



BLESSED

GOOD FRIDAY

TO ALL!

*The next issue of Pointe Xpress
will be on Tuesday, 11 April, 2023*

CID boss justifies actions of police in Booby Alley standoff

The head of the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) has justified the actions taken by the police, to extract Joel O'Marde from a house in Booby Alley on Tuesday.

Faced with criticism from sections of the public for the manner in which they handled the situation, Assistant Commissioner of Police Clifton Cabral said law enforcement had exhausted all options to get Mr. O'Marde out of the house, in order for the bailiff, who was dispatched by the High Court to execute his duties.

But the man remained defiant, even though an order from the High Court of Justice ordered the occupants to vacate the premises, in order for the house to be demolished.

Faced with a series of threats, ACP Cabral stated after several hours of trying to convince the man to leave, the police had no other choice but to take the action they did.

"Mr. O'Marde was on the prem-

ises, locked himself in what appeared to be a small shop where the threat actually started from, and the abuse.

"Then he ran into the main house [and] barricaded himself. Bear in mind, Mr. O'Marde is telling us that he have [sic] a loaded gun.

"The police took the best action, [that is] engage him at the front door, [and] break the back door," ACP Cabral said.

The incident that lasted several hours drew scores of residents from the area, many of whom became outraged when a shot was heard, after the lawmen entered the house from the back door using an 'FRG' (Federal Riot Gun).

ACP Cabral added that even then, threats from Joel O'Marde continued. The head of the CID confirmed the man was indeed shot in order to subdue him, but he did not suffer major injuries, as rubber bullets were used.

"Mr. O'Marde was transported to

the [Sir] Lester Bird Medical Centre where he was treated by a doctor for bruises ... no wounds, and then he was handed back over into the custody (of the police).

Joel O'Marde was charged in connection with the incident and was expected to appear in the St. John's Magistrates' Court yesterday. However, Pointe Xpress was unable to ascertain the nature of the charges and whether the man appeared in court.

Court documents show that Justice Jan Drysdale ruled in favour of the applicant, the Attorney General, to gain possession of the Booby Alley property.

Further, the judge ordered that the second respondent (Joel O'Marde) give up possession of the property by noon on 24th March 2023.

Additionally, lawyers Leon Chaku Symister and Sherfield Bowen representing the 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th

cont'd on pg 3



Replacing old cast-iron pipes will take a lot of money and time

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority has a major challenge on hand; the replacement of the old cast-iron pipes, through which much of the water reaches homes and businesses on Antigua.

According to Utilities Minister Melford Nicholas, the cost for replacing these old pipes will be astronomical. He explained that there are some 37 miles of such pipes underground, which make up as much as eighty percent of the distribution pipes in the APUA's system.

"APUA had started replacing these pipes with PVC pipes some years ago. It was however discovered that these pipes were vulnerable to earth movement caused by periods of rainfall, followed by periods of extreme dry weather. Under these conditions, these PVC pipes cracked and developed



Utilities Minister Melford Nicholas

leaks. Since 2016, APUA moved to using High Density Polyethylene (HDP) pipes which are more resilient and less prone to leaks," he further explained.

Minister Nicholas revealed that the cost to replace the old pipes with the HDP pipes would be significant, however, APUA must make the investments.

"To remove and replace ten miles of pipes, (roughly one third) will cost some \$40 million. This is going to be an ongoing project running over several years. There are lots of these pipes underground, lots to be replaced, but we are still committed to dealing with the urgent need to make water available to every household, every

day," he remarked.

He disclosed that APUA has to increase production of water, as the seven million gallons daily production is still roughly three million gallons short of the daily demand for water. Under these circumstances, the focus is to increase the production from the current reverse osmosis plants, as well as to add new production capacity from the new plant at Bethesda, which will come on line in short order.

The utilities minister also spoke of a need to upgrade the switching system that turns on and off the various valves, from the current manual, to a more efficient automated system. Along with replacing the antiquated pipes, replacing these manual systems is another area of concern for the authority.

cont'd from pg 2

and 6th respondents (family members) affixed their signatures to a consent order, forfeiting the house for temporary housing in a five-bedroom dwelling in Potters Village and at Barrymore Hotel.

Pressed on whether the police could have used alternative methods to subdue Joel O'Marde, ACP Cabral maintained that the police officers were correct, in the action taken.

"This is minimal force

in a situation like that. There's a writ from the High Court with a bailiff, and when a bailiff has a writ from the High Court, the

bailiff goes to your premises and takes control. It means they put everything in that house outside and take control of the premises.

es. That is the norm. If Mr. O'Marde barricaded himself in the premises, we had to get him out," the head of the CID affirmed.

<p>Fri 07 Day</p> <p>81° </p> <p>35% ESE 16 mph</p> <p>Showers in the morning, then partly cloudy in the afternoon. High 81F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 40%.</p>		<p>Fri 07 Night</p> <p>75° </p> <p>14% ESE 14 mph</p> <p>A few clouds from time to time. Low near 75F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.</p>	
<p> Humidity 73%</p> <p> UV Index Extreme</p>	<p> Humidity 76%</p> <p> UV Index 0 of 10</p>	<p> Sunrise 5:57 am</p> <p> Sunset 6:21 pm</p>	<p> Moonrise 7:50 pm</p> <p> Moonset 6:50 am</p> <p> Waning Gibbous</p>

Second Chinese agricultural project starts soon

The second instalment of the Chinese government funded agricultural development project for Antigua and Barbuda, is about to start with the arrival of the team of agricultural officials from the People's Republic of China.

Agriculture Minister E.P Chet Greene made the announcement following discussions with representatives of the company that will implement the project, Long Ping High Tech.

Greene said his focus on this second phase will involve more direct contact with local farmers. "This is the second iteration of the agricultural exchange programme between the PRC (People's Republic of China) and the government. The company that is here assisting us is Long Ping High Tech, who will use the Green Castle Agricultural station as their base. However, in this iteration, the decision is to have more direct interaction

with our local farmers," he stated.

Minister Greene explained that in each of the nation's five agricultural districts (Antigua as well as Barbuda are treated as single districts), two to three farmers will be identified with whom they will work with directly. He added that the Chinese agriculturalists introduced a number of new crops when they were last here, and the plan is to engage them, introducing even more crops.

The agriculture minister said the project has aims far beyond the crops that the Chinese introduce. "We are selecting the farmers with a view towards technology transfer and harvesting; with an eye on comparing their methodology with the technologies on the ground, to determine how local farmers could improve or become more efficient," Greene stated.

According to Greene



the 'buy in' from the local farming community will be key to the success of the programme.

"As minister responsible for agriculture, the most important thing is to have buy in from the local farmers. This is about the transfer of knowledge and techniques of technology, as we try to increase our food production and food security and as we try to up-skill our farmers with more modern techniques, and oversee their implementation," he said.

The minister also expressed his government's appreciation to the PRC, over their quick response to the request from the government to extend the programme. He noted that the last programme had a number of successes, adding that this time around he would wish to see improvements in the mode of production. "This is Antigua and Barbuda leveraging our foreign policies to benefit the country and to improve our agricultural sector. They can't go to every farm but their base will be at Green Castle and farmers will be expected to interact with them there as well," he remarked.

The project will also include the construction of a tissue culture laboratory to conduct a variety of agricultural experiments.

The project will also include farmers on the sister island of Barbuda, as members of the team will travel to Codrington shortly.





Politics: A young people's game!

The Speaker of the House of Commons in the United Kingdom, Sir Lindsay Hoyle made a brief visit to Antigua and Barbuda on Thursday.

Unfortunately, due to the late arrival of his flight, some of the courtesy calls planned, had to be canceled, according to an official of the Resident UK High Commission in St. John's.

However, Sir Lindsay was able to meet the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Sir Gerald Watt, KC, at the Parliament Building. Both Speakers later engaged with members of the National Youth Parliament Association of Antigua and Barbuda, also at the Parliament Building.

Sir Lindsay told the youth parliamentarians that the future of Antigua and Barbuda looks bright, because of the involvement of young people in the po-



litical process. "You have a great future here! I think you are going to be the future leaders of this region and I say, please, to all the young people, get involved in politics. It's not an old people's game, it's a young people's game, you've got to shape the future and even

at the Commonwealth, we will have a better Commonwealth because of young people," he remarked.

Speaking on the impact of small nations such as Antigua and Barbuda on the world stage, Sir Lindsay said his advice is to 'Stand up and be counted'.

"You've got to stand up!" he declared.

Sir Lindsay's courtesy calls on Acting Governor General Sir Clare Roberts and Acting Prime Minister and Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin were canceled, as time did not allow them to take place.

Art Trail Guide launched ahead of Antigua and Barbuda Art Week

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority has launched an Art Trail Guide to coincide with the launch of Antigua and Barbuda Art Week.

The Art Trail Guide invites visitors and residents to explore the twin-islands through the visual arts on self-guided tours to participating studios, and galleries during Antigua and Barbuda Art Week - April 16 to April 22, 2023.

The trail guide available for viewing on www.visitantiguabarbuda.com highlights some of the unique spaces where art-lovers can find art in Antigua and Barbuda. The art galleries and studios can be spotted while out shopping in St. John's City, along Fig Tree Drive in the lush rainforest, in English Harbour, home to Antigua and Barbuda's UNESCO World Heritage Site or within quiet neighbourhoods and intimate restaurants.

"There are some amazing art galleries and studios in Antigua and Barbuda that are tucked away in communities throughout the islands, that will be easy to seek out using the guide. We are encouraging visitors and residents to hop in a vehicle, for a self-guided tour that will allow them to experience a different side of Antigua and Barbuda", said Maria Blackman, Marketing Communications Manager at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.



"Meet the artists, interact with them in their space, learn about what inspires them to create, soak up the ambience and the culture, as well as purchase a piece (of art)."

On the trail, visitors will meet Stephen Murphy at Zemi's Art Gallery to learn about his colourful sustainable art created from recyclable metal, explore the home of biologist turned artist Gilly Gobinet and be mesmerized by her pieces that reflect nature, and learn how raw materials found in the earth are shaped into organic and structured pieces at Margrie Hunt. In Barbuda, visit the Art Café for your own Claire Frank painting created on silk. Eleven more locations are highlighted as part of the guide, providing lots of opportunities for interactions with artists in Antigua and Barbuda.

The trail for Antigua and Barbuda Art Week will

also lead to the Antigua and Barbuda Art Week Exhibit, at The Boom at Gunpowder House featuring over 15 artists participating in Antigua and Barbuda Art Week. The featured pieces will draw inspiration from Antigua and Barbuda and the theme 'Culture in Colour'.

Amongst the featured artists exhibiting at The Boom at Gunpowder House for Antigua and Barbuda Art Week are Heather Doram M.F.A, G.C.M, Mark Brown, Emile Hill, Stephen Murphy, Guava De Art, Gilly Gobinet, Glenroy Aaron, Carol Gordon Goodwin, Alex Ireland, Dylan Elias Phillips, Candi Coates, Bert Kirchner, Edison Liburd, Mené Lewis, and Ronald Silencieux.

Art-lovers using the Art Trail Guide during Antigua and Barbuda Art Week are invited to share images and videos of themselves on the trail on social media using

the hashtag: #AntiguaBarbudaArtWeek and tag the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism pages on Instagram and Facebook, for a chance to WIN TWO tickets to the Antigua and Barbuda Art Week grand finale event 'Paint, Sip and Eat', at Green Castle Ranch, on April 22, 2023 with Mr. Sip and Paint, Gerron Farquharson. The winner will be selected randomly on April 20, 2023.

Follow the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and the Antigua and Barbuda website www.visitantiguabarbuda.com for updates on Antigua and Barbuda Art Week.

Antigua and Barbuda Art Week and artists in Antigua and Barbuda can also be followed on social media using the hashtag: #ArtinAntigua, #ArtinBarbuda, #AntiguaBarbudaArtWeek and on the Facebook group: Art i

Nearly \$2,000 raised from World Down Syndrome Day



Donations from a number of institutions and individuals have raised nearly two thousand dollars for World Down Syndrome Day which was observed on March 21 this year.

Communications Manager of the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, Salma Crump said the final figure will likely exceed the two thousand dollar mark as there are still donations expected from several other institutions.

“Year after year the community steps up to support our awareness activities. This year was no different. In addition to “ROCKING YOUR

SOCKS” on World Down Syndrome Day some of you took the extra step of raising funds too and we can’t thank you enough. It never ceases to amaze us just how generous and supportive you all are,” Crump said in a social media post.

She added that the funds will go towards funding the awareness campaign for Down Syndrome.

Meanwhile the institution’s communications specialist is asking the community to support activities for Autism Awareness Month, currently being observed.




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Antigua and Barbuda warehouse giant of the OECS

Dear Editor

Traditional warehouse management is evolving and adapting to the demands of consumers and the rise in competition.

The government of Antigua and Barbuda has new opportunities to create jobs and increase revenue.

Within the Supply Chain, warehousing is a key component. It is the process whereby raw materials or finished goods are stored in warehouses for eventual distribution to customers.

Given the importance of warehousing, it is therefore a major decision whether business leaders choose to lease, rent, purchase or construct warehouses.

In June 2020, in McKinnons Antigua, an alarm was raised by a family who had resided in the area for more than 20 years.

Within this primarily residential area, construction had begun on a commercial warehouse. In addition to seeking legal counsel, the family created an online petition which at the time of reporting had garnered support from more than 2000 respondents.

Arguably, warehouses are important components to the Supply Chain. A case can be made that they store adequate supplies of goods to readily meet customer demand.

Companies can purchase in bulk at lower prices, and avoid consistent reordering, thereby stabilising prices to the benefit of businesses and consumers.

Notwithstanding the critical role of warehouses, consideration must be given to their location and the concerns of communities.

Devaluation of property, rodents,

increased flow of heavy-duty traffic, noise and air pollution are possible outcomes associated with the construction of warehouses in residential areas.

At current, 23,600 businesses are registered in Antigua and Barbuda. Of these, eighty are categorised as wholesalers.

In an island of 108 square miles, if massive warehouses are arbitrarily built in residential areas, the impact may affect mutually beneficial relationships between stakeholders, to include the government, businesses and consumers.

Undeniably, e-commerce demand can create an opportunity for the government of Antigua and Barbuda to construct warehouses in selected areas for use by private entities.

The “Warehouse Zone” will be managed by strict government policies. Whether renting or leasing, it can become a revenue earner for the economy and increase job opportunities for residents.

Likewise, businesses can increase savings by way of this proposed solution. Multi-client warehouses, as opposed to single-user warehouses, can result in more cost-effective storage rates.

The government managed “Warehouse Zone” will be powered by state-of-the-art technology in order to digitise warehouse operations.

Information management, security, transportation of goods, storage and all other factors related to warehouse management will be undertaken by the government at reasonable industry standard fees.

If managed appropriately, this proposal could transform the wholesale and retail sectors in Antigua and

Barbuda.

Having eliminated the cost to build warehouses, business leaders can focus on offering premium customer service, maintaining supply chain relationships, and delivering new products and services so that they can increase market share in a fierce competitive environment.

To further strengthen its position as a Warehouse Giant, in addition to the “Warehouse Zone,” the government of Antigua and Barbuda can create an “OECS Warehouse Hub.”

The island’s strategic geographic location, access to international destinations as a result of frequent arrival of air and sea transportation, and the availability of technological skills are all favourable factors that could support the new venture.

Through collaboration, similar results could be experienced by LIAT Cargo. As the warehousing hub expands, additional aircraft can be added to the cargo fleet.

The anticipated positive financial performance might serve as the catalyst to revive the overall operation of the airline.

Business growth, great customer results and profitability are all contingent on the processes that guide warehouse management.

We hope that our recommendations will be considered and look forward to offering further insight on how warehousing, within the supply chain, can become a game-changer for Antigua and Barbuda and the OECS.

Eddieson Carter, Triston Gordon, Melissa Benjamin and Paula C. M. Lee/Procurement and Supply Chain Management Class – Lifelong Learning Unit, The UWI FIC

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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Virgin Orbit: Richard Branson's rocket firm files for bankruptcy

By Michael Race

British billionaire Sir Richard Branson's rocket company Virgin Orbit has filed for bankruptcy in the US after failing to secure new investment.

The satellite launch company halted operations weeks ago but it hopes to find a buyer for the business.

The company, based in California, announced last week that it would cut 85% of its 750-strong workforce.

Earlier this year, a Virgin Orbit rocket failed to complete its first-ever satellite launch from UK soil.

Virgin Orbit's boss Dan Hart said that although the company had "taken great efforts" to address its finances and secure more funding, "we ultimately must do what is best for the business."

He said that Virgin Orbit would now concentrate on finding a buyer for the business "to provide clarity on the future of the company to its customers, vendors, and employees".

Virgin Orbit was founded in 2017 and is a spin-off from Sir Richard's space tourism company Virgin Galactic.

It launches rockets from beneath modified Boeing 747 planes to send satellites into space.

But in January, an attempt to send a satellite into orbit from the UK for the first time failed because a rocket fuel filter had become dislodged, causing one of the engines to overheat.

The mission, which launched from Spaceport Cornwall, near Newquay, had been billed as a milestone for UK space exploration.

It was hoped it would mark a major step in helping to turn the UK into a global player - from manufacturing satellites to building rockets and creating new spaceports.

Virgin Orbit, which is mostly owned by Virgin Group, scrambled to find new



funding following the UK rocket failure and paused operations last month to conserve cash.

The company, which listed its shares on New York's Nasdaq index in 2021, had debts of \$153.5m (£123m) as of September last year.

On Tuesday, the company said Virgin Investments, part of Virgin Group, would provide \$31.6m in new money to help Virgin Orbit through the process of finding a buyer.

It has filed for what is known as Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the US. This allows a business to keep operating and address its financial issues while providing protection against creditors who are owed money.

Former president of Virgin Galactic Will Whitehorn said the failed launch in Cornwall and the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank at the time it was trying to raise new funding contributed to its downfall.

But Mr Whitehorn said the business deserved a second chance because there was "a lot of demand" in the industry.

"What you have got to remember is they have got nearly 50 satellites into space already, so I think there's a chance they'll be back," he said.

Melissa Quinn, head of Spaceport Cornwall, said the news about Virgin Orbit was "very sad" but said the site would "remain focused on furthering the international space industry".

She said it was the only licensed spaceport in the UK, had multiple users and was working with other launch operators, such as US company Sierra Space.

This is not the end for Virgin Orbit. Not yet.

Quite a few space companies have gone through Chapter 11, only to re-emerge a few months later with new owners, no debts and a healthy stash of investment cash to take the business forward.

You need look no further than London-based OneWeb, which has just now managed to complete its broadband internet constellation in the sky.

But who will step forward to buy a rocket business? There are tens, if not hundreds, of similar enterprises across the world developing small launch vehicles.

If Sir Richard Branson's company can claim one key separator, it ought to be responsiveness - the ability with its

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Did hail fall in St Kitts?

Loop - Residents in the northern part of the island of St Kitts reportedly experienced a hailstorm this morning.

Videos and pictures have been making the rounds on social media of the reported rare weather event, with the areas being identified as Tabernacle, Saddlers Village and Dieppe Bay.

In one video, a woman expressed shock at the weather

“People it’s hailing outside look at all of these ice cubes just falling out of the sky. Imagine in St Kitts it’s hailing... we soon start to snow...oh my gosh look at all them white specks of hail stones.”

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the St Kitts Meteorological Office, said it is investigating reports of hail in the Northern part of the island, particularly Saddlers and Tabernacle.

The St Kitts Met Office is currently assessing these reports and upon con-

clusion of the investigation, an update will be provided.

Meanwhile, US Meteorologist Brian Shields on his Mr Weatherman YouTube channel today uploaded his latest video called “Tropical Development in April?” where he confirmed there was some hail in St Kitts.

He said: “St Kitts and Nevis, we actually had a little bit of hail. That’s some ice that mixed in because the storms got so tall... it’s cold up there and that allowed a little bit of ice to fall. That was in St Kitts and Nevis.”

The weather forecast for St Kitts and Nevis this morning on April 6 said the islands expected cloudy skies with light showers and thunder/lightning.

According to the NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory, hail is a form of precipitation consisting of solid ice that forms inside thunderstorm updrafts. Hail can damage aircraft,



Reports of hail falling in some northern parts of St Kitts are being investigated by NEMA. (Photo via Facebook)

homes and cars, and can be deadly to livestock and people.

cont'd from pg 10

jumbo jet platform to launch from anywhere at short notice. This has appeal to the military, for example. Except, the firm has found it very hard to do, launching only twice last year.

Any prospective new owner, therefore, will want to know a high cadence of launches can be achieved. This means going up every month, the original aim of the company.

Mr Hart said despite the financial problems, he was confident the company had a “wide appeal” to a new owner because its team had created “cutting edge launch technology”.

But Danni Hewson, head of financial analysis at in-

vestment firm AJ Bell, said the company’s failed launch mission from the UK was “not the best advert” for its technology.

“Neither is Virgin Orbit’s collapse the best advert for the space investment theme,” she added.

“This industry may have significant potential at some point in the unknown future but investors tempted to reach for the stars have only had their fingers burned so far.”

The UK Space Agency said it had worked with Virgin Orbit for many years but said its issues were a commercial matter for the company.

It added that the UK space sector was “thriving”

and said it generates £17.5bn worth of income a year.

Sir Richard is one of a very small group of billionaires who have expanded their business empires into launching satellites and attempts to pioneer commercial space travel.

The others include Jeff Bezos, founder of online retailer Amazon, who set up his space company Blue Origin, as well as Twitter and Tesla owner Elon Musk, who founded SpaceX.

Sir Richard and the Virgin Group have invested more than \$1bn in the business in a quest to launch satellites through Virgin Orbit but also to develop reusable “space planes” to take tourists on brief trips to sub-or-

bital space.

Virgin Galactic had started selling tickets for \$450,000 for these journeys and celebrities such as pop star Justin Bieber have signed up.

But the main players in the “billionaire space race” have also faced criticism for what some see as offering joy rides for the super-wealthy at a time when countries across the globe are being impacted by climate change.

However, Mr Bezos has previously insisted his space exploration is partly an environmental mission “to take all heavy industry, all polluting industry and move it into space, and keep Earth as this beautiful gem of a planet that it is”.

Michael K Williams: Drug dealer pleads guilty over *The Wire* actor's death

By Helen Bushby

A man has pleaded guilty in court to distributing the fentanyl-laced heroin that resulted in the death of *The Wire*'s Michael K Williams in 2021.

Irvin Cartagena, also known as Green Eyes, sold the drug "in broad daylight in New York City, feeding addiction and causing tragedy", said lawyer Damien Williams.

"He dealt the fatal dose that killed Michael K Williams," the lawyer told a Manhattan federal courtroom.

The US actor died aged 54 in 2021.

It was later revealed his death was caused by an accidental drug overdose.

"On or about September 5, 2021, members of the drug trafficking organisation sold Michael K Williams heroin, which was laced with fentanyl and a fentanyl analogue, with Cartagena executing the hand-to-hand transaction," documents stated.

Despite knowing that Williams died after being sold the product, Cartagena and his co-conspirators "continued to sell fentanyl-laced heroin in broad daylight amidst residential apartment buildings in



Michael K Williams had openly discussed his struggles with drugs over the years.

Brooklyn and Manhattan", the court was told.

Cartagena, 39, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess, with intent to distribute fentanyl analogue, fentanyl, and heroin. As part of his guilty plea, the defendant said his actions "resulted in the death of Michael K Williams".

This carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum sentence of 40 years in prison, the court papers added.

Lawyer Mr Williams said: "This office and our law enforcement partners will continue to hold accountable the dealers who push this poison, exploit

addiction, and cause senseless death in our community."

Williams had spoken previously about his drug use. His death saw an outpouring of emotion and tributes from a host of famous faces, including the film director Spike Lee, actress Viola Davis and author Stephen King, who described Williams as "fantastically talented".

The HBO TV network, which aired 60 episodes of *The Wire* between 2002 and 2008, said they were "devastated" by the news.

Williams' complex portrayal of Omar Little, a gay, shotgun-toting robber of drug dealers, helped cement *The Wire*'s

game-changing depiction of life in the projects of Baltimore.

Omar represented the duality of a black experience never before given such honest screen time, represented in his exchanges with Wendell Pierce's detective Bunk, a black schoolfriend who reminded him of the different paths life afforded them.

Interviewed together years before Williams' death, Pierce said his co-star's performance gave voice and flesh to characters "that most people would have never given the same humanity to... opening a window to a world of men that we pass by or don't know about".

Caribbean American legislators welcome arraignment of Trump

CMC - Caribbean American Democratic legislators have welcomed the decision by the Manhattan District Attorney's Office to charge former United States President Donald J. Trump with 34 felony charges of falsifying business records in the first degree.

The indictment, unsealed in court on Tuesday, surrounds Trump's reimbursements to his former fixer, Michael D. Cohen, the prosecution's key witness, for a hush-money payment to pornographic star Stormy Daniels during the 2016 presidential campaign. Trump pleaded not guilty at his arraignment on Tuesday.

"If America is to remain a vibrant democracy and be a nation of laws, our laws must be applied universally," Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC), adding it is "a moment of both pride and pain for our country.

"The presidency is meant to represent our highest ideals as Americans. To witness an individual who once held that sacred title fall to such contemptible lows will leave a scar not easily healed," said Clarke, the representative for the predominantly Caribbean 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York.

"But we must find reassurance in the fact that our justice system has refused to allow former President Trump to escape the consequences of his alleged actions," she said, noting that a "critical procedure towards preserving the rule of law and protecting our values as a nation has commenced.

"Keeping in mind Donald Trump's long history of flagrant contempt for the precious right of due process and the rule of law, it is my sincere hope that he receives a fair trial and just treatment during the adjudication of the numerous



Former President Trump leaves Trump Tower in New York for Manhattan Criminal Court, where he will be booked and arraigned on charges stemming from a hush money payment to a porn actor during his 2016 campaign, Tuesday, April 4, 2023. (AP Photo/Corey Sipkin)

charges against him.

"I look forward to seeing all evidence that would shed light on Mr. Trump's alleged crimes come to light," said Clarke, first vice chair of the US Congressional Black Caucus.

New York State Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, the daughter of Haitian immigrants, who chairs the Brooklyn Democratic Party, told CMC that "Trump's arraignment shows that justice still endures and that nobody, including a former president, is above the law.

"The Brooklyn Democratic Party lauds Manhattan DA (District Attorney) Alvin Bragg for his rigorous investigation, and we are confident that Trump will have a fair trial, regardless of the outcome," added the representative for the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn.

"There's no place for harassment in our Justice system, and we urge everyone to protest peacefully as justice prevails over hate.

"If true, the allegations that Trump concealed crimes that hid damaging information from the voting public during

the 2016 presidential election are extremely disturbing and deserving of a worthy and fair punishment," said Bichotte Hermelyn.

New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants, Tuesday joined his colleagues and fellow advocates at the courthouse in Manhattan "to stand up to hate and counter the voices of folks who came to our city to spread lies and stoke bigoted division like Marjorie Taylor Greene."

Greene, a conservative Georgia congresswoman and ardent Trump supporter, briefly used a bullhorn, in a nearby park, to whip up support for the former president, as he was arraigned in Manhattan Supreme Court.

"The people calling Trump's indictment and arraignment an injustice are the same people fighting against bail reform and for a system that benefits whiter and wealthier defendants at the expense of marginalized communities," Williams told CMC, adding "as always, I'm proud to stand up for justice, regardless of the consequences.

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BVI Election: Wheatley denies neglecting District 7

By Dillon De Shong

Premier Dr Natalio Wheatley refuted claims last evening that he has neglected the needs of his constituents in District Seven since taking office.

Wheatley said his opponents accused him of ignoring issues facing the district which include poor infrastructure, high unemployment, mounting piles of derelict vehicles, and escalating crime.

But, Wheatley, who took over as premier just under a year ago following the arrest of Andrew Fahie in Miami, said it's not his fault.

"The challenge is not with your district representative, the problem is with the system. We are being failed systematically," he



Premier Dr Natalio Wheatley.

stated as he launched his campaign.

The premier said District Seven is close to his heart as he listed initiatives such as the establishment of a community food pantry and library as projects completed under his leadership.

Labelling himself as "The Problem Solver", Wheatley said he has the tools and the team behind

him to fix issues the British Virgin Islands once given a majority in the House of Assembly following the April 24 General Election.

He reminded residents of District Seven that by placing his Virgin Islands Party (VIP) in office, they would have a premier and finance minister in parliament, which a community from the east has not done

since his grandfather Willard Wheatley served as Chief Minister and Finance Minister from 2 June 1971 – 12 November 1979.

Among the projects planned for the BVI under Wheatley's stewardship includes the release of funds for district representatives to complete projects in their constituencies.

He assured districts will be treated equitably under his leadership.

Wheatley noted the BVI faces a tough time ahead as it works to address governance issues that were raised in a Commission of Inquiry as well as the coronavirus pandemic and the Ukraine-Russia war and cannot take risks by placing a leader incapable of overseeing their affairs.

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"While conservatives across the country are attempting to undermine our progressive agenda, we aren't slowing down here in New York. I'm continuing to work to protect asylum seekers, improve tenants' rights, pass critical health care reform and advance true public safety.

"As the disgraced former president faces his first arraignment for his many alleged crimes, the people calling his indictment an injustice and attacking District Attorney Bragg are among the same who called the District Attorney 'soft on crime' for his efforts to combat mass incarceration," Williams said.

In addition to the indictment, District Attorney Bragg released a "state-

ment of facts" in which he outlines a broader scheme, which Trump and others allegedly orchestrated to avert negative press during the 2016 campaign.

Bragg said that the alleged scheme also included hush-money payments to a second woman, who charged that she had a sexual encounter with Trump, and a former Trump doorman alleging that the former US President had a child out-of-wedlock.

In announcing the indictment, Bragg said that Trump, 76, falsified New York business records in order to conceal damaging information and that he pursued unlawful activity from American voters before and after the 2016 election.

"During the election, Trump and oth-

ers employed a 'catch and kill' scheme to identify, purchase, and bury negative information about him and boost his electoral prospects," Bragg said.

"Trump then went to great lengths to hide this conduct, causing dozens of false entries in business records to conceal criminal activity, including attempts to violate state and federal election laws.

"The People of the State of New York allege that Donald J. Trump repeatedly and fraudulently falsified New York business records to conceal crimes that hid damaging information from the voting public during the 2016 presidential election," he added.

After Trump's arraignment, Bragg told a news conference "everyone stands equal under the law".

Guyana welcomes ruling of ICJ on border dispute with Venezuela

CMC - Guyana on Thursday welcomed the ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the ongoing border dispute with Venezuela with both the government and the opposition saying they remain confident that the Hague-based court will confirm the country's longstanding international boundary dispute with its South American neighbour.

The ICJ by a vote of 14 to one rejected the preliminary objection by Venezuela to Guyana's application for the upholding of the validity of the 1899 Arbitral Award settling the boundaries between the two countries.

The decision read by Judge Joan E. Donoghue, President of the Court, means that the court can now proceed to address the substantive application by Georgetown regarding the validity of the award.

The ICJ rejected Venezuela's argument that the United Kingdom as Guyana's colonial power should have been a party to the proceedings.

"The court concludes that the Geneva agreement specifies particular roles for Guyana and Venezuela, and that its provisions including Article eight, do not provide a role for the United Kingdom in choosing or in participating in the means of settlement of the dispute. pursuant to Article four," the ICJ ruled.

"The Court concludes that, by virtue of being a

party to the Geneva Agreement, the United Kingdom accepted that the dispute between Guyana and Venezuela could be settled by one of the means set out in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, and that it would have no role in that procedure. Under these circumstances, the Court considers that the Monetary Gold principle does not come into play in this case.

"It follows that even if the Court, in its judgment on the merits, were called to pronounce on certain conduct attributable to the United Kingdom, which cannot be determined at present, this would not preclude the Court from exercising its jurisdiction, which is based on the application of the Geneva Agreement. The preliminary objection raised by Venezuela must therefore be rejected," it added.

Last November, Venezuela said the ICJ could not hear the case and that the 1899 Arbitral Award is a full, final and perfect settlement of the land boundary between the two countries because Britain is not a party to the proceedings.

"We submit that this court would not be in a position to resolve Guyana's application because the United Kingdom, an indispensable party to settle such a matter of the dispute requested by Guyana is not participating," she told the judges.

In a statement, President



Guyana pinned on map (Photo credit: iStock)

Dr Irfaan Ali said the ruling by the ICJ means that it will "now proceed to decide the (controversy) between the two States on the merits, and ultimately issue a final and binding determination on the validity of the 1899 Arbitral Award that fixed the land boundary between Venezuela and then-British Guiana".

He said Venezuela and the United Kingdom recognised the validity of that Arbitral Award and the resulting international boundary for more than 60 years.

"Upon its independence in 1966, Guyana also recognised the Award and the boundary, but Venezuela had changed its position and begun claiming more than two-thirds of Guyana's territory west of the Essequibo River.

Ali said that this is the second time the International Court has rejected jurisdictional objections raised by Venezuela, noting that it had done so in 2020 and 2022.

"Today's ruling disposes of that objection, and will require Venezuela to submit its written pleadings on the merits of the case – that is,

on the validity of the Arbitral Award and the international boundary that it established," he said, adding "Guyana remains confident that its longstanding international boundary with Venezuela will be confirmed by the Court.

"Guyana has always been fully committed to the peaceful resolution of the dispute with its neighbour and sister Republic in accordance with international law. That is why, after attempting unsuccessfully to achieve a diplomatic settlement through talks mediated by the United Nations Secretary-General over more than two decades, Guyana brought the matter to the International Court of Justice for a final and binding determination.

"All Member States of the United Nations, including Guyana and Venezuela, are obligated under the United Nations Charter to comply with the Court's binding judgments," Ali added.

Opposition Leader Aubrey Norton told a news conference of the efforts made by the former government to ensure that Guyana's borders

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were not taken over by Venezuela.

“We are unanimous in our view that Essequibo belongs to the people of Guyana, we are unanimous in our views that the Court (ICJ) has jurisdiction and we will continue to support the government and people of Guyana on this very critical issue,” he told reporters.

In a statement issued, opposition legislator and spokesperson on Foreign Affairs, Amanza Walton-Desir, said the coalition A Partnership for National Unity and the Alliance For Cange (AP-

NU+AFC) welcomed the ruling, adding “with the Court’s rejection of Venezuela’s preliminary objections, the way has now been cleared for the ICJ to adjudicate on the merits of the case, in pursuit of a final and binding judgment on the matter”.

In its ruling, the ICJ said that based on the Articles of the Geneva Convention of February 17, 1966, it was clear that the two parties to the settlement of the controversy over the arbitral award were British Guiana and Venezuela.

It also rejected an argument by Caracas that the

principle of Monetary Gold where a third party is absent from the proceedings bans the tribunal from acting does not apply. Therefore the then UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon was able to operate under Article 33 of the UN Charter to refer the controversy to the ICJ as requested by Guyana.

In March 2018, Guyana filed its application with the ICJ to confirm the validity and binding effect of the Arbitral Award of 1899 on the boundary between the two countries and the subsequent 1905 agreement, following the decision by the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to choose the ICJ as the next means of resolving the controversy which stems from Venezuela’s contention that the award was null and void. In its application of March 29, 2018, Guyana requested that the Court adjudge and declare that the “1899 Award is valid and binding upon Guyana and Venezuela, and the boundary established by that Award and the 1905 Agreement is valid and binding upon Guyana and Venezuela”.

It also wanted the ICJ to rule that “Guyana enjoys full sovereignty over the territory between the Essequibo River and the boundary established by the 1899 Award and the 1905 Agreement, and Venezuela enjoys full sovereignty over the territory west of that boundary; Guyana and Venezuela are under an obligation to fully respect each other’s sovereignty and territorial integrity in accordance with

the boundary established by the 1899 Award and the 1905 Agreement”.

In addition, Georgetown wanted Venezuela to “immediately withdraw from and cease its occupation of the eastern half of the Island of Ankoko, and each and every other territory which is recognised as Guyana’s sovereign territory in accordance with the 1899 Award and 1905 Agreement;

“Venezuela shall refrain from threatening or using force against any person and/or company licensed by Guyana or engage in economic or commercial activity in Guyanese territory as determined by the 1899 Award and 1905 Agreement, or in any maritime areas appurtenant to such territory over which Guyana has sovereignty or exercises sovereign rights, and shall not interfere with any Guyanese or Guyanese-authorized activities in those areas;

“Venezuela is internationally responsible for violations of Guyana’s sovereignty and sovereign rights, and for all injuries suffered by Guyana as a consequence.”

The decision to go to the ICJ by Guyana came after years of stalemate with Venezuela first indicating that it would not be participating in the process and that its participation would be “as a courtesy, not as a party in this procedure.”

However, on June 7 last year, Caracas joined the proceedings when it raised preliminary objections to the admissibility of the case before the Court.

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Uganda's Mary Goretti Kitutu to spend Easter in jail over roofing-sheets scandal

By Patience Atuhaire

A Ugandan cabinet minister is to spend Easter in jail after being charged over a scandal involving the theft of thousands of metal roofing sheets.

They were intended for vulnerable communities in the north-eastern Karamoja region.

Mary Goretti Kitutu Kimono, the minister for the region, pleaded not guilty in court but was denied bail.

At least 10 other senior government figures are alleged to have received some of the stolen corrugated iron.

These include the vice-president, the prime minister, the parliamentary Speaker and other ministers, according to the inspector general of government.

Some of them told a parliamentary committee investigating the corruption scandal, involving 14,500 missing iron sheets, that they had not asked for them.

The prime minister has apologised and urged other officials to return the sheets. Speaker Anita Among told the house that she had returned the ones she had received.

One minister was recently forced to remove some from the roof of his goat shed, local media reported.

Karamoja has for decades faced persistent droughts and flooding when it rains, leaving many in the semi-arid north-eastern region dependent on aid.

Mrs Kitutu will remain in custody until next Wednesday. It is alleged that instead of distributing the roofing materials to Karamoja communities, she gave them to her relatives and officials.



Lawmaker Mary Goretti Kitutu Kimono arriving at court.

"I have understood the charge and it's not true," she responded in court, speaking firmly.

She has been charged alongside her brother, Michael Naboya Kitutu, who pleaded not guilty to receiving 100 of the corrugated iron sheets.

The minister's court appearance was highly anticipated. On arrival, she covered her head and face with a piece of cloth to shield herself from the clamouring media.

Her lawyer had applied for bail, arguing that she was a high-profile senior citizen, had medical complications and would not interfere with prosecution witnesses.

But the prosecution fought for her to remain in custody, telling the court that Mrs Kitutu had prevented her mother, in whose house some sheets were recovered, from recording a statement to the police.

Her sister-in-law, niece and daughter-in-law, all alleged to be involved in the scandal, are on the run.

Mrs Kitutu rose to prominence as

an environmental scientist, and was involved in mapping her home region in Mt Elgon, which is prone to landslides.

She became an MP in 2016 and has held other cabinet posts, including the energy and minerals portfolios.

Corruption scandals involving high-profile government officials are common, but it is rare for them to resign or be sacked.

Communications Minister Chris Baryomunsi said any decision on Mrs Kitutu's future would be taken after police investigations had been concluded.

"Irrespective of who you are, you have to face the law," he said.

President Yoweri Museveni has called for the prosecution of all those involved.

No other officials have yet been charged over the scandal.

Critics have previously complained that only low-ranking figures are prosecuted following corruption investigations.

Israel blames Hamas for Lebanon rocket barrage as tensions rise

BBC - The Israeli military has accused the Palestinian militant group Hamas of firing dozens of rockets from southern Lebanon into northern Israel. It said most of the 34 rockets were intercepted but that six hit Israeli territory, causing damage to buildings.

One man was lightly wounded by shrapnel, according to medics.

Hamas said it had no information about who fired the missiles. The attack was the biggest single barrage from Lebanon in 17 years.

It comes at a time of rising tensions. There has been outrage in the region at the actions of the Israeli police, who have raided the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem - Islam's third holiest site - for the past two nights, triggering violent confrontations with Palestinians inside.

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip, which is controlled by Hamas, have also fired 25 rockets at Israel over the same period, and the Israeli military has carried out air strikes there in response.

Air raid sirens sounded in communities across northern Israel on Thursday afternoon, after rockets were launched from Lebanon while Israelis celebrated the Jewish festival of Passover.

The Israeli military did not say where the six rockets that struck Israeli territory landed. But photographs showing damage to several buildings in the border town of Shlomi, including a bank, and a car in the village of Fassuta.

"We heard booms, and sirens. A rocket hit the roof of a car as it was passing my house, but the rocket didn't explode. When I went after the car, I saw someone was injured," one eyewitness said.

Israel's Magen David Adom ambulance service treated a man with shrapnel



In the Israeli border town of Shlomi, the rockets left craters in the road, and damaged vehicles and a bank.

injuries, a woman who was injured while running to a shelter, and another woman who had stress symptoms. Israeli military spokesman Lt Col Richard Hecht said they believed Hamas was behind the attack and that it was possible the militant group Islamic Jihad was also involved.

He added that they assumed the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, which fought a month-long war with Israel in 2006, knew about the attack, and that they suspected there was Iranian involvement.

Hamas has confirmed to the BBC that the attacks came during a visit to Beirut by its leader, Ismail Haniyeh.

But a Hamas official told the BBC the visit was prepared in advance and had nothing to do with recent developments.

It said it did not have any information about who fired the missiles.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will convene his security cabinet on Thursday evening to discuss the situation.

In a televised address on Thursday, he said: "We will hit our enemies and they will pay a price for all acts of ag-

gression."

The Israeli prime minister also called for a calming of tensions, adding "we will act decisively against extremists who use violence."

The United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon, Unifil, said the situation was "extremely serious" and urged "restraint and to avoid further escalation".

Hezbollah, which controls much of southern Lebanon, had vowed hours before the rocket launches to support "all measures" taken by the Palestinian people "to protect worshippers and the al-Aqsa mosque and to deter the enemy from continuing its attacks".

The mosque is located on a hill-top complex in occupied East Jerusalem known by Muslims as al-Haram al-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary) and by Jews as the Temple Mount. Jews revere it as the location of two Biblical temples and it is the holiest site in Judaism.

Video footage appeared to show Israeli police entering the mosque on Wednesday night, while being pelted with objects from inside.

A police statement said that «dozens

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Mexico police seize dozens of exotic animals during raid

By Vanessa Buschschlüter

Officials raiding a property near the Mexican capital have seized 25 exotic animals, including lions, pumas and a Bengal tiger.

They had been alerted to “suspicious activity” at the ranch in Huixquilucan, west of Mexico City.

They also found pumps thought to have been used to steal petrol from fuel pipelines.

Criminals in Mexico often keep exotic animals as pets and a number of large cats have been seized in recent years.

The site where the animals were found is thought to have been used by a gang specialising in stealing and selling fuel.

Agents found a container with 14,000l of diesel, as well as several large vehicles such as lorries and buses, which they say may have been stolen.

A total of 47 live animals were at the property, some of which were kept in cages. They also seized seven dead animals, which had been stuffed.

The trafficking of animals is a lucrative business in Mexico, with criminal gangs increasingly buying and



A coyote was among the animals seized at the property.

selling exotic species for profit.

While it is not illegal to own an exotic animal in Mexico as long as the owner can prove it came from a certified dealer and was born in captivity, many of the animals seized by the authorities in recent years have lacked the necessary paperwork.

The illicit trade in flora and fauna is now estimated to be the fourth-biggest illegal enterprise in the country, after the trafficking of drugs, people and guns, according to the office of the

Mexican attorney general for environmental protection.

And it is no longer just drug traffickers who keep exotic animals as status symbols at their luxury ranches.

In 2020, a woman caused outrage when she walked around a mall in an upscale neighbourhood of Mexico City with a tiger cub on a leash.

And in December, traffic police were startled to find a tiger cub in the boot of a car they had stopped for a minor traffic infraction.

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of law-breaking juveniles, some of them masked, threw fireworks and stones» into the mosque «with the aim of disrupting the order» as worshippers gathered for nightly Ramadan prayers.

“At some point the violent rioters tried again to close the mosque doors and prevent the worshipers from leaving the mosque in order to barricade themselves in

the place,” it added. “Police forces prevented the law-breakers from closing the doors and helped the worshipers leave.”

The official Palestinian news agency, Wafa, reported that the officers «assaulted Palestinian worshippers, beating them with clubs and targeting them with concussion grenades, tear-gas canisters and rubber-coated steel bullets as a

means to forcefully expel them».

The Palestinian Red Crescent said six people were injured.

The Israeli military meanwhile said that seven rockets were launched from Gaza early on Thursday morning and that all of them exploded in the air.

Another two were fired on Wednesday evening, with one falling within the Strip

and a second landing in an open area near the Gaza border fence.

On Tuesday night, more than 350 Palestinians were arrested and 50 were hurt during a similar raid at the al-Aqsa mosque, while militants in Gaza fired 16 rockets into Israel and the Israeli military carried out air strikes on militant sites belonging to Hamas in response.

Sea View Farm drop more points in second division league

Sea View Farm dropped more points during another round of matches in the second phase of the group stage of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League on Wednesday.

Sea View Farm, who suffered a surprising 3-1 loss against Blackburn Palace in their opening Group 2 affair at Fort Road last week, were held to a 2-2 draw by

cont'd on pg 21



Sea View Farm football team. (File photo)



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The Spanish Heat basketball team. (File photo)

Spanish Heat take lead in second division playoff finals

League champions Galaxia Bar Spanish Heat have taken the lead in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division Play-off Finals. Spanish Heat prevailed 94-82 against Ottos Coolers in the opening game of the best of five series at the JSC Sports Com-

plex on Wednesday night.

Jesus Emmanuel sank 21 points and Wilkin Floyd produced 17 points, 11 rebounds and seven steals for Spanish Heat.

They were supported by team-mates Steven Matthew with 17 points and seven assists; Kelvin Pimentel with 11 points, seven

rebounds and six assists and Antonio Cruzdehaa with 11 points and nine rebounds. Ottos Coolers were led by Lincoln Weekes, who shot a game-high 26 points.

Team-mates Michael Barton converted 13 points and grabbed 17 rebounds, Javon Simon sank 12 points and contributed seven as-

ists; while Shaquille Kelly scored 10 points and claimed seven rebounds.

Both teams, who also met earlier this season in the league final, will clash in Game Two of their second division playoff finals at the JSC Sports Complex at 7pm tomorrow (Saturday).

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Lingies CPTSA Wings in their second encounter at the St. Johnston's playing field.

Markland Wright scored the first of two goals in the 6th minute to give Sea View Farm a one-nil lead, but Wings equalized via an own-goal which was converted by Junior Carr in the 37th minute.

Following the halftime interval, Wings took a 2-1 lead via a 67th minute conversion by Jerry Hazelwood. However, Wright scored his second goal of the match in the 77th minute to equalize for Sea View Farm.

The recent results have reduced

Sea View Farm's chances of finishing as one of the top two teams who will gain automatic promotion to the first division next season.

Sea View Farm will advance to 32 points from 16 matches but will remain in third place in the overall second division standings. Wings will advance to 18 points after recording their third draw in 16 matches.

Bethesda secured their second successive win in Group 2 by snatching a 2-1 victory against Blackburn Palace at the Fort Road playing field.

Calvin Goodwin scored the winner for Bethesda with an 84th minute conversion. Tarique Gomes scored an

equalizer for Blackburn Palace in the 64th minute after O'Shale Simon's 2nd minute conversion gave Bethesda a 1-0 halftime lead.

Bethesda will advance to 28 points after recording their 8th win in 17 matches while Blackburn Palace will remain on 12 points after suffering their 13th loss in 17 encounters.

Belmont FC and Freemans Village battled to a goalless draw in their Group 3 encounter at the Golden Grove playing field.

Freemans Village will advance to 29 points from 16 matches while Belmont FC will move on to 23 points from 17 outings.

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The Leeward Islands Under-15 cricket team. (CWI Media)

Leewards beat Barbados in regional Under-15 contest

The Leeward Islands pulled off a three-wicket win via the Duckworth/Lewis Method over defending champions Barbados in their rain affected second round Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Under-15 Super50 match at the Coolidge Cricket Ground yesterday (Thursday).

The Leewards reached their revised victory target of 78 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 18 overs with 12 balls to spare.

Captain Matthew Miller scored 18 not out, opener Lythe Browne made 12 and Lawshorn Bergan got 11. Akobi Crichlow-Byer took two for 13.

Barbados batted first and were dismissed for 129 in 41.4 overs. Seth Smith topscored with 23, Jakeem Pollard made 19 and Kemar Dixon got 13. Kunal Tilokani captured four for 17 and Amoree Jones claimed three for 19.

Guyana snatched a one-run win

against Jamaica via the Duckworth/Lewis method in their rain affected second round match at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.

Set a revised target of 97 in 33 overs, Jamaica just fell short of the mark, crashing to 96 all out in 32.1 overs. Tyson Gordon Jr struck 23, Joel Williams was not out on 19 and Demarco Scott made 16.

Dhanesh Persaud picked up two wickets for six runs and Dave Mahabir captured two for 19.

Guyana had made 121 in 42.2 overs with Romario Ramdeholl topscoring with 54. Nicoli McKenzie grabbed four for 25 and Scotts took three for 21.

Trinidad and Tobago romped to a comfortable seven-wicket victory against the Windward Islands in their rain-affected second round encounter at Ball Beef in Liberta.

In a match reduced to 20 overs due

to rain, the Windward Islands tumbled to 71 all out in 18.4 overs. Earsinho Fontaine topscored with 23 off 22 balls and captain Theo Edwards made 14.

Brendan Boodoo and Yasir Deen each captured three wickets for nine runs.

Trinidad and Tobago then coasted to victory at 75 for three with 49 balls to spare. Boodoo made 21 off 20 balls, Zane Maraj hit an unbeaten 18 and opener Darrius Batoosingh got 16. Leon Alexander claimed two for 11.

The competition will continue with the third round of matches at 9:30 am tomorrow (Saturday).

The Windward Islands will face Guyana at the Coolidge Cricket Ground, Trinidad and Tobago will face Barbados at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium and the Leeward Islands will clash with Jamaica at Ball Beef in Liberta.

Antigua and Barbuda record first win at regional police T20 tournament

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda recorded their first win in three matches on the fourth day of the 2023 Regional Police T20 Tournament in Barbados on Wednesday.

Following losses to Trinidad & Tobago and St. Vincent & the Grenadines Police in their first two matches, the Antigua and Barbuda Police rebounded by romping to a seven-wicket victory over the British Virgin Islands Police at Woodbourne.

The British Virgin Islands Police were restricted to 136 for six off their allotted 20 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Jamal Mickle topscored with 39, Chad Batson struck 36 and Imran Smith chipped in with 33. Orandel Boston captured two wickets for nine runs and Terique Mason picked up two wickets for 18 runs.

In reply, Antigua & Barbuda Police achieved victory by scoring 138 for three in 12.1 overs.

Malique Gerald hammered 54 not out, off 32 balls with five fours and three sixes. Malik Marcelin made 27, captain Derek Mourillon was not out on



Batsman Malique Gerald hit a half century to lead the Antigua and Barbuda Police cricket team to victory over the British Virgin Islands in the 2023 Regional Police T20 Tournament in Barbados on Wednesday, 5th April, 2023. (Photo courtesy Neville Nicholls)

15 and Tron Payne chipped in with 14.

In other results of matches on Day 4 of the Regional Police Twenty20 Tournament, Grenada Police beat

the Cayman Islands Police by nine wickets at Lears.

Cayman Islands Police could only muster 115 for six off their 20 overs. Pearson Best cracked 33, Paul

Manning struck 23, Ravendra Persaud made 18 and Brian Corbin got 15.

Amikel Dubisette claimed two for 14 and Daryl Cyrus captured two for 19.

Grenada Police coasted to victory by scoring 116 for one in 11.4 overs. Johann Jeremiah slammed an unbeaten 70 off 44 balls with 10 fours and two sixes while Seandell Regis made 25 not out.

St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police beat Barbados Police by 6 wickets at Lears.

Barbados Police crashed to 126 all out in 18.3 overs. Larry Babb struck 35, Venice Vaughan scored 15, Darrell Babb made 14 and Mical Stuart got 13.

Othniel Lewis claimed three for 19, Romario Bibby picked up three for 30 and Beneton Stapleton took two for 30.

In reply, St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police achieved victory, reaching 127 for four in 10.4 overs. Dillon Douglas hammered an unbeaten 61 off 24 balls with six fours and four sixes, while Salvan Browne struck 36. Kadeem Alleyne captured three for 31.