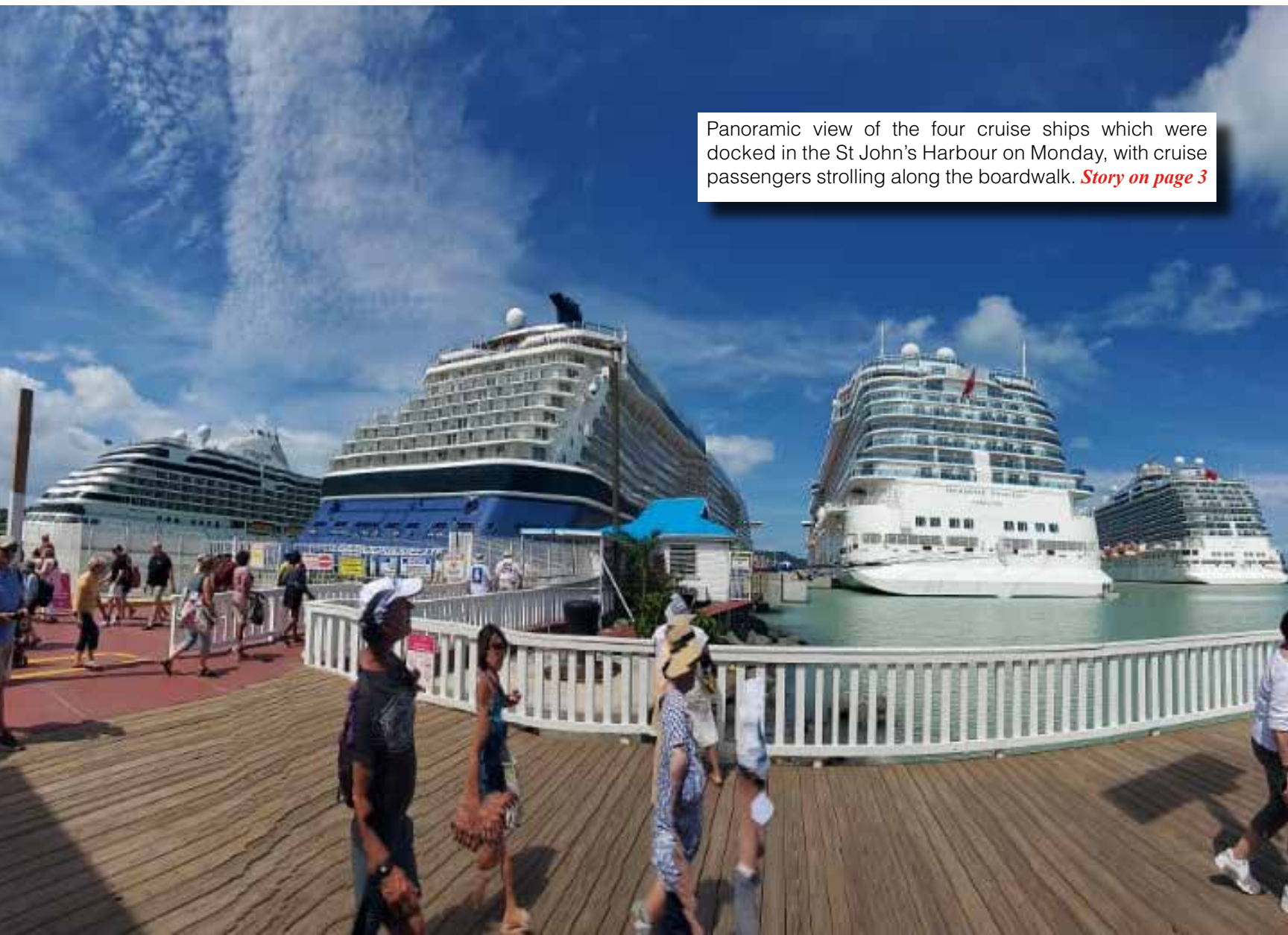


ONE STEP CLOSER FOR LIAT 2020

Story on Page 2

Panoramic view of the four cruise ships which were docked in the St John's Harbour on Monday, with cruise passengers strolling along the boardwalk. *Story on page 3*



Local News



One step closer for LIAT 2020

LIAT 2020, the new airline that has been created by the government of Antigua and Barbuda in the wake of the collapse of LIAT (1974)

Ltd., is moving closer to becoming fully operational with two demonstration flights scheduled for this week.

Interim Board Chairman of the company, Ambassador Daven Joseph, said the demo-flights, as they are generally referred to in the industry, form part of the process to attain the Air Operations Certificates (AOC) which the airline needs in order to be able to begin scheduled flights.

The flights have been organized in collaboration with the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA), the locally-based regional body responsible for issuing the certificates.

One of the flights will take off on Thursday for St. Kitts while the other leaves on Friday for St. Lucia. Both flights will return on the same day.

ECCAA officials and staff of LIAT 2020 will be among those on board the aircraft for the demo-flights.

The equipment will be the ATR's that LIAT 2020 has acquired from the de-

funct airline through the Caribbean Development Bank.

Last week, Prime Minister Gaston Browne as well as the Aviation Consultant, Brian Challenger and Ambassador Joseph met with officials of ECCAA to discuss issues surrounding the granting of the AOC to the new airline.

Following the meeting, the interim chairman said the granting of the AOC was just 'days away'.

LIAT 2020 is a joint venture operation between the Antigua and Barbuda government and a private airline out of Nigeria, Air Peace.

As part of the arrangement, Air Peace will make available three other aircraft to bring the overall flight count for LIAT 2020 to six planes.

There is no word on how soon these aircraft will arrive to complement the LIAT 2020 fleet.

AUCTION NOTICE

<u>REGISTRATION SECTION</u>	<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>PARCEL</u>
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Instructed by ACB MORTGAGE AND TRUST COMPANY LIMITED, I shall sell by PUBLIC AUCTION on Wednesday the 03rd day of April 2024 at 11:00am the above residential property at Buckley's Heights.

The property is under the ownership of LOREAN DENISE ROBERTS (aka DENISE LOREAN ROBERTS). The land is a 10,890 sq. ft. (0.25 acre) plot with an approximate 3,841 sq. ft., 2-storey with a partial basement reinforced concrete building with 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms.

The property is in a quiet residential area with a commanding view of the surrounding area.

The Auction shall be held on site.

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

Dated this the 12th day of March 2024

Trevor Teddy Santos Inc.
Licensed Auctioneer



Cruise passengers converge on the Heritage Quay shopping centre.

Antigua and Barbuda closes in on 450,000 cruise passengers for the year

Antigua and Barbuda inches closer to recording 450-thousand cruise passengers so far this year with the arrival of more than 15-thousand passengers to the country over the past two days.

Operations Manager at the Antigua Cruise Port, Rawle Reynolds reported that on Monday (Easter Monday) a total of 10,820 passengers arrived aboard five vessels.

The Four vessels – the *Seven Seas Grandeur* of the Regent Seven Seas Cruises, *Regal Princess* and *Emerald Princess* of the Princess Cruises, and *Celebrity Silhouette* of the Celebrity Cruises – docked



Rawle Reynolds

in the St John's Harbour. One vessel docked at the Nevis Street Pier, two at Heritage Quay and one at the 5th Berth. The other vessel – Emerald Azzurra

of Emerald Cruises was docked at Falmouth Harbour.

On Tuesday, another 4,682 passengers arrived aboard two vessels – *Marina* of the Oceania Cruises and *Norwegian Viva* of NCL.

The overall total for both days was 15,502 cruise passengers. The overall total from the beginning of January to the first two days of April stands at 445,378 passengers, 54,622 away from the 500-thousand passenger mark.

Reynolds said he is confident that this milestone will be achieved shortly.



Prime Minister Gaston Browne, Former PM of Norway Erna Solberg and members of the High Level Panel.

PM Browne presents historic MVI report to the United Nations

Prime Minister Gaston Browne participated in the joint presentation of the highly anticipated final report from the High-Level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) appointed by the United Nations.

PM Browne served as co-chair of the High-Level Panel alongside former Prime Minister of Norway, Erna Solberg. Together, they presented the final report to the United Nations on Thursday. The report reflected the work of a Panel of highly skilled and qualified individuals spanning both the technical and political realms of this issue, according to PM Browne.

“The report is the result of almost 2 years of intense work by the Panel, supported by the Secretariat. We are very pleased with this product and we

invite you to explore what has been developed and to consider its implications. After more than thirty years of advocacy for a more comprehensive assessment of a country’s well-being, that moves beyond the confines of Gross National Income (GNI) per capita, the UN has finally developed a sound international benchmark and we are pleased to have steered this ground breaking process,” the prime minister said in his presentation.

Additionally, the Antigua and Barbuda leader noted that it is very clear that national level poverty, often measured by GNI per capita is indeed a weak measure of material welfare or well-being. “This is especially so for countries facing high risks of external shocks, particularly, from climate change effects. In addition, countries

with structural risk of lower well-being also deserve special assistance, especially if countries structurally lack resilience,” he advised.

According to PM Browne there is currently no international, widely accepted, quantitative benchmark to measure structural vulnerability or lack of resilience across multiple dimensions of sustainable development at the national level.

Hence, the MVI fills this gap. It allows for a recognition that a country’s vulnerabilities to exogenous shocks and stressors are an impediment to its sustainable development and should be taken into account in determining its eligibility for development assistance, particularly if it also lacks inherent resilience.

cont’d on pg 5

Minister of Foreign Affairs gives SIDS4 preparations a ‘thumbs up’

Minister of Foreign Affairs E.P Chet Greene gave the local organisers of the Fourth Conference of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)4 a big ‘thumbs up’ for the work they have done thus far in preparation for the May 27-30 meeting.

At a recent meeting with the full team, Minister Greene heaped praise on the organisers of SIDS4 and he assured them of Cabinet’s full support in ensuring that the historic gathering in Antigua and Barbuda is a major success.

Minister Greene, who is the Lead Minister on the conference, received an exhaustive and comprehensive briefing from the multi-sectoral team that is now fully engaged in making all the necessary preparations for the conference during the meeting at the American University of Antigua (AUA), the conference venue for SIDS4.

He expressed confidence in the Secretariat team and the various agencies and departments across

the government service who are being tasked with various responsibilities in ensuring that Antigua and Barbuda delivers on a successful outcome for all Small Island Developing States. The conference will be crucial in devising practical and ambitious solutions to the major challenges, including climate change and the debt burden, that stand in the way of achieving the desired goal of sustainable development for all SIDS.

The Conference will bring the political leadership of island nations from across the globe as well as major international figures, development partners and senior officials and experts from the United Nations to Antigua and Barbuda for the meeting under the theme “Charting a Course Toward Resilient Prosperity.”

During the meeting, which was also attended by Antigua and Barbuda’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Walton Webson, committee leaders presented re-



Foreign Affairs Minister E.P Chet Greene engages presenters during recent meeting to hear reports of SIDS preparation.

ports that detailed progress in their respective areas and identified shortfalls or gaps where they may need additional support.

Minister Greene was fully briefed on several key matters including accommodation for visiting delegates and participants, the ongoing preparations of the main conference facility, traffic and security, health

and safety provisions and other key areas that hinged on the overall logistical requirements for a conference of this standard and nature.

Minister Greene will be reporting back to Cabinet at its meeting slated for Thursday this week with very specific details about preparations to ensure that it remains on target with its commitment to fully mobilise resources in support of the conference.

Also joining the Minister at the meeting were his Ministry’s Permanent Secretary Ambassador Anthony Liverpool and Head of Protocol, Karen Cabrall. The meeting was chaired by the National Coordinator of the Conference, Sheila Roseau.

cont’d from pg 4

PM Browne noted too that the MVI does not replace the GNI, rather it complements it. He also noted that it was not a SIDS-specific index but an index for all vulnerable countries.

“The index is not designed to assist countries engaged in bad policies, nor does it guarantee that any country gets any form of funding,” he emphasis.

Antigua and Barbuda’s Permanent

Representative H.E. Ambassador Walton Webson and H.E. Ana Paula Zacarias of Portugal will immediately lead the UN General Assembly in an intergovernmental process in negotiating the implementation of the recommendations contained in the MVI report.

Their work is expected to conclude by July of this year, where the MVI will be adopted and move towards the next phase of implementation.

A&B is getting help from RSS for SIDS4 conference

The anticipated large numbers of delegates who are expected to visit Antigua and Barbuda for the upcoming Fourth Conference of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)4 will have little to fear with the security arrangements that will go into effect for this major gathering.

Head of Defence Staff, Col. Telbert Benjamin revealed that Antigua and Barbuda has reached out to its fellow Regional Security System (RSS) colleagues for assistance for the staging of the conference from May 27-30.

conference, we were able to secure support from our regional partners throughout the RSS for additional resources to come into the country during the SIDS4 conference. Resources that we may not have adequate numbers of and which we need to support law enforcement,” Col Benjamin disclosed.

These matters were disclosed in length at a recent meeting of security chiefs from the RSS territories and Trinidad and Tobago where they discussed not just the SIDS4 conference but the hosting of the T20 Cricket



Col. Telbert Benjamin

“As it relates to the SIDS

cont'd on pg 7

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Cuba and Antigua & Barbuda to celebrate 30 years of diplomatic ties

The newly appointed Cuban Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Sergio Martinez, paid a courtesy call on Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene where the subject of the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries were discussed.

Both Cuba and Antigua and Barbuda established diplomatic relations on April 6, 1994, under the (Sir) Lester Bird Administration.

Both Minister Greene and Amb. Martinez exchanged ideas on ways to mark the milestone and to further strengthen the ties between the two Caribbean nations.

Antigua and Barbuda has once again voiced its strong support for the government and people of Cuba



against the backdrop of the difficulties they have faced for more than six decades of the suffocating financial and economic blockade of the Caribbean nation by its neighbour to the north, the

United States.

To mark the occasion, the Antigua and Barbuda parliament will convene a meeting where it will adopt a resolution affirming its support for Cuba in this on-

going struggle. It is widely expected that the opposition UPP will join with the government in supporting the resolution in a moment of solidarity with the Cuban people.

cont'd from pg 6

World Cup matches in six Caribbean territories in June. All the countries in attendance gave the assurances that they will provide the personnel and the resources as are necessary for the successful hosting of SIDS4.

“Once again, we identified the resources that we can share among each other leading to the creation of a comprehensive plan to facilitate the sharing of those resources among the island-nations and Guyana for Cricket World Cup,” he noted.

In the discussions related to T20 World Cup, Col. Benjamin noted that since five RSS members and Trinidad and Tobago will host matches and against the backdrop of the creation of a single space for all the host-nations,

the question arose regarding how best to move these resources around within that space.

“Importantly, we looked at how do we move around these personnel and other resources and how do we ‘fill-the-gaps’ that may develop in some country over the period. We considered EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) more commonly referred to as bomb disposal, for both SIDS4 and Cricket World Cup as well as the handling of hazardous materials,” he added.

Briefings were given by the head of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) on health issues that may arise from delegates or from host country personnel. There was another bringing from the head of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management

Agency (CDEMA).

The regional security heads also heard a report on the ongoing situation in Haiti as well as the unresolved dispute between Guyana and Venezuela.

The security chiefs are meeting this month and again in May to fine-tune their planning for the hosting of these events; the SIDS4 conference in Antigua and Barbuda in May and the T20 Cricket matches in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana. Trinidad and Tobago is not a member of the RSS.

Earlier last month, chiefs of immigration and customs comptrollers met in Antigua to craft a set of modalities to operationalize the single space to facilitate T20 Cricket World Cup.

Another deadline for full freedom of movement passes

The March 31 date for the full implementation of the Freedom of Movement regime within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has passed without agreement by the Heads of Government on how soon this would become a reality.

“At the last virtual heads meeting it was decided that a series of meetings will take place leading up to the next meeting in Grenada to complete

outstanding amendments to the treaty,” informed sources told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) on Tuesday.

At the end of the summit in Guyana in February, Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley, who has lead responsibility for the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) had told reporters “we are on target” as it pertained to the free movement of CARICOM nationals.

The regional leaders were due to have met in mid-March for the anticipated sign-off on the arrangements to facilitate the free and full movement of CARICOM nationals by the end of that month.

The CSME allows for the free movement of goods, skills, labour and services across the region.

Under the existing free movement of skills regime, persons seeking to work in member countries

are required to obtain a CARICOM Skills Certificate. But apart from university graduates, artistes, musicians, sportspeople, media workers, nurses, teachers, Associate degree graduates, domestic and artisans, all other category of workers would need to obtain a work permit for the country which they are entering.

Mottley, who was among regional leaders addressing the end of summit news conference in Georgetown, told reporters then that the Community is on track to fulfil the mandate regional leaders gave at their historic 50th anniversary summit in Trinidad and Tobago in July last year, for free and full movement of CARICOM nationals from 31 March 2024. Antigua and Barbuda has already signaled that it wished to maintain its use of the current skills regime, which allows it to focus on addressing labour force demand in the local market.

“The policy is pragmatic and realistic to avoid dislocation of the indigent population, protecting jobs, and avoiding exacerbation of our economic/fiscal challenge,” said Antigua and Barbuda’s Ambassador to CARICOM, Dr. Clarence Henry.

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- ☒ Solid understanding of basic accounting principles

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We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those short-listed will be contacted.

UPP's failed attempt to runaway from the past

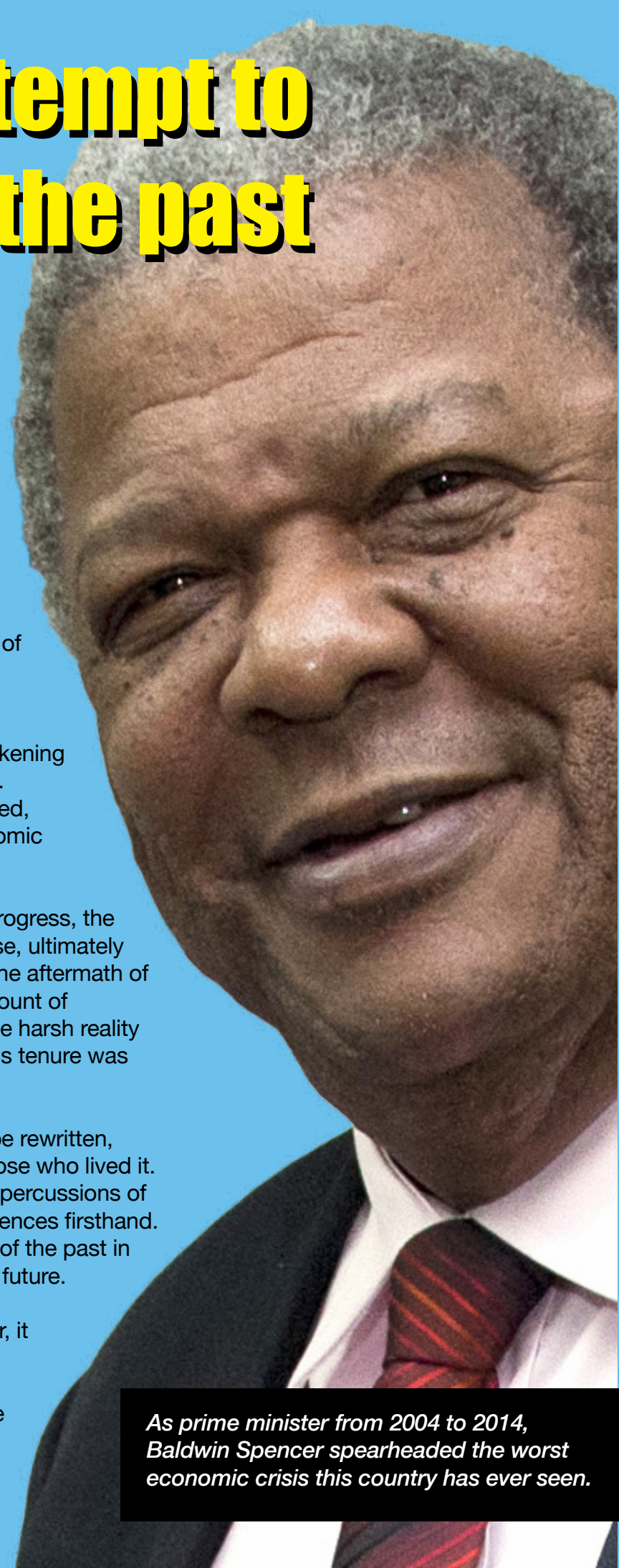
The recent commemoration organized by the United Progressive Party (UPP) honoring of former Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer can only be described as a misguided celebration, detached from reality and mired in illusion. What was touted as a Jumbie Jamboree, a festive occasion filled with enthusiasm, failed to acknowledge the stark truth that none of the alleged achievements they celebrated actually came to fruition, rendering any accolades bestowed upon them undeserved and comical.

During the UPP's ten-year stint in power under the leadership of Baldwin Spencer, Antigua and Barbuda found itself in dire financial straits, teetering on the edge of bankruptcy. The nation became burdened with insurmountable debts, with little progress made in vital sectors such as housing, education and healthcare. Unemployment rates reached unprecedented levels, harkening back to the depths of the Great Depression in the 1930s. Additionally, investor confidence in the country plummeted, leaving the nation vulnerable and devoid of crucial economic support.

Rather than guiding the nation towards prosperity and progress, the UPP's leadership steered Antigua and Barbuda off course, ultimately leading it into a state of wilderness and hopelessness. The aftermath of their governance manifested as a colossal mess. No amount of deceptive claims or self-serving celebrations can alter the harsh reality we faced from 2004 to 2014. The facts are that the UPP's tenure was marred by incompetence and mismanagement.

It is crucial to emphasize that the UPP's legacy cannot be rewritten, masked by a showcase of falsehoods or forgotten by those who lived it. The people of Antigua and Barbuda have endured the repercussions of their governance, experiencing the devastating consequences firsthand. It is imperative to acknowledge and address the failures of the past in order to pave the way for a brighter and more promising future.

As we reflect on the UPP celebration of Baldwin Spencer, it becomes essential to recognize the pressing need for effective leadership, founded upon transparency, accountability and a genuine commitment to tackling the challenges that lie ahead. Only by learning from the mistakes of the past can we forge a path forward towards a stronger and more prosperous Antigua and Barbuda.



As prime minister from 2004 to 2014, Baldwin Spencer spearheaded the worst economic crisis this country has ever seen.



Sherwin Allen

Family/police seek help in locating missing man

The family of a missing man has joined with the police in issuing an appeal for information leading to his safe return.

The man, 27-year-old Sherwin Allen aka Likkle Herb, is a resident of Cashew Hill, and he has been reported missing since March 23. He was last seen in the vicinity of a bar in Martin's Village.

The family has offered a reward of \$10,000.00 for information leading to his location and eventual safe return.

He has been described as short, slim in built with braided hair and was said to be wearing a red pair of shoes and short jeans.

The family says it will appreciate any information, regardless of how insignificant it may appear, as this could eventually lead to his return.

Charges expected to be laid in the nation's third homicide

While many families were enjoying the Easter Weekend holiday, one family was thrust into mourning as their loved one, 23-year-old Ricaldo Joseph died from wounds sustained in an altercation in Old Road early Sunday morning.

Another 23-year-old is now in police custody.

According to reports the two men were at a bar in Old Road when a dispute developed among them.

That dispute led to a fight that spilled out into the street, when one of the men went to a nearby house and retrieved a cutlass which he allegedly used to attack the other man.

The victim is said to have received multiple chop wounds about the body and head and he was rushed to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre but medical personnel there were unable to save his life. He was pronounced death shortly after he arrived at the institution.

Another young man aged 19 was severely wounded in the fight as well, as he was trying to intervene and quell the matter.

He is still nursing those wounds at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

The 23-year-old in police custody is expected to be charged sometime this week.



Ricaldo Joseph

Maryse Condé, 'grande dame' of Caribbean literature, dies at age 90

Maryse Condé, an acclaimed French-language novelist from Guadeloupe who in novels, stories, plays and memoirs imagined and redefined the personal and historical past from 17th century New England to contemporary Europe, has died at age 90.

Condé, winner in 2018 of an "alternate" Nobel Prize, died Monday night at a hospital in Apt, outside Marseille. Her longtime editor, Laurant Laffont, told The Associated Press that she had suffered from a neurological illness that impaired her vision to the point of having to dictate her final novel, "The Gospel According to the New World." But she still enjoyed a 90th birthday celebration, in February, when she was joined by family and friends.

"She was smiling, she was joyous," said Laffont, who otherwise remembered her as a woman of uncommon intensity and generosity. "It was a wonderful farewell, a truly great sendoff."

Condé, who lived in Luberon, France in recent years, was often called the "grande dame" of Caribbean literature. Influenced by Frantz Fanon, Aimé Césaire and other critics of colonialism, she was a world traveler who probed the conflicts between and within Western culture, African culture and Caribbean culture, and the tensions between the desire



French writer Maryse Condé reacts after being awarded the New Academy's Literature Prize at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on December 9, 2018. (Christine Olsson/ TT News Agency via AP, File)

for liberation and what the author would call "the trap of terrorism and simplistic radicalisation."

With her husband, Richard Philcox, often serving as her English-language translator, Condé wrote dozens of books, ranging from historical explorations such as "Segu," her best known novel, to the autobiographical stories in "Tales from the Heart" to fresh takes on Western literature. She reworked "Wuthering Heights" into "Windward Heights," and paired a West Indian slave with Hester Prynne of "The Scarlet Letter" in "I, Tituba, Black

Witch of Salem."

"A historian is somebody who studies the facts, the historical facts — somebody who is tied to what actually happens," she explained in an interview included in the back section of "I, Tituba," published in 1992. "I am just a dreamer — my dreams rest upon a historical basis. Being a Black person, having a certain past, having a certain history behind me, I want to explore that realm and of course do it with imagination and my intuition. But I am not involved in any kind of scholarly research."

The mother of four children (with first husband

Mamadou Condé), she was nearly 40 when she published her first novel and almost 50 when "Segu" made her an international name. "Segu," released in French in 1984 and in the United States three years later, was set in an 18th century African kingdom and followed the fates of a royal advisor and his family as their community is upended by the rise of Islam and the expansion of the slave trading industry.

"In the past all a man needed was a bit of willpower to keep wives, children, and younger brothers in
cont'd on pg 13

Afrobeats star Davido to sue over Kenyan April Fool's joke

By Basillioh Rukanga

Nigerian music star Davido has instructed his lawyers to sue over an April Fool's joke that has spectacularly backfired.

The prank story alleged that Afrobeats singer had been arrested in Kenya after cocaine was found on his private jet.

The 31-year-old, who has just finished an East African tour, said the fake report was "extremely irresponsible".

"I have never been arrested by anyone in any country for any crime in the world," he said on social media.

"Not my home Nigeria, my home America, or any of the hundreds of countries I've made home throughout my career," his statement on X, formerly Twitter, continued.

The April Fool's story - first published by Kenya's K24 TV on Monday - went viral on social media.

The Nigerian megastar,



Davido recently performed to packed audiences at the Timeless Concert in Kampala and Raha Fest in Nairobi.

who had just performed to packed audiences at the Timeless Concert in Kampala and Raha Fest in Nairobi, said it led to him receiving a barrage of calls.

Such was the backlash that Kenya's Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) tweeted a screen-grab of the headline with «Fake News» stamped across it mid-morning on Monday.

"I want to assure my fans that these reports are entirely untrue.

"I successfully completed my scheduled shows in Uganda and Kenya and have since returned home to Nigeria," Davido said on Tuesday.

"I find the fabrication of allegations of such international crimes extremely irresponsible regardless of the light of 'April Fools',

and my lawyer is seeking legal recourse against the media parties responsible for generating this misinformation."

K24 TV has not responded to Davido's move to initiate legal action.

Many Kenyans felt the prank was inappropriate, but some have been commenting on social media that they hope the debacle can be resolved amicably.

cont'd from pg 12

order," observes one family member. "Life was a straight line drawn from the womb of a woman to the womb of the earth ... But now the menace of new ideas and values lurked everywhere."

She continued the story in "The Children of Segu," but rejected additional volumes, explaining to one interviewer that her spirit "had journeyed to another world." Over the following

decades, her fictional settings included Salem, Massachusetts ("I, Tituba"), Jamaica ("Nanna-Ya") and Paris and Guadeloupe for "The Wondrous and Tragic Life of Ivan and Ilana."

Condé received numerous awards over the second half of her life, among them the Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the French government, the US-based Hurston & Wright Legacy Award and the New Academy Prize for literature, an infor-

mal honour presented in 2018 in place of the Nobel, which was sidelined for the year amid allegation of sexual harassment by prize committee members.

"She describes the ravages of colonialism and the post-colonial chaos in a language which is both precise and overwhelming," New Academy judge Ann Pålsson said at the time. "The dead live in her stories closely to the living in a ... world where gender, race

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UNICEF and OECS strengthen partnership

UNICEF and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) signed a renewed Partnership Agreement, which will directly impact children's and young people's lives across OECS Member States.

The agreement supports the OECS Human and Social Development Strategy, focusing on critical areas aligned with the missions of both UNICEF and the OECS. These areas are Child Protection, Social Protection, Inclusive Education, Youth Engagement, and Climate and Resilience.

"UNICEF represents one of the finest examples of collaboration and partnership between the OECS and a UN Agency," said OECS Commission Director General Dr Didacus Jules. "This partnership is distinct, with

active discussions and engagement on concepts, ideas, and experiences that enrich both organisations."

Dr Jules revealed that the new OECS-UNICEF partnership extends beyond OECS Member States to include British Overseas Territories as Associated Members. He commended UNICEF's continuous support in strengthening integration within the OECS.

UNICEF Representative for the Eastern Caribbean Pieter Bult underscored the importance of his organisation's close relationship with the OECS Commission. "Our partnership with the OECS is invaluable," Bult declared. "We aim to make the OECS more effective, especially in areas of joint interest, and for our teams to work closer together



on planning and implementing projects."

Bult emphasised the unique challenges facing Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the OECS as another priority area. "Children's lives cannot be addressed through a sectoral lens," said Bult.

"We need to see the collective impact of our interventions to achieve real progress. There is still much work to do, especially with increasing child poverty post-Covid and the need to

focus on Early Childhood Education. With the OECS's help, we hope to make a significant difference."

The OECS plans to increase the visibility of UNICEF-funded programmes, including beneficiary testimonials and a documentary highlighting key milestones and successes of the long-standing partnership.

Dr Jules concluded, "In all our partnerships, our partners' flag will fly equally high beside ours."

cont'd from pg 13

and class are constantly turned over in new constellations."

In the mid-1990s, Condé joined the faculty at Columbia University as a professor of French and Francophone literature.

She also taught at the University of Virginia and UCLA among other schools before retiring in 2005, around the same time French President Jacques Chirac named her head of the French Committee for the Memory of Slavery.

Conde was married twice, most recently to Philcox, a British academic whom she met in the late 1960s in Senegal.

Born Maryse Boucolon at Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe, she was one of six children (two others died) raised

in a relatively prosperous and educated family, where French was favoured over Creole and the poetry of Victor Hugo over local folklore.

Condé was a writer from early on, creating a one-act play at age 10 about her mother, reporting for local newspapers in high school and publishing book reviews for a student magazine in college, the Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris.

She was admittedly isolated as a young woman and would remember how her family "prided itself on being picture perfect in public."

But in her teens, she became politicized after reading "Black Shack Alley," a 1950 novel by Joseph Zobel about the coming of age of a boy contending with white oppression in colonial Martinique, a way of life Condé

knew little about.

"Today, I am convinced that what I later called somewhat pretentiously 'my political commitment' was born at that very moment," she wrote in "Tales from the Heart," published in 1998.

"Reading Joseph Zobel, more than any theoretical discourse, opened my eyes. I understood that the milieu I belonged to had absolutely nothing to offer and I began to loathe it. I had become bleached and whitewashed, a poor imitation of the little French children I hung out with."

Like many young idealists in the 1960s, she moved to Africa, spending much of the following decade in Ghana, Guinea and other newly independent countries. She would discover, like many of her contemporaries, that

cont'd on pg 15

Panama and Barbados to strengthen ties

A recent bilateral engagement focused on strengthening relations between Barbados and Panama in trade, culture, and historical tourism.

Kerrie Symmonds, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade welcomed the chance to strengthen bilateral relations when Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama, Janaina Tewaney Mencomo, paid him a courtesy call at his office.

Mr. Symmonds welcomed Ms. Mencomo to Barbados, noting that strengthening connections with Panama is consistent with the government's aim of establishing and expanding relationships with Latin American countries.

The Panamanian Foreign Minister's visit follows an announcement in February that the Barbados Cabinet had approved Panama's proposal to establish a diplomatic presence in Barbados.

Minister Mencomo stated that details are still being worked out but emphasized that political will is present.

She noted that Panama and Barbados would be inextricably linked since thousands of Barbadians, mostly men, worked on the Panama Canal and influenced Panama City's culture,



particularly music.

Minister Symmonds agreed that the two countries have significant genealogical and cultural ties.

He noted that at a time when Barbados had limited economic activity and job opportunities, the remittances of individuals who went to work on the Canal helped to boost the economy.

Other topics covered during the discussion were the climate issue and its influence on the Canal, how the crisis hurts trade and the cost of living, and promoting Barbados as an aviation and cargo hub connecting the southern Caribbean to Panama.

Panama in Central America is

known as "the bridge between two worlds" because it first opened for commerce on August 15, 1914.

Barbados began diplomatic relations with the Republic of Panama in August 1975.

Barbados' Ambassador to Panama, Ian Walcott; Senior Foreign Service Officer, Dr Ricardo Kellman; Foreign Service Officers, SherryLisa Waldron and Davion Sealy; Ambassador-designate to Barbados, Xiomara Perez; Chargé D'Affaires, Bolivar Jack Barrios; Director of Pro Panama, Carmen Gisela Vergara; and Advisor and Chief of Staff to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Flor Flores Tello, were also present at the courtesy call.

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African leaders could be as oppressive as colonial leaders, experiences she drew upon for her debut novel, "Heremakhonon," published in 1976.

"When I was in Guinea, there was a department store with that name (Heremakhonon)," Condé told Howard University professor Françoise Pfaff during an interview that appears in Pfaff's "Conversations with Maryse

Condé," published in 1996.

"In theory, this store offered everything people needed, but it had nothing except Chinese toys of poor quality. For me it was a symbol of independence."

Whether in Guadeloupe, Paris, Africa or the US, she often felt apart from the general population; the author liked to say that she didn't write in French or Creole, but in her own language, "Maryse Condé." She drew

as much from oral history as from written history, navigating between the lost and dying worlds that oral tradition represented and the new world of mass media and what she called the "totally modern lifestyle."

In 2023, she published "The Gospel According to the New World," which she needed to dictate to her husband because of her neurological disorder.

The book was a contem-

porary parable about a dark-skinned child in Martinique with grey-green eyes who may or may not be the son of God. Condé included an author's note in which she called the book a "brief testament" to the faith and inner strength need to "change the world, though we might never achieve it."

"Loving others seems to me to be the way, perhaps the only one, to make an impact," she wrote.

Child held after pupil aged 12 shot dead at school in Vantaa

By Paul Kirby

A child has been killed and two others seriously wounded in a shooting at a school in Finland, police say.

Police said all three victims were 12 and that a suspect, also aged 12, had fled but was later detained.

Parents told Finnish media that the shooting had taken place in a classroom at Viertola school in Vantaa, to the north of the capital, Helsinki.

Police said they arrived at the school within nine minutes at 09:17 (06:17 GMT) and tended to the three victims.

“One of the victims died almost immediately at this location in the school,” said the head of local police, Tomi Salosyrja. The other two children have been taken to hospital and their condition is described as very serious.

In common with other Finnish schools, children had just returned to classes in Vantaa, just outside Helsinki, after the long Easter weekend. All of those involved are in the sixth grade.

The suspect ran off as soon as police arrived and was eventually detained “in a calm manner” in the northern Siltamaki district of Helsinki at 09:58. A video taken from a passing car shows the suspect being pinned down beside a road



The suspect fled the school as police arrived and was eventually caught in a district of northern Helsinki.

almost 4km (2.5 miles) from the school.

Police said he had been holding a firearm which they had taken from him and he admitted carrying out the shooting.

Authorities have now opened an investigation into murder and attempted murder.

Children under the age of 15 are not criminally liable in Finland, so the suspect has not been remanded in custody and will be placed in the care of social services after further questioning.

The suspect is understood to have used a gun licensed to a close relative. Gun ownership is widespread in Finland and children over 15 can have licences to use other people’s firearms.

Prime Minister Petteri

Orpo described the shooting as deeply upsetting and said it was evident too many young people struggled with their mental health: “We have to be able to tackle these issues sooner.”

President Alexander Stubb spoke of his shock. A day of mourning will take place in Finland on Wednesday.

Education Minister Anna-Maja Henriksson was on the verge of tears when she told a news conference that what had happened was a great tragedy. Her thoughts were with the “12-year-old who will never come home from school again”.

It was shocking that a child of 12 could get hold of a gun, she said, and once the government had a complete picture, it would consider whether further measures

needed to be taken to protect Finland’s schools.

Children at the school were told to stay in their classrooms after the attack, while other schools and kindergartens nearby were also instructed to lock their doors.

The shooting brought back memories of earlier deadly attacks, including two shootings and an attack on a vocational school four years ago involving a man wielding a sword.

In 2007, an 18-year-old student shot dead six pupils, the school nurse and his head teacher in the small town of Jokela, north of Helsinki, then the following year another student shot dead nine pupils and a teacher with a semi-automatic rifle at a polytechnic

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Dozens dead in Istanbul nightclub fire

By Jacqueline Howard

At least 29 people have been killed and one injured in a fire in a nightclub in Turkey.

The Masquerade club, in the basement of a high-rise building in Istanbul, was closed and being renovated during the day.

The fire broke out just after midday, Istanbul governor Davut Gül said, adding that the cause was unclear.

Mr Gül said that the victims of the fire were thought to have been involved in the renovation work.

Eight people, including the nightclub manager and a person responsible for the renovations, have had warrants out for their arrest in connection with the fire as



investigations continue.

Three of them have been detained, while warrants are outstanding for others.

Firefighters and other first responders surrounded the charred and smoking entrance to the club, which

occupies two floors underneath a 16-storey residential building in the city's Gayrettepe district.

The number of victims has rapidly increased throughout the afternoon, with the governor's office issuing a string of updates.

The newly re-elected Mayor of Istanbul, Ekrem Imamoglu, said the club had not applied for the correct construction permit.

"There is no application [to the local municipality] for a renovation or a construction regarding the place and as it was two floors down from the ground level, it [the work] wasn't visible," he said.

He also offered his condolences on social media to the victims.

"May God have mercy on our citizens who lost their lives, and I wish a speedy recovery to our injured," he said in a post on X, formerly Twitter.

Turkey's President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, is aware of the tragedy following a phone call with interior minister Ali Yerlikaya.

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in the western town of Kauhajoki.

The shootings prompted a tightening of gun laws, requiring gun owners to be at least 18, but anyone over 15 can apply for a permit to use someone else's weapon if they have their guardian's permission. Eighteen-year-olds must be considered fit to possess a firearm before being granted a permit.

National Police Commissioner Seppo Kolehmainen said police relied on intelligence to prevent school shootings and in this case were unable to stop it.

Finland is widely known as a country of hunters and gun enthusiasts and has 430,000 licensed gun owners in a population of 5.6 million, according to govern-

ment statistics. There is no limit to the number of guns that can be owned and the interior ministry says more than 1.5 million are in circulation.

As news of the shooting emerged, parents gathered at the school to pick up their children, although the building where the incident took place remained cordoned off.

Vantaa is Finland's fourth biggest city with some 240,000 residents. Viertola school has 800 students aged seven to 16 of both primary and middle-school age on two separate sites, with some 90 staff. The shooting took place at the school's Jokiranta site where pupils aged 9-13 are taught. Initially police said everyone involved was 13 but then revised their ages down to 12.

Francis sets new record to take U-17 Javelin gold at Carifta Games

Antigua and Barbuda's Maliek Francis became the first record-breaker at the 51st Carifta Games after producing a dominant performance on the way to winning gold in the Under-17 Boys Javelin at the Kirani James Stadium in Grenada on Saturday.

Francis had fairly moderate throws of 54.06 meters and 58.70 meters in the first two rounds before unleashing a Carifta record-breaking 68.84 meters in the third round. It is also a new Antigua and Barbuda national under-18 and under-20 javelin record.

Francis produced a second throw north of 60 meters, 62.39 meters to be exact, in round five on the way to a comfortable victory on day one of the regional meet.

St. Kitts and Nevis' Jaheem Clarke threw 56.09 meters to take silver, while Grenada's Delorn John threw 54.70 meters to claim bronze.

The previous record of 64.31 meters was set by Bahamian KeyShawn Strachan in 2019.

After finishing fourth at three major championships last year, Antigua and Barbuda's Geolyna Dowdye upgraded her places to earn bronze in the Under-20 Girls 100 meters in Grenada. Dowdye finished third in 11.64 seconds.

Sabrina Dockery pro-



Maliek Francis celebrates with the Antigua and Barbuda flag after his record-breaking performance to win gold in the Under-17 Boys Javelin at the 51st Carifta Games at the Kirani James Stadium in Grenada on Saturday, March 30, 2024. (ABAA)

duced a stunning upset to defeat her Jamaican teammate Thieanna-Lee Terrelonge and claim gold in the Under-20 Girls 100 meters final.

Dockery clocked 11.26 seconds to win the event ahead of Terrelonge, who claimed silver in 11.32 seconds.

Antigua and Barbuda's 13-year-old Tyra Fenton earned her first Carifta medal, winning bronze in the Under-17 Girls 400 meters. Fenton clinched third place in a time of 54.89 seconds.

Fenton picked up her second medal, winning another bronze in the Under-17 Girls 200 meters. She clocked 23.97 second

to finish in third place.

Fourteen-year-old Zonique Charles threw a personal best of 41.40 meters to finish in fourth place in the Under-17 Girls Javelin. This is a massive improvement from her previous lifetime best of 34.80 meters.

Dior-Rae Scott of the Bahamas won the event with a throw of 52.53 meters. Kamera Strachan of the Bahamas came in second with a throw of 47.61 meters, and Zoelle Jamel of Jamaica came in third with a throw of 45.00 meters.

The Antiguan quartet of Dwayne Fleming, Nicardo Clarke, Kasiya Daley, and Ajani Daley came in fourth in the Under-20 Boys 4x100

meters relay, setting a new national Under-20 record of 40.79 seconds.

Hannah Charles ran a personal best of two minutes and 16.44 seconds in the Under-20 Girls 800 meters to place fourth in her heat, narrowly missing out on a spot in the finals.

Charles also came in 6th in the Under-20 Girls 1500 meters in a new personal best of four minutes and 57.29 seconds.

Rickeisha Simms of Jamaica won the event in four minutes and 31.94 seconds; Kaydeen Johnson of Jamaica came in second in four minutes and 32.49 seconds; and Kaleigh Forde of Trini-

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All Saints United finish second at end first phase in Premier League

Just like last season, All Saints United finished in the second or runner-up position at the end of the preliminary first round phase in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Saturday.

All Saints United hammered Garden Stars 4-0 in their final match in the preliminary round during the first game of a triple header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Kwazim Theodore's

16th-minute conversion gave United a one-lead at halftime, and Nazir McBurnette doubled their advantage with a 65th-minute conversion.

Gidson Francis converted a penalty kick in the 74th minute, and D'Andre Bishop wrapped up the win with an 81st-minute conversion.

Garden Stars ended the match with 10 men after Nashaun Phillip was expelled in the 71st minute for committing his second yellow card offense, which

resulted in an automatic red card.

All Saints finished their quota of 14 first-round matches with 12 wins and 37 points, five adrift of the round-robin first-phase winners, defending champions Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades.

Garden Stars, who were promoted to the Premier League after winning the First Division last season, finished in fifth place with 24 points after suffering their fourth loss in their

quota of 14 matches.

Former Premier League champions Parham and Greenbay Hoppers ended their first-phase campaign by battling to a 3-3 draw in Saturday's second encounter.

Jamol Yorke scored in the second minute, Kenja Benjamin had a 58th-minute conversion, and Tamorley "Ziggy" Thomas scored an own goal in the 87th minute for Parham.

Cuban striker Yasnay Torres converted twice with goals in the 9th and 54th minutes, and Javorn Stevens scored an equalizer for the Hoppers in the second minute of added time (90+2 minutes) to salvage a draw for the team from Greenbay.

Greenbay Hoppers finished their quota of 14 first phase matches in fourth place with 25 points, while Parham ended third from the bottom of the 15-team round-robin contest with eight points from their 14 games.

Pigotts Bullets and Ottos Rangers closed out their first phase campaigns by playing to a goalless draw in the last game on Saturday.

Pigotts Bullets finished in eighth place on goal difference with 17 points from their 14 matches, and Ottos Rangers ended in 12th place with 10 points from their 14 encounters.



Antigua and Barbuda's 13-year-old Tyra Fenton, third right, competes in the final of the Under-17 Girls 400 meters at the 51st Carifta Games at the Kirani James Stadium in Grenada.

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Dad and Tobago came in third in four minutes and 41.71 seconds.

For the third year running, Ajani Daley placed fourth in the Under-20 Boys 100-meter final.

Devonte Howell of the Cayman Islands won the race in 10.15 seconds. Jaiden Reid of the Cayman Islands came in second in 10.34 seconds, and Javorne Dunkley of Jamaica came in third in 10.34 seconds.



Players of the Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades

Grenades end first phase of premier league with perfect unbeaten run

Cup-holders Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades completed a perfect unbeaten run to finish at the top of the standings at the end of the first phase of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Sunday.

Grenades maintained their strong grip on retaining the trophy by coming from behind twice to snatch a hard-fought 3-2 victory against the Villa Lions in their final encounter of the first round preliminary stage during the opening game of a triple header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Tyrik Hughes converted a penalty in the 22nd minute to put Villa Lions ahead, but Rakeem Henry scored an equalizer for the Grenades in the 44th minute as both teams reached halftime deadlocked at 1-1.

After the interval, the Villa Lions regained their lead via a 52nd-minute conversion by Samoel Rodriguez. But

once again, the Grenades equalized when Jordan Britto scored in the 57th minute to make it 2-2.

Barrington Blake then snatched victory for the Grenades by scoring the winner in the 67th minute.

It was the 14th win in as many games for the Grenades, as they finished their quota of first-phase matches with a perfect 42 points.

The Villa Lions finished the first phase in sixth place with 23 points from their quota of 14 matches.

Willikies Warriors and Swetes closed out their campaigns in the first phase with 2-1 wins in the other two matches on Sunday.

Goals by Mekhi Scotland in the 27th minute and Phil Nicholas in the 87th minute gave Willikies their victory against SAP in Sunday's second encounter. Peter Byers scored for SAP with a 65th-minute conversion.

Willikies ended the first phase in

ninth place on goal difference with 17 points from their 14 matches, and SAP finished in 11th place with 13 points from the same quota of matches.

With all three goals coming in the first half, Empire was unable to sustain their advantage after taking an early one-nil lead via Jomo Andrew's 2nd-minute conversion in the bottom of the table clash in Sunday's final encounter.

Karique Knight scored an equalizer in the 35th minute, and Shalon Knight scored the winner for Swetes in the seventh minute of added time in the first half (45+7 minutes).

It was only Swetes' second win in their quota of 14 matches in the first phase, as they finished second from the bottom of the standings with eight points. Empire finished in the cellar with just five points after winning just one and losing 11 of their quota of 14 matches in the first phase.

Paragons 2 get second win in Division 2 volleyball contest

Paragons 2 claimed their second win in as many games in the inaugural Female Division 2 of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Local League on Sunday.

The Paragons 2 prevailed 3-0 against the Dynasty Queens at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Paragons 2 wrapped up the match in approximately one hour and two minutes, winning 25-17, 25-15, and 25-13.

After losing their opening encounter against the Chargers Eagles, Caribbean Alliance Insurance (CAI) Da Squad 2 rebounded to claim their first win of the competition.

Da Squad 2 clinched a 3-1 win against Royal Cruisers 2, winning 25-14, 22-25, 25-16, and 25-16 in the encounter, which lasted approximately one hour and 34 minutes.

Meanwhile, reigning champion Stoneville and Top Ranking Storming Lions both recorded their third win in four games in the men's division one contest in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's Local League.

Stoneville eased their way to a 3-0 win against High Flyerz 1 in approximately one hour and 10 minutes. Stoneville won



The Paragons 2 female volleyball team. (ABAVA)

25-18, 25-23, and 25-16 as High Flyerz 1 were beaten for the first time in three games.

The Storming Lions overpowered TOA Media and MKUU Tours Chargers Velocity 3-0 in approximately one hour and two minutes.

The Storming Lions won 25-8, 25-12, and 25-13 as the Chargers Velocity suffered their third loss in as many games.

But Stoneville's women's team launched their campaign in the Female Division I competition with a

3-0 win against the Royal Cruisers.

Stoneville prevailed 25-20, 25-22, and 25-22 in approximately one hour and 24 minutes as the Royal Cruisers suffered their second loss in as many games.

Renegades kept their unbeaten run intact, and High Flyerz 2 Phoenix got their first win in the men's division one competition as well.

The Renegades beat the Invaders 3-0 in approximately one hour and four minutes to claim their third win in as many games. They

won 25-12, 25-18, and 25-21 as the Invaders crashed to their fourth defeat in as many games.

After losing their opening encounter against the Renegades, the High Flyerz 2 Phoenix rebounded to record their first win in their second outing with a 3-0 victory against the Sharks.

High Flyerz 2 Phoenix soared to victory with scores of 25-23, 26-24, and 25-16 in approximately one hour and five minutes, as the Sharks were defeated for the third time in as many games.



Players of the West Indies women's team. (File photo)

West Indies Women's Squad announced for Tour to Pakistan

The Cricket West Indies (CWI) Women's Selection Panel has announced the 15-member squad for the tour to Pakistan in April and May. The eight-match Series comprises three (5) T20 Internationals (T20Is) and three (3) One Day Internationals (ODIs).

Kate Wilmott was rewarded with a call-up to the senior team for the first time, having displayed commendable performances with her right-arm medium pace during the recently concluded CG United Women's Super50 Cup and T20 Blaze tournaments.

Qiana Joseph and Chedean Nation, who also had credible performances were recalled to the team, having missed out on the last tour to Australia in 2023.

Lead Selector for Women's cricket Ann Browne-John said, "The upcoming series against Pakistan is extremely

important for the team as they return to international competition after almost six months, the last series being against Australia.

"Apart from the three ODI, the team will get some much-needed T20 matches as they prepare to participate in the T20 World Cup later this year."

Browne-John added, "The return of experienced player Chedean Nation will strengthen the batting and 19-year-old Fast Bowler Kate Wilmott will be making her debut.

"The players have just completed the regional tournament where some of the experienced players had encouraging performances, and it is hoped this will continue into the Pakistan series."

Following the ODI Series, a gripping five-match T20I series will unfold from April 26 to May 3.

This T20I series will not only offer thrilling cricket action for fans but will provide important competitive cricket for both teams to fine-tune their skills and strategies ahead of the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup, which is due to take place after the Women's CPL in Bangladesh in September.

The West Indies Women will assemble in Dubai from April 6 for a one-week training camp as part of their preparations for the upcoming Pakistan tour.

Full Squad: Hayley Matthews (captain), Shemaine Campbelle (vice-captain), Aaliyah Alleyne, Shamilia Connell, Afy Fletcher, Cherry Ann Fraser, Jannillea Glasgow, Chinelle Henry, Zaida James, Qiana Joseph, Chedean Nation, Karishma Ramharack, Stafanie Taylor, Rashada Williams, and Kate Wilmott.

Success for Antiguan swimmers at Carifta championships

Antigua and Barbuda's swimmers have reaped some success in the pool at the 37th Carifta Swimming Championships in the Bahamas.

The Antiguan swimmers have captured five medals at the regional meet at the Betty Kelly Kenning Swim Complex in Nassau.

Ellie Shaw and Anya DeGannes both won gold medals; Madison MacMillan and Alessandro Bazzoni both claimed silvers; and Stefano Mitchell captured a bronze medal.

Shaw won the girls 15-17 200-meter breaststroke final in a time of two minutes and 39.13 seconds. DeGannes won the girls 11-12 100-meter butterfly final in one minute and 08.60 seconds.

MacMillan came in second in the girls 15-17 800-meter final by clocking nine minutes and 34.20 seconds.

Bazzoni finished sec-



From left to right: Coach Nelson Molina, Ellie Shaw, Madison MacMillan, and coach Wayne Mitchell at the 37th Carifta Swimming Championships in the Bahamas. (ABSF)

ond in the boys 11-12 48.65 seconds.

400-meter individual medley in five minutes and

the boys 18 and over category with a time of 57.13 seconds.

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up two for 24.

In reply, PMS was bundled out for 37 in 10.3 overs, with Kenny Benjamin getting 18. Deran Benta grabbed six for 21, and Vaughn Charles claimed two for 13.

After losing their opening encounters, Lee's Landscaping 300 and Rackaman Construction Strictly Business rebounded to claim their first win in the competition.

Lee's Landscaping 300 beat Sisserou by seven wickets. Sisserou

made 125 for eight off 28 overs. Isaiah Viville struck 37, and Frederick John Hope scored 30. Molvin James picked up two for 12, and Vernel Isadore had two for 20.

300 achieved victory by scoring 127 for three in 22.3 overs. Charles James hit 36, Zach Thomas cracked 34, and Kennedy Tonge struck 26 not out.

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business crushed Dredgers by 79 runs. Strictly Business made 224 for eight off their 30 overs.

Kerry Mentore slammed 79, Kim George scored 27, Clinton Benjamin hit 25, Owen Graham got 24, and Egbert Francis made 23. Ricky Buckley claimed two for 25, and Javaughn James captured two for 50.

In reply, Dredgers were dismissed for 145 in 27.1 overs. Mervin Higgins hammered 75, and Javaughn James scored 21.

Owen Graham grabbed three for 19, Kerry Mentore bagged three for 23, and Arthur Crogman picked up two for 29.

Samuel slams century in women's softball cricket

Makada Samuel of Alzzari and Sharon Joseph Flyers slammed a century in the second round of matches in the St. John's Co-operative Credit Union Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association (ABSCA) 15 overs female competition on Sunday.

Her unbeaten ton propelled Alzzari Joseph's Sharon Joseph Flyers to their second win as they romped to an emphatic 143-run victory against Rackaman Construction Strictly Business in the competition, which is hosted by the ABSCA along with its corporate sponsors, Everyday Store 24/7, Alva Joseph, Natural Construction, Enforcers, and Goody's Taxi Services & Tours.

Flyers won the toss and batted, scoring 186 for one off their allotted 15 overs, with Samuel slamming 141 not out, which included 13 sixes and 10 fours.

Strictly Business was dismissed for 43 in 14.4 overs. Liza Edwards got 17, and Jemma Joseph hit 14 not out. Akeda Francis took two wickets for seven runs, and Valencia Thomas

claimed two wickets for eight runs.

Goody's Taxi Services and Tours Jennings Rockets also claimed their second win and Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors recorded their first victory in the female competition on Sunday.

Jennings Rockets defeated Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets by six wickets. The Bullets made 77 for five with Cheryl Williams hitting 27, and Bernadette Emmanuel slamming 25 not out. Pauline Shaw grabbed three wickets for six runs.

Jennings Rockets achieved victory by scoring 78 for four with four balls to spare. Kushana David struck 25, Ann-Marie Parker hit 17, and Chemique Benjamin got 15. Mauricia Willette captured two for 17.

Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors overcame Potters Uprising Serpents by 46 runs. Sacha Michael hammered 63, and Lokuehl Pelle scored 22 to guide Survivors to 125 for three off their 15 overs.

In reply, Potters Uprising were restricted to 79



Makada Samuel of Alzzari and Sharon Joseph Flyers. (ABSCA) for two off their 15 overs. Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets defeated Coreen Smith retired hurt on 22, and Stacey Telemaque made 19.

Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets recorded their second win in the We the People (WTP) 98.5 FM Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association (ABSCA) 30-over men's competition on Sunday.

Construction Solutions PMS by 57 runs.

Bullets made 94 all out in 16.4 overs. Deran Benta cracked 49, and Bernel Peterson scored 17. Nicolas Thomas snapped up four wickets for five runs, and Malique Marcellin picked

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