

KELVIN SIMON WINS AGAIN

Story on Page 2



Antigua and Barbuda observed United Nations Day on Tuesday 24th October, with Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene (fifth from right), highlighting the importance of the world body at a time when wars and crimes against humanity have created perilous times for all of mankind. *Story on page 3.*

Simon wins again

The candidate for the United Progressive Party (UPP) Kelvin ‘Shugy’ Simon has emerged victorious in Tuesday’s By-Election in the St. Mary’s South constituency.

In a keenly fought campaign, Simon secured victory ahead of the candidate for the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party, Dwayne George and Andrew Antonio of the Democratic National Alliance.

Simon was able to win by a comfortable margin over George, who performed better than the ABLP’s candidate in the January 18 general elections, Samantha Marshall. His gains were marginal and were not enough to change the overall outcome of the poll.

In the January poll, Simon won by a majority of 199 votes. This time around his overall total declined

slightly but his victory was never in question, especially after he gained the majority support in the boxes coming out of Bolans, where George would have needed to win and win by a large margin if he was to have a chance.

In his comments after the victory, Simon thanked the people of St. Mary’s South for their support calling it a ‘people’s victory’. He said he was happy to be returning to parliament as the duly elected representative. This time he is going to parliament without the cloud of uncertainty that eventually forced his resignation in June that triggered the by-election.

Overall the final count was: Kelvin Simon 1060 (1061 on January 18), Dwayne George 891(30 more than the ABLP candidate in January) Andrew Antonio of the DNA 8.

While the election outcome does not change the status quo in the House of Representatives, both major parties campaigned vigorously to win the seat. It confirmed the UPP’s 7 seats in the House from January and leaves the ABLP with a one-seat majority in the house.

SUZUKI

FRONX

VIBE DIFFERENT

Coming Soon

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

H.A. DEED MOTORS LTD.
481-2500

THE ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA ELECTORAL COMMISSION
DAVID SHOUL BUILDING, QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGHWAY, P.O. BOX 664, ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA
Tel: (268) 562-4191/676, Fax: (268) 562-4331, E-Mail: abec@antigua.gov.ag, Web: www.abec.gov.ag

October 24, 2023

DECLARATION OF RESULTS

In accordance with Section 30 (5) of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act 2001, the following person was duly elected for the By-election held on 24th October, 2023:

St. Mary's South	Kelvin Craig Simon	UPP Candidate
------------------	--------------------	---------------

John M. Jarvis
Chairman-Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission

FAM Greene highlights the importance of the United Nations, in a troubled world

Antigua and Barbuda observed United Nations Day on Tuesday 24th October, with Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene, highlighting the importance of the world body at a time when wars and crimes against humanity have created perilous times for all of mankind.

Greene was speaking at a Flag Raising Ceremony on the Grounds of the Office of the Prime Minister on Tuesday, as Antigua and Barbuda joined the international community in observing United Nations Day.

“Today (Tuesday 24) we celebrate United Nations Day marking the 78th anniversary of this global symbol of peace, hope, and alliance building. As we experience tremendous acts of violence, religious and civil wars, continuous crime against humanity, and the abuse of power and authority, the world is looking to the United Nations, to find effective and efficient ways of encouraging equity among nations, respect for sovereignty and nation building,” he remarked.

He drew attention to the call from the UN Secretary-General for a ceasefire and peace among the countries involved in the current Ukraine, Syria, and Israel/Palestine conflicts. This, he noted, reflects how necessary it is for an institution like the UN to be part of the



Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene

global governance architecture.

“Today’s global challenges are surmounting in leaps and bounds as countries struggle to deal with the many man-made conflicts and natural disasters, brought on by climate change and other environmental phenomenon. The UN therefore is our only hope, our main source of reprieve, to foster a more all-inclusive world that will ensure that small nations like ours will certainly continue to prosper and evolve,” he observed.

Greene also drew attention to the UN’s role in dealing with issues of the environment, especially climate change and its impact on Small Islands Developing States, such as Antigua and Barbuda.

“As we pay homage to this global organization under the theme “The Front-

lines of Climate Action,” let us not forget that now more than ever, the countries of the world must maintain a sense of unity and purpose for the long-term survival of the planet.

It is for this reason that Antigua and Barbuda is

playing a major role in the fight for ‘climate justice’ for small island developing states. COP28 must deliver innovative and urgent binding solutions to help alleviate the threats associated with climate change,” he added.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

INDEPENDENCE FOOD FAIR, VENDORS MEETING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Tuesday 24th October 2023 (St. John's, Antigua).....
 St. John's, Antigua - The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Sports, and the Creative Industries, is pleased to announce an important meeting for all registered vendors participating in the 42nd Independence Food Fair.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide essential information and guidelines to vendors regarding their participation in the upcoming food fair. It is mandatory for all vendors to attend this meeting to receive the operational requirements and regulations to ensure a successful and well-organized event.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

1. Returning Vendors:
 Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023
 Time: 5:00 pm
 Venue: Multipurpose Cultural Centre, Perry Bay
2. New Vendors:
 Date: Friday, October 27, 2023
 Time: 5:00 pm
 Venue: Multipurpose Cultural Centre, Perry Bay

Vendors should adhere to the following guidelines:

1. All beverages served at the fair must be in plastic or foam cups, as mandated by the authorities.
2. It is mandatory for all vendors operating grills to possess a certified Fire Extinguisher. Failure to comply with this requirement will immediately revoke the vendor's license.

We encourage all vendors to prioritize the safety and well-being of attendees and maintain compliance with these guidelines throughout the event.

Local artists' talents on display at Independence Arts and Visual Exhibition

The creativity of Antigua and Barbudan artists is on display at the Independence Arts and Visual Exhibition taking place in two venues, as the activities marking the 42nd anniversary of Independence kick off on Tuesday.

On display are paintings and other works of art that are the products of the creativity of Antiguan and Barbudans. The exhibits are mounted at the Arrivals Hall of the VC Bird International Airport and the John E. St Luce Financial and Conference Centre on Factory Road.

At the formal opening of the exhibition, Deputy Chairman of the National Festivals Commission, Michael Freeland noted that visual arts can be expressed in many forms; notably through dance, poetry or through the paintings or the visual expressions on display at the exhibition.

“Nothing screams more about expression from the inner self of



passion, than depicting that creativity and passion and to have that talent reflected in a work of art utilizing various methods of expression, including paintings,” Freeland stated.

He indicated that over the next week, the public will witness creativity by many talented artists from within the shores of Antigua and Barbuda ‘embracing the legacy and shaping the future.’

Meanwhile, the activities marking the Independence anniversary of 2023 continue today with the Golden Age programme of caring for the elderly throughout communities across Antigua and Barbuda. Tuesday 24 was dedicated as Barbuda Day when activities were held in the sister isle to mark the occasion.

The National Heroes Day wreath laying ceremony takes place on Thursday with Friday being the National Dress Day.

Drama takes centre stage on



Saturday night with theatrical performances at the Auditorium of the University of the West Indies at Five Islands. The Independence Service will be held on Sunday at the Ebenezer Methodist Church to be followed a day later with the programmes in the nation’s schools. Monday night is the annual steel band competition among steel bands from secondary schools.

On the eve of Independence, next Tuesday, there will be a major gospel concert at the Antigua Recreation Grounds.

On Independence Day, the programme starts with the Ceremonial Parade at the Sir Vivian Richards stadium, which is also the venue for the Independence Food Fair later that day.

Independence ‘on their minds’ in NYC

Activities marking Antigua and Barbuda’s anniversary of Independence have become major events on the annual social calendar of nationals living in New York City and the Tri-State region of the United States.

The Antigua and Barbuda Permanent Mission in NYC, which coordinates the programme each year, has provided details of the

events planned to commemorate the 42nd anniversary of Independence. The activities begin this Sunday with a Thanksgiving Service at the St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in the Bronx.

The service will be the first of two major activities organized by the Antigua and Barbuda Consulate General in New York to observe a significant milestone



in the country’s development.

The other event is the Independence Gala and Awards, which will be held this year on Saturday, November 18 at the Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle. Along with St. Andrew’s parishioners, made up of many Antiguans

and Barbudans, the service is expected to bring together a large gathering of nationals from the tristate area to fellowship and give thanks and praise on the occasion of the country’s Independence Anniversary.

The service will be officiated by Rev. Dr. Dave *cont’d on pg 6*



STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED

STORM READY
2023 HURRICANE SEASON
JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30

COVERAGE FOR
HOME | BUSINESS | FAMILY | MOTOR

www.sicfinancial.com

Local News



cont'd from pg 5

Allen of the Bethel Tabernacle AME Church while the sermon will be preached by Dr. Cheryl White Lewis of Christ Life Bible Church – Worship and Deliverance Centre. Taking his usual place as organist and choral director is the Very Rev. Belgrave Pelle of the St. Mary’s Anglican Church, Bronx. The service will also be blessed with the melo-

dious sounds of the City South Steel Orchestra and The Antigua and Barbuda International Chorale.

The congregation will also hear the Independence Message from Prime Minister the Honorable Gaston Browne, which will be delivered by Antigua and Barbuda’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Walton Aubrey Webson. Anti-



guans and Barbudans are encouraged to wear their national colours and be prepared to wave their flags in celebration of the country’s 42nd Independence Anniversary.

“It is an opportune time for reflection and to give thanks for our many blessings including the favouring mercies of God that allowed us to once again be spared

from the impact of a dangerous storm this past weekend,” Ambassador Webson noted.

In addition, this year’s Gala will be focused on our youth in alignment with the 2023 theme of the celebrations – Embracing the Legacy, Shaping the Future. It will honour and celebrate the work of the Antigua and

cont'd on pg 7

NEW **KFC**

Nuggets

6 PIECES

\$12⁷⁵

10 PIECES

\$19⁷⁵

100% WHITE MEAT

ORIGINAL RECIPE

HAND MADE

FOR PICKUP/DELIVERY:

Available on the App Store

6 PIECES FRIES BISCUIT MEDIUM DRINK

\$24⁷⁵

Ministry of Health hosts infection prevention control workshop

The Ministry of Health is continuing its Infection Prevention Control campaign with a workshop targeting teachers.

The ministry is collaborating with USAID and UNICEF to host workshops that are targeted at specific groups in society. During the campaign, other workshops are planned for cleaners of the schools, community health aides, as well as the police, fire, coast guard, and defense force personnel.

Addressing participants on Tuesday, Acting Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Terri-Ann Joseph said all hu-

mans are exposed to germs simply by the fact of being alive.

“The chances of getting an infection are quite high as long as you are alive. Outside our homes, we touch things that others touch with dirty hands leaving behind germs that we pick up. Even in our homes, if our hands are dirty we often touch or use things that serve to spread germs. If our hands are dirty, we often touch our faces; sometimes, we put our fingers up our nostrils without washing our hands afterward. This is quite common,” she noted.

She said the workshop



will highlight these matters and expose the participants to the effective methods of washing hands and cleaning their homes. “We often clean what we can see, but germs are things that we cannot see and this requires special techniques to rid our homes of these germs,” she emphasized.

She noted that teachers have an important role to play as they help to ‘mold lives.’ “It’s not all about the books, but it also means teaching them the tidbits to stay healthy and to protect themselves,” she stated.

Also speaking at the workshop was UNICEF’s Social and Behavioral Change Communications Specialist, Dr. Lisa McClean-Trotmen, who noted that building a resilient nation starts with infection control. “One thing COVID-19 taught us is if we didn’t practice infection control the pandemic would have been worse.”

She urged participants to take the workshop and the training seriously as they are critical to the national effort to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.



cont’d from pg 6

Barbuda Students Association, whose members have devoted their time and energies to ensuring that students benefit from a seamless transition into their studies while miles away from their homes.

Proceeds from the gala, which will

feature the Original Burning Flames, will go towards the Students Association, in support of its sterling work in preparing our future leaders for their roles as stewards of our beautiful nation.

Young people who have shown considerable promise in their academ-

ic development and as professionals will be recognized during the awards segment of the program.

For more information on the service and to reserve tickets to the gala, persons may call the Antigua and Barbuda New York Office at 212-541-4117 or 646-215-6013.

Local News



Man charged with two counts of wounding bailed in the High Court

The High Court of Justice has granted bail to 28-year-old tailor, Marc Copeland, who has been slapped with two serious charges.

The tailor's attorney, Wayne Marsh, petitioned the court on his client's behalf.

Marc Copeland, who operates his business in the Craft Market is accused of being involved in a brawl with two people known to him on 12th October, just close to his business establishment.

During the brawl, Copeland allegedly removed a sharp object from his bag and injured Kobe Stevens and Keillia Mentor.

Copeland, whose address is given as Liberta, was arrested and charged with wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm and wounding with intent to murder. He was remanded to His Majesty's Prison when he made his first court appearance on 16th October in the St. John's Magistrate's Court.

The High Court, on Tuesday morning, granted bail in the sum of \$30,000.00, with a cash component of \$5,000.00.

His bail conditions include surrendering his travel documents and reporting three times weekly to the Liberta Police Station.

He is scheduled to return to the lower court on 15th January 2024, when committal proceedings are set to commence.

Reports are Copeland and the other two individuals have been involved in a long-standing feud that allegedly began on social media.

18-months prison time for drug 'mule'

Drug mule Renzo Eduardo Sanoja has been jailed after he was detained at VC Bird International Airport under suspicion of swallowing cocaine pellets.

Sanoja appeared before District B Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel in the All Saints Magistrate's Court, on Tuesday and pleaded guilty to the charges leveled against him by the police.

As a result of his guilty plea, Magistrate Emanuel sentenced the Venezuelan national to 18 months in prison.

Ranzo Sanoja was intercepted on Wednesday 18th October 2023 by police and customs officers during a joint drug operation. It was later discovered that he had ingested 74 cocaine pellets.

The 40-year-old man was transported to Sir Lester Bird Medical Center where he later excreted the controlled substance.

He was subsequently charged with possession of cocaine, importation of cocaine, possession with intent to transfer, and being concerned with the supply of cocaine.

The illicit substance carried an estimated value of EC\$63,236.00.



The Antigua and Barbuda Chamber of Commerce
Presents

CHAMBER BUSINESS LUNCHEON
WITH THE FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORS (ECCB, FSRC, AND ONDCP)

Topic: "Regulating dynamic financial services industries in an era with increasing service diversification: Challenges and Opportunities."

SPEAKERS



Mr. Shawn Williams
Senior Policy Specialist,
Commercial Banking, ECCB



Mr. Morvin Williams
Director, International Banks and
Non-Banks, FSRC



Colonel Edward Croft
Director, ONDCP

Mr. Phil Rose
Regulatory Team Leader, Domestic
Insurance and Pensions Department, FSRC

MODERATED BY
Mrs. Jackie Ferracho-Williams
Director, ABCC

 Sandals Grande Antigua Resort & Spa

 26th October 2023 12:00 - 15:00

 Members: EC\$300.00
Non-Members: EC\$375.00

REGISTER NOW

(268) 462 - 0743
(268) 462 - 4575

chamcom@candw.ag
antiguabarbudachamber@gmail.com

“EMBRACING
THE LEGACY,
SHAPING THE
FUTURE”



nd

**NATIONAL
HEROES DAY
WREATH
LAYING
CEREMONY**

**THURSDAY
26TH
OCTOBER**

Heroes Park, Sir Sydney
Walling Highway

10:00AM



Antiguan breast cancer survivor is a panellist in discussion on the disease

As discussions and activities are being held across the Caribbean on the issue of Breast Cancer Awareness, an Antiguan survivor of the disease has been named among a panel to discuss the disease virtually, on Thursday.

Breast cancer is a leading cause of death for women, in the Caribbean region.

This year, insurance company, Sagikor has built its Pinktober campaign around the importance of building a community to support those with breast cancer. The tagline is simply, “Join the Fight.”

With this in mind, the company will be hosting a webinar on Thursday 26th October from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, which will be open to attendees across all of the Eastern and Southern Caribbean countries.



Randy Howard, Sagikor’s Manager, Communications, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Events explained the rationale behind the webinar. He said, “We’re really ex-

cited about this webinar because we are hoping to have a discussion with our guests about how one’s journey with breast cancer is impacted by the community around you.”

The panellists for this year’s webinar are Dr Asante Le Blanc, medical doctor and chairperson of the Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society; Dr Keisha Liddie, primary care physician from St Kitts and Nevis; Emelda Benjamin, nurse, counsellor and breast cancer survivor from Antigua and Barbuda and Tonya Byer, a digital communications specialist and breast cancer survivor from Barbados.

Interested persons can visit Pinktober 2023- Sagikor to register for the webinar or be guided through our social media pages on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter.

STUDENT SAFETY POLICY





STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED

Live in a better State of mind

www.sicantigua.com
info@sicantigua.com
1 (268) 481-7800\04





**OCT
31ST
2023**

**START TIME
7PM**

ARG

ANTIGUA
RECREATION
GROUND



ANTIGUA
AND
BARBUDA



THE GOVERNMENT OF
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
PRESENTS

LEGACY

THE INDEPENDENCE
GOSPEL EXPERIENCE

TICKETS

\$35.00
(IN ADVANCE)

GATES
(\$50.00)

**BOX OFFICES: QUINTESSENCE VARIETY PLUS
ROTI KING • INET • COOL & SMOOTH
THE LARDER RESTAURANT AND TICKETING APP**

TODD DULANEY

EMBRACING THE LEGACY , SHAPING THE FUTURE

Report: Mental health help for under-fives overlooked

By **Smitha Mundasad**

More support is needed to prevent babies and young children developing mental health problems in later life, leading doctors say.

Their report shows there is growing evidence that intervening very early on - from conception to the age of five - may help stop conditions arising or worsening.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists is calling for more specialist services.

The government says the mental health of children and parents is paramount.

Officials say they are investing more in expanding NHS services, alongside funding programmes designed to support children and caregivers.

NHS data shows about 5% of two to four-year-olds struggle with anxiety, behavioural disorders and neurodevelopmental conditions including ADHD.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists' report suggests half of mental health conditions arise by the age of 14, and many start to develop in the first years of life, making early action "vital".

Dr Trudi Seneviratne, from the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych), said the majority of under-fives with mental



There is evidence that intervening very early on may help stop conditions arising or worsening.

health conditions were not receiving the level of support needed "to help them become productive, functioning adults and reach their full potential".

She added: "The period from conception to five is essential in securing the healthy development of children into adulthood.

"Unfortunately, these years are often not given the importance they should be, and many people are unaware of what signs they should be looking out for.

"Parents, carers and society as a whole have a critical role to play. This includes securing positive relationships and a nurturing environment that supports the building blocks of a child's social, emotional and cognitive development."

Dr Seneviratne says anyone concerned about a child's persistent behavioural issues or eating and sleeping problems should seek health advice.

RCPsych experts suggest a number of ways to prevent mental health issues in babies and children, including providing support for the mother in pregnancy, working with parents to promote attachment to their child and recommending parenting programmes in the early stages of a child's life.

They say many factors can increase the risk of problems developing in childhood, such as alcohol or substance misuse during pregnancy and adverse experiences in childhood including domestic violence, physical and emotional ne-

glect and abuse.

The wide-ranging report is backed by a number of organisations including Unicef UK, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Joanna Moody, from Unicef UK, said: "Mental health in infancy and early childhood is often overlooked, yet it lays the foundations for a child's future."

She said the report provided "a strong evidence base for action to prioritise mental health right from the start of children's lives".

She added many services have a "vital role" in supporting children's mental health, including early education, social services, maternity, health visiting and primary care.

Instagram sued over harm to young people's mental health

Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, has been accused of misleading the public about the risks of using social media and contributing to a mental health crisis among youth.

The claims were made in a federal lawsuit, which was announced by dozens of US states.

They say the company used addictive features to “ensnare” users, while concealing the “substantial dangers” of its platforms.

Meta said it was “disappointed”.

The lawsuit said Meta had broken consumer protection laws by engaging in “deceptive” conduct.

It also said that the company collected data on children under the age of 13, flouting its obligations under the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act.

“Social media companies, including Meta, have contributed to a national youth mental health crisis and they must be held accountable,” said New York Attorney General Letitia James, one of 33 attorney generals who signed the lawsuit.

Another nine states also made similar claims in lawsuits of their own.

A spokesperson for Meta said: “We share the attorney generals’ commitment to providing teens with safe,



positive experiences online, and have already introduced over 30 tools to support teens and their families.

“We’re disappointed that instead of working productively with companies across the industry to create clear, age-appropriate standards for the many apps teens use, the attorneys general have chosen this path.”

Meta, and other social media companies, already face hundreds of lawsuits in the US filed by families, young people and school districts over the impact on mental health.

This marks the biggest action to date.

It follows an investigation in to the company’s practices in 2021 by several state prosecutors, after a whistleblower, Frances Haugen, testified in the US that the company knew its products could harm children.

That Instagram is damaging to young peoples’ mental health is contested by Meta.

“It is simply not accurate that this research demonstrates Instagram is “toxic” for teen girls”, Pratiti Raychoudhury, vice president and head of research at Meta said at the time.

“The research actually demonstrated that many teens we heard from feel that using Instagram helps them when they are struggling with the kinds of hard moments and issues teenagers have always faced”, Ms Raychoudhury said.

There are studies that do suggest that Facebook’s growth is not linked to psychological harm.

But there is also plenty of research that has found spending long periods of time on social media can have a detrimental impact on young peoples’ mental

health.

In the UK, a coroner looking at the death of Molly Russell concluded the schoolgirl died while suffering from the “negative effects of online content”.

The states are seeking financial damages and a halt to Meta’s alleged harmful practices.

Large portions of the lawsuit are redacted from the public. But it specifically names features such as likes, alerts and filters that it says are “known to promote young users’ body dysmorphia”. Body dysmorphia leads a person to spend a lot of time worrying about flaws in their appearance, and often these perceived flaws are unnoticeable to others.

“Meta’s design choices and practices take advantage of and contribute to young users’ susceptibility to addiction,” the lawsuit said.

Guyana calls Venezuela's upcoming referendum on Essequibo 'annexation'

Guyana says Venezuela's upcoming national referendum on the disputed Essequibo region "amounts to nothing less than the annexation of Guyana's territory".

In a statement on Monday, Guyana said the referendum and seizure of Guyanese land "would constitute the international crime of aggression."

Venezuela's National Electoral Council approved five questions to be included in the national referendum scheduled for December 3, 2023.

The questions Venezuelans will vote on are:

1. Do you agree to reject, by all means, in accordance with the law, the line fraudulently imposed by the Paris Arbitral Award of 1899, which seeks to dispossess us of our Guyana Essequibo?
2. Do you support the Geneva Agreement of 1966 as the only valid legal instrument to reach a practical and



satisfactory solution for Venezuela and Guyana, in relation to the dispute over the territory of the Guyana Essequibo?

3. Do you agree with Venezuela's historical position of not recognizing the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice to resolve the territorial dispute over the Essequibo Guiana?

4. Do you agree to oppose, by all means, in accordance with the law, Guyana's pretension to unilaterally dispose of a sea pending delimitation, in an illegal manner and in violation of international law?

5. Do you agree with the creation of

cont'd on pg 15

<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <p>On Selected Products! While Stocks Last!</p> <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>	<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HELIX HX5 SN 10W30 GAL • HELIX HX5 SN 10W40 GAL • HELIX HX5 SN 20W50 GAL <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>	<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAUTILUS LITRES <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>
<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GADUS S2 V220 <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>	<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TELLUS S2 MX 32 PAIL • TELLUS S2 MX 46 DRUM • TELLUS S2MX 68 DRUM <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>	<p>Flash SALE</p> <p>UP TO 10% OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RIMULA R4L 15W40 DRUMS • RIMULA R4X 15W40 PAIL • RIMULA R4X 15W40 DRUMS • RIMULA R2 40 GALLONS <p>Derrick Ltd. Shell Lubricants Distributor TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151</p>

EU examines visa waiver policy, C'bean CBI programs to be affected

By Dillon De Shong

Five Caribbean countries that operate Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programs are at risk of losing their visa-free access to the European Union as the body is looking at strengthening their visa waiver program to improve security and prevent illegal migration.

On October 18, the EU Commission adopted a proposal for regulations to amend the current visa suspension mechanism. The amendments aim to prevent abuse of the visa waiver program along with tackling risks posed by persons who purchased their citizenship via a CBI program.

The EU visa waiver program allows nationals from 60 countries to visit 27 Schengen zone countries for up to 90 days for tourism and business.

In the report, the EU expressed concerns about the high number of passports sold by Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia.



A total of 88,000 passports were sold by the Caribbean nations since their programs began, the EU Commission report stated.

Dominica, a country with just over 72,000 inhabitants, has issued 34,500 passports while St Kitts and Nevis has issued 36,742.

The Commission has raised concern about the programs which have a low rejection rate of between three and six per cent and short processing time of at least two months.

They are also some of

the cheapest golden passport programs in the world with a minimum investment of US\$100,000.

Additionally, middlemen are often hired to process the applications and the EU is concerned that rules set by the countries on paper aren't being followed.

Based on information presented to the EU, the main CBI applicants are nationals from China, Russia, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Nigeria and Libya.

The Commission welcomed the countries' de-

cision to suspend applications from Russian and Belarusian nationals.

The Commission added that it "will also continue to monitor all visa-free countries operating investor citizenship schemes and will intensify the dialogue with those countries in view of finding long-term solutions aimed at preventing any possible circumventions of the EU short-stay visa procedure and the in-depth assessment of individual migratory and security risks it entails."

cont'd from pg 14

the state of Guyana Essequibo and the development of an accelerated plan for the integral attention of the current and future population of that territory, which includes, among others, the granting of Venezuelan citizenship and identity cards, in accordance with the Geneva Agreement and International Law, consequently incorporating said state in the

map of the Venezuelan territory?

Guyana has taken particular issue with the last question. The Guyanese Government said it would reject any attempt by Venezuela to undermine its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

"The people of Guyana remain resolute against any threats to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country. Neither the Government or the

people of one country have the right in international law to seize, annex or take the territory of another country. International law emphatically prohibits this," Guyana said.

Guyana added that Venezuela's continued action has the potential "to incite violence and to threaten the peace and security of the State of Guyana and by extension the Caribbean region."

‘Heck of a reunion’: Donald Trump silent as Michael Cohen dishes dirt

By Kayla Epstein

Five years after they last met in person, the former president and his self-described fixer were reunited in courtroom on the most anticipated day yet in Donald Trump’s fraud trial.

The New York County Courthouse’s Roman façade and frescoed interiors have played backdrop to many iconic movies and television shows - perhaps, most famously, *Goodfellas*.

The scene inside the building today was very much real life, but the dramatic stakes were something straight out of cinema: the consigliere turning on his boss, the underling exacting revenge on the master.

Michael Cohen, the onetime personal lawyer for Mr Trump, took the stand on Tuesday to testify against his former boss in a high-stakes civil fraud case that could see the former president lose a portion of his famous real estate business.

The anticipation for this hearing was high. Though Mr Cohen has provided damaging testimony to prosecutors several times by now, this was the first time he had sat before Mr Trump while he did it.

“Heck of a reunion,” Mr Cohen quipped to reporters before walking in to face his boss.

Dressed in a blue blazer, Mr Cohen had ditched the tie but kept his signature hangdog expression and thick Long Island accent.

This being an actual court proceeding, not a cinematic one, there were no bombshell revelations or accompanying gasps from the audience. There was no spontaneous outburst from the defendants.

But over several hours, Mr Cohen provided damaging testimony that repeatedly tied his own actions, and the actions of all the employees at the Trump



Organization, directly to Mr Trump.

Mr Cohen testified that he answered to Mr Trump, and Mr Trump alone.

“Whatever issues he had, whatever created ire for him, he would bring it to me in order to resolve it,” he told the court.

Later, he said Trump personally asked him and Allen Weisselberg, the convicted ex-chief financial officer of the company, to inflate his assets “arbitrarily” by a number he had chosen.

They did “whatever Mr Trump told us to,” Mr Cohen said.

In this setting, there was not much Mr Trump could offer in response aside from folded arms and a stony expression. But in the court of public opinion, Mr Trump has sought to paint his former personal counsel as a traitor and a “rat”.

Walking into court on Tuesday, he told reporters that Mr Cohen was a “proven liar” and a “felon”.

“You see what his record is, he is not a credible witness,” Mr Trump said. His lawyers picked up that thread during their cross examination. Alina Habba began by making Mr Cohen read out his guilty pleas from 2018 one by one. She later read federal government statements that Mr Cohen engaged in a “pattern of deception.” If Cohen could not

be trusted then, she argued, how could they trust what he said under oath today? At one point, Mr Cohen clearly grew irritated with her questioning and began to interject. When she said he was out of order, Mr Cohen began dictating Supreme Court precedents to justify his statements. Chris Kise, Mr Trump’s lead attorney, declared that Mr Cohen was “out of control”.

Mr Cohen once claimed he would “take a bullet” for his boss.

The pugnacious lawyer was at his side as he built his real estate empire - an empire that prosecutors now allege was built on a foundation of fraud.

During the 2016 election, Mr Cohen had arranged hush money payments to an adult film star whom Mr Trump denies he had an affair with (the former president faces a criminal trial related to those payments in New York next year).

But in 2018, during Mr Trump’s presidency, Mr Cohen turned on him in the face of serious legal jeopardy. He eventually went to prison after pleading guilty to charges of tax evasion, lying to Congress, and campaign finance violations.

Since his release, Mr Cohen has undergone a very public reversal, becoming

cont’d on pg 17

Li Shangfu: Chinese defence minister sacked

By George Wright

China has officially sacked its defence minister Li Shangfu, two months after he disappeared from public life.

No explanation has been given for his removal, nor has a replacement been announced for his job.

His sacking follows recent axings of several top military officials, including Qin Gang - who was removed as foreign minister in July.

Mr Qin and Mr Li were also removed from their positions on the State Council, the country's ministry, on Tuesday.

China's top legislators, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, approved the removal of both men, state broadcaster CCTV reported.

His dismissal leaves China without a defence minister as it prepares to host foreign defence officials in Beijing this week.



Li Shangfu had only been in the job since March.

Reuters reported last month that he was under investigation for suspected corruption related to equipment procurement and development.

He was last seen in public on 29 August, at a Beijing security forum with African nations. He had only been in the post since March.

An aerospace engineer who began his career at a satellite and rocket launch

centre, Gen Li has had a smooth ascent through the ranks of the military and Chinese political elite.

In 2018, when he headed the equipment development arm of the military, he was sanctioned by the US government over China's purchases of Russian combat aircraft and arms.

The sanctions were thought to be a sticking point for Gen Li, who refused to meet his US coun-

terpart Lloyd Austin at a Singapore defence summit earlier this year.

He was said to be a favourite of President Xi Jinping, just like Mr Qin, who has now been stripped of his last government title.

In July, Mr Qin was removed as China's foreign minister just seven months into the job.

No reason was given for Mr Qin's removal either but the Wall Street Journal cited sources saying he had an extramarital affair while in his post as ambassador to the United States.

Soon after, two leaders of an elite unit managing its nuclear arsenal were replaced, triggering speculation of a purge.

General Li Yuchao who headed the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Rocket Force unit and his deputy had "disappeared" for months before their dismissals were announced.

cont'd from pg 16

ing one of Mr Trump's harshest critics and a star witness in not one but two criminal investigations into the former president. He has handed over financial documents to Congress, bashed Mr Trump in the press and said Mr Trump inflated his personal wealth.

Mr Trump responded with a \$500 million lawsuit against Mr Cohen. His lawyers now say that suit is on pause as he juggles four other criminal cases with a presidential campaign.

New York Attorney General Letitia James has brought a civil fraud case against the Trump Organization, Mr Trump, and his two sons, Donald Trump Jr and Eric Trump. She alleges that the company massively inflated its properties' value for personal gain and to secure favourable loans.

Mr Trump has denied any wrongdoing. He has accused Ms James, a Democrat, of leading a politically motivated prosecution.

Judge Arthur Engoron has already

ruled the Trump Organization perpetrated fraud. The current trial focuses on other charges of falsification of business records, business fraud, and conspiracy.

Should Mr Trump lose, he could face a fine of up to \$250 million, lose his ability to conduct real estate business in New York, and find the future of some of his most famous properties at stake.

Meanwhile, barred from practicing law, Mr Cohen, like so many who have been ejected from Mr Trump's orbit, has written a book. He titled it, "Revenge".



ANTIGUA
AND
BARBUDA

Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS
COMMISSION

**OCT
31ST
2023**

START TIME
7PM

ARG

ANTIGUA
RECREATION
GROUND

THE GOVERNMENT OF
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
PRESENTS

LEGACY

THE INDEPENDENCE
GOSPEL EXPERIENCE

TICKETS

\$35

(IN ADVANCE)

\$50

(AT THE GATE)

BOX OFFICES: **QUINTESSENCE VARIETY PLUS**
ROTI KING • INET • COOL & SMOOTH
THE LARDER RESTAURANT • TICKETING APP

PASTOR NATHANIEL BASSEY

EMBRACING THE LEGACY , SHAPING THE FUTURE

LI Hurricanes lose against Harpy Eagles

PORT OF SPAIN, T&T (CMC) – Sherfane Rutherford hammered a brilliant maiden List A hundred as Guyana Harpy Eagles completed a delicate run chase to beat Leeward Islands Hurricanes by four wickets in the Super50 Cup in Trinidad on Monday.

The left-hander, more known for his exploits in the shortest format, top-scored with an unbeaten 105 from just 71 balls, a knock which helped Harpy Eagles overhaul 245 with 15 balls to spare at Queen's Park Oval, and pick up their second win in three outings.

Rutherford entered with the game slipping away from Harpy Eagles at 108 for five in the 28th over, and proceeded to change the entire complexion of the contest.

He clobbered seven fours and eight sixes, dominating a 67-run, sixth run stand with Kevlon Anderson (32) and a 73-run, unbroken seventh wicket partnership with all-rounder Romario Shepherd (18 not out).

Along the way, Rutherford raced to his fifty off 34 balls in the 37th over, cutting pacer Justin Greaves to the backward point boundary to bring up the landmark.

And he required an-

other 35 balls to reach triple figures, clipping the same bowler to the long leg boundary at the start of the 48th over to reach the milestone, and also level the scores in the game.

He celebrates two balls later by hitting the winning runs, lifting a full toss to the extra cover boundary. Earlier, Hurricanes rallied to 244 for six off their 50 overs with both Karima Gore and Jahmar Hamilton top-scoring with 54.

Hayden Walsh extended his good recent form with 49 while Keacy Carty chipped in with 29.

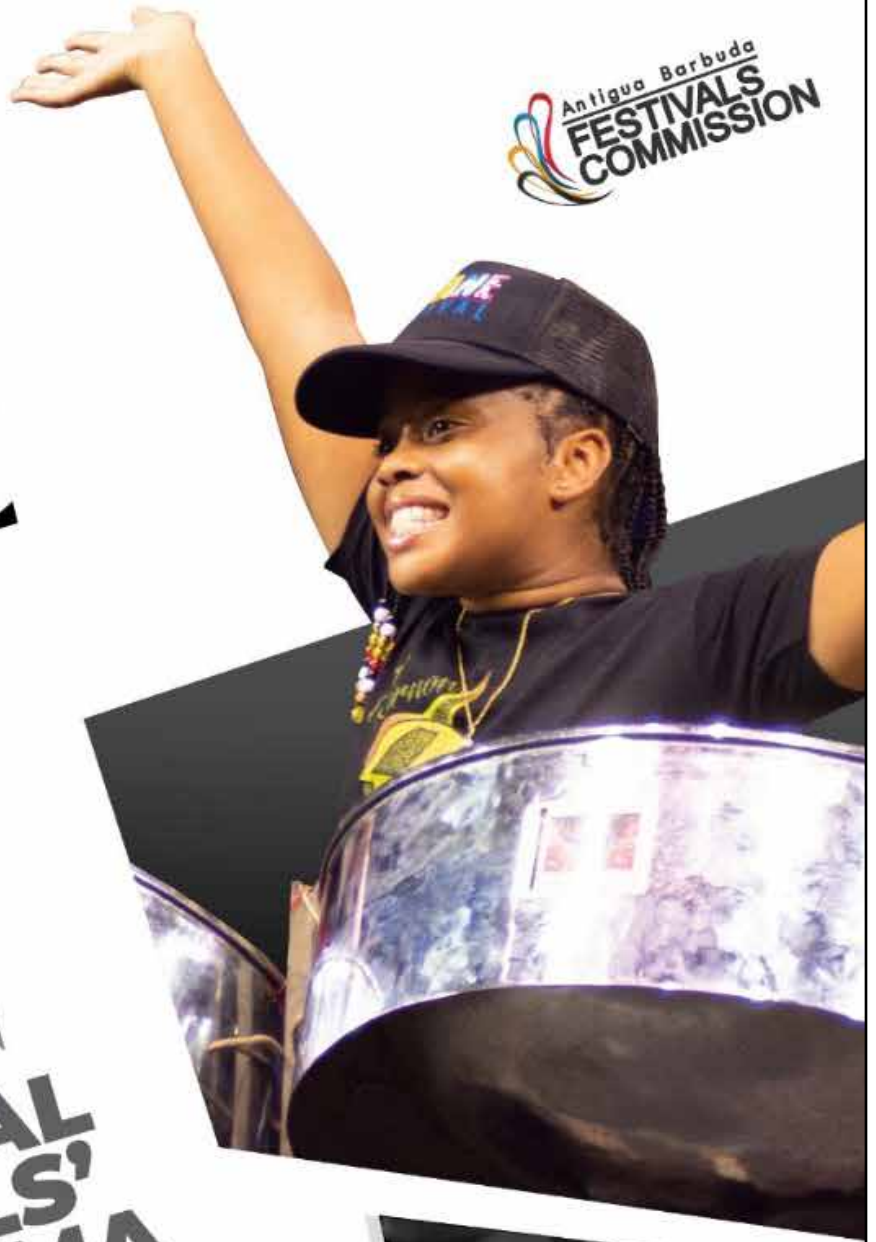
cont'd on pg 21



Guyana's Sherfane Rutherford celebrates after reaching his maiden regional first class century against the Leeward Islands Hurricane at the Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad on Monday, October 23, 2023.



Guyana's Sherfane Rutherford (holding helmet) is all smiles as he leaves the field at the end of the regional Super50 Cup match against the Leeward Islands Hurricane at the Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad on Monday, October 23, 2023. (CWI Media)



42nd



ACB

CARIBBEAN

**NATIONAL
SCHOOLS'
PANORAMA
COMPETITION**

MONDAY

30TH

OCTOBER

Antigua Recreation Grounds

5:00PM

\$10.00
SCHOOL CHILDREN

\$15.00
ADULTS

"EMBRACING
THE **LEGACY**,
SHAPING THE
FUTURE"

South Africa trounce Bangladesh at Cricket World Cup

MUMBAI (Reuters) - Quinton de Kock led South Africa's batting carnage with an incendiary 174 as they crushed Bangladesh by 149 runs to stay on course for a place in the semi-finals of the 50-overs World Cup on Tuesday.

De Kock smashed the ongoing tournament's highest individual score and South Africa's middle order hectored a listless Bangladesh attack to amass 382 for five after electing to bat at the Wankhede Stadium.

Their fiery pace attack reduced Bangladesh to 58 for five and eventually bundled them out for 233 in 46.4 overs to register their fourth win in five matches.

For Bangladesh, Mahmudullah offered resistance with a run-a-ball 111, but it was not enough to avert a heavy defeat.

De Kock had announced he would quit One-Day Internationals after the World Cup in India and the opener appeared determined to make his farewell a memorable one.

South Africa lost Reeza Hendricks and Rassie van der Dussen in successive overs after Markram, leading the side in the absence of the unwell Temba Bavuma, won the toss and elected to bat.

De Kock combined with Markram (60) in a 131-run stand to steady the innings before he and Heinrich Klaasen tore apart the Bangladesh attack,



South Africa's Kagiso Rabada, first left, celebrates the wicket of Bangladesh's Hasan Mahmud during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between Bangladesh and South Africa in Mumbai, India, Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023. (AP)

plundering 142 runs from 87 balls.

Player-of-the-match De Kock duly brought up his third hundred in five matches and went on to topple India's Virat Kohli as the tournament's leading scorer.

A double hundred looked on the cards too before de Kock before holed out after a 140-ball blitz that included seven sixes and 15 fours.

His exit brought no relief for Bangladesh though as Klaasen and David Miller, who made 34 not out off 15 balls, continued the mayhem by hitting a combined 12 sixes between them.

Klaasen belted 90 off 49 balls and South Africa plundered 144 runs from the last 10 overs to leave Bangladesh

with a mountain to climb when they batted.

After six quiet overs, Marco Jansen dented the Bangladesh top order, removing Tanzid Hasan and Najmul Hossain Shanto with successive deliveries.

The match was effectively over for Bangladesh when they slumped to 42 for two inside 12 overs with skipper Shakib Al Hasan and veteran Mushfiqur Rahim also back in the pavilion.

South Africa were not equally clinical against the Bangladesh tail though. Mahmudullah hit four sixes and 11 fours in his gritty knock, which merely delayed Bangladesh's fourth defeat in five matches.

cont'd from pg 19

Left-hander Kieran Powell perished to the fourth delivery of the morning when he pulled pacer Shepherd (2-45) and was taken low down at square leg for four with as many runs on the board.

Carty and Kofi James (13) put on 45 for the second wicket before left-arm spinner Veerasammy Permaul (2-49) plucked out both in quick succession, to leave the innings stumbling on 60 for three at the start of the 17th.

Gore and Hamilton then stitched the innings back together. The 25-year-old Gore faced 72 balls and struck three fours and one six, putting on 81 for the fourth wicket with Walsh who belted seven fours in a 56-ball knock.

Gore added a further 36 for the fifth wicket with Hamilton who then controlled the back end, counting three fours and a six in a 52-ball innings as he posted 44 in an unbroken seventh wicket partnership with Greaves (15 not out).



42nd

**NATIONAL
NIGHT OF
THEATRE**

**SATURDAY
28TH
OCTOBER**
UWI Five Islands Campus
8:00PM

**"EMBRACING
THE LEGACY,
SHAPING THE
FUTURE"**

Passage of Hurricane Tammy affects Secondary Schools' Football League

The Ministry of Sports has been forced to postpone all matches in the Secondary Schools' Football League since last Friday due to the effects of the recent passage of Hurricane Tammy through the northern Leeward Islands over the weekend.

All matches in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division were postponed on Friday to facilitate the residents of Antigua and Barbuda to prepare for the pending passage of the storm.

Matches in the Under-14 Boys Division on Monday and Tuesday's matches in the Under-16 Boys Division were postponed due to waterlogged fields, which hampered field preparations.

All matches scheduled for today (Wednesday) in the Under-20 Girls Division have also been postponed on request from some schools because of the unavailability of players and coaches on national duties.

However, the competition is slated to resume tomorrow (Thursday) with the staging of the Under-16 Boys Division matches, which were postponed on Tuesday.

The Sir Novelle Richards Academy will take on St. Anthony's Secondary School in the first game of a double-header at the Princess Margaret School's (PMS) playing field at 2:15 pm.

Host Princess Margaret School will clash with defending champion Anti-

gua Grammar School in the second encounter at 3:15 pm.

All Saints Secondary School will face Jennings Secondary School in the first game of a double-header at the Swetes playing field at 2:15 pm.

Irene B. Williams Secondary will meet Glanvilles Secondary School in the second encounter at 3:15 pm.

The Clare Hall Secondary School and the Ottos Comprehensive School will clash in another encounter at Clare Hall at 2:15 pm.

All Under-14 Boys Division matches scheduled for Monday, October 30, are also postponed. This is due to the Schools' Panorama Competition, which is slated to take place at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Monday.

Sandals take lead in business basketball league

Sandals have taken over as sole leaders of the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League.

Sandals improved to a league-best nine wins and one loss by surging to a 53-48 victory against Anjo Wholesale in the second game of a double-header at

the JSC Sports Complex on Monday night.

Keroi Lee produced 20 points, and John Rolland had 10 points for the Sandals. Jaheem James and Felix Hamilton each scored 11 points for Anjo Wholesale, who remain in third place with a record of eight wins and three losses.

The Sir Lester Bird

Medical Center claimed their first win in the league by beating Sledge O'Ballers 64-59 in the second game on Monday night.

Delornje Jules and Bernard Andrew each sank 23 points, and Baldwin Anthony Jr. scored 11 points for the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center, which won for the first time after losing their

previous nine encounters.

Adrian Constant had 13 points, Kareem Edwards converted 12 points, and Nyke Watkins chipped in with 10 points for the Sledge O'Ballers, who lost for the ninth time in 10 outings.

The business basketball league will continue with a triple header at the JSC Sports Complex.

H. Wright Promotion will take on Anjo Wholesale at 6:30 pm, the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center will meet the Police at 7:30 pm, and Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew will oppose the Sledge O'Ballers at 8:30 pm.

cont'd from pg 24

Storm Philippe, a planned trip for Edwards and members of the ABTTA to visit Barbuda had to be postponed.

However, Bellot said he intends to visit Barbuda in November. The newly appointed Table Tennis Coordinator, Tritia George, will accompany Bellot to Barbuda.

They hope to conduct engaging sessions with PE teachers and interested coaches, as well as introduce table tennis to the learning institutions on Barbuda.

The Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association's mission is to promote and develop the sport of table tennis across the nation, fostering talent, passion, and the spirit of excellence.

ABTTA celebrates successful ITTF-Member Association activity

The Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association (ABTTA) has made a significant stride recently in its promotion and development of table tennis in Antigua and Barbuda.

The ABTTA is celebrating a highly successful series of training sessions and initiatives, which were led by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) expert, coach Aleena Edwards of Trinidad and Tobago.

Over three impactful days, seven schools were visited, introducing 154 students (76 girls and 78 boys) to the exhilarating world of table tennis.

The ABTTA has placed table tennis boards at three new schools. They are Christ the King High School (shared with St. John's Catholic Primary School), Clare Hall Secondary School, and Princess Margaret School.

Demonstrations and coaching sessions were also conducted at Jennings Secondary School, Pares Secondary School, and St. Nicholas Primary School.



Coach Aleena Edwards (wearing black T-shirt) conducts a training session with students at Jennings Secondary School.

During the event, 26 physical education (PE) teachers enhanced their proficiency and earned club coach certificates.

Edwards, with her vast wealth of knowledge, not only conducted transformative sessions with members of the national training squad but also

engaged with community members at the Multipurpose Cultural Centre, ensuring a broader appreciation and love for table tennis.

President of the ABTTA, Charles "Chucky" Bellot, said, "The intervention went extremely well, marking yet another triumphant step in our ongoing journey of making table tennis one of the most popular and passionately played sports in our beloved nation."

The ABTTA is expressing its gratitude to the Antigua and Barbuda National Olympic Committee, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, ABTTA Treasurer Mitchell Coates, ABTTA member and player Philmore Athill, and Global Marketing Concepts for their support during their hosting of coach Edwards in Antigua.

Due to the passage of Tropical
cont'd on pg 23



Students participate in a table tennis training session at Pares Secondary School. (Photos courtesy ABTTA)