

RESTAURANT WEEK COMES TO A&B!

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Visitors and residents can indulge in a myriad of culinary experiences ranging from national to international cuisine during the Antigua and Barbuda Restaurant Week. (Photos: The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority)

May launch for ABTA's Restaurant Week

More than fourteen restaurants have signed up for Restaurant Week, the newest event to be added to the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority's (ABTA) calendar of activities.

Organisers anticipate that over the period 7th to 21st May, 2023, Restaurant Week will attract foodies who will have the opportunity to experience fine dining and sample the cuisine of Antigua and Barbuda at an affordable cost.

It is also intended to serve as an extension of Antigua Sailing Week.

The ABTA's special projects and events manager, Shermaine Jeremy, has said they anticipate that more restaurants will register to be part of the activity, which aims to celebrate "food, our people and our culture".

"The concept behind Restaurant Week is to get a [number] of restaurants onboard to create a prefix menu at a set price. So, we have three tiers currently: US\$25, \$50 and US\$75. So, those restaurants that are participating will be creating either a lunch, dinner or an experiential menu that will fit into either of those three tiers,"



Jeremy explained.

Local food vendors will also be included in the plan under the "Eat Like A Local" programme. This will create the opportunity for foodies to visit their establishments and sample the fare.

The programme will also allow the tourism authority to maintain a listing of local cooks who will be included in its marketing strategy.

"Once we have that catalogue of local food vendors particularly on board, we are now getting ourselves ready to package our local food to the international market and to our visitors.

"Prior to that, the industry was a bit scattered, people didn't really know where to go [and] how to find our local food and this has now presented an opportunity for us to package our local food experience as a product for export," Jeremy said.

Antigua and Barbuda's Restaurant Week is fashioned after the New York model, in which restaurants offer a fixed menu at a fixed price, which allows diners to sample gourmet food and enjoy an experience they may not

ordinarily be able to afford.

"Antigua and Barbuda Restaurant Week is an open invitation for you, your family and friends to come to Antigua and Barbuda and join us at dining tables across the country. Sit back, relax, laugh, enjoy our hospitality and a truly divine foodie experience presented by a team of amazing culinary artists and hosts," said Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment, Charles Fernandez.

"From our restaurants to local food spots, Antigua and Barbuda has some of the best food experiences you can find, and we are extremely excited to finally showcase our culinary side to the world."

The inaugural event will culminate with what the organisers are calling a grand food and art experience.

More information on the upcoming event can be obtained by calling the headquarters of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) at 562-7600.

Interested people may register by visiting www.antiguabarbudarestaurantweek.com.



More good news from tourism

Antigua and Barbuda remains on track to record a bumper year for tourism based on visitor arrivals and the number of cruise ship calls.

On Saturday, after recording its one hundredth cruise call and having welcomed the arrival of over 180,000 visitors, the country recorded another significant achievement on Tuesday when six cruise ships called.

According to Antigua Cruise Port Ltd. (ACP), the country welcomed 10,014 passengers in a single day.

Two of the vessels – the Royal Clipper and Sea Dream II – docked at the

Falmouth Harbour.

The other vessels – Celebrity Millennium, Enchanted Princess, Viking Sea, and Costa Fascinos – all docked at the St. John's Harbour.

Both the ACP and tourism minister, Charles "Max" Fernandez, project that cruise passenger arrivals this year will top the 600,000 mark and confirm the "spectacular" recovery of the cruise sector.

With St. John's Harbour holding its own, ACP's general manager, Dona Regis-Prosper, says her organisation's sights are now set on the Falmouth Harbour.

According to Re-

gis-Prosper, ACP intends to roll out a strategic marketing plan, which will involve attracting more luxury vessels to the country and Falmouth Harbour has been singled out to welcome the new arrivals, in part, because of its historical and other attractions.

"The target for this would be high end vessels with a capacity of 100 to 150 passengers. We are also targeting year-round cruises to boost traffic in the summer period," she stated.



Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez

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Government of Antigua & Barbuda

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St. John's, Antigua

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OAS Scholarship Application Announcement

The Organization of American States announces its 2023 call for scholarship applications for undergraduate and graduate academic studies and graduate research.

More information can be obtained through the links listed below.

- Call for applications for Graduate Studies: https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/Academic_Program_OAS_2023.asp
- Call for applications for Undergraduate Studies: https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/specaf_2023.asp
· Scholarship application form for Undergraduate Studies (last two years of a Bachelor's degree): <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1137&Type=1&Lang=Eng>
- Scholarship application form for Graduate Studies: <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1136&Type=1&Lang=Eng>

Deadline for submission of applications and accompanying documents to the Director of Education, Ministry of Education, Sports and Creative Industries is Friday 31st March, 2023.

Plant Protection Unit creating stakeholder registry

The Plant Protection Unit is creating a registry of all stakeholders as it seeks to improve its services and interaction with all those who handle plants or plant-based products.

Head of the unit, Dr. Janil Gore, said the registry is intended to create a database of those who operate in the sector, which will allow the unit to improve its communication with these stakeholders.

This level of communication, Gore added, is critical in the prevention of and spread of pests.

“This is our first attempt to create this registry as we never had a database of individuals involved in the sector. This, we expect, will lead to better communications between the unit and those in the sector.

“Those involved can have their names registered in one of two ways: they can visit the office on Upper Corn Alley or they can register via the inter-

net,” she explained.

Dr. Gore also outlined that a wide cross section of people and organisations are being encouraged to register.

“This goes out to anyone involved in the importation or exporting of plant items, and these include those handling lumber or wood,” she added.

With regard to lumber or wood used in construction, Dr. Gore explained that the unit has officers posted at the St. John’s Harbour who conduct inspection of wood products entering the country.

During these inspections, the officers ensure that the importer has the appropriate licence or permit and that the imported materials are treated and free of pests.


As part of their routine, officers from the unit visit plant nurseries to conduct similar inspections.

During these visits, the officers also assist the operators of the nurseries with

technical and other advice.

The Plant Protection Unit says stakeholders include any person or entity involved in the handling of plants and plant products including, but not limited to:


- Suppliers of agricultural & other inputs (e.g., seeds, plant growth media and biological soil enhancement products, lumber)
- Agro-processors
- Customs brokers, freight forwarders & couriers
- Cooperatives or groups
- Importers, exporters & hucksters
- Farmers, florists & horticulturists
- Landscapers & plant nurseries
- Researchers
- Resorts/hotels
- Shipping companies
- Supermarkets (particularly those which import fresh produce and other plant items)



OUR NATIONAL HERO

SIR GEORGE HERBERT WALTER


KNH.




He was the first General Secretary of the Antigua Workers Union and second premiere of Antigua and Barbuda. Sir George advocated for Antigua and Barbuda’s full independence from Britain.

He also led the Progressive Labor Movement to victory in elections, defeating Vere Bird sr. Four years after the colony became a British dependency with domestic autonomy. Antigua and Barbuda became an independent nation in 1981.

In 2008, he was posthumously made a Knight of the Order of the National Hero (KNH) by his native country, becoming the country’s fifth national hero.



A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board



Convicted murderer Damien Allred receives life sentence

Antiguan and Barbudan tattoo artist, Damien Allred, has received a life sentence from a Canadian court after he was convicted of the second-degree murder of his elderly neighbour in 2020.

A jury found him guilty of the crime in November, 2022.

The 43-year-old was emotionless last Wednesday when he was sentenced to prison for the gruesome murder by Superior Court Justice Suhail Akhtar in Toronto.

Allred will be eligible for parole after serving 17 years of his sentence.

Damien Allred was arrested and charged shortly after investigators ended their probe into the death of 75-year-old Teresa Santos, whose battered and partly decomposed body was discovered in her apartment at 24 Shaw Street.

The building superintendent entered her apartment after another resident complained of an odour that was emitting from the dwelling.

Santos was found ly-

ing on the floor in a pool of blood with a pillow on her face and a shoeprint on the pillow.

According to Global News in Toronto, Santos, who lived a few doors away from Allred's residence on the 8th floor of an apartment complex, was savagely beaten. She sustained facial injuries, broken teeth and broken ribs from being stomped in the chest during the attack.

A CT scan carried out following her death revealed that a knife had been stuck through her throat.

"He put a pillow over her face and stomped on it twice and then inserted a knife into her mouth, through her skull and brain. The knife buried so deeply, it could not be detected when she was first found," Judge Akhtar said during sentencing.

Investigators quickly linked Allred to the crime after they found bloody shoe marks like the one discovered on the pillow in the hallway that ended at Allred's apartment, which



Damien Allred

he shared with his girlfriend and children.

His DNA was discovered under the deceased woman's fingernails and surveillance footage showed him making trips to a dumpster where he discarded his bloodied clothes and the














victim's keys.

In sentencing Damien Allred who had no prior criminal record in Canada, the trial judge highlighted his drug and alcohol abuse and bouts of depression and anxiety for which he was receiving treatment.

"This was an horrific attack on an elderly woman in the confines of her own home.

"The motive for the murder remains a mystery, however the trauma will not vanish," Justice Akhtar said.

Santos, a mother and grandmother, lived alone at the time of her murder.

Wed 22 Day		Wed 22 Night	
80° 	 13% ENE 11 mph	73° 	 21% NE 11 mph
Sunny skies. High around 80F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph.		A few clouds from time to time. Low 73F. Winds NE at 10 to 15 mph.	
 Humidity 71%	 UV Index Extreme	 Humidity 77%	 UV Index 0 of 10
 Sunrise 6:29 am	 Sunset 6:11 pm	 Moonrise 8:19 am	 Moonset 8:45 pm
 Waxing Crescent			

Local News



Fire department to receive donation from City of Rio Communities

The City of Rio Communities and Albuquerque in the US State of New Mexico have made a donation of fire equipment to Antigua and Barbuda.

Ralph L. Mims, President of R. Mims World Group became aware of the need to strengthen Antigua and Barbuda's fire-fighting capabilities after consulting with First Secretary Roderick Faustin from the Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda in Washington DC.

This need was confirmed by Antigua and Barbuda's former fire chief, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Elvis Weaver.

Through Mims' interventions, the City of Rio Communities City donated a 300 ft, 3 inch fire hose, 100ft, 1 3/4 inch fire hose, 100 ft, 5 inch hose, 6 bunker jackets and 1 pair of bunker bottoms.

The City of Albuquerque, meanwhile, donated 12 pairs of wildland boots, 1Typhoon PPV fan, 50 sets of OOS bunker boots, 20 pairs of OOS bunker boots, 6 sections of OOS 1-3/4 hose and 2 metal booster hose reels, without the hose.

The Albuquerque donation is scheduled to arrive in Antigua in late March 2023, while the City of Rio Communities donation is expected to arrive by July, 2023.

Both cities envision a long-term humanitarian connection with Antigua and Barbuda.



Pictured in the middle holding the fire hose is Ralph L. Mims, Economic Developer and President of the R. Mims World Group whose family is from Barbuda. From the left are Councilors Jim Winters, Peggy Gutjahr, Mayor Josh Ramsell, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, Ralph L. Mims, City Manager Martin Moore, PhD, and Councilors Lawrence Gordon and Art Apodoca. [Photo: Clara Garcia]

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ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE

SUNDAY
AB 12:00 PM
BA 3:45 PM

MONDAY
AB 6:00 AM
BA 8:00 AM

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
AB 7:00 AM
BA 3:45 PM

SATURDAY
AB 8:00 AM
BA 3:45 PM

TYPHOON EXPRESS

MONDAY
ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE
AB 3:45 PM
(OVERNIGHT IN BARBUDA)

TUESDAY
BA 6:00 AM TO ST. JOHN'S

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
(CRABBS DEPARTURE)
AB 10:00AM
BA 3:00PM

UPDATED SCHEDULE



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CIBC FirstCaribbean donates \$65,000 to cancer organisations

Two local organisations are benefitting from a donation of EC\$65,000.00 from funds raised during CIBC FirstCaribbean Bank's 11th Annual Walk for the Cure which was held last October.

The Bank's Country Head Ladesa James-Williams said, "We are so happy and excited to present this record-breaking cheque for \$65,000.00 raised during our Walk for the Cure activities last year. Our participation in our Annual CIBC FirstCaribbean Walk for a Cure is important in terms of increasing awareness of the disease, raising funds for cancer care, showing support for cancer survivors, and remembering those who have passed."

She added that the bank views the walk as "an integral part of CIBC FirstCaribbean's continuing commitment to be engaged with the real issues facing our clients and their communities. By becoming personally involved in this event and also raising funds, we are demonstrating that CIBC FirstCaribbean's commitment to Antigua and Barbuda is about more than handing over a donation".

The funds will be divided equally between the Oncology Department of the Sir Lester Bird Medical



Representatives of the SLBMC and Breast Friends receiving the cheque in the presence of management and staff of CIBC FirstCaribbean and sponsors.

Centre and Breast Friends.

The handover ceremony was hosted by one of the sponsors of the walk, Carlisle Bay Resort.

James-Williams thanked the sponsors, the walk participants, the public and her staff for their support.

"This year we have set a goal of raising \$100,000 and we know that with everyone's support we can do this."

Speaking during the presentation, Breast Friends' president, Eunetta Bird, thanked the bank for its unwavering support.

"You have made your faithful, financial contribution over the past eleven years. CIBC FirstCaribbean has demonstrated its commitment to the work of Breast Friends.

"This year marks the 25th anniversary of Breast Friends which was started to support women with breast cancer and to raise awareness and to educate the public about this disease. Your support means so much to us," she said.

Dr. Hanybal Yazigi, Oncologist at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, also thanked the bank, its staff

and the sponsors for the timely donation and their commitment to the Oncology Department's work.

"The amount of patients coming into the SLBMC with cancer, mainly breast cancer, is increasing, and while this may seem as a bad thing, it is also telling us that there is increased awareness. So, the education is helping a great deal," he said.

The 11th Annual CIBC FirstCaribbean Walk for the Cure, held on Saturday 15th October, 2022, was the largest in the event's history.

Workplace

How do you prefer your HR – strategic or operational?

Today we share with you an article recently posted by HRPAB honorary member Joan H. Underwood on utdsinc.com.

Ms. Underwood is also currently serving as president of the Human Resource Management Association of Barbados (HRMAB).

I hope that you recognized our article title for the trick question that it is. Why? Because for the best results – whether you are an employer, an employee, or a human resource (HR) practitioner – you need an HR department that is both strategic and operational. Let's define both terms to understand why this is the case.

Strategic HR management focuses on the organisation's vision, mission and strategic objectives and identifies how the HR function can contribute to the successful execution of the overall business strategy. This aspect of HR has a long-term and big picture orientation.

In contrast, operational HR management focuses on the management of the day-to-day issues and ensuring compliance with the legal requirements of employing people.

ASQ, a global organisation devoted to helping individuals and organisations achieve excellence through quality, explains the difference in functionality of strategic level and operational level leadership this way:

“Strategic leadership defines the overall vision and mission of an organization, develops strategies, systems, and structures to achieve the vision and mission, creates both technical and social systems that are effectively integrated, and which address the needs of both customers



and employees.

Operational leadership ensures that organizational processes are effectively carried out on a day-to-day basis, monitors performance, addresses constraints, ensures that employees understand what is to be done and are provided with the authority, knowledge, and skills to do it”.

By now, I hope that it is even more evident that strategic and operational HR management are best viewed as interconnected and mutually reinforcing.

While the rationale for pursuing both strategic and operational HR management is evident, it is more often aspirational rather than de facto. HR practitioners continue to yearn to be embraced as strategic business partners who have a critical role to play in the C-Suite.

However, far too often rather than having a seat at the table, figuratively speaking, we are outside the room where the decisions about vision, mission and strategy are made and then are marshalled to help ensure that the job gets done.

In a recent episode of Let's Talk HR with HRMAB, the importance of

HR having both a strategic and operational focus was explored.

In a deep dive into this topic, it was brought out that as HR practitioners there are certain skills that we need to possess to be effective strategic partners.

For instance, we should be able to understand the business model and the mandates of our respective organizations and how they contribute to the national agenda.

We must be able to speak the language and be business savvy especially while discussing the bottom line and those factors that affect the bottom line.

In this way, we can have proper alignment of plans with what happens operationally.

We must also be able to clearly state how people issues can and will affect organizational goals such as customer satisfaction, revenues and profits.

In moving from the aspirational to the actual, we need to understand our roles as HR practitioners and realize that we serve both the business leaders and the employees and any decision made must serve the interests of both sets of stakeholders.

cont'd on pg 9

Alec Baldwin firearm enhancement in manslaughter charge downgraded

By Chloe Kim

Prosecutors in New Mexico have dropped firearm enhancement charges against Alec Baldwin following the fatal shooting of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins on the set of the movie *Rust*.

The move reduces possible prison time for the actor as the charges carry a mandatory five-year prison sentence.

Mr Baldwin, who faces two involuntary manslaughter charges, still faces up to 18 months in prison.

Rust's director Joel Souza was also shot and wounded.

Heather Brewer, Santa Fe county district attorney spokesperson, said the prosecution dropped the firearm enhancement charge to "avoid further litigious distractions by Mr Baldwin and his attorneys".

"The prosecution's priority is securing justice, not securing billable hours for big-city attorneys," Ms Brewer said.

According to CBS News, the BBC's US partner, prosecutors also dropped the firearm enhancement charge for Hannah Gutierrez-Reed,



Alec Baldwin and the film's armourer, Hannah Gutierrez-Reed, still face involuntary manslaughter charges.

the film's armourer, who is responsible for weapons on set.

Lawyers for Mr Baldwin, 64, and Ms Gutierrez-Reed had been arguing against the firearm enhancement charge, saying prosecutors were applying a version of the law passed after the October 2021 shooting accident.

Ms Hutchins, 42, died in hospital after she was shot in the chest by a

prop gun fired by Mr Baldwin.

Previously Mr Baldwin's lawyer, Luke Nikas, said his client "had no reason to believe there was a live bullet in the gun - or anywhere on the movie set".

"He relied on the professionals with whom he worked, who assured him the gun did not have live rounds."

If convicted, along with a prison sentence, Mr Baldwin and Ms Gutierrez-Reed could face a fine of \$5,000 (£4,040).

Earlier this month, the parents and sister of Ms Hutchins sued Mr Baldwin and the production company over Ms Hutchins' death.

Her husband agreed to settle his wrongful death lawsuit - which alleged violations of industry standards - with Mr Baldwin last year.

Filming for the Western film will resume in the spring with Mr Baldwin as the lead actor. (BBC)

cont'd from pg 8

Being effective strategic partners means that we must figure out a way to translate strategy in a way that adds value to both sets of interests.

The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda (HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, professional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began informally from

2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB's growing membership represents private and public organisations as well as independent consultants specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary. You may contact us via email at hrpro.ab@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram @HRPro268.

Business

New World Bank report says Caribbean youth employment declined sharply during the pandemic

A new World Bank report says youth employment in Latin America and the Caribbean declined sharply during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused “a massive collapse in human capital at critical moments in the life cycle, derailing development for millions of children and young people in low- and middle-income countries”, according to the first analysis of global data on young people who were under the age of 25 at the onset of the pandemic.

The report, “Collapse and Recovery: How COVID-19 Eroded Human Capital and What to Do about It”, analyses global data on the pandemic’s impact on young people at key developmental stages: early childhood (0-5 years), school age (6-14 years), and youth (15-24 years).

It finds today’s students could lose up to ten percent of their future earnings due to COVID-19-induced education shocks.

The report also finds the cognitive deficit in today’s toddlers could translate into a 25 percent decline in earnings when these children are adults.

“Human capital—the knowledge, skills, and health



that people accumulate over their lives—is key to unlocking a child’s potential and enabling countries to achieve a resilient recovery and strong future growth,” the report says. “Yet the pandemic shuttered schools and places of employment and disrupted other key services that protect and promote human capital, such as maternal and child health care and job training.”

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), data show a sharp decline in youth employment.

The report says these declines were particularly pronounced at the beginning of the pandemic in Brazil and Mexico, with a six percent

and a seven percent decline.

But, by the end of 2021, the report says youth employment had recovered fully and even exceeded pre-pandemic levels in both countries.

For school-age children, the study finds that between March 2020 and March 2022, an average child lost about one year of in-person schooling due to school closures.

In Latin American and the Caribbean, the report finds children lost 1.7 years due to particularly long school closures.

“Furthermore, the youngest children experienced covid-related service disruptions while still in-utero, as their mothers prepared

for their births,” the report says.

For example, it says relative to the levels observed in 2019, births taking place in a health care institution fell by more than 25 percent in Haiti.

“Regionally, the pandemic worsened an ongoing decline in vaccine coverage rates for children, especially among the poor,” the report says.

“School closures, associated lockdowns and disruptions in services during the course of the pandemic threatened to wipe out decades of progress in building human capital,” said World Bank Group President David Malpass. (CMC)

Jamaica's Education Minister advises students to protect identities and data online

By Micaiah Morgan

Jamaica's Minister of Education and Youth, Fayval Williams is urging students to stay informed on current cyber threats and secure their identities and data when they are online.

Williams was speaking during a recent cybersecurity and data-protection forum, held at the Ministry's Heroes Circle office in Kingston.

She stressed the need for cybersecurity and data protection in light of the increased usage of technology in educational institutions and by students who have had greater access to electronic gadgets since COVID-19 began.

Williams said the education ministry supports the collaboration with e-learning Jamaica in raising public awareness about cybersecurity and data protection problems.

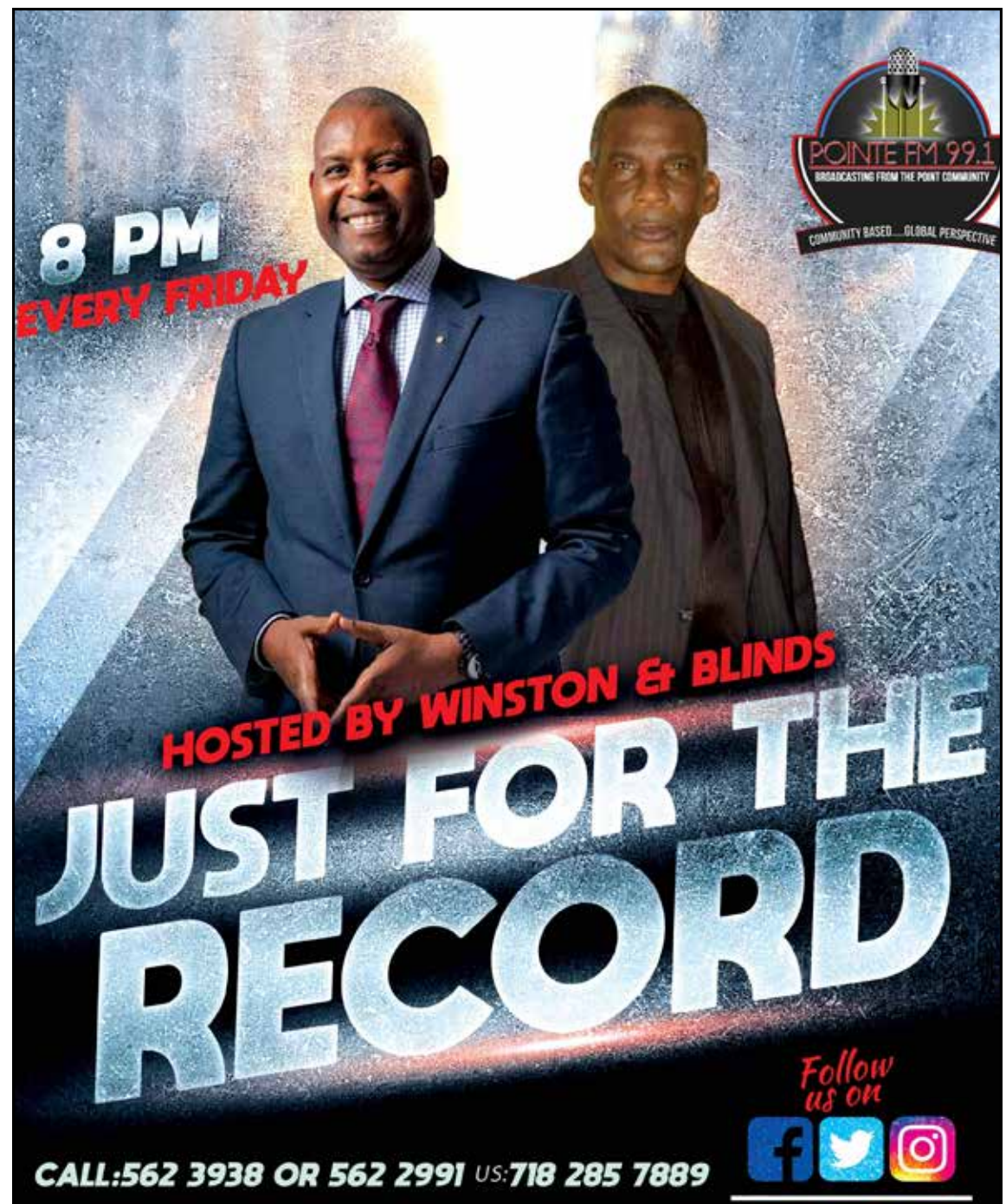
Fayval Williams cautioned students that cyber predators are frequently seeking methods to access personal data and urged them to be educated about the current threats while protecting their identities, information, and passwords.

She further said the forum provides a platform for

people to share experiences and best practices to safeguard digital lives, protect technological infrastructure and national resources.



Minister of Education, Fayval Williams.



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Regional News



Death toll from Brazil rains hits 40; Lula calls for safer housing

Reuters - The death toll from devastating rainfall in southeastern Brazil rose to 40 on Monday, official figures showed, as President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva visited the region and said homes should no longer be built in areas at risk of landslides and major floods.

Authorities in the state of Sao Paulo said on Monday four more people had been killed in addition to 36 killed a day earlier, but more casualties were still expected to be reported as three dozen people remained missing.

Lula flew over the coastal town of Sao Sebastiao alongside Cabinet ministers and pledged to help rebuild the town of some 91,000 people by constructing new houses in safer places.

He also said the government must work to restore key infrastructure facilities such as roads damaged by landslides. The floods in coastal Sao Paulo state were the latest in a series of such disasters to have recently struck Brazil, where shoddy construction, often on

hillsides, has tended to have tragic consequences during the country's rainy season.

"Sometimes nature takes us by surprise, but sometimes we also tempt nature," Lula said in a speech after meeting with Sao Paulo Governor Tarcisio de Freitas and Sao Sebastiao Mayor Felipe Augusto to coordinate their response to the disaster.

"I think it's important that neither happen," he added. "I express my solidarity with the people of Sao Sebastiao and I hope this never happens again."

The deluge happened during Brazil's Carnival holiday period, when thousands flock to the region's beaches, likely aggravating the human toll of the natural disaster.

Sao Sebastiao was the epicentre of the flooding as 39 of the deaths were reported there, but heavy rainfall also affected nearby towns such as Ilhabela, Caragatatuba and Ubatuba, where one casualty was reported, according to the Sao Paulo state government.

More than 2,000 people



Landslides are seen after severe rainfall in Sao Sebastiao, Brazil, February 20, 2023. REUTERS/Amanda Perobelli

have been forced from their homes after rains of more than 600 millimetres (23.62 inches) pounded the coast of Brazil's richest state, the government said, adding that was the highest cumulative figure ever in Brazil.

"It had been raining since Friday. The landslide reached one of the walls of our building, my mother's and brother's vehicles were damaged,"

said Ligia Carla Samia, who was rescued by helicopter. "It was like an avalanche. Thank God we survived."

Many others remained stranded with roads blocked by landslides.

"At some points we don't even know what's left of the Rio-Santos highway," Freitas said after his meeting with Lula, referring to the main

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Police: Boy among three killed at Puerto Rico birthday party

AP - Gunmen opened fire at a birthday party in northern Puerto Rico and killed three people including a 4-year-old boy, police said Tuesday.

The shooting injured two other children, ages 9 and 10, in the attack

Monday night at a public housing complex in the U.S. territory's coastal town of Cataño, police said in a statement.

Police said two men were killed at the party and that the 4-year-old boy

died at a hospital on Tuesday.

Officials said the boy was not related to the men, adding that they believe the shooting was tied to drug trafficking.

No one has been arrested.

American Airlines apologises to T&T PM over incident in Guyana

CMC - American Airlines has extended its “sincerest apology” to Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley, who together with his St Vincent and the Grenadines counterpart, Dr Ralph Gonsalves, became the latest high-level officials to fall victim to the airline’s policy as they were leaving Guyana earlier this month.

The Guyana Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that the airline had refused to allow the two prime ministers, who were in Georgetown attending the 2023 International Energy Conference and Expo, to check-in through the VIP Lounge at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA).

The Foreign Ministry said the Guyana government had previously protested this position taken by American Airlines against its own high and senior government officials, but without success.

In a February 20 letter, American Airlines Managing Director, International Government Affairs, Robert Wirick, offered his “sincerest apology for not proactively approving the request for expedited treatment and the inconvenience caused during your departure from

Guyana’s Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA).

“We sincerely regret that we fell short of your expectations while travelling from Guyana to Miami to connect on a flight to The Bahamas for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) summit,” he wrote.

“Americans greatly treasure the relationship with you and the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. We will strive to ensure that all of your future travels on our airline are pleasant and exceed your expectations. America prides itself on delivering a high level of respect and service that our customers deserve. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns,” Wirick said in the letter.

On Sunday, Prime Minister Gonsalves told radio listeners in his homeland that he is not one to be “easily offended and disrespected” and that “first of all, nobody forced me to do anything”.

He recalled that both he and Rowley were inside the VIP lounge “early” on the morning of their departure.

“I think it was (as) we are going to Miami and then to Bahamas and the Chief of Protocol came and said that



Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines Dr Ralph Gonsalves and Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Dr Keith Rowley (CMC File Photo)

the people who are doing the check in at AA requested that we come there so that they could identify the face to the passport. That’s what I understand. So I said, ‘Fine. Keith, let’s go.’

Gonsalves said that they stood a short distance from the counter and after being told that the protocol details had been completed he left the area.

“Nobody asked anything. I just put up, Keith and I, we stood up talking. Nobody asked us anything. So I thought (what) was required was just a visual identification.

“The only inconvenience for me is that I was drinking a cup of black coffee earlier that morning. By the time

I got back it was cold and just had to get another one. I mean I understand the government of Guyana has some problems there because of how AA deals with it and could understand the government of Guyana raising it from the standpoint of how heads of government may be treated or whoever.

“I don’t know the whole history. I understand there’s something there but it’s the first time that I was ever requested by AA anywhere to come and turn up at the counter when I travel as Prime Minister,” Gonsalves said.

While he agreed what occurred in Guyana was “unusual”, Gonsalves said he wanted to make it clear that “I am not knocking the Guyana government. I am saying they have their history with them and there’s an issue which they’re taken up ... to clarify, but I personally, as Ralph, was no sweat off my nose”.

cont’d from pg 12

road linking the region’s towns. “We even raise the possibility that it collapsed, that the highway no longer exists.”

He declared three days of mourning in the state and a 180-day state of calamity for six towns after the disaster, the latest in a se-

ries of recent natural disasters in Brazil.

More than 200 people were killed by mudslides and floods in the colonial-era city of Petropolis near Rio de Janeiro roughly a year ago. The states of Bahia and Santa Catarina also suffered from similar disasters recently.

Turkey earthquake: Deadly new tremor traps people under rubble

BBC - Rescuers are once again searching for people trapped under rubble in Turkey after another earthquake hit the country, killing at least six people.

A 6.4 magnitude tremor struck near the city of Antakya near the border with Syria, where massive quakes devastated both countries on 6 February.

The earlier quakes killed 44,000 people in Turkey and Syria with tens of thousands more left homeless.

Buildings weakened by those tremors collapsed in both countries on Monday.

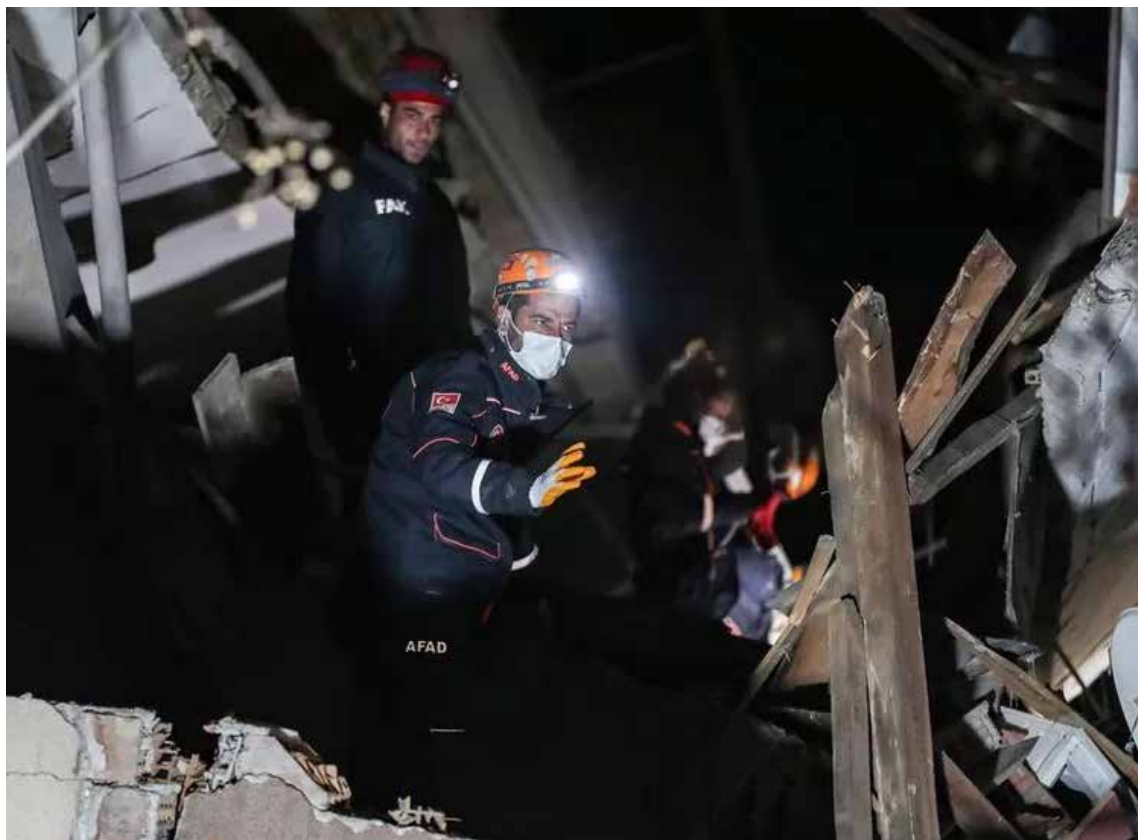
Turkey's disaster and emergency agency says the 6.4 earthquake occurred at 20:04 local time (17:04 GMT) at a depth of 10km (6.2 miles).

This was followed by a 5.8 aftershock three minutes later and 31 subsequent aftershocks that were not as severe.

The health minister, Dr Fahrettin Koca, said 294 people have been injured - 18 of them seriously.

It's thought the death toll has been relatively low this time because the earthquake struck in an area that was largely empty after it was badly hit by the 6 February quake.

Reports from the city of Antakya spoke of fear and panic in the streets as ambulances and rescue



Rescue teams work on a collapsed building in Hatay, Turkey

crews tried to reach the worst affected areas where the walls of badly damaged buildings had collapsed.

"I thought the earth was going to split open under my feet," local resident Muna al-Omar told Reuters news agency, crying as she held her seven-year-old son. She had been in a tent in a park in the city centre when the new earthquakes hit.

Ali Mazlum, 18, told AFP news agency he had been looking for the bodies of family members from the previous earthquakes when the latest tremors hit.

"You don't know what to do... we grabbed each other and right in front

of us, the walls started to fall," he said.

In the city of Adana, the latest earthquake drove people to a volleyball centre that had been converted into a rescue centre following the first earthquake.

The authorities have told the BBC they believe as many as 600 people may have arrived overnight - seeking a sturdy, ground-level building in which to take shelter.

When the quake struck, people were reported to have run out into the streets rather than staying put, reflecting the fact that there is still significant fear two weeks after the initial disaster.

In Syria, some 470 injured people are said to have visited hospitals after Monday's quakes, which were also reportedly felt in Egypt and Lebanon.

In a visit to Turkey on Monday, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced \$100m (£83m) in humanitarian aid, saying that America would help with earthquake recovery "for as long as it takes".

It is one of several countries to have offered their help in the wake of the first earthquake.

Rescue operations had recently been wound down in all but two areas, with hopes of finding people alive fading fast.

Australia UN visit: Torture body cancels inspection over access issues

BBC - A United Nations torture monitoring agency has cancelled a visit to Australia because two states won't give them free access to detention centres.

The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT) had been due to visit in October but suspended it after New South Wales and Queensland refused entry to some facilities.

It has now said not enough progress has been made to allow full access.

The Australian government has expressed disappointment at the cancellation.

The SPT, which is made up of independent human rights experts, was supposed to check Australia's adherence to a protocol aimed at preventing torture and degrading treatment.

The country's involvement in this was approved by the federal government in 2017 and allows SPT members to visit prisons, police stations and other detention centres unannounced.

But SPT Chairperson Suzanne Jabbour has said that despite Australia's co-operation, there was no alternative but to "terminate the visit as the issue of unrestricted access to all places of deprivation of liberty in two states has not yet been resolved".

The SPT added that it



Australia signed up to a protocol aimed at preventing torture and degrading treatment in 2017.

"could not ascertain that it would be able to resume its visit in a reasonable time-frame".

A spokesperson for Australia's federal Attorney-General, Mark Dreyfus, said the government deeply regretted the decision and that it doesn't reflect the country's "commitment to protecting and promoting human rights".

He added that SPT visits in all other Australian states had been successful.

Since October, Queensland has made some progress in allowing the UN to visit mental health in-patient wards, access to which had been blocked over privacy concerns.

A bill aimed at removing legal barriers is currently being examined by parliament.

New South Wales Attorney General Mark Speakman has said his government had "consistently indicated" it supported the protocol.

The state restricted access to prisons in October, with the corrections minister telling local media at the time that officers at one facility had been right to deny inspectors access as they didn't have proper approval.

"It's really unnecessary for the UN to demand to come and demand to get into our jails," said Geoff Lee, adding that the state

had nothing to hide.

Australia's human rights commissioner, meanwhile, has said the visit's cancellation was "neither unexpected nor undeserved".

Lorraine Finlay told ABC News that Australia hasn't treated the issue with the seriousness it deserves.

"I think there's no doubt that it does damage our reputation," said Ms Finlay.

"Australia wants to be a global leader when it comes to human rights, but it's really hard to take on that leadership and advocate... when we're not meeting our own international commitments."

International

AROUND THE WORLD



Russia suspends only remaining major nuclear treaty with US

AP - Russian President Vladimir Putin declared Tuesday that Moscow was suspending its participation in the New START treaty - the last remaining nuclear arms control pact with the United States - sharply upping the ante amid tensions with Washington over the fighting in Ukraine.

Speaking in his state-of-the-nation address, Putin also said that Russia should stand ready to resume nuclear weapons tests if the U.S. does so, a move that would end a global ban on nuclear weapons tests in place since Cold War times.

Explaining his decision to suspend Russia's obligations under New START, Putin accused the U.S. and its NATO allies of openly declaring the goal of Russia's defeat in Ukraine.

"They want to inflict a 'strategic defeat' on us and try to get to our nuclear facilities at the same time," he said, declaring his decision to suspend Russia's participation in the treaty. "In this context, I have to declare today that Russia is suspending its participation in the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Arms."

New START's official name is The Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms.

U.S. Secretary of State



Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures as he gives his annual state of the nation address in Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023. (Mikhail Metzel, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP)

Antony Blinken deplored Putin's move as "deeply unfortunate and irresponsible," noting that "we'll be watching carefully to see what Russia actually does."

He said that "we'll, of course, make sure that in any event we are postured appropriately for the security of our own country and that of our allies," but emphasised that "we remain ready to talk about strategic arms limitations at any time with Russia irrespective of anything else going on in the world or in our relationship."

"I think it matters that we continue to act responsibly in this area," Blinken told reporters on a visit to Greece. "It's also something the rest of the world expects of us."

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg also voiced regret about Putin's move, saying that "with today's decision on New

START, full arms control architecture has been dismantled."

"I strongly encourage Russia to reconsider its decision and respect existing agreements," he told reporters.

Putin argued that while the U.S. has pushed for the resumption of inspections of Russian nuclear facilities under the treaty, NATO allies had helped Ukraine mount drone attacks on Russian air bases hosting nuclear-capable strategic bombers.

The Russian military said that it shot down the Soviet-built drones that struck two bomber bases deep inside Russia in December, but acknowledged that several servicemen were killed by debris that also damaged some aircraft.

Putin on Tuesday mocked NATO's statement urging Russia to allow the resumption of the U.S. in-

spections of Russian nuclear weapons sites as "some kind of theatre of the absurd."

"The drones used for it were equipped and modernised with NATO's expert assistance," Putin said. "And now they want to inspect our defence facilities? In the conditions of today's confrontation, it sounds like sheer nonsense."

He said that a week ago he signed an order to deploy new land-based strategic missiles and asked: "Are they also going to poke their noses there?"

The Russian leader also noted that NATO's statement on New START raises the issue of the nuclear weapons of Britain and France that are part of the alliance's nuclear capability but aren't included in the U.S.-Russian pact.

"They are also aimed against us. They are aimed against Russia," he said. "Before we return to discussing the treaty, we need to understand what are the aspirations of NATO members Britain and France and how we take it into account their strategic arsenals that are part of the alliance's combined strike potential."

Putin emphasised that Russia is suspending its involvement in New START and not entirely withdrawing from the pact yet.

The New START treaty, signed in 2010 by U.S.

cont'd on pg 17

Azpilicueta out of hospital after being kicked in head

AP - Chelsea captain Cesar Azpilicueta has been discharged from the hospital and is “recovering well” after being kicked in the head during an English Premier League game, the club said on Tuesday.

Azpilicueta was taken off on a stretcher wearing a neck brace and breathing from an oxygen mask following a 10-minute stoppage after being hit in the face by an attempted overhead kick by Southampton player Sékou Mara in Chelsea’s 1-0 loss at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

Chelsea said Azpilicueta sustained a concussion and was back at the club training ground.

“The club’s medical team are closely monitoring Cesar’s condition, adhering to the important



Injured Chelsea’s Cesar Azpilicueta is taken away during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Southampton at the Stamford Bridge stadium in London, Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023. (AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

concussion protocols in working towards returning the club win two Premier League titles and the Champions League in 2021. He was named captain in 2019.

place to ensure his safety,” to the pitch.” The 33-year-old Azpilicueta joined Chelsea in 2012 and has helped

cont’d from pg 16

President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers. The agreement envisages sweeping on-site inspections to verify compliance.

Just days before the treaty was due to expire in February 2021, Russia and the United States agreed to extend it for another five years.

Russia and the U.S. have suspended mutual inspections under New START since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Moscow last fall refused to allow their resumption, raising uncertainty about the pact’s future. Russia

also indefinitely postponed a planned round of consultations under the treaty.

The U.S. State Department has said that Russia’s refusal to allow the inspections “prevents the United States from exercising important rights under the treaty and threatens the viability of U.S.-Russian nuclear arms control.” It noted that nothing prevents Russian inspectors from conducting inspections of U.S. facilities.

Putin on Tuesday challenged the U.S. assertion, alleging that Washington has rejected some Russian requests for visits to specific U.S. facilities.

“We aren’t allowed to conduct full-fledged inspections under the

treaty,” he said. “We can’t really check anything on their side.”

He alleged that the U.S. was working on nuclear weapons and some in the U.S. were pondering plans to resume nuclear tests banned under the global test ban that took effect after the end of the Cold War.

“In this situation, Rosatom (Russia’s state nuclear corporation) and the Defense Ministry must ensure readiness for Russian nuclear weapons tests,” Putin said. “We naturally won’t be the first to do it, but if the U.S. conducts tests we will also do it. No one should have dangerous illusions that the global strategic parity could be destroyed.”

Sports News



Westbrook to sign with Clippers after Jazz waive him

AP - Russell Westbrook was waived by the Utah Jazz on Monday and the nine-time All-Star is expected to sign with the Los Angeles Clippers, according to a published report.

The 34-year-old guard was acquired by the Jazz from the Los Angeles Lakers on Feb. 10. He averaged 15.9 points, 7.4 rebounds and 7.1 assists in 28.7 minutes per game in a rocky tenure with the Lakers.

ESPN reported that Westbrook's agent, Jeff Schwartz of Excel Sports, told the outlet he will sign with the Clippers after completing a contract buy-out on the remaining \$47 million he's owed on his expiring deal.

Schwartz did not immediately respond to messages from The Associated Press. The Clippers had no comment.

The move would re-
cont'd on pg 19



Los Angeles Lakers' Russell Westbrook brings the ball up during the second half of the team's NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks on Jan. 31, 2023, in New York. The Lakers traded Westbrook to the Utah Jazz and reacquired guard D'Angelo Russell from Minnesota in a three-team, eight-player deal Wednesday night, Feb. 8, ahead of the NBA's trade deadline, a person with knowledge of the trade told The Associated Press. (AP Photo/Frank Franklin II, File)

AGHS stay perfect in school's netball league

The Antigua Girls High School (AGHS) kept their unbeaten run intact when the Cool & Smooth Inter-Schools Netball League resumed on Monday.

AGHS overcame All Saints Secondary 15 - 9 in one of three 16 and Under Division games at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Joy Shaw sank 14 of 24 attempts for AGHS while Kinisha James scored

5 of 6 shots and Shakorah Prince converted 4 of 6 tries for All Saints Secondary.

There were wins as well for defending champions, Princess Margaret School and Clare Hall Secondary.

Kadeja Alexander scored 4 of her 15 shots while Jahida Payne sank just 2 of her 10 tries for Princess Margaret to prevail 6 - 3 over Irene B. Williams

Secondary.

Kadisha Henry converted 3 of 13 attempts for Irene B. Williams.

Clare Hall Secondary claimed a 5 - 3 victory over St. Mary's Secondary School.

Ijahnae Isadore sank 4 of 10 attempts for Clare Hall while Annika Samuel converted 2 of her 6 tries for St. Mary's Secondary.

“Potential to be great team” - Walsh recaps West Indies T20 World Cup campaign

West Indies bowed out of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup on Monday, following India's victory over Ireland.

Head Coach Courtney Walsh said he was proud of his team's showing despite not making it to the business end of the tournament.

Led by the heroics of captain Hayley Matthews, West Indies had two thrilling wins over Ireland and Pakistan on Friday and Sunday.

However, India's win on Monday meant they stayed in second spot in Group 2, with West Indies finishing third. England won the group.

“We knew it would have been a tough group with the two top teams

ahead of us, England and India and we would have had to beat one of them to have a realistic chance of getting through.

“But I am very happy with the last two wins that we had, two from four is not bad but we were really hoping for three from four which would have given us a chance,” Walsh told CWI Media.

The West Indies fast bowling legend was full of praise of Matthews who performed exceptionally well in the back-to-back wins – where she also won the Player of the Match awards.

Against Ireland she played the innings of the tournament – 66 not out to engineer a win with one ball to spare.

Against the Pakistanis she was again on song with 20 at the top of the order followed by two crucial wickets in a sensational last-ball victory.

Walsh added that it was also good to see several other players stepping up at various times.

Three Rising Stars Under-19s players were selected into the World Cup squad, Djenaba Joseph, Trishan Holder and Zaida James. Holder and James were part of the playing eleven in the two matches that the West Indies won.

Walsh said, “They're in good stead, the experience and exposure they would have had from a tournament like this would be second to none. We saw how good they fielded in

the last game in saving runs, the youth and exuberance paid off.

“The three of them that were here have potential for West Indies long term and that's one the things I said that we need to pull out some players from now and I'm happy we were able to do so with them from this tournament.

“We hope when they go back home, the territorial boards will do everything they can to maintain and help them grow because that is also very important.”

Asked where the team goes from here, Walsh replied, “There is a rebuilding phase but potential wise, this team has the potential, it's just the execution and consistency we're lacking in, once we get the consistency and execute well, I see a lot of good things happening for the team.”

Next on the international calendar for the West Indies Women, they are expected to host Ireland Women in three One-Day Internationals and three T20 Internationals in June and July. The full match schedule will be confirmed at a later date.

cont'd from pg 18

unite Westbrook with Paul George, his former teammate in Oklahoma City. It also allows Westbrook to stay in Los Angeles. He is from the area and starred at UCLA.

George had lobbied recently for the Clippers to land Westbrook, who won the MVP in 2017 with the Thunder.

“I'm a big believer and a fan of what Russ' work is, having one of my best seasons in my career alongside of him. I've seen what he can do night in and night out,” George said.

“I really think he can improve the team. He's such a big talent. He rebounds, he finds guys, he makes the game easy for everyone.

“I think he will come in, he will mesh and he'll figure out how we play and he'll adjust to it.”

Westbrook would join a Clippers team that is fourth in the Western Conference at 33-28 coming out of the All-Star break.

The Lakers traded Westbrook and a 2027 first-round draft pick to the Jazz as part of a three-team deal.

Tyson fulfils long-time ambition by kitesurfing around Antigua

National Kite Surfer Tiger Tyson said he fulfilled a long time ambition when he successfully circumnavigated Antigua in record time on Friday, 17th February.

Tyson achieved the historic feat during the Antigua 360 Race, the fifth in the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) Nelson's Cup Series, which involved a highly competitive and varied fleet of International Rating Certificate (IRC) offshore boats, Class 40s and Multihulls.

Following the start of the Antigua 360 race, the Antiguan and Barbudan kiteboard sensation started his attempt, successfully ripping around Antigua in 2 hours and 38 minutes, eclipsing the round Antigua Record held by Lloyd Thornburg's MOD70 Phaedo3 yacht by six minutes.

Tyson, who spoke with Vernon Springer on Monday's edition of Pointe On De Streetz on Pointe FM, expressed his elation in overcoming challenging weather conditions, including 25 knot winds and a three metre swells, to accomplish his goal.

"Boy, it is something



Tiger Tyson glides across the water during his Round Antigua adventure on Friday, 17th February, 2023. (© Tim Wright/RORC)

that I've always wanted to do but never had the right chance. I have tried it a couple years ago, but the weather is always really bad on the day of that race for some reason and this year, it was the same thing," Tyson said.

"The wind was very stormy - there were lots of big waves and a lot of seaweed out there - so, it wasn't easy, but I am glad I did it.

"Finally, I managed to achieve it, which is something I've been wanting to do for a long time."

Kiteboarding, or kitesurfing, is a sport that involves harnessing the wind with a large power kite which pulls the rider across a water, land, or snow surface.

It combines the aspects of paragliding, surfing, windsurfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, and wakeboarding.

Tyson said he did not start the Round Antigua race with the intention of breaking the record, however, once he realised that achieving the feat was possible, he pushed ahead

with renewed vigour.

"To be honest, I just wanted to complete the course, but then like once I got about halfway to three quarters of the way around, I was looking at my time and I realised that I actually had a chance to catch the record," Tyson said.

"So, I started pushing a little more and on the last leg going up, I kept looking at my watch to see how far I was and I was really close to the finish line with about 10 minutes to go.

"I thought that I got it
cont'd on pg 21

Tryum beat Parham in ABFA Premier Division

Tryum won the latest match to move up to tenth place in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Monday.

Chevel Cunningham scored a brace, including an added on time winner, as Tryum came from behind to snatch a 2 - 1 victory over Parham in the second game of a double header at the ABFA Technical Center at Paynters.

Cunningham scored his second goal and Tryum's winner via a header from a corner in the second minute of added on time (90+2 minutes).

Cunningham also scored a late equaliser for Tryum with a glancing header from a free kick in the 85th minute.

Before Cunningham's interventions, Parham appeared on course to secure their third win of the season after Trevaugh "Peter Blue" Harriette's 16th minute conversion gave them a 1 - 0 lead.

Parham were unable



Chevel Cunningham (left) scored both goals for Tryum in their Premier Division league encounter against Parham at the ABFA Technical Center at Paynters on Monday, 20th February, 2023. (Photo: ABFA)

to keep the Tryum outfit from scoring and eventually wilted to incur their seventh loss in 12 matches this season.

The result left Parham in thirteenth place in the 16 team competition with 9 points while their fifth win in 12 matches lifted

Tryum to 16 points.

Meanwhile, leaders Garden Stars opened up an 11 point gap at the top of the First Division.

They extended their unbeaten run with a 2 - 0 victory over West Ham in the first match of Monday's double header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Goals by Dylan Martin and Sedique Adams on either side of halftime powered Garden Stars to their eleventh win in 12 First Division matches this season.

Martin's 8th minute

conversion gave Garden Stars a 1- 0 halftime advantage and Adams sealed his team's latest victory with a goal in the 62nd minute.

The win lifted Garden Stars to 34 points, 11 points ahead of John Hughes, who are currently in second place, however, John Hughes have played one game less than Garden Stars.

West Ham are second from bottom of the standings after suffering their seventh defeat in 11 matches.

cont'd from pg 20

then, but around the finish line there was so much seaweed and there was no wind by the finish because I was behind a big hill which was blocking the wind nicely.

"So, just before the finish line, I actually crashed and I thought I wasn't going to make the finish line and I was so vexed but luckily, I managed to come back up and finish the race."

A&B crush Anguilla to make winning start in LICB Three-Day contest

Antigua and Barbuda crushed Anguilla by eight wickets on the second day of their opening round match in the Leeward Islands Senior Men Three-Day Tournament at Conaree, St Kitts on Monday, 20th February.

Set exactly 100 runs to win, Antigua and Barbuda achieved their victory target for the loss of two wickets in 20.1 overs.

Essan Warner struck an unbeaten 50 off 50 balls with 9 fours while opener and captain, Kofi James, made 31.

The Antigua and Barbuda victory was set up by outstanding bowling performances by leg-spinner, Hayden Walsh Jr., and left-arm spinner, Glenton Williams, who both claimed six wicket hauls in Anguilla's first and second innings.

Walsh snapped up 6 for 13 and Williams picked up 3 for 11 to dismiss Anguilla for 113 in their first innings in 52.5 overs.

Oliver Walker top scored with 34.

Antigua and Barbuda

replied in with 175, all out, in their first innings.

James struck 36 and fellow opener Tyrone Williams contributed 32. Walker captured 4 for 24.

Trailing by 62 runs at the end of the first innings, Anguilla performed a little better in their second innings and were dismissed for 161 in 48.5 overs.

Williams grabbed 6 for 32 in 12.5 overs while Walsh claimed 2 for 42 in 10 overs.

Antigua and Barbuda will oppose Montserrat at Warner Park Stadium in St. Kitts in the second round of matches from 23rd to 25th February.

St. Kitts will oppose Anguilla at Conaree, St. Kitts while Nevis will challenge St. Maarten at the Elquemedeo T. Willett Park in Nevis in the other two second round encounters.

In the final round of matches, Antigua and Barbuda will meet Nevis at the Elquemedeo T. Willett Park and St. Kitts will tackle Montserrat at Conaree from 28th February to 1st March.



Antigua and Barbuda's left-arm spinner, Glenton Williams, captured nine wickets against Anguilla in the opening round match in the Leeward Islands Senior Men Three-Day Tournament at Conaree, St Kitts. The game ended on the second day, Monday, 20th February.

Anguilla and St. the Carib Lumber Ball Park Maarten will clash in their in St. Maarten from 3rd to final third round match at 5th March.