a 1-0 halftime lead.

Bolans scored two goals in the second half to level at 2-2 with Karanja Mack who scored in the 68th minute and Andrew Martin who converted in the 78th minute.

Bryan broke the deadlock, however, when he scored the winner 10 minutes before the end of regulation time to secure John Hughes' victory.

John Hughes' third win in six encounters lifted them to second in the standings with 11 points, two adrift of leaders Garden Stars who have played five matches.

The result ensured that Bolans remained on six

points after losing their third game in five matches.

Following Garden Stars and John Hughes at the top of the First Division are Young Lions of Old Road, Green City of Bendals and Police all with nine points apiece.

However, Young Lions have only played four matches, one less than Green City and Police.

The First Division will resume on Thursday, 5th January. Police will face Green City at the Police Recreation Grounds at 4:20pm.

Lion Hill will meet Garden Stars at the Golden Grove playing field at 5 pm. West

Ham will tackle Young Lions at the Princess Margaret School playing field at 4:20 pm and Bendals will take on Potters Tigers at the Bendals playing field at 4:20 pm.

But matches in the ABFA's Second Division will continue tomorrow, Wednesday, 4th January, at 4:30pm.

Freemans Village will host ABAYA at the Freemans Village playing field, Belmont will entertain Blackburn Palace at the Belmont playing field and CPTSA Wings will clash with FC Master Ballers at the Clare Hall Secondary School playing field.



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ABBA moving to develop Division II basketball

The Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association (ABBA) is using its Second Division league to facilitate the development of its personnel in all aspects of the domestic game.

The national association tipped off the 2023 domestic season with an opening ceremony which also signalled the start of Division Two competition at the JSC Sports Complex on 4th December, 2022.

ABBA president, Michael Freeland, said while the Second Division normally provides exposure to young and developing players, it also provided an opportunity for inexperienced coaches, statisticians and referees to hone their skills.

"The intention, really and truly, is to have not only younger players playing but to have the first time coaches or those who are interested in coaching to come out and see what is happening.

"If they are assigned to a team, whether as an assistant coach or a head coach, they get the expo-

sure and they get the experience that they need here," Freeland said.

"As well, we have younger statisticians and we are now looking to hopefully attract younger referees so that the younger referees as well can hone their skills in the Second Division and then they advance to the Division I.

"That is one of the troubling areas for this executive, is not having younger referees, that when the national team travels we can't travel with our own referees."

Freeland said the exposure Second Division players, coaches and other officials receive also opens them up to the same level of recognition as participants in the ABBA Division I league.

"We decided if we do it like this, there is no added pressure, whether it's the players, the statisticians or the referees, when persons come to watch any of these Division II games," Freeland said.

"We decided that these guys have the skills, some of them can play in Divi-



President of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association Michael Freeland (File photo)

sion I easily. It's just that they are playing in Division II and we just want to give them the kind of attention that we give to any other division."

The Second Division,

which is being contested by 16 teams, has been on a break since the 30th December, however matches resume at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday, 8th, January.