

# THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

[www.thelabourspokesman.com](http://www.thelabourspokesman.com)



**SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED... TITUS 2:8**

Year 64 NO. 30

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 24th DECEMBER, 2021

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 10/12/21

DELTA \$15.34 / SOL \$13.34

## FLIPPING FOR FOLKLORE



STORY ON PAGE 08



Contestants of the National Carnival Queen Pageant and National Swimwear Pageant seen in a merry masquerade moment dancing together during a Carnival Get Together event held the Palms Court Gardens in Fortlands, Basseterre on Saturday 11th December 2021 which was hosted by Minister of Culture Jonel Powell (official Sugar Mas 50 photo)



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW GENIUS GIRL

STORY ON PAGE 04

“It got to a point where all day it just felt like I was saying ‘Thank you’. I’m glad that I am the first [in St.Kitts-Nevis] to do this because I hope this would inspire other people my age and even people a little older to put in the effort and accomplish the same things,”- Maleah Erskine (Congratulatory photoshoot image by Tihuan Isaac Photography)

*A Very Merry Christmas*

# THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

Published by: The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades & Labour Union

Ag. Editor: Precious Mills

Masses House, Church Street

P.O. Box 239 . Basseterre . St. Kitts . West Indies

Tel: (1 869) 465-2229 <> Fa: (1 869) 466-9866

Email: info@sknunion.com

Website: www.thelabourspokesman.com

## Editorial

# Remembering The Christ In Christmas

Fast away the old year passes, and, as it does so, we are given moments in which to pause and reflect on what it has meant for us as individuals, families, communities, organisations, and a nation as a whole.

First and foremost in the mind of most everyone is the coronavirus, COVID-19. Many of us have lost loved ones, while so many others have fallen ill because of the dreaded disease. Indications are that it will be around for a very long time, and most experts are now convinced that it will very soon qualify to be termed an endemic.

Yes, dear people of St. Kitts and Nevis, we must, of necessity, learn to live with COVID, and that means that we shall have to be constantly on our guard, complying with all medically recommended precautions, and encouraging our families, relatives, and friends to do likewise, and asking them in turn to look out for others. It is the only way in which we will succeed in bringing this dreadful health hazard under some semblance of control.

Over the course of 2021 our people have been dealing with increasing levels of various challenges. In particular, the cost of living has risen at rates which people have been frequently commenting on. Consumers have been compelled to adjust and re-



**We are committed  
to representing all workers.**

Visit our office at  
Masses House, Church Street, Basseterre  
to learn more about Union representation,  
or call us at  
869-465-2229



**The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union  
It's Your Union Too.**

adjust, again and again, within relatively short periods of time.

And all of that is in addition to the worrying costs already being met by ordinary, honest, hard-working people, some take time to ponder about monies paid out in the programme geared towards refrain from committing crimes.

Society continues to debate the issue of 'good governance' and 'better governance'.

To this, it goes without saying that indeed people have the power to shape how and who is put in charge to govern the affairs of a country. People who understand the power of a democratic society are an integral and indispensable part of the machinery regardless of their political affiliations.

Moving on, it is always quite heartwarming when differences can be put aside to acknowledge the joy of the Christmas season in sharing and caring with each other, spending time

with friends, family and other loved ones.

We extend a very special and warm welcome to all relatives, other nationals, and visitors who have come to spend the season with us, and wish you a very pleasant and enjoyable stay.

Meanwhile, let us all remember the true nature of Christmas. It is indeed a time to make merry, and to enjoy the fun and entertainment of the occasion.

However, it is also the anniversary of the fulfillment of one of our Almighty Father's promises. The season commemorates the birth of His Son, who became human in order, eventually, to make the ultimate sacrifice that ensures our salvation.

Let us all make a very special effort to remember The Christ in Christmas.

From all of us here at The Labour Spokesman newspaper, to all the people of St. Kitts and Nevis, at home and abroad, and to all of our visitors:

*A Merry Christmas, and a  
Happy New Year when it comes.*



**BUILDERS PARADISE IS OFFERING**

**A LARGE VARIETY OF FLOOR AND WALL TILES,  
AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES.**

**WE'VE GOT OVER 2 MILLION PIECES IN STOCK,  
LOTS OF DIFFERENT STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM. WHETHER YOUR RENOVATING  
OR TILING A NEW HOUSE. BUILDERS PARADISE HAS WHAT YOU NEED.**



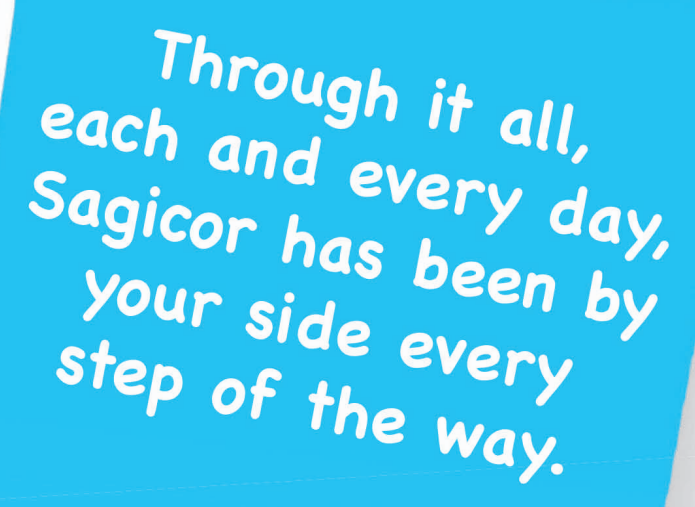
**OH AND REMEMBER WE'RE OPEN ALL DAY SATURDAY TO SERVE YOU BETTER!!! \***

**Our Telephone Numbers:**


**466-4938 / 466-8051 / 466-1280 / 466-5892 / 466-7069 and Fax: 466-4939.**



HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS



Through it all,  
each and every day,  
Sagicor has been by  
your side every  
step of the way.



We sincerely wish  
you a peaceful and  
positive Christmas  
and a Happy and  
Hopeful New Year

# SKN 14- Year- Old History Making Genius Maleah Erskine Talks About Academic Accomplishments, Future Hopes, Criticism and More

By: Precious Mills

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Tuesday 21st December 2021)-At age 14 Maleah Erskine has accomplished an advanced level of her academic studies so much so that she felt bored in the classroom while lessons were being taught for subjects she already sat CXC (Caribbean Examination Council) exams for, when she attended the Basseterre High School while in third form.

Now, having freshly enrolled in her first year at the postsecondary institution-the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC), Maleah is happy that she is in an environment which suits her educational level of skills and capabilities in further nurturing her potential as one who hails from a family of average socio-economic status whose values for education, love and respect is cherished.

At CFBC, Maleah is in the Arts, Science and General Studies Division and is pursuing the natural sciences, and is the Public Relations Officer of the Student Government Association.

Maleah has made history in St.Kitts-Nevis being the youngest individual who has achieved such academic prowess. She has attained a total of twelve (12) CXC subjects.

In an exclusive sit-down interview with this reporter on Monday 13th December 2021, she addressed an incorrect view held by some people that she is being pushed by her mother to be an overachiever.

“Personally, I am very proud of myself, and when my mom and sister put it on social media, it exploded and I got a bit overwhelmed at first because so many people messaged me saying congratulations. It got to a point where all day it just felt like I was saying ‘Thank you’. I’m glad that I am the first [in St.Kitts-Nevis] to do this because I hope this would inspire other people my age and even people a little older to put in the effort and accomplish the same things,” Maleah stated.

Her mom Ayanna Erskine commented:”I also feel very proud of her. I don’t know how much you know about the whole situation. They did not allow her to graduate so that is how it all ended up in the [social] media because she wanted to graduate and they didn’t want her to and I just felt like what she did is worth celebrating. So what I told her, ‘They’re not allowing you to graduate so we’re going to do a photoshoot. At least you could take your pictures and remember the occasion’.”

Additionally, she informed that she made a social media post via Facebook to highlight her daughter’s achievement without mentioning the graduation concern. A follow-up separate Facebook post by Maleah’s well-known sister (on her father’s side) Orngel Erskine-Miss National Carnival Queen 2015, however, captured the disappointment that her little sister had achieved so much and not allowed to graduate or recognized in any way by the school.

“It [that post] started to explode. It got viral. I think I myself was a bit overwhelmed by the attention that it had drawn because I didn’t really expect it,” said Maleah’s mother.

As to the reason why she has not graduated from school, in a nutshell, as understood, queries which begun in April 2021 by her mom-who is a mathematics teacher at BHS- to get the relevant Ministry of Education officials involvement in the matter has been unsuccessful. It is said that feedback surrounding the topic has included the lack of such policy by the Ministry of Education.

The topic has been widely debated by members of the public.

After coming to terms that she was not going to graduate, Maleah brushed off the down feeling and ended up having a good time at the photoshoot to mark the special occasion-hair, makeup and clothing all included.

“I still had some hope that maybe the week before, they would have sent an email or had a meeting and I would have been able to graduate—but coming up to the week of, I figured it was not going to happen and so I reached out to Tijhuan Isaac

Photography and my mom booked an appointment for my make-up to be done by make-up artist ‘Blu’ and I reached out to a young lady name Zara for my hair the weekend before the graduation, and I had my nails done. The pictures came out good. I really liked them, and I wouldn’t say that I received satisfaction from that because I was still kind of bummed out about not going to the graduation ...but I accepted it and tried not to let it bother me.”

Notably, the photoshoot was done on Sunday 28th November -three days before the school’s graduation held on Wednesday 1st December.

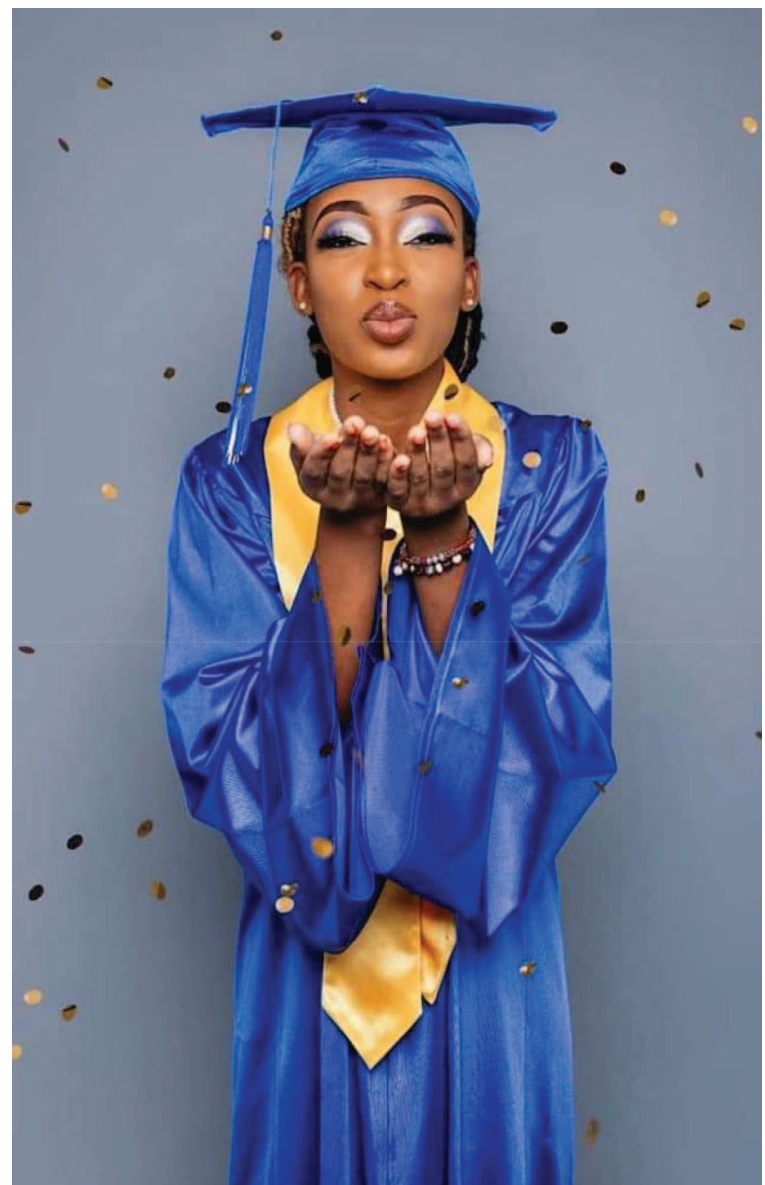
According to Mom Erskine, not being able to graduate “wasn’t a setback per se because it didn’t stop her from progressing.”

She has praised Maleah’s determined mindset and refuted comments that she is forcing her daughter to do things.

“She has this mindset that if she put her mind to something, nobody can deter her. People like to say I like to force her to do things. There’s nothing I can convince this child to do that she doesn’t want to do because she’s very strong headed.”

Speaking to this reporter, Maleah shared: “My mom would have mentioned that people like to make comments like ‘Let her grow up and allow her to be a child’. I would have also received the same comments from a lot of people of older age and young age and even people my age. People used to say it all the time even in [Beach Allen] primary school. They used to say ‘You can’t do all of those things because you’re going to end up crazy’. At first, I thought they are just saying that to scare me, and then going into high school, people were like ‘Oh, your mom is forcing you to do this...You shouldn’t be doing all of this. You’re a teenager; you should go out’.”

Maleah said such comments ‘really got me down at that time because I was thinking, ‘Why are these people trying to stop me from doing something great?’ because



(cont’d on page 7)



# Season's Greetings

**BUILDERS PARADISE**

**wishes all its very valued customers & employees**

**- a very**

*Merry Christmas*

*and a*

*Healthy & Prosperous New Year*



**Management & Staff**

**BUILDER'S PARADISE**

**YOUR NO. 1 SOURCE FOR ALL BUILDING MATERIALS.**

# Fire Chief Applauds Emergency Response Time Factor At New Station Location

By: Precious Mills

**BASSETERRE, St.Kitts (Wednesday 23rd December 2021)**-Acting Fire Chief Garfield Hodge has pointed to the importance of the new location of the Sandy Point Fire Station as it relates to emergency response time and growing demands in the district.

He made the disclosure while speaking at the opening ceremony for the Sandy Point National Security & Judicial Complex held on Tuesday 21st December 2021 at Bouncing Hill in Sandy Point.

Hodge described the facility as a 'state of the art' and "all important investment" in expressing gratitude to the Ministry of National Security and federal government.

Architect at the Public Works Department Jolin Toshi Davis, in giving a project overview, said the building is two- storey concrete with a footprint of 10,834 square feet and that the total area of both floors is 21,668 square feet. She also said it is designed as a multiple purpose complex to house police, fire and rescue, customs and magistrate court.

"The Sandy Point Fire Station is centrally located in the fire district which spans from Frank Lands east and Parsons Ground west so responding from Sandy Point gives the responding fire unit the best chance of achieving the best possible response time, and this of course is critical to our mandate in saving life and property. In fact, in firefighting, one second less or more can spell the difference between life and death or the salvation and destruction of property," Hodge stated.

He said over the past three years, the Sandy Point Fire Station was temporarily located at New Guinea after being forced to relocate from Station Street, Sandy Point.



Acting Fire Chief Garfield Hodge while speaking at the opening ceremony for the Sandy Point National Security & Judicial Complex held on Tuesday 21st December 2021 at Bouncing Hill in Sandy Point (screenshot/ Facebook: St.ChristopherandNevisPoliceForce)

According to him: "The location did not provide the unit with the most efficient response mechanism given that it is not centrally positioned in the district. However, being back in Sandy Point gives the unit the advantage of efficient emergency response."

The Fire Chief went on to indicate that: "The brand new facility will give our officers an environment that is both comfortable and conducive to productivity. The Sandy Point Fire District is the second busiest district in the Federation averaging one hundred and thirty-five (135) calls annually. Therefore, it deserves to be properly manned and equipped to meet the growing demands of our firefighting efforts here in this firefighting district."

He continued: "Sandy Point itself can be considered as a metropolitan having commercial and industrial development. To this end, a fire fighting unit is essential to protect and safeguard not just life and property but all other spheres of

(cont'd on next page)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
A.D. 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that INEZ SMITHEN of Palmetto Point in the Parish of Trinity in the Island of Saint Christopher through her Attorney-at-Law CHESLEY ONEAL HAMILTON has applied to the Registrar of Deeds for a Vesting Deed in her favour in respect to an area of land situate at Palmetto Point in the Parish of Trinity in the Island of Saint Christopher bounded and measuring as follows that is to say: - On or towards the North-East by a Public Road 8.61, feet, On or towards the South-East by the Estate of Ernest Smithen 67.90 feet, On or towards the South-West by a 5 feet concrete walkway 29.63 feet, On or toward the North-West by Albertine Davis 48.48 feet, On or towards the North-West by a 10 feet access, On or towards the North-West by 12.09 feet, and On or towards the North-West 12.65 feet and containing by admeasurement 1,515 square feet.

Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER 2021



IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS  
ST. CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
(PROBATE)  
SKBHPB2021/

In the Estate of GEORGE CLEMENT  
NEWHAM RICHARDS, also known as  
GEORGE C. N. RICHARDS and GEORGE  
RICHARDS, late of #29 Conyers Housing  
Project, St. Kitts, deceased.

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR GRANT

Notice is given that after the expiration of 14 days application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for a Grant of Letters of Administration to STEVEN TRAVIS RICHARDS, the Applicant, who is the son and next-of-kin of GEORGE CLEMENT NEWHAM RICHARDS, aka GEORGE C. N. RICHARDS, aka GEORGE RICHARDS, the deceased, late of #29 Conyers Housing Project, St. Kitts, who died intestate on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

O' Grenville Browne  
BROWNE & ASSOCIATES  
Solicitors

FILED on behalf of the Applicant, whose address for service is BROWNE & ASSOCIATES, Law Chambers, Lozack Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts. Telephone Number: (869) 465 2973. Email: [admin@browneandassociatesskb.com](mailto:admin@browneandassociatesskb.com).

The Registry is at Sir Lee Llewellyn Moore QC. Judicial and Legal Services Complex, East Independence Square, Basseterre, St. Kitts. Telephone No: (869) 467 1335. Fax No: (869) 465 2482. Email: [registryskn@gov.kn](mailto:registryskn@gov.kn). The Office is open between 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM Mondays to Fridays except Public Holidays.

# Fire Chief Applauds Emergency Response Time Factor At New Station Location

development such as education considering the various schools within the district , tourism-The Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park, commercial development-the various supermarkets, restaurants and bars, industrial development- Harowe Servo manufacturing company and most importantly residential development.”

Hodge highlighted that: “Sandy Point houses a large number of houses that are homes to thousands of visitors and residents. The wider section of the district gives way to tourism development. Recently, we witnessed the opening of the Ramada Hotel. This hotel is located in an area that is very prone to wildfires. Hence, our firefighting efforts must be enhanced to protect and mitigate against the negative impact of fire on our tourism product in this Sandy Point firefighting district. Our presence as a firefighting unit is critical to the livelihood in the firefighting district of Sandy Point. Our service is not just limited to fire extinguishment but more importantly, it also encompasses fire prevention, and accordingly our unit is charged with engaging various establishments and institutions within the Sandy Point district on matters pertaining to fire prevention in the workplace and at the home. This is of paramount importance because the best method of firefighting is fire prevention. In so doing we would have prevented countless destruction from the ravages of fire.”

**Sanitize / Wear Your Mask  
Wash Your Hands**

# SKN 14- Year- Old History Making Genius Maleah Erskine...

(cont'd from page 05)

these are the same people who are saying none of these young people in St.Kitts-Nevis are doing anything good.â€œ

In a confident tone during the interview, she then stated: “I am somebody different. I can do better and allow me to show you that I can do better. It got me down but I didn’t focus too much on it.”

Maleah has expressed gratitude to all the others who have been encouraging towards her.

“At the same time, people were in my corner. They were pushing me, supporting me. They were checking up on me so that didn’t bother me too much.”

For Maleah, her life is not all about work and no play, as-just like any average teenager, she makes time for social activities like watching her favourite Netflix series, going to the movies and being a dancer of LEAP.

At one point during the interview, she opened up her handwritten book planner to show just how she manages to balance her studies, extracurricular activities which includes being the Assistant Secretary of the St.Kitts National Youth Parliament Association (SKNYPA) as well as a mathematics tutor for children.

In 2020, Maleah was among the Federations’ 25 Most Remarkable Teen awardees.

This reporter wishes Maleah the best in her future endeavours and sincerely hopes that she excels further in life. She is also commended for conducting herself well during the interview and providing responses to the on-the-spot questions.

Gratitude is extended to her mom for making good on this media house’s outreach to the family. Maleah’s father is Nigel Erskine, a well-known driving instructor.

Congratulations Maleah Erskine!

**Photos: More images of 14-year-old Maleah Erskine captured during the photoshoot to mark the historic accomplishment of attaining 12 CXC subject passes before moving on to her postsecondary studies (Photo credit- Tijhuan Isaac Photography)**

Case Number :SKBHPB2021/0087

**FILED**  
HIGH COURT  
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS  
(ST. KITTS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:10/11/2021 12:23

Filed Date:10/11/2021 12:23

Fees Paid:52.00

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
(PROBATE)  
A. D. 2021


In the Estate of INEZ EDINBOROUGH late of  
Main Street, St. Pauls in the Parish of St. Pauls in the  
Island of St. Christopher deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PROBATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DR. DENZIL LLEWELLYN DOUGLAS of Main Street, St. Pauls in the Parish of St. Pauls in the Island of Saint Christopher for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1999 without revoking a will bearing the date of 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1994 wherein the applicant is named sole executor.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of Probate to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 30 day of July, 2021

Filed by:   
Hesketh W. Benjamin  
Attorney-at-Law  
Chambers  
West Independence Square Street  
Basseterre  
St. Kitts

# Republic of China (Taiwan) Expo opens in Nevis showcasing companies and products

**NIA CHARLESTOWN NEVIS (December 21, 2021)** — The people of Nevis have the opportunity to view a wide range of products offered by businesses in Taiwan, thanks to an ongoing three-day Taiwan Expo in St. Kitts and Nevis, at the Malcolm Guishard Recreational Park at Pinney's.

The event which is hosted by the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) Embassy in St. Kitts and Nevis, was launched on December 19 and concludes on December 22. Mr. Damien I-Ching Liu, Third



Mr. Damian I-Ching Lui, Third Secretary at the at the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in St. Kitts and Nevis

Secretary at the embassy said on December 20, 2021, that the exposition showcases many Taiwan companies and their products.

“In this event we have a lot of Taiwanese companies introducing their products in diverse sectors including - technology, medical equipment, food and beverage, sports equipment, hardware and tools and more.

“We also have a very thorough display of technological products, and this is not only a trade show but also we are introducing bilateral cooperation projects in many diverse fields including public health, the recycling system, smart agriculture and the construction and completion of Pinney's Beach Park which was launched yesterday on the 19th December,” he explained.

The embassy hired a mix of 11 students from the Nevis Sixth Form and recent graduates who are interested in business.

“They are all interested in business and they see this as a great opportunity to learn about the practice

of international trade and Taiwan's technology and different sectors.

“Their role in the Taiwan expo is to represent Taiwanese companies who are participating but cannot come into the federation in person through the pandemic's restrictions,” Mr. Liu said.

In preparation for the exposition, the students were trained virtually by the Taiwanese companies to introduce the products on behalf of companies.

At the expo, they are helping visitors to realise and understand more about Taiwan's businesses and their products on display in diverse sectors.

According to Mr. Liu, the students were employed by Taiwan's Trade Development Council, and were jointly identified by the Embassy and the Nevis Island Administration (NIA) based on recommendations from the Ministry of Tourism.

He added that the students were all “very excited to partake in this exhibition to have a great internship



Some of the electronic products on display at the Taiwan Expo in St. Kitts and Nevis

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
A.D. 2021

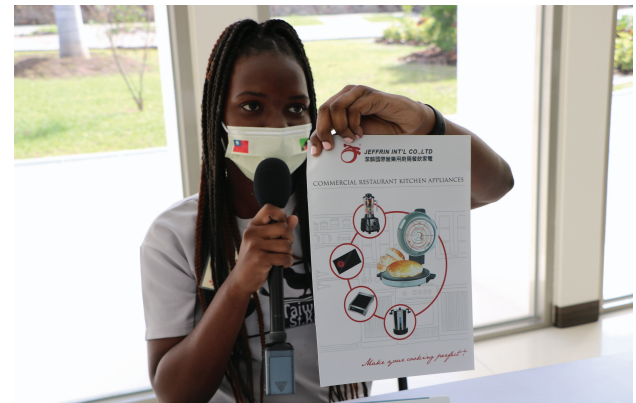
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that GILLIAN CHARLES-RAMESHWAR of Irish Town Bay Road in the Parish of St. George in the Island of Saint Christopher through her Attorney-at-Law CHESLEY ONEAL HAMILTON has applied to the Registrar of Deeds for a Vesting Deed in her favour in respect to an area of land situate at Irish Town Bay Road in the Parish of St. George in the Island of Saint Christopher bounded and measuring as follows that is to say: On or towards the North-North-West by Sunny Anthony 13.91 feet, On or towards the East-North-East by a Public Road 54.95 feet, On or towards the South-East by Bay Road 23.13 feet, On or towards the South West by Gillian Annette Charles, Allison Elizabeth Charles, John Trevor Charles and Ernestine Gaskin 30.15 feet, Sunny Anthony 24.95 feet, and On or towards the West-North West by Sunny Anthony 21.22 feet, and containing by admeasurement 1,567 square feet.

Dated the 15<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER 2021

*De S. L. M. Jones*  
REGISTRAR

in terms of business practises and exchange with Taiwan.”

The exposition ends on Wednesday at midday but will remain open till 4 p.m. on Tuesday, December 21.



Ms. Dijonne Hanley one of 11 students hired by Taiwan's Trade Development Council to introduce products on behalf of Taiwanese business people at the Taiwan Expo in St. Kitts and Nevis, introducing commercial Restaurant Kitchen Appliances



Some of the eleven students on Nevis hired by Taiwan's Trade Development Council to introduce products on behalf of Taiwanese business people at the Taiwan Expo in St. Kitts and Nevis

**Welcome to the Bradshaw Childcare Centre**  
located in Dorset Village, Basseterre.



**We accept infants**  
- newborns to three year old toddlers. -

**Our hours of operation are from 7 AM to 5 PM,**  
Monday through Friday/



**To enroll, please contact Miss. Arleen Phipps at**  
**760 - 7029.**

# Folklore Troupe Owner Comments On Impact Of Revived Groups

By: Precious Mills

**BASSETERRE, St.Kitts (Wednesday 23rd December 2021)**-Owner/General Manager of the Aidan Hendrickson of the St.Peter’s Bringing Back the Culture has given his impression on the positive impact that the movement continues to have on society since reviving the involved folklore troupes.

In an exclusive interview with this media house on Wednesday 22nd December 2021, he explained that “The St.Peter’s Bringing Back The Culture is a movement where we are trying to revive some of these ancient folklore Christmas sports.”

He said the St.Peter’s Actors were revived in 2019 while the St. Peter’s CowBoys and Indians were revived in the early part of 2020 followed by the Monkey Hill Bull Troupe later that year.

Hendrickson explained that the age range for all troupes combined features youth children to adults with 10 to 23 in age for the actors, nine to 19 year-olds for the CowBoys and Indians, and that there 17 years and older for the bull troupe which is more adult centered.

Asked about his inspiration behind reviving such folklore troupes, Hendrickson expressed: “I have seen a need that culture is something that if you don’t know your heritage, you can’t have a future, and the culture is one way to show the youths where we have come from and how we could modernize it to fit the norms of society today.”

The troupes have been in various villages around the island including Old Road, St. Johnston’s Village, Basseterre, St.Paul’s and Verchilds.

Commenting on how the reception has been from the public, he had this to say: “Well, persons have been reaching out to me via our Facebook page ‘St. Peter’s Bring Back the Culture’. They are requesting that we come and visit various villages but especially, the reception for the Cowboy and Indians has been overwhelming because this is a Christmas sport that has not been seen in over

forty (40) years so when they saw it in action, persons were...persons stopped their vehicles to take photographs, to too videos just to document this particular moment in history.”

He added: “The actors have a similar story as well. They’ve been dormant for about ten (10) years or so, and when we revived in 2019, persons were taking pictures. Sometime last week, the actors did an event through Basseterre where they were performing at various spots and the reception was well received. Persons were excited to see the youngsters jumping over the fork. We ended up over at the bus terminal and a guy drove around to just find us to say when he was a youngster who used to enjoy watching the guys jumping over the fork and he wanted us to send him some photographs and some videos so it shows that persons are really engaged in the culture right.”

He touched on the significance of persons being able to witness the troupes live in action via the Facebook platform.

Asked about his hope for the future, Hendrickson remarked: “My hope is to add more folklore groups and get more people engaged; more children and more adults. If they would like to join in the action that would be awesome.”

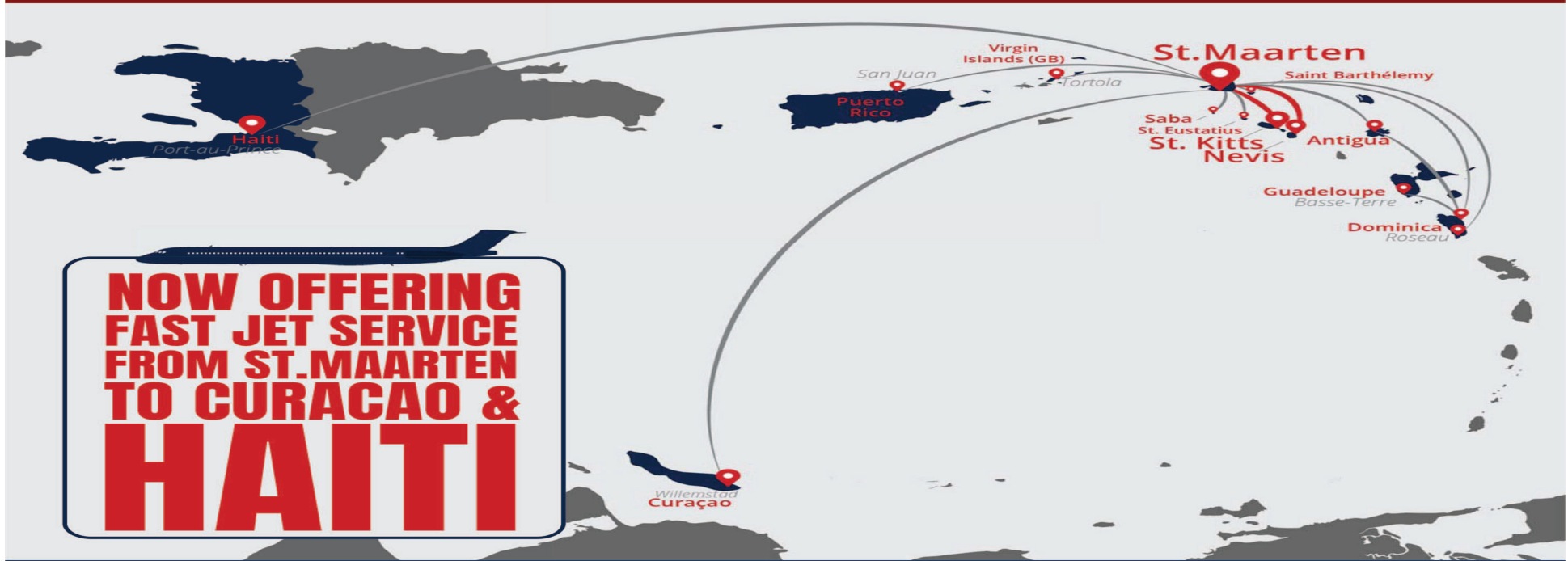
Additionally, he shared that he wears different hats including marketing manager, and that there are persons who are part team who help him with the day to day management of the troupes namely Manager of the CowBoys and Indians Isis Walters-Phipps, Manager of the St. Peter’s Actors Kennedy ‘Natural’ Hazel and also Ladima McSheene who helps in all areas.

For more information persons can contact Hendrickson at 767-3891 or Aidanhendrickson@hotmail.com .

**Front Page Photo: Members of the St.Peter’s Actors troupe (one of the groups of the St. Peter’s Bringing Back the Culture movement) seen in jumping over the fork action during a performance on Fort Street in Basseterre in December 2019 (Spokesman Snap)**

# WINAIR

Antigua • Curacao • Dominica • Guadeloupe • Haiti • Nevis • Saba  
San Juan • St. Barth • St. Eustatius • St. Kitts • St. Maarten • Tortola



**NOW OFFERING  
FAST JET SERVICE  
FROM ST. MAARTEN  
TO CURACAO &  
HAITI**

## #WETAKEYOUTHERE

For bookings or more information contact your favorite travel agent or find us online



**WWW.FLY-WINAIR.SX**

# COVID-19 SAFETY AND HEALTH



International  
Labour  
Organization

## SYMPTOMS

- The most common symptoms are fever, tiredness, and dry cough.
- Others are aches and pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat and/or diarrhea.
- Symptoms are usually mild and begin gradually.
- It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to appear.

## TRANSMISSION

- Droplets from nose or mouth when infected people cough and exhale.
- Standing within one meter of an infected person.
- Touching contaminated surfaces or objects and then touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Ageing and underlying diseases (e.g. diabetes, heart disease) increase risk.

## WORKPLACE PREVENTION MEASURES

- Undertake risk assessments and implement controls.
- Explore alternative work methods.
- Share information and establish communication plans.

THE CONVERSATION (Academic rigour, journalistic flair) - Edition: UK - Health & Medicine - 21 December 2021

# It Could Take 12 Hours Of Walking To Burn Off Your Christmas Dinner

By Professor Amanda Daley, Loughborough University

*On Christmas day alone, it's estimated that people consume around 6,000 calories.*



Christmas is a time when many people put on a few extra pounds. Photo credit: Sutulastock (Item ID: 1867646272 - Shutterstock).

Overeating at Christmas time is almost like a tradition. Many of us look forward to piling our plates full of festive foods, snacking on chocolate throughout the holidays or sipping on festive drinks.

Even if you were trying to eat healthier, indulgent foods are often displayed more prominently in supermarkets and shops during the holidays, making it difficult to pass up on our favourite foods and drinks.

The British Dietetic Association estimates that on Christmas day alone people might consume around 6,000 calories - with Christmas dinner responsible for most of these. But spending time with friends, work Christmas parties and New Year's celebrations might all see us overeat in the days and even weeks before and after Christmas. It's no wonder the average adult gains around 0.5-1kg over the Christmas holidays.

While that might not sound like a lot, the weight we gain during the festive season isn't always lost in the new year. This excess weight gain over the years could see some people become overweight or obese, which may increase their risk of many conditions, including cancer, diabetes, hypertension or stroke.

But research shows that giving people information about how many minutes of walking (or running) it will take to burn off the calories from foods or drinks can help people eat less and avoid gaining weight at Christmas.

So, how much walking do you need to do in order to burn off Christmas dinner?

For an adult weighing 84kg it will take about 12 hours of steady paced walking (around four miles an hour) to burn off the calories of an average Christmas dinner. This is the equivalent of walking approximately 50 miles. Or, if you prefer, you could jog for about five to six hours.

Of course, the number of calories in your dinner will also depend on what foods you eat, how you prepare them and whether you

go back for seconds.

For example, if you cut out the pre-dinner nibbles and appetisers, and only have a yule log for dessert alongside two glasses of wine, your Christmas dinner may only come in around 2,080 calories. For someone weighing 84kg, this would only take around six and a half hours of walking to burn off.

The amount of physical activity you'll need to do to burn off your dinner will also depend on many factors such as age, gender and weight.

Holiday weight gain does not have to be inevitable - and walking is a great activity you can do by yourself or with others.

While walking for 12 hours straight isn't something anyone wants to do during the holidays, there are many easy ways you can sneak more physical activity in during the holidays each day.

For example, try walking to the shops instead of using your car if you can, or take a cycle around your neighbourhood with your children to look at the Christmas lights.

Of course, it's hard not to indulge over Christmas since it only comes around once a year.

Some other easy ways to eat fewer calories during the holidays include snacking wisely, and being cautious with your portions.

If you find that you have gained weight after Christmas don't be disheartened. and try to focus on reducing the treats, and setting yourself a goal to get your weight back on track as soon as you can in the new year.

| Food  | Calories          | Minutes of walking         |
|---|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>PRE-DINNER NIBBLES</b>                       |                   |                            |
| Handful of crisps & six olives                  | 175               | 35                         |
| Two glasses of prosecco/beer                    | 230               | 46                         |
| <b>STARTER</b>                                  |                   |                            |
| Bowl of soup with croutons                      | 145               | 29                         |
| <b>MAIN COURSE</b>                              |                   |                            |
| Two slices of turkey/small portion of nut roast | 200               | 40                         |
| Three pigs in blankets                          | 160               | 32                         |
| Mashed potatoes & three roast potatoes          | 335               | 67                         |
| Gravy & cranberry sauce                         | 185               | 37                         |
| Stuffing  | 120               | 24                         |
| One Yorkshire pudding                           | 150               | 30                         |
| Vegetables                                      | 90                | 18                         |
| <b>DESSERT</b>                                  |                   |                            |
| Christmas pudding/yule log                      | 610               | 122                        |
| Custard/cream/ice cream                         | 120               | 24                         |
| Cheese & biscuits                               | 450               | 90                         |
| Four after dinner chocolates                    | 200               | 40                         |
| <b>DRINKS</b>                                   |                   |                            |
| Two glasses of wine/beer                        | 230               | 46                         |
| Post dinner port/brandy                         | 75                | 15                         |
| <b>COSTS OF CHRISTMAS DINNER</b>                | <b>3,475 cals</b> | <b>695 minutes walking</b> |

*Burning off Christmas dinner. Table by Amanda Daley (Author provided).*

**About the author:** Amanda Daley is Professor of Behavioural Medicine at Loughborough University, and an NIHR Research Professor in Public Health. She is also Director of The Centre for Lifestyle Medicine and Behaviour (CLIMB). Her work is focused on investigating the effects of lifestyle interventions on health outcomes, and she has a particular interest in testing lifestyle interventions that can be delivered by health care professionals within routine NHS consultations. Previously she was a Reader in behavioural medicine at The University of Birmingham College

of Medical and Dental Sciences, where she taught Medicine (MB) and Surgery (ChB) to first, second, and third year students. She led the behavioural medicine team in primary care, with a focus on investigating the effects of lifestyle interventions on health outcomes, particularly around women's health. At Loughborough she currently supervises several Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidates in the areas of physical activity, and health and weight management. Professor Daley is the chief investigator on several on-going trials that are examining the effectiveness of community and general practice based physical activity and weight management interventions. Additionally, she currently leads a programme of work around testing the effects of physical activity calorie equivalent (PACE) food labelling on the purchase and consumption of food and drinks, and the role of standing desks during GP consultations. Professor Daley works closely with public health organisations, The NHS, and other stakeholders. She is most interested in conducting randomised controlled trials, but also has a strong interest in conducting systematic reviews and interrogating large datasets. She has published extensively in the field of physical activity and health. She joined The Conversation on 21 April 2020.

**Disclosure statement:** Professor Amanda Daley receives funding from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the ESRC Doctoral Programme.

**Partners:** Loughborough University provides funding as a member of The Conversation UK, which also receives funding from strategic partners such as Kingston Smith, a top 20 UK audit and accountancy firm, media partners like The Press Association (PA), the national news agency for the UK and Ireland, general funders such as HEFCW, The Royal Society, ISRF, The Ogden Trust, and more than sixty other universities.

*This article has been republished under Creative Commons licence.*

**Sanitize / Wear Your Mask**

Reuters - International Edition - Americas -

Sunday 19 December 2021

# We Did It! Chile's Boric Seals Leftist Revival With Election Win

By Anthony Esposito  
and Natalia A Ramos Miranda



Chile's presidential candidate Gabriel Boric as he took a photo with supporters after casting his ballot at a polling station during the presidential election, in Punta Arenas, Chile on 19 December 2021. Photo credit: Juan Carlos Avendano (Reuters).

SANTIAGO, 19 December (Reuters) - Chilean leftist Gabriel Boric won the country's presidential runoff election on Sunday, capping a major revival for the country's progressive left that has been on the rise since widespread protests roiled the Andean country two years ago.

In downtown Santiago, supporters cheered, embraced and waved flags with Boric's image, as well as rainbow flags of LGBT groups that have backed his socially inclusive policies as well as plans to overhaul Chile's market-orientated economic model.

"We did it!" 39-year-old Paola Fernandez said tearfully as she hugged her daughter, adding she was happy because of Boric's progressive policies.

With over 99% of ballots counted, Boric, 35, who leads a broad leftist coalition, had 55.86% of the vote, compared with 44.14% for far-right rival Jose Antonio Kast, who conceded defeat.



Supporters of Chilean presidential candidate Gabriel Boric celebrate after the presidential election, in Santiago, Chile, on 19 December 2021. Photo credit: Pablo Sanhueza (Reuters).

"I just spoke to @gabrielboric and congratulated him on his great success," Kast said on Twitter. "From today he is the elected President of Chile and he deserves all our respect and constructive collaboration. Chile is always first."

The protests in 2019 shone a spotlight on economic inequality and triggered an official redraft of the constitution.

"I am going to be the president of all Chileans," Boric said in a call with center-right President Sebastian Pinera, who will step down in March.

## 'I WANT REAL CHANGE'

Lucrecia Cornejo, 72, a seamstress, backed Boric's pledge to fix inequalities in education, pensions and healthcare.

"I want equality, for us not to be as they call us, the 'broken ones,' more fairness in education, health and salaries," she said. "I want real change."

The election was the nation's most divisive in decades, with the two candidates offering starkly different visions of the future.

Kast, 55, ran a law-and-order campaign and was a defender of former dictator Augusto Pinochet.

Often likened to Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, and a hero of Chile's "unapologetic right," Kast has said that "two models for the nation" were going head-to-head.

Both candidates were from outside the centrist political mainstream that has ruled Chile since the return to democracy in 1990 after Pinochet's military dictatorship. Both moderated their positions in recent weeks to win over centrist voters.

Miguel Angel Lopez, a professor at The University of Chile, said Boric faced a complex period ahead and would have to negotiate with the opposition due to a split Congress where neither side has a majority.

"He now has to make a strong speech where he tries to end the uncertainty. Lots will depend on that and on his appointments and his decisions. International investors will be very attentive to this."



Chilean presidential candidate Jose Antonio Kast made an appearance to concede defeat after Chile's presidential election, in Santiago, Chile on 19 December 2021. Photo credit: Ivan Alvarado (Reuters).

Boric supporters say he will overhaul the country's economic model that dates back to Pinochet. It has been credited for driving economic growth, but attacked for creating sharp divides between rich and poor.

"We can close the chapter on the dark, damaging and abusive model that benefited a small minority," said businessman Jorge Valdivia, 54, a Boric supporter.

Boric, who rose to prominence leading a student protest in 2011 to demand better and more affordable education, wrote in an open letter on Saturday that his government would make the changes Chileans had demanded in the 2019 social uprisings.

Those protests, which lasted months and at times turned violent, sparked a formal process to redraft Chile's decades-old constitution, a text that will face a referendum next year.

"(That means) having a real social security system that doesn't leave people behind, ending the hateful gap between healthcare for the rich and healthcare for the poor, advancing without hesitation in freedoms and rights for women," Boric wrote.

Taiwan News - Politics -  
Wednesday 22 December 2021

# Taiwan Air Force Takes Delivery Of Second Brave Eagle Advanced Jet Trainer

By Matthew Strong, Staff Writer

*Aircraft to be stationed in Taitung County.*



Taiwan's second Brave Eagle started service in Taitung on Wednesday. Photo credit: CAN.

TAIPEI (Taiwan News) - Taiwan's second indigenous "Brave Eagle" Advanced Jet Trainer (AJT) arrived at an Air Force base in Taitung County on Wednesday 22 December, ready for service.

During the morning, three aircraft flew from the Qingchuangang Air Force Base in Taichung City, where The Aerospace Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) had manufactured them, to Zhihang Air Force Base, CNA reported.

A total of 66 "Brave Eagle" jet trainers should be in service in 2026 at the latest, replacing the United States-built F-5s, which have served Taiwan for at least 35 years and have been plagued by fatal accidents.

Wednesday's event featured the first mass-produced AJT, which was commissioned in November, along with the second one and one of the original aircraft developed for research purposes.

With China stepping up its intimidation of Taiwan by sending its military planes into the country's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on an almost daily basis, Taipei has emphasized local production of a wide variety of weapons systems, from submarines to missiles.

The Ministry of National Defense said Wednesday that since the beginning of 2021, it had counted 940 intrusions by Chinese military aircraft.

**Right to Know. Right Now!**

MedicalXpress - Health - Dentistry - 20 December 2021

# Gum Disease Increases Risk Of Other Illness Such As Mental Health And Heart Conditions



Photo credit: CC0 Public Domain.

A University of Birmingham-led study shows an increased risk of patients developing illnesses including mental ill-health and heart conditions if they have a GP-inputted medical history of periodontal (gum) disease.

Experts carried out a first of its kind study of the GP records of 64,379 patients who had a GP-inputted recorded history of periodontal disease, including gingivitis and periodontitis (the condition that occurs if gum disease is left untreated and can lead to tooth loss).

Of these, 60,995 had gingivitis and 3,384 had periodontitis. These patients' records were compared to those of 251,161 patients who had no record of periodontal disease. Across the cohorts, the average age was 44 years and 43% were male, while 30% were smokers. Body Mass Index (BMI), ethnicity and deprivation levels were also similar across the groups.

The researchers examined the data to establish how many of the patients with and without periodontal disease go on to develop cardiovascular disease (eg, heart failure, stroke, vascular dementia), cardiometabolic disorders (eg, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes), autoimmune conditions (eg, arthritis, Type 1 diabetes, psoriasis), and mental ill-health (eg, depression, anxiety and serious mental illness) over

an average follow-up of around three years.

From the research, published today in journal *BMJ Open*, the team discovered that those patients with a recorded history of periodontal disease at the start of the study were more likely to go on and be diagnosed with one of these additional conditions over an average of three years, compared to those in the cohort without periodontal disease at the beginning of the research.

The results of the study showed, in patients with a recorded history of periodontal disease at the start of the study, the increased risk of developing mental ill-health was 37%, while the risk of developing autoimmune disease was increased by 33%, and the risk of developing cardiovascular disease was raised by 18%, while the risk of having a cardiometabolic disorder was increased by 7% (with the increased risk much higher for Type 2 diabetes at 26%).

Co-first author, Dr Joht Singh Chandan, of The University of Birmingham's Institute of Applied Health Research, said: "Poor oral health is extremely common, both here in The UK and globally. When oral ill-health progresses, it can lead to a substantially reduced quality of life. However, until now, not much has been known about the association of poor oral health and many chronic diseases, particularly mental ill-health. Therefore, we conducted one of the largest epidemiological studies of its kind to date, using UK primary care data to explore the association between periodontal disease and several chronic conditions. We found evidence that periodontal disease appears to be associated with an increased risk of developing these associated chronic diseases. As periodontal diseases are very common, an increased risk of other chronic diseases may represent a substantial public health burden."

Co-first author, Dr Dawit Zemedikun, of The University of Birmingham's Institute of Applied Health Research, said: "Our study was the most comprehensive of its kind, and the results provided vital confirmation of evidence which has previously

either been lacking in strength or has had gaps - particularly the association between oral ill-health and mental ill-health."

Co-senior author, Professor Krish Nirantharakumar, also of The University of Birmingham's Institute of Applied Health Research, said: "An important implication of our findings is the need for effective communication between dental and other healthcare professionals to ensure patients obtain an effective treatment plan targeting both oral and wider health to improve their existing overall health and reduce the risk of future illness."

Periodontal specialist, Dr Devan Raindi, of The University of Birmingham's School of Dentistry, said: "This study strengthens the continually evolving research associating periodontal disease, in particular periodontitis, and various general health conditions. It reinforces the importance of prevention, early identification and treatment of periodontitis and the need for members of the public to attend regular oral health checks with a dentist or dental care professional."

The research was partly funded by Versus Arthritis's Centre for Musculoskeletal Ageing Research, based at The University of Birmingham, and supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Birmingham Biomedical Research Centre.

Caroline Aylott, Head of Research Delivery at Versus Arthritis, said: "Some of the biggest challenges of arthritis, especially auto-immune conditions like rheumatoid arthritis (RA) which affects 400,000 people in The UK, is being able to know who is more at risk of developing it, and finding ways to prevent it. Previous studies have shown that people with RA were four times more likely to have gum disease than their RA-free counterparts and it tended to be more severe. This research provides further clear evidence why healthcare professionals need to be vigilant for early signs of gum disease and how it can have wide-reaching implications for a person's health, reinforcing the importance of taking a holistic approach when treating people."

**More information:** Zemedikun et al (Dec, 2021). "Burden of chronic diseases associated with periodontal diseases: a retrospective cohort study using UK primary care data." *BMJ Open*.

**Journal information:** *BMJ Open*

**Provided by:** The University of Birmingham

## CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK NEWS RELEASE

DECEMBER 18, 2021

# US\$47 million for Development Projects under Tenth Cycle of CDB's Basic Needs Trust Fund

December 18, 2021, BRIDGETOWN, Barbados - One of the Caribbean's longest-running poverty reduction programmes, the Caribbean Development Bank's (CDB) Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF) launched its tenth cycle this week, with over US\$47 million committed to supporting projects in nine countries across the Region.

Already, 123 sub-projects are in the pipeline for this cycle of the BNTF which will run until December 31, 2024. Contributors to CDB's Special Development Fund which funds the BNTF, approved US\$40 million

with the remainder coming from the participating countries: Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname.

Speaking at the launch on Monday, President of the Bank Dr Gene Leon urged development actors in the Region, including at the Bank, to explore how development programmes like the BNTF can be expanded and retrofitted to meet the changing needs of the Region.

.... "Enhancing the development impact is more than

doing what we are currently doing and doing it better," noted the Bank President, adding:

"It is about questioning our targets to make sure that we are providing the best use of every development dollar; it is about questioning what aspects of development are the most urgent for targeting; it is about members designing, monitoring implementation, and providing feedback on programmes."

Pointing specifically to the issues of climate change and resilience and how they affect the Caribbean, he noted that the metrics used for allocation and assessing impact may need to take other factors into account.

"On impact, we can ask is the current allocation efficient or optimal? Should we pivot to a distance-to-SDG metric as the basis of allocation? Indeed, should we not review the very definition of eligibility, given we are championing the Recovery Duration Adjustor (RDA) as a more equitable alternative to Gross National Income (GNI) as the predominant factor in accessing concessional finance?" stated Dr Leon.

Guyana's Senior Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister with responsibility for Finance, Hon. Dr Ashni Singh elaborated on the impact of the BNTF in his

(cont'd on page 14)

# The Magic of Sagicor on full display this Christmas season

Bridgetown, Barbados: For the second year in a row the traditional approach to Christmas celebrations has been impacted by the ongoing pandemic. However, the management and team at Sagicor have found a way to ensure that team members were able to come together to rejoice and recognise the yuletide season.

The company hosted its second annual virtual Christmas concert under the theme “The Magic of Sagicor”, a celebration of the hard work and dedication displayed by team members in their efforts to continue providing the highest level of service to their clients and partners, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19 since March 2020.

President and CEO of Sagicor Life Inc., Robert Trestrail, said the production was an opportunity for the team to pause and take a look back and evaluate the months past, and to truly reflect on what matters the most. “It’s a time we think about family, and as I reflect on our Sagicor family, a few things come to mind: the great relationships we have, the friendships we have made, and the bonds we have created with those in our circles of clients and communities.”

During the broadcast, Trestrail thanked the company’s more than 1,700 regional team members for their loyalty and commitment in what has been another challenging year, and for showing up, pushing through and emerging victorious. “Every effort is truly appreciated, and there’s no better team to usher in the year 2022 with”, he said.

Staff from across the company’s operating territories in the Caribbean, as well as their offices in the United States, showcased their musical talents through a variety of solos and group renditions during the 90-minute production which aired on Sunday, December 12. Headlining the show once again this year, was the Chillax Band, a collection of instrumental and vocal talent from Barbados, led by Executive Vice President and General Manager, Paul Inniss, which performed live from the Frank Collymore Hall Performing Arts Centre and Cultural Complex.

Persons wishing to view the entire production can do so by visiting the Sagicor Financial Corporation Limited YouTube Channel.



The Magic of Sagicor was on full display during the company’s second annual virtual Christmas concert, which was headlined by the Chillax Band, made of up team members in Barbados and led by Executive Vice President and General Manager, Paul Inniss.

## US\$47 million for Development Projects under Tenth Cycle...

(cont’d from page12)

country and further afield, stating:

“Over the past four decades, interventions have provided access to improved social infrastructure including markets, health

posts, resource centres and schools, provided first time access to potable water, improved roads, bridges and foot paths and provided certified skills training aimed at enhancing employability and income generation. BNTF projects have impacted us all

BNTF initiatives have impacted us all regionally nationally and most importantly, our people at the grassroots

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Dr. Taquechel Office**

Telephone: 665-9212

Cayon Street, #47

#### Two Positions

1. Specialist in Internal Medicine and Pediatric
2. Technician in Business Economy Computer Certify.

Vacancy Exists At:

**Maharaja Food Service**

LOCATED AT BIRD ROCK, BASSETERRE

**ONE CHEF**

With 5 years experience

Call 667-3447/ 764-4270

For information

### The Bar - Restaurant “La Guantanamera”

Seeks to hire

**- A COOK -**

Who has extensive experience in preparing food from the broad and well-known Cuban Creole Culture,

Contact phone: 1869-0765-9949 or 1869-667-7716,

We are located in Fort Street

Between Cayon and Central Streets, in front of PharmCare, upstairs old Roti House.

**O.D. Brisbane** is offering the possibility of employment for an active, professional and skillful person.

The post offered is for **COMMERCIAL EXECUTIVE**.

- The candidate should have a university degree in Economy; and should be able to conduct financial and commercial analysis, as well as to propose new lines of businesses for the company.
- The person should have a wide knowledge of Excel and other Office applications, and have a driver’s license.
- Knowledge of Spanish language is an asset,

Candidates should address their CV to this email before January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022: [bnisasha@gmail.com](mailto:bnisasha@gmail.com)

### VACANCY

**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

Working hours: 9am – 5pm

Must be able to work on Sundays when a ship is in port.

Apply to: **I LOVE ST. KITTS – 2**

Building 24, Store 04,

Port Zante, Basseterre, St. Kitts.

Email: [skbinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:skbinfo@yahoo.com)

level.”

In his remarks, Grenada’s Minister of Finance, Economic and Physical Development and Energy, Hon. Gregory Bowen, noted that the BNTF had been there for the countries of the region during difficult times of structural adjustment and the launch of the tenth cycle was welcome and timely, coming during the economic difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The continuance of the BNTF programme during the difficult periods of structural adjustment, fiscal restraints and weak growth continues today during the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters as our OECS economies struggle and adjust to the fallout of the reduction of revenues and the ability to provide basic needs and services to the people.

The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic is increasing poverty levels and worsening living conditions, particularly for the poor in our region where the pre-COVID average poverty levels were between 18 and 30%. This is to say that BNTF cycle 10 is timely and an opportunity for addressing poverty in our territories. The BNTF programme has played and continues to play a significant role in narrowing the social sector funding gaps,” said the Minister.

# PEACE, WAR AND DISCONNECTION SCHEDULE

By: FAIR SHARE FOR ALL

All's fair in love and war is Timothy's motto. And the sooner we in Labour understand that, the better it will be for all of us.

I listened to Obi and EK on Issues on Monday. And while I didn't agree with every single thing that was said, Obi was so right when he said that Timothy has no scruples, no principles, no sense of fair play in seeking political power. In fact, I don't think that any of these virtues is considered in anything that Timothy does.

For those who hate to admit it, the only reason a political party exists is to be in power. So while we may cringe at the extremes to which people like Timothy will go to gain and maintain political power, we in Labour have to be prepared to either fight fire with fire or understand the game so well that we are not outmaneuvered again.

With people drowning in arrears even before COVID, money is the only solution to almost every problem that everybody has. And Timothy understands that. The peace money was increased from \$31 million to over \$44 million and not a soul in civil society has uttered a word of concern.

Part of the reason is that they are afraid of the peace keepers and they are afraid of Timothy. And Timothy understands that too. Understand that all of this increase in the peace money is not going to the former gang members. When a receptionist on STEP take home pay is almost \$5,000.00 each month, we know where some of the peace money is going. But the gang members don't care because they now live lives of luxury with what they are making. So any top up out of the increase is good enough for them.

We in Labour need to be like sharks and vultures and follow the money. And that's all I'm saying on this matter.

For now.

I was reliably informed that when the

SKELEC board met and recognized that a double salary was being paid, they hit upon the idea of the disconnection programme. Don't get me wrong. I am not for one single moment saying that people are not to pay their bills. But I will insist that many of us have just begun to emerge from this COVID tsunami and to hit us with this threat of disconnection at Christmas time, is evil.

I know that in October letters went out for those of us in arrears to come in to make a payment plan. But all of us who went through any government payment plan know that to pay the arrears and stay current at the same time is virtually impossible. Especially when many of us were not working. Or have just started to work again.

Can it be realistically expected that a taxi driver who had his bus repossessed has money to pay SKELEC or anybody else? Things were so bad for all involved that even Indians from Port Zante were selling coconuts on the side of the road.

But I believe that the government is doing all of this to create the opportunity to intervene with some financial assistance from the peace money. For anyone who agrees to the "intervention", their arrears will be gone. A monthly check from the peace programme will be issued to you but you will be locked in and can't get out. And while you will no longer owe SKELEC and the world and his wife, you will now owe the devil.

I can't and I won't tell people what to do. But this child of God prefers to owe SKELEC.

*Merry Christmas to all.*



By Vigilante

\* Dey say dat unto now, de frilly mout deputy friend, de PDP, ain't pay a red cent on he current bill. Frilly tell him dat once Humpty Dumpty big friend dem not paying, he must'n pay a ha'penny.

\* School chirren say dat a certain egg farm ain't pay for current since de government change. And dey owe for de new place up by de birdie dem and de ole place dung by de bay.

\* De frilly mout deputy say dat if who on cable board getting free cable, he not suppose to pay for what he in charge of. And Humpty Dumpty say dat he in charge a everyting so he not paying for anyting.

\* Ole Mother Hubbard send home Raggedy Ann. She ain't renew Raggedy Ann contract. So Raggedy Ann say she not tekking it so because Ole Mother Hubbard got her more dan ten years.

\* Is de business people dem who pressuring Humpty Dumpty to tek off de ting. But he not sure what gon happen when he do it. So he tell de lady dat if dey could live going on two years wid it, dey could wait one more week till de new year.

\* Humpty Dumpty trying to get een de RSS before he tek off de ting. Das what mek he put off de House till next week.

\* Dey say dat he thought dat when he pay de double, people woulda been calling een on all de radio station dem to thank him. So he planning to put up a banner in all de constituency dem to let people know is he who pay de frilly double.

\* De frilly mout deputy hire two a he backhoe dem to dig up part a de multi million dollar parking lot. Dey say de backhoe dem ain't spend a day and is a bamancoo bill he tell de holly and de ivy to send een for de wuk.

**SCOOPS**

**Right  
to Know.  
Right  
Now!**

**FAIR SHARE FOR ALL**



# Sincere Good Wishes FOR Christmas & The New Year

*from*

*The Executive Committee, Officers & Staff of*

**THE ST. KITTS-NEVIS TRADES & LABOUR UNION**

*And from*

*The Management & Staff*

*of*

**THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN PRINTERY**



**LABOUR**  
ST. KITTS-NEVIS LABOUR PARTY

wishes all the people of  
St. Kitts and Nevis



# A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

