

# CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

*Story on Page 4*



*Six of the seven Kanneh-Mason siblings pictured with their 88-year-old grandmother Mrs. Mason. The internationally renowned United Kingdom-based musical family has been named Antigua and Barbuda's Cultural Ambassadors.*

## Antigua and Barbuda working with US on Alfa Nero sale

There are ongoing discussions between the Antigua and Barbuda government and the United States Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) regarding the pending sale of the super yacht, Alfa Nero.

The revelation comes from the General Manager of the Antigua Port Authority, Darwin Telemaque who explained that although the vessel has been acquired by the government and is now flying the Antigua and Barbuda flag, it still remains on the sanctioned list compiled by the US government, following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

“There is a treaty that the government signed with the US that governs how to handle/dispose of sanctioned vessels.

“The treaty does not allow us to engage in any discussion with anyone, regarding the purchase of the Alfa Nero whilst it remains on the sanctioned list.

“Having it removed from that list is quite an involved process,” Telemaque



further explained.

The port manager said the government is determined to ‘do things the right way’ regarding the vessel. In this respect, he revealed that the country’s ambassador to the US, Sir Ron Sanders has been in touch with OFAC to work out the modalities for freeing up the vessel from the sanctioned list.

According to Telemaque, Sir Ron has proposed that since the vessel was sanctioned by the US because it belonged to a Russian oligarch; now that it is owned by the Antigua

and Barbuda government that sanction ought to be removed. Secondly, since OFAC gave licenses to two US citizens to conduct negotiations regarding the purchase of the vessel, a similar license should be given to Antigua and Barbuda so that it too may engage in negotiations with potential buyers.

In the meantime, the port manager has reported that interests in the vessel are quite high. Already, the names of fifteen persons who have sent letters of inquiry have been dispatched to OFAC as part of the due

diligence.













“We have asked those individuals to send us the names of their beneficial owners so that we can carry out our due diligence.

“These names have been sent to the US for further inquiry and if the US approves of them then we know that when we get the license we can begin the negotiations,” he remarked.

Presently, Telemaque is awaiting a response from OFAC in order to move forward with disposing of the vessel.

“I suspect that we will hear from them shortly, as there are signs that they are willing to cooperate with us,” he determined.

Since the flagging of the vessel, arrangements have been made with the Antigua Yacht Club to assist with the maintenance, and insurance for the Alfa Nero is also being discussed.

<b>Mon 24   Day</b> <b>84°</b>  Partly cloudy skies. High 84F. Winds light and variable.		<b>Mon 24   Night</b> <b>75°</b>  Partly cloudy skies. Low around 75F. Winds light and variable.	
 23%  WNW 3 mph	 15%  NNW 2 mph	 Humidity <b>70%</b>	 UV Index <b>Extreme</b>
 Sunrise <b>5:46 am</b>	 Sunset <b>6:25 pm</b>	 Moonrise <b>9:08 am</b>	 Moonset <b>10:50 pm</b>  Waxing Crescent

## ABYSO inspired

Patrons attending last Saturday's Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) and the Kanneh-Masons 'Playing to Inspire 5' concert, held at the St. John's Pentecostal House of Restoration Church on Lauchland Benjamin Drive, have come away not only inspired but fully entertained as well.

Under the directorship of guest conductor, Tom Fetherstonhaugh, the concert showcased the Kanneh-Masons, ABYSO, and special guests performing a variety of musical pieces, ranging from some of the masters of classical music such as Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, and Handel, also traditional Antigua and

Barbuda folklore music and a special arrangement of Bob Marley's Redemption Song.

In the mix of all this were special performances from saxophonist Jess Gilham of the United Kingdom who has been described as a 'musical force of nature.' She thrilled the audience with her special selections, and no one will be surprised if she is invited to return for next year's presentation.

The concert would not be complete without performances from the Kanneh-Masons. The six siblings who were present performed two beautiful pieces; and as always, it was a joy to watch, listen, and enjoy.

Another of the special guests was Antigua and



From left: Marlen Vasquez, Elliot Rodriguez, Nicole Rodriguez, Jesus Cabrera and Ely Perez (representing the DR Embassy in St John's).

Barbuda's own Zahra Lake on pan, who featured prominently in the "There's no place like home' medley of traditional songs.

Three musicians from the Dominican Republic – Nicole Rodriguez, Jesus Cabrera, and Elliot Rodriguez – also performed with ABYSO during the concert as part of a special arrangement between the orchestra and the Young Musicians of the Caribbean programme.

During the evening, the junior section of ABYSO also performed a special selection.

It was perhaps fitting that the night's musical journey came to a climactic end with the performance of Handel's

Hallelujah Chorus which also featured the Inspire Choir. Some members of the audience could not contain themselves but found themselves singing along with this much-beloved anthem.

Several announcements at the end of the performances related to the future of ABYSO.

Firstly, Prime Minister Gaston Browne declared that the government has decided to increase its annual subvention from \$50,000 to \$75,000.00. Additionally, he said the Hadeed Family, represented by Ambassador Aziz Hadeed at the concert, has decided to donate a parcel of land to ABYSO for the construction of its headquarters. The government has also pledged to assist with the construction of the home for ABYSO.

Finally, the government will proceed with the transformation of the former Deluxe Cinema building into the nation's performing arts centre, as part of the 'cultural infrastructure' of the country.



# Musical family named Cultural Ambassadors

Internationally renowned United Kingdom-based musical family – the Kanneh-Masons – have been named Antigua and Barbuda’s Cultural Ambassadors.

The announcement came on Saturday night during a special concert – Playing to Inspire 5 – that featured members of the Kanneh-Mason family, playing alongside the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) and special guests. The concert was held at the St. John’s Pentecostal House of Restoration on Lauchland Benjamin Drive.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne made the announcement, noting that the special designation includes the parents of the seven musical siblings, six of whom performed during Saturday night’s concert.



The prime minister especially lavished praise on the parents – Stuart and Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason – for being the ‘epitome’ of what parenting ought to be, noting that they raised their children to become outstanding role models for young people everywhere.

“I’m very proud!” Stuart Mason, the father of the siblings, declared, “It’s an honour, especially given that my parents were both from Antigua and Barbuda. My father has passed but my mother is here with us, and at 88 years old, this has been their dream coming to fruition.”

He said he is also pleased to see the great strides that the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra has been making over the past five years. “To see the children of ABYSO doing so beautifully, I am so glad to be a part of that. My wife and I couldn’t have been more proud of our children, but more importantly, the ABYSO children, it has been an incredible

evening,” he continued.

On the issue of Cultural Ambassadors, he said for him it means one thing, giving back. “People look at the children and note their achievements, but we have had a lot of support along the way. This is our opportunity to give something back, but also to continue to learn because every time the children come here, they learn so much. So this appointment means inspiring, giving back, and supporting ABYSO on this journey,” he remarked.

His hope, he added, is to see ABYSO continue to grow to where the concert becomes a major social and cultural fixture on the annual Calendar of Events for Antigua and Barbuda.



## National Secondary School's theatre festival opens

The annual national drama and dance exposition by students of the nation's secondary schools takes place during this week.

Formally opened on Sunday, the National Secondary School Theatre Festival was declared open by Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Creative Industries, Senator Shenella Govia, who noted that the importance of theatre to the growth and development of the country cannot be denied.

"The performing arts encourage young people to explore their emotions, expand their imaginations and help them develop their own unique voice. Each discipline of music, dance and drama engages a child's brain, body, and emotions in different ways, to encourage their confidence and find joy in self-expression. Students, I encourage you to immerse yourself in the festivals," she urged young people.

Cultural Director Khan Cordice explained that the performances for the festival begin on Tuesday night with five schools participating in the dance presentations. These schools are Ottos Comprehensive, All Saints Secondary, Princess Margaret Secondary, Sir Novelle Richards Academy, and the Antigua Girls High School.

The drama performances take place on Wednesday,

Thursday, and Friday night featuring two schools on each night. Jennings Secondary, Irene B. Williams Secondary, St. Mary's Secondary, Ottos Comprehensive, Princess Margaret Secondary, and Sir Novell Richards Academy are card-

ed to stage dramatic presentations.

Meanwhile, participants for these presentations in dance and drama will spend today undergoing intense training in both disciplines. Two local tutors – Veronica Yearwood and Marvalene

McClellan and two overseas-based tutors will assist with the training. They are Pierre Lamaire of Jamaica and John Hunt out of Barbados.

The performances take place at the Dean William Lake Cultural Centre.

	DAY	NIGHT
<b>APRIL 25</b>	PRINCESS MARGARET SCHOOL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE	<b>DANCE FESTIVAL</b>
<b>APRIL 26</b>	<b>NO SHOWING</b>	PRINCESS MARGARET SCHOOL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE
<b>APRIL 27</b>	JENNINGS SECONDARY SCHOOL OTTOS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	JENNINGS SECONDARY SCHOOL OTTOS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
<b>APRIL 28</b>	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY IRENE B. WILLIAMS SCHOOL	SIR NOVELLE RICHARDS ACADEMY IRENE B. WILLIAMS SCHOOL

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**ADMISSION**

## Youth service clubs on the rebound

Youth-oriented service clubs that endured severe challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic have not only survived the ordeal, but many are now in a position where they are recruiting new members.

This is the assessment coming out of two days of focus on these clubs at an event organized and hosted at Government House. Called the Future Leaders Opportunity Expo (FLOE), it was designed to provide a platform where youth service organisations could meet and exchange ideas and other relevant information.

“Even though they went through a lot of challenges during the pandemic, they are alive and well. They are now ready to receive new members, they are now ready to provide positive programming for our young people and children so that they can become well-rounded individuals; well-rounded leaders of today and for tomorrow,” said Ann Jonas, Executive Assistant to the Governor General.

She revealed that the two-day event was designed for a number of organisations to display information about themselves. In all, seventeen



youth organisations participated in the event. According to Jonas, the participants found the event to be very helpful.

“They were very excited as they were able to network with each other. We found that while many may have heard of one club or the other, they did not have contact or other information to reach out to each other. In this location they were able to do that; through the sharing of numbers and other information,” she added.

Jonas also revealed that several of

the youth leaders were encouraged to have others see what they are doing and in turn, they would do as they are doing; serving and volunteering to assist the children and young people.

Jonas explained that all these events are being done in recognition of this year, being the Commonwealth Year for Youth as well as the 50th anniversary of the Commonwealth Youth Programme.



Community Charitable Ministries Youth Arm

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5am to 11:45pm (standard times; subject to change pending in- season needs and annual closure)

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Two buses that can do both town and country runs for pick-ups from the 10:30pm and 11:30pm ferry

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Director of Finance  
Jumby Bay Island Company Ltd  
Box 243, St Johns, ANTIGUA

Once submitted please email [abascus@jumbybayisland.com](mailto:abascus@jumbybayisland.com) and [Dakota.Stoute@oetkercollection.com](mailto:Dakota.Stoute@oetkercollection.com) confirming submission of your sealed bid has been made.

# Local News



## ASW maintains Dockyard Day traditions

One of the most popular events held as part of the Antigua Sailing Week activities has been Dockyard Day, which not only marks the end of the weeklong series of races and parties, but which also signals the end of the sailing season.

“The rich and inherited cultural traditions of the communities of the National Park will be on full display, during this year’s celebration of Dockyard Day, a long-established custom in the Dockyard which brings the curtains down on the annual yachting season,” a statement from the National Park Authority said.

It said Dockyard Day, is organised by the National Parks Authority (NPA) and

is slated for Saturday, May 6 from 12 noon to 8 pm. It will feature a host of activities geared at exposing members of the public to the unique traditions of a thriving yachting community.

A featured highlight of the activities will be the model boat race, which is deeply steeped in the unique and indigenous traditions of English Harbour. Dockyard Day creates a platform for

skilled model boat builders to emerge from the shadows and showcase their undeniable talents in building ready-to-race, intricately crafted and designed vessels. *cont'd on pg 10*



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## Temporary relocation of services offered at the All Saints Clinic

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation, and the Environment has advised that the services normally offered at the All Saints Health Center will be temporarily relocated to the Glanvilles Polyclinic, effective Tuesday 25th April 2023.

Those individuals seeking to access the services will be able to do so during opening hours, which are Mondays to Thursdays, 8

am to 4 pm, and on Fridays from 8 am to 3 pm.

Among the arrangements being put in place by the ministry, is to offer bus services to and from Glanvilles, for those in need of transportation.

Effective Tuesday 25th April 2023, a bus will leave the All Saints Health Center every hour (on the hour), beginning at 7 am each day. The final pick-up from the All Saints Health Center to Glanvilles Polyclinic will be at 2 pm.

The transportation is free of cost.

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The boats will remain on display before and after the race, making it possible for members of the public to get an up-close view of the amazing designs and to speak with their skilled and talented builders.

Another major attraction of the seaside activities is the Greasy Pole contest, another long-held tradition of Dockyard Day that will combine with the highly anticipated Kayak race, to create an entertaining and exciting afternoon of traditional activities for the entire family.

A host of activities have been organised to create a fair-type atmosphere on the lawns of the Dockyard for all ages. The featured highlight will be the Tug-O-War competition, which will, once again, put the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda against the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force.

The ceremonial Beating of the Retreat, led by the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, is another dominant activity of the evening's proceedings and signals the end of the yachting season.

BREATHTAKING VIEWS  
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

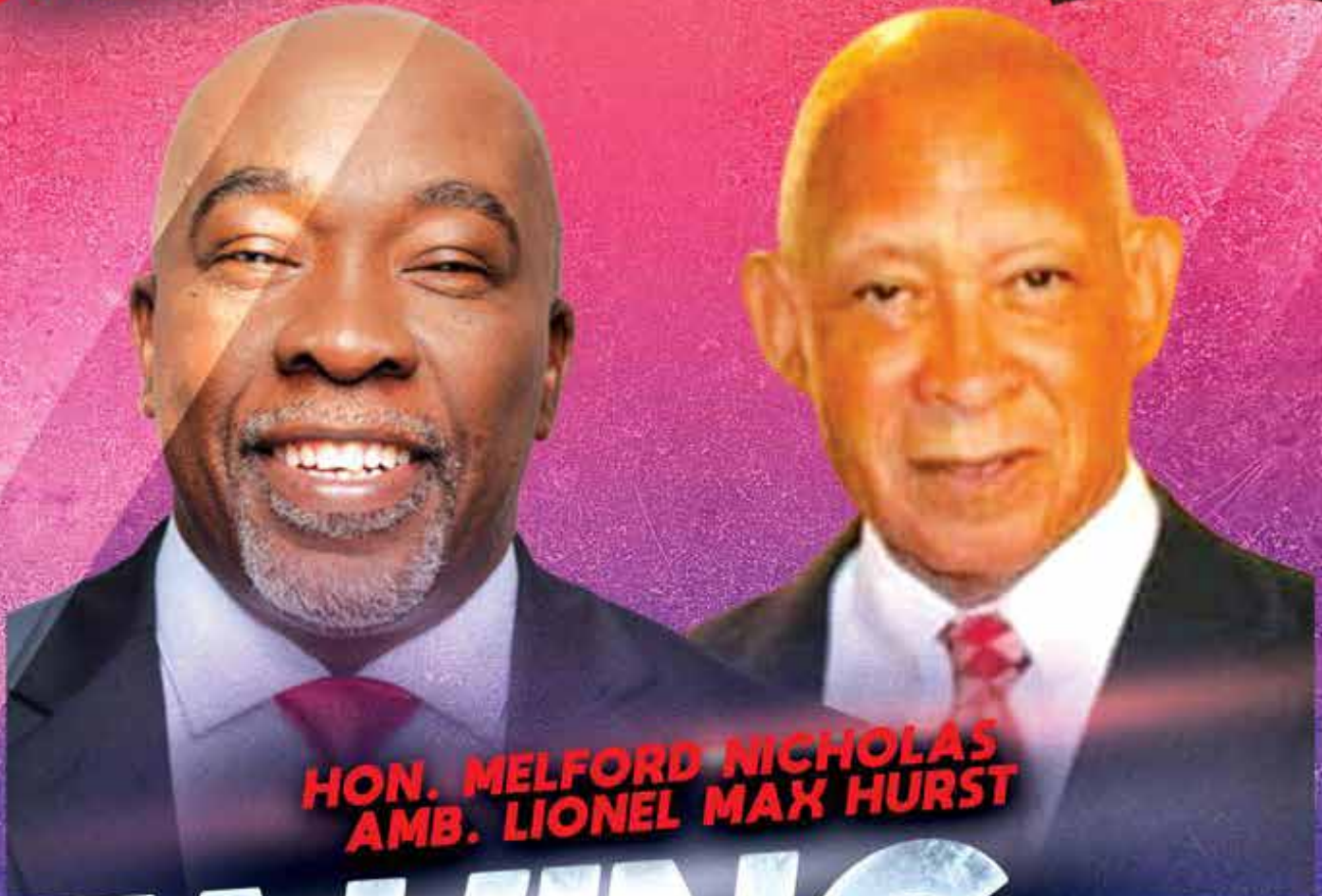
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# Opinion

## Putdown, respond or shut up

By **Tony Deyal**

Many, many years ago, a type of trousers called a ‘Sister Boy’ reached the Caribbean market. The difference between the ‘Sister Boy’ and other pants was that it had a short, ornamental, buckled belt at the back.

Seeing a schoolmate wearing one, I said to him, in the presence of the multitude waiting for the bus, “I like your sister boy!” I had to duck, both from the blow and the description of the anatomical riches of my mother which followed.

One of my neighbours incurred the wrath of her sister by responding with the typical Trinidad expression “Oh Hoh!” which threatens as in “You better watch your step with me you hear, oh hoh!”

The younger sister was upset and shouted at her older sister, who was in the kitchen, “Don’t ever take my money again, otherwise I will deal with you, oh hoh!”

The incensed big sister ran out of the kitchen armed with a large pot spoon and advanced on the younger one, shouting, “Who you calling a ho?”

The only response that would have made it worse would have been the mannerly, “I’m sorry you were offended when I called you a hoe. I didn’t know it was a secret.”

In Britain, politicians and insults are synonymous.

They have honed and refined the art over centuries of heated debate. The best of them was Winston Churchill.

When told by a member of parliament, Bessie Brad-dock, that he was drunk, Churchill replied, “And you, Madam, are ugly. But I shall be sober in the morning.” When Lady Astor was opposed by Churchill on the issue of women’s rights, she was so angry that she snapped, “Winston, if I were married to you, I would put poison in your coffee.”

He retorted immediately, “And, if you were my wife, I’d drink it.” When famous Glasgow journalist, Harry Diamond, was a young reporter in Parliament, he met Churchill in the corridor and whispered very quietly, “Excuse me, sir. I hope you won’t mind me mentioning it ... er ... it will save you some embarrassment but your fly is open.”

Churchill came back with, “My boy, there is no harm in leaving open the door of the cage when the bird is dead.”

**CHURCHILL PUT-DOWN**

My favourite Churchill putdown was, when told by an opponent that he would either die of the “pox” or be hanged, he responded, “That depends on whether I embrace your mistress or your principles.” My final Churchill in this article is a



Tony Deyal

wicked counterpunch.

The famous playwright George Bernard Shaw invited Churchill to the first night of his newest play, enclosing two tickets: “One for yourself and one for a friend – if you have one.” Churchill wrote back saying he couldn’t make it but asked for tickets for the second night – “if there is one”.

While most Caribbean politicians are into name-calling, and, in some countries, ethnic slurs and even threats, the hallmarks of international parliaments and senates are sledging and quick, lethal responses.

David Lloyd George, British Liberal prime minister, once said of an opponent. “He has sat so long upon the fence that the iron has entered his soul.” He also maintained that, when

Herbert Samuel (another opponent) was circumcised “they threw away the wrong bit”. F.E. Smith, a former Lord High Chancellor of Britain, was taunting Lord Hewart, a writer, about the size of his stomach, by asking, “What’s it to be - a boy or a girl?” Hewart shot back with, “If it’s a boy I’ll call it John. If it’s a girl, I’ll call it Mary. But if, as I suspect, it’s only wind, I’ll call it F.E. Smith.”

In the US, when Governor Adlai Stevenson was going up against President Eisenhower, one of his strong supporters reassured him, “Governor, every thinking person will be voting for you.”

Stevenson countered, “Madam, that’s not enough. I need a majority.” During

*cont’d on pg 13*

*cont'd from pg 12*

a debate, his opponent Stephen Douglas called Abraham Lincoln “two-faced”. Lincoln countered, “I leave it to my audience. If I had another face, do you think I would wear this one?”

Also, in the US, when Reverend Edward Everett Hale was chaplain of the US Senate, he was asked if he prayed for the senators. He came up with a quick “No!” and then added, “I look at the senators and pray for the country.”

This is what all of us Caribbean people should do night and day, and not just restrict our prayers to senators but also include politicians and police.

**N O - N O N S E N S E NOTE**

I thought about this article when someone I had sent a clear, no-nonsense note about my rights tried to embarrass me with, “You are a writer, so you obviously love to write.” I immediately declared, “I am a writer and I do love to write. Unlike you, I won’t tell you what you are and what you might love to do.” I wish I could have commented like pianist/comedian Victor Borge’s about Mozart, “He was happily married but his wife wasn’t.” Maybe I could have tried a Pierre Trudeau. When the Canadian prime minister heard that Richard Nixon insulted him, the response was, “I’ve been called worse things by better men.” US President George Bush Sr got a place in The Nasty Quote

Book with, “Being attacked on character by Governor Clinton is like being called ugly by a frog.” Some politicians are even sharper. When US Senator Slade Gorton told comedian Carl Grant, “You’re a comedian, tell us a joke.” Grant quickly countered, “You’re a politician, tell us a lie.” Gorton was extremely quick on the draw with “I did when I called you a comedian.”

So, what do you do when someone deliberately tries to embarrass you? You can reply, “Someday you’ll go far.”

Then add, “And I really hope you stay there.” Another useful response is, “Oh,

I’m sorry that the middle of my sentence interrupted the beginning of yours.” You can also try, “I’m sorry for talking while you were interrupting. Please go first.”

There are a few people I would like to tell, “I am returning your nose. I found it in my business.”

However, I prefer to stick to the politicians and how well they dealt with one another. Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said of Malcolm Fraser, the person he replaced, “He is the cutlery man of Australian politics.

He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, speaks with a forked tongue,

and knives colleagues in the back.” Whenever I read something like this, I am reminded of what Oscar Wilde, the Irish poet and playwright, said to his friend Whistler, the artiste who had brought down the house with a truly scintillating remark. “I wish I had said that!” said Wilde. Whistler laughed and came back with, “You will, Oscar, you will!”

*Tony Deyal was last seen repeating a quote that could be true of all Caribbean politicians, “He did not care in which direction the car was travelling, so long as he remained in the driver’s seat.”*

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## Caribbean hub for solar energy training and development launched

Loop - The Caribbean is getting its first regional hub for solar energy training and development.

This initiative is the result of an agreement between Green Solutions International SKN Incorporated (GSI) and the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP).

On March 27, Dr. Wayne E. Archibald, Executive Director, GSI, signed an exclusive international partnership agreement with Shawn O'Brien, President and CEO of NABCEP to establish NABCEP Caribbean, the first regional hub for solar energy training and development throughout the Caribbean region.

NABCEP credentials are a voluntary certification that provides a set of national standards by which photovoltaic (PV) professionals with skills and experience can distinguish themselves from the competition. Certification gives a measure of protection to the consumer by furnishing them with a credential against which they can assess the competency of PV practitioners.

GSI will serve as NABCEP's regional partner for the solar energy industry in the Caribbean.

Increased access to NABCEP's PV training programmes and certification will enhance PV human resource capacities and build consumer confidence, leading to greater investment in the industry.

NABCEP's PV Installation Professional (PVIP®) Certification is accredited to the internationally recognised ISO/IEC 17024 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

At the signing, Dr. Archibald stated: "I am pleased to sign this new agreement with our valued partner, NABCEP, to strengthen our capacity-building and workforce development programmes in the region. This agreement represents



From left, Shawn O'Brien, President and CEO, NABCEP and Dr. Wayne E. Archibald, Executive Director [60462]\_Easy-Resize.com

a significant milestone that will raise the standard for solar installations and maintenance, and increase employability opportunities for talented, qualified Caribbean nationals in one of the fastest growing industries, regionally and worldwide."

NABCEP Board certifications can positively impact PV technicians' careers through improved marketability, validation of knowledge, and enhanced reputation and credibility.

GSI will work closely with the private and public sectors to establish partnerships with Caribbean colleges, universities, and government institutions to integrate the NABCEP concept into regional renewable energy programmes.

Recently, GSI was contracted by the Caribbean Development Bank to spearhead the "OECS Photovoltaic Training and Certification Programme" in PV installation and inspection for 250 persons from Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint

Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

This was the most significant PV training and certification programme held in the Caribbean to date.

In 2021, UNDP Guyana also contracted GSI to deliver the NABCEP Solar Photovoltaic Training and Certification for the Solar PV Associate Course and the System Inspector Certification Course for 25 persons.

GSI was tasked with developing a curriculum for Solar PV Installation, Maintenance and Repairs using the Power Generation Stand-by Level 1 and/or Power Line Construction and Maintenance Distribution Level 1 standards under the "Mainstreaming Low Emission Energy Technologies to Build Guyana's Green Economy" project.

Last year, GSI, in partnership with the Cadmus Group LLC, a global climate and energy consulting firm in the USA, and The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, coordinated the Workforce Development and Training programme for "Strengthening Energy Sector Resilience in Jamaica."

This is a four million US dollars, three-year project led by USAID/Jamaica and the Jamaica Energy Resilience Alliance (JERA).

Building on these successes and now with more than 750 persons trained across the region, the establishment of NABCEP Caribbean will further increase demand for internationally certified solar energy qualifications.

"We are excited to partner with GSI in supporting renewable energy education in the Caribbean," said O'Brien, NABCEP's President and CEO.

"With year-round sunshine, motivated learners and quality training, the Caribbean has all the right ingredients

*cont'd on pg 15*

## David Rudder has Parkinson's Disease, promises to keep performing

By Laura Dowrich-Phillips

David Rudder has revealed that he has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

Rudder, however, said that his condition won't stop him from performing.

Speaking to Loop News, Rudder said he will no longer do the four-hour-long type of concerts that he does every five years. Instead, his performances will be limited to shorter appearances.

Rudder said he was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2020 following the death of people close to him such as longtime drummer Barry Howard and musical director, writing partner and friend, Wayne Bruno.

He said that opened the door for him to get tested because of some strange feelings he was experiencing.

Asked to elaborate, he said he began walking slower and when telling jokes, his face would remain expressionless. He said speaking was also more challenging.

Asked how he felt when he got the diagnosis, the musical legend said he was relieved to know what was going on with him.

According to Mayo Clinic, Parkinson's disease is a progressive disorder that affects the nervous system and the parts of the body controlled by the



David Rudder. Photo by Jason Audain nerves.

Symptoms start slowly and degenerate over time.

Rudder said he was told it may take 10 to 20 years for the disease to progress.

"It's definitely not uphill but downhill," he joked.

He said he is on medication and has to work out daily which is challenging because of the amount of time he spends travelling across the world.

"I only move when I am on stage," he said.

Despite his diagnosis, Rudder said he still has lots to do such as work on his autobiography and put out more music.

He said he did a song for Carnival 2023 called The Rising which was not released due to circumstances beyond

his control. He also working on another song called The Windrush.

On May 6, his 70th birthday, Rudder will headline a concert entitled Rudder 7.0 at Sound Forge.

Rudder said he wants people to come out and have a good time because we are celebrating the "Livingness of Life", a line from his song "Lovely Day". The concert will feature popular Rudder songs as well as old songs that may not be as well-known.

Rudder is urging patrons to come out and for the duration of the night to forget all the negativity in the world.

Asked how he was feeling, Rudder said he is in a good place but he has moments when he is down.

He said he decided to make his condition public to nip any speculation about his health in the bud.

*cont'd from pg 14*

to produce the energised workforce needed in the region. The NABCEP Caribbean Program solidifies our combined commitment to the industry and the ongoing and mutually beneficial relationships that will lead us into the next generation of solar empowerment."

Adding her support to

the launch of this initiative, Judith Ephraim, Programme Director - Sustainable Energy, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, said: "We're seeing a trend towards low or zero-carbon sources of energy, as well as distributed generation and autonomy in energy production in the Caribbean. Organisations like

GSI are paving the way in supporting a cadre of home-grown energy professionals that will take the region forward in meeting its energy and sustainable development goals."

GSI is a non-governmental organisation and a premier provider of green energy solutions across the Caribbean.

Its mission is to help the region become 100 per cent sustainable through innovation, education, workforce training, and clean energy development.

Its highly experienced team serves as an intellectual hub for learning, networking, and innovation across the region in all areas of green technology.

## SKN parents urged to vaccinate their children against polio and MMR

Loop - Prime Minister Dr Terrance Drew has called on parents of young children on St Kitts and Nevis to ensure they are vaccinated against preventable viruses such as polio and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR).

Drew, who is also the minister of health, made the plea as he kicked off the annual Vaccination and Immunisation Week (VWA) under the theme: "Get up-to-date. #EachVaccineCounts".

"Vaccines are safe and save lives! In St Kitts & Nevis, all vaccines offered under the national EPI program have

been procured through Pan American Health Organisation's (PAHO) revolving Fund. Vaccines purchased through this route meet internationally recommended quality, safety, and efficacy standards for their development, manufacture, transportation, and control," he said.

"The Ministry of Health is appealing to parents to do all in their power to ensure that their infants and children are vaccinated according to schedule. Infants are at the highest risk for

*cont'd on pg 17*



Prime Minister Terrance Drew.

## 1000 homes to be constructed in new housing scheme in Guyana

Loop - Guyana's Central Housing and Planning Authority (CHPA) announced that it has identified Plantation York as the location where 1,000 homes will be constructed in the Linden community.

CHPA CEO Sherwyn Greaves an-

nounced the development on Friday.

The government had planned to construct the homes in Millie's Hide-out but Greaves explained that the project was stopped when a significant bauxite reserve was found in the area.

"Because you can imagine the ben-

efits that will come to Linden from that bauxite reserve, the number of jobs that will be created when they start working there," he told Guyana's Department of Public Information (DPI).

Greaves stated that the new location, which is near the Linden Highway in Region Ten, spans over 500 acres of land and he is confident it will be suitable for the large project.

The development will include a residential area as well as commercial and industrial zones.

"This is a larger location...the other things that come with it are creeks running through it. And so, we thought it best that we will put some commercial activity...if persons see the area, I am sure they will want to build hotels and resorts there," he said.

Greaves said work on the project will begin soon.





## Bermuda appeal for assistance to solve Erin Lee Richardson's murder

Loop - The Bermuda Police Service (BPS) has asked members of the public, who may have information that could solve the murder of Erin Lee Richardson to assist with their investigation.

Today marked nine years since Richardson was murdered outside his home, which is located at 16 Riviera Crescent, Southampton.

Police said Richardson was ambushed by assailants, who shot him multiple times. Richardson was taken to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

In a Facebook post today, the BPS said it "is once again appealing to members of the public who may have any information on this matter, to please come forward and provide that information to us.

"Please help us provide closure to Mr. Richardson's family and to bring those responsible for his death to justice."

"We remain extremely keen to speak with anyone who may have seen two males on a motorcycle leave Riv-



*Murder victim Erin Lee Richardson.*

iera Road in Southampton around the time of the shooting. The persons on the bike wore dark clothing, and the motorcycle had a quiet running engine".

Acting Inspector, Dean Martin of the Serious Crime Unit added: "Mr. Richardson had the rest of his life to

look forward to and left behind many family members to grieve his loss.

Were it your loved one so senselessly killed, you would want those with information to come forward and assist the police with their investigation. We are asking the same for Mr. Richardson's loved ones."

### *cont'd from pg 16*

contracting communicable diseases since their immune system is not fully developed at birth."

Drew said the Americas America's is facing new measles outbreaks after it was declared measles-free in 2016. While two people in Peru and the United States tested positive for polio recently.

He stated many children in the region are susceptible to becoming infected with MMR since they did not receive their vaccines in 2020 and 2021.

"In 2022, in Saint Kitts and Nevis, the MMR1 coverage rate was 95 per cent and the MMR2 coverage rate was 93 per cent. The aim of the public health team is to target the de-

faulters during this VWA campaign to increase the coverage rate to 95 per cent and above. The measles and polio vaccines are essential for the protection of our children and loved ones," the PM said.

Vaccine week runs from April 22 to 29.

This year, St Kitts and Nevis's VWA campaign will focus on:

Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV): re-sensitization of the public about its benefits in protecting individuals and loved ones.

Locating and immunizing those persons who were difficult to reach and failed to receive vaccines in 2022.

Tetanus Toxoid Vaccine: sensitizing farmers about the importance of this vaccine for their healthy living.

## Sudan fighting: Diplomats and foreign nationals evacuated

BBC - Several countries have evacuated diplomats and citizens from Sudan's capital as fierce fighting continues to rage in Khartoum.

The US and UK announced on Sunday they had flown diplomats out of the country.

France, Germany and Italy are among other countries also organising evacuations, starting on Sunday.

A vicious power struggle between the regular army and a powerful paramilitary force has led to violence across the country.

US authorities said they had airlifted fewer than 100 people with three Chinook helicopters on Sunday morning in a "fast and clean" operation.

The US embassy in Khartoum is now closed, and a tweet on its official feed says it is not safe enough for the government to evacuate private US citizens.

The UK government managed to airlift British diplomats and their families out of the country in what was described as a «complex and rapid» operation. Foreign Minister James Cleverly said options to evacuate the remaining British nationals in Sudan were «severely limited».

Several other countries were conducting evacuation operations on Sunday:

French President Emmanuel Macron



French soldiers evacuated people from Sudan on Sunday.

confirmed that a plane had arrived in Djibouti carrying French citizens and others on Sunday

A handful of Dutch citizens left Khartoum on the French plane, and the Netherlands hoped to airlift more citizens out on Sunday evening

Germany's army said the first of three planes had left Sudan, bound for Jordan, with 101 people on board

Italian and Spanish evacuations are underway, government officials said

Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said his government had evacuated its diplomatic staff

Other countries successfully evacuated people on Saturday. More than 150 people, mostly citizens of Gulf countries, as well as Egypt, Pakistan and Canada were evacuated by sea to the

Saudi Arabian port of Jeddah.

Meanwhile, there are reports that internet connectivity has almost totally collapsed in Sudan, which could seriously hinder the coordination of help for those trapped in Khartoum and other cities.

The power struggle has seen heavy bombardment in the capital city, with hundreds killed and thousands more injured.

There have been desperate calls for help from many foreign students - from Africa, Asia and the Middle East - who are also stuck in Khartoum, a city of some six million people.

The near-constant shooting and bombing in Khartoum and elsewhere has cut electricity and safe access to food and water for much of the population.

Several ceasefires that had seemingly been agreed by both sides were ignored, including a three-day pause to mark the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr, which started on Friday.

The World Health Organization says the fighting has killed more than 400 people and injured thousands. But the death toll is believed to be much higher as people are struggling to get healthcare, as most of the city's hospitals have been forced to close by the fighting.

Along with Khartoum, the western region of Darfur, where the RSF first emerged, has also been badly affected by the fighting.

The UN has warned that up to 20,000 people - mostly women and children - have fled Sudan to seek safety in Chad, across the border from Darfur.

## Amritpal Singh: Sikh separatist arrested after weeks on the run

BBC - Self-styled preacher Amritpal Singh, whose calls for Sikh independence riled India's authorities, has been arrested in Punjab state.

The 30-year-old had been on the run for more than a month after evading arrest in Punjab on 18 March.

He and his supporters have been accused of attempted murder and attacking police officials.

Punjab Police officials confirmed news of the arrest on Twitter and also appealed for peace.

Mr Singh was arrested from Rode village in Punjab's Moga district at around 6.45am on Sunday, the state's inspector general Sukhchain Singh Gill said in a press conference.

He has been arrested under the stringent National Security Act (NSA), which allows for individuals to be detained without being charged for up to a year. He will be taken to the high-security Dibrugarh jail in Assam state, where some of his supporters have been kept.

Mr Singh shot to prominence in February after hundreds of his supporters stormed a police station, demanding the release of an arrested aide.

His campaign brought back memories from the 1980s of a separatist in-



*Amritpal Singh had been on the run since 18 March.*

urgency and subsequent crackdown in Punjab in which thousands of people were killed.

Mr Singh, who says he supports the Khalistan movement for a separate Sikh homeland, claims to draw inspiration from Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a preacher accused by the Indian government of leading an armed insurgency in the 1980s. Bhindranwale was killed in the Indian army's storming of the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine in the Sikh religion, in 1984.

The manhunt for Mr Singh spanned several parts of northern India, including the capital Delhi and the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Nepal had also put him on its surveillance list at India's request.

Police first attempted to arrest Mr Singh on 18

March - thousands of personnel were deployed and traffic blockades were set up across the state to check vehicles.

But he escaped in a dramatic car chase which was live-streamed by some of his associates. Within hours of Mr Singh's escape, authorities blocked internet services in Punjab - where 27 million people live - restricted the movement of people, and arrested hundreds of Mr Singh's supporters. Many of them were later released.

Akal Takht, the supreme temporal seat of Sikhs, had asked Mr Singh to surrender to the police and co-operate with their investigation.

After the crackdown, however, it also questioned the government's arrests and detentions of people for their alleged support of Mr Singh and for Khalistan.

Sikh groups in Canada held widespread protests against the government action in Punjab. Protests were also held outside the Indian High Commission in London, where demonstrators removed the Indian flag. India had strongly condemned the incident and summoned the UK's deputy high commissioner in New Delhi to register its protest.

In San Francisco, pro-Khalistan supporters vandalised the Indian consulate, calling for Mr Singh to be freed.

A couple of weeks after his arrest, Mr Singh had released a video from an undisclosed location, where he termed the crackdown as an «attack on the Sikh community». He had also termed as «unfair» the invocation of the NSA against him and his supporters.

# Argentina dengue: Record fever outbreak kills over 40

BBC - Argentina is battling a record outbreak of dengue fever, which has killed more than 40 people and infected more than 60,000, mainly in the north-west.

The infection is spread by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, and the last big outbreak to hit Argentina was in 2020.

The health ministry says dengue cases are starting to plateau, however.

Biologists are irradiating thousands of male mosquitoes in labs, to be released later, in the hope that their offspring will be unviable because of DNA damage.

“This mosquito, due to the rise in temperature in our country and the world... is able to spread more. Their population keeps on moving further south,” biologist Marianela Garcia Alba said, quoted by Reuters news agency.

The aim is to make the mosquitoes that have been exposed to radi-



Fumigation to stop the spread of dengue in the capital Buenos Aires.

ation the dominant type, to curb the spread of dengue, she added.

The north-western provinces of Salta, Tucumán and Jujuy, near Argentina’s borders with Chile and Bolivia, have recorded the highest numbers of deaths.

Dengue symptoms include fever,

headaches, nausea and aching joints.

The health ministry has urged people to step up anti-mosquito measures, including mosquito netting on doorways and windows, use of insect repellent and removal of any water containers that may act as breeding grounds.

## Hike for the Cure

Saturday, 29 April, 2023 | 5:30 am

Route: Meet at Hermitage Bay and ends at Pearn's Point  
 Donation: \$35  
 Dress code: Wear your Walk for the Cure T-shirt  
 Package includes: Complimentary breakfast

Bring your good vibes!

For more information on registration contact **Natasha Charles** at 484-5137 or **Khadijah James** at 484-5064.

All funds raised will be donated to Breast Friends and The Oncology Department at The Sir Lester Bird Mount St. John's Medical Centre.

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**SIR LESTER BIRD MEDICAL CENTRE**

Walk for the Cure

**CIBC** FirstCaribbean International Bank

## Bendals, John Hughes and Lion Hill drop points in first division league

Bendals, John Hughes and Lion Hill have dropped crucial points in the race to join first division winners Garden Stars in gaining automatic promotion into the premier division next season.

The top two teams at the end of the competition will gain automatic promotion to the premier division and both Bendals and John Hughes were beaten, while Lion Hill could only secure a draw in the latest round of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) first division.

Bendals, who currently occupy third place, were beaten 3-0 by Garden Stars at Bendals with the goals scored by Dylon Martin in the 30th minute, Allan Martin in the 37th minute and Karique Knight in the 73rd minute.

Garden Stars continue to add to their unassailable lead, notching up their 18th win in 20 matches to move on to 55 points with two games remaining.

Bendals, who are fighting with John Hughes, Green City and Lion Hill for the remaining automatic promotion spot, will remain in third place on 33 points with two games remaining.

John Hughes, who are currently in second place, were beaten 2-1 by Police at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Goals by Glenroy Prince in the 11th minute and Jenson Samuel in the 33rd minute gave Police their victory while Troy Jules scored for John Hughes in the 44th minute.

Despite suffering their 6th loss in 20 matches, John Hughes will remain in second place on 36 points with two games to play while Police will advance to 26 points with three games left.



*The Lion Hill football team. (File photo)*

Green City and Lion Hill failed to fully capitalize on the slip-up by Bendals and John Hughes. Green City and Lion Hill could only battle to a 1-1 draw when both sides clashed at the Golden Grove playing field on Friday.

Rodi Meyer scored a 74th minute equalizer for Lion Hill after Joel Lynch's 50th minute conversion had given Green City a 1-0 lead.

Both teams advanced to 33 points but Green City will remain in fourth place on goal difference ahead of Lion Hill in the fifth position. Green City also have four games remaining while Lion Hill have just two games left.

There were wins for Fort Road, Bolans and Potters Tigers in the other first division matches. Zakeem Michael scored twice with conversions in the 23rd and 27th minute to give Fort Road a 2-1 victory against Young Lions at the Fort Road playing field.

Zavier Joseph had a 32nd minute conversion for Young Lions, who were beaten for the 12th time in 20 matches to remain on 24 points with two games left. Fort Road will advance to 28 points from 19 matches with three games remaining.

Jaric Richards scored twice with

conversions in the 52nd and 53rd minute as Bolans romped to a 4-0 victory against bottom team JSC Progressors at the St Johnston's Village playing field.

The other goals for Bolans were scored by Dow Southwell in the 40th minute and Joel Martin, who converted a penalty kick in the 88th minute.

Bolans advanced to 23 points with three game to play while JSC Progressors, who will be relegated to the second division next season, will stay rooted in the cellar position on six points with three games remaining.

Potters Tigers beat West Ham 4-2 at the Fort Road playing field. Kevin Carr scored in the 5th minute, Walter Bellot converted an own goal in the 23rd minute, Watendy Grayman struck home a penalty in the 27th minute and Brian Davis had a 70th minute conversion for Potters Tigers.

Lloyd Shepperd scored in the 48th minute and Kerl Fagan had a 78th minute conversion for West Ham who will remain second from bottom on 10 points with four games remaining.

Potters Tigers will also remain in 9th place, but will advance to 22 points with two games left.

## West Indies Cricket Academy beat Team Headley

Destructive bursts from their Captain Nyeem Young and hometown pace bowling prospect Kelvin Pitman set up West Indies Academy for a seven-wicket win against Team Headley in the opening match of the Headley-Weekes Tri-Series in Antigua on Friday.

Young was the pick of the Academy bowlers with three for 17 from 10 overs, and Pitman supported with three for 27 from seven overs as Team Headley were bowled out for 122 in their second innings on the third day of the four-day, first-class match at the Coolidge Cricket Ground.

Justin Greaves led the way for Team Headley with 30 not out, Akeem Jordan made 28, and Test left-handed opener Kieran Powell got 20, but an inexplicable batting collapse that has become endemic in West Indies cricket returned to undermine their side and leave the Academy to chase 59 to win.

Barbados Pride off-spinner Chaim Holder scalped three for 22 from eight overs to add a bit of drama to the chase, but Trinidad & Tobago Red Force opener Keagan Simmons ushered the Academy over the finish line about 20 minutes after tea with 31 not out.

The result meant the Academy ended the match with a haul of 18 points



*The players shake hands at the end of Headley-Weekes Tri-Series match between the West Indies Academy and Team Headley at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua on Friday, 21st April, 2023. (CWI Media)*

and put them in a favourable position to strongly challenge for the title in the three-team tournament that also features Team Weekes led by Windward Islands Volcanoes Captain Alick Athanaze.

Team Headley finished with only five points, and they will hope that Team Weekes can slow the roll of the Academy when those two sides meet in the second match of the tournament, starting on Wednesday at the same venue.

Team Headley started the day on 27 for one, and ran into immediate trouble, slumping to 61 for six inside the first hour with Young and Pitman carving up their top order.

Young bowled Windward Islands Volcanoes pair of makeshift opener Sunil

Ambris 12 and Kavem Hodge for eight in the span of 25 balls in the first half-hour.

Pitman tightened the grip of the Academy when he got Volcanoes wicket-keeper-batsman Tevyn Walcott caught behind, bowled Team Headley captain and West Indies wicketkeeper-batsman Joshua Da Silva for three, and got Powell caught behind all in successive overs.

Jordan came to the crease and shared 50 with Greaves to get Team Headley past 100, but Barbadian left-arm spinner Joshua Bishop finished with two for 18 from 12 overs to bring a swift end to the resistance.

But the win was really set up by a sparkling maiden first-class hundred from Guyana Harpy Eagles bat-

ter Kevlon Anderson, which enabled the West Indies Academy to take a 64-run first-innings lead against Team Headley on the second day.

Anderson led the way with 153 before the Academy was bowled out for 323, replying to the Team Headley first innings total of 259.

The 22-year-old struck 22 fours from 283 balls in a six-and-a-half hour stay at the crease, and he was the glue that held the innings together, sharing three crucial stands with opener Kirk McKenzie, his captain Nyeem Young, and first-day bowling hero Johan Layne before Darren Bravo removed him with the first ball of his only over.

Anderson added 84 with McKenzie for the third

*cont'd on pg 23*

## St. Kitts to host Women's CG United Super50 Cup and T20 Blaze regional tournaments

The best women's cricketers in the West Indies will be back in action as Cricket West Indies (CWI) hosts the CG United Super50 Cup and the T20 Blaze regional tournaments in St. Kitts.

The CG United Super50 Cup matches will be played at three venues - Warner Park, the Conaree Cricket Centre and St. Paul's Sports Complex - from 8th to 17th May with the 50 over matches, starting at 10am local time.

The T20 Blaze will feature five full days of entertainment for the fans from 20th to 27th May at Warner Park. There will be three matches per day - starting at 10am, 2:30 pm and 7 pm (under lights).

Barbados are defending champions in the CG United Super50 Cup and Jamaica the defending champions of the T20 Blaze. The other teams are the newly re-



Jamaica are the defending champions of the CWI Women's CG United T20 Blaze championship. (CWI Media)

named Trinidad & Tobago Divas, Guyana, Windward Islands and hosts Leeward Islands.

The Tournament comes on the cusp of CWI's announcement to start a new Women's Academy in July for the best Under-23 players in the region.

This will be a major boost for the development of Women's

Cricket in the West Indies and forms part of the overall strategic plan to commit more resources to improving the women's game at all levels.

CWI's Director of cricket, Jimmy Adams said, "This year's Super50 Cup and T20 Blaze will be a great opportunity for both talent identification and player development.

"We look forward to watching a healthy mix of experienced players along with some of the exciting talent we saw in last year's U19 competition.

"With international tours at home to Ireland and away to Australia this year, these regional tournaments will provide players a chance to fight for places."

*cont'd from pg 22*

wicket, 80 with Young for the sixth wicket, and dominated a ninth-wicket stand of 102 with Layne that further frustrated Team Headley. McKenzie supported with an even 50, Layne was not out on 38, and Young made 27.

Windward Islands all-rounder Justin Greaves was the most successful Team Headley bowler, ending with three for 46 from 20 overs.

Test pacer Marquino Mindley finished with two for 47 from 16 overs,

and Barbados Pride pacer Akeem Jordan bagged two for 77 from 21 overs.

West Indies wicketkeeper/batsman Joshua Da Silva struck a brilliant unbeaten 136 to guide Team Headley out of trouble at 59 for five, to 259 all out in the final session on the opening day.

Da Silva arrived at the crease with the score on 34 for three and with opener Sheyne Moseley forced off injured at 11 for one in the fourth over.

He watched as another two wick-

ets tumbled before finding an ally in Akeem Jordan with whom he added a crucial 105 for the sixth wicket, the West Indies Test prospect lashing an enterprising 54 from 64 deliveries.

Fast bowler Johann Layne snatched five for 39 on debut to wreck Team Headley's top order, the 19-year-old claiming four wickets before lunch to put the inexperienced Academy side in the ascendancy, which they never relinquished to eventually seal their victory.

# STANDINGS

TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR
<b>LIBERTA BLACKHAWKS</b>	7	6	1	30	2.187
<b>EMPIRE NATION</b>	6	3	3	15	0.816
<b>PIGOTTS CRUSHERS</b>	6	3	3	15	0.410
<b>NEW WINTHORPES LIONS</b>	6	3	3	15	-0.185
<b>JENNINGS TIGERS</b>	5	3	2	15	-0.490
<b>BOLANS BLASTERS</b>	6	3	3	15	-2.044
<b>ALL SAINTS PYTHONS</b>	6	2	4	10	0.075
<b>BETHESDA GOLDEN EAGLES</b>	6	1	5	5	-1.258



## SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS CRICKET STADIUM





## SAP, Bullets win final game in premier league campaigns

SAP and Pigotts Bullets ended their campaigns in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier League on a winning note on Saturday night.

Led by a hat-trick from Tyrique Tonge, SAP hammered Cedar Grove Blue Jays 5-2 in what should have been the opening game of a triple-header at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Tonge had conversions in the 8th minute, 38th and 75th minute while the other goals for SAP were scored by Danniell Osbourne in the 62nd minute and Shaquan Telemaque in the 66th minute.

Keon Greene scored both goals for the Blue Jays with conversions in the 30th and 90th minute.

SAP have ended their premier league campaign in fifth place with 29 points from their quota of 18



*Tyrique Tonge scored a hat-trick to lead SAP to victory over Cedar Grove Blue Jays in their final premier league encounter at the ABFA's Technical Center on Saturday, 22nd April, 2023. (Photo courtesy ABFA)*

matches, comprising nine wins, seven losses and two draws.

Cedar Grove Blue Jays finished their campaign just outside the automatic relegation zone in 14th place with just 10 points from their 18 matches, comprising three wins, one draw and 14 losses.

The Blue Jays will enter a playoff with the third and fourth place finishers of the first division for a chance to remain in the premier division next season.

A 20th minute conversion by Akeem Isaac was sufficient to give Pigotts Bullets a 1-0 win against Willikies in what turned out

to be the second match of a double-header on Saturday.

Bullets wrapped-up their campaign with a total of 23 points from their 18 matches, comprising six wins, five draws and seven losses.

Willikies ended their premier league season with 24 points from their 18 matches, comprising seven wins, three draws and eight losses.

Saturday's third premier league encounter between Tryum and Old Road was not played. Tryum did not show up for the encounter, which the ABFA later posted on its Facebook page as being cancelled.

The premier league is expected to conclude with the final two matches today (Monday).

Parham will face Liberta Black Hawks at 6 pm and Greenbay Hoppers will clash with Five Islands at 8 pm.

### cont'd from pg 26

first win in the tournament.

Chasing 120 to win, Pigotts Crushers could only muster 110 for eight off their 20 overs. Jewel Andrew top-scored with 42 off 45 balls, striking three fours and two sixes.

Anthony "I Roots" Martin snapped up three for 15 and pacer Timmo Thomas took two wickets for seven runs in his four overs.

The Golden Eagles had made 119 for eight off their 20 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat. Sadique Henry struck 46 off 52 balls

with three fours and a six.

Crushers' skipper Elroy Francis Jr captured three for 18 and Robert Shadrach Jr had two for 21.

Empire Nation beat the New Winthorpes Lions by 54 runs. Batting first, Empire Nation made 183 for three off their 20 overs.

Darron Nedd hammered an unbeaten 51 off 35 balls with three fours and three sixes. He shared a 46-run third wicket stand with opener Mikyle Louis, who cracked 46 off 42 balls.

Louis added 76 runs for the second wicket with Matthew Cross, who

struck 41 off 26 balls with two fours and three sixes.

Nedd was also involved in an unbroken 45-run fourth-wicket partnership with Justin Athanaze, who made 27 not out off 11 balls.

In reply, New Winthorpes Lions were dismissed for 129 in 19.4 overs. Michael Leask smashed 47 off 27 balls with four sixes and three fours and Hilroy Andrew chipped in with 22 off 16 balls. Nedd grabbed three for 31, Empire's Captain Kenrick Scott claimed two wickets for seven runs and Tyrone Williams Jr picked up two for 20.

## Bolans Blasters keep semi-finals hope alive in T20 Explosion

Bolans Blasters kept alive their chances of claiming one of the three remaining spots in the semi-finals of the Cool and Smooth T20 Explosion by pulling off an eight-wicket win against Empire Nation at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Saturday night.

Openers Richie Berrington and captain Kerry Mentore both struck half centuries in a 138-run first-wicket partnership to lead Bolans to their 147-run victory target for the loss of two wickets with 5.2 overs to spare.

Berrington hammered 87 off 46 balls with 14 fours and two sixes, while Mentore slammed 50 off 38 balls with nine fours.

Mentore, who was later named man of the match, produced a fine display with the ball to grab three wickets for 30 runs and Michael Harilall captured two for 13 as Empire Nation were restricted to 146 for seven off their 20 overs.

Justin Athanaze top-scored for Empire Nation with a run-a-ball 32, Darron Nedd struck 27 off 15 balls with three fours and two sixes, while Captain Kenrick Scott and opener Tyrone Williams Jr each made 21.

The win ensured that Bolans Blasters joined Empire Nation, Pigotts Crushers and New Winthropes Lions with identical records of three wins and three losses from six matches. Jennings Tigers also have three wins, but played five matches.

All Six teams are vying for the three remaining places to join defending champions PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks into the semi-finals.

The Black Hawks soared to a five-wicket victory over All Saints Pythons in the other match on Saturday to wrap up their campaign in the preliminary round with their sixth win from their seven matches.

All Saints Pythons made 149 for nine off their 20 overs and the Black Hawks secured their victory by scoring 153 for five with two overs to spare.

Leroy Lugg top-scored for the Black Hawks with 48 off 38 balls with four sixes and three fours. Karima Gore struck an unbeaten 37 off 26 balls and opener Kofi James chipped in with 21 off 23 balls. Matthew Forde captured two for 26 and Ka-deem Josiah picked up two for 32.

Opener Christopher



*Bolans Blasters skipper Kerry Mentore leaves the field after hitting a half century against Empire Nation in the Cool and Smooth T20 Explosion at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Saturday, 21st April, 2023. (CST20)*

McBride slammed 78 off 64 balls with seven fours and two sixes in the Pythons' total. Captain James Clarke contributed 30 off 27 balls and Shane Burton made 19 off nine balls. Kofi James snapped up four for 17 and

Oliver Davidson took two for 13.

In Friday's matches, Caribbean Union Bank Bethesda Golden Eagles snatched a nine-run victory over Pigotts Crushers to claim their

*cont'd on pg 25*