

ROSEWOOD BRAND COMING TO BARBUDA

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Rosewood brand includes Barbuda in its expansion

Rosewood Hotels & Resorts® has included Barbuda in the expansion of its brand.

Developed by Murbee Resorts, Rosewood Barbuda will bring an intimate expression of Rosewood’s ultra-luxury hospitality experience to the island, featuring 50 resort suites and 35 Rosewood Residences.

Barbuda is being described as an ideal fit for Rosewood as the brand grows its presence throughout the Caribbean islands. Rosewood Barbuda will join Rosewood Baha Mar,



Rosewood Little Dix Bay, and Rosewood Le Guanahani St. Barth, adding another unique gem to a diverse and

well-appointed portfolio.

“Rosewood Barbuda will effortlessly complement the existing natural wonders

that have long made this intimate destination so captivating,” says Radha Arora,

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JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30

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cont'd from pg 2

President of Rosewood Hotels & Resorts.

“It is an honor to work with all parties involved in the project to realize our shared vision of creating an ultra-luxury resort that exists in harmony with its surroundings, providing guests with an escape in the truest sense of the word. Contributing to further developing the hospitality offer and economy of Antigua & Barbuda is an honor and a responsibility we are proud of,” said Kiril and Georgi Domuschiev, investors in Murbee Resorts.

“Rosewood Hotels & Resorts has one of the highest standards of the industry and we are confident our future guests will enjoy the paradise beaches of Barbuda, and the impeccable hotel service, as much as we do.”

Set on 85 secluded acres including 900 meters of pristine beachfront, Rosewood Barbuda will feature the

brand’s integrative wellness concept, Asaya Spa® with a menu of treatments and experiential offerings that address Rosewood’s five pillars of wellness: emotional balance, fitness and nutrition, physical therapies, skin health, and community.

In addition to the spa’s six treatment rooms, wellness seekers can also enjoy an expansive fitness center and two pools, including one dedicated to families.

Offering a diverse culinary program, the property will feature three unique dining outlets including a farm-to-table restaurant, which will showcase the flavors of the island by making use of local produce.

“This project will accelerate the sustainable development of the island, boost the local economy, and provide new services and amenities for the local population,” said Armand Arton, Special Economic Envoy to Antigua

and Barbuda. “The construction phase is projected to create employment for over 300 workers and is set to begin in 2024 and will be built to the highest sustainability standards and will be operated primarily with renewable energy.

Once operational in 2028, the resort is expected to create employment for approximately 300 workers on the island. Additionally, a percentage of Rosewood Barbuda’s revenues will be given to local communities and education projects.”

Prime Minister Gaston Browne said: “This significant investment will greatly boost Barbuda’s local economy, providing employment and services for the island’s citizens. With sustainable development at the core of the hotel’s construction, the project will solidify Barbuda’s position as the destination of choice for the discerning traveller”.

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Greenbay man shot dead following altercation

A 32-year-old Greenbay Hill resident has become the country's 10th murder victim for 2023.

Clifford Micah Watt, a father of three, was gunned down in broad daylight and now a search is underway by police to find his killer.

Initial reports are that Watt was allegedly involved in an altercation with a man outside of his home on Tuesday morning. The reasons behind their confrontation remain unknown.

The unidentified man who Clifford Watt was feuding with left and returned



Clifford Micah Watt

sometime around 9AM with a suspected accomplice, who entered Watt's prem-

ises and opened fire on the house. In the process, the gunman encountered Watt

and shot him multiple times, then escaped from the scene.

Clifford Watt was rushed to Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, where police said he was pronounced dead.

As investigations begin, police are seeking the public's assistance in sharing information that can assist them in solving the country's latest homicide.

Anyone with knowledge of the incident is asked to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913, or the Crimestoppers Hotline at 800-TIPS (8477).



Caribbean Union Bank

VACANCY

MANAGER – ENTERPRISE RISK & COMPLIANCE

THE ROLE:

Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) is seeking to fill the position of Manager – Enterprise Risk & Compliance. The Risk and Compliance Department safeguards the integrity and stability of the Bank by identifying, assessing, and mitigating potential risks while ensuring strict adherence to regulatory standards. The Manager – Enterprise Risk & Compliance, will lead the development and implementation of the enterprise risk management framework of the Bank and manage its AML/CFT activities to ensure they align with the Bank's strategy.

KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- › Manage the implementation of the Bank's enterprise-wide Risk Management Framework to facilitate the assessment and ongoing monitoring of industry related risks.
- › Develop and Implement the Bank's Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Counter Terrorist Financing (CFT) Policies, Procedures and Practices.
- › Create a risk and compliance awareness culture throughout the Bank through ongoing training.
- › Perform strategic risk assessments of new products, mergers, acquisitions or significant investments.
- › Develop and coordinate/facilitate risk management and AML/CFT training and technical assistance for the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Bank.
- › Serve as a liaison between the Bank, regulatory bodies, correspondent banks and other stakeholders on risk and compliance matters.
- › Administer the affairs of the enterprise risk and compliance department.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- › Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in Economics, Finance or Financial Management, Banking or a similar field;
- › Master's Degree would be an asset;
- › Risk Management Certification
- › CAMS or other compliance relevant certification

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE/COMPETENCIES

- › At least ten years' experience at a senior level in a Bank or other financial services organization, five of which must be in a risk management related position.
- › Critical thinking skills, strategic thinking, effective analysis of data, and the ability to analyze business plans based on component risks;
- › Keen business acumen, business and financial judgment and problem-solving skills;
- › Ability to analyze financial information;
- › A strong understanding of processes and core management activities to assist the Bank in developing processes to identify, monitor, and report on key business risks;
- › Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- › Exemplary interpersonal, relationship building and customer service skills;
- › Capacity to deal confidently and courteously with people at all levels.
- › Strong organisational and prioritizing skills, the ability to successfully complete several tasks concurrently and meet deadlines.
- › Adaptable/flexible
- › Able to work effectively on own or as part of a team
- › High accuracy and attention to detail

APPLICATIONS

Applications can be submitted via email to human.resource@cub.ag or, alternatively, hand-delivered to the receptionist at our Friars Hill branch or to the branch ambassador at our Starling's branch. The deadline for applications is **December 30th 2023**.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Overseas company engaged to boost water production

The government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with an American company for expansion of two of APUA's Reverse Osmosis Plants, namely Ivan Rodrigues and the other at Ffryes.

Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst, confirmed the signing of the agreement with the Florida-based company that is yet to be named.

However, he was clear that it is non-binding and must first be reviewed by the Ministry of Legal Affairs before it is placed before the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda for consideration and approval.

Utilities Minister Melford Nicholas is confident that the emphasis being placed on increased water production



will bode well for the country when levels drop in the natural water catchment facilities that are controlled by Antigua Public Utilities Authority.

“Our business plan says that we are going to need by the end of the first quarter of next year, at least 12 million gallons of water per day. So, we have to get a 50 percent increase in our productive ca-

pability,” the utilities minister stated recently. Achieving that target will also include a local company to aid in boosting output.

Minister Melford Nicholas said discussions have been held with North Sound Management that controls the facilities previously owned by the Stanford Development Group in Crabbs, with the

intention of them producing approximately one million gallons of water.

“So, we will have an additional four million gallons of water to add to the eight. That will give us the capacity that we need, certainly to meet any uncovered demand for water next year.”

He projects there will be enough water to meet the demands of households and businesses throughout the country in the first quarter of 2024, even if dry conditions prevail.

The agreements with private companies, along with the facilities owned by APUA, combined, are estimated to meet that demand.

Government has given an undertaking to significantly improve water production and distribution to residents who, overtime, have been dissatisfied with APUA's efforts in handling the need for frequent supply of the precious commodity.

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8th & 9th DECEMBER

Magistrate Clarke celebrates end of cancer treatment



Carden Conliffe Clarke

District A. Magistrate Carden Conliffe Clarke has expressed gratitude for the support he has received during his time undergoing cancer treatment.

Clarke, who presides over criminal matters in Saint John’s Magistrates’ Court has been on and off the bench since 2022, following his cancer diagnosis.

Recently, he completed treatment and in the presence of family members and employees of the Oncology Department of Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, rang the ceremonial bell in celebration of the end of chemo-

therapy, as he continues his journey to wellness.

“To say that this has been an eventful year would be much of an understatement. Luckily, 40 pounds, four surgeries and 12 chemo cycles later, I’m still standing.”

Magistrate Clarke said he drew strength to get through the difficult process from family, friends and from medical personnel in Antigua and Barbuda and Barbados.

He said words are not enough to express his appreciation for the love, care and attention that were extended

to him.

In candid remarks, he recalled feeling unwell in November, 2022, but was unsure of the reason behind it. Clarke subsequently sought medical attention and several tests were conducted, the results of which revealed a growth in the region of his pancreas.

“I left Antigua and within days I was on an operating table. I woke up in intensive care a day later, with a scar from my chest to my belly button.” Thereafter, the judicial officer began an almost one-year treatment cycle.

STUDENT SAFETY POLICY



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Call for applications from food vendors ahead of SIDS conference

The Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment will begin accepting applications on Thursday from food vendors wishing to secure booths at next year's UN SIDS4 Conference, scheduled for Antigua and Barbuda.

According to the Ministry of Tourism, vendor

space is limited and all applicants must undergo a UN-approved certification process.

Application forms are available at the Ministry of Tourism on Queen Elizabeth Highway, Monday to Friday, from 9 am to 2 pm. Forms can also be downloaded at <https://www.visitantiguabarbuda.com> from



Thursday.

Completed application

forms must be submitted no later than Friday, 5th January, 2024, to the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation, and Investment.

More information is available by calling 468-4070.

The conference will be held from 27th to 30th May, 2024, at the Conference Centre of the American University of Antigua (AUA).

SIDS4 will be held under the theme "Charting the Course Toward Resilient Prosperity".

It aims to assess the capability of Small Island Developing States to achieve sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

The conference will produce an inter-governmental agreed, focused, forward-looking, and action-oriented political outcome document.

Approximately 5,000 people from around the world are expected to attend the international conference.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

OFFICE OF THE LABOUR COMMISSIONER

Ministry of Legal Affairs, Public Safety & Labour
Thames & Long Streets
St. John's
Antigua, W.I.

Tel: 462-9202, (268) 462-4988
Fax: 562 7358 (Local fax)
E-mail: deplabour@ab.gov.ag

For Immediate Release December 5, 2023

GENERAL NOTICE FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT

Subject: Sir Vere Cornwall Bird Snr. Day

Public Holiday

The Labour Department wishes to inform the General Public that in accordance with the "Public Holidays (Amendment) Act 2019" No. 23 of 2019, **Sir Vere Cornwall Bird Snr. Day will be observed on December 11, 2023.** As such, December 9, 2023 will be treated as a normal working day.

Employers are reminded that employees who are scheduled to work on public holidays should be paid their regular wage in addition to an hourly rate of 150% of their basic rate per hour worked.

Please be guided accordingly.


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Labour Commissioner

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY &
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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Bahamas' tourism sector surges with record-breaking 8 million visitors

The Bahamas set a record for tourist arrivals as the country has welcomed 8 million visitors this year.

The Ministry of Tourism, Investments and Aviation announced the development on Monday saying that it could have only been achieved through the unified efforts, strategic planning, and visionary initiatives of the government and stakeholders.

Chester Cooper, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, celebrated the achievement, which represents a significant rebound for the Bahamian travel and leisure sector following the ravages of COVID-19.

“The Bahamas has long been a sought-after destina-



tion, and reaching eight million visitors is a milestone that reflects the collective dedication of our tourism professionals nationwide. Our success lies not just in our islands' allure but in the strategic endeavours we have embraced. As we

celebrate this achievement, we are equally focused on shaping a future that ensures sustained year-over-year growth and enhances the visitor experience,” Cooper commented.

Cooper underscored the importance of collaboration

between the government and private sector, stating: “Our partners have been instrumental in achieving this milestone. Their continued collaboration is key to our sustained success, and together, we will shape the future of Bahamian tourism and the Bahamian economy.”

Latia Duncombe, Director General of Tourism, remarked: “This historic milestone in visitor arrivals is a clear indicator of the unique charm and richness of our 16-island destination. Our unwavering dedication to offering diverse, authentic experiences underlines our strategy for Brand Bahamas. We ensure every traveller's journey is not just a visit, but an unforgettable, enriching experience that beckons a return to our beautiful shores.”

The officials said they will continue working with stakeholders to ensure continued growth in the island's vital tourism sector.

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Guyana's oil-fuelled economy triples in size, IMF reports

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has found that Guyana's economy has tripled in size since the country began extracting oil in late 2019.

The data was released on Monday following the IMF's Article IV consultation with Guyana.

"The Guyanese economy continues to experience record growth, supported by the government's modernisation plans and unparalleled oil and gas sector expansion. Overall real GDP growth is projected to grow 38.4 per cent in 2023 and on average of 20 per cent per year during 2024-28," the IMF said.

"Guyana's very favourable medium-term growth prospects are accompanied by upside risks—key among them being further oil discoveries that would continue to improve growth prospects—and downside risks—inflationary pressures and the appreciation of the real exchange rate beyond the level implied by a balanced expansion of the economy. Adverse climate shocks, and volatile or lower than pro-

jected commodity prices, may also negatively impact the economy."

According to the IMF, a key challenge for Guyana would be to manage its large revenue inflows "to ensure macro-economic stability and sustainability, while investing steadily in people, physical infrastructure, and institutions."

Guyana's 2023 policy mix has been deemed appropriate by the IMF as the government is increasing spending to meet the country's large development needs and also grow the non-oil GDP.

"The authorities' commitment to fiscal discipline is welcome and allows for a balanced growth path, with moderating fiscal impulses projected to achieve a zero overall fiscal balance by 2028. Gross international reserves and substantial saving in the National Resource Fund are expected to continue to accumulate in the medium-term," the IMF said.

The IMF recommended that Guyana adopts a comprehensive medi-

um-term fiscal framework (MTFF).

"As a fiscal anchor, staff recommend setting a path for the non-oil primary balance (as a percent of non-oil GDP) consistent with the ceilings the withdrawals from the NRF of oil revenues which aim to ensure inter-generational equity.

"The MTFF should encompass further modernising the public financial management framework, to contain a clear medium-term fiscal anchor, a transition path, and an operational target. Staff recommend periodic expenditure reviews to ensure macroeconomic stability and preserve competitiveness by setting the pace of public investment to take into account absorption and institutional capacity constraints of the economy," the report said.

The IMF has also recommended that Guyana continues to closely monitor its macroeconomic and financial indicators. Guyana was advised to tighten its monetary policy stance and use macroprudential tools as needed.

**SUNDAYS
10AM - 1PM**

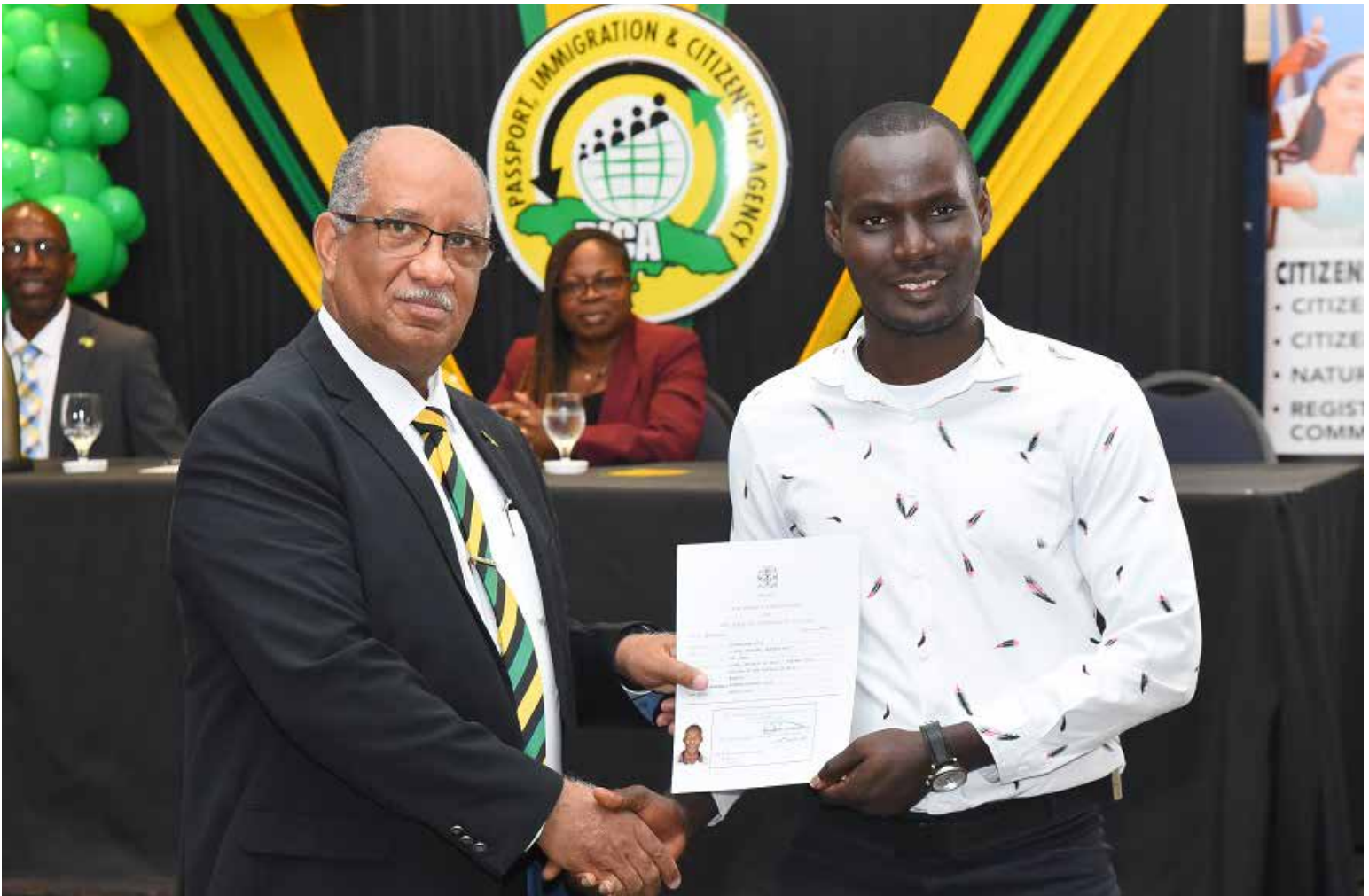


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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER



Chief Executive Officer, Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA), Andrew Wynter (left), presents a Certificate of Citizenship to newly minted Jamaican, Richardson Louis, during PICA's citizenship ceremony at the Jamaica Pegasus hotel in New Kingston, on Monday. (Photo: JIS)

Haitian man waits four years to become Jamaican citizen

Newly minted citizen Richardson Louis is ecstatic that he is now officially a Jamaican.

He was one of 33 people who were, on Monday, granted citizenship by the Government during a ceremony at the Jamaica Pegasus hotel in New Kingston.

They were presented with documents formalising their status by the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA).

"Jamaica is home. Finally, I am home," Louis emphatically declared after receiving his documents.

Jamaican citizenship is granted by virtue of marriage, registration (for

Commonwealth citizens), naturalisation (for non-Commonwealth citizens), by descent, citizenship in cases of doubt (for persons whose birth was not registered), and restoration (for persons who had previously renounced their Jamaican citizenship).

Louis, who was born in Haiti in 1993, told JIS News that he is very happy he chose to become a Jamaican and believes the process facilitating this was worth it.

"It is a long process. I waited four years, but I'm so happy. I feel so excited to be a Jamaican national," he said, while holding a mini Jamaican flag.

Louis, a translator in the tourism

industry, shared that, as a Jamaican, he is pleased to be associated with national treasures like Bob Marley, Usain Bolt, and Shelly Ann Fraser-Pryce.

He relishes the beauty of Jamaican culture, noting that his favourite aspect is the food.

Louis is also looking forward to voting in Jamaica, noting that for the first time in his life, he will not be exposed to any political unrest as was his experience prior to coming here.

"In Jamaica, it is better for me when it comes to safety and working. I can go outside and come back home without fear. Some people may

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Jamaica re-elected to IMO Council

CMC - Jamaica has been re-elected to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council for another two-year period.

A government statement said that the island successfully secured a seat on Category "C" of the IMO following elections held at the 33rd Assembly in London, over the last weekend.

Jamaica secured 120 of the 168 votes for a 20th position and will serve for a two-year term on the IMO Council from 2024.

"Jamaica is honoured to be re-elected to the IMO Council, and grateful for the trust placed in our nation by our international partners. We remain steadfast in our commitment to working collaboratively to address the challenges facing the industry and continue to contribute to the sustainable development on the global space," said Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport Minister, Daryl Vaz, who is leading the Jamaica delegation to the IMO meeting that ends on Wednesday.

Vaz said that the re-election is a significant achievement which reaffirms the country's continued commitment to promoting maritime safety, security, and environmental sustainability on the global stage.

"Jamaica's re-election to the IMO Council is a testament to the nation's longstanding dedication to the principles and objectives of the IMO. The delegation played a crucial role in advancing discussions and initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and efficiency of international shipping."

The 33rd IMO Assembly is open to all 175 member states and three Associate Members.

Category "C" comprises 20 states that have special interest in maritime transport or navigation, and whose election to the Council ensures the representation of all major geographic regions of the world.

The Assembly is the highest governing body of the Organisation and



responsible for approving the work of the various committees, proposes the budget, appoints the Secretary General for the Assembly's approval, and

makes policy recommendations including IMO's Strategic Plan.

"Securing an IMO Council seat provides Jamaica with an opportunity to represent the interests of Caribbean states, small island developing states, and least developed countries and solidify Jamaica's place at the international Maritime level," the statement said, noting that the country has been a member of the IMO since 1976 and was first elected to Council in 2007.

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be scared here, but I am not afraid. I feel safe," he said.

PICA's Director of Citizenship, Carol Saunders Hammond, said the Agency hopes to make citizenship services more accessible, efficient and customer-friendly, in the near future, to better facilitate people who are eager to establish their Jamaican roots.

She encouraged the new citizens to

consider how they may be able to positively impact Jamaica. This, while taking on the responsibility of being a good citizen.

The citizenship recipients were treated to performances from the Jamaican Folk Singers and the Jamaica Constabulary Force Band.

They also had the opportunity to partake of Jamaican foods, which included ackee and saltfish, escoveitched fish, bammy, festival and sorrel.

Nigeria airstrike ‘mistakenly’ kills worshippers at religious festival

At least 85 civilians were killed in Kaduna state, north-west Nigeria, in an air strike during a Muslim religious celebration on Sunday, the local emergency management authority said.

The civilians were killed in a “bombing mishap”, President Bola Tinubu said without giving a death toll.

State Governor Uba Sani said they were “mistakenly killed” by a military drone “targeting terrorists and bandits”.

More than 60 people were admitted to hospital for treatment, officials said.

The defence ministry termed the operation a “needless tragedy” adding that a routine mission against militants “inadvertently affected members of the community”.

Nigeria’s military has for years been battling armed criminals and militants who has been operating in parts of northern Nigeria, raiding villages and kidnapping residents for ransom.

The airstrike happened when villagers from Tundun Biri gathered for a religious festival on Sunday evening.

The head of the army, Lt Gen Taoreed Lagbaja has apologised to the residents and paid a condolence visit to the village.

He expressed regret about “the unfortunate mishap, describing it as a very disheartening occurrence”, the army said.

Gen Lagbaja said that troops were carrying out aerial patrols when they observed a group of people and “wrongly analysed and misinterpreted their pattern of activities” to be similar to that of the bandits, before



Villagers have lost many family members in the airstrike by the military.

the drone strike.

President Tinubu has asked for a “thorough and full-fledged investigation into the incident and calls for calm while the authorities look diligently into the mishap” a statement from his office said.

The governor has also called for an investigation.

“The Northwest Zonal Office has received details from the local authorities that 85 dead bodies have so far been buried while search is still ongoing,” a statement from the National Emergency Management Agency in the federal capital, Abuja, said.

“It is worthy of note that the casualties ranged from children, women and the elderly,” it added.

One man, who witnessed what happened, told the BBC’s Hausa service that there were two attacks.

“The aircraft dropped a bomb at the venue, it destroyed and killed our people including women and children,” he said.

“The second bomb was dropped

on some of us who went to bring dead bodies of the victims of the first blast. We lost about 34 people in my family and we have 66 injured people in the hospital.”

A woman who saw the aftermath of the bombing told the BBC that bodies were strewn all over the place.

“Some women died holding their babies, some of the babies survived while others died along with their mothers,” she said.

The Nigerian military has in the past been accused of causing civilian casualties while battling militia gangs, known locally as bandits, in the north-west of the country. The government has labelled the gangs “terrorists”.

More than 300 people have been killed since 2017 in accidental strikes by the Nigerian military, a report by SB Morgen, a research firm, said.

In 2021, at least 20 fishermen were killed accidentally in a Nigerian fighter jet strike on a jihadist camp in north-east Nigeria.

Suspect James Yoo believed killed in Virginia house explosion

A man is presumed dead after his house in a suburb of Washington DC exploded during a standoff with police.

Authorities said James Yoo, 56, was the sole occupant of his unit in a duplex house in Arlington, Virginia.

Officers were called to the house at 16:45 local time (21:45 GMT) on Monday after reports of someone firing a flare gun.

Neighbours were evacuated. When police approached the building, shots were fired, and the house exploded.

Three officers sustained minor injuries, but police said on Tuesday that no neighbours or bystanders were hurt.

Around 10 to 12 homes in the surrounding area were affected by the blast. Police are still investigating what caused the explosion.

Fire officials said the gas supply to the house had been turned off prior to the blast.

The incident began when police say Mr Yoo fired a flare gun more than 30 times from inside his home.

After authorities were called, they got a search warrant for the home.

They first tried to speak to Mr Yoo over the phone and through loudspeakers, but he did not respond.



The fireball was seen across Arlington.

Arlington County Police Chief Andy Penn said officers then broke down the door to the home and came under suspected gunfire.

“Officers could not locate the source of the suspected gunfire or its intended target,” Mr Penn said during a news conference on Tuesday afternoon.

Police used what they described as “non-flammable” chemicals in areas where the suspect was believed to be hiding in an attempt to get him out of the home.

The house blew up shortly afterwards, at around 20:25.

Human remains were found in the wreckage and medical examiners are working to positively identify

them as those of the suspect, Mr Penn said.

There is no ongoing threat to the public and no other suspects, police said.

Mr Yoo’s social media accounts indicated that he spent years filing legal claims and alleging conspiracies with little evidence to back them up.

He posted videos online of documents from a number of lawsuits that accused people of stalking, threatening and harassing him.

Mr Yoo’s claims were consistently thrown out by the courts.

Police are also looking into “concerning social media posts” believed made by Mr Yoo.

Mr Penn said that Arlington Police had not en-

countered Mr Yoo with the exception of two noise complaints “over the past couple years”.

Dave Sundberg, assistant director of the FBI’s Washington field office, said that Mr Yoo had contacted the bureau several times over the years making allegations of fraud, but none of the messages resulted in any investigations.

The blast shook surrounding buildings, and authorities are assisting several families who could not yet return to their homes.

Videos circulating on social media showed debris and plumes of smoke flying into the air as the house explodes, blasting off the roof of the house and crumbling its walls.

West Indies Academy crush Ireland to sweep series

As was expected, the West Indies Academy inflicted a crushing defeat on Emerging Ireland in their four-day match at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua on Monday to sweep the series 2-0.

Having been set a nigh-impossible target of 575 runs, the tourists wilted under the pressure and were bowled out for 143, thus losing by a mammoth 432 runs.

Having resumed from their overnight total of 172 for four and an already significant lead of 432 runs, West Indies Academy, spurred by Kevin Wickham's unbeaten 105 and contributions of 32 from captain Nyeem Young and 22 from McKenny Clarke, eventually declared on 321 for eight.

The spark in the dark for Emerging Ireland was the haul of five wickets for 75 runs by Tom Hayes, who got some support from Michael Frost, whose two wickets came at the cost of 136 runs from 32 overs.

Chasing a target of almost 600 runs, Emerging Ireland were never up to the task against a rested and confident West Indies Academy bowling attack, which was once again led by Joshua Bishop, who snatched four for 36.

Seamer McKenny Clarke chipped in with



The West Indies Academy with their trophies after sweeping two-match series against Emerging Ireland at the Coolidge Cricket Ground here in Antigua on Monday, December 4, 2023. (CWI Media)

two for 16 as Ireland were bowled out for 143. Kelvin Anderson claimed the Player of the Match award.

West Indies Academy's skipper, Nyeem Young, beamed with pride as he spoke of the series win.

"It was an excellent performance by the boys throughout the series, and I am very happy as a captain.

"There were some very good individual performances throughout the series; a lot of the guys put their hands up and got us through some tricky situations throughout the series," Young said.

"We played the Headley-Weekes series earlier in the year, and we

had some KPIs for those games; we took them into this series as well, and the players just put their hands up, which as a captain makes me very happy."

Joshua Bishop scored 125 runs and took 10 wickets to be named the Four-Day Player of the Series. He was the most outstanding player on show as he followed up another Player of the Series performance in the List A (50 over series), which the West Indies earlier won 2-1.

Bishop said, "It feels good, and I am just glad that my performances were able to help the team win the series convincingly. Coming into the series, I was just looking to back

myself and my skills and to be prepared for the regional four-day tournament.

"I really enjoyed the red-ball format because it's much different from the white-ball because there are no limitations. I can bowl the red ball all day and bat the whole day, so I'm really enjoying it. I'm looking forward to pursuing more red-ball cricket in 2024."

Emerging as a surprise package was fast bowler Isai Thorne, who claimed the most wickets in the series. The teenager bowled with genuine pace to end with 12 wickets, which included match figures of eight for 41 in the opening match last week.

Hoppers clinch first Premier League win

Former champions Greenbay Hoppers fended off a surprising second-half fight back from Green City to claim their first win in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Monday.

Hoppers almost squandered a five-goal lead as they managed to prevail 5-4 against the Premier League's newcomers in their second round encounter at the ABFA Technical Center at Paynters.

Senior national player Javorn Stevens and Ammiel Joseph both scored twice for the Hoppers, who lost their opening encounter 3-1 against Ottos Rangers the previous week.

Stevens scored his first goal in the 5th minute and Tiquan Matthew made it 2-0 with a 15th-minute conversion. Joseph then scored his two goals in quick succession to increase the Hoppers advantage. He had conversions in the 27th and 28th minutes and Stevens scored his second goal of the match by converting a penalty in the 35th minute to give the Hoppers a 5-0 half-time lead.

By then, it appeared that Hoppers was on course for an easy victory, but Green City tuned the match into a tighter contest by producing a second-half fight back, which almost salvaged a draw and a share of the points.



Players of the Greenbay Hoppers team in a huddle at the ABFA Technical Center. (File Photo)

National senior team goalkeeper Zaire Scott, scored the first of four goals in the second half for Green City by converting a penalty in the 59th minute.

Sylvester Fenton scored in the 66th minute to further reduce the deficit. Green City, which suffered a narrow 2-1 loss to SAP in their premier league debut the previous week, continued their impressive fight back by scoring twice in a two-minute span to give the Hoppers a real scare.

Amali Colbourne scored in the 80th minute and Jahquane Richards converted Green City's fourth goal in the 81st minute.

Green City's quest for the equalizer proved elusive as the Hoppers held on to secure victory and avoided the embarrassment of losing a Premier League game after holding such a huge advantage.

Bethesda/Christian Hill came from behind to claim their first win in the ABFA's Second Division League by securing a 4-1 victory against ABAYA at the Bethesda playing field on Monday.

O'Shale Simon scored a hat-trick with conversions in the 24th, 47th, and 65th minutes and Chunsae Martin scored in the 85th minute for Bethesda/Christian Hill.

Jahvante Harriette scored the first goal of the match with a 3rd-minute conversion for ABAYA.

The ABFA's domestic league will continue with the second round of matches in the second division today at 4:30 pm.

West Ham will face CPTSA Wings at Princess Margaret School's Playing Field. Earthquakes will take on English Harbour at the Fort Road playing field.

FC Master Ballerz will tackle Soccer Academy at the Radio Range Playing Field in Ottos and Glanvilles will clash with Celtics at the Glanvilles Playing Field.



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PMS continues to dominate school league's U-16 boys' division

Princess Margaret School (PMS) extended their unbeaten run to increase its lead at the top of the Under-16 Boys' Division in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Monday.

Greg Williams scored twice as Princess Margaret School cruised to a 4-0 victory against Jennings Secondary at the PMS Playing Field.

Williams had conversions in the 6th and 8th minutes, Jayden Warner scored in the 34th minute and Jahrio Ferron scored in the 47th minute for Princess Margaret School.

Their 10th win in as many games lifted Princess Margaret to 30 points at the top of the 12-team round-robin league competition.

The result meant that Jennings Secondary suffered its sixth loss to complete its quota of 11 matches with a total of 11 points.

Defending champion Antigua Grammar School also completed its quota of matches by romping to a 5-0 victory against Glanvilles Secondary School in the second game of a double header at the PMS Playing Field.

Samuel Brazier scored a hat-trick by scoring in the 5th, 11th, and 27th minutes and Ezekiel Clarke scored the other two goals for An-

tigua Grammar Schools with conversions in the 3rd and 45th minutes.

Antigua Grammar School moves into third place as it finishes its campaign in the Under-16 Boys' Division on 23 points after recording its seventh win in 11 matches.

It was also the final match of the competition for Glanvilles Secondary, which ended its campaign with 16 points from its 11 matches.

Silence Manyaka scored twice in the 17th and 50th minutes to lead

Ottos Comprehensive School to a 2-0 victory against Irene B. Williams Secondary at King George V. Recreation Grounds in their final match of the competition.

Ottos Comprehensive moves into second place as it completes its quota of 11 matches with 24 points.

Its fourth loss in 10 matches ensures Irene B. Williams will remain on 13 points with one game remaining.

Antigua State College and Ottos Comprehensive School fought to a goalless

draw in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Division at the King George V. Recreation Grounds on Monday. The result ensured Ottos Comprehensive remained in second place behind Princess Margaret School, which currently leads the competition with 20 points from nine matches.

Ottos Comprehensive advances to 19 points from eight matches, while ASC remains in third place by moving on to 17 points from the same number of outings.



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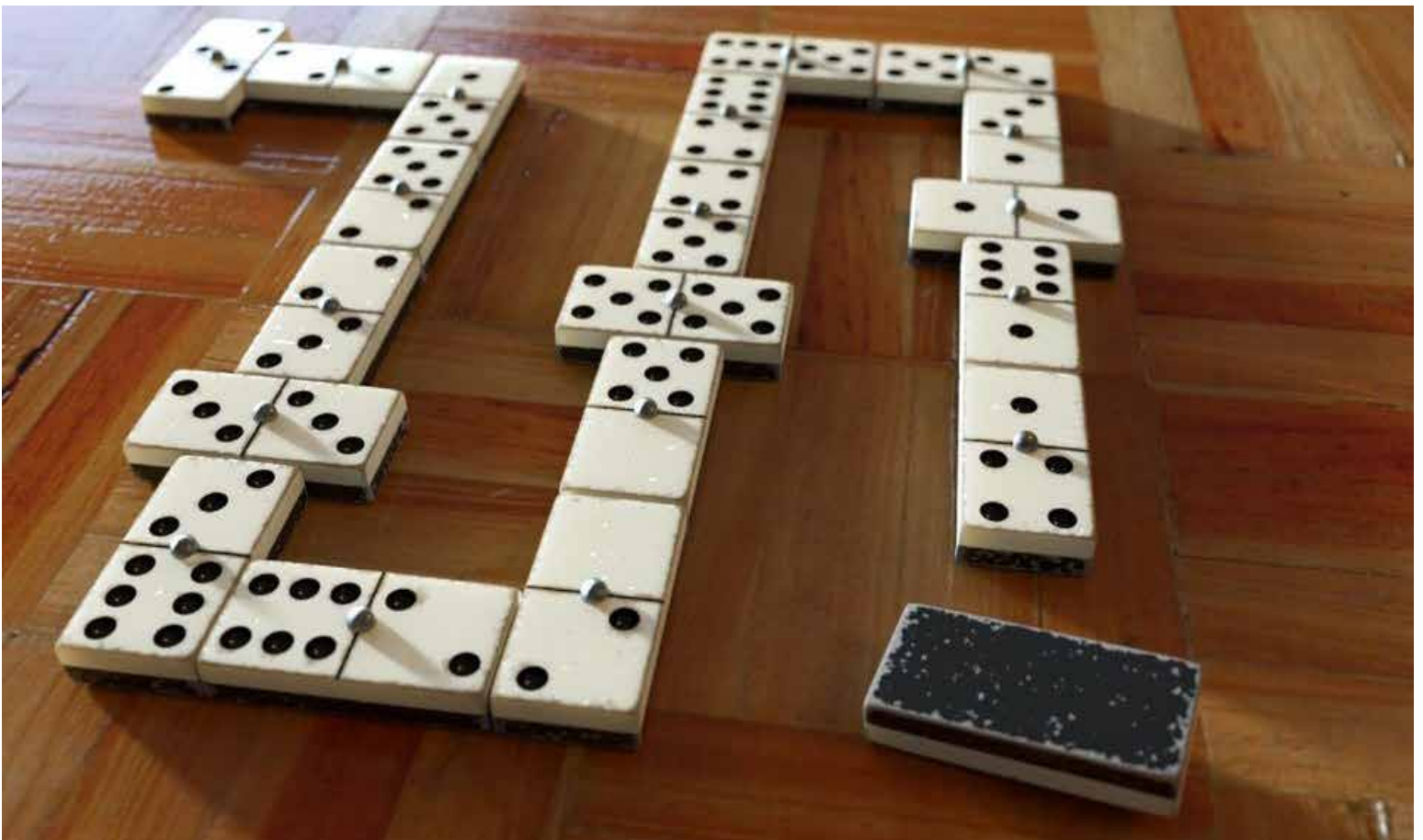


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Dominatrixx take over as leaders in domino contest

There is a new leader of the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association's (ABNDA) final three-hand competition of the year.

Dominatrixx is now at the helm after the fourth round of matches in the accumulated points three-hand competition at the ABNDA's headquarters in Ottos.

Dominatrixx jumped from third place, overtaking the B teams of both the Willikies Super Stars and Bolans Revellers, to move into first place in the 14-team round-robin contest with an overall total of 307 points.

Dominatrixx won the opening match by scoring 79 points to beat Double Six Diamonds with 76 points and the Bolans Revellers A Team with 56 points.

Former leaders Triple Dynamite jumped from fourth place up to second place by winning the third match of the fourth round to advance to an overall total of 304 points.

Triple Dynamite scored 76 points to defeat the Moise Eagles with 69 points and the Willikies Super Stars B Team with 58 points.

The result caused the B team of Willikies Super Stars to slip from second to fourth place with an overall

total of 288 points.

Ramplers jumped from fifth to third place with an overall total of 295 points by finishing second in the final fourth-round encounter.

It was won by the Full Clip A team, which scored 76 points to prevail against the Ramplers with 72 points and the Parham Strikers with 68 points.

The Willikies Super Stars A Team won the other fourth-round encounter by scoring 82 points to beat Unstoppables with 71 points and the Full Clip B Team with 64 points.

Willikies Super Stars won the only match that

was played in the 125 Four-Hand Competition.

The Super Stars beat Everyday Service Station Double Six 125-113 to avenge a 117-125 loss when both sides met earlier in the four-team round-robin four-hand contest.

The result meant that Willikies Super Stars joined A.S. Bryden and Stingray City Bolans Revellers at the top of the standings with identical records of three wins and one loss from four matches.

Double Six has two wins from four encounters and the Ramplers are in the cellar without a win after losing all four matches.

CWI and ICC on two-week inspection of venues

With the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup India 2023 now concluded, the focus turns squarely to the West Indies and the USA, hosts of the ninth edition of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, which will take place in June 2024.

During the period November 30 to December 15, 2023, a delegation consisting of representatives from the International Cricket Council (ICC) and Cricket West Indies (CWI) is conducting its second inspection of the confirmed World Cup host countries from the Caribbean and host cities in the USA, to be used for the pinnacle event in T20 cricket.

The inspection will be a comprehensive assessment of all the host countries and venues for both the World Cup and warm-up matches.

This will be the first ICC World Cup to be hosted in the USA, and a record 20 teams will be divided into four groups, with 55 matches being played across the competition.

ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Tournament Director Fawwaz Baksh said, "The main goal of the assessment is to thoroughly review each host country and work alongside each one to assist them in delivering the best experience for the players and thousands of fans who are expected to attend the tournament.

"This forms part of our overarching vision to host the biggest cricket carnival the world has ever seen and will help to reinforce the region's sta-



Representatives from the ICC and CWI delegation carrying out inspections at one of the host venues for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua, on November 30, 2023. (CWI Media)

tus as a premier venue for the staging of world-class sporting events."

ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Head of Operations, Khushiya Singh, added, "Areas that will be assessed include pitch and outfield preparations, practice facilities, players dressing rooms, broadcast and media facilities, IT and security capabilities, hotels and guest houses, areas for fan parks, and other key components that are fundamental to the successful staging of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup."

Once the inspections and assessments are completed, the ICC will compile their findings and communicate any necessary recommendations to CWI and, by extension, the host countries and match venues.

The valuable feedback from these visits will be instrumental in guiding each country and venue on the necessary steps needed to be taken to deliver an exceptional experience for players, spectators, and all other stakeholders throughout the duration of the tournament.