

PORT EFFICIENCY BOOST

Story on Page 2



People doing business at the port will have fewer hindrances in getting their goods cleared, as the Ministry of Trade has now opened a satellite office at the Port Authority Terminal building. Port Manager Darwin Telemaque (left), Trade Minister, E.P. Chet Greene (centre) and Permanent Secretary Ambassador Clarence Pilgrim (right) were on hand for the opening.

Less hassle at the port with the opening of the Trade Ministry's new office

People doing business at the port will have fewer hindrances in getting their goods cleared, as the Ministry of Trade has now opened a satellite office at the Port Authority Terminal building.

Both officials of the ministry and the port authority have lauded the move as a key step in improving the efficiency of the port and helping to make the conducting of business in Antigua and Barbuda much easier, which is a requirement of the World Trade Organization mandates.

Trade Minister, E.P. Chet Greene, said he was proud that under his watch the new trade facilitation office is being opened at the port and expressed his appreciation to the staff of the ministry for the work they did to make the project a reality. He said it was the first of its kind, not only for Antigua and Barbuda but for the rest of the OECS.

“The idea of Antigua and Barbuda signing on to WTO arrangements is a matter of course, but implementing and effecting, or giving life to these agreements is what the government has to do and that is why opening this



office is such a proud moment for us. So opening this office allows for our traders and importers to have a single window for what they do, or otherwise have to do at multiple locations. When we speak of next-level, for those who never understood the concept, this is next level,” he remarked.

He said the ministry is helping to take the country and the economy to the next level, where all citizens and residents want it to go, upwards. “We are happily offering this service to our traders, importers, and all who will use the service, who will see the difference

in terms of the time spent to completing their business at the port,” he suggested.

The minister also urged the staff, who will be based at the new office to ensure that the service they offer to the public is one with which they would be satisfied. “We didn’t create this for it to fail,” he stated.

He added that the office fits snugly into the government’s vision for the port to offer expanded services including transshipping of goods to other islands.

Permanent Secretary Ambassador Clarence Pilgrim who was the driving force behind getting the office set up and readied for business, said the impetus for setting up the office came from the WTO agreement in 2017 regarding the free movement of goods and services between states, and where Antigua and Barbuda became a signatory.

“As a signatory, there are certain obligations that fall under the agreement. The Ministry of Trade chairs the National Trade Facilitation Committee, and as such it became our responsibility to establish ‘a single window,’ a one-stop-shop where businesspeople and entrepreneurs can have ease in

cont'd on pg 3



No new taxes to finance promised pensioners' increase

The people of Antigua and Barbuda have been assured that whilst the government has committed to increasing the payments to public sector pensions, it does not intend to introduce new taxes to finance that increase.

This comes from Government Spokesman, Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst who insists that no new taxes will be introduced, in light of the

announcement that monthly payments to government pensioners will be increased.

Ambassador Hurst was at the time speaking to reporters at the weekly post-Cabinet press briefing held on Monday as Independence celebrations moved the weekly Cabinet meeting to Friday.

The spokesman noted that it is still early days, with a team at the Ministry of Fi-

nance being tasked with determining what is affordable and what revenue stream is likely to be adjusted to ensure that revenues can match the increase in expenditure that would be triggered by an increase in pension payments.

The precise amount is subject to negotiations and affordability, given the 14% increase over several years which current government employees are beginning to enjoy.

Ambassador Hurst said with certainty that the intention of the government is not to impose a Personal Income Tax. Instead, he indicated that

reviews will be carried out in areas to include luxury taxes. He drew attention to the luxury tax that is placed on high-end vehicles, noting that there is no reason why the government should not insist on collecting these monies as well as revenues due from the purchase of other luxury items.

There is no fixed date by which the planned increase for pensions will take effect. However, Ambassador Hurst predicts it will likely be sometime in 2024. Hurst said he anticipates, based on the discussions taking place, that this could be in place by the end of June next year.

cont'd from pg 2

doing business; that is the purpose of setting up this office," he explained.

Port Manager Darwin Telemaque said the port authority is happy to part-

ner with the Ministry of Trade to make the new office a reality and indicated that this move forms part of the efforts to improve the overall efficiency of the port.

STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED

**STORM
READY**
2023 HURRICANE SEASON
JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30

COVERAGE FOR
HOME | BUSINESS | FAMILY | MOTOR

www.sicfinancial.com

Coroner's investigation underway into the sudden death of a young woman

A coroner's investigation is underway to determine the circumstances surrounding the sudden death of a young woman - Lateefa George – who died whilst admitted as a patient at the Clarevue Hospital.

According to reports, the 27-year-old woman was found unresponsive at the institution on October 31 and the EMS was summoned. The EMS transported her to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC). It is unclear whether she died while in transit or at the SLBMC.

Reports are that senior members of the Ministry of Health received no notification of the death and only learned of the incident from social media reports. Nonetheless, Point Express understands that the ministry has requested a report from the senior medical and management teams at the



Lateefa George
Clarevue Hospital.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Ena Dalso Henry said she too learned of the young woman's passing via social media, but since the matter is in the hands of a coroner she has to allow the process to proceed as is required in cases where there is a sudden death, especially as the victim

is someone who is 27 years old.

As part of the coroner's investigation, an autopsy will take place by the country's lead pathologist, Dr. Lester Simon. The submission of the coroner's report is likely to trigger a wider investigation that would also include answers to the question of why information about the sudden death never reached the desk of senior officials of the ministry.

Social media reports indicate that the woman's family is also seeking answers regarding the circumstances surrounding Lateefa's passing. They remain unaware of whether her death occurred at Clarevue Psychiatric Hospital or another medical facility. In response to these concerns, the family is planning to retain legal representation to initiate a thorough investigation into the matter.



NEW **KFC** **Nuggets**

6 PIECES \$12⁷⁵

10 PIECES \$19⁷⁵

100% WHITE MEAT

ORIGINAL RECIPE

HAND MADE

6 PIECES FRIES BISCUIT MEDIUM DRINK \$24⁷⁵

FOR PICKUP/DELIVERY: KFC, AllPost, Deliveroo, Uber Eats

Available on the App Store, Google Play

KEEP AUSTIN GREEN

The proposed crematorium will be subject to an EIA

Assurances have been given that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken before a crematorium is established in the country.

With preparations continuing for a new public cemetery for Saint John's and its environs, talks are being held with two female entrepreneurs of Antigua descent, based in Canada, for construction of the facility, which once realized will be the first of its kind, in the country.

The women, whose names are yet to be revealed, believe there is a market for offering such a service and as such are willing to invest, by meeting with members of the cabinet to share their ideas for the operationalization of a crematorium.

Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst told reporters at Monday's Post-Cabinet Press Briefing that the environmental impact assessment will also include the type of energy that will be utilized in the cremation of bodies.

"They were asked what source of energy they would use for the furnace, and they indicated that in Canada, where they are based, they

now utilize gasoline, the same that we use in our cars. They subsequently learned that purchasing a crematorium that uses LNG would be an option, as an LNG plant is being erected in Antigua and Barbuda and it is a less harmful energy source than gasoline. Based on this information, they are now considering the option of LNG rather than going with gasoline," he reported.

Several years ago, it was revealed that the two funeral homes in the country were expected to collaborate in the construction of a crematorium. But that has fallen through.

Ambassador. Hurst noted that setting up a crematorium is a costly exercise and anyone making that investment must do so with the assurance that they will see a viable return on their investment.

It was noted that the Attorney General and the Minister of Health will collaborate to ensure that the appropriate legislation is adopted by the Parliament, to allow for the crematorium to function.

The prospective investors are hoping the facility will be close to the new cemetery.



VACANCY AC TECHNICIAN

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA) is accepting applications for the position of **AC Technician**. ABAA is responsible for the management of the V. C. Bird International Airport and the Codrington Airport.

The **AC Technician** is expected to participate in the installation, repairing and servicing of all of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority's (ABAA's) Air Condition Units. He/she will respond to all service requests to repair and maintain ABAA's Air Condition Units in line with Aviation standards and recommended practices, and Company policies and procedures.

The functions of the AC Technician will include but not limited to:

- Participate in the inspection, repair, diagnosis, and location of technical difficulties relating to all ABAA air condition units.
- Service all air condition equipment as part of the ABAA's Preventative Maintenance Programme.
- Inspect and test equipment repairs to monitor proper functioning and to ensure customer satisfaction.
- Test refrigeration equipment for refrigerant leaks.
- Provide prompt and effective responses to complaints from customers, airport users and Management and ensure that all situations/incidents are accurately recorded and reported to the Supervisor in a timely manner.

Minimum Requirements:

- Antigua State College Diploma.
- An Associate's degree in HVAC-R (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration) or Professional/Guild certification or vocational qualifications in air conditioning and/or refrigeration
- Minimum five (5) years' practical air condition and/or refrigeration experience.
- Air Condition and/or refrigeration experience in an aviation environment would be an asset.
- Knowledge of chilled water system is an asset.
- Detailed knowledge of the technical operation and repair of air condition and/or refrigeration equipment.
- Ability to competently use tools and equipment to meet the role requirements.
- Ability to use computer diagnostic and testing equipment.
- Ability to remain calm when under pressure (resilience).
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Effective collaboration skills.
- Excellent customer service skills

Please submit your cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

The Human Resources Manager
Antigua & Barbuda Airport Authority
 P. O. Box 1051
 V. C. Bird International Airport
 Coolidge, St. George's, Antigua, W.I.
 E-mail: hr@abairportauthority.com
 Website: www.vcbia.com

The deadline for receipt of applications is **17 November 2023**. Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged.

Tourism officials gear up for Tourism Week 2023

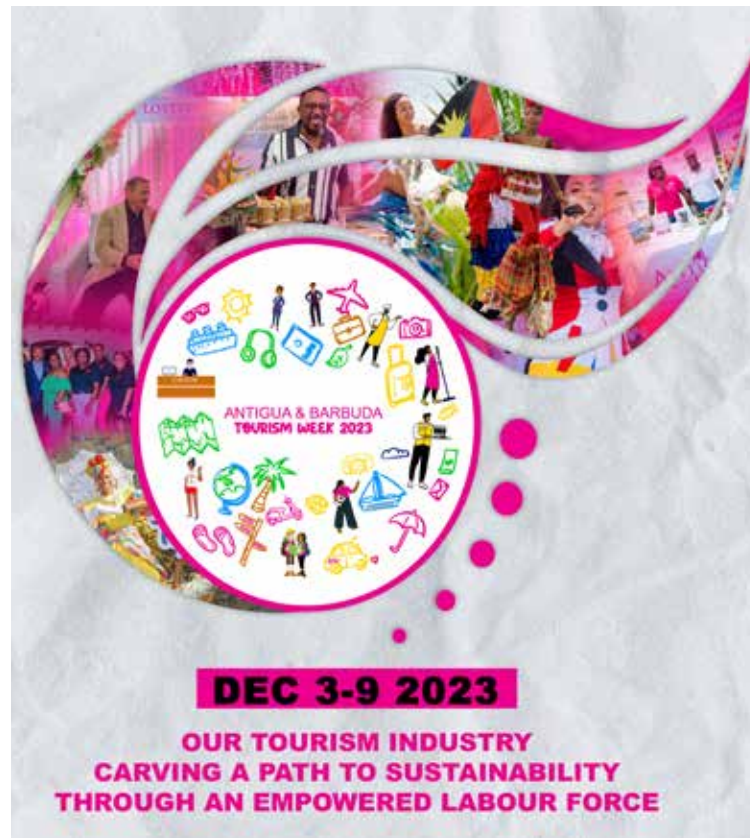
The Ministry of Tourism and its partner agency, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, say all is set for the start of the activities that will mark Tourism Week 2023.

In a statement, the two agencies which play a lead role in all matters of tourism, say the weeklong programme of events is to celebrate the vibrant and diverse world of tourism. Tourism Week 2023 runs from December 3 to 9.

This year, the focus is on the integral labour force that drives the tourism industry. Under the theme “Our Tourism Industry - Carving a Path to Sustainability Through an Empowered Labour Force,” tourism stakeholders will come together to honour the individuals who contribute to the thriving tourism sector.

The festivities will commence on Sunday, December 3rd with a Church Service held at the Holy Family Cathedral, followed by an action-packed show-down as the West Indies take on England in the 1st ODI Cricket match at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.

On Monday, December 4th, the culinary world will take center stage as the “Junior Chef Cook-Off Finals” get underway at the



Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute. This competition showcases the talents of our future culinary stars. The day will also see Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez embark on an educational journey to the island’s colleges during “The Minister Speaks College Tour”. The Minister will be visiting various tertiary-level institutions across the island, including Island Academy, St. Anthony’s Secondary School, UWI Five Islands, Antigua State College, and the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute. This tour aims to inspire and educate the youth about the various opportu-

nities within the tourism industry.

Wellness takes center stage on Tuesday 5th December when all tourism industry personnel will be invited to engage in a “Socarobics” activity at 5 pm at the Ministry of Tourism headquarters on Queen Elizabeth Highway. Fitness experts will instruct them on how to get the body healthier through movement.

The week’s excitement continues on Wednesday, December 6th, with the “Tourism Blast-off” event at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium, during the second installment of the West Indies vs. England

ODI Cricket tour. Tourism Blast Off is a day to showcase the talent, creativity, flavours, and flair of the twin-island nation, featuring entertainment, local foods and treats, as well as arts and crafts from local artisans.

On Thursday, December 7th the Tourism Conference will take place at the John E. St. Luce Finance and Conference Center. This conference will provide a platform for industry leaders and employees to discuss strategies for enhancing the work environment, address labour issues, highlight opportunities for advancement, and showcase creative and viable avenues of entrepreneurship in the industry.

Friday, December 8th will see the staff of the Ministry of Tourism and all tourism partners engage in a day of sports, games, and entertainment at the “Tourism Staff Fun Day” on Ffryes Beach from 8:30 am until.

The grand finale of Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Week 2023 will be the “Tourism Awards Gala” on Saturday, December 9th. This prestigious event will recognize and honor the hard work, dedication, and excellence of individuals and businesses within the tourism industry.



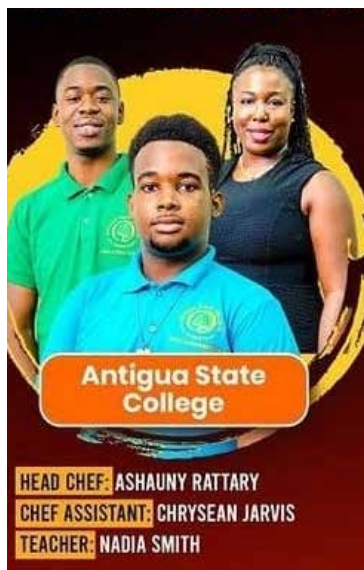
Two more schools join cook-off competition's winner's circle

The Junior Chef Cook-off competition among the nation's secondary and tertiary schools has now completed the preliminary rounds with two more schools joining the winners' circle.

Following Monday's second day of competition, held at the GARD Centre near Pares Village, the Antigua State College emerged winners of the 3rd round held in the morning, while the St. Joseph's Academy won the fourth round held in the afternoon.

Both schools will join the other two finalists; the Sir McChesney George Secondary of Barbuda and the Seventh Day Adventist School, in the finals of the Cook-off competition slated for December 4, 2023, at the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute.

The winning school will receive EC\$10,000 to enhance its Home Economics facilities, and the winning



student will have the opportunity to represent Team Antigua and Barbuda at the prestigious Taste of Caribbean event in 2024 in Miami.

The schools competed in the preparation of the popular national dish, Pepper-pot. They were judged on taste, preparation, presentation, and creativity.

The competition is a joint project of the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association and the Ministry of Tourism.



VACANCY BUS DRIVER

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA) is accepting applications for the position of **Bus Driver**. ABAA is responsible for the management of the V. C. Bird International Airport and the Codrington Airport.

The **Bus Driver** will be responsible for the delivery of transportation services to the employees of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA), in line with national road safety laws, Aviation standards and recommended practices, and Company policies and procedures. This position will report to the Transportation Officer.

The functions of the Bus Driver will include but is not limited to the following:

- Drive the assigned Company vehicle to safely transport ABAA's employees to and from work.
- Complete the Daily Vehicles Checklist and conduct a comprehensive inspection of the assigned Company vehicle, reporting any conditions of concern to the Transportation Officer.
- Ensure that the assigned vehicles are properly cleaned, regularly serviced and sufficiently fueled prior to transporting employees.

Minimum Requirements:

- A School Leaving Certificate.
- A minimum of three (3) years' experience in a similar role
- Holder of a valid Class D or F Antigua and Barbuda Driver's License
- Excellent customer service skills
- Good verbal communication skills
- Have sound judgment and decision-making skills
- Ability to work independently, with minimal instructions

Please submit your cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

The Human Resources Manager
Antigua & Barbuda Airport Authority
 P.O. Box 1051
 V. C. Bird International Airport
 Coolidge, St. George's, Antigua, W.I.

E-mail: hr@abairportauthority.com; Website: www.vcbia.com

The deadline for receipt of applications is **17 November 2023**. Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS

The University of the West Indies (UWI) is a dynamic, international institution serving the countries of the Commonwealth Caribbean. Its faculties and institutes offer a wide range of undergraduate, masters and doctoral programmes in Humanities and Education, Science and Technology, Engineering, Law, Medical Sciences, Sport and the Social Sciences. The institution represents the oldest of its kind within the region and has been responsible for producing outstanding leaders who have made remarkable contributions to regional development.

The School of Business and Management at the Five Islands Campus is seeking exceptional candidates to fill two (2) vacancies of Senior Lecturer/Lecturer. As a leading academic institution, we are committed to fostering innovative research and providing the highest quality education to our students. We are looking for dynamic and experienced individuals who are passionate about teaching, research and service to join our distinguished faculty.

The available vacancies are as follows:

- **1 Senior Lecturer/ Lecturer in Human Resource Management and/or Marketing with the ability to teach in the areas of Human Resources Management, Organizational Development, Compensation Management, Marketing Communication and Management, International Marketing , Marketing Research.**
- **1 Senior Lecturer/ Lecturer in Accounting with the ability to teach Advanced Accounting Theory, Auditing, Advanced Financial Accounting, and Government Accounting**

Essential Qualifications and Experience:

- A doctoral degree (PhD) or DBA level qualification in relevant area of Business and Management
- Demonstrated ability to deliver content across multiple areas at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and a track record of conducting cutting-edge research that has resulted in publications in top-tier academic journals.
- Minimum of five (5) years' experience teaching related courses at the University level.
- Experience in academic administration, committee work, and service to the university or academic community.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Demonstrated strong interpersonal, communication and presentation skills
- Ability to work effectively in a team, collaborating with other faculty members and contributing to the development of the department and the institution.
- Coordinate internships and other student programmes.

At the senior level, the successful candidates must be able to:

- Display a record of peer-reviewed publications in relevant field.
- Exhibit a record on innovative pedagogy in a face to face environment, as well as online.
- Develop innovative and attractive course syllabi in accordance with the school's strategy.
- Supervise adjunct lecturers, organising and delegating work, and providing training and guidance.
- Conduct substantive research into complex problems, ideas, concepts, or theories and applying appropriate methodologies.
- Engage with external institutions, organisations, and the wider community to support research, teaching and the campus' strategic objectives.
- Participate in relevant university committees and boards which, advising and mentoring students, and contributing to departmental or institutional initiatives.
- Provide leadership, as required in support of the overall strategy of the School.

Applicants are required to submit a completed **UWI employment application form, curriculum vitae, giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, the names and addresses of three (3) referees (one of whom should be from your present organisation), a statement on teaching and research interests and copies of academic qualifications.** These should be sent by electronic mail, with subject of the specific area of interest to fiveislands.hrapplications@uwi.edu and addressed to **The Director of Administration, University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, Five Islands, St. John's, Antigua.** The closing date for receipt of applications is **November 10, 2023.** Standard UWI application forms may be downloaded from <https://cutt.ly/UE6XLig>. Applicants are advised to ask their referees to send reports under confidential cover to the above Email address without waiting to be contacted. The successful candidate will be expected to assume duties in Antigua by **January 10, 2024.** An attractive salary package is offered.

The University thanks all applicants; however, due to the volume of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Grays Farm man found with illegal firearm, ammunition

A 33-year-old man from Christian Street, Grays Farm, has been arrested by the police after he was found in possession of an illegal firearm and several rounds of ammunition.

On Sunday, 5th November, the police were on mobile patrol on Christian

Street, when they saw the man acting suspiciously. The police searched him and found the illegal items in his possession. He was arrested and taken into custody.

He is expected to be charged and taken before the court on Tuesday 7th November.

A BRAIN FOR ALL REASONS



As an extension of the St. Paul's Health and Wellness Month 2023

The St. Pauls Empowerment Team and Parliamentary Representative, Hon E.P. Chet Green presents Neurological, Paediatric, Allergy and Asthma Consultations.

FREE OF COST

on **MONDAY 6th** and **TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2023** 9 AM to 4 PM

at **The St. Paul's Empowerment Centre** at Yasoso Corner, Liberta

Our Experts Physicians are

Dr. Dave Clarke – specializing in Pediatric Neurology and Epilepsy

Dr. Soo Kim Delio – Allergy and Asthma

Dr. Zari – Parkinson's and Movement (Neuro-Muscular) Disorders

Dr. Kathryn McVicar – Autism and Behavioural Paediatrics

They will be ably assisted by medical personnel from the Metropolitan University College of Medicine and the NSA Medical Surgical & Rehabilitation Centre

ALL ARE INVITED



VACANCY PLANT MECHANIC 2

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA) is accepting applications for the position of **Plant Mechanic 2**. ABAA is responsible for the management of the V. C. Bird International Airport and the Codrington Airport.

The **Plant Mechanic 2** is expected to maintain and repair the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority's (ABAA's) plant equipment at the highest level in line with Aviation standards and recommended practices, and Company policies and procedures.

The functions of the Plant Mechanic 2 will include but not limited to:

- Participate in the inspection, maintenance, repair, diagnosis, and location of mechanical difficulties on all ABAA vehicles and equipment.
- Assist with maintaining and repairing all Passenger Loading Bridges.
- Assist with maintaining and repairing all Conveyor and Baggage Handling Systems.
- Assist with maintaining and repairing all ABAA generators both on site and off site.
- Assist with preventative maintenance on all electro/mechanical plant equipment, machinery, and related facilities.

Minimum Requirements:

- Antigua State College Diploma.
- Professional/Guild Certification or Vocational Qualifications in Mechanics.
- Plant Equipment Electrical Certification.
- Minimum three (3) years' working experience in a similar role.
- Minimum one (1) year experience in hydraulics, and diesel and gasoline engines.
- Mechanic experience in an aviation environment would be an asset
- Ability to competently use tools, equipment, vehicles and machinery to meet the role requirements.
- Ability to use computer diagnostic and testing equipment.
- Ability to remain calm when under pressure (resilience).
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Effective collaboration skills.
- Excellent customer service skills.

Please submit your cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

The Human Resources Manager
Antigua & Barbuda Airport Authority
P. O. Box 1051
V. C. Bird International Airport
Coolidge, St. George's, Antigua, W.I.
E-mail: hr@abairportauthority.com
Website: www.vcbia.com

The deadline for receipt of applications is **17 November 2023**. Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged.

Parkinson's implant restores man's ability to walk

By Michelle Roberts

A man with advanced Parkinson's disease has been helped to walk again with a special implant that stimulates nerves in his spine.

Marc Gauthier, 63, from Bordeaux, France, the first person to try out the device, says it has given him a second chance in life.

He can now walk for miles, when previously he was often housebound and had several falls a day.

The medical team treating him describe the advance in *Nature Medicine* journal.

Before the implant, navigating steps or going into a lift posed extra problems for Marc.

The treatment appears to have stopped the shuffling and "freezing" or sudden stopping Marc and many Parkinson's patients struggle with - and now, when the device is switched on, his gait looks almost normal.

Marc said: "Getting into an elevator... sounds simple. For me, before, it was impossible.

"Now, I have no problem.

"I turn on the stimulation in the morning and I turn off in the evening. This allows me to walk better and to stabilise. Right now, I'm not even afraid of the stairs anymore. Every Sunday, I go to the lake, and I walk around 6km [four miles]. It's incredible."

Marc feels "a little tin-



Marc can now walk for miles.

gling sensation", when the device is on, but is not bothered by it.

The stimulator sits on the lumbar region of the spinal cord, which sends messages to the leg muscles.

Marc is still in control - his brain gives the instructions - but the epidural implant adds electrical signals for a smoother end result.

It is wired to a small impulse generator with its own power supply, implanted under the skin of Marc's abdomen.

After surgery to fit the device, Marc had weeks of rehabilitation to programme it, using feedback sensors on his legs and shoes.

Neurosurgeon Jocelyne Bloch, who fitted Marc's device, almost two years ago, said the technology and procedure was similar to that which had helped some spinal-injury patients for many years - but it was a first for Parkinson's disease, although other teams are exploring different techniques.

She said: "It is impressive to see how by electrical-

ly stimulating the spinal cord in a targeted manner, in the same way as we have done with paraplegic patients, we can correct walking disorders caused by Parkinson's disease."

Eduardo Martin Moraud, an expert from NeuroRestore, which made the implant initially tested in animals, said Marc was a pioneer:

"He was very courageous to be the first one," Mr Moraud said. "We were extremely happy to see how it could bring so many benefits to someone."

The work is a collaboration between the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, the city's hospital and university, the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research and the University of Bordeaux.

One of the team, Prof Grégoire Courtine, said more work was needed to see whether it could help other Parkinson's patients.

"This is only one participant and we don't know whether all the individuals with Parkinson's disease will

respond to the therapy," he said.

The team will now try the device in six more Parkinson's patients, using funding from the Michael J Fox Foundation.

For some, a brain implant - deep brain stimulation - might be able to do the job instead. But the medical team told a press briefing that had not been not an option for Marc, who already had an older brain implant that would have been hard to replace.

The treatment is not a cure - Parkinson's is a progressive condition that worsens over time.

Those with the disease have too little of the chemical dopamine in their brain because some of the nerve cells that make it have stopped working.

Parkinson's UK research director David Dexter said: "This is quite an invasive procedure but could be a game-changing technology to help restore movement in people with advanced Parkinson's, where the drugs are no longer working well.

"The research is still at a very early stage and requires much more development and testing before it can be made available to people with Parkinson's. However, this is a significant and exciting step forward and we hope to see this research progress quickly."

BECOME A

GERM BUSTER

GERMS ARE EVERYWHERE!
WASH YOUR
HANDS
REGULARLY
WITH SOAP.



GRAFINKZ



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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

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



for every child

British Steel set to cut up to 2,000 jobs in furnace closure plan

British Steel has confirmed it plans to close down its blast furnaces in Scunthorpe, putting up to 2,000 jobs at risk.

They will be replaced with two electric arc furnaces - one at Scunthorpe and one at Teesside.

The company said its £1.25bn proposal would make British Steel “a clean, green and sustainable business”.

But it said the plans were still “subject to appropriate support” from the UK government.

The business, which is owned by China’s Jingye Group, said the new furnac-

es could be in operation by late 2025.

Chief executive Xijun Cao said the firm was not able to keep the blast furnaces and meet environmental commitments.

“We have engaged extensively with the public and private sector to understand the feasibility of producing net zero steel with our current blast furnace operations. However, thorough analysis shows this is not viable,” he said.

Unions estimate the shift could ultimately lead to the loss of 1,500 to 2,000 jobs, predominantly at Scunthorpe.



British Steel’s Scunthorpe plant looms large on the skyline of the town.

British Steel said it was working with North Lincolnshire Council on “a masterplan” to attract new business and jobs to the site in Scunthorpe, parts of which would become vacant under the proposals.

The Department for Business and Trade said the proposals were part of a plan to put the UK steel industry on a greener, more sustainable footing for the future.

A spokesperson said the government had offered “a generous support package including more than £300m of investment”.

Earlier this year, British Steel’s larger rival, Tata, announced it would close its two blast furnaces in Port Talbot and replace them with electric arc furnaces, with an expected loss of up to 3,000 jobs. It will receive £500m of government support.

British Steel said it re-

mained in talks with the government over what backing it could expect for its strategy.

“We need the UK to adopt the correct policies and frameworks now to back our decarbonisation drive,” said Mr Cao.

The government concedes the plan to close the blast furnaces at Scunthorpe and Port Talbot will leave the UK without the ability to make “virgin steel”.

But it says the output from new electric arc furnaces will cover most of the UK’s needs.

Blast furnaces use coke in the process of creating “virgin” steel, but the process generates carbon dioxide.

Electric arc furnaces are mostly used to melt down and repurpose scrap steel. The end product is not the same grade of steel that is produced in blast furnaces,

cont’d on pg 13

OFFICE COMPLEX FOR RENT



APPROXIMATELY 3000 SQUARE FEET
TWO FLOORS
PLUS A BOARDROOM

LOCATED ON
POWELLS MAIN ROAD
CALL: 784-7853

cont'd from pg 12

and is not suitable for all industrial uses in, for example, motor manufacturing and construction.

However, arc furnaces can be powered by electricity, including renewable generation.

Unions expressed concern at the timescale of the migration and said they would examine British Steel's proposals in detail.

Roy Rickhuss, general secretary of Community, the specialist trade union representing UK steelworkers, said he was "deeply concerned" by the plans, which he described as "dangerous and foolhardy".

"The plans that British Steel has announced, combined with Tata Steel's plans, would leave the UK unable to make steel from raw materials and dangerously exposed to international markets," he said.

Paul Nowak, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said workers would not "stand back" as the

UK's steel industry was "dismantled in real time."

Unions have already threatened industrial action over Tata's plans.

"The Conservatives are presenting a false choice," Mr Nowak said. "Other countries have shown that it is possible to transition to zero-carbon steelmaking and protect good steelmaking jobs for the future. We can do the same here."

UK Steel, the industry body, said the announcement marked a turning point.

"The UK's major steel producers are taking crucial steps to decarbonise by 2035," said its director general Gareth Stace.

However, critics point out that switching from traditional blast furnaces to electric arc furnaces will not reduce overall carbon emissions, but instead will "export" them, if the UK buys the virgin steel it needs from plants abroad that still use the traditional process.

Production of steel is responsible for around 7% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, but some countries are pursuing an alternative, low-emission process using hydrogen.

Charlotte Brumpton-Childs from the GMB union said the closure would be "a hammer blow" for UK steel and "devastating" for the people of Scunthorpe.

The towers and chimneys of the steelworks have been part of the Lincolnshire town's landscape for more than five decades, employing generations of local workers.

But the UK's second largest steel manufacturer collapsed in 2019, then was bought by Jingye, with promises to invest more than a £1bn over 10 years.

However, in February the firm announced that it was closing its coking oven. At the time it said steelmaking in the UK was "uncompetitive" with some of the highest energy, carbon and labour costs in the world.



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

Facebook icon, Instagram icon, Twitter icon

Bermuda Premier defends move towards full membership of CARICOM

CMC - Premier David Burt Monday said that there were “broad benefits” to gain from Bermuda seeking full membership of the regional integration grouping, CARICOM, even as he acknowledged it “is not something that has been on the front burner”.

Bermuda became a CARICOM associate member on July 3, 2003 and Burt, speaking at a news conference here, said public consultations will be held before any decision is taken to seek full membership of CARICOM that this year celebrates its 50th anniversary.

He said at the last CARICOM summit that was held in Trinidad and Tobago, which he attended “there were a number of other Caribbean Overseas Territories...who had expressed their desire to go ahead and to advance for full membership.

“We think there are social benefits that could come from that full membership of CARICOM...and so that is something we will undertake in that consultative process as other Caribbean Overseas Territories are looking to advance from Associate members to full members along with Montserrat.

“This is something the government will consider. I can’t say that this is something that was particularly on the front burner but I can that it is something that was discussed at the recent CARICOM heads of government conference. It is something that the government should consider, look to a view to see whether or not it makes sense.

“I think there are broad benefits to being a full member of CARICOM. I think it is a signal of our deeper integration into the region,” Burt told reporters, adding “I think it could be helpful for us as we continue to advance and develop our institutions”.



Premier David Burt.

Governor Rena Lalgie, who last weekend delivered the traditional Throne Speech, told legislators that full membership in CARICOM was a vision of former Premier Dame Jennifer Smith who desired the island nation to “strengthen the historic, familial and cultural ties to the Caribbean.”

She said that beginning discussion now, on the process of gaining full membership in CARICOM is right, as the country is marking 20 years as an associate member.

“In this anniversary year, the Government will renew the vision of Dame Jennifer, initiating a consultation process leading to full membership in CARICOM,” Lalgie said.

Montserrat is the only British Overseas Territory that has full membership of CARICOM, having been among the founding member countries of the regional integration grouping.

Premier Burt told reiterated that it was important for Bermuda to seek full membership of CARICOM, reminding reporters that “other jurisdictions are examining their relationship with CARICOM.

“I think it is perfectly good for Bermuda to go ahead and do the same. And so from that aspect, there are a

number of institutions that we can participate in as an Associate Member. But there are also other institutions and discussions that we aren’t able to participate in.

“There are certainly more benefits to being a full member than an Associate member and those are all things we will discuss and explore during the consultative process,” he said, adding “what I am not trying to do is to get into ...is to start to prejudge the thing.

“We will engage in broad consultative processes that is what we will do and I am certain there will be plenty of opportunities to offer those questions you are asking,” he told reporters.

Asked what he believes would be the benefits for Bermuda in gaining full membership, Premier Burt responded by saying “as Associate members of CARICOM though we get to attend meetings we do not participate in any decision making process which may be a part of those things and that is what full membership entails...but those are matters to be spelt out during the consultation”.

He reminded reporters that there are various treaties that members “may sign up to and may not sign up to as well and those are all things that would have to be discussed with the UK government and our CARICOM partners.”

Burt said that Government House, the official residence of the British Governor had an “advance sight of the Throne” speech where the matter was raised “but these are things that have been discussed with other overseas territories, with the UK government regarding a path forward.

“We will conduct our consultative process first to find out whether or not this is the direction we wish to ultimately take,” he added.

Foreign Ministry says history and facts on Guyana's side in border dispute

CMC - Guyana Monday reiterated its objections to claims by Venezuela to establish a Venezuelan state of Guyana Essequibo and an accelerated plan for giving Venezuelan citizenship and identity cards to the Guyanese population, saying "the history and the facts" regarding the border dispute are "overwhelming".

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister, Hugh Todd, tabling a motion in the 65-member National Assembly on the border dispute, said the presence of the lawmakers are to send a message to Caracas that "we are here today as a nation united."

"Mr Speaker, the history and the facts are overwhelming. But I have to continue Mr Speaker because we have to give the people of Guyana fulsome understanding of this long-standing controversy which Guyana intends to see through to its logical conclusion in the ICJ (International Court of Justice)," the minister said.

Todd, holding up a map showing the disputed border, said Venezuela had benefited from the Orinoco when it attained 700, 05,640 square kilometres or 358, 841 square miles from the award reached "more than four times the size of Guyana."

"This is what they got in the award. Guyana got 83, 000 square miles...Mr. Speaker the facts are here.

Venezuela was content with what they wanted because they felt if they got the Orinoco, it is satisfactory for them, it was a victory.

"They got all that they had bargained for. Therefore, in contemporary political economy, it is unbelievable and inconceivable that Venezuela would want to try to fool the rest of the world that it has legitimate rights to Guyana's territory.

"This will not stand Mr. Speaker. We live in a world where laws and rules must be respected by every nation state. However, like the proverbial magic wand Venezuela sought and still seeks to unilaterally sweep away the reality of the award and our own conscious acts consistent with its rulings by seeking to impugn the credibility of the member off the tribunal...eminent and respected jurists of their time".

According to the motion released by the National Assembly on Sunday, lawmakers are being asked to provide "support for the government and people of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and Reaffirm recognition of the 1989 Arbitral Award and the 1966 Geneva Agreement.

"Whereas the Arbitral Award of an Arbitral Tribunal constituted under the Treaty of Arbitration signed in Washington on 2 February 1897, determined the boundary line between the Colony



of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela in 1899;"

Todd told legislators "we the people of Guyana, we are very convinced that those attorneys who sat on the tribunal did their best to ensure that they uphold decency, their character in tact to ensure that they did the best in the interest of both then British Guiana and Venezuela and we are sure...that the International Court of Justice will prevail, the world will stand with Guyana and the people of Guyana".

Todd said that no evidence has even been found to support Venezuela's claim as had been laid out by a "young attorney" who had brought the issue about the border to light and who had demanded that the matter be dealt with six months after his death.

"This is unfounded. This should not be accepted by any right thinking member of society or any society the world over," Todd told lawmakers.

He said Guyana has always asked successive

governments in Caracas to provide answers to three questions, namely "prove the basis of the contention that the award of 1899 is null and void; identify any provision in the Geneva agreement that says Guyana is precluded from developing the Essequibo and three, identify the articles in that agreement that says that the award of 1899 superseded by the Geneva agreement.

"Mr Speaker, Venezuela has never been able to do so and they will never be able to do so because they are on the wrong side of history," Todd said, adding that instead, Venezuela is expanding its claim of nullity of the 1899 award "to claim the entire Essequibo region...and even further afield have resorted to acts of open military aggression."

The debate in the National Assembly follows meetings between President Irfaan Ali and Opposition Leader Aubrey Norton as well as by the bipartisan parliamentary committee on Foreign Relations.

Hamas leader refuses to acknowledge killing of civilians in Israel

By **Feras Kilani**

A senior Hamas leader has refused to acknowledge that his group killed civilians in Israel, claiming only conscripts were targeted.

Moussa Abu Marzouk told the BBC that “women, children and civilians were exempt” from Hamas’s attacks.

His claims are in stark contrast to the wealth of video evidence of Hamas men shooting unarmed adults and children.

Israel says more than 1,400 people were killed by Hamas in the 7 October attacks, most of them civilians.

Mr Marzouk, the group’s deputy political leader, who is subject to an asset freeze in the UK under counter-terrorism regulations, was interviewed on Saturday in the Gulf. He is the most senior member to speak to the BBC since the 7 October atrocities.

The BBC pressed Mr Marzouk on the war on Gaza, specifically on the scores of hostages being held inside the territory.

He responded that they were not able to be freed while Israel was bombing Gaza. The Hamas-run health ministry says 10,000 people have been killed since Israel started operations last month.

“We will release them. But we need to stop the fighting,” he said.

Mr Marzouk recently



Moussa Abu Marzouk said Hamas’s armed wing “don’t have to consult with the political leadership”.

travelled to Moscow to discuss eight Russian-Israeli dual citizens snatched on 7 October by Hamas, a proscribed terror organisation in many countries including the UK and US.

He said Hamas members in Gaza had “looked for and found two female hostages” from Russia but were unable to release them because of the conflict.

They could only realistically release hostages, he said, if “the Israelis stop the fighting so we can hand them over to the Red Cross”.

Challenged by the BBC about the attack of 7 October, Mr Marzouk claimed that Mohamed el-Deif, the leader of Hamas’s Qassam Brigades military wing, had ordered his men to spare civilians.

“El-Deif clearly told his fighters ‘don’t kill a woman, don’t kill a child and don’t kill an old man,’” he said.

Reservist soldiers were, he said, “targeted”. He maintained that only “conscripts [...] or soldiers” were killed.

But women, children and civilians were “exempt”, he said.

The BBC challenged the senior Hamas leader on videos captured from the helmet cameras of Hamas fighters, which show unarmed civilians being shot in their cars and homes.

Mr Marzouk, whose polished, measured manner during the interview sometimes slipped into irritation, did not answer the question directly.

When asked if Hamas’s political wing had known of preparations for the attack, the deputy leader said that the armed wing “don’t have to consult with the political leadership. There is no need.”

The political wing, based in Qatar, often presents itself as being remote from the military forces in Gaza.

The UK government sees no distinction - it proscribed the Hamas political wing as a terrorist organisation in 2021, saying that “the approach of distinguishing

between the various parts of Hamas is artificial. Hamas is a complex but single terrorist organisation”.

Mr Marzouk is also listed as a specially designated global terrorist by the US Treasury Department, and is indicted on several charges of co-ordinating and financing Hamas activities.

The interview on Saturday came after Israel had refused US requests for a “humanitarian pause” in Gaza to let aid in and help get out some of the 240 hostages taken by Hamas on 7 October.

The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said on Friday all hostages must be released before any temporary truce could be agreed.

Mr Marzouk claimed that Hamas did not possess a list of all those he referred to as “guests”, nor did he know where many were, because they were being held by “different factions”.

There are several groups inside Gaza including Palestinian Islamic Jihad, which work closely with Hamas but are ostensibly independent.

He said a ceasefire was needed to compile the information - there were other priorities while the territory was under bombardment.

Mr Marzouk will play a key role in how the conflict with Israel plays out, and is likely to be central in negotiations over the hostages.

Donald Trump clashes repeatedly with judge in heated New York testimony

Donald Trump repeatedly clashed with a judge and defended his family's business as he testified in a civil fraud trial that threatens his property empire.

During almost four hours on the stand in New York, the former president disputed claims that he deceived banks and aired grievances with the case.

The judge has already ruled the Trump Organization committed fraud and this trial will determine the penalties.

Prosecutors are seeking a \$250m (£202m) fine and severe business restrictions.

During his highly anticipated appearance at the Manhattan federal courthouse on Monday, Mr Trump, 77, was asked about the value of various properties including his Florida estate Mar-a-Lago, Trump Tower in New York and his golf course in Scotland.

These properties are among several that prosecutors say were intentionally overvalued in company statements in order to secure better loans and insurance policies.

In his testimony, Mr Trump, who is the current frontrunner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, stood by the valuations as prosecutors quizzed him on how they were reached and the financial statements at the centre of the trial.



"I'm worth billions of dollars more than the financial statements," Mr Trump said, before describing the valuations as "very conservative."

He said the property values were bolstered by his personal brand, something he said was never factored into financial statements.

"I can look at buildings and tell you what they're worth," he said in another testy exchange.

The lawsuit was brought by New York Attorney General Letitia James, who accuses Mr Trump, along with his sons Eric and Donald Jr and other Trump Organization executives, of inflating company assets for years. All deny wrongdoing.

Ms James, who was in the courtroom and stared directly at Mr Trump during his testimony, later told reporters: "He rambled. He hurled insults. But we ex-

pected that."

"The numbers don't lie," she said. "Justice will prevail."

The former president's time on the stand was marked by heated exchanges and lengthy, sometimes meandering, responses. These prompted several rebukes from Judge Arthur Engoron who appeared exasperated at times.

"Please just answer the questions, no speeches," the judge said.

After another lengthy answer, Judge Engoron said to one of Mr Trump's lawyers: "Can you control your client? This is not a political rally, this is a courtroom."

"I beseech you to control him," he added. "If you can't, I will."

Judge Engoron will ultimately decide the outcome of the trial and, as well as a multi-million dollar fine, could strip the defendants of

the ability to do business in New York.

"I'm sure the judge will rule against me because he always rules against me," Mr Trump said at one point in court.

Judge Engoron fired back: "You can attack me in whichever way you want, but please answer the questions." He later referred to Mr Trump as a "broken record".

Like his two sons in their testimony last week, the former president said it was the Trump Organization accountants who bore responsibility for the financial reports.

"All I did was authorise and give people whatever was necessary for the accountants to do the statement," Mr Trump said.

As he left court, he again referred to the case as a "fraud" and said he be-

cont'd on pg 18

International

AROUND THE WORLD



cont'd from pg 17

lieved his testimony “went very well”.

Some legal and political analysts have suggested Mr Trump’s combative ap-

proach on the stand was a considered strategy, while others have said he used the much anticipated moment as an opportunity to campaign.

Renato Mariotti, a former federal prosecutor, told the BBC that Mr Trump’s responses indicate his legal team believes “they’ve already lost”.

“They’re trying to spin or add some colour to a very bad result,” Mr Mariotti said.

“I think he is trying to goad the judge into doing something [Trump] can argue on appeal that shows prejudice on his part,” Kevin McMunigal, another former federal prosecutor, said.

“Maybe he makes a comment they can use to support a bias case later.”

The judge has already fined Mr Trump \$15,000 for comments made outside of court last month.

Mr Trump’s daughter, Ivanka, is expected to give evidence on Wednesday.

The civil case in New York is one of several legal battles in which Mr Trump is embroiled.

He also faces four criminal indictments - two relating to his alleged efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election, one on his handling of classified documents and another alleging false accounting involving hush money.



LICB **ASCA**

GOLD JACKET

Award Ceremony 2023

MR. CHARLES "JIM" ALLEN MBE *Awardees* **SIR VIVIAN A RICHARDS KNH OBE OOC**

TICKETS \$100 US
COCKTAIL EVENT

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2023
7PM - 10PM

VENUE: COURTYARD
COOLIDGE CRICKET GROUND, ANTIGUA

King George ground to be renamed in honour of ex-national footballer

The King George V Grounds in Gray's Farm, St. John's, will be renamed in honour of a former legendary national footballer, Keithly "KS" Sheppard, early next year.

According to a media release by the Keithly Sheppard Recreational Park Committee, "the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda has unanimously accepted the recommendations put forth by a group of volunteers from the Gray's Green Community to rename the King George V Grounds.

The suggestion to rename the venue "the Keithly Sheppard Recreational Park has been warmly embraced by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

"The people of the community are thrilled to announce that the official unveiling ceremony of the Keithly Sheppard Recreational Park will take place at King George V Grounds on January 14, 2024, at 4



Players from the Antigua Girls High School (blue and black uniform) and Princess Margaret School compete during a Girls Division encounter in the Secondary Schools' Football League at the King George V Grounds in November 2022. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

pm."

A Keithly Sheppard Recreational Action Committee, which is led by chairperson St. Clair Knowles, has been installed to spearhead the renaming project.

The release adds, "This exciting renaming initiative aims to honour the invaluable sporting contributions and unwavering commitment demonstrated by KS Sheppard to the community.

"His passion for sports -- football and cricket in particular -- has made him renowned nationally. Sheppard's many exploits on the playfield have been impactful, deserving of recognition."

The Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, who has roots in Gray's Farm, community leaders, as well as several esteemed national sporting dignitaries, will be among

the specially invited guests at the renaming ceremony next year.

The Keithly Sheppard Recreational Park Action Committee is asking anyone attending the functions to dress elegantly casual for the occasion.

The vision statement for the Keithly Sheppard Recreational Park Action Committee is "a park where people can express themselves athletically."

Sledge O'Ballers upset Trimingham Trucking Enterprises

Sledge O'Ballers pulled off an upset during the opening round knockout playoff phase of the Cool & Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) on Sunday night.

The 12th-seeded Sledge O'Ballers snatched a surprising 61-57 victory against fifth-seeded Trimingham Trucking Enterprises in their opening round knockout affair at the JSC

Sports Complex.

Tristan Jacobs shot a game-high 20 points, and Kareem Edwards sank 16 points for the Sledge O'Ballers, who now advance to the second round of the playoff competition.

Donte Trimingham converted 18 points, and T-Shawn Lewis had 15 points for Trimingham Trucking Enterprises, which crashed out of the

playoff competition at the first hurdle.

Fourth-seeded Anjo Wholesale advanced to the second round after winning by default over 13th-seed Police, who failed to show up for their first-round encounter on Sunday.

The 8th-seeded Board of Education will face ninth-seed H. Wright Promotions in the last first-round

cont'd on pg 21

Bravo hits century as T&T Red Force humble Barbados Pride

A brilliant unbeaten century from Darren Bravo and incisive spin bowling from Sunil Narine and Akeal Hosein were key factors in the Trinidad and Tobago Red Force's emphatic 78-run victory over the Barbados Pride in their CG United Insurance Super50 match at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Sunday.

Chasing 294 for victory, Barbados were bowled out for 215 in 47.2 overs.

Bravo's 139 not out that included nine fours and seven majestic sixes, was the foundation on which Trinidad and Tobago built their score of 293 for six from their 50 overs.

Opener Kjorn Ottley and Tion Webster made invaluable contributions with scores of 36 and 28, respectively, but the bulk of the runs came from Bravo's bat as no other batter got past 20 runs against the Barbados bowling attack.

Roston Chase was the best of the Barbados bowlers taking three for 50 from his 10 overs, while Kemar Smith took two

for 46.

Needing 294 for victory, Barbados never really got going. Their batters were beguiled at first by Hosein, who dismissed Kyle Mayers for 12 and Zachary McCaskie for 19. He also dismissed the dangerous Shai Hope for just 18 to finish with figures of three for 31.

Shannon Gabriel had Shamarh Brooks out caught for 33 before Narine took over snaring the wickets of Chase for 48, Roshon Primus for one, Kemar Smith without scoring, and Dominic Drakes for nine to return the impressive figures of four for 13 from his 10 overs.

Akeem Jordan in partnership with Jomel Warrican played an entertaining cameo bludgeoning Trinidad's bowlers for four fours and three sixes before he was bowled by Khary Pierre for a well-played 40 from 47 balls.

Yanic Cariah put the cap on the proceedings when he dismissed Jair McAllister for one, leaving Warrican not out on 19 in the end.



Trinidad and Tobago Red Force batsman Darren Bravo celebrates after reaching his century against the Barbados Pride in their CG United Insurance Super50 match at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Sunday, November 5, 2023. (CWI Media)

cont'd from pg 19

playoff encounter at the JSC Sports Complex this evening (Tuesday) at 6:45 pm.

The top three teams in the round-robin league will enter the playoff competition in the second round, which will commence on Wednesday.

Top seed and league champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board

will face the winner of the game between H. Wright Promotions and the Board of Education in the last game of a triple-header on Wednesday at 8:30 pm.

Third-seeded and reigning playoff champions Richie's Shooterz will begin their title defense against the winner of a first-round encounter between the 6th-seeded Callan Shooters and 11th-seed-

ed Sir Lester Bird Medical Center in the second game on Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Anjo Wholesale will challenge Sledge O'Ballers in the opening second round encounter on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

Meanwhile, the business basketball league will take a break on Thursday to join with the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association in paying tribute to

the late ex-national player and legend Rowan "Tekel" Gomes.

The Rowan "Tekel" Gomes tribute night will take place at the JSC Sports Complex at 7:30 pm.

Gomes, who passed away on September 11, will be laid to rest on Friday after a funeral service at the Christian Union Church on Wireless Road in Clare Hall at 2 pm on the same day.



PLATINUM Fm
We Entertain You **97.9**

MON - FRI
10AM - 12PM

HOSTED BY CARLENA KNIGHT

PLATINUM
SPORTS CENTER

CALL: 562 - 9790
FACEBOOK LIVE @ PLATINUM FM 97.9

Shakib leads Bangladesh to win after 'time out' drama

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan triggered a debate on the spirit of cricket before smashing a rapid 82 in their three-wicket victory against 1996 champions Sri Lanka, who were eliminated from the 50-overs World Cup on Monday.

The all-rounder collaborated in a 169-run stand with Najmul Hossain Shanto (90) to help Bangladesh chase down a 280-run victory target in 41.1 overs.

Charith Asalanka's 108 underpinned Sri Lanka's 279 all out after they were put into bat by Shakib, who was in the eye of a storm on an eventful day.

It was Shakib's appeal that led to Sri Lanka's Angelo Mathews becoming the first player to be 'timed out' in an international match.

Put into bat, Sri Lanka lost Kusal Perera in the first over when Bangladesh wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahim flew to his left to grab a one-handed blinder in front of the first slip.

Pathum Nissanka (41) and Sadeera Samarawickrama (41) could not convert the starts but Asalanka smashed five sixes and six fours in his second ODI century to help Sri Lanka post a competitive total.

Nearly 20,000 spectators witnessed drama at the halfway stage of the



An umpire intervenes as Bangladesh players and Sri Lankan players get into an altercation during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in New Delhi, India, Monday, Nov. 6, 2023. (AP)

Sri Lankan innings when Mathews walked out to bat after Samarawickrama's exit.

After the chinstrap of his helmet broke, Mathews waited for a new helmet to arrive before facing Shakib, but was adjudged 'timed out' after failing to take strike within the stipulated two minutes.

Bangladesh lost both openers inside seven overs, but Shakib and Shanto put their chase back on track.

Mathews denied Shakib a hundred, and tapped his wrist in a send-off as if to tell the Bangladesh captain it was his time to go.

Shanto missed out on a hundred too but Sri Lanka still succumbed to their

sixth defeat in eight matches.

Following the team's poor performance in the tournament, the entire Sri Lankan board was sacked and replaced with an interim committee earlier on Monday.

The prevailing filthy air in New Delhi was the talking point ahead of the match between the Asian sides.

The air quality index (AQI) near the Arun Jaitley Stadium read close to 400 on Monday noon triggering speculation that the match might get delayed if not cancelled altogether.

An AQI of 0-50 is considered good, while anything between 400-500

affects healthy people and is considered a danger to those with existing diseases.

Both teams had cancelled a training session in the buildup, and on Sunday, asthmatic Bangladesh cricketers remained indoors, while Sri Lankan players wore masks.

Organisers installed air purifiers in the players' dressing rooms while water sprinklers were used to reduce pollutants in the air.

New Delhi has stood on top of a real-time list of the world's most polluted cities compiled by Swiss group, forcing the local government to extend the closure of primary schools until Nov. 10.

Norford three-peats as Antigua Open golf champ

Adrian Norford of St. Kitts claimed a historic hat-trick of wins by capturing the 2023 Antigua Open Golf Championship at Cedar Valley on Sunday.

Norford shot a two-day tally of 143 to outlast a star-studded field to become the first ever three-peat Antigua Open champion.

"I feel really wonderful. I mean, I just want to thank God for waking us up every day to see a different day," Norford said after his latest victory.



Men's A Flight winner Sylvester 'Bouncing' Joseph, left, accepts his award from Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Golf Association Anderson Newman Wynter. (Photos by Vernon Springer)

"I want to appreciate all the work around here, such as the restaurant, the roads around the golf course, and especially those young people who are playing golf here in Antigua. I feel really proud to see them involved."

Fellow Kittitian Raymond Percival captured the runner-up spot with a total of 145, while Wilston Charles of Antigua came in third with a score of 147.

One of those talented youngsters, Katherine Woodhouse, is the new Antiguan golf queen.

The 16-year-old sensation emerged from the 36-hole tournament with a total of 155 to capture the ladies' category trophy for the second year running.

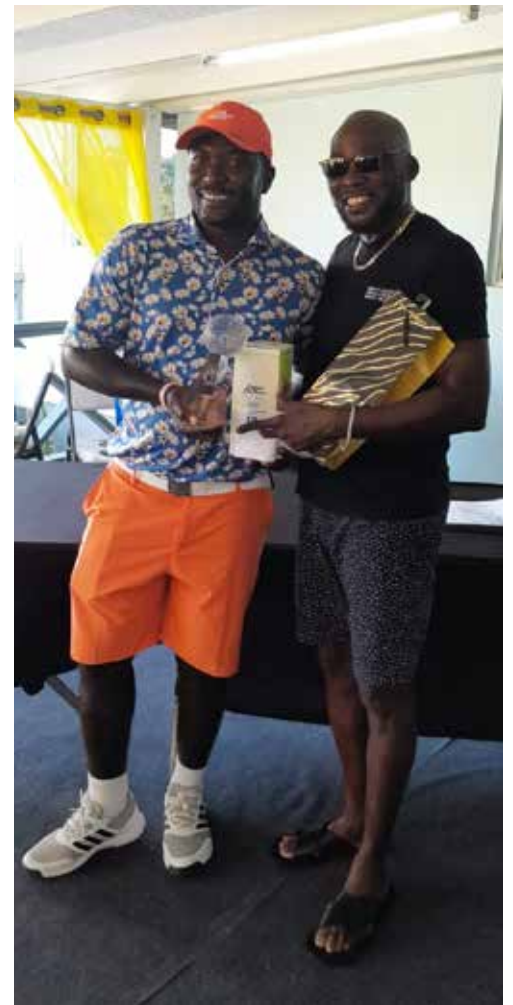
Michelle Millington came in second with a total of 174, and Jenah Andrew finished third with a score of 211.

Former West Indies and Leeward Islands cricketer Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph won the Men's A Flight contest with a two-day total of 155. Mark Woodhouse finished second with a score of 156.

Paullus Martin of New Winthropes captured the Men's B Flight with a two-day total of 166. Chris Hensley came in second with a total of 171.

Lovanjo Weeks claimed the Juniors Division title with a total of 181, while Zamari Zachariah took second place with a total of 198.

Former West Indies, Leeward Islands, and Antiguan cricketer Eldine "Soca" Baptiste won the seniors division with a total of 156. Antigua and



Adrian Norford, left, accepts his award from Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Golf Association Anderson Newman Wynter.

Barbuda's only living national hero, Sir Vivian Richards, came in second with a total of 160, while Wesley Dyer finished third with a score of 164.

Patrick Ryan captured their Super Seniors' title with a two-day total of 169. Errol Hodge came in second with 172, and Ramesh Sinanan finished third with 183.