

TUESDAY 25TH JULY 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 142 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

KENWORTH CHARLES SENTENCED TO 16 YEARS IN PRISON FOR MURDER Story on Page 2



Ischikelle Corbin, centre, won the Queen of Carnival pageant 2023 on Sunday. Story on page 3.

Local News



Kenworth Charles sentenced to 16 years in prison for murder

Justice Colin Williams on Monday sentenced Newfield resident, Kenworth Charles, to 16 years in prison for the murder of Fitzroy Robins on 24th July 2020.

Then 36-year-old, Charles, and the victim, who resided at All Saints, were involved in an altercation at a bar on Bay Street, Villa at approximately 11:30 p.m. on 24th July 2020. The former hospital I.T. Technician armed himself with a knife and inflicted several stab wounds to Fitzroy Robins' upper body, causing him to die at the scene of the incident.

During the trial, the court heard the two men had bad blood between them since there was an incident months before. It stemmed from Charles refusing to pay for beers he had taken from a cooler. Following an altercation, the two men went their separate ways until 24th July 2020, when another altercation ensued, which proved fatal for Fitzroy Robins.

Kenworth Charles was put on trial, and in February, was found guilty of murder by a mixed jury, despite his lawyer Wendel Robison's argument that his client accidentally killed Robins.

Three years of the 16year sentence were deducted, since the convicted man spent that time on remand, leaving thirteen years that he must serve at His Majesty's Prison.



- MILD HYBRID
- 9-INCH HD DISPLAY AUDIO
- 360 VIEW CAMERA
- HEAD-UP DISPLAY
- WIRELESS CHARGER





Local News

Ischikelle is Queen of Carnival 2023

It was one of the eagerly awaited shows of Carnival 2023 - the Queen of Carnival Pageant which saw seven young and talented ladies vying for the coveted title. At the end of the show, one contestant, Ms. Cedar Valley Golf Course, Ischikelle Corbin, emerged as the overall winner.

Almost from the start of the pageant, Ischikelle demonstrated that she had her eyes fixed squarely on winning the crown as her answer to the interviewer's question displayed a command of the subject, a command of the English language, and a level of confidence that is not normally seen among contestants before a carnival queen show. Ischikelle won four of the five judged segments: interview, costume, performing talent, and evening wear. Only the swimwear segment eluded her.

Her performing talent was a tribute to her mother who succumbed to cancer several years ago and the impact that this event has had on her life. That was a theme for her throughout the evening: celebrating her mother's life of activism.

After the contest, Ischikelle spoke of the sacrifices she made in her preparation for the show.

She had to lose weight, which she did in what she has described as 'a healthy way'. She also spoke of her discipline and time management in order for her to remain at her job and to put

A.

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

July 24th, 2023

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.

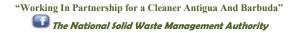
PRESS RELEASE

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

- Trade Winds
- Marble 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.





Ischikelle Corbin

in the hours of rehearsals in preparation for the pageant. These are what she has credited for her success in the pageant.

As the 2023 Queen of Carnival, Ischikelle will represent Antigua and Barbuda in the JCI Caribbean Queen Show on July 31st at Carnival City. She was also presented with a cash prize of \$25,000.00 along with other prizes including a handset from Inet.

The second runner-up prize went to Ms. Cool and Smooth, Jahkaydah Isaac, while the third runner-up spot went to Ms. Neverland, J'Dinique Prince. Prince won the swimwear segment.

The show was well-attended and many patrons expressed their delight that the pageant has returned following the COVID-19 pandemic forced cancelations.

PAGE 3

Local News Traditional Nigerian dance group to perform in Carnival 2023

More details are emerging about the participation of a traditional dance/cultural group out of Nigeria which will be visiting Antigua and Barbuda for Carnival 2023.

Festivals Minister, Daryll Matthew, said the group will arrive on a special charter flight operated by the Nigerian airline – Air Peace – with whom the government has entered into an agreement to purchase majority shares in LIAT (2020) Ltd.

According to Minister



EVERETT LAKE SCHOLARSHIP 2023

The Everett Lake Scholarship is designed to help primary school students whose parents/guardian face difficult economic circumstances and are not able to provide their young children with the basic supplies for the academic year. Applications are invited from the public. Students will be awarded the scholarship based on a need based assessment.

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT: *Johnson's Point Health Clinic *Browne's Avenue Health Clinic *Gray's Farm Health Clinic *A.G Morgan (Redcliffe St.) *Modern Chic (Village Walk) *Methodist Book Store (St Mary's St)

Deadline for submission of applications 31-July 2023 Matthew, the dance group will arrive with a group of high-net-worth individuals from Nigeria who will traveling on the flight slated to arrive at the V.C. Bird International on August 3.

The group will perform at one of the Carnival shows as well as participate in the Tuesday Carnival parade.

"The point is for us to see that Africans are not inherently bad people. We have been socialized in this part of the world to think that anything 'black' is bad.

"How we speak and how we were taught to speak is really in a manner that portrays black and the black race in a negative way," Matthew explained.

He expressed the hope that the visit of the Nigerian dance group will go a long way in reshaping how people in Antigua and Barbuda look at Africa and Africans generally.

Matthew also announced that the business people who will arrive next week will hold meetings with the Antigua and Barbuda Chamber of Industry and Commerce as well as other members of the society to explore opportunities for investment into Antigua and Barbuda.



Local News

PAGE 5

School Meals aProgramme inaugurate sub-station in September

The government-funded School Meals Programme is to inaugurate a separate facility to prepare meals for school out of a centre to be located at the Urlings Primary School.

Making the announcement, Education Minister, Daryll Matthew said, acting on a suggestion from Senator Samantha Marshall about the need to decentralise the work of the School Meals Programme, it was decided to establish the food preparation and distribution centre at Urlings to serve the schools in the southern corridor of Antigua.

"Decentralising the preparation of meals also means decentralising the risks. If there's only one food preparation facility, when anything goes wrong it may affect the whole food production and distribution system. Having a second facility helps to reduce that risk," Matthew stated.

Matthew also announced that the School Meals Programme has launched a pilot project where breakfast is served to the children in selected primary schools on school days free of cost. He added that currently approximately four hundred students from primary schools are served breakfast each day. This is in addition to being served with lunch as well.

The minister identified the Golden Grove Primary School as one of the insti-

AUCTION NOTICE		
REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
POTTERS & BELMONT	613 1991C	336

Instructed by **ACB MORTGAGE AND TRUST COMPANY LIMITED**, I shall sell by **PUBLIC AUCTION** on Tuesday the 15th day of August 2023 at 11:00am the above residential property at Potters.

The property is under the ownership of **EUSTACE M. DANIEL JR**. The land is a 0.15 acre plot with a single storey concrete apartment building with 2-2bedroom units.

The property is in residential development with a gentle slope.

The Auction shall be held on site.

Details of the Auction may be obtained from Mr. Trevor Santos, Public Auctioneer at telephone numbers: 562-7653 and 464-7653.

Dated this the 21st day of July 2023

Trevor Santos Licensed Auctioneer



Education Minister, Daryll Matthew

tutions where breakfast is served. He said the plan is to extend the programme to more schools during the next academic year beginning in September.

"Many studies have concluded that nutrition is an important part of learning. What we have observed is that in the lower income communities, particularly the densely populated urban communities. where there is an above-average level of poverty as well as a heightened level of single-parent households, the children tend to suffer and struggle as the families are just coping to provide the basics for the children. So while the lunch is good, we also recognized that many children are going to school hungry because they did not have breakfast. We, therefore, started this programme in the school meals programme to provide breakfast for children from vulnerable communities," he revealed.

Minister Matthew did not provide the figures for the additional costs that the government now has to bear for the breakfast, but he stated that it is a necessary initiative.

"This is related to something I have said before; that our children's ability to compete in this world ought not to be determined by their socio-economic status within which they are born. It can't be that children from wealthy households who go to early children centres and daycares eat a healthy breakfast in the mornings and therefore start life at an advantage over the children from the lower income families. These children are behind the 'curse' by the time they get to primary school, so the morning breakfast is one of the policy initiatives designed to close that gap," he remarked.

Local News



Head of the Pediatric Department at SLBMC completes MSc degree

The Ministry of Health is congratulating one of its medical officers - Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis - on the successful completion of a Master's of Science Neonatology Degree from the University of Southampton.

Dr. Belle-Jarvis is the head of the Pediatric Department at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center and completed the course with merit over a period of three years.

She stated that "the right start to life is crucial, and every baby should benefit from essential newborn care."

Furthering her studies in Neonatology, according to Dr. Belle-Jarvis is the best way to assist in improving the quality of health care within the twin island state, especially the first 28 days of life.

She intends to build the capacity of health care services offered to babies in the first 28 days of life and further commits to continue ensuring preventative measures and early intervention are available to all neonates within our shores.

Dr. Belle-Jarvis says navigating this course of study during Covid-19 was challenging but thanked God, family, and friends for their support over the years.

She noted that learning is continuous and remains the eye through which any country will accomplish its mission and encourages other persons to take every opportunity to learn so that no one in Antigua and Barbuda is left behind.



Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis





UWI FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS MR. AND MS. TEENAGE PAGEANT Sat Jul 22nd | 8:00pm | \$20

OUEEN OF CARNIVAL Sun Jul 23rd | 8:00pm | \$25 | \$50

OFFICIAL OPENING Thur Jul 27th | 3:00pm - 9:00pm

FACEOFF Fri Jul 28th | 9:00pm

CAVALIER RUM TSHIRT MAS Sat Jul 29th | 3:00pm - 9:00pm

OASIS JR CARNIVAL 2:30pm SMALTA JR CALYPSO 6:00pm Sun Jul 30th \$15

JAYCEES OUEEN SHOW Mon Jul 31st | 8:00pm | \$50 | \$150

DRUESDAY Tue Aug 1st | 9:00pm

GLOBAL PORTS JR PARTY MONARCH Wed Aug 2nd | 8:00pm | \$15



CAVALIER RUM J'OUVERT 3:00am - 10:00am CAVALIER RUM CARNIVAL MONDAY Mon Aug 7th | 2:00pm

COOL & SMOOTH MELTING POT

CARIB BEER

CALYPSO MONARCH

Fri Aug 4th | 8:00pm | \$30

Sat Aug 5th | 8:00pm | \$30

STATE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD PANORAMA

Thur Aug 3rd | 8:00pm | \$65 | \$350

CAVALIER RUM PARADE OF THE BANDS Tue Aug 8th 12 Noon

> LAST LAP Tue Aug 8th | 7:00pm

#carnivaliscalling



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Local News



US Ambassador, Linda Taglialatela, and a delegation from the US Embassy in Barbados tours the Nelsons Dockyard National Park

The National Parks Authority (NPA) greeted the US Ambassador, Linda Taglialatela, and a team from the US Embassy in Barbados undertook a tour of the Nelson's Dockyard National Park with a tour ofvisits to Shirley Heights, Blockhouse, Dows Hill, Clarence House, and the Dockyard.

This is was the Ambassador's second visit to the National Park. She had previously visited the Dockyard and was given a boat tour of English Harbour and was eager to see more of the Nelson Dockyard National Park (NDNP) and share it with her delegation from the US Embassy.

The visit demonstrated the many NPA initiatives



From left: Senator Shoul, D. Gardner, A. Martin. Ambassador Taglialatela, R. Camacho and Dr. Chris Waters undertaken as part of the velop the natural and en- the cultural heritage of the

undertaken as part of the legal mandate to preserve, protect, manage and develop the natural and environmental resources, the historical, architectural and



The NPA and US Embassy Team at Blockhouse

the Ambassador saw the entirety of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the historical structures, landscapes and the key viewscapes of that inscription. She also was briefed on the marine ecosystems of the NPA, including the coral restoration project to keep the coral reefs healthy, and the inclusion of new swim and no propellor zones in Freeman's Bay and Pigeon Point to preserve the lives of swimmers, snorkelers, feeding turtles and protect the seagrass bed ecosystems. Additionally, the erosion undermining parts of Fort cont'd on pg 10

From Shirley Heights,

NDNP.



27 JUL

Route:





OPENING PARADE | 4:30PM

Ministry of Agriculture

RIGHT on to Independence Drive, LEFT on Redcliffe St, RIGHT on Thames St, RIGHT on High Street, LEFT on Independence Drive into ARG.

29 JUL CAVALIER RUM T-SHIRT MAS | 3PM - 9PM

Assembly point: Route:

Assembly point:

Old Parham Road near the T.N. Kirnon School

UP Old Parham Road, RIGHT on St. Johnson's Village Main Road, RIGHT on Factory Road, LEFT on to Parliament Drive, and RIGHT on to Queen Elizabeth Highway, RIGHT on Independence Drive, LEFT on Redcliffe Street, RIGHT on Thames Street, **RIGHT** on High Street

30 JUL

Route:

7 AUG

Steel Bands

Jam Bands

OASIS JR. CARNIVAL | 2:30PM King George V Grounds

Assembly point:

UP Market St, LEFT on Redcliffe Street, RIGHT on Thames Street, RIGHT on High St, LEFT on Independence Drive, Right on Old Parham Road, Right on Coronation Road into ARG

J'OUVERT | 3AM - 10AM

ARG - SOUTH on Independence Drive, RIGHT on Redcliffe St, RIGHT on Market St, RIGHT on High St, left on Independence Drive repeat until 10 am

ARG - SOUTH on Independence Drive, RIGHT on Vivian Richards St, RIGHT on Market St, LEFT on Redcliffe St, RIGHT on Thames St, RIGHT on High St, Right on Independence Drive, repeat until 10 am

CAVALIER RUM CARNIVAL MONDAY | 2PM

Corner of Factory Road & Parliament Drive

RIGHT on Queen Elizabeth Highway, RIGHT on Independence Drive, LEFT on Redcliffe St, RIGHT on Thames St, RIGHT on High Street, LEFT on Independence Drive

CAVALIER RUM PARADE OF THE BAND | 12 NOON

Corner of Factory Road & Parliament Drive

RIGHT on Queen Elizabeth Highway, LEFT on Independence Drive, RIGHT on Vivian Richards St, RIGHT on Market St, LEFT on Newgate St, RIGHT on Popeshead St, RIGHT on St John's St, RIGHT on Cross St, LEFT on Bishopgate St, LEFT on Old Parham Road, Right on Coronation Road into ARG

LAST LAP | 7PM - 10PM

UP Old Parham Road, RIGHT on St. Johnson's Village Main Road, RIGHT on Factory Road, LEFT on to Parliament Drive, and RIGHT on to Queen Elizabeth Highway, RIGHT on Independence Drive



Route:

7 AUG

8 AUG

Assembly point:

Assembly point:

Route:

8 AUG

Route:

Local News

POINCEXPRESS

cont'd from pg 8

Berkeley was pointed out, reiterating a discussion had with Her Excellency on her last visit about plans to stabilize the ruins and protect the harbour.

At the Blockhouse, the NPA introduced the Ambassador to the stabilization projects to preserve the ruins and to convert them into safe and usable spaces. The delegation received a firsthand viewing of the skilled stone masons executing this work as well as showing the previously successful stabilization work carried out at the Gun Powder Magazine within the Blockhouse fortifications.

At Dow's Hill, the Am-



The NPA presents to the US Embassy Team

bassador was shown the boundaries of the NDNP, stretching from Mamora Bay to Cactus Hill at Carlisle Bay.

The delegation then received a tour and lunch at Clarence House. Clarence House was showcased as a successful donor-funded project managed and completed by the NPA utilizing and promoting skilled Antiguan and Barbudan artisans, local stone, and intelligent planning to provide a



spectacular restoration of a historic house of the highest quality while still being under budget. During lunch, several NPA initiatives involving heritage, interpretation, environmental data collection and preservation, and Park infrastructure projects, were pitched to the delegation. These projects will ultimately enhance the management and protection of the NDNP as well as increase the quality of life for the communities inhabiting the Park and Antigua and Barbuda.

The visit concluded with a brief tour of Dockyard and with pledges of friendship and support for the work being carried out by the NDNP. The NPA looks forward to hosting the US Ambassador and members from the US Embassy in the near future to continue sharing the history, heritage, and environment at the Nelson Dockyard National Park and working with them closely to better develop and manage our cultural, historical and environmental resources.

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The Ministry of Health would not administer vaccines to harm its people.

All vaccines administered in Antigua and Barbuda are safe and effective.



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- Mumps
- Rubella
- Inactivated Polio Virus
- Diphtheria
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- Hpv (Human Papilloma Virus),

- Varicella (Chicken Pox)
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- Influenza
- Hepatitis B
- Yellow Fever
- Covid-19 Vaccine.

GET VACCINATED TODAY!



For more information or assistance: Call (268) 462-5522 or visit us on Lower High Street, St. Johns, Antigua.



Entertainment Barbie movie wins box office battle in the US

By Faarea Masud

The Barbie film has become the US and Canada's biggest film of the year so far, said distributor Warner Bros.

An estimated \$155m (£120m) was made in its opening weekend, the company said.

Meanwhile, new release Oppenheimer - also out on Friday - made \$93.7m (£72m) in the US, said Universal Pictures.

The features come at a time when cinemas in general are struggling as they lose out to competition from streaming.

Meanwhile, in the UK, Vue said both films had led to the cinema chain seeing its busiest weekend in four years.

Vue, which has 91 cinemas throughout the UK and Ireland, said it saw its biggest weekend in four years and second biggest weekend in history by admissions, with director Greta Gerwig's Barbie on track to become the biggest film of 2023, ahead of Super Mario Bros.

The two films brought in half a million people to Vue screens, with 4,000 sold out viewings across the UK and Ireland, the company said.

Vue added that its most popular sites for Barbie sellouts include Cambridge, Glasgow St Enoch, Leeds Kirkstall, Bolton, Islington



in London.

Oppenheimer's plot is centred on the development of the first atomic bomb, starring Cillian Murphy and directed by Christopher Nolan.

Meanwhile, Barbie tells a coming-of-age story of the children's character where she explores her identity and encourages friend Ken to establish individuality.

The two films were both released on Friday and the competition between them both was referred to on social media as "Barbenheimer".

The opening weekend for Barbie, starring Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling, has seen its ticket sales overtake that for the opening weekend of blockbuster Super Mario Bros, making Barbie the biggest film of 2023 so far.

Worldwide, Barbie's debut took in \$337m (£293m).

On Twitter, one user said that it had been years since she had felt like going to the theatres to rewatch a movie, but Barbie had achieved that for her. She said it would "remain a timeless masterpiece over the years - ideas really are forever".

Before the films' release. Odeon in the UK said more than 200,000 advance tickets had been bought and some 10,000 filmgoers were expected to see both the Barbie and Oppenheimer films during the opening weekend.

Meanwhile, Vue cinema in the UK reported on Friday that Barbie's pre-sale purchases were "higher than any other blockbuster released this year". Admissions on Friday were the highest for any Friday since the pandemic - and the chain's third biggest Friday ever.

Universal Pictures said Oppenheimer had made £8.05m in the UK and Ireland since Friday.

It added that Oppenheimer was forecast to have a better opening three days than Christopher Nolan's other blockbusters - spacethemed Interstellar, war thriller Dunkirk and sci-fi hit Inception.

Earlier in July, stars left the premiere of Oppenheimer early because of strike action over grievances including the encroachment of artificial intelligence in the making and writing of Hollywood films.

The film made \$93.7m (£75m) in international markets, bringing its global total to \$174.2m (£135m), Universal Pictures said.

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ENTENCED

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Google Play

Technology **Spotify raises premium** subscription price for millions

By Chloe Kim

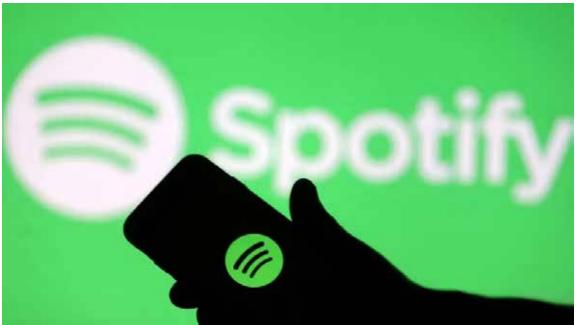
Spotify is raising prices for its 200 million ad-free subscribers for the first time in over a decade, the platform has announced.

In the US, the cost will increase from \$9.99 to \$10.99 (£8.57) for those with an individual plan.

Similar price hikes also apply to the UK, Canada, Australia and 49 other territories.

The move follows other streaming services which have also increased subscription costs.

"So that we can keep innovating, we are changing our Premium prices across a number of markets around the world," the music streaming service said on Monday.



Premium prices will increase from \$9.99 to \$10.99

"These updates will help us continue to deliver value to fans and artists on our platform."

In the US, the Premium Duo plan will increase from \$12.99 to \$14.99, the Family plan will increase from \$15.99 to \$16.99, and the Student plan will increase from \$4.99 to \$5.99.

Premium subscribers in the UK will pay an extra £1 per month, according to The

Verge.

Spotify said users "will be given a one-month grace period before the new price becomes effective, unless they cancel before the grace cont'd on pg 15



POINLEXPRESS



BBC - The Treasury has called a meeting with bank bosses over account closures, following the row between Nigel Farage and NatWest.

Minister Andrew Griffith said there was "significant concern" over claims accounts are shut due to people's political views.

NatWest boss Dame Alison Rose has apologised to Mr Farage, who has called for her to be questioned by MPs.

He says his account at Coutts, owned by NatWest, was shut because of his views.

The government was already looking into concerns that some people had their accounts closed or suspended due to their publicly stated views, but the row involving the former Ukip leader has focused public attention on the allegations.

In a letter to banks seen by the BBC, City Minister Andrew Griffith said the recent allegations of "client de-banking" had "raised

cont'd from pg 14 period ends".

The company raised prices of US family plans and UK Student, Duo, and Family plans in 2021. Individual subscriptions were previously unaffected.

Apple Music, Peacock, Netflix, Max, and Paramount+ have also recently raised subscription prices.

The new Spotify Premium cost matches the monthly plans of competitors Apple Music and Amazon Music.

In an April earnings call, Swedish CEO



Nigel Farage

significant concern in both Houses of Parliament".

He said the government will "take the action necessary" to protect lawful freedom of expression.

The BBC understands Mr Griffith's letter will be sent to 19 banks and financial services firms on Monday.

He said he would call for a discussion with bank bosses "at the earliest opportunity".

The latest government

response comes after the Treasury announced plans to subject UK banks to stricter rules over closing customer accounts.

Banks will have to explain why they are closing accounts, and they will have to give a notice period of 90 days before closing an account, to allow people more time to appeal against the decision.

The new rules are likely to be brought in after the summer, the BBC understands.

When Coutts decided to close Mr Farage's account, he said it did not give him a reason.

Mr Farage subsequently obtained a document looking at his suitability as a Coutts customer.

It said that to have Mr Farage as a customer was not consistent with Coutts' "position as an inclusive organisation" given his "publicly stated views".

The document flagged concerns that he was "xenophobic and racist", and also raised concerns about the reputational risk of having Mr Farage as a client.

The boss of NatWest Group, Dame Alison Rose, then apologised to Mr Farage for what she called the "deeply inappropriate" comments. She also said that she was commissioning a full review of Coutts' processes on bank account closures.

Daniel Ek said the company would "like to raise prices in 2023".

"When the timing is right, we will raise it and that price increase will go down well because we're delivering a lot of value for our customers," Mr Ek said.

The music giant cut 6% of staff in January, citing a need to improve efficiency.

The company will continue to offer a free plan that includes advertising.

Spotify has 515 million active users in over 180 markets and about 40% of those users are subscribers.

Regional News USVI: Man charged with older brother's death A 47-year-old US Virgin fired at a residence in Estate



Murder accused Richard Liverpool. Photo: VIPD

Islands man was arrested and charged in connection with his brother's murder.

The Virgin Islands Police Department (VIPD) reported Richard Liverpool was charged with murder in the first degree, assault in the first degree, assault in the third degree, unauthorised use of a firearm during a crime of violence in relation to the shooting death his of older brother Steave over the weekend.

VIPD said it received reports of gunshots being

Thomas, St Thomas.

Upon arrival. cops found Steave unresponsive lying on the ground. He was shot multiple times.

"While on the scene, law enforcement received information that the victim's brother, Richard Liverpool [allegedly] shot and killed him," VIPD said in a statement.

This incident took the USVI's murder toll to 22.

Police said Richard's bail was set at \$1,000,000.00.

PM Terrance Drew says EU to discuss CBI programme

CMC - Prime Minister Dr Terrance Drew says the European Union (EU) has agreed to set up a committee to discuss and structure the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme that is used by several countries in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to lure investors to the sub-region.

Drew, who is also chairman of the nine-member OECS grouping, said that he met with EU representatives during last week's the EU-CELAC (European Union-Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) Summit in Brussels, where various concerns regarding the programme were discussed.

"These concerns were surrounding issues of security, issues of abuse of the programme and the opportunity to be invited to be a citizen of the coun-



try," Drew said.

Prime Minister Drew said that the concerns were ultimately addressed in a document put forward by him and the head of the Citizenship by Investment Unit, Michael Martin, which

outlined how the programme has been strengthened.

"We showed in the document we sent to them that our due diligence is strong and where we think there might cont'd on pg 17



Regional News PAGE 17 **PM Gonsalves on CBI crack** down: I saw it coming

By Dillon De Shong

Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves said his decision not to implement a Citizenship by Investment (CBI) program in St Vincent and the Grenadines was justified by the news that the United Kingdom and European Union are cracking down on countries that sell their passports.

In an interview with the state-run Agency For Public Information (API) today, Gonsalves said he had foreseen this as an unsustainable policy to earn revenue from the beginning.

Look, those who didn't see it, and who wanted to base an economic strategy on that, like the opposition in St Vincent and the Grenadines, they now get their comeuppance. It's your how mature judgment brought to bear when I say this thing is not sustainable. You can't base your eco-



Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves.

nomic development on this. You can't finance budget on these kinds of monies," he stated.

The United Kingdom recently removed Dominica and Vanuatu passport holders from its list of visa-free countries due to concerns about undesirable people gaining entry to British soil using their purchased citizenship.

The UK indicated that

by the end of 2023, St Lucia, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and St Kitts and Nevis passport holders would also need a visa if they don't end their CBI programs.

The EU Commission plans to follow suit by removing those countries from the Schengen Visa waiver program.

Representatives from the CBI Caribbean countries recently met with EU

officials in Brussels, Belgium to discuss the matter.

Following the meeting, Gonsalves stated that one of his regional colleagues told him that "it's the end of the road" as the EU's impending crackdown is stricter than the UK's.

Gonsalves highlighted that removing the CBI will significantly shock the countries that are members of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) along with St Vincent and the Grenadines.

The prime minister said St Lucia, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and St Kitts and Nevis now have to find new ways to pay for their recurrent expenditure and earn foreign exchange.

He said ECCU countries have agreed to work together during a transition period "to help to lessen the burden of suffering".

cont'd from pg 16

be abuse, we are going to address those matters," he said.

Under the CBI, foreign investors are provided with citizenship in return for making substantial investments in the socio-economic development of these islands. But the programme has come under criticism from many western countries including the United States and Europe, with the United Kingdom last week that Dominicans will now have to acquire a visa for entry into that country. The visa requirement went into immediate effect.

Dominica's Prime Minister Roosevelt

Skerrit last week described as "unfortunate" the decision of the UK to impose with immediate effect the visa regime on Dominica.

Skerrit said that every country has a right to continuously review its own immigration policies and attitudes to address what it sees as contemporary challenges, and indeed opportunities. We have done the same and will continue to do so.

"The decision of the United Kingdom to suspend visa free access to the UK for holders of passports from a number of countries, including Dominica, must be understood in that general context."

Russia accuses Ukraine of Moscow drone attack

ROUND THE WORLD

International



Moscow's mayor says "two non-residential" buildings were hit in the drone attack.

By George Wright

Russia has accused Ukraine of being behind a drone attack that damaged at least two buildings in the capital Moscow early on Monday morning.

The Russian defence ministry said two drones were "suppressed and crashed", adding that there were no casualties.

Russia's state-owned Tass news agency reported that one drone fell close to the defence ministry.

Ukrainian officials are yet to comment, but they rarely claim responsibility for attacks inside Russia.

In a separate development, Russian-installed officials ordered people to evacuate one district of Crimea - the Ukrainian southern peninsular annexed by Moscow in 2014 - after a reported overnight Ukrainian drone attack.

Kremlin-appointed regional head

Sergei Aksenov said an ammunition depot was hit in the northern Dzhankoi area, and residents of nearby villages were told to leave their homes. He reported no casualties.

Meanwhile, Ukraine said four people were injured and a grain hangar was destroyed in an overnight Russian drone attacks on two ports on the River Danube, an alternative export route to the Black Sea, its southern Odesa region.

Russia has been launching near-constant attacks on the Odesa region where Ukraine's major Black Sea ports are located - since Russia withdrew from a landmark grain deal last week.

In Moscow, the city's Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said the drone strikes in the Russian capital hit "two non-residential" buildings around 04:00 local time (01:00 GMT). In a post on social media, he added that the buildings had not sustained any major damage.

But state news agencies reported that some drone fragments were found just 2km (1.2 miles) away from the defence ministry's buildings.

"A Kyiv regime attempt to carry out a terrorist act using two drones on objects on the territory of the city of Moscow was stopped," the Russian defence ministry said in a statement.

Russian news agencies reported that drone debris was also found along the city's Komsomolsky Avenue. Moscow's transport department wrote on Telegram that traffic along the route was blocked and photos showed emergency services working at the scene.

Traffic was also stopped on Likhachev Avenue, where a high-rise office building was damaged. Footage *cont'd on pg 19*



AROUND THE WORLD **Agustín Intriago: Ecuadorean** mayor shot dead in port city

International

By Vanessa Buschschlüter An Ecuadorean mayor has been shot dead and a bystander killed in an attack while he toured his city.

Agustín Intriago was hit several times by a gunman in Manta on Sunday. Ariana Estefanía Chancay, a local female footballer, also died.

Intriago's wife, Rosita Saldarriaga, said her heart and that of her children had been "torn out" by the murder.

Police have yet to confirm a motive but said that Mr Intriago had reported receiving threats.

Ms Saldarriaga wrote on Twitter that "all Agustín did was to work for Manta, with devotion and total determination". "He wanted our children and all the children of Manta to live in a better city and that's why he gave all," she added.

The mayor was shot sev-

cont'd from pg 18

published on the military Zvezda TV channel showed missing windows at the top of the building.

Moscow has accused Ukraine of a host of drone attacks on its territory in recent months.

Earlier this month, Russia said Ukraine launched a drone attack on Moscow, forcing flights to be diverted from Vnukovo International Airport. Ukraine did not claim responsibility.

And in May Kyiv denied carrying out a drone attack on the Kremlin, which Russia said amounted to an attempt on President Vladimir Putin's life.



Agustín Intriago had been re-elected in February.

eral times by a gunman who had arrived in a stolen pickup truck, officials said. He was pronounced dead in hospital.

The truck's driver was injured in a pursuit and arrested, police commander Edwin Noguera told reporters. However, the gunman escaped.

Mr Intriago had been re-elected in February to a second four-year-term. He was inspecting a building site where a new sewer is being built when he was killed.

He had just been approached by Ms Chancay, a 29-year-old footballer for local club Las Dragonas, when the gunman opened fire.

Local media said Ms Chancay had wanted to ask the mayor for support for her amateur team.

The murder has shocked Ecuador, where attacks on elected officials had until recently been rare.

In February, a politician running for mayor in Puerto López was murdered just hours before polls opened.

Weeks earlier, the mayoral candidate in Salinas, another coastal town, had also been shot dead.

Port cities, such as Manta where Mr Intriago governed, have been worst hit by the surge in violence as rival gangs seek to control the ports to smuggle cocaine out of Ecuador to destinations as far away as the US and Europe.

Transnational crime gangs from Colombia and Mexico have infiltrated local Ecuadorean gangs and brought their violent tactics with them, security analysts say.

Monday's attack comes just a day after Russia targeted Odesa with missile strikes, destroying the historical Transfiguration Cathedral.

Unesco, the UN's cultural agency, said it was "deeply dismayed and condemns in the strongest terms" the attack on the historic centre of Odesa.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky vowed retaliation for the attack.

"They will definitely feel this," he said during his nightly address from Kyiv. "The target of all these missiles is not just cities, villages or people. Their target is humanity and the foundations of our entire European culture."

PAGE 19

International AROUND THE WORLD



Algeria wildfires: Dozens killed and thousands evacuated

By Emily McGarvey

At least 34 people have been killed and thousands evacuated after wildfires broke out across Algeria, the country's interior ministry says.

Outbreaks of 97 wildfires were recorded across 16 provinces affecting forest, crops and farmland on Monday.

About 8,000 firefighters were working to bring the blazes under control, authorities said.

Twenty-six people were also injured and 1,500 evacuated from their homes in Fenaia, Bejaia, Zbarbar and Bouira.

Ten soldiers were killed battling the fires in Bejaia, the Algerian defence ministry said.

The most extensive fires, in the mountainous Kabylie region to the east of Algiers, spread to residential areas in the coastal towns of Bejaia and Jijel, fanned by high winds.

Authorities said they had launched a judicial investigation into the causes of the fires.

Northern Algeria has been experiencing a record heatwave in recent days, with temperatures reaching 48C.

Temperatures in several regions in North Africa are up to 7C higher than normal for the time of year.

Algeria's Meteorologi-



Fires have been sweeping North Africa on the border between Tunisia and Algeria.

cal Office has warned that temperatures of more than 48C are likely to continue until the end of the month in the north of the country.

On Monday, Algeria's national electricity and gas company, Sonelgaz, said it had recorded a "historic peak" in electricity consumption.

A leading outlet critical of the government, Tout Sur l'Algerie (TSA), reported earlier this month there had been an unprecedented use of air conditioners, saying current methods of construction were less effective than traditional bricks in keeping homes cool.

Meanwhile, southern

Europe has been dealing with a challenging heatwave that has seen Greece ravaged by wildfires.

The UN weather agency, the World Meteorological Organization, has warned that the heatwave in Europe could continue into August and that the extreme temperatures sweeping the globe are the new normal in a world warmed by climate change.

The three hottest days ever recorded were in July, according to the EU climate and weather service, Copernicus.

The average world temperature hit 16.89C on Monday 3 July and topped 17C for the first time on 4 July, with an average global temperature of 17.04C.

Provisional figures suggest that was exceeded on 5 July when temperatures reached 17.05C.

The World Meteorological Organization says extreme weather patterns highlight the need for greater climate action.

Climate change increases the risk of the hot, dry weather that is likely to fuel wildfires.

The world has already warmed by about 1.1C since the industrial era began and temperatures will keep rising unless governments around the world make steep cuts to emissions.



Sports News PAGE 21 Last place finish for **Antigua in Billy Jean Cup Americas Group III**

Antigua and Barbuda finished last in the Billy Jean Cup Americas Group III tournament on the clay court in Panama City, Panama, from July 17th to 22nd.

Antigua and Barbuda ended their campaign with a 2-0 defeat against Aruba in the playoffs for ninth place in the 10-team round-robin tournament.

Antigua and Barbuda's

Samaar Davis lost 2-6, 4-6 beaten 6-2, 6-1, by Shelby against Danna Nunez, while Antiguan team-mate Ariel Naomi Kelsick was beaten by Aruba's Jelsyvette Kaylyn Croes 7-5, 6-4 in singles play.

Antigua and Barbuda were beaten 2-1 by Bermuda in their final round-robin match in Group A. Antigua and Barbuda's Janae George-Alexander was

Madeiros in the first singles match.

But Antigua and Barbuda drew level 1-1 with Bermuda when Selena Kentish prevailed 7-5, 6-2 against Jahzuena Bradshaw-Douglas in the second singles match.

Bermuda won the match by beating the Antiguans in the doubles. The Bermuda



duo of Shelby Madeiros and Amaya Rollins defeated Antigua and Barbuda's Samaar Davis and Ariel Naomi Kelsick, 6-4, 6-3.

Following 3-0 losses to Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Barbados in their first three matches, the Antiguans finished at the bottom of Group A after losing all four of their round-robin encounters.

Group A was won by Puerto Rico, which won all four matches, while Cuba finished second with three wins and one defeat. Barbados came third in Group A with two wins and two losses, while Bermuda finished fourth with one win and three defeats.

Puerto Rico and Cuba have advanced to the Group III Americas promotional play-off final in Panama City, Panama. Both teams will clash in the final after winning the promotional cross-group playoffs and gaining promotion to Americas Group II for next year's competition. Puerto Rico beat Jamaica 2-0, while Cuba prevailed 2-1 against host Panama. Barbados finished in fifth place after beating the US Virgin Islands 2-0 in the playoffs. El Salvador claimed seventh place by beating Bermuda 2-0 in the playoffs.

Sports News



Black Hawks crush Empire in Super40 Cup

The PIC Insurance Liberta Black Hawks sealed the top spot in the semi-finals with a crushing 10-wicket win over Empire Nation at King George V Grounds in their top-of-thetable clash in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Super40 Cup on Sunday.

Both teams entered Sunday's match as joint unbeaten leaders with identical records of six wins in as many matches, but the Black Hawks clearly proved their superiority by producing another dominant display to easily brush aside the Empire Nation to maintain their perfect run.

Coach Wilden "Polo" Cornwall continued his prolific form by smashing his first half century of the competition to propel the Black Hawks to their 73-run victory target without losing a wicket in just 9.3 overs.

Cornwall, who hit consecutive centuries in his first three innings and matches of the competition, hammered 56 not out off 35 balls, with 10 fours and two sixes. His fellow opener Kofi James was unbeaten on 14 from 22 balls as the Black Hawks soared to their seventh win to take sole leadership of the 40-over contest in which they are the defending champions.

Captain Kenrick Scott, who hit a top score of 30 off 22 balls with three sixes and a four, was the only batsman to reach double figures as the Empire Nation tumbled to 72 all-out in 15.4 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

James snapped up three wickets for seven runs, Elvis Weaver Jr. claimed two for 13, and captain Karima Gore snatched two for 24.

With only their first loss in the nine-team round-robin competition, Empire Nation has been confirmed as one of the four semi-finalists along with Liberta.

The other two semi-finalists will



Wilden 'Pollo' Cornwall

be the Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles and the Pigotts Crushers. Both teams claimed the last two spots in the semi-finals by recording their fifth win in seven matches on Sunday.

The Golden Eagles crushed the New Winthorpes Lions by 52 runs at the New Winthorpes playing field. Shacoy Floyd hit 43 and captain Deran Benta struck 35 in Bethesda's 186 for seven off their allotted 40 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat.

The Lions' skipper and fast bowler, Nino Henry, picked up four for 34, and Ian Eusebe took two for 35.

In reply, the New Winthorpes Lions were dismissed for 134 in 34.4 overs. Bartlette Henry top-scored with 36. OShale Simon bagged three for 28, fast bowler Kelvin Pitman claimed two for 12, and Benta captured two for 33.

The Pigotts Crushers cruised to a seven-wicket win against the bottom team, the Bolans Blasters, at the Pigotts playing field. The Bolans Blasters crashed to 119 all-out in 36.5 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.



Left-arm spinner Glenton Williams

Orlando Peters made 37, and opener Omar Francis got 30. Off-spinner Kadeem Henry grabbed five for 20, and fellow off-spinner James Cornelius captured two for 14.

Joshua Grant struck 64 off 59 balls, with 10 fours, to propel the Crushers to victory at 123 for three in 19.2 overs. Winston Nelson picked up two for 38.

It was the last outing for the Bolans Blasters, who will finish in the cellar without a win and just two points from their eight matches in the preliminary rounds of the limited overs competition.

The Jennings Tigers won for the cont'd on pg 23



Sports News

World Cup wins for Germany, Brazil and Italy

Melbourne, Australia (AP) - Germany and Brazil turned in two of the three biggest wins of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup yesterday (Monday).

The pair of women's soccer powers benefited from a multi-goal perforeach. Alexandra mance Popp netted two goals for Germany in a 6-0 victory over Morocco, while Ary Borges produced a hat-trick for Brazil to beat Panama 4-0.

Germany and Brazil delivered statements about their title contention in a tournament that has not seen a ton of dominant showings through the first match-day.

Italy took down Argentina 1-0 in Monday's other match in Australia and New Zealand. The win put Italy in a good position to compete with Sweden for the Group G win, which is one of the most coveted spots in the group stage given the potential round-of-16 matchup for the runner-up.

Brazil powered ahead of France at the top of Group F with a commanding 4-0 win over Panama.

cont'd from pg 22

first time in seven matches by securing a seven-wicket victory over the All Saints Pythons at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints Village.

Left-arm spinner Glenton Williams snapped up six wickets for nine runs as the Pythons were bundled out for just 90 in 23.2 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat.

Williams, who opened the innings,



Germany's Alexandra Popp, center, reacts after scoring her side's second goal during the Women's World Cup Group H soccer match between Germany and Morocco in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, July 24th, 2023. (AP)

Ary Borges netted the first hat-trick of the tournament and provided an assist on the other Brazilian goal, which was scored by Bia Zaneratto.

The four-goal margin of victory was the third-best in Australia and New Zealand so far. Only Germany and Japan turned in better wins.

The four goals could turn out to be a huge boost for the South American side in its battle with France for first place. The two sides meet on Saturday.

Panama's Women's World Cup debut did not go great, and it now finds itself in a large hole in last place. The Central American nation needs a result against Jamaica to have a shot of advancing to the knockout round.

If Jamaica beats Panama, there is a way for the Reggae Girlz to top Group F after two matches through goal differential.

Italy joined Sweden on three points in Group G thanks to a late game-winning goal from Cristiana Girelli to give the Italians a 1-0 win against Argentina.

The goal was the fourth of Girelli's career at the World Cup. She bagged a hat-trick against Jamaica four years ago.

Italy is searching for a second straight World Cup quarterfinal berth, but earning that spot may be tough if it finishes behind Sweden in Group G since the runner-up will likely face the United States in the round of 16.

Saturday's clash between Italy and Sweden will likely determine the Group G winner. Argentina and South Africa will play Friday with a potential shot at second place on the line.

slammed 45 to lead the Tigers to their victory target of 94 for the loss of three wickets in 20.3 overs. Justin Robinson picked up two for 11.

Following this weekend's matches, the ACBC Super40 Cup will go on a twoweek break in recognition of the national annual Carnival celebrations.

The competition will resume with the final round of matches in the preliminary phase on Saturday, August 13th.

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MON - FRI 10AM - 12PM

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Sports News

The covers are out as rain delays the start of play on day five of the second cricket Test match between India and West Indies at the Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Monday, July 24th, 2023. (AP)

India wins Caribbean series 1-0 after last day washed out

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (AP) - The West Indies and India drew the second Test at Queen's Park Oval after the fifth and last day was washed out yesterday (Monday).

India won the series 1-0 after an innings win in the first Test at Windsor Park in Dominica.

India secured a fifth successive series win in the Caribbean. It hasn't lost a Test to West Indies in 21 years.

The West Indies were 76 for two

in the second innings, trailing India by 289 runs. The odds heavily favoured India, which was far keener for play to get underway.

On Sunday, India wrapped up the West Indies first innings in the first eight overs, taking five wickets for 26 runs.

Play on Monday was scheduled to start earlier to make up for previous rain delays, but despite breaks in the showers and the covers being removed, another heavy downpour forced the umpires to call it in mid-afternoon after nearly five hours of inaction.

India scored 438 with 121 from Virat Kohli and 181 for two declared, and West Indies made 255 with a career-best five for 60 by seamer Mohammed Siraj.

The teams will turn to white-ball cricket, starting in Barbados on Thursday, with the first game of the fivematch One-Day Internationals series.



Strictly Business and Bullets win ABSCA's T20 titles

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business and Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets have captured the male and female division titles in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) T20 competitions.

Strictly Business secured the men's division crown by securing a 39-run victory against Marco Inc./ Grill Box Buckleys 3J's in the final at the Jennings playing field on Sunday.

Strictly Business won the toss and batted, scoring 139 for six off their allotted 20 overs.

Kim George cracked 37, Winston Roberts made 25 not out, Kerry Mentore also hit 25, and Raymond Leadeatte chipped in with 23. Alfred Jarvis claimed three for 24.

In reply, the Buckleys 3J's were



The Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's Men T20 champions Rackaman Construction Strictly Business after winning the title at the Jennings playing field on Sunday, July 23rd, 2023. (ABSCA)

dismissed for 100 runs in 18.5 overs, with Steve Martin hammering 52 not



The Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's Women T20 champions Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets after capturing the title at the Jennings playing field on Sunday, July 23rd, 2023.

out, while Arthur Crogman snapped up four wickets for just six runs.

The Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets captured the women's T20 title by surging to a 15-run victory against Sagicor Life Enforcers in the final at the Jennings playing field.

Cheryl Williams slammed 64, and Annette Frank struck 45 to propel the Bullets to 143 for three off their 20 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat. Gaynell O'Garro captured one for 19.

O'Garro cracked a top score of 42, and Gale Lee contributed 21 as Enforcers were restricted to 128 for nine off their 20 overs.

Mauricia Willette claimed three for 20 runs, and Frank picked up three for 21.

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