

LIVE TV FOR ALFA NERO SALE



Sale of Alfa Nero to be done on LIVE Television

The sale of the multi-million dollar super yacht- the Alfa Nero – will take place on Friday, June 16 on LIVE television, under the supervision of a three-member panel that will include a member of the judiciary, the clergy, and the private sector.

The announcement comes from the General Manager of the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, Darwin Telemaque, who revealed that the actual event will be held at the Treasury Building on Independence Drive, with the Accountant General and the Director of Audit officiating.

“We would have received a number of bids from several parties and as of today (Tuesday), we are no longer accepting bids, as there is not sufficient time for the due diligence to be conducted on any bid coming after the deadline. Therefore, we can only work with the bids that were cleared by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the US Government working with their agencies

to clear the individuals, who had previously submitted bids,” Telemaque explained.

He said his department is grateful for the assistance it received from the US Government to clear the way for the eventual sale of the Alfa Nero.

“This means that only individuals who previously submitted bids, but not just bids; they also would have had to supply the beneficial owner’s name, address, and source of funds for the due diligence process. When all this had been completed, we now have individuals who have been validated and cleared to participate in the bid,” he stated.

According to the general manager the US wanted to ensure before removing the sanctions that individuals who had ties to sanctioned individuals or were sanctioned individuals themselves or individuals of nefarious character were not participating in the sale. “All of that has been done,” he declared, clearing the way for the bid-



General Manager of the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority, Darwin Telemaque

ding process to begin.

“The process will involve a member of the private sector, a member of the judiciary, and a member of the clergy. They will be at the Treasury Department Building. They will participate in the transfer of the bids from the vault where they were placed as they were received from the bidding parties. They were stamped and sealed by the Accountant General and a receipt was given to the person who presented the sealed bids. Only the Accountant General had access to the vault/safe in the treasury building where they were kept,” he further

explained.

On Friday, the three individuals, previously stated, will accompany the Accountant General along with a camera crew for a LIVE broadcast of the proceedings on State television. The safe will be opened, the bids removed and taken to the conference room and placed on the table, whereupon the Accountant General will open them. He would first demonstrate that they were being kept securely in the department and that everything was being done transparently and could be verified by anyone.

The three individuals will review the bids to select the highest bidder, which will then be handed to Telemaque who will make the announcement.

The person selected will have seven days to transfer the money to the government. Failing to complete this process, the vessel will be sold to the person with the second-highest bid.

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Shooting victim dies

The 25-year-old Willikies man who was injured during a shooting incident on June 4, has died.

Jafari Isaac was pronounced dead at approximately 12:45 am on Tuesday, June 13, after spending just over a week in the Intensive Care Unit at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center.

Isaac's death brings the number of homicides for the year to two.

The police have two men in custody, who are persons of interest, regarding the incident that led to



Jafari Isaac

Isaac's death.

A STRATCOM release said the police are continuing their investigations into the matter.

NOTICE TO THE LICENSING MAGISTRATE

AND

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

To: Her Worship
The Licencing Magistrate
Magistrate's Court
St. John's
Antigua

To: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

We, **Soursop Holdings Ltd.**, of registered offices Lighthouse Global Executive Services Inc., Scotts Hill in the Parish of Saint John in Antigua and Barbuda **DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE** that it is our intention to apply at the next special sitting of the Liquor Licencing Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, St. John's, Antigua on Thursday 6th July 2023 for a Tavern Licence pursuant to Sections 11 (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act, Cap 249, Laws of Antigua and Barbuda in respect of the premises known as "**Soursop Holdings Ltd.**" situate at Friars Hill in the Parish of Saint John in the island of Antigua.

Dated the 1st day of June 2023

Signed Kemar A. Roberts
RICHARDS & COMPANY
Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant

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Next year's SIDS conference will be a major boost to the economy

Residents of Antigua and Barbuda can expect a major shot in the arm to the local economy from the country's hosting of the 4th Conference of the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) slated for late May or early June 2023.

It will be the largest conference ever hosted by the country and officials anticipate that the economic benefits will trickle down to every facet of the economy from accommodation to transportation and restaurants.

"These types of conferences usually have major economic spin-offs. Just think of the impact of having between four to five thousand people visiting the country at the same time. Transportation and every hotel room will be required. The hotels will see full employment for the period. The transportation systems will be utilized fully as well, and you will have people spending at restaurants around the island, as not all will be able to stay in St. John's," Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Aubrey Webson stated.

Ambassador Webson was in St. John's last week for the initial planning meetings for the conference. He said if one isolates the revenue that will be generated from airport travel tax, the amount will be significant.

"We will also need to

increase the airlift into the country and the attendant benefits that will accrue will be substantial for the entire economy of Antigua and Barbuda," he declared.

UN Under-Secretary-General, Li Junhua, noted that while the economic benefits will be tremendous, Antigua and Barbuda will also benefit from a much elevated public profile and reputation, coming out of a successful conference.

"We know Antigua and Barbuda,"

cont'd on pg 5



Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Aubrey Webson



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Antigua and Barbuda represented at SIDS workshop in Barbados

Antigua and Barbuda is being represented by a team of senior officials at a workshop that will examine the impact of Non-Communicable Diseases and mental health on Small Islands Developing States (SIDS).

Health Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph and Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Terri-Ann Joseph are attending the two-day workshop that opens in Barbados today.

“In recognition of the high burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health in SIDS countries, as well as the impact of climate change coupled with the impact of COVID-19 on health and economies in these particularly vulnerable states, WHO, PAHO, and the Government of Barbados are convening ministers from SIDS countries and partner organizations at the SIDS Ministerial Conference to be held on 14–16 June 2023



Health Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph

in Bridgetown, Barbados,” WHO; Dr. Jarbas Barbosa - Director, PAHO; and many more.

It added that the workshop which is taking place ahead of the UN General Assembly High-level meeting on Universal Health Coverage in September 2023, will also feed into preparatory processes leading to the fourth High-level meeting on NCDs in 2025 and to future global summits on mental health.

Speakers include Hon. Mia Amor Mottley - Prime Minister of Barbados; Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus - Director-General,

progress and challenges to meet the Sustainable Development Goal 3.4, related to NCDs and mental health. Key recommendations were provided for the subsequent development of a negotiated outcome document. It also serves as a follow-up to the virtual WHO SIDS Summit for Health held in June 2021, which urged Member States to strengthen their collaborations and partnerships to address development challenges, supporting the 2007 Port of Spain Declaration on NCDs and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, adopted in 2014.

cont'd from pg 4

Barbuda has been very attractive to tourists. However, when you host SIDS 4 with thousands of delegates from other SIDS jurisdictions; from government, the private sector, academia, and the NGOs, they will have a much stronger impression of the country,” he remarked.

It will also provide opportunities for students from the nation’s educational institutions to participate, by serving as volunteers to the delegates as liaison officers. This will also add to their life experiences.

“The visiting delegates will learn much more of the country, in addition to its natural beauty; this will raise the profile of the country internationally, for a long time to come,” he added.

NOTICE TO THE LICENSING MAGISTRATE

AND

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

To: Her Worship
The Licensing Magistrate
Magistrate’s Court
St. John’s
Antigua

To: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John’s
Antigua

We, **A & B Farms Ltd.** of registered offices Stapleton Chambers, Stapleton Lane in the Parish of Saint John in Antigua and Barbuda **DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE** that it is our intention to apply at the next special sitting of the Liquor Licencing Court to be held at the Magistrate’s Court, St. John’s, Antigua on 6th July 2023 for a Tavern Licence pursuant to Sections 11 (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act, Cap 249, Laws of Antigua and Barbuda in respect of the premises known as “A & B Farms Ltd.” situate at Pares in the Parish of Saint Peters in the island of Antigua.

Dated the 1st day of June 2023

Signed Kemar A. Roberts
RICHARDS & COMPANY
Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant



Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu

Customs head identifies his priorities for WCO sub-committee chairmanship

Comptroller of Customs, Raju Boddu, has identified two main priorities as he prepares to assume the

chairmanship of the World Customs Organisation's Finance Committee, next week.

Boddu was elected unanimously at the organisation's annual meeting earlier this year. His appointment begins officially next week when the WCO Council ratifies his appointment.

"My first priority is to bring greater transparency and granularity to the organisation's financial accounts," he disclosed in an interview with Point Express newspaper.

He also expressed a desire to 'advise the secretariat wisely,' in all matters of a financial nature. According to Boddu, the Finance Committee will assist in the preparation of the budget to ensure that it follows laid down guidelines.

"The budget will come before the Finance committee for approval, at which time we will scrutinize the budget. Our job is to ensure that it is properly done and to ensure that expenditures are in line with the amounts budgeted," he emphasized.

Boddu's chairmanship of the WCO Finance Committee runs for a two-year term – June 2023-June 2025.



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Reservoir restoration project gets help from a Sandals team

The Barnes Hill Community Development Organization (BHCDO) received much-needed assistance over the weekend in its efforts to restore the natural green space within the community.

The Barnes Hill Reservoir and community park has been around for 129 years and once was a decorative garden area that served as a space for relaxation and hosting community events.

It is also the home of a man-made reservoir that has been in a state of disrepair for some time, and its renovation is now a priority for the BHCDO.



Answering the call for participation in its restoration, members from Sandals Grande Antigua Resort and Spa joined forces with

members of the community group to play their part in helping to bring back the luster and beauty to the green space, by removing

solid waste from the area. The cleanup forms the first phase of restoration plans.

BHCDO President Kamaule Defreitas thanked the volunteers for their efforts and called for greater support from the wider community, in restoring the space.

Plans for the area, according to Defreitas, include the completion of a multi-use building that will serve as offices, conference facilities, and storerooms. A park beautification plan is also being looked at. This will include the planting of trees and ornamental plants, the restoration of the fishpond, and the introduction of a butterfly garden.

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Covid database: India's health ministry denies major breach

BBC - The Indian health ministry has denied reports of a major leak of personal data from its Covid vaccination database.

In a statement it said "all such reports are without any basis and mischievous in nature", but it has ordered an official investigation into the matter.

The health ministry's CoWin database contains the personal details of millions of people.

There does, however, appear to be some disagreement within the Indian government over the alleged data breach.

The Minister of Electronics and Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, released a statement via Twitter saying an initial investigation had already indicated that there had been a leak of CoWin data.

He said that a bot, accessible via the Telegram messaging service was "throwing up CoWin app details upon entry of phone numbers".

Mr Chandrasekhar said initial investigations by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Indi-Cert) had found that the data of millions of Indians that had been "previously breached or stolen" from the Covid vaccine database, had been accessible. A local Indian media outlet first reported on the alleged



The CoWin database contains confidential personal information on millions of people.

leak in a YouTube video showing how a Telegram bot was revealing up information on well-known politicians in the southern state of Kerala.

The Malayalam media outlet called 'The Fourth' showed how it was possible to obtain personal data such as a date of birth, the identity document used for registering a Covid vaccination, the location of where the first dose was received, the gender and the phone number of an individual.

Other news outlets subsequently checked the bot and verified that the personal details of prominent individuals they obtained were indeed accurate.

It is no longer possible to access this bot.

A Telegram spokesperson told the BBC that such bots breach the platform's terms of service.

"Telegram's moderators routinely remove private data published without consent - as was the case for this bot."

Srikanth Lakshman, a digital identity expert who accessed the bot before it became inactive, said that information relating to both minors and adults had been available.

"Only the CoWin database is supposed to have this kind of detail" he told the BBC.

Several cyber securi-

ty experts have expressed concerns after the incident was reported and pointed out that no security alert was issued by India's Computer Emergency Response Team.

In June 2021, there were claims that the CoWin portal had been hacked resulting in the sale of data relating to 150 million Indians. The Indian government denied that this had happened.

Then in January last year, when similar reports of a data breach emerged, the chief of the National Health Authority, Ram Sewak Sharma, responded saying the database was "safe and secure".

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Twitter boss Linda Yaccarino gives first hint on shake-up plans

By Mariko Oi

The new boss of social media firm Twitter, Linda Yaccarino, has outlined her plans for “Twitter 2.0.”, after taking over from Elon Musk a week ago.

She says the company is “on a mission to become the world’s most accurate real-time information source”.

Since Mr Musk bought Twitter last year, it has faced criticism over its approach to tackling disinformation.

In the last month, the company lost its head of trust and safety and pulled out of the EU’s disinformation code.

In a series of tweets, which was also emailed to employees, Ms Yaccarino echoed Mr Musk’s goal of transforming the “global town square”.

She said this would help “drive civilisation forward through the un-filtered exchange of information and open dialogue about the things that matter most to us.”

“Users need to know that the town square is not biased,” Ray Wang, the chief executive of Silicon Valley-based research firm Constellation told the BBC.

Mr Musk, who is a self-described “free speech absolutist”, has criticised Twitter’s policies on moderating content, arguing that it needed to be a genuine forum for free speech.

But his moves to reinstate right-wing accounts, whose views he has shared, and loosen moderation have driven away advertisers. In December, revenue reportedly fell by 40% compared to a year earlier.

For advertisers to return, they need to know what to expect in terms of user content and engagement, Mr Wang said.

“She is definitely someone who can balance out Elon and go toe-to-toe with him as he respects her,” he



Twitter chief executive Linda Yaccarino. added.

Since buying Twitter last year for \$44bn (£35bn), Mr Musk had been under pressure to find someone to lead the firm so that he could focus on his other businesses, which include electric carmaker Tesla and rocket firm SpaceX.

On 12 May, Mr Musk, who recently reclaimed the title of the world’s richest person, announced that Ms Yaccarino would succeed him as the chief executive of Twitter in six weeks time.

However, she started the role earlier than expected, just days after the resignation of the firm’s head of trust and safety.

Ms Yaccarino is credited with helping to steer media giant NBCUni-

versal through upheaval in the industry caused by changing technology.

In her former role, she overhauled the company’s advertising sales business and was behind the 2020 launch of its advert-supported streaming platform Peacock.

She now oversees business operations at Twitter, which has been struggling to make money, while Mr Musk continues as the company’s executive chairman and chief technology officer.

“We believe Linda has a solid vision for Twitter with a lot of wood to chop that can be turned around,” Daniel Ives from Wedbush Securities said.

“This is a great first step and she knows the task ahead for Twitter to monetise the platform which remains the golden goose.”

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Avatar 3 and Avengers: The Kang Dynasty pushed back by Disney

BBC - Disney fans will have to wait a little longer for some of the top blockbusters after the company announced a reshuffle of its release calendar.

On the list are many of its eagerly awaited instalments of Marvel, Star Wars, and Avatar movies, US media report.

Avatar producer Jon Landau wrote on Twitter that the filmmakers needed more time to complete the next movies. Disney has not given a reason for the delays.

The move comes amid the ongoing strike by Hollywood writers, which some believe is causing production shutdowns that could have an impact on release timelines.

“Movies like this can’t be made without scripts (despite what some critics might say), and with writers

not currently working on them, things have to be delayed,” according to media website Gizmodo.

The most significant push in the calendar, announced on Tuesday, is the release of Avatar movies, a science-fiction series set on the fictional moon of Pandora. Avatar 3 will now be out a year later on December 19, 2025. Avatar 4 moves several years to December 21, 2029, and Avatar 5 moves to December 2031.

Director James Cameron, who launched the first “Avatar” in 2009, has said he may not direct the fourth and fifth instalments, the Associated Press reported. By December 2031, the 68-year-old Cameron would be 77.

“Each Avatar film is an exciting but epic undertaking that takes time to bring to the quality level we as filmmakers strive for and audiences have

come to expect,” Avatar producer Jon Landau wrote on Twitter.

The other significant push in the calendar is for the Star Wars films. Two films in the series are now planned for 2026 - one was pushed from December 2025 to May 2026, another was added for December 2026. The studio hasn’t released a Star Wars film since 2019.

A reshuffle was also announced for the bulk of Marvel series - most notably Avengers: Kang Dynasty is being pushed from May 2025 to May 2026.

Other changes in Marvel releases include most films being delayed a few months. “Captain America: Brave New World” will open in July 2024 instead of May 2024, after which comes “Thunderbolts” in December 2024, “Blade” in February 2025 and “Fantastic Four” in May 2025.

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Regional News



Teen is USVI's latest murder victim

Loop - The US Virgin Islands Police Department (VIPD) has identified Saturday's murder victim as 16-year-old Amon Walcott.

VIPD identified Walcott in a social media post as they appealed for information that can solve his murder.

Acting Commissioner Mario Brooks expressed condolences and urged the community to provide any information that could solve this and other crimes.

Brooks said: "Our community is in shock and mourning following the tragic death of a 16-year-old male who was found shot to death. Our thoughts and condolences go out to the family and friends of the victim during this difficult time.

"These heinous crimes have no place in our community, the loss of any life



is a tragedy, but it is especially gut-wrenching and heartbreaking when it happens to someone so young with their whole life ahead of them".

He continued: "We implore our community to come together and support one another during this difficult time. Our silence only allows these senseless acts of violence to continue, and it is up to each

and every one of us to take a stand and do our part to keep our community safe."

"We ask that anyone with information about this crime contact the VIPD immediately through 911, the CIB tip line at (340) 778-4850 or Crime Stoppers at 1(800)222-TIPS. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of the victim during this tragic time."

The boy's body was found in a vehicle, which was parked near the old Queen Mary Highway Service Station on St Croix.

Walcott was the territory's 20th murder victim.

He was the second teen murdered in less than 24 hours last week.

Leroy Corneilus Jr, 16, was shot dead inside the Gottlieb Quickway Service Centre in St Thomas.

Jamaica suspends consular services in Haiti after attack



CMC - The Jamaica government Tuesday confirmed that the building housing the country's Consulate in Haiti had come under attack by gunmen and as a result it had suspended indefinitely its consular services in the French-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country.

Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Minister, Kamina Johnson Smith in a brief video statement said that the building which also housed a car dealership "was last night set ablaze and ransacked by criminal gangs.

"The Consulate of Jamaica was lo-
cont'd on pg 15

Guyana: PPP/C declares 'landslide' victory in elections

By Dillon De Shong

As Guyanese await official results from the Guyana Election Commission (GECOM) following Monday's Local Government Election, Vice President Dr Bharrat Jagdeo said the ruling People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) secured a "landslide" victory.

Speaking at a media conference this afternoon, Jagdeo said Statement of Polls from election night show the party is on track to win 62 of 80 Local Authority Areas (LAA).

"This is clearly a wipeout. In the 80 areas, the PPP would have won the majority of the votes. That's the definition of a massive victory," he said.

According to Jagdeo, there will be a tie in four LAA.



Vice President Dr Bharrat Jagdeo.

"But we have the most votes in these areas. Therefore if the seats are tied, the convention has been that those areas that have the majority gets the chairmanship," he remarked.

The former president commended Guyanese for rejecting what he termed as the A Partnership for National Unity's (APNU) campaign of scare tactics and race bating.

"They failed to stop the red wave," he remarked.

The VP is celebrating the PPP/C's ability to make inroads in APNU's strongholds such as New Amsterdam and the capital city Georgetown.

In New Amsterdam, the PPP/C won six of the 14 seats.

In Georgetown, the party won five of the 15 seats, which is three more than 2018.

Jagdeo said the party is awaiting GECOM's official declaration, which should be made in the coming days.

Over 400,000 people were eligible to participate in yesterday's election.

From all accounts, voter turnout was low.

cont'd from pg 14

ated on the premises and we therefore express our sympathies to the owners of the dealership, to our Honorary Counsel and of course advise the public that consular services in Haiti are thereby suspended indefinitely."

Johnson Smith said that Kingston is awaiting "further details...and also our affirmation that the government of Jamaica in these circumstances has hardened our resolve to play a part in supporting all efforts to returning Haiti to the peace and prosperity which she and her people deserve".

In the brief statement, Johnson Smith made no reference to the three-day meeting

taking place here as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries reiterate their commitment to finding a solution to the political and socio-economic situation in their French-speaking member state.

Bahamas Prime Minister Phillip Davis, who is also the chairman of the 15-member regional integration grouping, said it was important for all stakeholders, including those in Haiti to commit themselves to trying to find a lasting solution to the crisis."

Jamaica had offered to host the consultation that is being attended by representatives of various Haitian public and private sector groups and is intended to build consensus and allow for inclusive participation in a neutral environment.

Nottingham police say man fatally stabbed three, stole van and ran down three more in English city

LONDON (AP) — A knife-wielding assailant stabbed two college students to death in the streets of the English city of Nottingham and then fatally stabbed a middle-aged man, stole his van and ran down three pedestrians in a shocking rampage early Tuesday morning, police said.

Police arrested a 31-year-old man on suspicion of murder. The Nottinghamshire Police force said investigators believe the perpetrator acted alone and detectives were working with counterterrorism officers to try to establish a motive.

“This is a horrific and tragic incident which has claimed the lives of three people,” Chief Constable Kate Meynell said.

A man who was among the people struck in the hit-and-run was hospitalized in critical condition. The dead included two 19-year-old students from the University of Nottingham.

“All of us at Nottingham are deeply shocked and saddened by the deaths of two of our students,” Vice Chancellor Shearer West said in a statement.

A graduation ball scheduled for Tuesday evening was canceled. Many college students joined a vigil at St. Peter’s Church, in the city center, late Tuesday to mourn the victims. Some lit candles, while others laid flowers beneath the altar.

The knife attack on the students occurred around dawn in an area near student housing a short walk from the university’s Jubilee Campus. A caller reported that two stabbing victims were lying in the street.

Police think the attacker then killed a man in his 50s and took his van, Meynell said. His body was found



Police forensics officers search a white van on the corner of Maples Street and Bentinck Road in Nottingham, as three people have been found dead in the city in what police described as a “horrific and tragic incident”. (Zac Goodwin/PA via AP)

on a different street more than a mile from the first crime scene.

About 90 minutes after the initial attack, witnesses were horrified as they watched the van plow into pedestrians and flee.

Lynn Haggitt was on her way to work when a white van pulled up beside her at 5:30 a.m. She saw the driver look in his mirror and spot a police car approaching slowly from behind without its emergency lights on. The driver then accelerated and struck a man and woman at a street corner, she said.

“He went straight into them. He didn’t even bother to turn,” Haggitt told reporters. “The woman went on the curb, the man went up in the air, there was such a bang, I wish I never saw it. It’s really shaken me up.”

The driver then sped through the city center with police on his tail, she added.

Haggitt said the wounded man appeared to have a head injury but was helped to his feet. The woman was sitting on the curb and appeared to be OK. A third pedestrian was struck on the same street, police said.

Two of the hit-and-run victims had minor injuries, Meynell said.

“We believe these three incidents are all linked, and we have a man in custody,” the police chief said. “We are keeping an open mind as we investigate the circumstances surrounding these incidents and are working alongside Counter Terrorism Policing to establish the facts, as we would normally do in these types of circumstances.”

After stopping the van, officers subdued the suspect with a Taser before detaining him.

University of Nottingham student Kane Brady said he awoke to loud shouts of “armed police” and heard

cont’d on pg 17

Canada police investigating China meddling claims

By **Nadine Yousif**

Canadian police have opened an investigation into allegations China sought to intimidate a member of parliament and his family.

The RCMP commissioner said on Tuesday the investigation is one of several by the federal force looking into foreign election interference.

China has denied claims it attempted to intimidate Conservative MP Michael Chong over his criticism of Beijing.

Last month, Canada expelled a Chinese diplomat over the allegations.

In retaliation, China accused Canada of “slander and defamation” and expelled a Canadian diplomat based in Shanghai.

Canada’s spy agency believes China sought details about Mr Chong and his relatives in Hong Kong in an effort to deter “anti-China

positions”.

It came after the politician put forward a motion in parliament in 2021 that declared China’s treatment of its Uighur minority population a genocide. China denied the accusations and sanctioned Mr Chong shortly after.

On Tuesday, RCMP interim commissioner Michael Duheme told a parliamentary committee in Ottawa that is probing foreign interference that the police force was only made aware of the allegation related to Mr Chong through Canadian media.

A series of media reports, many based on leaked intelligence briefings and information accusing China of attempting to interfere in Canadian elections, have been published in recent months.

“When we were made aware of it, we approached



Canada had accused China of targeting its opposition lawmaker Michael Chong (pictured above) and his relatives in Hong Kong.

Mr Chong and began the investigation,” Mr Duheme told federal lawmakers.

The investigation is one of more than 100 current RCMP probes looking into foreign interference within Canada, he said.

The RCMP is also assisting election officials with investigating allegations of meddling by China in the last two federal elections.

Former Conservative party leader Erin O’Toole, speaking in the House of Commons last month, claimed he had been the target of a misinformation and “voter suppression” campaign by the Chinese government.

Jenny Kwan, a member of parliament for the left-leaning New Democratic Party, has also said she was targeted by China after accusing Beijing of human rights abuses against Muslim Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region.

China has consistently denied any allegations that it attempted to interfere in Canadian politics, calling the accusations defamatory.

The expulsions and allegations of Chinese election interference in Canada have led to a significant deterioration in relations between Ottawa and Beijing.

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what sounded like a gunshot outside.

He said he saw officers holding stun guns and a man being dragged out of the van and pinned on the ground.

“I saw him getting arrested, him trying to resist,” Brady told British broadcaster GB News. “When they opened the van, I saw a large knife being pulled out and then straight away, that’s when police closed off both roads.”

Photos showed the hood of the van dented and cracks in the windshield.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak

called it a shocking incident and asked that police be given time to investigate the crime.

“My thoughts are with those injured, and the family and loved ones of those who have lost their lives,” Sunak said.

Nottingham is a city of about 350,000 people some 110 miles (175 kilometers) north of London.

Images on social media showed police, some with rifles, standing near cordons at several locations in the city center.

The city’s tram network said it suspended all services.

Police: Nine people hurt in Denver mass shooting

DENVER (AP) — A shooting in downtown Denver amid fans celebrating the Nuggets' first NBA championship win was likely sparked by a drug deal gone wrong, police said Tuesday. The violence left 10 people wounded, including one of two people arrested in connection with the shooting.

All of the injured — nine men, one woman — are expected to survive, including five or six people that police believe were bystanders not involved in the drug deal, Chief Ron Thomas said at a news conference. He said 20 rounds were fired at the scene, roughly a mile from Ball Arena where the Nuggets defeated the Miami Heat on Monday night.

A total of five handguns were found by investigators but testing still needs to be done to determine whether they were used at the shooting, the police chief said. A "significant quantity" of suspected fentanyl pills were also found at the scene, Commander Matt Clark said, along with cash.

Of the 10 people taken to the hospital, four underwent emergency surgery at the same time at Denver Health Medical Center. Five were still there on Tuesday afternoon, all in fair condition, said Dr. Eric Campi-



Denver Police Department investigators work the scene of a mass shooting along Market Street between 20th and 21st avenues during a celebration after the Denver Nuggets won the team's first NBA Championship early Tuesday, June 13, 2023, in Denver. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

on, a trauma surgeon.

The Nuggets' win drew thousands of people downtown and the shooting happened as the celebration was winding down after midnight, authorities said. Still, hundreds of police officers were massed in the area when the gunfire broke out.

Scott D'Angelo was livestreaming the celebrations when he heard several loud pops one after another, sparking pandemonium as people dove for cover or jumped over cement barricades.

Police in riot gear ducked and drew their guns while yelling for people to find shelter.

Crouching on the ground, the 58-year-old said his arms were shaking with nerves and he felt an asthma attack coming. He

heard a female voice not a dozen feet (3 meters) away screaming in pain. Another victim lay just beyond the first, D'Angelo said, as officers rushed to provide care.

An overhead city surveillance video without audio released by police showed officers swarming toward the apparent scene of the shooting after gunshots were heard.

The firing stopped after roughly 20 seconds, D'Angelo said after consulting his footage, which he has handed over to investigators. As ambulances arrived, D'Angelo saw bullet casings only feet from where he'd dropped to the ground.

Authorities were still investigating how many people were involved in the shooting. Two men are being held on suspicion of

being felons who are barred from having a firearm, said Clark, the police commander. Neither man had lawyers listed as representing them in court records yet.

One of the men ran from the scene despite being wounded and was arrested several blocks away with a handgun and fentanyl. The other was arrested in a car in a parking lot across the street from the shooting after police found a firearm hidden in its floorboards, Clark said. No one in the car was wounded, he said.

The gunfire broke out in downtown Denver's LoDo district, which is known for its restaurants and nightlife. Yellow police tape had sealed off the area overnight Tuesday as investigators with flashlights scoured the scene, which was dotted with evidence markers and what appeared to be detritus left over from the celebrations, including an e-scooter and a green rental bike.

D'Angelo said he felt "kind of numb" after witnessing a mass shooting firsthand.

"To target somebody, and indiscriminately shoot innocent bystanders, even trying to think about it, it's like — I have a huge emotional, a lot of feelings that I really can't explain," he said.



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Nuggets beat Heat to win first NBA title

DENVER (Reuters) - The Denver Nuggets beat the Miami Heat 94-89 on Monday to bring a first NBA title to Mile High City, with Serbian big man Nikola Jokic scoring 28 points and being named the Most Valuable Player of the Finals.

With a raucous capacity crowd packed into Ball Arena ready to celebrate, the Nuggets ended a 47-year championship wait by taking the best-of-seven series 4-1.

Once again the Nuggets were led by Jokic, who hit for a double-double of 28 points and 16 rebounds to cap a dominating postseason performance.

"The job is done, we can go home now," said Jokic, whose trophy case also includes two NBA MVP Awards.

"It was an amazing effort by the team. That is why basketball is a fun sport, it is a live thing, you cannot say this going to happen, there are so many factors. I'm just happy we won the game."

Michael Porter Jr. contributed 16 points and 13 rebounds to the Denver cause, while Canadian Jamal Murray



Denver Nuggets head coach Michael Malone, third from right, kisses the Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy after the team's victory over the Miami Heat in Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals in Denver on Monday, 12th June, 2023. (AP)

chipped in with 14 points. Jimmy Butler led Miami with 21 points.

The eighth-seeded Heat had defied the odds throughout the postseason, taking out the Milwaukee Bucks, New York Knicks and Boston Celtics, but the challenge facing

them on Monday was a near impossible one.

Of the 36 teams that have fallen behind 3-1 in an NBA Finals only one, the 2016 Cleveland Cavaliers, came back to claim the Larry O'Brien Championship Trophy.

Buckleys 3J's among winners in softball cricket T20 competition

Marco Inc/Grill Box Buckleys 3J's recorded their second win in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Men's T20 Competition on Sunday.

Buckleys 3J's trounced Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets by 47 runs. Buckleys 3J's won the toss

and batted, scoring 181 for seven off their 20 overs.

Steve Martin cracked 46 and Randino Turner scored 31. Kimani George claimed two for 23 and Julian Charles captured two for 45.

Bullets were then restricted to 134 for seven off their 20 overs. Morrison Browne topscored with

30, and Bernel Peterson and Kenroy Simon each made 18. D'Andre Harris took two for 29 and Wendell Burton picked up two for 34.

There were wins as well for 300 and Old Road. 300 defeated Sisserou by six wickets. Leroy John-Baptiste hammered 66 not out and Iverson Joseph chipped

in with 33 as Sisserou made 134 for four from their 20 overs.

300 achieved victory at 136 for four in 16 overs. Vanroy Gardiner made 31 before he retired hurt and Veston Lewis made 25. Isaiah Viville claimed two for 42.

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Da Squad and Stoneville advance to finals of President's Cup

Both defending champions of the female and male divisions are still on course to retain their respective titles in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Local Club League at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Cup-holders of the female division, Caribbean Alliance Insurance Da Squad, and reigning champions of the men's championship, Stoneville, are favourites to retain their titles after advancing to the finals of their respective competitions of the President's Cup, which is the knockout phase of the local club league, on Monday night.

Da Squad, who played unbeaten to finish at the top of the round-robin league competition, romped to a 3-0 straight-set victory over Stoneville to book their spot in the finals of the President's Cup.

Da Squad, who are the top seed in the President's Cup, prevailed 25-15, 25-16, and 25-17 against Stoneville, who had advanced to the knockout contest after finishing fourth in the round robin league competition.

Da Squad will face the winner of the other matchup in the President's



Stoneville Men's team

Cup between the second-seeded North Coast Hardware Starz Seniors and the third-seeded Jets in the opening game of the best-of-three finals tomorrow (Thursday).

Stoneville, who claimed the top seed after finishing at the top of the round robin league competition, booked their spot in the men's division final of the President's Cup by clinching a 3-2 victory over the fourth-seed-

ed High Flyers on Monday night.

Stoneville prevailed 25-16, 23-25, 26-24, 21-25, and 15-7 over the High Flyers in the keenly contested affair.

Stoneville now awaits the winners of the other President's Cup encounter between the second-seeded Pytonz and the third-seeded Caribbean Alliance Insurance Storming Lions in the opening game of the best-of-three finals tomorrow.

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Old Road prevailed by four wickets against PMS. PMS won the toss and batted, making 106 for nine off 20 overs. Kenny Benjamin hit 30 and Nicholas Thomas contributed 16.

Chesley Browne had two wickets for nine runs, Hezekiah Weston claimed two for 15, Vincie Bowen picked up two for 25 and Peter Richard captured two for 26.

Clarence Francis struck 32 and Julian Joseph scored

29 to lead Old Road to victory at 107 for six with one over to spare. Kenny Benjamin took two wickets for 28 runs.

Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets and Foster Jonas, Harley Maintenance Potters Uprising also secured wins in the ABSCA Female T20 Competition on Sunday.

Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets snatched a 15-run victory against Flyers. Bullets made 112 for

seven with Cheryl Williams hitting 33 and Lana Thomas getting 22.

Valencia Thomas snatched three wickets for 20 runs and Makeda Samuel picked up two for 13.

Flyers were then dismissed for 98. Terez Parker scored 27 and Sevely Ireland made 13. Lana Thomas had three for 32, Mauricia Willet picked up two for 10, Cheryl Williams claimed two for 11 and Annette Frank captured two for 21.

Potters Uprising overcame Jennings Rockets by 12 runs. Potters Uprising made 96 for six. Orenthea Bisassor cracked 35 and Nolia Elvin chipped in with 19. Annmarie Parker claimed three for 21.

Jennings Rockets were then restricted to 84 for eight. Claudette Trackman made 18 not out and Kishana David scored 15. Gail Jobe snapped up four wickets for 10 runs and Sharon Mayers captured two for 17.



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Mahico lead teams in ACB Sir Vivian Richards Thursday League competition

Mahico will be hoping to extend their unbeaten run when the Antigua Commercial Bank (ACB) Caribbean Parish League Sir Vivian Richards Thursday League competition continues this week.

Mahico will go into tomorrow's third round of matches as the current leaders of the competition with eight points, and they are the only side in the six-team round robin competition that has yet to lose a match in this year's Thursday League.

The Liberta Black Hawks, All Saints Pythons, Pigotts Crushers, and Rising Sun Spartans will enter the third round of matches tied on four points with identical records of losing one and winning one of their two previous encounters.

However, defending champions Police currently occupy the cellar position without a point and will enter this week's matches as



the only team yet to win a game in this year's competition, which is being contested using the T20 format.

The Police will be seeking their first win when they clash with Mahico at Clare Hall in one of three matches tomorrow.

The Liberta Black Hawks will host the Pigotts Crushers at Ball Beef in Liberta, while the Rising Sun Spartans will meet the All Saints Pythons at Mack Pond in All Saints in the other two encounters.

Nigel Browne and Mi-

chael Lawrie will umpire at Clare Hall; Oliver Benjamin and Melissa Lawrie will officiate at Liberta; and Calvin Thomas and Bertel Baltimore will umpire at All Saints.

Meanwhile, Freetown and Urlings recorded their first wins in the ACB Caribbean Parish League Dave Joseph Limited Overs Competition on Sunday.

Freetown beat Dreams 2 Reality Sea View Farm by 23 runs at the Sea View Farm playing field. Freetown made 139 for six off

29 overs. Wayne Phillip hit 30 not out, and Kief Baltimore chipped in with 25. Alfred Jarvis claimed two for 21.

In reply, Sea View Farm crashed to 116 all out in 28.4 overs. Jarel Phillip snapped up four for 16 and Jevonte Joseph took two for 20.

Urlings overcame Old Road by 32 runs at the Old Road playing field. Glenroy Weekes cracked 68 and Sean Bailey Jr. made 32 as Urlings scored 188 for five off 26 overs. Challenger captured three wickets for 10 runs.

Old Road was then restricted to 156 for seven off their 26 overs, with Audie Browne hitting an unbeaten 70. Jermorl Willock picked up three for 24, and Iverson Joseph captured three for 43.

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fantastic tournament.

"There is so much cricketing talent across the Caribbean and it is vital that all stakeholders play their part in developing these young players and in doing so create a lifelong love of our wonderful sport. We wish all the young cricketers taking part all the best."

Satish Menon, CEO of the St. Lucia Kings, said, "It's our privilege to partner with the CPL and the Ministry of Youth Development and Sports for this tournament. We at the St. Lucia Kings are excited to provide a platform for the incredible cricket talent here. Hopefully, this will provide a springboard for the young cricketers to take it to the next level."

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CPL, St. Lucia Kings partner in new schools' tournament

The Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and the St. Lucia Kings have partnered with the St. Lucian Ministry of Youth Development and Sports to create a new Under-19s schools' T20 cricket tournament that will take place from Monday, 26th June to Friday, 7th July 2023.

The Under-19s Schools' T20 Xplosion will see the best cricketing talent from across St. Lucia compete in T20 matches at the Gros Islet and La Ressource playing fields.

The tournament will provide an invaluable opportunity for the young people of St. Lucia to play competitive cricket in a friendly yet professional

environment.

There will be eight teams, each one representing one of the educational districts across the country. The teams will be picked via draft from a list of players provided by PE teachers and coaches with each squad having 15 players.

The eight teams will be split into two groups of four with the top two teams from each group advancing to the knockout stages.

The Honourable Kenson Casimir, Minister for Youth Development and Sports, said, "I am very happy as the Minister for Youth Development and Sports for St. Lucia that CPL has seen

it fit to have a T20 cricket competition amongst our schools in Saint Lucia.

"I am very elated that St. Lucia will be the first Caribbean island to host this competition. I think it will auger well for the development of the sport. The Ministry continues to provide support through coaching and equipment to our schools. So I am looking forward to a very exciting tournament right here in St. Lucia."

Pete Russell, CEO of the Caribbean Premier League, said, "We are delighted to partner with the St. Lucia Kings and the Ministry of Youth Development and Sports to put on this
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