

DR. AUSTIN JOSIAH HAS DIED

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Claudette "CP" Peters, has announced her intention to defend her Groovy title in this year's Party Monarch competition on July 6 at Carnival City. *Story on page 3*

Dr. Austin Josiah, a man of many talents, has died

Former Educator, Labour Commissioner and Human Resource expert, Dr. Austin Josiah has died.

He passed away at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre on Monday morning at the age of 71 years, following a period of illness.

Dr. Josiah was a familiar face in Antigua and Barbuda, having served the nation for many years as a public school teacher, Chief Education Officer and Labour Commissioner.

Following his retirement, Dr. Josiah worked as a human resource consultant with the now-defunct Stanford Group of Companies, the Hadeed Group of Companies, Antigua Commercial Bank and Elite Island Resorts.

He was also a member of the Public Service Commission.

At an International Labour Organization meeting in Trinidad and Tobago in 2002, Dr. Josiah, in his capacity as labour commissioner for Antigua and Barbuda, said the worst forms of child labour in Antigua and Barbuda were “drug trafficking and sugar daddying.”

His contributions to education and the labour force in Antigua and Barbuda are significant.

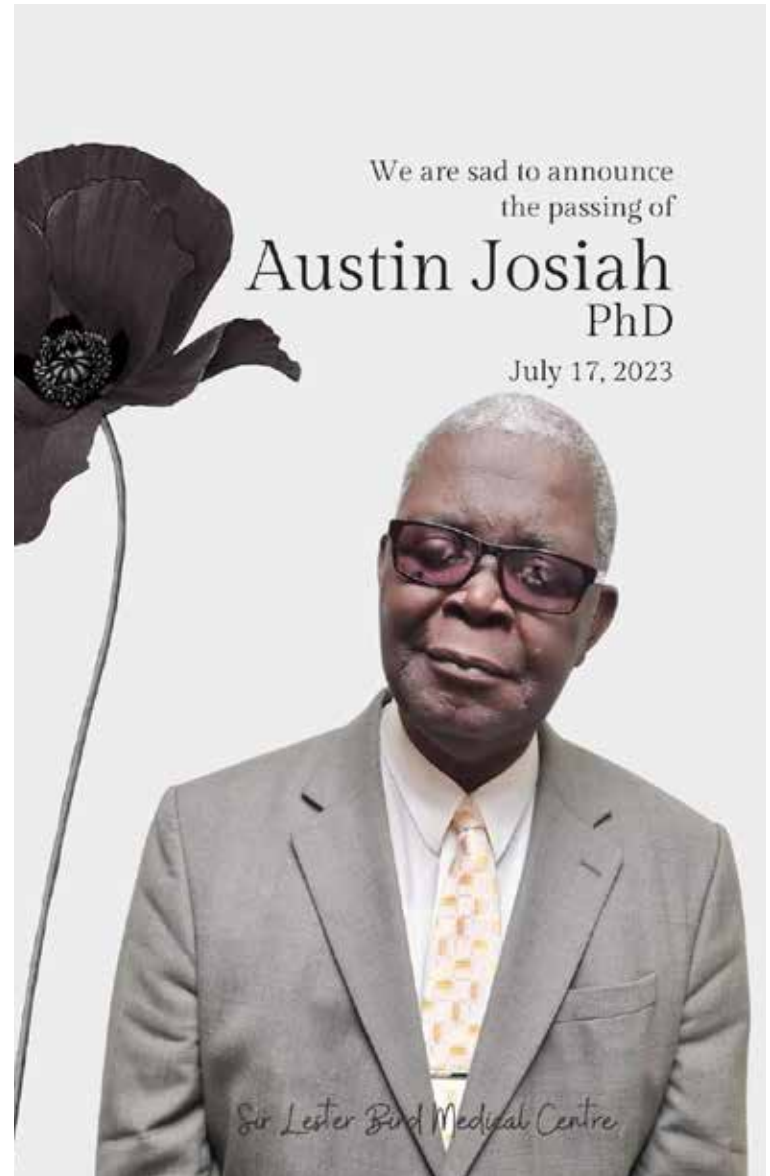
In 2022, during the Independence celebrations,

the Government of Antigua and Barbuda bestowed a national honour on Dr. Austin Josiah – Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of the Nation, for exemplary service in the field of labour relations and education.

Meanwhile, the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre has issued the following statement on Dr. Josiah’s passing.

Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) sadly announced today that Dr. Austin Josiah PhD, the Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors, has died after a prolonged illness. Dr. Josiah was appointed as Deputy Chair in March 2023.

Mrs. Lisa John-Weste, SLBMC Board Chair commented, “It is with great sadness that we announce today, the passing of Dr. Josiah. Dr. Josiah brought a wealth of experience, wisdom and sound judgement to his role as Deputy Chairman of our Board. He was also a wonderful supporter of the management team and a great friend to many of his board colleagues. He will be greatly missed by all of us at SLBMC and by all who knew him. On behalf of our Board of Directors, management team and employees, we extend our deepest sympathies to



Dr. Josiah’s family.”

Dr. Josiah was 71 years old; and throughout his life, had made significant contributions in the areas of labour relations and human resource development in Antigua. His life was characterized by his devotion and service to his country and in 2022, he was awarded “Commander of The Most Distinguished Order of the

Nation (CN)” — An award given to citizens of Antigua & Barbuda (or other persons) for distinguished or meritorious service.

The board of Directors, management and staff of Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre extend sincere and deepest condolences to the immediate and extended family of Dr. Josiah and by extension the people of Antigua & Barbuda.

Claudette ‘CP’ Peters to defend her Groovy title

One of the true icons of soca and a winner at all levels, Claudette “CP” Peters, has announced her intention to defend her Groovy title in this year’s Party Monarch competition on July 6 at Carnival City.

CP, a multiple winner in both aspects of the Party Monarch – Groovy and Jumpy – had announced last year after winning the title, that she intended to step away from competitions and concentrate on other aspects of her craft.

However, after the Festivals Commission created the social media campaign hashtag: Carnival is calling you, and with Claudette named as one of the influencers of carnival, the artist stated that she felt as if she was being called out to participate and defend her throne in this year’s competition.

The semi-finals for the Party Monarch competition were held on Monday



night when eleven artistes each, were selected for the finals in both the Groovy and Jumpy segments of the show.

Meanwhile, the names of the Carib Beer Calypso Monarch finalists have been announced. They are Rai-

ine, Ge’ eve, Willy Wawa, King Young Destroyer, King Singing Sudden, King Kaseba, Douglas, King Fiah, and Queen Thalia. The reigning monarch is King Zacari. The competition will be judged on the performance of two songs.

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Delegate Number Two

Jahkaydah Isaac *Ms. Cool and Smooth*

Born on the 13th of February 1997, Jahkaydah Isaac has been emitting radiant waves ever since her birth. She is a graduate of the Christ the King High School and Island Academy. Jahkaydah earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Business with a minor in Cultural Anthropology from Rollins College in Orlando. Her passion then led her to Le Cordon Bleu London from where she graduated in 2021 with a Diplome De Cuisine and Culinary Management.

Merging art and passion, Jahkaydah's entrepreneurship journey has taken flight, as she manages her small business 'The Flaky Crust,' delivering love-filled pastries to her clients. Her culinary journey has taken her across the globe, from Antigua and Barbuda to Dubai, with stops in the USA and the UK in pursuit of perfecting her craft.

Jahkaydah is determined and committed to achieving all her goals. The ultimate being to own a café that marries art and coziness with a fantastic gastronomic experience. Her proclivity to succeed comes from the words of her grandmother forever echoing, "Do the best you can, so you can be the best you can!" She is a hiker, an avid reader, a lover of the beach, and a conversationalist. Jahkaydah meaning 'God's Messenger' aspires to spread the message of her alma mater—"Higher Yet" by becoming Miss Antigua and Barbuda 2023.



Delegate Number Three

Thyana Sebastian Ms. West Indies Oil Company Ltd.

Ms. Thyana Kai Sebastian is naturally a creative and optimistic being. Born February 24th, 1997, on the beautiful island of Antigua, she considers herself a daughter of the soil. Her education began at the Cobbs Cross Primary School followed by All Saints Secondary School where she participated in numerous activities and proudly represented her alma mater.

In her formative years, Thyana began her dance training in Afro-Caribbean styles, Jazz, and Modern Contemporary at the Antigua Dance Academy. Then, in 2007 along with her sisters, she formed The Elite Dancers Antigua, where she has been a Principal Dance Choreographer. This has allowed her to impact the lives of others through dance. Sebastian is also a Dance Instructor within the Ministry of Education, Sports, and Creative Industries.

Her dreams are to travel the world, immersing herself in various cultures while expanding her knowledge of the Performing Arts. Thyana is no stranger to pageantry having entered the Antigua Barbuda Labour Queen Pageant in 2018 where she emerged the winner. This experience left an indelible mark in her life and since then she has been involved in training other young women in the art of pageantry. Thyana hopes to continue contributing to the preservation of our culture through dance.



PM Browne sends condolences to Adam Stewart on the death of his wife

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has expressed a deep sense of sadness and offered condolences to the Executive Chairman of the Sandals Group, Adam Stewart on the passing

of his wife following a battle with cancer.

PM Browne was speaking on behalf of the people of Antigua and Barbuda and the employees of the

Sandals Group here when he shared, “We feel your pain.”

The full text of the prime minister’s letter to Stewart is published below.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
Office of the Prime Minister

Queen Elizabeth Highway
 St. John’s
 Antigua and Barbuda

Tel. (268) 460-5100
 Fax. (268) 462-3225
pmsecretariat@gmail.com

17 July 2023

Honourable Adam Stewart
 Chairman, Sandals Resort Group
 Kingston, JAMAICA

My dear friend Adam,

I have learned of the battle with cancer by your wife, Jill, and of her death on Saturday, July 15, 2023. Please accept the deepest condolences of the people and Government of Antigua and Barbuda on this tragic ending of a beautiful life.

The inspiration which drives many men is triggered by the love and affection which flows within their family circle. I have discerned from your public pronouncements that Jill was very important to you and your three children. I feel your pain and so too does the Antiguan contingent of the Sandals’ employees here.

I am aware that decisions which you have made recently reflect the growing importance of the Sandals group of companies to several countries in the Caribbean. Grieving always impacts decision-making. I wish you all the best in the near future.

With my sympathies and condolences,

I remain:



Honourable Gaston Browne M.P.
 Prime Minister
 Antigua and Barbuda

Agriculture Minister Greene attends meetings in Costa Rica

Ministers of Agriculture of the Caribbean are meeting today (Tuesday) at the headquarters of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in San Jose, Costa Rica.

In attendance is Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Agriculture, E.P. Chet Greene.

The ministers will participate in working meetings with Manuel Otero, Director General of the hemispheric agency, specializing in agricultural and rural development, to explore cooperation opportunities with Latin America, to reduce food insecurity levels in the Caribbean region.

The ministers will also exchange views and information on the outlook for the agriculture sector in the various countries and will discuss current and future IICA actions, aimed at increasing the productivity and resilience of food production in Caribbean countries, which are particularly vulnerable to the impact of climate change.

Fourteen of IICA's 34 Member States are Caribbean nations, all of which are undertaking efforts to reduce their historical dependence on food imports.

The meeting will include a presentation on

the main challenges facing agriculture and rural development in the Caribbean by specialists of the Public Policy Observatory for Agrifood Systems (OPSAa).

Launched by IICA in 2022, the initiative has become an important tool for helping countries navigate a period of uncertainty and instability triggered by a confluence of crises.

The meeting of Caribbean ministers will be held

before the Forty-third Regular Meeting of IICA's Executive Committee, which will be held on July 19 and 20 in San Jose, Costa Rica.

One of IICA's governing bodies, the Executive Committee meets once a year. It is comprised of 12 Member States, elected for two-year terms according to the principles of partial rotation and equitable geographical distribution.

Indar Weir, Minister of Agriculture and Food

Security of Barbados will assume a two-year chairmanship of the Executive Committee at its meeting, which will be attended by ministers and senior agricultural officials from the hemisphere.

The Hemispheric Initiative on Water and Agriculture, which will seek to develop tools to mitigate the consequences of the water deficit in the hemisphere, will be launched during the event.



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Keynote Speaker



Professor Sir Hilary Beckles,
Vice-Chancellor, The UWI



Dr. Maurice Smith,
University Registrar, The UWI

PRESENTERS

Panel 1 - The Higher Education Future We Want

- Professor Justin Robinson, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Undergraduate Studies, The UWI
- Ms. Omalora Wilson, President, Guild of Students, The UWI Mona Campus
- Dr. Denise Stoney-James, Deputy Programme Manager, Education, CARICOM Secretariat
- Mr. Nigel Scott, Director, St. Vincent & The Grenadines Community College
- Mr. Curtis Floyd, President, CANQATE

Panel 2 - The Road to Achieving the Vision: Strategy & Leadership

- Professor Aldrie Henry-Lee, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Graduate Studies & Research, The UWI
- The Honourable Lisa Morris-Julian, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Trinidad & Tobago
- Mr. Anthony Ali, Executive Committee Member, CARICOM Private Sector Organization
- Dr. Hazel Carter, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership, City College of New York
- Mr. Daniel Best, Director - Projects, Caribbean Development Bank

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National Cadet Corps welcomes new patron

The Antigua and Barbuda National Cadet Corps (ABNCC) has named Lady Sandra Williams as its Patron. The ABNCC is a part of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force, and according to the literature, “is a voluntary youth organization open to students between the ages of 12 and 19. Its main objective is to provide training and personal development to youth through both military and community activities.”

Lady Williams met recently, at Government House, with Chief of Defence Staff Colonel Telbert Benjamin, and Commandant of the ABNCC Lieutenant Commander Samuel



Roberts. She said, “We look forward to being involved with the Cadet Corps, as it pertains to the development of the youth of our nation. We have al-

ready begun discussions on how we could address some of the most pressing needs of the organization.”

Col. Benjamin remarked, “We are pleased

to welcome Lady Williams on board and are confident that through the Halo Foundation, she will be able to assist in the execution of various projects.”

Ministry of Agriculture promotes ‘Fruiti Tuesdays’

The Ministry of Agriculture continues its focus on local fruits as part of a month-long Fruiti Tuesdays

campaign.

A spokesman for the ministry said World Fruit Day was observed on July

1st this year and a decision was made to observe every Tuesday during the month as Fruiti Tuesdays. “Each week,

we select three local fruits and highlight their many benefits, as well as suggest ways in which the fruits may be consumed,” the spokesman added.

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tion and accomplishment that is essential for our student’s growth and development. The parents of Parham Primary School took it upon themselves to fill this void and provide a much-needed platform for their children to be recognized and celebrated.

Senator Turner stands in solidarity with the parents and fully supports their efforts in pooling their resources and organizing a graduation ceremony for the graduating students of Parham Primary School. This display of resilience and commitment

serves as a shining example to communities across the nation.

Senator Turner wishes all the graduating students of Parham Primary School the heartiest congratulations on their accomplishments. They have worked diligently, and their efforts deserve to be recognized and celebrated.

The Senator encourages all members of the community to come together in support of these young achievers, ensuring that they receive the appreciation and encouragement they rightfully deserve.

The focus on local fruits also ties in with the ministry’s stated policy of attaining food security for Antigua and Barbuda. “We know that local fruits are fresher and thus tend to be more nutritious than imported fruits,” the spokesman noted.

This week’s fruit focus is watermelon, plum, and malay apple.

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THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, WELLNESS & THE ENVIRONMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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Drug donanemab seen as turning point in dementia fight

BBC - A new drug, donanemab, is being hailed as a turning point in the fight against Alzheimer's, after a global trial confirms it slows cognitive decline.

The antibody medicine helps in the early stages of the disease by clearing a protein that builds up in the brains of people with this type of dementia.

Although not a cure, charities say the results in the journal JAMA mark a new era where Alzheimer's can be treated.

The UK's drugs watchdog has started assessing it for possible NHS use.

The drug works in Alzheimer's disease, not in other types of dementia, such as vascular dementia.

In the trials, it appears to have slowed the pace of the disease by about a third, allowing people to retain more of their day-to-day lives and tasks, such as making meals and enjoying a hobby.

Mike Colley, who is 80, is one of only a few dozen patients in the UK to take part in the global trial. He and his family spoke exclusively with the BBC.

Mike gets an infusion each month at a clinic in London and says he is "one of the luckiest people you'll ever meet".

Mike and his family noticed he was having problems with memory and decision-making, not long before he started on the trial.

His son, Mark, said it was very hard to watch at the beginning: "Seeing him struggle with processing information and solving problems was very hard. But I think the decline is reaching a plateau now."

Mike, who is from Kent, said: "I feel more confident every day."



Donanemab, made by Eli Lilly, works in the same way as lecanemab - developed by companies Eisai and Biogen - which created headlines around the world when it was proven to slow the disease.

Although extremely promising, these drugs are not risk-free treatments.

Brain swelling was a common side-effect in up to a third of patients in the donanemab trial. For most, this resolved without causing symptoms. However, two volunteers, and possibly a third, died as a result of dangerous swelling in the brain.

Another antibody Alzheimer's drug, called aducanumab, was recently rejected by European regulators over safety concerns and a lack of evidence that it was effective enough for patients.

In the donanemab trial, researchers examined 1,736 people aged 60 to 85 with early-stage Alzheimer's.

Half of them received a monthly infusion of the treatment and the other half were given a dummy drug, also known as a placebo, over 18 months.

The findings show:

The drug seems to have a meaning-

ful benefit, at least for some patients

Those who had earlier disease and less brain amyloid at baseline derived greater benefit, in terms of clearance seen on brain scans

Those given the drug also retained more of their day-to-day lives such as being able to discuss current events, answer the phone or pursue hobbies

The pace of the disease, judged by what people could still do day-to-day, was slowed by about 20-30% overall - and by 30-40% in a set of patients who researchers thought more likely to respond

There were significant side-effects and patients will need to be aware of risks of treatment

Half of patients on donanemab were able to stop the treatment after a year, because it had cleared sufficient brain deposits

Amyloid is just one part of the complex picture of Alzheimer's, and it is unclear if the treatment will continue to make more difference over a longer period, experts caution.

The drug's effects may be modest, but the results provide further confirmation that removing amyloid from

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the brain may change the course of Alzheimer's, and help people affected by this devastating disease if they're treated at the right time, they say.

Prof Giles Hardingham from the UK Dementia Research Institute said: "It is terrific to see these results published in full today.

"We have waited a long time for Alzheimer's treatments, so it's really encouraging to see tangible progress continuing to gather pace in the field."

Dr Susan Kohlhaas, from Alzheimer's Research UK, said: "Today's announcement marks another milestone.

"Thanks to decades of research, the outlook for dementia and its impact on people and society is finally changing, and we're entering a new era where Alzheimer's disease could become treatable."

Speaking to BBC Radio 4's PM programme, former Prime Minister David Cameron said resources should be put towards further research into what he called a "statin for the brain".

"We want a pill that people who have the build-up of these proteins in the brain can take every day or every week in order to clear those proteins out of the brain and therefore reduce your chances of getting a disease that causes dementia," he said.

Asked if the government were prepared to invest where needed to roll out new treatments, Mr Cameron said there was a real incentive to do so: "We're a country of sixty million people, with a million people with dementia, many of them in very expensive residential care settings and so there is a lot of savings to be had from effectively treating people...I'm hopeful that our system can deliver."

Lecanemab costs around \$27,500 (£21,000) in the US, where it is licensed.

It is not clear how much donanemab may cost and how long it might

take to get approval in the UK, but Alzheimer's experts said having two drugs would help promote competition on price.

The UK's drug's watchdog NICE says it has already started work on its appraisal of donanemab for treating mild cognitive impairment or mild dementia caused by Alzheimer's disease.

"Our aim is to produce recommendations on its use in the NHS as close as possible to it receiving its UK licence," said a spokesperson.

Mike Colley turned 80 in April. At his birthday party, he surprised his family by singing My Way in front of 40 guests.

He told BBC News: "That's the confidence I have now. I'd never have done that even 12 months ago."

His son Mark added: "I never thought I would see my dad so full of life again. It was an incredible moment."

Dr Emer MacSweeney, consultant neuroradiologist and medical director at Re:Cognition Health, led the trials

of donanemab in the UK.

She said: "This is really significant and one of the biggest breakthroughs."

The Alzheimer's Society said: "This is truly a turning point in the fight against Alzheimer's and science is proving that it is possible to slow down the disease."

Around 720,000 people in the UK might potentially benefit from these emerging new Alzheimer's disease treatments if they're approved for use, but the Alzheimer's Society said the NHS is "simply not ready to deliver them".

Kate Lee, CEO for the charity, said: "Timely, accurate diagnosis is key, and currently only 2% of people in England and Wales receive their diagnosis through the specialist investigations needed to be eligible for these treatments.

"Alongside this, these emerging Alzheimer's disease drugs require regular infusions and monitoring, and the NHS is not yet equipped to do this at scale."



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‘Inevitable’ jobs will be more automated, says new AI adviser

By Zoe Kleinman

Protecting British jobs will be a challenge as artificial intelligence systems become more advanced, the new head of the government’s AI taskforce has told the BBC.

Ian Hogarth said it was “inevitable” that more jobs would become increasingly automated.

The whole world will have to rethink the way in which people work, he added.

“There will be winners or losers on a global basis in terms of where the jobs are as a result of AI,” he said.

This week BBC News is focusing on AI, how the technology affects our lives and what impacts it may have in the near future.

There have already been reports of multiple job losses as a result of companies choosing to use AI tools instead of humans, with BT recently saying it will shed around 10,000 staff by the end of the decade as a result of the tech.

But others believe these developments will also usher in a lot of new human jobs that do not currently exist, just like the rise of the internet did.

A report released earlier this year by Goldman Sachs pointed out that 60% of current jobs did not exist in 1940.

Mr Hogarth, a tech en-

trepreneur and AI investor, said the aim of the new taskforce was to help the government “to better understand the risks associated with these frontier AI systems” and to hold the companies accountable.

He said he was concerned about the potential for AI to cause harm - for example with a wrongful arrest if used in law enforcement, or generating malicious computer code that results in increased cybercrime.

He also said that expert warnings of AI’s potential to become an existential threat should not be dismissed, even though this divides opinion in the community itself.

But he was also cautious of not missing the benefits of these technologies.

Notably in healthcare, AI tools are identifying new antibiotics, helping people with brain damage regain movement and being trained to spot early symptoms of diseases.

Mr Hogarth said he once built a tool that could identify breast cancer signs in scans.

The group he will lead has been given an initial £100m to oversee AI safety research.

He would not say how he intends to spend the money but that he thinks he will know if he has succeeded in



Tech entrepreneur Ian Hogarth is five weeks into his role as chair of the government’s new AI taskforce.

the job if “the average person in the UK starts to feel a benefit from AI”.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has made AI a key priority, and wants the UK to become a global hub for the sector. Someone who knows him put it to me more bluntly: “He is obsessed with it.” OpenAI, the firm behind the viral chatbot ChatGPT, has announced that its first international office will be located in London, and data firm Palantir has also said it will open headquarters in the city.

But the UK faces several challenges in positioning itself as a key player in this lucrative and fast-moving area of tech.

Emma McClenaghan and her partner Matt run an AI start-up in Northern Ireland. They have built an AI tool called Wally which generates websites, and have ambitions to turn it into a more general digital assistant.

The company has won awards but they still struggle to access the specialised chips - called GPUs (graphics processing units) - they need to develop their product further.

“I think there is a lack of hardware access for startups, and a lack of expertise and lack of funding,” she said.

She said they waited five months for a grant to buy a single GPU - at a time when in the US Elon Musk was reported to have purchased 10,000.

“That’s the difference between us and them because it’s going to take us, you know, four to seven days to train a model and if he’s [able to] do it in minutes, then you know, we’re never going to catch up”.

In an email chat, Ms McClenaghan told me she thinks the best outcome for her firm, Gensys Engine, would be for it to get bought

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CARILEC to host 5-day engineering and procurement conference in T&T

The Caribbean Electric Utility Services Corporation (CARILEC) will host the 2023 Engineering and Procurement Conference and Exhibition at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Port-of-Spain from July 23-27.

This year's conference is being hosted alongside Utility Member, Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and Independent Power Producer (IPP) Member, Power Generation Company of Trinidad and Tobago (PowerGen).

In a statement on the upcoming event, CARILEC said it's confident the conference will add tremendous value to all attendees.

Under the theme, "Powering Transition in the Caribbean Energy Sector through Smart Designs, Efficient Procurement and Effective Design", the five-day event will focus on innovative approaches and solutions to the challenges

currently faced in the development of future power generation in the region.

CARILEC assured the 2023 edition of the conference will deliver a comprehensive agenda which will impart pertinent knowledge to attendees, especially on trending topics within the electric utility engineering and procurement areas.

These topics include Sustainable Energy Transformation, Energy Market Integration, Beyond Net Metering: The Virtual Power Plant, and Algorithms for Distribution Feeder Deployment, to name a few. Additionally, CARILEC said the highly anticipated event will also include a post-training workshop with a focus on procurement in the electric energy sector.

The association of energy solutions providers explained that it incorporated this aspect of the event as it recognised the value of bespoke training to its mem-



bers and partners.

"Learning and development, knowledge sharing, and capacity building remain core aspects of the mandate in the electric energy sector and the upcoming Conference will certainly execute in this regard," CARILEC stated.

As for what attendees can expect, CARILEC said the Opening Ceremony of the Conference and Exhibition will feature a distinguished keynote address by Dr Sanjay Garth Bahadoorsingh, Head of the Department of Electrical and

Computer Engineering at the St. Augustine campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine.

Dr Bahadoorsingh also wears the hat of Chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards National Technical Committee: Electrical Codes, and President of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) National Electrotechnical Committee Affiliate Country Programme for Trinidad and Tobago.

He's also served as the Assistant Chief Examiner for CXC's CAPE Electrical and Electronic Technology and the Chairman of the Electric Vehicle Working Group at the Government Electrical Inspectorate (GEI). CARILEC thanked Platinum Sponsor: MSHS; Emerald Sponsor: Aggreko; Silver Sponsor: Accelleron; and Bronze Sponsors: American Wire, BWSC, and Classic Controls Inc.

cont'd from pg 14

up by a US tech giant - something I hear a lot from UK start-ups.

Re-nosing those ambitions to keep successful firms here in the UK and helping them to grow is another challenge.

Trying to access GPUs might be less of an issue if they were available as part of a national infrastructure, like for example road networks or electricity cables, rather than being hoovered up by those companies which can afford them. Ian Hogarth thinks this could be the way forward.

"I think we're going to enter a phase in which nation states start to see their role in directing critical AI infrastructure in a new way," he said.

"It is going to be a fundamental building block for the next generation of innovation."

Despite the trials ahead, he is optimistic the UK can still take a seat at the centre of the AI revolution.

"I don't think we're too late," he says.

"I wouldn't have taken the job if I thought we couldn't do a lot."

Guyana Police Force to launch Air Wing with two new pilots

Loop - Two police officers are currently being trained in Miami to be part of the Guyana Police Force's (GPF) inaugural air wing.

Acting Commissioner of Police, Clifton Hicken, told attendees at the force's 184th Anniversary Awards Ceremony on Thursday that the officers are making great progress towards becoming certified pilots.

"They have completed single engine [training] and they are now going and complete the double engine and we're doing well in that regard," the commissioner said, according to a report from Guyana's Department of Public Information (DPI).

Deputy Commissioner of Police for Administration, Calvin Brutus disclosed that police officers Art Williams



Commissioner of Police Clifton Hicken. Photo: DPI and Harry Wendt are being trained at in Ogle to complement the pilots for the Aeronautical Engineering School the force's air wing.

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Man's body found floating in waters off central Bermuda

Loop - An investigation has been launched into the circumstance surrounding the death of a man, whose body was found in waters just off Bermuda's coastline.

According to the Bermuda Police Service (BPS), the unidentified man was seen floating in the waters off of North Shore, Devonshire around 6:40 pm on Saturday.

Three police officers entered the water to retrieve the man and immediately commenced life-saving efforts, BPS said.

The man was taken to the King Edward VII Me-



memorial Hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

"An investigation surrounding the circumstances

of the man's death has commenced. We are asking anyone who may have been in the area at the time and seen

a man near or in the water, to contact police on 211 or 295-0011," police said in a statement.

St Kitts and Nevis to crack down on sham marriages

Loop - St Kitts and Nevis will be updating its citizenship through marriage rules in an effort to crack down on sham nuptials.

Speaking at the Prime Minister's Press Conference last week, Attorney General and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, Garth Wilkin, said it was time for the illicit industry, which began in 2019, to end.

"We are finalising new marriage verification regulations very shortly under the Citizenship Act," he said. "Marriage verification officers will be assigned



to monitor and interview applicants to determine whether a marriage is valid and persons are not getting married simply for the purpose of citizenship, which is a breach of our Citizenship Act."

He continued: "We dis-

covered a widespread black market industry where citizens of St Kitts and Nevis were being paid as low as 850 dollars and as much as 10,000 dollars to marry non-nationals who then obtained their citizenship the next day."

One of the most highlighted instances of sham marriages in St Kitts and Nevis involved convicted Nigerian fraudster Ramon "Hushpuppi" Abbas.

The US Justice Department said Abbas used US\$50,000 from the money he stole from a businessman to fraudulently acquire St Kitts and Nevis citizenship and a passport through a sham marriage.

In November 2022, the St Kitts and Nevis Government said it was examining how it can revoke Abbas' citizenship.

Ukraine grain deal expires after Russia pulls out

The deal allowing Ukraine to safely export grain via the Black Sea has officially expired after Russia pulled out of the crucial agreement.

Moscow notified the UN, Turkey and Ukraine on Monday that it would not renew the deal, accusing the West of not keeping its side of the bargain.

The decision has been condemned by world leaders, who say it will affect some of the planet's poorest people.

Russia said it would return to the agreement if its conditions were met.

The deal formally came to an end at midnight Tuesday Istanbul time (2100 GMT). It had let cargo ships pass through the Black Sea from the ports of Odesa, Chornomorsk and Yuzhny/Pivdennyi.

Russian President Vladimir Putin had long complained that parts of the deal allowing the export of Russian food and fertilisers had not been honoured. In particular, he said grain had not been supplied to poorer countries, which was a condition of the agreement.

Russia also repeatedly complained that Western sanctions were restricting its own agricultural exports. Mr Putin repeatedly threatened to pull out of the agreement.

The country's foreign ministry on Monday reiter-



Russia has accused the West of putting commercial interests ahead of humanitarian ones with regards to the grain deal.

ated these grievances, accusing the West of "open sabotage" and of "selfishly" putting the commercial interests of the deal ahead of its humanitarian goals.

But Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told reporters he believed that Mr Putin "wants to continue the agreement" and that they would discuss the renewal of the deal when they meet in person next month.

The grain deal is important as Ukraine is one of the world's largest exporters of sunflower, maize, wheat and barley.

Following Russia's invasion in February 2022, naval vessels blockaded Ukrainian ports and trapped 20 million tonnes of grain. The blockade meant global food prices skyrocketed.

It also threatened food

supplies to a number of Middle Eastern and African countries which rely heavily on Ukrainian grain.

An agreement was finally brokered in July last year with the help of the United Nations and Turkey.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said his country intended to continue exporting grain, highlighting that the agreement was made up of two deals that mirrored each other - one signed by Ukraine and the other by Russia.

"We are not afraid," he said of Russia's decision to withdraw from their deal.

"We were approached by companies who own vessels and they're willing to continue shipping grain if Ukraine agrees to let them in and Turkey - to pass them through."

Mykhaylo Podolyak, an advisor to Mr Zelensky, suggested an international armed patrol force could be created to escort ships carrying grain from Ukraine and ensure their safety.

He admitted, however, that there may not be many countries willing to create such patrols.

Nikolay Gorbachev, the president of the Ukrainian Grain Association, told the BBC that his members had identified alternative means of exporting grain - including through its Danube River ports.

But he conceded that the ports would be less efficient, reducing the amount of grain Ukraine can export and raising the cost of moving it.

World leaders were *cont'd on pg 19*

Iran's morality police to resume headscarf patrols

BBC - Iran's morality police are to resume controversial street patrols to enforce the dress code requiring women to cover their hair and wear loose clothing.

It comes 10 months after mass protests erupted in response to the death in custody of Mahsa Amini, who was held for allegedly wearing "improper" hijab.

Women and girls have burnt their headscarves or waved them in the air at the anti-establishment demonstrations. Many have even stopped covering their hair in public altogether.

Authorities attempted to enforce the dress code using other measures while the morality police patrols were paused, but they have been met with derision on social media and open defiance on the streets.

Under Iranian law, which is based on the country's interpretation of Sharia, women must cover their hair with a hijab (headscarf) and wear long, loose-fitting clothing to disguise their figures.

Since 2006, special police units formally known as the Guidance Patrols (Gasht-e Ershad) have been tasked with enforcing those rules.

Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman, was detained by the force



Iran's controversial morality police are tasked with enforcing the country's strict dress code (file image)

in Tehran on 13 September. She died three days later in hospital.

There were reports that officers beat her head with a baton and banged her head against one of their vehicles while taking her to a "re-education centre". However, authorities blamed her death on an underlying health condition - something her family denied.

Many Iranians expressed outrage and protests against the morality police and the wider clerical establishment swept across the country in its wake.

Hundreds of people have been killed and thousands more have been

detained in a violent crackdown by security forces, which have portrayed the protests as foreign-instigated "riots". Seven protesters have also been executed following what a UN expert has called "sham trials marred by torture allegations".

As well as demonstrating on the streets, videos and photos posted on social media suggested that an increasing number of women and girls were not covering their hair in public.

Authorities responded by installing surveillance cameras to identify them and closing businesses that turn

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quick to condemn the decision, with EU commission President Ursula von der Leyen accusing Russia of a "cynical move", while the US ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, described the move as an "act of cruelty".

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, who heads the World Trade

Organization (WTO) said Black Sea trade in food, feed and fertiliser was "critical to the stability of global food prices" - adding that hope must be kept alive that Moscow would reconsider pulling out of the deal.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, meanwhile, said the organisation would look for solutions to

the "rise in human suffering" that would "inevitably" follow Russia's decision.

"There is simply too much at stake in a hungry and hurting world," said Mr Guterres.

The Kremlin's announcement came just hours after an attack on a bridge in Crimea that killed two civilians. Ukraine has not offi-

cially claimed responsibility but a source in the country's security service told BBC Russian it was behind the attack.

Mr Peskov said Russia letting the deal expire was unrelated to the attack. "Before this attack, the position was declared by President Putin", he told reporters in Moscow.

Typhoon Talim: Thousands evacuated as typhoon hits southern China

By Emily McGarvey

A powerful typhoon has made landfall in China's Guangdong province with nearly 230,000 people evacuated from their homes.

Talim, the fourth typhoon this year, hit the southern coast with winds of nearly 140km/h (87mph).

Storm surges lashed the coast, while fierce winds and rain led to hundreds of flights and trains being cancelled.

Vietnam said it was evacuating around 30,000 people in Quang Ninh and Hai Phong, forecast to be hardest hit.

Talim made landfall at around 10:20 local time (14:20 GMT), the China Meteorological Administration said, issuing an orange alert, its second-highest warning in a four-tier sys-



A man watches the waves in Hong Kong on Monday.

tem.

The typhoon could lose speed by Tuesday morning and "weaken and dissipate over northern Vietnam" on Wednesday, it added.

Those evacuated in Guangdong included more than 8,000 fish-farm workers who were brought

ashore, Chinese state media say. Local authorities also ordered the closure of dozens of coastal tourist destinations.

The typhoon is expected to move to the Beibu Gulf in the South China Sea, and may make a second landfall in the coastal area of

Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on Tuesday morning, China's National Meteorological Centre said.

Waves of up to six metres (20 feet) were expected to hit the southern island province of Hainan, the local marine forecasting station warned.

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a blind eye to dress code violations.

Women and men who supported the rules also appeared to take enforcement into their own hands. Earlier this year, a video emerged showing a man throwing a tub of yoghurt in the face of two unveiled women.

On Sunday, police spokesman Saeed Montazerolmahdi confirmed that morality police patrols had resumed across the country to "deal with those who, unfortunately, ignore the consequences of not wearing the proper hijab and insist on disobeying the norms".

"If they disobey the orders of the police force, legal action will be taken, and they will be referred to the judicial

system," he added.

However, a university student identified only as Ismaili expressed doubt that the officers would be able to impose the dress code as they had before Mahsa Amini's death.

"The number of people who do not obey is too high now," she told Reuters news agency. "They cannot handle all of us, the last thing they can do is use violence and force against us. They cannot do it."

The reformist newspaper Hammihan warned that the resumption of patrols could "cause chaos" in society, while reformist politician Azar Mansouri said it showed the "gap between the people and the state is widening".

Iranians also took to social media

to condemn the move as well as the arrest on Sunday of an actor, Mohammad Sadeqi, after he urged women to defend themselves when accosted by morality police.

Mr Sadeqi claimed in an Instagram post that the state had "declared a war" on them and advised women to carry "machetes" to fight back. "Trust me, people will kill you," he warned officers.

Hours later, the actor partially live-streamed a raid by plainclothes security forces on his home in Tehran during which he was forcefully detained.

The judiciary's Mizan news agency said he was accused of "instigating violence through unconventional and unlawful comments online".

Mexico beat Panama to win CONCACAF Gold Cup

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) - Eight months and two coaches after Mexico crashed out of an embarrassing World Cup, most of the same players triumphantly raised the CONCACAF Gold Cup amid confetti and raucous cheers at the Los Angeles Rams' palatial NFL stadium on Sunday night.

The El Tri have reversed their fortunes with stunning speed, and their winning goal at SoFi Stadium came on an end-to-end play that was every bit as dramatic.

Late substitute Santiago Giménez scored after an electrifying sprint in the 88th minute, and Mexico won the Gold Cup for the record ninth time with a 1-0 victory over Panama.

After Edson Álvarez slid to block Iván Anderson's cross in the Mexico penalty area, Orbelín Pineda dribbled away and made a tremendous pass into the center circle.

Giménez, the 22-year-old Feyenoord forward, dribbled past Harold Cummings and out-raced Cummings and Fidel Escobar into the penalty area.

Giménez scuffed a bouncing left-foot shot over goalkeeper Orlando Mosquera for his fourth goal in 18 international appearances and his second



Mexico's players celebrate with the winner's trophy after beating Panama during the CONCACAF Gold Cup final soccer match at SoFi Stadium on Sunday, July 16th, 2023. (AP)

of the tournament.

"It's the biggest moment of my career," Giménez said. "I just tried to get down the field quickly. We followed our principles throughout the game, and they worked perfectly. The result was great, because there were a lot of competitive teams in this tournament."

The goal by the Argentina-born Giménez, who came on only three minutes earlier, set off a frenzied celebration at a Southern California stadium packed with fans celebrating Mexico's revival in this biennial CONCACAF tournament.

After Mexico was elim-

inated in the group stage of the World Cup for the first time since 1978, El Tri rebounded with an excellent tournament under interim coach Jaime Lozano, who took over the beleaguered programme only a month ago after a Nations League loss to the USA.

"Today, the environment was like being in a World Cup," said Lozano, whose contract is only for this tournament.

"It wasn't like a Gold Cup. I'm dreaming after I saw a stadium like we saw today, and to provide people with the happiness we've seen. Again, the team gave everything. We knew that we were writing

history, and you have to take these opportunities."

Mexico, which allowed just two goals in its matches, has won this tournament more than all other nations combined.

The USA has seven Gold Cup titles and Canada one.

Giménez's heroics ended an inspiring Gold Cup run by Panama, which upset the USA in the semi-finals to earn their third appearance in the final.

Los Canaleros couldn't get several solid scoring chances past veteran Mexican goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa. Panama also lost the Gold Cup final in 2005 and 2013, both to the USA.

Strictly Business and Buckleys 3J's to clash in softball T20 final

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business and Marco Inc./Grill Box Buckleys 3J's have advanced to the final of the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Men's T20 Championship.

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business defeated Old Road by 79 runs at Potters, while Marco Inc./Grill Box Buckleys 3J's beat Lil Lincs Supermarket Antigua & Barbuda Defence Force (ABDF) Warriors by 87 runs at Powells in the semi-finals.

Strictly Business won the toss and batted, scoring 177 for one off their allotted 20 overs. Kim George slammed 112 not out, with 14 sixes and three fours; Raymond Leadette cracked 30, and Charles James struck 23 not out.

Clarence Francis captured one for 22.

In reply, Old Road could only muster 98 for nine from their 20 overs. Hezekiah Weston hit 42, and Clarence Francis scored 19. Egbert Francis snapped up three wickets for seven runs, Alwyn Colbourne picked up two for 15, and Arthur Croghan captured two for 40.

The Buckleys 3J's made 169 for six off their 20 overs after losing the toss and being sent in to bat. Gregson Merrick hammered 59 not out, Steve Martin cracked



The Marco Inc./Grill Box Buckleys 3J's have advanced to the final of the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Men's T20 Championship. (File photo)

40, and Nigel Fergus hit 24 not out. Troy Lake captured three for 34.

The ABDF Warriors were then dismissed for 82 in 11 overs. T'ron Payne struck 25 and Edwin Jackson made 19. Alfred Jarvis grabbed five wickets for 18 runs, and Rodney Williams claimed two for 17.

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business and Marco Inc./Grill Box Buckleys 3J's will clash in the final at Jennings next Sunday at 10 am.

The Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets and the Sagicor Life Enforcers have advanced to the final of the ABSCA's Women's T20

Championship.

The Bullets defeated Foster Jonas and Harley's Maintenance Potters Uprising by 20 runs at Powells, while the Enforcers beat the Flyers by 22 runs at Potters in the semi-finals.

The Bullets won the toss and batted, scoring 115 for six from their 20 overs. Althea Gage got 29, and Cheryl Williams and Rachael Greaves each struck 22. Debra George had one wicket for seven runs.

The Potters Uprising were then restricted to 95 for six from their 20 overs. Carla Weatherhead scored 30, and Nolia Elvin got 19. Mary Browne claimed two

wickets for 13 runs.

The Enforcers also won the toss and batted, making 113 for seven off their 20 overs. Kimberly Anthony hammered 45, and Gaynell O'Garro scored 19. Valencia Thomas took three for 27, and Diane Anthony picked up two for 23.

In reply, the Flyers were restricted to 91 for four off their 20 overs. Terez Parker cracked 40, and Robynette Burton hit 33. Gaynell O'Garro captured two for 12.

The Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets and the Sagicor Life Enforcers will clash in the final at Jennings on Sunday at 2:30 pm.



Pakistan's Saud Shakeel plays a shot as Sri Lanka's Sadeera Samarawickrama watches during the second day of the first cricket Test match in Galle, Sri Lanka, on Monday, July 17th, 2023. (AP)

Pakistan fight back against Sri Lanka

GALLE, Sri Lanka (AP) - Pakistan's middle-order staged a fighting comeback from a shaky start to finish the second day of the first Test against Sri Lanka on 221 for five, trailing by 91 runs yesterday (Monday).

After a century by Dhananjaya de Silva helped Sri Lanka post 312 in their first innings, Pakistan slipped to 101 for five in the afternoon session, with left-arm spinner Prabath Jayasuriya claiming three scalps on his happy hunting ground.

It looked as if the tourists were going to concede a big first-innings lead, but Saud Shakeel and Agha Salman counter-attacked in fine style.

The pair added an unbeaten 120 for the sixth wicket with some entertaining stroke-play. They didn't allow Sri Lanka's spinners to settle and put the loose balls away thanks to clever use of the feet. Both batters were so positive that

Pakistan was scoring at a rate of 4.91 an over.

Only 75 overs of the scheduled 98 were possible as rain again played a part, just like it did on the opening day. When play ended early, Shakeel was unbeaten on 69 off 88 deliveries, with six fours, while Salman ended on 61 not out from 84 balls, with six fours and a six.

Sri Lanka tried several bowling changes, but was unable to find the breakthrough. The left-handed Shakeel made his Test debut eight months ago, but has already become an integral part of the Pakistan side, having struck one hundred and six half-centuries in six Tests.

Earlier, Jayasuriya drew Abdullah Shafique on to the front foot before some extra turn took the outside edge and he was caught at first slip for 19.

The arm ball accounted for captain Babar Azam when he was caught be-

hind off bat and pad for 13, while former skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed missed a sweep shot and was adjudged leg before wicket for 17. Shan Masood fell for 39 and Imam ul-Haq for 1.

Jayasuriya, the fastest Sri Lankan to 50 wickets in Tests, has now taken 49 in Galle in six Tests. Sri Lanka was bowled out in the last over before lunch after resuming on 242 for six.

De Silva stroked his 10th Test hundred, the third against Pakistan and the third in Galle. The Sri Lankan vice-captain faced 214 deliveries and hit 12 fours and three sixes.

Pace pair Naseem Shah and Shaheen Afridi, and leg-spinner Abrar Ahmed, took three wickets apiece.

But Pakistan's slow bowlers weren't as tidy as the quickies, raising questions over whether the tourists would have been better off with an additional pace-man.

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snatching a two-run victory against the All Saints Pythons at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints Village.

Set 200 runs to win, the Pythons were restricted to 197 for nine off their allotted 40 overs. Michael Dover cracked 96 off 99 balls, with nine fours and a six, and Ka-deem Josiah chipped in with 34.

Martin Singh captured three for 36, and Michael Harilall picked up two for 22. Captain Kerry Mentore struck 73 off 67 balls, with four fours and three sixes; Singh cracked 31, and Dillon Wills chipped in with 30 to propel the Ring Sun Spartans to 199 for nine off their allotted 40 overs.

Conroy Semple captured three for 34, skipper Andra Samuel claimed two for 26, and Xaveek Toppin took two for 29.

The New Winthorpes Lions recorded their second win in five outings by clinching a three-wicket win via the Duckworth/Lewis Method against the bottom team, the Bolans Blasters, at the New Winthorpes playing field.

The Bolans Blasters made 147 for seven off 36.5 overs, with Orlando Peters hitting 40 and Morton Browne getting 30. Captain Nino Henry snapped up five wickets for 33 runs in eight overs.

The New Winthorpes Lions then coasted to victory by achieving their revised target, scoring 158 for

seven off 24.5 overs. Henry slammed an unbeaten 64 off 64 balls, with five fours and four sixes, and Bartlette Henry cracked 39 off 41 balls, with five fours and a six. Winston Nelson captured three for 45, and Peters claimed two for 38.

Right:

Michael Dover fell four runs short of a century in the All Saints Pythons' narrow loss to the WES Rising Sun Spartans.



National Solid Waste Management Authority
Sir George Walter Highway
Tel: (268) 562-1347/8
Email: nswma@solidwaste.gov.ag

July 13th, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

The Authority wishes to inform the general public that the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) is the agency mandated by law to collect, transport, and dispose of solid waste in Antigua and Barbuda.

In an effort to improve our services and reliability we are updating the residents in the communities below of the delayed service and we are working to resolve the issue promptly.

- Cedar Grove
- Mount Pleasant

In today's schedule, an unavoidably late start will be in the following communities:

- Gunthorpes
- Lightfoot (West)
- Scott's Hill

We thank the residents in those communities for their patience.

The National Solid Waste Management Authority wishes to advise private citizens that if there is a delay or missed collection of their residential waste services, to contact the Authority via the hotline number 562-1347.

“Working In Partnership for a Cleaner Antigua And Barbuda”



The National Solid Waste Management Authority

Liberta and Empire stay perfect in Super40 Cup

Defending champions PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks and Empire Nation have maintained their perfect runs in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Super40 Cup Limited Overs competition.

Both teams remain joint-leaders of their nine-team round-robin one-day competition after recording their fifth wins in as many matches on Sunday.

The Black Hawks beat the Jennings Tigers by six wickets at the Jennings playing field. The Tigers

were dismissed for 131 in 38 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Matthew Miller top-scored with 59, and Jedidiah Martin chipped in with 32, while Karima Gore snapped up six wickets for nine runs in seven overs.

The Black Hawks secured their victory by achieving the required target of 132 for the loss of four wickets in 23.1 overs. Kofi James slammed an unbeaten 63 off 38 balls, with seven fours and three sixes.

But coach Wilden "Pol-



Captain Nino Henry had a five-wicket haul and struck an unbeaten half century to lead the New Winthropes Lions to victory over the Bolans Blasters.

lo" Cornwall's run of three consecutive centuries in as many matches was ended when he fell for just six runs to the left-arm spin of Glenton Williams, who finished with one for 16 in eight overs.

The Empire Nations prevailed by 21 runs against the Pigotts Crushers at the Pigotts playing field. Empire won the toss and batted, scoring 203 for six off their allotted 40 overs.

Damian Lowenfield hit 80 off 88 balls, with six fours and three sixes, and

Jauri Edwards scored 43. Demari Benta claimed two for 26, and Tyree Moore took two for 38.

Chasing 204 to win, the Pigotts Crushers were dismissed for 182 with two balls to spare. Benta top-scored with 50. Off-spinner Justin Athanaze snatched three for 17, Jalen Harris claimed three for 32, and Tyrone Williams Jr. picked up two for 41.

The WES Rising Sun Spartans secured their third win in six encounters by

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Karima Gore snapped up six wickets for nine runs in the Blacks Hawks' win against the Jennings Tigers.