

A&B JOINS IN CELEBRATING WORLD FOOD DAY



Police investigate possible murder of 39-year-old All Saints man

The police are currently investigating the death of Lloyd Lewis, 39, of All Saints. Lewis was discovered on Saturday morning in his home, with a bullet and chop wounds, a gruesome death that has shocked his relatives and friends.

According to the initial police report, a report was made at the All Saints Police Station around 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, 14 October of a man who was found unresponsive at his home.

There have been no further updates as the police

probe continues to determine a motive and the likely culprit(s) who may have carried out this crime.

Meanwhile, the police are asking anyone with information surrounding this incident to contact the All Saints Police Station at 460-1000 or the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913, or call Crimestoppers at 800-Tips (8477).

Lewis's death brings to eight, the number of persons believed to have died at the hands of others so far this year.



Lloyd Lewis

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PM: Antigua and Barbuda making a big impact on the world stage

Antigua and Barbuda is attracting much respect and attention on the international stage largely due to the positions adopted by the government led by Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with Point Express newspaper, PM Browne said this growing respect is manifested by the fact that Antigua and Barbuda was selected to host next year's Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) conference which will attract as many as five thousand attendees.

"Antigua and Barbuda is punching above its weight. This international conference of SIDS next year that we are hosting was being pursued by other small states, yet we are the ones who got it. I don't wish to boast, but it is Antigua and Barbuda that the United Nations is looking towards in order to champion many causes. Even as far as the new



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

global eye care initiative," he revealed.

The prime minister noted that Antigua and Barbuda has also been at the forefront of the 'loss and damage' campaign that he first raised at COP 26 in Scotland and again at COP 27 in Egypt. Unfortunately, according to PM Browne some sections of the media have been singling out another Caribbean state for leadership in this campaign when it was Antigua and Barbuda that has been at the helm from the start.

As one of the senior prime ministers in CARICOM, PM Browne said he has

led an administration that has done an 'enormous' amount of work on the international scene. Including, he noted, negotiating with the international financial community on the issue of de-risking and the threat it posed to the region's banking system, as many international banks threatened to withdraw their corresponding banking relations with banks in the Caribbean.

The prime minister confirmed that he has been receiving regular invitations from other governments and international institutions to address them on several issues of concern from climate change, to challenges facing small states to the recent efforts to help create and promote the Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI), which he co-chaired and helped to present at a meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund held last week in Morocco.

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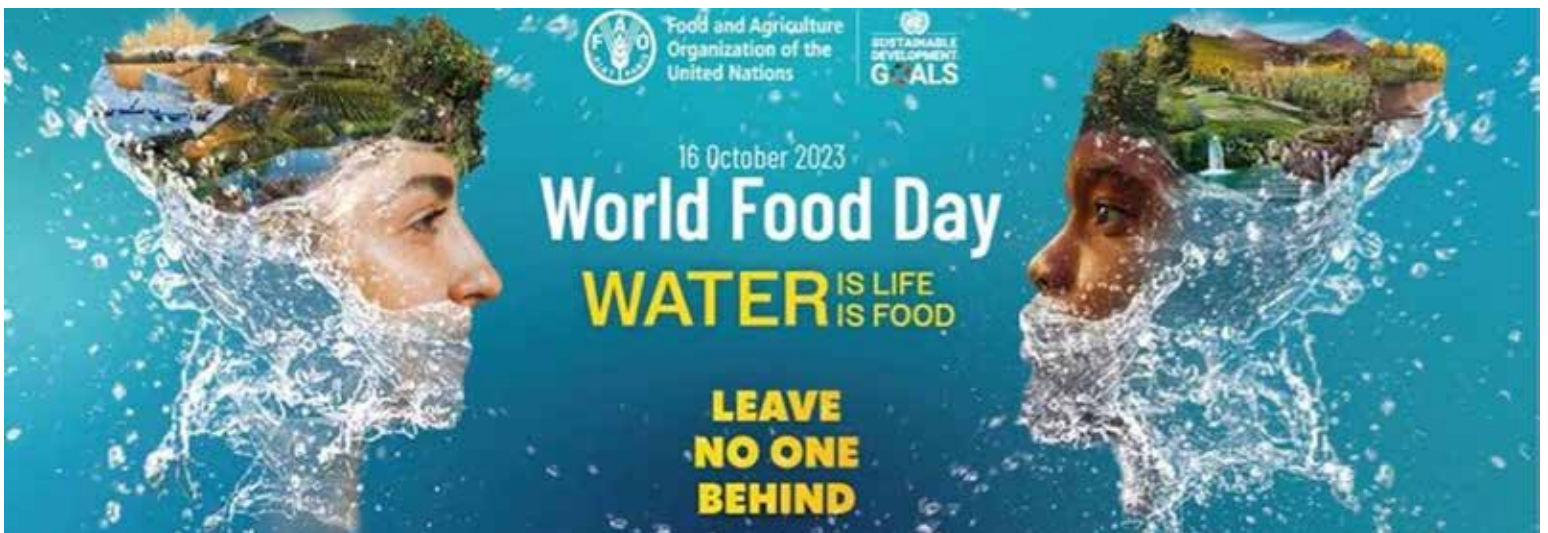
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Antigua and Barbuda joins in celebrating World Food Day

Today October 16, 2023, is World Food Day, and Antigua and Barbuda joins the international community in focusing attention on the quest to attain food security for its people.

With its 2023 theme, “Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind,” this year the Day spotlights the plight of 2.4 billion people in water-stressed countries and the 600 million reliant on aquatic food systems who face pollution, ecosystem degradation, and climate change impacts.

Minister of Agriculture, E.P. Chet Greene, said he is honored to stand with humanity in solidarity and dedication to the crucial mission of achieving food security for all.

“Today, we celebrate the bountiful harvests that nourish us and the collective efforts to address the intertwined challenges of water security, sustainability, and global development. Antigua and Barbuda wholeheartedly aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as they provide a comprehensive framework to drive our actions towards a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future. The pursuit of SDG 2: Zero Hunger and SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation resonates deeply with our nation’s commitment to



Minister of Agriculture, E.P. Chet Greene

uplifting our communities through resilient food systems and improved water security,” he emphasized.

Noting that water is the lifeblood of agriculture and the cornerstone upon which foods are nurtured and flourish, Greene said the government firmly believes in improving water security to meet our growing agricultural needs sustainably.

“With strategic investments in Reverse Osmosis (RO) services, the establishment of new dams and ponds, and sustainable water management techniques, we are actively fortifying our infrastructure to ensure consistent water supply and usage efficiency across the

food production chain. It is essential that we recognize the criticality of water as the source of life and the foundation of our sustenance,” he pointed out.

He highlighted water’s important role in all facets of food production including crop irrigation, maintenance of livestock, and food processing, and it enhances the nutritional values of our produce. “With this understanding, we prioritize the efficient and responsible utilization of water resources, preserving this invaluable asset for future generations,” he urged.

The minister also announced several events to mark the day reflecting the government’s unwavering commitment to nurturing sustainable food systems and educating society on their significance. “These activities include the distribution of food packages to vulnerable communities, seeds, and seedlings to encourage local cultivation, as well as educational initiatives to promote awareness and understanding of responsible water usage and sustainable agricultural practices,” he revealed.

Minister Greene called on the nation to harness this precious resource (water) to cultivate abundant, nutritious food for all communities and pave the way for a self-sustainable future.

WIOC shareholders approve upgrade of offshore facilities

Shareholders of the West Indies Oil Company (WIOC) have approved plans by the senior management team to upgrade the company’s offshore facilities as the company positions itself to be a major player in the storage business.

The disclosure comes from Chief Executive Officer, Gregory Georges, who indicated that the shareholders meeting less than a month ago went ‘very well’ as the management team pursues plans to ‘build a company for the future.’

“We went to the shareholders’ meeting to explain our strategic plans; what we plan to do; how we plan to



WIOC Chief Executive Officer, Gregory Georges

manage the energy transition and it went down very well. It is now on the part of management to continue to execute, as we continue to ask for support from our board and our shareholders,” he stated.

Part of the company’s vision for the future is to im-

prove its storage and pumping capabilities to make it more competitive in this area of its operations.

“At this stage, nothing is yet finalized, but we have plans to improve our offshore facilities; to improve our jetty, and to increase the size of our pipelines to boost our pumping rates and to make us a much more competitive storage facility in the Caribbean. As of now, we have a low pumping rate because our facilities were not designed for what we do at such a stage,” he revealed.

Georges reported that the company has to invest ‘significant sums’ to install bigger pipes as they record a

low pumping rate, using the current set of pipes which he explained were not designed for what the company does today.

“Our storage capacity went from half a million barrels to 1.7 million barrels today. Our sea infrastructure was developed for that type of facility. We will be investing a ‘significant amount of money’ to bring our offshore facilities with what’s happening on the landside. This would make us a major storage player in the Caribbean,” he declared.

Storage has emerged as a major source of revenue for WIOC over the last several years.

Derrick

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HONOURABLE STEADROY BENJAMIN TO ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA FROM 1ST NOVEMBER, 1981 TO PRESENT

We, the undersigned, as representatives of the vast majority of the residents of St. John's City and its environs, hereby nominate the Honourable Steadroy Cutie Olivero Benjamin, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Public Safety, Immigration and Labour for National Honours to be bestowed upon him.

This fine gentleman has made tremendous outstanding contributions over the past 42 years in the areas of Politics, Law, Public and Community Service.

IN THE FIELD OF POLITICS

- The Honourable Steadroy Cutie Olivero Benjamin is one of the two surviving active politicians who were Members of Parliament at the time when Antigua and Barbuda obtained its Independence from Britain on the 1st November, 1981; the other surviving active politician and Parliamentarian from that era is The Honourable Sir Robin Yearwood.
- He was appointed a Senator on 1st November, 1981 and served until 1984. He was reappointed to the Senate in 1989 and served until 1994; a period all together of 8 years in the Senate.
- In 1994, he was elected to the House of Representatives for the Constituency of St. John's City South where he served as Deputy Speaker of the House and Advisor on National Security until 1999. From 1994 to the present he has been successful at the polls and returned as the Constituency's Representative for seven consecutive elections: 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, 2018 and 2023. He has never lost his seat in parliamentary elections.
- All together, he has served this country as a Parliamentarian for a period of 38 years. He served as Minister in various government ministries and is, at present, the country's Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Public Safety, Immigration and Labour. He has held these portfolios for the last three consecutive parliamentary terms.
- He has been appointed to and acted as Prime Minister on numerous occasions during the period 2014 to the present.

IN THE FIELD OF LAW

In addition to being an outstanding and eloquent Lawyer, as Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Honourable Steadroy Cutie Benjamin has been in the forefront of legislative development in Antigua and Barbuda and in the OECS.

- He changed the legal architecture in the State of Antigua and Barbuda and is regarded as one of the Leading Attorneys General and in the OECS;
- He served as an Executive Member of the Council of Legal Education of the Caribbean and has had significant inputs into the Legal Education of students of the region.
- He has engaged the Council of Legal Education with a view to establishing a Law School in Antigua and Barbuda to serve qualified students in the state and especially in the OECS.
- He oversaw the implementation of the sentencing guidelines for the sub-region which were launched in Antigua/Barbuda and the OECS.
- The pilot programme of the Family Court for the OECS began in Antigua/Barbuda under his guidance, be it thus so far, only at the level of the Magistracy- the High Court jurisdiction will soon be established;
- Under his stewardship the First Model Criminal Sexual Offences Court had its beginnings in Antigua/Barbuda; the first in the region.
- The Civil Registry was established as an independent stand alone Department in September 2020; the first in the OECS.
- The Criminal Prosecution Service as an independent legal entity was also recently established; again, the first in the OECS.
- He piloted several pieces of innovative legislation to include amendments to the Banking Act which featured prominently in the recent sale of Bank of Nova Scotia in the various countries in the sub-region and most recently there were amendments to the Companies Act which provide for the Rehabilitation of an insolvent corporate debtor-such as L.I.A.T 1974 limited;
- He pioneered the change in the Standing Orders in the Senate and the House of Representatives, updating and changing those Standing Orders which were first enacted in 1967.

IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC SERVICE

- He worked as a Junior Clerk in the service of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and was attached to the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda at the Newgate Street Police Station in the late 1960's before he was transferred to be trained as an Assistant Air Traffic Control Assistant at the Coolidge Airport, as it was then known.
- After graduating as Student of the Year from Cave Hill Campus at the University of the West Indies in 1974, he was stationed by the government in the Labour Department where he was a Hearing Officer and the Senior Employment Officer. Further, he assisted the International Experts then present in Antigua in drafting what is now The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code; a model legislation throughout the region.

St. John's City South constituency makes the case for Benjamin's knighthood

Members of the St. John's City South constituency have mounted a campaign for the Member of Parliament, Steadroy Benjamin, to be knighted.

Approximately fifty persons from the constituency have signed a petition and dispatched it to the National Awards Community to make the case for the award to be bestowed on Benjamin.

Along with the petition,

the members have also listed several of Benjamin's outstanding contributions to national development spanning more than forty years.

"This fine gentleman has made tremendous outstanding contributions over the past 42 years in the areas of Politics, Law, Public and Community Service," the letter signed by Kelroy Fritz stated.

See attached:

IN THE AREA OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Since the 1980s this Honourable gentleman has been committed to the people of this country and in particular, to the residents in the City of Saint John and its environs. For over 40 years he rendered voluntary selfless service to all and sundry.

- He has been deeply involved in every sector of the community in the city and has sponsored the Ovals Basketball Team from 1982 to the present. This team has won more Basketball championships than any other team in the Basketball League in the nation. He was honoured some years ago for his commitment to his community and to the development of Basketball in Antigua and Barbuda.
- He established the Belmont Football Team which participates in the National Football League, Second Division.
- He sponsored and assisted scores of young men and women to obtain scholarships to further their education in a wide variety of specialisations from universities worldwide.
- He led and spearheaded the educational team which negotiated with the Council of the University of the West Indies for the establishment of U.W.I Fourth Landed Campus at Five Islands. He was largely responsible for the establishment of the Campus.**
- He served as a Judge in the Inter-School Debating Competitions in this country and Inter-Island Debates among the Leeward Islands for many years. He tutored many students and persons in the art of Public Speaking.
- He has been a Judge of Calypsos in Calypso Competitions for many years and his voice can be heard on Radio yearly, during the Carnival Season analysing the performance of Calypsonians and the performance of troupes and groups on the road. This he has been doing for over 35 years.
- He taught Criminal Law at the State College and has mentored many young lawyers in Antigua and Barbuda.
- He is a Radio and Television host and personality, and, has voluntarily hosted several programmes on Television and Radio to include, "The Law and You" and "Justice".
- He was a member of the Jaycees and is a Honourary Member of the Rotary Club.

This award is well deserved for this outstanding national. We trust that this recommendation will be given favourable consideration.

Respectfully yours,

.....
KELROY FRITZ

Central Board of Health to stage handwashing exercises

The Central Board of Health (CBH) will today stage several hand-washing demonstrations as Antigua and Barbuda celebrates World Hand Hygiene Day.

Principal Public Health Inspector, Julienne Mannix noted that while World Hand Hygiene Day was observed on Sunday (October 15) her department decided to hold its activities today.

Mannix indicated that her department will stage several demonstrations just outside its offices, on Upper Church Street, to show members of the public the correct ways in which they should go about washing their hands.

As part of the exercise, members of the public will be asked to wash their hands in the presence of the CBH

officers who will observe to ensure that this is being done correctly.

The World Health Organization (WHO) said hand hygiene saves millions of lives every year when performed at the right moments during health care delivery. It is also a smart investment that offers exceptional returns for each dollar invested. Cleanliness care is a sign of respect to those who seek care, and it protects health and other workers who provide the same.

“Now is a critical time when countries across the world need to accelerate implementation of lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and increase investments to close gaps in infection prevention and control (IPC), includ-

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Local News



Antigua and Barbuda makes waves in the West Indies!

Young adults from across the Caribbean who are members of the JCI Movement, concluded the 2023 National Convention in Antigua and Barbuda last week.

Under the theme Embracing Unity in beautiful Wadadli, the National Convention is the primary meeting point of the year for the members of local organizations across the West Indies,

to engage, interact, participate in training sessions, develop solutions, and elect a new board.

Highlights of the convention included an opening ceremony, awards ceremony,

debating, public speaking, and the election of a new executive council.

JCI Antigua and Barbuda received awards for: Distinguished President Awards

Most efficient National Councilor, Laurel Jonas
Most Responsive National Councilor, Laurel Jonas
Most Professional National Councilor Laurel Jonas
Challenge Awards

Public Relation Challenge
100 percent Efficiency
Certificates for:
Participation in World Clean-up Day.

Participation in Ten Out-
cont'd on pg 9

cont'd from pg 7
ing hand hygiene. Indeed, many countries are demonstrating strong engagement and advancements in scaling up those actions, but overall, the progress is slow, and gains are at risk.
“Together, we can galvanize action on preventing infections and antimicrobial resistance in health care. Strong and engaged communities of health workers, policymakers, and civil society organizations (CSOs) can accelerate and sustain action at the point of care to keep people safe and healthy,” it stated.
For World Hand Hygiene Day 2023, we put CSOs in focus. Driven by their passion, values, and strong social justice agendas, and often near the communities they serve, CSOs can spearhead and accelerate change at local, national, and international levels. WHO is calling on all CSOs and other partner organizations (e.g. members of the Global IPC Network) to engage with the campaign and accelerate progress in achieving effective hand hygiene at the point of care.

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cont'd from pg 8
 standing Young People (TOYP)
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 Participation in Public Speaking - Area Conference
 Participation in Debating Competition- Area Conference
 Awards
 Largest Delegation- 95
 Growth Retention & Engagement
 Disaster Risk Management Award
 Skills & Membership Development
 Most Outstanding Local President, Laurel Jonas
 Most Outstanding Local Organization, JCI Antigua and Barbuda
 Most outstanding new member, Tnaska Weston



Best Local Community Impact Program - Senator Leandra James' Cancer Awareness Campaign
 Best Local & Entrepreneurship Program - Business - Business Seminar - Professionalism in Customer Care
 Building Bridges Impacting Humanity Award for Reinforcement - Senator Shenella Govia

Building Bridges Impacting Humanity Award for Resilience EA Shenique Barry
 Most Supportive Board Officer -NEVP Elect Leycia Samuels
 Most Efficient Board Officer- NEVP Elect Leycia Samuels
 Most Outstanding Local Senator – Senator Shenella Govia

Most Outstanding Senator – Senator Shenella Govia
 The highlight of JCI Antigua's successes was manifested through the election of Antigua's own Leycia Samuels as 2024 Executive Vice President of JCI West Indies. These accomplishments are one for which the chapter and the entire organization can truly be proud.

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UN action needed urgently to end Israel-Hamas violence

By Sir Ronald Sanders

The attack by Hamas on civilians in Southern Israel on 7 October 2023 was as stupid as it was cruel, brutal and inhuman.

Whatever the purposes – and there were many – behind a slaughter of 1,200 persons, including children – Hamas gave the perfect cover to the Benjamin Netanyahu government in Israel to try to carry out a long-desired objective by many Israelis. And that is to annex Gaza and cleanse it of Palestinians who are either refugees or descendants of refugees who were forced to flee from Palestine in 1948 when Israel announced its independence and a bitter war ensued between the nascent Israeli State and surrounding Arab countries.

The background to the issue

There were two attempts, driven by external powers to partition Palestine into two states, one Arab, one Jewish. The first was offered by Britain, the occupying power in 1937, and the second was proposed by the United Nations in 1947. The Arab countries rejected both plans, and Israel declared itself independent creating its own state. This led to the first Arab-Israeli war and produced more than half a million Arab refugees, and deep hostility that has never waned.

What built even greater resentment was that after the war, Israel destroyed hundreds of Palestinian villages and adopted an “Absentees’ Property Law” by which the government confiscated land and houses that Palestinians were forced to abandon.

Over the years, there have been several attempts to negotiate a two-state solution to the problem, but with no success. Meanwhile, with each war, Israel has secured more territory, both occupying and settling it with Jewish people.

Encaging Palestinians in Gaza

Until 7 October, there were approximately 2.3 million Palestinians, hemmed into Gaza, living in crowded and impoverished conditions. Gaza is a narrow piece of land located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Israel to the east and north, and Egypt to the southwest. It is 41 km (25 mi) long, and from 6 to 12 km (3.7 to 7.5 mi) wide. Its total area is 365 km (141 sq. mi).

Since October 7, more than 2,700 people in Gaza, one third of them children, have been killed and 9,000 wounded by retaliatory Israeli military assaults. Further, 1.1 million people in North Gaza (the area closest to Israel) have been warned to move to South Gaza or



Sir Ronald Sanders

risk being killed by military action. Many are trying to seek refuge in Egypt.

However, Egypt, which already hosts millions of migrants, is uneasy about the prospect of hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees crossing into its territory. Therefore, it has not opened the border. Consequently, if Israel continues its bombardment of Gaza in an attempt to kill Hamas’ leaders, many more thousands of its inhabitants, including those trying to flee, will be killed.

The rise and support for Hamas

That carnage, laid at the feet of Israel, would suit Hamas, which has controlled Gaza since 2007 and whose main goal as set out in its revised charter of 2017 is “the destruction of the state of Israel”. The resentment and demand for revenge, resulting from the killing of thousands of Palestinians would bring great-

er support for Hamas.

Hamas was formed in 1987 and, for decades, it has pursued a violent strategy aimed at rolling back Israeli rule — and it has made its presence felt at the cost of human suffering to both Israelis and Palestinians.

Hamas is known to have a close relationship with Iran. Iran and Israel regard each other as mortal enemies, and Iran is said to be providing weapons and money to Hamas. Additionally, Hamas is now producing its own weapons. This explains how it was able to employ sophisticated means of carrying out its October 7 attack. But it should be noted that Iran is reported to have been surprised at the event, and the US Secretary of State has publicly said that there is no evidence of Iranian involvement.

Nonetheless, Iran does have an interest in the incident, since it helps to pause,
cont’d on pg 11

cont'd from pg 10

if not to derail, attempts by the US government to promote a deal between Israel and Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil producer, to normalize relations. Further, Israel's decision to carry out intense military action in Gaza and the likely shedding of Palestinian blood, has caused several Arab states to retreat from closer relations with Tel Aviv. This retreat by Arab states from fashioning closer contact with Israel also suits Iran whose leadership want to keep Israel isolated.

The irony of Israeli support for Hamas

In its radical ardour, and access to financing and weaponry, Hamas has usurped the Palestinian Authority in the fight for Palestinian rights.

The irony is that it is the Israeli authorities, which for several years gave favourable treatment to Hamas, that has helped it to rise. In their fear that the Palestinian Authority might succeed in negotiating internationally for a sovereign state that would include the territories occupied by Israel, the

Israel authorities sabotaged the Palestinian Authority at the 2006 election which Hamas won in Gaza.

Bitterness and resentment run deep

Bitterness and resentment between the Palestinians and Israel run deep. Israeli successes at annexation and expansion, while Palestine withered and Palestinians suffered dislocation and marginalization, have intensified Palestinian anger.

One of the external factors that heightened this acrimony was the recognition of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital by former US President Donald Trump. Palestinians regard Eastern Jerusalem as "occupied territory" where, one day, they wish to establish their own capital.

Nothing justifies barbarism

No well thinking person or government can excuse terrorism and barbarism for whatever cause. These events rightly create revulsion and rejection of its perpetrators.

Equally, however, no well thinking person or government should support any effort that uses these circumstanc-

es as an opportunity to punish all Palestinians for the actions of a radical group and seize more territory.

This is not the time to take sides. All governments – powerful ones particularly – need to look backward and forward at this issue and act to stop the escalating violence and carnage from which nothing good will result.

The fact that the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has met, in an emergency session, and failed to issue even a joint statement on this matter is simply appalling. There is urgency for diplomatic action at the highest level.

The innocent people on both sides of this conflict require responsible action by those entrusted with peace and security in the world. So, too does the global community if this conflict escalates adding to the existing disruption of peace in the world.

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and the Organization of American States. The views expressed are entirely his own)



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Cat as cats' scan

By **Tony Deyal**

A few days ago, I read in the Jamaica Observer that “cats are the single biggest problem Jamaicans are having right now, next to crime”. I was not shocked or even surprised. After all, I grew up in Trinidad where every family has at least one cat or at least one small, domesticated feline mammal, the *Felis catus* (or domesticus), the majority of which has thick soft fur of various colours. However, almost all the people in the region and beyond – men, women and children – recognise that “cat” (a.k.a. “pussy” or “pussin”) is not necessarily a domestic feline pet but also a colloquialism for the female sexual organ.

And not just us in the Caribbean. One night, at university in Canada, I took in the Johnny Carson Show. Johnny was interviewing the flamboyant actress, Zsa Zsa Gabor, whose fame lay (and I use that word with full awareness of its many meanings) in the number of marriages in which she was a protagonist and which exceeded the number of movies in which she featured. She had brought on the set of the Tonight Show a small creature as described above (feline mammal) and petted it constantly during the interview. She then, in seeming innocence, asked Johnny archly, “Do you want to play with my pussy?” To which he replied, “You have to get that cat off your lap first.”

In Trinidad, the Calypsonians were the first to make the second meaning of cat overtake the first by leaps, bounds and not single, but ‘double’ entendres – two words and phrases, one of which is usually risqué or indecent. Lord Blake came with, “Hole de pussy, hole de pussy, hole the pussy cyat.” He made sure the police couldn’t hole him for it. The great Lord Kitchener, the Road March Champion, in his “My Puss-

in”, demanded, “Mistah, move youh hand from dey, dat pussin belongs to me.” Many years ago when the present Prime Minister (PM), Dr Keith Rowley, was the leader of the Opposition (LO) and Kamla Persad-Bissessar, now LO, was the PM, Mr Rowley, referring to the PM, made it clear he was no Kitch. He chanted, “She could jump high; She could jump low;/ She could drink this; She cold drink that,;/ She could bark at meh dog, I go ignore she cat.”

COLLOQUIALISM

One of the senators on Dr Rowley’s team termed the “cat” reference a “colloquialism”. Their Women’s League called it “political picong” (meaning, “politically based teasing or satirical banter”). Another senator, the Honourable Faris Al Rawi, insisted that the use of the term “cyat” by his political leader had “nothing to do with genitalia”. One of my colleagues scoffed, saying that all the kids in Trinidad and Tobago knew exactly what “cat” or “kyat” meant. I stopped him. “You can’t be sure of that. It is possible that because the senator went to school in Iraq and was catapulted to power in Trinidad, categorically speaking, and catastrophic as it might sound, the minister might have been catnapping for so long a period that he was unable to understand our categorisation of animals.”

All this came to my mind when Mr Al-Rawi, removed from his high post of attorney general and made minister of rural development and local government, claimed that the media in Trinidad and Tobago (TT) are “too negative”. He insisted, “TT is hooked on bad news ...” and added, “In no other country do you see 365 days of bad news on the front pages.” The response in an editorial by journalist Kambe Lovelace of the TT pa-



Tony Deyal

per Newsday was immediate, “Conventional wisdom might suggest the minister is playing the old game of Shoot the Messenger. A more cynical view: this latest lecture is the strategy known to journalists as a “dead cat” – an attempt to shift the focus from all that is going wrong in the country – under Mr Al-Rawi and company’s watch.” In other words, Mr. Lovelace took down Al Rawi from self-acclaimed Rolex watches to Fog (off-white).

I was impressed by the inclusion of the term “dead cat” and felt that I needed to share its meaning and usage to my readers. Seeing that we were dealing with politicians, it was not surprising that the first thing I came up with was, “What’s the difference between a dead politician and a dead cat on the street?” There were skid marks in front of the cat. I tried another angle. “What has four legs and flies?” A dead cat, one that helped me to understand what the term meant. Basically the “dead cat strategy”, also known as “deadcatting”, is the political strategy of deliberately making a shocking announcement to divert media attention from problems of failures in other areas.

POLITICAL STRATEGY

The former British Prime Minister,
cont’d on pg 13

Suzanne Somers: Three's Company actress dies aged 76

By Kathryn Armstrong

US actress Suzanne Somers has died at the age of 76 following a decades-long battle with cancer, her publicist has confirmed.

“Her family was gathered to celebrate her 77th birthday,” reads a statement shared with media.

“Instead, they will celebrate her extraordinary life, and want to thank her millions of fans and followers who loved her dearly.”

As well as an actress, Somers was an author and fitness guru.

She began her acting career in the late 1960s and early 1970s with small parts in TV shows including *The Love Boat* and *One Day at a Time* before landing the role



Suzanne Somers had battled breast cancer for more than 20 years.

of Chrissy Snow in *Three's Company* in 1977.

Somers starred in the show for five of its eight seasons before being fired following a dispute over pay.

Following a break from on-screen acting that included a stint as an entertainer in Las Vegas, she returned to on-screen acting in the early

1990s - taking up a lead role in *Step by Step*, which ran for seven seasons.

Her later TV credits included co-hosting *Candid Camera*, her own talk show *The Suzanne Show* and an appearance on *Dancing with the Stars*.

Somers also built up a multimillion dollar fitness empire, appearing in com-

mercials for the Thighmaster and ButtMaster exercise equipment and releasing several self-help books on topics including wellness and weight loss. She launched her own beauty brand in 2019.

She was first diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer in her 50s and announced on social media in July that, after being in remission, it had returned.

“I know how to put on my battle gear and I’m a fighter,” she wrote on Instagram.

A private family burial will be held for Somers next week, according to her publicist, with a memorial to be held in November.

Somers is survived by her husband and son.

cont'd from pg 12

Boris Johnson, when he was mayor of London, wrote a column for the *The Telegraph* (March 3) describing the “dead cat” as a piece of Australian political strategy about what to do in a situation in which the argument is being lost and “the facts are overwhelmingly against you”. He stressed, “There is one thing that This cap on bankers’ bonuses is like a dead cat — pure distraction Let us suppose you are losing an argument. The facts are overwhelmingly against you and, the more people focus on the reality, the worse it is for you and your case. Your best bet in these circumstances is to perform a manoeuvre that a great campaigner describes as “throwing a dead cat on the table, mate”... every-

one will shout “Jeez, mate, there’s a dead cat on the table!”. In other words, they will be talking about the dead cat, the thing you want them to talk about, and they will not be talking about the issue that has been causing you so much grief.”

Talking about grief and how to manage it properly, here’s a story that will help you deal with pressure. A woman went on vacation leaving her husband behind. Before she left, she told him to take extra special care of her cat.

The next day, she called her husband and asked if the cat was all right. Her husband said, “Darling, unfortunately, the cat just died.” She burst into tears and complained, “How could you be so blunt? Why couldn’t you have

broken the news gradually! Today, you could have said that it was playing on the roof. Then tomorrow you could have said that it fell off and had broken its leg. When I’m over that, you could have said, ‘Darling, I hate to tell you this but the poor thing passed away in the night.’ That is the way you could have help me manage the pain. The main thing is that you should be much more sensitive about the whole thing.” Then she asked, “By the way, how is my mom?” The husband remained quiet for a while and then told her, “She is playing on the roof.”

Tony Deyal was last seen asking, “What is the difference between a man and a cat?” One eats a lot, is lazy and doesn’t care who brings the food. The other is a pet.

Jamaican MP wants justice for his murdered daughter and her mother

CMC - Opposition Parliamentarian, Phillip Paulwell is “hoping that all who were involved [in the kidnapping and murder of his 10-month-old daughter and her mother] are brought to justice and punished to the fullest extent of the law.”

In a statement issued on Saturday, Paulwell said nothing could have prepared him for the events that unfolded since last week Thursday when police here charged Leoda Bradshaw, a US Navy petty officer with whom Paulwell sired a now eight-year-old child, along with three other men in the abduction and murder of his daughter Sarayah and her mother, Toshyna Patterson.

“The past few weeks have been extremely difficult for me as I grappled with the abduction of my daughter and her mother,” the Member of Parliament for Kingston East and Port Royal said in a statement.

“I am heartbroken that the worst has happened,” he said, adding that he had “prayed unceasingly” for their safe return.

“That anyone could murder a mother and an innocent baby is unimaginable, and my heart is heavy with sadness,” he said.

“I am praying for Toshyna’s family, who I know are experiencing the unbearable grief and pain of losing their beloved daughter and granddaughter.

“As a human being, father, lawyer, and legislator I am hoping that all who were involved are brought to justice and punished to the fullest extent of the law.”

Paulwell said he has been in constant dialogue with the police and has cooperated fully with the investigation.

“I cannot comment on the inves-



Phillip Paulwell.

tigations nor matters before the court, but I wish to thank the police for their tireless work.

He expressed gratitude to the “many Jamaicans” who have been generous in their prayers as well as their “kind and thoughtful expressions of love, support, and solidarity” for him and his family.

Last Friday, Bradshaw, appeared in the Supreme Court after being charged with two counts of conspiracy to kidnap, two counts of conspiracy to murder, two counts of kidnapping, and two counts of capital murder.

According to the Crown, Bradshaw, who lives overseas, after learning about the existence of Paulwell’s 10-month-old daughter on September 5, 2023, contacted Patterson on Facebook, and told her she was Paulwell’s spouse and wanted a DNA test done on the baby.

She travelled to Jamaica the next day, September 6, 2023 “for the sole purpose of killing Toshyna Patterson and the young child she shared with her spouse,” the Crown alleged.

The Crown also alleged that Bradshaw, through her cousin and co-accused Roland Balfour, contracted men to kidnap and murder Patterson and Sarayah.

Balfour has been charged with two

counts of accessory before the fact to kidnapping and two counts of accessory before the fact to murder.

Richard Brown, another accused, has been charged with two counts of conspiracy to murder, two counts of conspiracy to kidnap, two counts of kidnapping, and two counts of murder.

Roshane Miller, the third man accused in this matter, has been charged with two counts of accessory before the fact to kidnapping, and two counts of accessory before the fact to murder.

Both Brown and Miller are to appear before the court later this month.

According to prosecutors, Bradshaw met with Miller and Brown to arrange for the kidnappings and murders. The original plan was to kidnap Patterson and the baby from their home.

Prosecutors told the court that Bradshaw paid the men the equivalent of J\$100,000 in United States currency as down payment for the execution of the crime. The remainder of the funds (\$400,000) was to be paid after the completion of the deal.

Prosecutors said that on Saturday, September 9, Bradshaw “placed several calls and conversed with Patterson, with a view to lure her away from her premises”, arriving at Patterson’s home at approximately 7 am that day.

cont’d on pg 15

SVG calls for UN intervention amidst 'war crimes' in Israel-Gaza war

CMC - The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (GoSVG), says "war crimes" are being committed in the ongoing Israeli-Gaza conflict and has called for an end to hostilities on both sides.

The government made the call in a statement on Friday, five days after the regional bloc, CARICOM, said "the savage nature of the attacks and counterattacks is the antithesis of civilised life and living".

On October 7, Hamas militants fired rockets into Israel, killing scores of people and taking more than 100 others hostage.

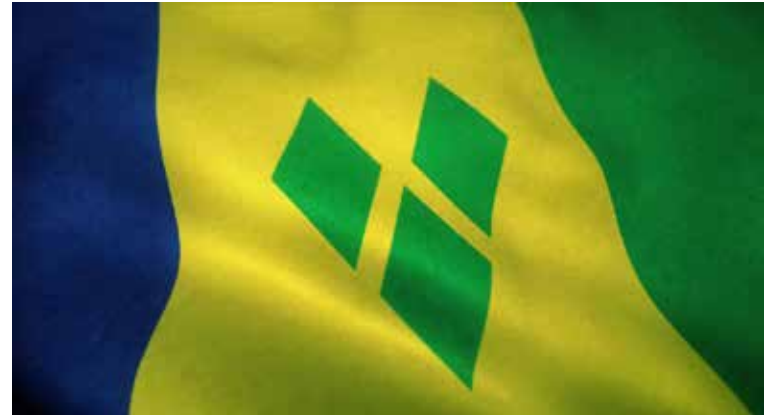
Since then, Israel has been bombing Gaza and economists have been monitoring the economic fallout amidst the emerging humanitarian situation. In its statement on Friday, the Ralph Gonsalves-led government said it endorses CARICOM's statement on the current attacks and counter-attacks.

"We reiterate the foundational principles for set-

tlement of the conflict as contained in the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 242, which was adopted on November 22, 1967, following the Six-Day War in June 1967 between Israel, on the one hand, and Arab nations, including the Palestinians, on the other hand," Kingstown said.

The government noted that the Resolution emphasises, centrally, among other things, "a just and lasting peace in which every State in the area can live in security", and acknowledges "the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries free from threats or acts of force

"This Resolution has become a pivotal cornerstone of Middle East diplomatic efforts since then," the government said, noting that the resolution premises "a two-State solution" for Israel and Palestine to



live alongside each other in peace within secure and recognised boundaries free from threats or acts of force.

"Successive governments of Israel, more particularly those headed, or unduly influenced, by right-wing and ultra-nationalist forces, including the current government, have refused repeatedly to ensure the practical implementation of 'a just and lasting peace'," the GoSVG said.

"Indeed, Israel has imposed a veritable colonialism, including a harsh settler-colonialism and a forceful, illegal occupation of Palestinian lands, which has given rise to intense Palestinian resistance and a brutal Israeli response. Sad-

ly, innocent lives are being lost, needlessly."

Kingstown repeated CARICOM's expression of abhorrence at the recent attacks and counter-attacks of the combatants — the Israeli Defence Force and Hamas — and their savage nature, in Israel and Gaza.

"War crimes, contrary to international law, are evidently being committed with impunity. A day of reckoning on these crimes surely must come.

"We call for a cessation of hostilities on all sides and the embarkation of a quest for a just and lasting peace in accordance with the principles and provisions of the UNSCR 242."

St Vincent and the Grenadines further demanded "the urgent, just, and merciful intervention of the United Nations Security Council to assist in bringing hostilities to an end and to ensure that international humanitarian law is upheld in Gaza for the sake of humanity.

"Accordingly, three of the five permanent members

cont'd on pg 16

cont'd from pg 14

"Evidentiary material shows Patterson exiting her premises and entering an SUV parked at her gate, along with her baby. Evidentiary material shows that she remained in this vehicle for over 15 minutes. The vehicle then drove off and left the area approximately 7:22 am. Patterson and Sarayah never exited the vehicle prior to its leaving," the prosecutor told presiding Supreme Court judge, Justice Simone

Wolfe-Reece on Friday.

The Crown's case is that Bradshaw took Patterson to Stony Hill in the vicinity of the home where she, Bradshaw, was staying, handed over Patterson and her young child to Brown and other individuals who are yet to be apprehended. "After this, Patterson and her young child were taken to Warieka Hills where they were shot and killed and their bodies burned," the court was told.

Hong Kong: 11kg of suspected cocaine found in motorised wheelchair

By Kathryn Armstrong

Officials at Hong Kong International Airport have uncovered 11kg of suspected cocaine hidden in the cushions of an electric wheelchair.

The haul, worth an estimated \$1.5m (£1.26m), was found when a 51-year-old man was going through customs clearance on Saturday.

The man, who arrived from the Caribbean country of Sint Maarten via Paris on Saturday, has been arrested.

He could face life in prison if found guilty of trafficking a dangerous drug.

According to customs officials, the suspect brought the wheelchair into the country as one of two pieces of checked baggage.

Further examination was ordered when staff became suspicious and they found evidence that its seat cushion and backrest had been re-stitched.

The man, who is not



The suspect says the wheelchair the drugs were found in was given to him by a friend to borrow.

from Hong Kong and has mobility issues, reportedly told officials that he was the director of a car rental company and that the wheelchair had been loaned to him by a friend.

An investigation into the incident has been launched.

Customs officials said in response to the discovery that they would increase checks on visitors from

“high-risk regions” to combat transnational drug trafficking activities.

According to their latest statistics, the number of cases detected in customs checks involving dangerous drugs in 2022 was 931, up from 906 the previous year. Some 178 people were arrested over related offences last year.

It is not the first time

that drugs have been found hidden in a wheelchair at an airport. In November, officials in New York seized \$450,000-worth of cocaine found in the wheels of a woman’s wheelchair.

In September 2022, nearly \$1.6m-worth of cocaine was found stuffed into the upholstery of a motorised wheelchair in the Italian city of Milan.

cont’d from pg 15

of the UN Security Council — USA, Britain, and France — who routinely support Israel and its colonising policies, bear a special responsibility to facilitate an immediate cessation of hostilities and to insist on the upholding of international law.

“We embrace the Psalmist’s injunction: ‘Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace and pursue it.’ [Psalm 34:14]. We acknowledge that seeking and pursuing a just peace, in the current circumstances, is a difficult path; but there is no other way that will

endure. We thus implore the responsible international community and the parties to the conflict to act accordingly, urgently,” Kingstown further stated.

Meanwhile, in its statement, CARICOM said Innocent lives are being lost amidst “the fervour and violence of the actual combatants.

“CARICOM thus joins the responsible members of the international community in calling for an immediate ceasefire and end of hostilities by all parties.”

CARICOM said the recent round of hostilities reflects “the pain and suf-

fering of ancient quarrels.

“The ongoing harsh conditions under which the Palestinians live in veritable colonialism and Israel’s sense of insecurity will contribute to a cycle of violence until those realities are definitively addressed.

“Accordingly, CARICOM continues to support the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 and the ongoing efforts of the United Nations towards a two-state solution as the best way to achieve comprehensive peace, security and tranquillity between Israel and Palestine.”

Ecuador chooses president during wave of violence

By Vanessa Buschschlüter

Ecuadoreans are voting in the run-off of a presidential election that has been overshadowed by a crime wave which has turned the country into one of the most violent in the region.

The first round of the election was held just days after presidential candidate Fernando Villavicenio was shot dead in the capital, Quito.

Seven suspects were arrested in connection with his assassination, but have since been killed in jail.

Security is voters' main concern.

Voters will choose between centrist Daniel Noboa of the National Democratic Action coalition and Luisa González of the left-wing Citizen Revolution Movement.

The 35-year-old Daniel Noboa is the son of banana magnate Álvaro Noboa.

The older Noboa ran for the presidency five times, but failed to get elected.

Daniel Noboa's success in the first round - he came second with 23% of the vote, thereby securing himself a spot in the run-off - was a surprise. He has since overtaken the first-placed candidate, Luisa González, in the opinion polls.

Luisa González, a lawyer who secured 34% of the votes in the first round, may not have a billionaire father, but she does enjoy the backing of former president Rafael Correa.

Mr Correa continues to exert huge political influence in Ecuador, despite the fact that he has lived in Belgium since he left power in 2017 after a 10-year stint as president.

The former leader is a divisive figure, who was convicted of breaking campaign finance laws in 2020



Daniel Noboa has been leading in the opinion polls but Luisa González won in the first round.

and sentenced in absentia to 10 years in prison.

The 45-year-old Luisa González is his handpicked candidate and she has said that if she were to win, Mr Correa would be her main adviser.

Both Ms González and Mr Noboa have tried to address voters' concerns about Ecuador's skyrocketing murder rate and the increasing power of gangs.

Mr Noboa has suggested moving some of Ecuador's most hardened criminals to prison ships off the Ecuadorean coast, in order to break up the prison gangs which have engaged in deadly warfare inside the country's penitentiaries.

He also wants to boost the security at Ecuador's borders and ports to disrupt key drug-trafficking routes. Ecuador is located between Colombia and Peru, the top two producers of cocaine in the world, and has become a transit country for the drug.

Mr Noboa has suggested installing scanners at ports and airports to ensure more shipments of cocaine

are intercepted.

He has also tried to appeal to voters by promising to boost employment opportunities.

Ms González has said that if elected, she would tackle the root causes of crime, fostering social integration and creating job opportunities for those who may be tempted to join the ranks of the gangs for lack of prospects.

If she were to win, she would become Ecuador's first woman president. However, her opposition to abortion even in cases of rape and incest has alienated some of the women voters who want to see a woman lead the country.

Whoever wins will be sworn in on 25 November. However, the winner will only have 17 months in office until the next presidential election.

This is due to the fact that the current presidential election was triggered early when outgoing President Guillermo Lasso dissolved parliament amid an impeachment trial.

Sports News



Matthew wins MVP award at Business League All-Star Night

Steven Matthew of Anjo Wholesale has been crowned the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the All-Star Game of the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association (ABBA) Business League.

Matthew claimed the top award during the All-Star Night festivities of the business league, which were held at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday night.

Matthew also combined his efforts with his Anjo Wholesale teammate Jaheem James to win the two-man shootout title at the event.

Jaylele Joseph of Callan Shooters and Tajahron Davis of Eye Mobile Vision Care were the winners of the individual speed dribble competition.

The Board of Education team won the team speed dribble contest, while Eye Mobile Vision Care captured the team skills challenge title.

Ishan Peets of the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board won the three-point shootout contest.

The annual business league All Star Night provides an opportunity for the players of the participating



Ishan Peets of the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board won the three-point shootout competition. (Photos courtesy ABBA)

teams to engage in fun and exciting skills challenge competitions while taking a short break from competitive league action.

Prior to the All Star Night activities, Anjo Wholesale took sole leadership in the Business League competition.

Anjo Wholesale beat former champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board 62-53 in a top-of-the-table clash at the JSC Sports Complex in the last set of games before the All-Star break.

Their seventh win in eight games lifted Anjo Wholesale to the top of the league after both teams entered Thursday's game jointly tied with the Sandals as leaders of the competition with identical 6-1 records.



Steven Matthew, left, accepts his MVP Awards from Monique Adams, co-owner of Sledge O's, sponsors of the Business League all-star award.

Steven Matthew shot a game-high 17 points, Andrew Venture sank 12 points, Felix Hamilton scored 11 points, and Gabriel Perez chipped in with 10 points for Anjo Wholesale.

Russell Daley had 16 points, and Marlon "Buju" Charles converted 15 points for the Antigua Transport Board.

Eye Mobile Vision Care claimed their fourth win in nine games by pulling off a 54-44 victory against Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew.

Kevin Pimental sank 16 points, and Shaheim Omarde scored 10 points for Eye Mobile Vision Care. Takeem Martin scored 12 points for the Fearless Crew, who suffered their sixth loss in nine games.



The Board of Education team that won the team speed dribble contest.

Daniel Antonio wins arm wrestling title in Spain

Antigua and Barbuda's Daniel Antonio captured an arm wrestling title in Europe over the weekend.

Antonio claimed first place in the over 100kg beginner category and placed 5th against world champions in the seniors over 100kg category at the Arnold Classic Europe in Madrid, Spain, on Saturday.

Antonio said he is satisfied and optimistic after his latest international performance.

"I'm satisfied with my performance. I trained hard for it. I'm also optimistic about a bright future in the sport. I look forward to traveling more and also to providing opportunities for more Antiguan to travel abroad and compete," Antonio stated.

This is the third international competition in which Antonio has entered since he became involved in arm wrestling approximately three years ago.

After starting an arm wrestling club called Brothers in Arms 268 with

his brother Joshua Rabess in the latter part of 2020, Antonio traveled in 2022 to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates to compete in a match at the King of the Table V championship. He won the encounter against his opponents from the Netherlands.

However, Antonio was unsuccessful in his second international outing, which took place in Puerto Rico against one of the top left-handed arm wrestlers in the world at the time.

Like his 2022 visit to Dubai, Antonio's trip to Spain was once again sponsored by Cool and Smooth.

He also received sponsorship from Automotive Art and the Honourable Gaston Browne, the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, for his engagement in Spain.

Antonio will travel to the United States of America, where he will be involved in marketing the sport, before returning to Antigua and Barbuda on November 17.



Antigua and Barbuda's Daniel Antonio in Madrid, Spain. (Photo courtesy Daniel Antonio)



Dredgers batsman Melvin Charles

VIP and Dredgers to clash in taped ball final

Pelican Safari VIP and host Dredgers will clash in the final of the Dredgers Taped Ball 10-Over contest tomorrow (Tuesday) at 6:30 pm.

The Dredgers powered their way into the final by cruising to an eight-wicket victory against Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets in the second qualifier.

The Bullets won the toss and batted first, scoring 93 for two off their allotted 10 overs.

Essan Warner hit 31, including two fours and two sixes. George El-

vin chipped in with 28, which also included two fours and two sixes.

Dredgers then secured victory by racing to 98 for two with 4.5 overs to spare.

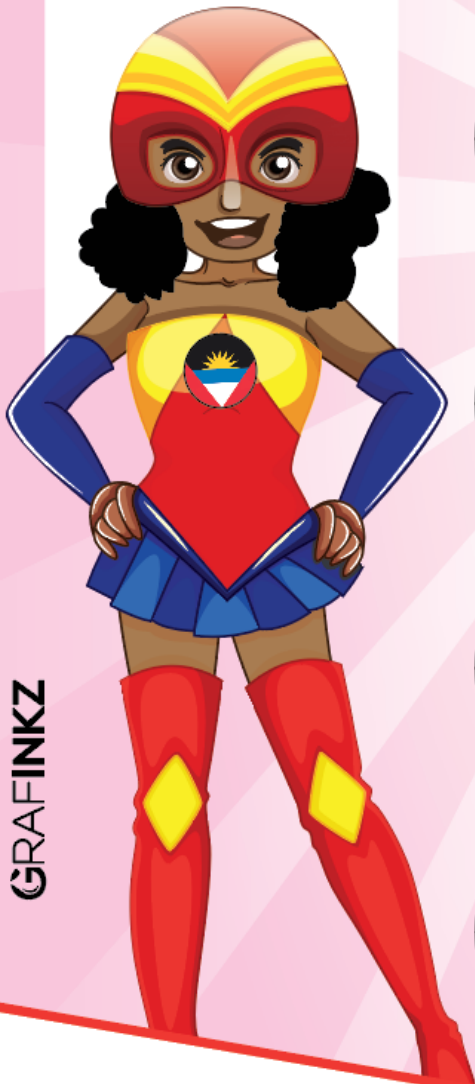
Melvin Charles slammed 29, including four sixes and a four, while D'Ahri Francis struck 24, with three sixes and a four.

The VIP had booked their spot in the final by overcoming Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets by six wickets in the first qualifier at the Dredgers playing field.

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Australia Women win third ODI to wrap up series

MELBOURNE, Australia- West Indies Women suffered an eight-wicket defeat to Australia in the third One Day International at Junction Oval on Saturday, which gave Australia a 2-0 series win in the three-match series, after the second game was abandoned due to rain.

The West Indies Women were sent in to bat first and they struggled against a disciplined Australian bowling attack, failing to post a challenging total as they tumbled to 103 all out in 31.4 overs.

Wicketkeeper/batter Rashada Williams once again led the team with the bat as she top-scored with a patient 23 off 71 deliveries.

Skipper Hayley Matthews was next best with 23 off 17, falling for the second time in series to Kim Garth.

Cherry-Ann Fraser provided some late hope at the end of the innings with 19 off 34 deliveries, which included a mighty six. Annabel Sutherland was the pick of the Australian bowlers, finishing with figures of three for 23, followed by Tahlia McGrath with two wickets for 10 runs.

In Australia's successful run-chase of 106 for two in just 15.3 overs, skipper Alyssa Healy ensured her team got their quickly, with a 27-ball 32. Ellyse Per-



Australia's Ellyse Perry, center, shakes hands with Stafanie Taylor at the end of the third One Day International at Junction Oval in Melbourne, Australia, on Saturday, October 14, 2023. (Martin Keep/Getty Images)

ry and Beth Mooney were at the crease when victory was achieved in 15.3 over, on 29 and 11 respectively.

This tour was always viewed as a challenging one for the West Indies Women, aimed to expose the younger brigade to conditions starkly different from the Caribbean and to compete against the top-ranked side in the world. The main goal was learning and adapting, and in that sense, there were takeaways.

Despite the setbacks in the ODI series, the T20I series had previously highlighted the raw talent and potential the West Indies Women possess. They

showed their ability to not only compete, but also snatch a world-record win in the second T20I against the best in the business.

In the post-match presentation, captain Hayley Matthews reflected on the ODI series. She said, "I think for us we definitely got to find a way for more of our batters to chip in.

"It's disappointing for many of us, especially throughout the ODI series not being able to get totals on the board. However, we recognize the calibre of the opposition and knew the challenges of this tour. But reflecting upon our performances, we believe we can

and should do better."

The road ahead for the West Indies Women is an exciting one, with away series lined up against Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 2024, but the team's eyes are firmly set on the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh next September-October.

While the tour's results may not have been in their favour, the lessons learned will undoubtedly serve as a building block for the future. The journey to the ICC Women's T20 World Cup will be one to watch, with the West Indies Women looking to bounce back stronger.



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PMS get first win in Under-20 Boys division league

Princess Margaret School (PMS) secured their first win in two games in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Friday.

Goals on either side of halftime, a 10th-minute strike by Jahlanie Barzey and a 57th-minute conversion by Johnathan Shoy, gave Princess Margaret School a 2-0 victory against the Ottos Comprehensive School at the PMS playing field.

Three goals scored by Ottos Comprehensive were disallowed because of offside. One in the first half and two in the second half of the game.

The Antigua Grammar School was held to a 1-1 draw by the Antigua State College at the Golden Grove playing field.

Johnathan Johnson's 11th-minute strike put State College ahead, and Sedique Adams scored the equalizer for Antigua Grammar with a 31st-minute conversion.

Antigua Grammar School also salvaged a 1-1 draw with PMS in their opening encounter, while State College opened their campaign with a 4-0 win against Jennings Secondary.

Friday's game between Trinity Academy and Jennings was not played after Trinity Academy notified the organizers earlier the same day that they had pulled out of the Under-16 and Under-20 boys division leagues.

Jonte Chapman scored twice as cup-holders, the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE), snatched a 4-3 victory against Irene B. Williams Secondary in the East Zone of the Under-20 Boys division.

Chapman scored in the 36th and 41st minutes, while the other goals



Sedique Adams, center, scored for the Antigua Grammar School in their draw with the Antigua State College in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Friday, October 13, 2023.

for ABICE were converted by Elijah Whyte in the 19th minute and Denyah Looby in the 27th minute.

Zanrick Skepple scored in the 25th minute, Antoniel Campbelle in the 31st minute, and Railique Browne in the 51st minute for Irene B. Williams Secondary.

Goals by Amos Christian and Jevon Simpson gave Clare Hall Secondary a 2-0 victory against Pares Secondary School.

All Saints Secondary also snatched a 4-3 victory against St. Joseph's Academy.

The Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League will continue with matches in the Under-14 Boys

Division today (Monday).

St. Mary's Secondary School will meet cup-holder Princess Margaret School in the first game of a double-header at the Mack Pond playing field at 2:10 pm. All Saints Secondary and Ottos Comprehensive School will clash in the second encounter at 3 pm.

Pares Secondary will take on Clare Hall Secondary in the first game of a double-header at Clare Hall at 2:10 pm. The Antigua Grammar School and St. Anthony's Secondary School will clash in the second encounter at 3 pm.

St. Joseph's Academy will tackle Sir Novelle Richards Academy in the other encounter at the Potters playing field at 2:10 pm.

Antigua get first win in nations league

Antigua and Barbuda earned their first win of their campaign in Group D of League B in the Concacaf Nations League with a 4-1 victory against the Bahamas at the Thomas A. Robinson Stadium in Nassau, Bahamas, on Saturday night.

Javorn Stevens opened the scoring in the 3rd minute with a header inside the box. Raheem Deterville was key in winning an aerial ball to set up the assist from Joshua Parker, whose cross into the box was met by Stevens to give Antigua's Benna Boys the early lead.

Stevens didn't have to wait long to get his second goal after striking again in the 9th minute on a counter-attack. Antigua and Barbuda's Dion Pereira intercepted the ball to set up Stevens on the breakaway.

Thomas James Bramble increased the Benna Boys lead in the 43rd minute after stripping a defender and proceeding to strike from inside the penalty arc.

A thrown-in provided the opportunity for the Bahamas to get on the board in the 62nd minute, as Wood Julmis converted off the ser-



Javorn Stevens, left, scored twice for Antigua and Barbuda's senior Benna Boys in their victory over the Bahamas in their Group D encounter in League B of the Concacaf Nations League at the Thomas A. Robinson Stadium in Nassau, Bahamas, on Saturday, October 14, 2023. (Concacaf)

vice inside the box.

Antigua and Barbuda kept pressing for another goal and earned a penalty past the midway point of the second half. Quinton Griffith converted from the spot in the 77th minute to wrap up the Benna Boys first win in three matches following losses to Guyana and Puerto Rico.

Meanwhile, Guyana defeated Puerto Rico to take a stronger hold of first place in Group D of League B as both sides met in a top-of-the-table clash at the St. Kitts and Nevis Football Association Training Center

in Basseterre, St. Kitts, on Saturday.

Both teams entered this match undefeated in the group, and it was Puerto Rico that took the lead in the 11th minute on a goal from Leandro Antonetti. Darren Rios supplied the cross past the right post to find Antonetti for his first goal of the tournament.

Antonetti nearly extended the lead in the 47th minute, but his attempt inside the box curled just past the top post.

Quillan Roberts came up with a big stop on Rios in the 56th minute to keep

the score line within reach for Guyana.

Omari Glasgow tied the match in the 60th minute from the penalty spot after Kelsey Benjamin was brought down inside the box on the previous play.

Benjamin then gave Guyana a 2-1 lead in the 63rd minute after capitalizing on a drive into the box by Liam Gordon.

Deon Moore scored Guyana's third in the 85th minute after stripping goalkeeper Joel Serrano and slotting home the goal that would secure the victory for the away side.