

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

www.thelabourspeaksman.com



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

Year 63 NO. 51 BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 28th May, 2021

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 05/05/21

DELTA \$13.65 / SOL \$12.55

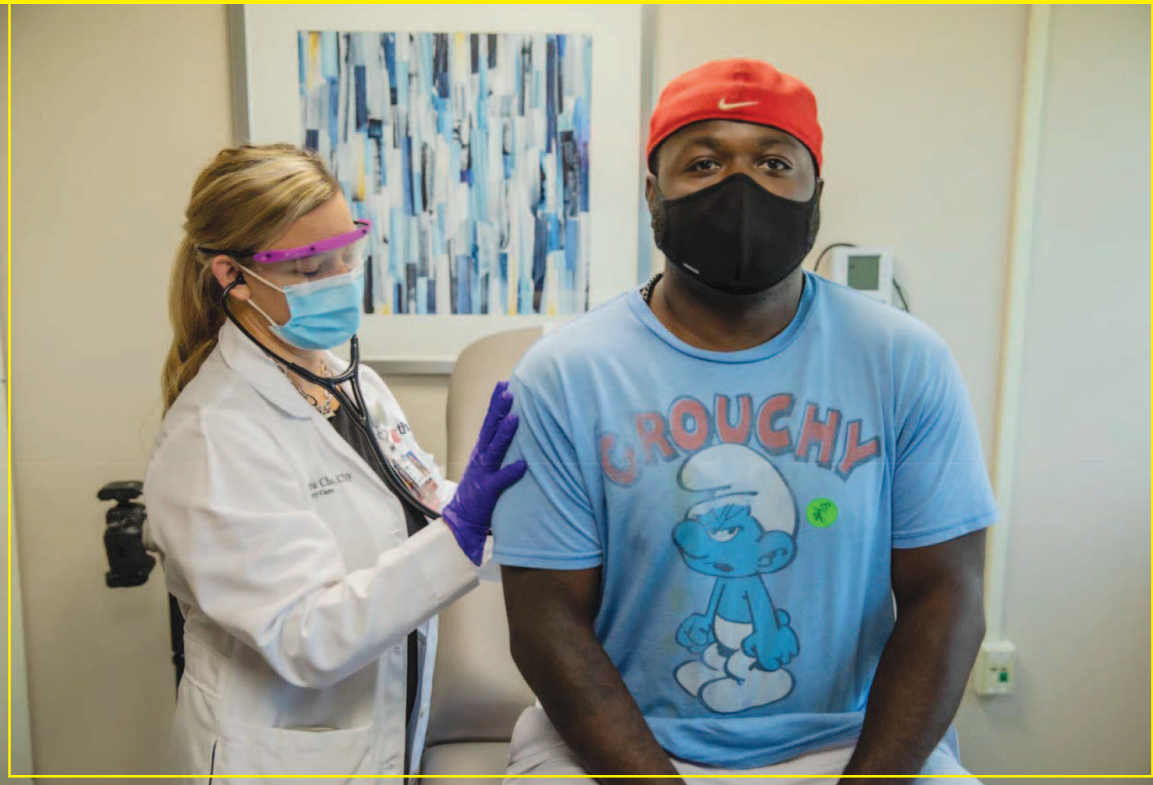
QUARANTINE + JOB PAYMENT

STORY ON
PAGE 20



JABS JUMPING

STORY ON
PAGE 11



NO FACE CASE NEEDED

STORY ON
PAGE 09



COPING COVID...MENTALLY

"That is the unseen part of the health crisis of COVID; that people are having psychological, mental, emotional issues as a result of lockdown, joblessness, hopelessness so all of these are factors that we have to take into account."

- Premier Mark Brantley

STORY ON
PAGE 05



THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

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Editorial

Learning From The Experiences Of Others

On Monday of this week, 24 May 2021, in the Asia Pacific section of their international edition, Reuters carried an article about an aspect of the growing problems in an area of Japan, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Written by Kiyoshi Takenaka, it bore the rather ominous caption of 'No One's Safe Anymore - Japan's Osaka City Crumples Under COVID-19 Onslaught'.

By size Osaka ranks second in Japan but is home to some nine million people, just seven percent of the population. It is located in that country's western region, and suffered more than one third of the national death toll for the month of May.

According to Takenaka's report hospitals in Osaka "are buckling under a huge wave of new coronavirus infections, running out of beds and ventilators as exhausted doctors warn of a 'system collapse'.

Also, only fourteen percent (14%) of the prefecture's COVID-19 patients have been hospitalised, leaving the majority to fend for themselves. Osaka reserves 348 hospital beds for serious virus cases. By Thursday of last week 335 were in use, and a growing number of persons have been dying from the disease outside the prefecture's hospitals.

The Osaka Medical and Pharmaceutical University Hospital (OMPUH) employs some 500 doctors and 950 nurses. It manages 832 beds. 10 of its 16 ICU beds have been dedicated to virus patients. 20 of about 140 serious patients taken in by the hospital died in the ICU.

The Director of that facility has also warned that the variant now afflicting the region makes even young people very sick, very quickly, and, once seriously ill, such patients find it tough to make a recovery. He said: "I believe that until now many young people thought they were invincible. But that can't be the case this time around. Everyone is equally bearing the risk."

The toll on health care workers is also very heavy. Many have reached a breaking point. Some public health nurses at local health centres work for racking up 100, 150, and sometimes even 200 hours overtime. That has been going on for more than a year now. Sometimes they go home at one or two in the morning, go to bed, only to be

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Perryette Peets of Stanefort Heights, Challengers, St. Kitts having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. S05504643** issued by **The Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society** and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



Sagicor

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc



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

Email: info@sknunion.com

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

awakened at three or four o'clock.

According to Yuji Tohda, director of Kindai University Hospital in Osaka: "Simply put, this is a collapse of the medical system."

What is quite significant is the fact that, as with some other nations, Japan had avoided a large number of infections, but this wave, the fourth one, quite suddenly overtook Osaka prefecture with more than three thousand eight hundred (3,800 +) new positive tests in less than one week.

The rapid collapse of Osaka's healthcare system is indicative of the grave dangers posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last week we carried articles outlining the growing dangers posed by the pandemic in Taiwan, and the courses of action which the authorities of that country were constrained to take in order to safeguard the population.

In this week's edition we are also carrying more articles about the situation in Taiwan, and we wish to underscore our

concerns for the people of that country, who are our friends in so many ways.

Last week we warned our people that the dangers of COVID-19 are still with us, and we called on all of our people to do our part, individually and collectively, to keep our nation safe.

In order for such efforts to be successful an indispensable ingredient is trust by the people in those who hold the reins of government. That the vast majority of our people do not trust our government, and have no respect for them, makes our task much more difficult than it is already.

Nevertheless, for the sake of our nation, and for that of generations yet to come, we need to make the best of our very bad situation and do whatever we can to prevent St Kitts and Nevis from slipping further into under-development.

We encourage each person to remain fully alerted to the prevailing dangers. Let us learn from our own experiences and those of others, and let us do our best to weather this health storm.



The Office of the Leader of the Opposition
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
St. Christopher (St. Kitts) And Nevis



National Address

By Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil L Douglas
Leader of the Parliamentary Opposition
May 25th 2021

COVID-19 Cluster Outbreak - St Kitts and Nevis HUMILITY, TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSIVITY

Citizens and residents of this fair land of ours, I greet you today under the most unfortunate of circumstances. Nevertheless, I am aware of the current strength of our country and our people and the collective strength of our country. We are a resilient people, capable of rising above the greatest of challenges that we may face. Over a year and months ago COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on lives, health services, economies, and nations around the world. No country has been exempted. Our Federation has been fortunate enough to have been spared the community/cluster spread which has plagued many of our sister nations in the Caribbean. Clearly, nothing lasts forever, and not being ready for the inevitable is not only crucial but is an unforgiving mistake or error.

Since 2019 there have been many lessons and many challenges beckoning us as a country to work in concert to create a framework that might help us in these troubling times that we now face. We were spared from the grave and direct effects of COVID-19 for over a year under the smile of Almighty God. For that period, St Kitts and Nevis had not, experienced any community spread. We were informed by the authorities that our positive tests were associated only with travelers into our country. Nonetheless, we are at that point in time today, where over the last few days we have seen some 16 new cases, the foundation of which was associated with an international traveler entering our country.

Admittedly, the very industry we are depending on for an increase in trade and jumpstarting the downward economy, is the same industry that has the highest exposure to COVID-19. Many of us now agree that alternatives must be pursued.

Our fears have been made real with this unfortunate cluster of COVID-19 cases. This is not the time to lay blame but rather to share the burdens of responding effectively to the crisis we now face. Our economic future, as a country, rests in the successful and safe reopening of our economy to international travelers, and every attempt must be made to ensure that, as our islands receive visitors, our residents and citizens remain safe. The Federation has had adequate time to develop alternative plans for stimulating economic growth. The government has failed us! Our people are looking to transformative Leadership that will guide us into a more diverse and sustainable future.

An important aspect of readying this nation for a future which includes more than Tourism, is Education. At this juncture we need to seriously protect the education sector, where all our hopes for an economic revitalization lies. Our students require our unwavering support in this very trying time. For some, it has been two consecutive challenging school years, where the comfort of meeting face to face, socializing, learning with peers, and receiving firsthand instruction from teachers has been taken away because of COVID-19. Many of our students have had increased levels of stress as they try to maneuver the realities of COVID-19.

Although we have had over a year to prepare for a possible community spread, sadly we recognize the gravity of a cluster outbreak which mandated the closing of schools at a moment's notice, with no school closure plan; livelihoods are placed at risk for the sake of protecting lives and this is understandable. However, there

are pertinent questions which must be raised. How many parents can afford to have all their children at home, where in some cases online learning is problematic? How many workers have no option but to stay away from work in order to provide needed childcare?

We have had an entire year to prepare for the closure of school under crisis. Thankfully, ongoing planning and preparation by our teachers and education officials have assisted schools to transition to online learning in attempts to manage the cluster outbreak currently being experienced. Additionally, we expected that after one year of planning, the promised robust plan for transitioning students would have been presented. There are still students struggling to access the online platforms. Teachers are still without devices and not enough has been done to seriously bridge the digital divide facing some of our more vulnerable students. Let us come together and find ways of assisting those who need it most. If you can, donate, fund, support even if it means sharing a Wi-Fi password to students in your neighbourhood, every little helps. Many of us can offer support to students even through virtual classes. We must ensure that our students are ready for their upcoming exams. Even more critical, the 5th formers who are about to sit CXC can benefit tremendously from the support of a concerned community. Lend your efforts to ensure no student is left behind.

What is important at this time is that we find the true Kittitian and Nevisian spirit which will see us come together in a time of crisis. We must band together as citizens of this nation to provide support, comfort, assistance, and compassion in this challenging time.

Many of us have taken for granted the privileges and comforts of being able to move about freely. Our friends and family members who are now in isolation of self-quarantine, need your support. There are some families who now must face the challenges of two weeks quarantine, food provision and remote family supervision. Admittedly, we are not all fortunate. And that is why I emphasise that some amongst us are truly suffering and will need a coordinated community-led effort to feed those in need, provide care packages and financial assistance. Lend support where you can.

Very critical matters of worker's rights and financial support are brought to the fore by this unfolding cluster event. Importantly, matters of paid leave, extended breaks from work due to mandatory quarantine are issues which must be well ventilated, and the employee must be well supported. One must be fully abreast of their rights as employers and employees. As we strive to protect lives from this deadly virus, we must also pay close attention to the protection of livelihoods.

The physical, mental, and social wellbeing of our citizens is of utmost concern. A public health crisis threatens not only the provision of critical care health services, but also has an indelible impact on the mental health (not only of those with the COVID-19) but of families charged with care and support. Today, we pause to think of the mothers and fathers now forced into quarantine with their children. We think of the children now forced to live without their parents who have been placed in isolation. Our thoughts must be on the families living in a state of heightened stress as they await the results of their PCR tests. The mental strain is real and requires genuine support.

I must mention that COVID-19 and the current management approach requiring students to remain at home, will take its toll on women. Globally we have seen how women are facing some of the gravest fallout from COVID-19. Today we saw mothers in particular, struggle with childcare, some resorting to taking their children to work, and some asked to take their vacation leave only to stay at home with their children. We must always remember that in every crisis we must pay special attention to the more vulnerable groups in society.

Importantly, we must remember that a public health crisis requires not just institutional and infrastructural resilience, but a resilient and compassionate nation. There will never be a time for vaccine shaming and online bullying of cases. I urge you in the spirit of togetherness and love to provide support to families in quarantine through tolerance. Educate yourselves on the importance of COVID-19 non pharmaceutical management strategies. I reiterate my position, one which I've always held not just as The Leader of the Opposition but as a trained medical doctor. Vaccinations work, and the Covid-19 Emergency vaccinations can reduce the severity of illness and save lives. The onus is on every citizen to do the necessary research and determine whether he or she will take the vaccine. We must do what is right for ourselves, our friends, and families and for our country. Each person must make an informed decision about vaccination. Where government led information is insufficient, consult your medical doctor, conduct your own research, and determine your next best step for protecting yourself.

While we have been able to manage the health crisis, we have more to do in terms of ensuring that the management of COVID-19 is Inclusive, Transparent, and Fair. We accept that in the absence of forthcoming, transparent, and believable information, propaganda and social media embellishment might be the reality. However, I implore us all to share information responsibly. Provide support to families in dire need. Work as a community to support our students and teachers.

Together, let us ensure that lives and livelihoods are protected through community effort.

Curfew Among 10 Measures As COVID-19 Cases Increase In SKN

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Tuesday 25th May 2021)- A curfew imposed from 11:00PM to 5:00 AM daily from Tuesday 25th May 2021 has been accepted by Cabinet as one of the ten (10) recommendations from local health professionals.

Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris, in an address to the nation said such will be "or 14 days in the first instance to decrease the possibility of continued spread of the virus."

Notably, as of Monday 24th May St.Kitts-Nevis recorded fifteen (15) active cases following an update of six additional cases as part of an ongoing contact tracing exercise.

The full list of measures to be undertaken in order to contain the spread of the deadly virus - as disclosed by PM Harris are as follows:

1. A curfew will be imposed from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. daily starting from tonight and for 14 days in the first instance to decrease the possibility of continued spread of the virus.
2. The number of passengers on public transportation (buses, ferries etc.) will be reduced to 50 percent of established capacity. This is to facilitate physical distancing and a resultant reduction in the risk of transmission of the virus.
3. Strict adherence to non-pharmaceutical measures that is mask wearing, sanitizing and physical and social distancing must be observed in the public and at places of business and worship. Remember your personal responsibility in this fight is of utmost importance.
4. All contact sports are suspended for the next two weeks.
5. Schools will remain closed for two weeks in the first instance to facilitate contact tracing, testing and other necessary precautions consistent with the COVID-



(cont'd on page 07)

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

APPLICATION NO. SKBHCV 2017/0266

BETWEEN:

[1] REPUBLIC BANK (EC) LIMITED
(successor of The Bank of Nova Scotia)

Applicant

and

[1] PHILMORE WARNER
[2] THYRA WARNER

Respondents

NOTICE OF SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

The Property described below will be offered for sale by the Registrar of the High Court by PUBLIC AUCTION at the High Court, Sir Lee L. Moore Judicial and Legal Services Complex, Independence Square East, Basseterre, St Kitts

on Thursday the 22 day of July 2021, at

2pm o'clock in the afternoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his or her accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale. The Purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the property must be paid by the Purchaser. The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property free from prior encumbrances. Contact the Applicant's Attorneys-at-Law, Kelsick, Wilkin and Ferdinand, 869-465-2440 or Law@kwfonline.com, for more details.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being known as Lot 16 DA/8, situate at Frigate Bay Housing Development in the Parish of Saint George in the Island of Saint Christopher, bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On or towards the South-East by Lot No. 15 DA/8, 222.06 feet; On or towards the North-East by a Development Road, 96.43 feet; On or towards the North-West by Lot 17 DA/8, 213.01 feet; and On or towards the South-West by Frigate Bay, 105.00 feet and containing by admeasurement 22,826.57 square feet; all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated December 17, 2003 registered in Book C3 Folio 749 of the Register of Titles of the St Christopher Circuit.

SURVEY PLAN OF PROPERTY



UPSET PRICE:

The upset price for the above land and buildings thereon shall be EC\$739,580.87

Dated the 17 day of May 2021

BY THE COURT

[Signature]
REGISTRAR



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

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OR TILING A NEW HOUSE. BUILDERS PARADISE HAS WHAT YOU NEED.

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Brantley Addresses Mental Health In SKN Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic

By: Precious Mills

Basseterre, St.Kitts (Friday 28th May 2021)- Premier Mark Brantley has informed that the mental health register in St.Kitts and Nevis has increased noting "we feel a lot of that is connected to COVID."

"...I know I that many have focused on the economic impact of lock downs but let us not forget that there is also a social and psychological impact..." he



SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Clarence Glasgow of Camps Estate Cecelia Drive, P.O. Box 2334, St. Kitts, having made sworn deposition that Policy No. K116386 issued by British American Insurance Company and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

stated while responding to a question at his monthly press conference held on Tuesday 25th May 2021.

Brantley was quizzed about the potential for a lockdown and the effect such would have on the economy.

"It would be devastating. Our finances are already at an all-time low. Our main engine tourism is still substantially offline. So if we go into lock down where our restaurants and our bars our business communities shut down, the potential for that of course is that the country comes to a standstill, and I know I that many have focused on the economic impact of lock downs but let us not forget that there is also a social and psychological impact that I believe is still not yet fully understood and still not fully evaluated."

He continued: "What does impact do to the psyche of our people; the inability to move about? Humans are by their nature, they are social creatures. What happens when a government tells you that you are essentially isolated from others? If you live alone for example, you may well get up every morning and look forward to going to work to engage with work mates, you may look forward to church on a Sunday to engage with members of the congregation. All of a sudden you are told that you cannot leave your house so all of that engagement you look forward to each week disappears. What does that do you? These are still things that are uncertain but I can tell you here in St.Kitts and Nevis, our mental health register has increased in terms of persons who have sought assistance, our register for those seeking counselling has increased, and we feel a lot of that is connected to COVID."

Brantley went on to talk about such unseen part of the health crisis.

"That is the unseen part of the health crisis of COVID; that people are having psychological, mental, emotional issues as a result of lockdown, joblessness, hopelessness so all of these are factors that we have to take into account."

According to him, the decision to lockdown will not be a light decision.

"It will have to be based on the evidence, it will have to be based on the fact that there is an outbreak that we feel the only way to do is to lockdown. At this point, I hasten to say that based on discussions that I was a part of last night, that is not on the table but I do not rule anything out because COVID is a far moving threat. Today it is not here, tomorrow we wake up and we hear we have 15 or 16 cases. That is the nature of COVID, and so no lock down on the table at the moment but it is a rapidly evolving situation and we would have to see that the contact tracing that is still ongoing takes us today, tomorrow and over the next few days."

Meanwhile, information gleaned online from www.paho.org on the topic of 'Mental Health and COVID-19' shares that: "Fear, worry, and stress are normal responses during times when we are faced with uncertainty or the unknown. So it is normal and understandable that people are experiencing these feelings in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic."

"Added to the fear of contracting the virus in a pandemic such as COVID-19 is the impact of the significant changes to our daily lives brought on by efforts to contain and slow down the spread of the virus. Faced with the challenging new realities of social distancing, working from home, temporary unemployment, home-schooling of children, and lack of physical contact with loved ones and friends, it is important that we look after our mental, as well as our physical, health."

Notably, materials relating to looking after one's mental health during the COVID pandemic is found on the page, and additional resources is expected to be added as such becomes available.

PAHO is the Pan American Health Organization and WHO- The World Health Organization.

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

NEVIS CIRCUIT

TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT, CAP 10.19

A.D. 2021

NEVHCV2019/0054

In the matter of Section 75 of the Title by Registration Act, Cap. 10.19

and

In the matter of an Application to settle Articles of Sale of the Respondent's property comprised in a Certificate of Title dated 16th May, 2006 registered in Register Book 44 Folio 131

THE BANK OF NEVIS LIMITED

Applicant

AND

NEVISCAPES LTD

Respondents

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of The Supreme Court by public auction at the Court House, Charlestown, Nevis on the 1st day of July, 2021 at 2.00pm o'clock in the forenoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

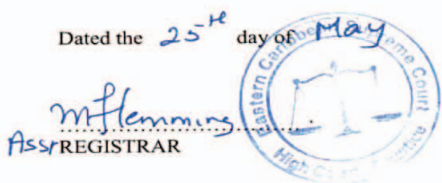
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land situate at Clifton Estate in the parish of St. Thomas in the island of Nevis bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On the North by lands of Lloyd Williams 55.92 feet and 89.09 feet; On the East by a Bank of ghaat 48.19 feet, 33.98 feet, 47.21 feet and 58.93 feet; On the South partly by lands of Itorobong John Essien and Jessica Ivonne Bardalos and John Clarke 108.28 feet, 68.05 feet and 116.99 feet and containing by admeasurement 22,228 square feet

UPSET PRICE

The upset price for the above property shall be ECS266,736.00

Dated the 25th day of May, 2021.



HIGHPOINT

Rights? What Rights?!

Why the big push for the entire federation to become vaccinated with this COVID-19 vaccine that the entire world is questioning? I am not against vaccinations because they serve their purpose and have proven to be quite effective over the years. What I am against is the bullying and intimidation tactics that are taking place right now to force persons into going against their personal choice.

President Joe Biden, President of the United States, one of the countries that produces the AstraZeneca vaccine stated at a press conference that although they produce the vaccine it is not FDA approved so it cannot be used within the United States. What intrigues me though is that he continued by saying that the vaccine will as a result be exported to various international countries. Can you please make it make sense?! The FDA...the Food and Drug Administration says NOPE we will not be approving that vaccine, yet you will be exporting it to other countries? So, it is not good enough for you, but it is good enough for others?

Another thing is, WHY ARE ALL THESE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES UTTERING THE SAME RHETORIC PUSHING THIS ONE PARTICULAR VACCINE? Every single one of them are basically saying take the AstraZeneca vaccine or all your rights will be stripped! I do not know about you, but it is very suspicious to me! It leaves one to question what are they gaining from this? There is no effort being placed into ensuring that the population is properly educated but every emphasis is being placed on shoving it down the throats of the populace or more accurately, under the skin.

Businesses are full steam ahead jumping on this band wagon caught on the need for more money rather than the welfare and basic human rights of their employees. They have now resorted to taking advantage of this push for persons to be vaccinated and are threatening employees' job security. I saw correspondences from various business places threatening the livelihood of their employees giving a timeline of when they should vaccinate and if they fail to do so they will be terminated. THIS IS RIDICULOUS AND A TOTAL OUTRAGE. Why no one has opted to take legal action as yet I do not understand. Workers in St. Kitts and Nevis need to revisit the option of joining a union. Businesses are only jumping at this opportunity to take advantage of employees' rights because we have gravitated so far from unionizing. Band together and fight for your right to choose what goes into your body. If you are willing and want to take the vaccine, then good for you and if you do not then good for you as well and stick to your right.

SCASPA recently released a statement stating that "all persons wishing to conduct business at the Portsâ€™ Facilities (both Air and Sea), must present proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or a valid negative RT-PCR Test taken within the past 14 (fourteen) days."

I find this hilarious. This release seems to insinuate that persons who have been vaccinated cannot catch or transmit the COVID-19 virus and this is because of the misinformation the government

has been peddling.

What is even more humorous is that after that release started circulating the Attorney General, Hon. Vincent Byron stated in the recent NEOC broadcast that the document was brought to the attention of the government and was inadvertently released as the cabinet has made no such decision and that the public should disregard the release. I laugh heartily at that because I fail to believe that they did not give the okay. It is so coincidental that whenever the public pushes back about something they claim it was inadvertently released, but hey, that is what the man said.

I understand the scare from the recent increase in cases, but I firmly feel that is because of the lapse in COVID-19 protocol adherence. Persons have been moving around without masks and social distancing became nonexistent when according to many at the time, "there is no COVID in St. Kitts". Even now it is still being taken lightly as some business places are doing a poor job at enforcing the COVID-19 protocols. You can even see persons moving around without masks in public and still gather in small crowds throughout town. Why is this? Perhaps because so many lies are being circulating around this virus campaign that persons no longer trust what the government says? There has been so much focus on the politicizing of the COVID-19 pandemic that persons are beginning to question the validity of everything uttered.

One such falsehood is that if you are vaccinated you will not contract the COVID-19 virus and will not be able to transmit it. Yes, you can. As a matter of fact, I was informed that one of the hotel workers that contracted the virus was fully vaccinated at the point when she was tested and diagnosed with the virus. Again, I say I am not against vaccination, what I am against is the misinformation, the bullying, intimidation tactics and the victimization. There are other COVID-19 vaccine options and I get that they are more costly, but has there been any effort to obtain those? The Prime Minister stated boldly that he already spent \$800,000 as a down payment on a vaccine, which one was it and where is it? I ask because the doses we have were all donated.

Cuba recently started rolling out their vaccine which has been proven to be safer and much more effective than what is currently being offered here. Cuba's Soberana COVID-19 vaccine can be used in persons of all ages. In a recent article Cuba's government says it can have 70% of its population inoculated by August. "We'll likely be the first country in the world to vaccinate its entire population with its own vaccines" Health Minister Jose Angel Portal said. Perhaps we can consider reaching out to Cuba since persons seem to be more trusting of this vaccine.

NASPA increases security measures at all sea ports

NIA CHARLESTOWN NEVIS (May 26, 2021) — In an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19, the Nevis Air and Sea Ports Authority has increased security and safety measures at the sea ports to include additional passenger information for contact tracing

purposes.

The new measures will commence with immediate effect where all vessels operating at facilities managed by NASPA are required to provide a log of all inbound and outbound passengers.

For the passenger list

compiled prior to each departure, vessel operators are required to gather contact information which include passenger's first and last names, address, phone number

and temperature. This list is to be made available to the Authority or Ministry of Health, in the Nevis Island Administration (NIA) upon request.

Mr. Oral Brandy, NASPA's General Manager, expressed continued commitment to providing safer travels through the ports.

"At NASPA, we are committed to keeping our staff and the community safe during this pandemic.

"We ask that our vessel operators and passengers be patient and cooperate with the new safety procedures. Continue wearing your mask, practicing social distancing, and using our hand sanitizing stations when using our facilities," he said.



Mr. Oral Brandy, General Manager at the Nevis Air and Sea Ports Authority

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Myron Percival of Davis Road, Phillips Village, St. Kitts being Beneficiary, having made sworn deposition that Policy No. K100307874 issued by British American Insurance Company and assumed by Sagikor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc. on the life of Dawn Percival has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 21st May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary


Sagikor

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagikor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

Curfew Among 10 Measures As COVID-19 Cases Increase In SKN

(cont'd from page 04)

19 Prevention and Control Act. Parents are advised to keep children safely at home. No local examinations will be administered during this period of school closure. The Ministry of Education has already begun to engage CXC to discuss alternative arrangements for any examinations scheduled during this time. Students, teachers and parents will be subsequently informed of the relevant decisions taken by CXC. Teachers will engage students from grades 3 and higher via the established online modality of MS Teams.

6. Absolutely no mass events will be allowed as these could be super spreader events.

7. Funerals must adhere to COVID-19 protocols and be mindful of capacity in the church.

8. Surveillance and extended contact tracing will continue.

9. Effective May 29, 2021 only fully vaccinated travellers will be allowed entry into St Kitts and Nevis until further notice. Exemptions will be considered for citizens and residents.

10. Given the importance of vaccines in the protection of persons from the worse effects of COVID-19, and in the interest of public health, we have extended the hours for administering of vaccines. Health Centres will be opened between the hours 8:00 am to 6:00 pm in St Kitts from Monday to Friday and in Nevis between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Extended hours of service will apply on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. until further notice. Please note that vaccines are a scarce commodity globally but my Government continues to work behind the scenes to secure extra doses of vaccines so that we would have sufficient to reach a herd immunity threshold.

According to PM Harris: "My priority as your Prime Minister and leader of your Team Unity Government is to ensure the health, safety and security of every citizen and resident of this Federation."

Photo: Screenshot showing Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris during his address to the nation on Tuesday 25th May 2021

VENUE CHANGE



Please note that the venue has changed to
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 Thanks for your support.



DELTA PETROLEUM NEVIS LTD. APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF Accounting Officer III

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

The Accounts Officer III will provide extensive support to the Country Manager.

SCOPE

The Accounts Officer III reports to the Country Manager and will be responsible for reconciliations, preparation of monthly schedules, recording of transactions, billing of customers, preparation of cash flows, and submission of customs duties.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure the accurate and timely transactions entries done on real time basis for the markets (payables, receivables, inventories, cash etc.)
- Review the daily disbursements before payment processing
- Ensure accurate daily reconciliations of bank accounts with the GL.
- Ensure daily lubes and LPG sales are recorded accurately in SAGE and reconciled to physical inventory.
- Review to ensure accurate billing of contract customers in accordance with the terms and conditions of their contract.
- Reconcile with customer and vendor accounts on a regular basis
- Consolidate weekly cash flow projections.
- Monitor Accounts receivable collection targets vs. actual collections.
- Maintain accurate sub ledgers for receivables, payables, prepaid expenses, advances and other accounts as identified by management
- Monthly reconciliation and submission of Customs duties.
- Prepare monthly VAT Returns
- Assist with the preparation of budget forecasting and monitoring of actual financial performance

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor degree in Accounting or Finance, and at least 5 years of accounting experience.
- Knowledge of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
- Knowledge of SAGE and other accounting software.
- Experience in reconciliations of various accounts
- Ability to supervise staff.
- Excellent communication, analytical and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrates qualities of being thorough, detail oriented, organized and responsible in a fast-paced environment
- Proficient in Microsoft applications including, but not limited to, Word, Excel and Outlook.
- Knowledge of office and professional business environment

Please send applications addressed to:

Ms. Sharon Hobson
 Country Manager
 Delta Petroleum Nevis Ltd.

Or email to:

mgordon@deltapetroleum.com

Deadline for receipt of applications is 7th June 2021.

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Dr. Wilkinson Disagrees With Naming COVID-19 Cases

By: Precious Mills

Basseterre, St.Kitts (Friday 28th May 2021)-Naming the COVID-19 patients so as to help in contract tracing exercises is not the position of local health authorities unlike some members of the public who are of the view that such could be effective in a small society like St.Kitts-Nevis.

A question of this nature was raised at the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) COVID-19 Daily Briefing on Wednesday 26th May 2021, receiving the response from the Chief of Staff at the Joseph N. France Officer, Dr. Cameron Wilkinson.

Dr. Wilkinson, a member of the National COVID-19 Task Force, gave the disagreement reasoning having replied to the questioner who is of the opinion that naming individuals will assist in others being able to come forward and support the contact tracing process since one cannot connect one's self to a case number.

He talked about protecting the patients from being victimised, the responsibility of all to assume that everybody has COVID-19 in observing the safety protocols as well as the non-issue for the contact tracing personnel.

"Let me just say that everyone is entitled to their own opinion so the person rightly said it was their opinion but I just want to state some facts here. Every day we pass persons on the street and we don't know their names. Everyday persons who travel on public transportation... I mean, they might sit next to them but they don't know their names."

He continued: "Every day, you could go to offices and there are some persons you know, there are some persons you don't

know but the reason why we tell you in this pandemic you need to wear a mask, you need to social distance and you need to sanitize is that you need to assume that everyone is positive and by assuming that everyone is positive, you can decrease the spread of the virus if you happened to be in contact with anyone who has the virus and so there is absolutely no reason why one needs to know the 15 or 16 persons who happen to have been confirmed to have COVID-19. We have already said you may have confirmed cases but there might be some persons who are not confirmed

and so you need to assume that everyone has the virus."

"You said that the virus is not a disgraceful virus; the virus is a deadly virus and it is because it is deadly why we ask you to do those things. I can also tell you too that the persons who do the contact tracing etc., they have sufficient information when they are coming to the persons who would

have been confirmed to do the necessary contact tracing without putting the person's name out there in the public for the public to come and give us the information," Dr. Wilkinson added.

In further commenting on another question about the link(s) in relation to the latest announced cases, he stated: "What all we need to know now is that the virus is back. We have persons here who are positive and you need to do what is necessary to contain the virus and so your personal individual responsibility is what you need to know in decreasing the spread but you don't necessarily have to know the details of these persons because what is happening is that persons are beginning to victimize persons and it is not a scorn and we can help to decrease the scorn by keeping the persons information out of the general public."

Front Page Photo: An image used for illustration purposes only depicts an unknown identity (source: www.demandtalk.com)



Photo: Chief of Staff at the Joseph N. France General Hospital Dr. Cameron Wilkinson

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Lawson Bergan of Pedro Street, Sandy Point, St. Kitts having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. 055402515** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc** and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc. on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Elrose Williams of Crab Hill, Sandy Point, St. Kitts, having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. S05524209** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc** and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on **the life of Zarinique Thompson** has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

Right to Know. Right Now!

In Memoriam

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



OUR BELOVED MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER,
AUNT, TEACHER AND EDUCATOR

Madame Zenaila Katzen

WHO DEPART THIS LIFE ON 30TH MAY, 2002

*We thought of you with love today,
But that's nothing new.*

*We thought of you yesterday,
And all the days before that too.*

*They say that time heals all sorrows
And helps us to forget*

*But these last years have shown us
How much we miss you.*

*To us you were so special,
What more is there to say,*

*Except to wish with all our hearts
That you were here with us today.*

Sadly missed by all

MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE

*Signed: Keith Williams
on behalf of the entire family*



PCCU Reaches Out To Offices From St. Vincent And The Grenadines Affected By Volcanic Activity

Basseterre, St. Kitts, May 27, 2021 (RSCNPF): The Police Co-operative Credit Union (PCCU) Board of Directors have agreed on the type of assistance that will be offered to its members who are affected by the ongoing activity of the La Soufriere Volcano in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Representatives from the PCCU held a meeting with members who are Police Officers and are nationals of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to gather information on how they, their families and property were being affected by the volcanic activity.

The meeting was held at the Cuna Conference Room on May 18, 2021, and was chaired by Vice President of the PCCU Board

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Denis Maloney of Hickman Village, Gingerland, Nevis, having made sworn deposition that Policy No. N323337 issued by British American Insurance Company and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

of Directors, Erwin Williams. He was flanked by Major Kayode Sutton who is the Assistant Secretary of the Board and fellow Director, Major (Retired) Leroy Percival. The three members comprise a sub-committee established by the Board to report on what kind of assistance the Officers were in need of during this time. Mr. Williams described the event as a "fact-finding meeting" and said that the issues raised would be discussed with the other Directors.

Also present at the meeting from the Credit Union were General Manager, Mellicia Phillip, Operations Manager, Lynn Bass and Administrative Assistant, Janet Johnson. Mrs. Phillip serves as an ex-officio member to the sub-committee. She disclosed that she thought the meeting was a success and added that the Credit Union wanted to lend its support.

"It was an opportunity for the Credit Union to meet with its members who are going through a difficult time at the moment to see where we can assist them. We're thankful to our members for taking the time out to come and engage with us as they did - I also want to thank Commissioner Brandy for allowing the Officers the time to come and have their concerns aired," Mrs. Phillip said.

Commissioner of Police Hilroy Brandy attended the meeting as well. The Commissioner has been a member of the PCCU since its inception in 1984. He was pleased that the Credit Union was showing an interest in its members.

"I think it's a very good gesture on the part of the Credit Union. I am happy to see the Union reach out to its members in times of difficulties and to hear from them in what ways it can assist. The Union is not duty-bound to do it, but it shows empathy on the part of the union. I hope whatever package they come up with is very helpful," said Commissioner Brandy.

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held on May 21, 2021. The PCCU is expected to be in contact with the Officers shortly.



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COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Increase As Cases Rise

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Friday 28th May 2021) - In the space of a week with the announcement of nineteen (19) active cases to date, appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine in St.Kitts-Nevis have been increasing with more than 50 % of the target herd immunity population aimed at 70% having gotten the first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

The federation has recorded 64 cases (50 in St.Kitts and 14 in Nevis) in total of which 45 have recovered. Case # 46-which was the only active one at that time-was confirmed on Wednesday 19th May.

Speaking at the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) COVID-19

Daily Briefing on Wednesday 26th May 2021, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Hazel Laws said at the end of work day on Tuesday 25th May 2021, 23,340 doses have been administered with 17,579 in 5,761 in Nevis.

Notably, close to the end of work day on Wednesday 19th May, there were 19,320 vaccine doses administered (St.Kitts-14,433 and Nevis-4,887).

"As at yesterday 52 per cent of the target population have been covered with the first dose of this vaccine, and by extension, 19 per cent (5,968) of the target population is fully vaccinated," she said at the most recent briefing.

The government noted that the largest number of doses of vaccine administered in a single day for the year, since the vaccination rollout started on

22nd February, was recorded that day (Tuesday) with 1,062 doses.

This media house understands that at the end of work day on Wednesday 26th May, there were 24,297 total doses administered (18,373 in St.Kitts and 5,924 in Nevis) with 6,561 having had the first dose.

Dr. Laws continued at the May 26th briefing: "... the federation is monitoring 19 active cases. This is the highest number of cases we've had at any one time since we started our response within the first quarter of 2020. We are working assiduously to contain this expanding cluster of COVID-19 cases. Please note the terminology of 'cluster of cases'. At present this describes the current transmission pattern in our Federation."

She said the Ministry of Health has been working throughout the day 24/7 in terms of their contact tracing.

"This extensive exercise started last week Wednesday when we identified the first case in this most recent cluster. The aim is to identify, quarantine and test all the possible contacts of the recent cases."

Over 700 individuals were tested up to Tuesday 25th May and 200 were expected to be tested the following day.

Among the positive COVID-19 cases are seven (7) children in the age range 3 to 15 years old. Nine adults between the age group of 33 to 49 years have also been confirmed. Additionally, six of these cases hail from the same household.

The latest three additional cases were confirmed within the last 24 hours of Wednesday 26th May.

All active cases are said to be in stable condition.

Front Page Image used for illustration purposes only sourced from www.sciencemag.org published in November 2020 had the caption: 'This man in Ohio [US] was among the tens of thousands who received Moderna's experimental COVID-19 vaccine in a recent trial that demonstrated 94.1 % efficacy.'



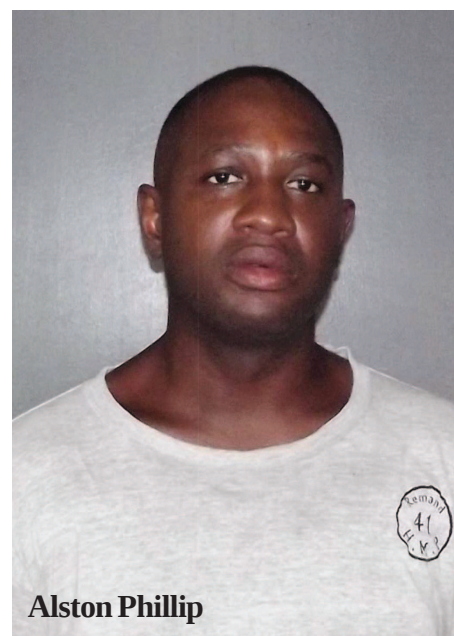
Image of COVID-19 details relative to St.Kitts-Nevis as of Wednesday 26th May 2021 (source: covid19.gov.kn)

Police News

ALSTON PHILLIP SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Basseterre, St. Kitts, May 27, 2021 (RSCNPF): On May 27, 2021, 46-year-old Alston Phillip of Hamilton Estate, Nevis was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum of thirty-five (35) years for Murder and six (6) years and six (6) months each for two counts of Attempted Murder. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Phillip was found guilty by a unanimous verdict on November 19, 2020, for the Murder of 37-year-old Lydia Jacobs and the attempted murder of Mishkin Brookes



Alston Phillip

and Erica Williams. The offences took place on June 02, 2017, at Church Ground, Nevis.

Right to Know. Right Now!

Soil, animal and human health: the key to food safety and to increasing agri-exports from Latin America and the Caribbean

Direct planting systems open opportunities to eliminate tillage and sequester carbon in soil through photosynthesis while reducing the use of fossil fuels and, in turn, greenhouse gas emissions.



Panelists emphasized that science-based decisions and regulations are necessary for any positive transformation of the agrifood systems.

San Jose, 24 May 2021 (IICA) - Soil, animal and human health - considered to be a single objective - is a key and decisive factor in the safety of agricultural products and in increasing the prominence in international markets of products from the Americas, according to hundreds of experts.

This was the conclusion reached during the virtual forum entitled “One Health and International Trade: Basic Elements for the Transformation of Food Systems”, organized by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

The event was opened by Manuel Otero, Director General of IICA, who expressed that “The ‘One Health’ approach encompasses environmental, soil, animal, and human health as the basis for creating and maintaining sustainable agrifood systems”.

Following Otero, Bernardo Cane, former administrator of Argentina’s National Animal Health Service (SENASA), stated

that “we need to explain to small, medium, and large producers the importance not of the chain, but of the agrifood system”.

He added, “We need to tell our consumers that the region’s production system is safe and healthy. And we need to demonstrate the health, traceability, and coexistence of flora and fauna with no negative environmental impact to the most critical opponents of food production of animal origin”.

Maria Beatriz “Pílu”

Giraudo, representing the Argentine No-Till Farmers Association (AAPRESID), a civil organization of rural producers concerned with soil erosion, highlighted the experience of a sector whose technology “directly impacts the ability to produce safe, nutritious foods, particularly in terms of quality”.

“By using direct planting systems, we have an enormous opportunity to eliminate tillage and sequester carbon in soil through photosynthesis while reducing the use of fossil fuels and, in turn, greenhouse gas emissions”, she explained.

Bolstering agricultural trade to strengthen food security

Cassio Luiselli, an economist specializing in Agricultural Economics, Professor Emeritus at the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESM) - Mexico City Campus, and member of IICA’s Advisory Council for Food Security in the Americas, emphasized the importance of diversifying markets and deregulating agricultural trade.

“We need to significantly diversify the markets to which we export our products (from Latin America and the Caribbean) and this requires a huge effort to emphasize market deregulation”, he stated.

After attacking non-tariff barriers as an obstacle to trade, Luiselli underscored the need to “reassign resources, offsetting the regions with shortages with those with an abundance”.

In his opinion, it is “a powerful redistribution mechanism and, as such, a price creation mechanism, making international trade vital for understanding the role of food systems”.

In line with Luiselli’s proposal, the experts and public servants from the different countries in attendance at the forum showed their agreement with the need to combat global protectionist measures.

To that end, the agrifood producers in the Americas need to diversity their product offering and export destinations.

One conclusion of the different work groups at the forum maintains: “The world needs to understand that the Americas produce food and that this food is safe and innocuous. This needs to be emphasized at both the domestic and international levels”.

The experts also agreed on the need to move forward with implementing policies to protect the areas of the Caribbean that have been affected by climate shocks, seeking to strengthen the resilience of the food systems.

Moreover, they agreed on the relevance of a multidisciplinary focus on soil, human, and animal health and its connection to trade so that decision-makers can have answers from the field of agricultural production.

As in the past forums, which focused on cooperative production and the bioeconomy, this third meeting emphasized that science-based decisions and regulations are necessary for any positive transformation of the agrifood systems.

To that end, it was concluded that working on new forms of production and promoting trade would improve sustainable production and eliminate the double standard that often exists between local and export-oriented production.

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Elrose Williams of **Crab Hill, Sandy Point, St. Kitts**, having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. S05505354** issued by **The Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society** and assumed by **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc** on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: **17th May, 2021.**

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary


Sagicor

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

THE CONVERSATION (Academic rigor, journalistic flair) - Edition: United States - Education - 24 May 2021

Why Do I Need Anything Other Than Google To Answer A Question?

By Dr Cody Behles, DLS, University of Memphis



Scholars can be more reliable than search engines. Image credit: Anadolu Agency (Getty Images).

Question: Why do I need a scholar to answer a question if there is Google? - Harrison F, age 13, Brookline, Massachusetts.

Imagine you're researching something. Whether you're a fourth grader who needs to find out how volcanoes erupt or you're an adult looking for more information regarding a news article, you might want to quickly look something up on the internet. What could go wrong?

Google's search engine may seem to have all the answers to your questions. But where does that information come from? Who selects the websites that display when you enter "volcanic eruption" in the search box? Who decides which item shows up first and in what order the rest will follow?

I think about these questions a lot because of what I do for a living: helping University of Memphis scholars communicate about their work with academic peers and the public.

These scholars are experts who have worked and studied for a long time to learn all they can about a topic. They answer questions by combining their knowledge with the scientific method to discover new things.

Page, Brin and PageRank

When Larry Page and Sergey Brin created Google's search engine in 1996, as Stanford University computer science students, they were trying to establish a fast way to easily find things on the internet. At the time, searching through the web was slow and difficult, making it hard to find the best information.

They invented an algorithm, a detailed step-by-step instruction set or formula, called PageRank. It works by estimating the quality of a webpage by measuring the number and quality of other pages that link to it. When you search on Google, its search engine returns the highest ranked pages related to what you're looking for.

Some drawbacks

Googling became so fast it can seem instantaneous.

But the results you see when you do a Google search can be influenced by other things besides PageRank, including whether advertisers are paying Google to make their websites show up higher than they otherwise might. Google's algorithms factor in hundreds of other variables, including what sites you've clicked on in the past and how recently a page was updated.

Unlike scholars, Google's search engine can't automatically decide which sources are the most important, most accurate or most significant. That is, Google searches don't necessarily identify objective and reliable information.

You may consider switching to another search engine like Microsoft's Bing or one that specifically promotes the privacy of

your information like DuckDuckGo. But many of these alternatives have the same shortcomings.

How scholars communicate

Scholars often communicate by publishing research papers. Each paper emphasizes a single idea that adds something to a discussion. It may be the new result from an experiment or a new observation. Other scholars then read that paper and discuss it.

Knowledgeable people can take stock of the same set of facts and still have different perspectives, which means there isn't necessarily one right answer to a question. Over time this back and forth leads to some generally accepted principles and concepts.

This cycle of research, review and discussion has been around since the first academic journals were published in 1665. As new discoveries are made, ideas can change.

One way researchers show what other ideas they consider in their work is through scholarly citations. You've surely seen them before - they are in the reference section at the back of nonfiction books or at the bottom of Wikipedia articles. Each points to another work.

These citations tell you what other books and sources the author of what you're reading considered - and how they came to form the ideas. If multiple scholars use the same ideas as building blocks for their own concepts, and then their ideas, in turn, are used as building blocks for other ideas,

it continually leads to a cycle of innovation.

This discovery process isn't influenced by advertisers - even if it can be partially shaped by whether or not scholars can get funding to pursue a particular kind of research.

Many of the ideas you find on the internet originate from scholarship but are vulnerable to bias and advertising pressure in a way most scholars are not. We need scholars because they provide a complete picture, the most up-to-date information, derived from their wisdom and deeply considered perspective.

The internet makes locating information easier than at any other point in human history. But, as Albert Einstein said, "Information is not knowledge. The only source of knowledge is experience."

Curious Kids is a series for children of all ages. Hello, curious kids! Do you have a question you'd like an expert to answer? Ask an adult to send your question to CuriousKidsUS@theconversation.com. Please tell us your name, age and the city where you live. And, since curiosity has no age limit - adults, let us know what you're wondering, too. We won't be able to answer every question, but we will do our best.

About the author: Dr Cody Behles, DLS, is Director of Research Development and Innovation at The University of Memphis FedEx Institute of Technology. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in International Studies and History (Rhodes College, 2009); a Master of Arts (MA) degree in Central Eurasian Studies (Indiana University Bloomington, 2012); a Master of Library Science (MLS) degree in Scholarly Communication, Information and Retrieval Policy (Indiana University Bloomington, 2013); and a Doctor of Liberal Studies (DLS) degree in Testing Autonomous Cyber-Physical Systems (The University of Memphis, 2020). Dr Cody has a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry, with specialised skills in reshaping opportunities for university collaboration, accelerating research infrastructure, exciting corporate engagement, and leading teams in confounding expectations about what is possible in higher education. He helps faculty across the university in their pursuit of grants and support for their work, and previously served as a faculty librarian and as an Associate Director. Dr Behles joined The Conversation on 27 March 2020.

Disclosure statement: Dr Cody Behles does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organization that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliation beyond his academic appointment.

Partners: The University of Memphis provides funding as a member of The Conversation US, which was founded by Binghamton University, State University of New York, Boston University, University of California and sixteen other US universities which saw the value of helping to develop a new independent information channel that would also showcase the talent and knowledge of the universities and research sector. The Conversation also partners with leading institutions to help with development of the service by funding specific projects. The Bill & Melinda Gates, Alfred P Sloan, and Andrew W Mellon Foundations are three of such partners.

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AP Associated Press - Asia Pacific - Health - Taiwan
- Thursday 27 May 2021

Taiwan Struggles With Testing Backlog Amid Largest Outbreak

- By Huizhong Wu



18 May 2021: Medical personnel, wearing protective gear, guide people at a rapid coronavirus testing center after the infection alert rose to level 3 in Taipei, Taiwan. Photo credit: Chiang Ying-ying (AP).

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Facing Taiwan’s largest outbreak of the pandemic and looking for rapid virus test kits, the mayor of the island’s capital did what anyone might do: He Googled it.

“If you don’t know, and you try to know something, please check Google,” Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je quipped.

Praised for its success at keeping the virus away for more than a year, Taiwan had until May recorded just 1,128 cases and 12 deaths. But the number of locally transmitted cases started growing this month and it soon became clear that the central government was ill prepared not only to contain the virus, but to even detect it on a large scale due to a lack of investment in rapid testing.

That left officials like Ko scrambling to catch up as the number of new infections climbed to some 300 a day. Ko’s search put him in contact with six local companies who make rapid tests and his government was soon able to set up four rapid testing sites in a district that had emerged as a virus hotspot.

Rapid tests, experts say, are a critical tool in catching the virus in its early days. The alternative that Taiwan has been relying on - tests that have to be sent out to a lab for processing - has led to backlogs that may be obscuring the true extent of the outbreak.

“You want to identify those infected cases as soon as possible,” to contain the spread, said Ruby Huang, a professor in the medical college at National Taiwan University. “And then you’re basically running against time.”

With so few cases, Taiwan had been a bubble of normalcy for most of the pandemic. Schools stayed open, people went to bars and restaurants, and the island’s economy was among the few globally that saw positive growth.

Its success was built largely on strict border controls that primarily allowed in only citizens and long-term residents, who then faced mandatory two-week quarantines.

From time to time it found small clusters of infections and stamped them out through contact tracing and quarantines. Last month authorities found a cluster involving pilots from the state-owned China Airlines.

Stopping the virus this time would prove difficult, in part because under government policy pilots were only required to quarantine for three-days and did not need a negative test to get out of quarantine. Soon employees at a quarantine hotel where China Airlines flight crew stayed started getting sick - and so did their family members.

The virus had escaped quarantine and was spreading locally, mostly in Taipei and surrounding areas.

The government in Taiwan - where only about 1% of the population have been vaccinated - responded by ordering a

lockdown, closing schools and switching offices to remote work or rotating shifts. Contact tracers identified 600,000 people that needed to quarantine themselves.

The biggest roadblock has been testing.

Government policy throughout the pandemic has been to rely on polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, tests, which are seen as the gold standard for diagnosis but must be processed using special machines in a lab. The government has not encouraged rapid tests, which are quicker and cheaper but potentially less accurate.

In and around Taipei, labs have been working overtime in recent weeks but are still struggling to process all the samples.

Tim Tsai said on just a single day last week his lab in New Taipei city received 400 samples from hospitals to test. He said his lab was only able to process about 120 samples a day.

“Our medical technicians, they were leaving work at midnight,” he said.

The government’s Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) said in a statement that all 141 government designated labs have the capacity to process 30,000 PCR tests a day. However, it declined to provide the actual number of tests being processed.

It said it was “continuing to work with relevant labs to research ways to accelerate and expand our capacity, without impacting accuracy.”

Throughout the pandemic the government has maintained there are few benefits to mass testing, with the health minister saying last year that public funds and medical resources could better be used elsewhere.

The government instead has emphasized a strategy of contact tracing and isolation and only testing those with symptoms and direct contact with someone infected.

“This is more efficient, effective and accurate,” said Chen Chien-jen, the island’s former vice president, who led the pandemic response last year before retiring.

Experts say such a strategy may have been appropriate when case numbers were low, but needed to change as infections spread.

“You should have a two-pronged approach. You do the

quarantine, but you should do massive widespread testing,” said K Arnold Chan, an expert on drug and medical products regulation at National Taiwan University. “For whatever reason the government is completely unprepared.”

Taiwanese companies developed rapid tests for COVID-19 early last year, but the majority of their sales have been overseas.

“Back then the CDC didn’t support rapid tests, and there was no epidemic,” said Edward Ting, a spokesperson for Panion and BF Biotech, which has had its own test since March 2020. “We tried to sell, but it wasn’t possible.”

The central government finally appears to be coming around, with the health minister last week asking local governments to set up rapid testing sites. Ting said his company has since had calls from governments across the island asking about its tests.

The central government also is now offering subsidies for labs to buy new machines to process PCR tests.

Aaron Chen, whose company developed a machine that can process up to 2,000 PCR test samples every four hours, said he has diverted two machines bound for export to be used locally instead.

Ko, the mayor of Taipei, said his city has purchased 250,000 rapid test kits. Though the city is still relying on PCR tests to confirm actual cases, Ko said the rapid tests better allow him to monitor the situation on the ground.

Ko, a former surgeon, said it was important to be open to change.

“There’s a phrase in Chinese: One thrives in times of calamity and perishes in soft times. Because when you’re very successful you are not forced to improve. Only when you fail, then are you forced to improve,” said Ko. “We were too successful in the past year.”

Reuters - International Edition - Asia Pacific - China
- Thursday 27 May 2021

Taiwan Sees ‘Political Warfare’ In Dispute With China Over Vaccines

By Yimou Lee and Ben Blanchard



A nurse stands next to curtains at the injection area during a vaccination session for healthcare workers following the recent rise in coronavirus disease (COVID-19) infections, at Far Eastern Memorial Hospital in New Taipei City, Taiwan on 20 May 2021. Photo credit: Ann Wang (Reuters).

Taiwan does not believe China is sincere in offering it much needed COVID-19 vaccines, and thinks it is working to prevent the island from getting shots for political reasons as infections surge, officials briefed on the matter told Reuters.

China and Taiwan have exchanged barbs as the world fights

(cont’d on next page)

MedicalXPress - Cardiology - Overweight & Obesity - 24 May 2021

No Link Between Milk And Increased Cholesterol According To New Study Of 2 Million People

By University of Reading



Photo credit: Pixabay (CC0 Public Domain).

Regular consumption of milk is not associated with increased

levels of cholesterol, according to new research.

A study published in the International Journal of Obesity looked at three large population studies and found that people who regularly drank high amounts of milk had lower levels of both good and bad cholesterol, although their BMI (Body Mass Index) levels were higher than non-milk drinkers.

Further analysis of other large studies also suggests that those who regularly consumed milk had a 14% lower risk of coronary heart disease.

The team of researchers took a genetic approach to milk consumption by looking at a variation in the lac-tase gene

associated with digestion of milk sugars known as lactose.

The study identified that having the genetic variation where people can digest lactose was a good way for identifying people who consumed higher levels of milk.

Dr Vimal Karani, Professor of Nutrigenetics and Nutrigenomics at The University of Reading said: "We found that among participants with a genetic variation that we associated with higher milk intake, they had higher BMI, body fat, but importantly had lower levels of good and bad cholesterol. We also found that those with the genetic variation had a significantly lower risk of coronary heart disease. All of this suggests that reducing the intake of milk might not be necessary for preventing cardiovascular diseases."

The new research was conducted following several contradictory studies that have previously investigated the causal link between higher dairy intake and cardiometabolic diseases such as obesity and diabetes.

To account for inconsistencies in sampling size, ethnicity and other factors, the team conducted a metaanalysis of data in up to 1.9 million people and used the genetic approach to avoid confounding.

Even though the UK biobank data showed that those with the lactase genetic variation had 11% lower risk of type 2 diabetes, the study did not suggest that there is any strong evidence for a link between higher milk intake and increased likelihood of diabetes or its related traits such as glucose and inflammatory biomarkers.

Professor Karani said: "The study certainly shows that milk consumption is not a significant issue for cardiovascular disease risk even though there was a small rise in BMI and body fat among milk drinkers. What we do note in the study is that it remains unclear whether it is the fat content in dairy products that is contributing to the lower cholesterol levels or it is due to an unknown 'milk factor'".

More information: Karani Santhanakrishnan Vimalleswaran et al, Evidence for a causal association between milk intake and cardiometabolic disease outcomes using a two-sample Mendelian Randomization analysis in up to 1,904,220 individuals, International Journal of Obesity (2021). DOI: 10.1038/s41366-021-00841-2

Journal information: International Journal of Obesity

Provided by: University of Reading

Taiwan Sees 'Political Warfare' In Dispute With China Over Vaccines

(cont'd from last page)

the virus, worsening ties already at a low ebb because of Taiwan's refusal to accept Chinese sovereignty, and stepped up US support for Taipei.

The two have embarked on a bitter war of words about vaccines, much needed in Taiwan as the medical system comes under strain from new cases with only about 1% of the population of more than 23 million vaccinated.

Taiwan says China blocked it from getting vaccines produced by Germany's BioNTech (22UAY.DE), while China says it is happy to send a supply of that vaccine via its Chinese sales agent, Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical Group Co Ltd (600196.SS).

But Taiwan will not take the vaccines from Fosun, saying there is a lack of transparency and that China refuses to provide relevant information.

China's Taiwan Affairs Office, which has repeatedly said its vaccine offer is sincere and Taiwan should not put up political roadblocks, said in a statement to Reuters that Taiwan's allegation it was blocking a BioNTech deal were "nonsense".

A senior Taiwan official familiar with the situation told Reuters that China had not used an existing channel to discuss medical issues, which has been used to exchange information on COVID cases, to address the vaccine question.

Instead, he said, China was launching "political warfare" to "split and weaken" Taiwan, without a real intention to offer the vaccines.

"They are shouting words like they really mean it but they won't give it to you," he said.

"There are certain procedures in Taiwan to import vaccines, and if their intention is real, they know what to do."

The government had for months chosen not to publicise what it sees as Chinese intervention in the BioNTech case but had reached a point where it felt it had to, he added.

"Vaccines are not politics. But mainland China knows the best

in the world how to politicise vaccines."

A security official looking into Chinese activity in Taiwan told Reuters that China was "making a lot of effort" to prevent Taiwan from getting vaccines.

"It's similar to dollar diplomacy. Just that now dollars are replaced by vaccines," he added, referring to accusations the two sides exchange over buying diplomatic support with loans and other inducements.

China's Taiwan Affairs Office repeated China's stance that Taiwan had gone against commercial principles in seeking to bypass Fosun.

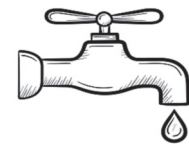
"They clearly knew they were trying to keep going despite the task being impossible," it said.

'LIAR'

Taiwan's Central Epidemic Command Centre said in a statement to Reuters that information about vaccines from Fosun in a state media report where the offer was made was "unclear" and there was no way to know if the shots complied with Taiwan's regulations.

Fosun has not responded to

CONSERVE AND



SAVE WATER

requests for comment.

Taiwan's government is also facing pressure at home from the main opposition Kuomintang (KMT) party to accept the Fosun vaccines.

At a news conference on Thursday, senior KMT official Cheng Li-wun called President Tsai Ing-wen a "vaccine liar" and held up a sign saying people would die without vaccines.

Cheng questioned why the government had refused to purchase vaccines from Fosun, saying their shots were "100%" BioNTech vaccines.

"Everyone has purchased goods from a distributor before," she said, adding that Tsai was stuck on a "wall of ideology" and her rejection of China's offer was to save face.

Adding to Taiwan's anger, this week it failed again in its bid to attend the WHO's decision-making World Health Assembly as an observer, following objections from Beijing and its allies.

Meanwhile, China's almost daily incursions into the southwestern corner of Taiwan's air defence zone have continued.

On Tuesday, Hu Xijin, editor of China's influential Global Times newspaper, said that while there were humanitarianism considerations on vaccines, Beijing still had a bottom line.

"Military aircraft surrounding Taiwan and other pressure will continue," he said.

SCASPA Vaccination Entry Notice Not Recalled Despite Gov't Distancing

By: Spokesman Newsroom

Basseterre, St.Kitts (Friday 28th May 2021) - Attorney General Vincent Byron Jr. is claiming that a recent vaccination entry notice issued by the St. Christopher Air and Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA) does not have the support of the government.

While responding to a question posed at the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) COVID-19 Daily Briefing on Wednesday 26th May 2021 about the document issued that day, he said that it is hoped that such "would be disregarded at this time."

Byron remarked: "This document was brought to the attention of the government and I would say that it has been inadvertently published at this point in time, the Cabinet have given no such consideration or decision, and so we would want to say that until such time as the Cabinet has issued or supported such a decision, we will hope that this document would be disregarded at this time."

Up to press time on the night of Thursday 27th May, the document labelled a public announcement, which was originally posted to SCASPA's page at 4:03 PM the day before, remained published on its official social media page via Facebook.

Details of the notice sought to "advise the Public, that effective June 1, 2021, all persons wishing to conduct business at the Port's Facilities (both Air and Sea), must present proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or a valid negative RT-PCR Test taken within the past 14 (fourteen) days."

Photo: A look at SCAPA's public announcement on its Facebook page up to Thursday 27th May 2021



St. Christopher Air & Sea Ports Authority

1d •

ATTENTION: SCASPA PUBLIC ENTRY PROTOCOLS AS OF JUNE 01 2021



ST. CHRISTOPHER AIR AND SEA PORTS
AUTHORITY

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The St. Christopher Air and Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA) wishes to advise the Public, that effective June 1, 2021, all persons wishing to conduct business at the Ports' Facilities (both Air and Sea), must present proof of Covid-19 Vaccination or a valid negative RT-PCR Test taken within the past 14 (fourteen) days.

This decision has become necessary to prevent the transmission of the virus to the employees and stakeholders conducting business within SCASPA's space.

SCASPA apologizes for any inconvenience caused and looks forward to the public's full cooperation as we work together in support of the national thrust to arrest the spread of the COVID-19 Virus.

Signed
SCASPA Management



Visit the COVID-19 Information Center
for vaccine resources.

[Get Vaccine Info](#)



11

15 Comments • 17 Shares



Another step towards Domestic Regulation in the Services sector for the OECS region!

OECS Media Release

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 - Addressing regulatory barriers, and enhancing transparency and predictability could help reduce trade impediments that negatively impact businesses and consumers in the Eastern Caribbean region. With this in mind, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Commission is partnering with the Permanent Mission of Canada and other partners to the WTO to host a high-level meeting on Wednesday May 26, 2021

which will allow OECS Member States to learn more about the negotiations; the potential opportunities deriving from an outcome and; to hear the perspectives of participating Members as well as the global and regional service industry.

The services sector is the most important sector in the Organisation of Eastern

Caribbean States (OECS), accounting for over half of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) across the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) and as high as 75% of GDP in some Member States. Given the importance of the services sector to the economies of the OECS, the region maintains a systemic interest in international developments which can impact the sector, whether positively or negatively. It is in this context that the Commission has partnered with the Permanent Mission of Canada to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the WTO Secretariat and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to host a high-level meeting on the ongoing negotiations by a subset of WTO Members on Domestic Regulation in Services.

There are currently 63 WTO Members, covering about three-quarters of world services trade, who participate in the Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation. They are aiming to adopt new disciplines that will contribute to facilitating services trade and supporting inclusive economic growth and development.

The disciplines being negotiated relate to qualification requirements and procedures, technical standards and licensing requirements for service providers. The intention of the negotiators is to ensure that regulations in these areas do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in services.

According to Ambassador Stephen Fevrier of the OECS Permanent Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva strengthening the regulatory environment is important for both the competitiveness of the private sector and national economies as a whole.

Franchises opt for youth and experience in CWI Professional Cricketers Draft 2021-2022

ST. JOHN’S, Antigua - Cricket West Indies (CWI) hosted the Professional Cricketers Draft for the 2021-2022 season, which took place over two rounds via a videocall with representatives from all six Territorial Board Franchises. Several teams drafted young, emerging players to complete their 15-member squads, while others chose to boost their ranks with more experienced players.

Among those drafted, are several former West Indies Under-19 players, two of whom won the ICC Under-19 World Cup in 2016. Batsmen Jyd Goolie and Kirstan Kallicharan, who were both members of the team which won the world title in Bangladesh, were drafted by their native Trinidad and Tobago to the Red Force team. The left-handed Goolie, who turned 24 earlier this month, has so far played four first-class matches and has a highest score of 128.

Left-arm spinner Barbadian Joshua Bishop, who bowled impressively in this year’s CG Insurance Super50 Cup, was snapped up by the Barbados Pride. The Pride’s second pick was another Barbadian, seam bowler Akeem Jordan, who, like Bishop, took a five-wicket haul in the marquee 50-over event earlier this year. Windward Islands Volcanoes has also chosen youthful talents in Darius Martin, a fast bowler from St Vincent and the Grenadines and Gilon Tyson, a Dominican fast bowler who is also capable lower order batsman.

Guyana Jaguars, went for the more experienced Guyanese duo of wicket-keeper/batsman Anthony Bramble and fast bowler Keon Joseph; while Leeward Islands Hurricanes chose seamer, Antiguan Nino Henry and Daniel Doram from St. Maarten, a tall left-arm spinner. Jamaica Scorpions have put their faith in Jamaicans, Nicholson Gordon, the livewire fast bowler with eight first-class matches under his belt, as well as Alwyn Williams, a medium-fast bowler who bats left-handed, and who had so far made five appearances at the first-class level.

Starting July 1st 2021, a total of 90 professional cricketers inclusive of the 12 cricketers drafted today, will receive regional retainer contracts for the next twelve months.

The draft was conducted over two rounds, with each franchise allocated ninety (90) seconds to make their pick. Round one picks were completed in the reverse order of the tournament standings at the end of the 2019/2020 West Indies Championship, won by the Barbados Pride, meaning the Leeward Island Hurricanes had the first pick. The draft was independently supervised by BDO Eastern Caribbean.

Full Squads for West Indies Championship 2021/2022:

Jofra Archer: England bowler ready to miss summer to be fit for T20 World Cup and Ashes

From the sectionCricket - BBC SPORTS



Archer has played 13 Tests, 17 one-day internationals and 12 T20s for England

Fast bowler Jofra Archer is ready to “sit out the summer” in order to be fit for the Twenty20 World Cup and Ashes later this year. The 26-year-old had surgery on his troublesome right elbow on Friday and has started rehabilitation

Leeward Islands Hurricanes: Colin Archibald, Sheno Berridge, Keacy Carthy, Jahmar Hamilton, Amir Jangoo OHT, Kofi James, Kian Pemberton, Ross Powell Jeremiah Louis, Devon Thomas, Damion Williams, Tyron Williams, Terance Ward, **Nino Henry***, **Daniel Doram***.

Windward Islands Volcanoes: Sunil Ambris, Alick Athanaze, Keron Cottoy, Kenneth Dember, Larry Edward, Kavem Hodge, Ryan John, Obed McCoy, Desron Malony, Preston McSween, Kimani Melius, Denis Smith, Devon Smith, **Darius Martin***, **Gilon Tyson***.

Jamaica Scorpions: John Campbell, Sheldon Cottrell, Akim Fraser, Patrick Harty, Brandon King, Andre McCarthy, Jamie Merchant, Marquino Mindley, Paul Palmer, Rovman Powell, Jeavor Royal, Odean Smith, Oshane Thomas, **Nicholson Gordon***, **Alwyn Williams***.

Guyana Jaguars: Kelvon Anderson, Christopher Barnwell, Tagenarine Chanderpaul, Chandrapaul Hemraj, Shimron Hetmyer, Leon Johnson, Gudakesh Motie, Keemo Paul, Veerasammy Permaul, Romario Shepherd, Vishaul Singh, Kevin Sinclair, Nial Smith, **Anthony Bramble***, **Keon Joseph***.

Trinidad & Tobago Red Force: Bryan Charles, Terrance Hinds, Imran Khan, Anderson Phillip,Khary Pierre, Jason Mohammed, Uthman Muhammed, Isaiah Rajah, Denesh Ramdin, Jayden Seales, Keegan Simmons, Jeremy Solozano, Tion Webster, **Jyd Goolie***, **Kirstan Kallicharan***.

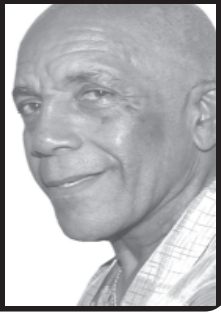
Barbados Pride: Shamarh Brooks, Roston Chase, Jonathan Carter, Dominic Drakes, Shane Dowrich, Justin Greaves, Keon Harding, Chemar Holder, Kyle Hope, Shayne Moseley, Raymon Reifer Ashley Nurse, Jomel Warrican, **Akeem Jordan***, **Joshua Bishop***

*Players in bold were acquired in the Professional Cricketers Draft for 2021/2022 season.
*OHT- Outside Home Territory.

with the England and Sussex medical teams. “One thing I am determined about post-elbow operation is not to rush my comeback because my primary focus is to be playing for England in the T20 World Cup and Ashes later this year,” he wrote in his column for the Daily Mail. “Those are my targets. If I come back before then and manage to play in the home Test series against India then fine, so be it. If I don’t, I am quite prepared to sit out the summer. “The way I am looking at things is that I would rather miss a few weeks of a year so that I have a few more years in my career. “I’m not going to do myself any good by coming back before I’m fully fit, so I will take my time and do what is best for me and my life.”

Archer had an injection for the long-standing elbow problem in March and has played only two matches since then. The England bowler managed only five overs in the second innings of Sussex’s draw with Kent earlier this month. A further update and guidance on when he will return to bowling is expected in about four weeks. “The bandages are off and I have spoken to the consultant since, but everything is still very fresh and I remain sore after what was a career-defining moment last Friday,” Archer added. “Surgery was always the last option and we wanted to exercise every possible strategy before we went down that route. “It was the last thing on the list. It is not always a fix and in four weeks we will find out how things have gone.” England will host a two-Test series against New Zealand in June, followed by limited-overs series against Sri Lanka and Pakistan and then five Tests against India starting in August. The T20 World Cup is scheduled to take place in October and November in India, before England travel to Australia in December for the Ashes.

DR. KENNEDY ALPHONSE SIMMONDS, DR. DENZIL LLEWELLYN DOUGLAS, DR. TIMOTHY SYLVESTER HARRIS, PRIME MINISTERS, PART (30)



BY: EARLE CLARKE - 18/05/2021

Harry S. Truman, 08/05/1884-26/12/1972, 33rd President of the USA said about Leadership, "Man makes history, not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

Dear Reader, my departed grandmother (God bless her soul) often times proclaimed that there is never a bad wind which blows and this Covid-19 pandemic has proven her to be so correct, for the deficiency of Leaders worldwide has been shown up. The simplicity of the world's Electorate has been magnified and the world's economic system, capitalism, has been brought to its knees. This pandemic has demonstrated that we cannot boast about worldly possessions, because, in the twinkling of an eye, we could depart this earthly existence leaving all that we have worked so hard to accumulate. This pandemic has demonstrated in no small measure that we are our Brother and Sister's keeper.

When China declared that there is this strange FLU which has invaded the country, many capitalist countries rejoiced at the news, not realizing that, when your neighbours house is on fire, you have to begin wetting yours, for our present-day world has shrunk to a global village and we have to run to our Brother and Sister's assistance, when we witness the flag of danger being hoisted, for, today might be that country's turn, but what lies ahead for us tomorrow, is unpredictable, for none of us can see that day, until it comes? Yesterday, it was China's turn and those who rejoiced are now bombarded by the same pandemic and more so. Our duty is not to rejoice about what is happening in another country, but to run to its aid. When the mighty USA was overwhelmed with the pandemic, China and Russia, rushed in well needed equipment to assist.

This pandemic has brought many Lessons with it and our Leaders need to learn them. Because of the deficiency in Leadership in the USA, its Leader failed to step up to the plate to display his Leadership skills, but, if you do not possess them, how can you display what you are not blessed with? And so, this particular Leader began branding the pandemic - "The Chinese disease," offering no hope, no incentive, no united effort to fight the disease, just foolishly advising that it could be cured by taking Clorox? This same deficiency in Leadership was displayed in the Federation of St. Kitts-Nevis, when the pandemic surfaced. The

time for our Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Sylvester Harris to step up to the plate, show his superlative qualities in Leadership Matters Skill and Statesmanship, by soaring like an Eagle, and put Dr. Douglas to shame, was lost.

But, what do you expect from a man who had to be given a Crash Course on how to run a Government after winning the General Elections in 2015?? He proved right there and then that he was incapable for the job. A yard fowl can only fly as high as the branch on which to perch for the night. He is too weighted down with "Douglas Phobia" to be able to soar. It is a Pandemic; it is A National Disaster which would affect us all, so rise and soar. Invite the Opposition Leaders aboard to assist in the National Disaster. Dr. Timothy Harris would have been saturated with Kudos can't done as A REAL LEADER. What a Great Opportunity he has missed? Nobody would have wanted to see or hear from Dr. Douglas again! "Real Born Leaders" do not miss Excellent Opportunities like this, for these opportunities only present themselves once in a lifetime!

My departed granny used to say, "What start wrong a morning, can't come good a evening." On hindsight, I am certainly sure that Dr. Harris is ruining the day that he failed to overcome his "Douglas

Phobia" and did the correct thing by inviting the Opposition Labour Party on board to help to deal with the Crisis. It would have saved him coming on the airwaves and heaping blame on Dr. Douglas for the lack of participation in the vaccination campaign, because a united front would have been established. Regardless of what some people might think and say, had there been a united approach to the matter, there is not the slightest shadow of doubt that things would have been running more smoothly and efficiently.

This is a National Crisis which has the possibilities of affecting both LABOUR, PAM, PLP, CCM and NRP supporters and there are so-called sensible people going on Face Book criticizing anyone who suggests that the Opposition be invited on the panel to be a part of attacking the Covid 19 facing us and to come up with solutions, for, after all, six heads are better than two? I often wonder if the professionals whom Dr. Harris chose or selected to be on the panel, never once advise him to invite all and sundry on board to deal with it? Premier Mark Brantley of Nevis who is part and parcel of the Federal Government has SOARED Like an Eagle by inviting the Opposition NRP on board to tackle the Crisis in the Sister Isle. Hip, hip to Premier Brantley for displaying "Leadership Matters Qualities."

I have severely criticized him on numerous occasions but, as a fair-minded Referee, when he deserves praise, I pour it on him by the pot spoons.

On March 27th this year, the Treacherous Mettle of which Dr. Harris is constructed was demonstrated when he willfully, maliciously and totally ignored the many agreements that he signed and agreed to in Charlestown (known as the Charlestown Accord) when he broke away from the St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party (SKNLP) by coercing the Featured Trinidad Speaker at his PLP Party's Convention to suggest that he considers running for a third five- year term. Have you heard Dr. Harris denouncing or decrying the suggestion? Is there anything called TRUST about the man? If he could betray a Party with whom he has been associated for umpteen years, whom else he would not betray?

Since the 27th March, there is a character which has emerged on Face Book which carries the name "Third term Tim," trying to sell the idea, hoping that it would catch on. The impression that Shawn Richards is incapable as a Leader is forcibly but subtly messaged for all and sundry to be fully aware. By the way, Brother Shawn is going to discover the hard way, that the Political Party called PAM, was not formed for him the grandson of a cane weeder and Postman father to lead. Dr. Kennedy Simmonds the offspring of a domestic servant, only succeeded as Leader because he is a Medical Doctor.

If you the reader doubts me, just ask Brother Ben Francis about the reaction of three prominent business men in the TDC hardware store on Fort and Central Streets, where FLOW now has its Headquarters, after Dr. Valentine Billy Herbert, the First President, failed to win his seat in Constituency #4 (The Old Road-Half Way Tree Area) in 1975 and it was proposed that Dr. Kennedy Alphonse Simmonds, the Vice President, assume the Leadership of The Party?

THE EDUCATION CONTINUES NEXT WEEK!

CHANGE OF OFFICE LOCATION

SCANTLEBURY LAW FIRM

Please be advised that the Scantlebury Law Firm is now located at

Unit 102, St. Kitts Castle, Frigate Bay.

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or email: info@scantleburylaw.com**

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Unsuitable applications will not be acknowledged.*

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate, District "A"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Ralston Raman (Branches) now residing in the Mattingley Heights in the town of Basseterre, do hereby give you notice that is my intention to apply on 02nd day of July, 2021, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Shadwell Village, Basseterre, St. Kitts.

Dated this
21st day of May, 2021.

Signed: R. Raman

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate, District "B"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Craig Charles now residing in #20 Farms Housing Ext. in the town of Sandy Point, do hereby give you notice that is my intention to apply on 02nd day of July, 2021, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Shadwell Village, Basseterre, St. Kitts.

Dated this
25th day of May, 2021.

Signed: R. Raman

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate, District "A"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Josve E. Acosta (Doctor Sports Drinks) now residing in the Fortlands in the town of Basseterre, do hereby give you notice that is my intention to apply on 02nd day of July, 2021, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Cayon Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts.

Dated this
12th day of May, 2021.

Signed: Josve E. Acosta

VACCINES. WEEDS AND MIXED BLESSINGS

By: FAIR SHARE FOR ALL

Some big business owners have had to make major alterations to their lifestyles but believe that the vaccine will return them to their pre-COVID-19 standard of living. For this reason and this reason only, they are prepared to use the most ruthless and evil tactics to get people to take the vaccine to achieve herd immunity.

They can't take another lockdown. Only the supermarkets make money during a lockdown. Neither does the government want to pay any stimulus money now when elections are not around the corner if the country were to lockdown. But since they are convinced that the vaccine is the magic bullet to return life to the way it was, nothing is off limits to get to the seventy percent.

When Timothy spoke about the outbreak as "mixed blessings", he obviously knew that this was the opportunity that government and private sector were waiting for. In fact, had been hoping for. So now all the pressure, all the threats, all the bullying was justifiable because of one unvaccinated hotel worker.

As soon as this unvaccinated status was emphasized by those in authority, it was the signal for every single supervisor, manager, CEO, acting boss to forcefully and unapologetically deliver the message. Get vaxxed or get axed. No jab. No job. Many employees have until the end of May 2021 to roll up or pack up.

It isn't like vaccine hesitancy is peculiar to the federation. It's everywhere in the world. And since everybody in SKN has a smartphone, we were exposed to the vaccine hesitancy long before the first free dose of Oxford Astra-Zeneca even reached here.

And in spite of the sluggish response to taking the vaccine, we, in SKN, were doing well. In fact, our leaders were boasting about how we had beaten COVID-19 before even one vaccine had reached our shores. But because their "infallible" system failed and Covid positive results started to pop up like weeds, the authorities were never going to blame several breaches in their system for the community spread. The fault was always going to be that of the unvaccinated.

Most ordinary people have been struggling financially since the onset of COVID-19. Most of us have had to come

up with all sorts of creative ways to keep the bailiffs at bay and put food on the table. Most of us have accepted the new normal, adjusted to it and moved on.

But there is a set of people who are stuck in 2019. Pre-COVID-19 2019. A time when they were living the life. All that came to an abrupt end when COVID-19 came. But they want it back. And while I'm not vexed with anyone for being rich and famous, somebody fooled them that herd immunity would return their life to pre-COVID-19 2019. And since the herd was hesitant, any means, scrupulous or unscrupulous, legal or illegal, moral or immoral had to be used to return their life to their normal.

It's not our life that they want returned to normal. They are threatening our jobs without end. To take food out of our mouths. Government and private sector. No employee is free of the memos and the meetings which constantly insist that if we don't take the vaccination, don't come back to work.

It doesn't matter that we took cuts in our wages but showed up to work nonetheless to keep the business afloat. It doesn't matter that we did work for which we were never hired to keep the business going. Our loyalty to the company is of no import unless we take the vaccine.

Government and private sector are working together to achieve herd immunity. The NGOs are all silent. The Bar Association, the Christian Council, the Evangelical Association are all under lockdown. Can you imagine if this was a Douglas government sending out these memos, holding these meetings and threatening employees?

But the planter class is back in power and they have the black supervisors who are just like the overseers cracking the whip on the workers' backs, beating away all our rights. Beating us into submission.

But hear the joke. Even if every single person in the federation got vaccinated, pre-COVID-19 2019 is gone. Never to return. The world has changed forever. And all of us in our beloved federation, vaccinated or unvaccinated, buttered bread or dry bread, better wake up, accept it, adjust to it and move on.



By Vigilante

* When de A-Dree realize dat de Demon put out de ting, he had one scatterflam wid de #4 misappropriator who is de one who tell him to do it. But de misappropriator and de Demon say dey not tekking back nutten because de cabinet say do it. So das what mek de A-Dree had was to go say some hocus pocus bout inadvertently to try damage control.

* De A-Dree did want dem mek it look like nutten tarl talk in de cabinet. But de #4 misappropriator threaten to buss de drum so de A-Dree had was to go quick, quick and say dat it coming. But not yet.

* Dey say dat is de same ting did happen wid de gun money. Dat was a inadvertently too.

* Dey say is de same ting happen wid de fireman. Dey say dat Humpty Dumpty is who tell de man dat he got dem whey he want dem so he must rough dem up and threaten dem. Dey must tek de ting.

* But who know Humpty Dumpty know dat is one ting wid him. He not tekking no blame for nutten. So he send de fireman to beg a million pardon and say dat what he say was misconstrue.

Humpty Dumpty tell him to try find out who tape him and send it out. So he have FLOW and Digicel working on de case.

Dey say he threaten to sue dem when he find out is who. And he say dat when he done wid dem, not even dey socks dem he gon leave dem wid.

* When Humpty Dumpty see how much people have de ting, he did wild to shut dung everyting. But de chamber people didn't idle wid him and dey tell dat any time he shut dung de place, he will see how barley grow.

* Humpty Dumpty have he people dem busing de frilly mout deputy calling him from one rummy to de next. Dey say dat if was he in charge, he woulda be too drunk to handle de crisis.

Through Humpty Dumpty and de bad wud ambassador have dey people dem saying all kinda ting bout him, Frilly ain't idling to cut off dey people dem lights. Dey say dat when he cut off de lady lights and Humpty Dumpty get to find out, he was so wex dat he threaten to tek way de portfolio from him.

SCOOPS

Right to Know. Right Now!

FAIR SHARE FOR ALL

Labour Commissioner Asks Employers To Pay Salaries To Workers In Quarantine

By: Spokesman Newsroom

Basseterre, St.Kitts (Friday 28th May 2021) - The Department of Labour is appealing to employers in St.Kitts and Nevis to safeguard employment status and to continue the payment of wages and salaries to workers in quarantine.

Chairman of the National COVID-19 Task Force Abdias Samuel read a notice on behalf of the Commissioner of Labour Shernel James during the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) COVID-19 Daily Briefing on Wednesday 26th May 2021.

"In light of the current situation regarding the now 19 active cases of COVID-19, as reported today, in our Federation, the department of Labour is appealing to all employers to be considerate and empathetic towards workers who have been ordered by the health authorities to enter quarantine. The Department of Labour asks that employers preserve the employment of the individuals so affected and where possible continue to pay wages, salaries in full or up to at least 35% as quarantine

workers may be able to claim sickness benefits in accordance with schedule 8 part 3 section 9: 2 of the Social Security Act," the document stated.

It was further stated that: "The Department of Labour also strongly encourages employers to insist that all staff members/workers adhere to all of the COVID-19 safety protocols to reduce the spread of the virus, let us continue to thrive towards the maintenance of harmonious working relationships during this pandemic and put our best effort forward in working together to defeat COVID-19."

Government is expected to put together a document addressing measures to see to concerns and arrangements surrounding COVID-19 quarantine and isolation in the interest of employers and workers.

Minister of Labour Wendy Phipps when quizzed on the topic at a recent NEOC briefing said: "When it comes to quarantine and isolation, it is an issue where an individual or group of individuals would have been placed in that type of situation by the state authority on public health who happens to be the Chief Medical Officer, and it is done in the interest protecting the health and safety of the public at large while at the same time you give the affected individuals the opportunity to recover from their illness or to be isolated during a period wherein a determination is being made as to the illness especially if it is something that is infectious."

She added: "As a result of that the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the legal department through the office of the Attorney General is currently approaching that particular matter, and as a matter of fact, we would have over the course of the last 24 hours been preparing a document which would be applicable to the Social Security Act and also falls in line with the provisions of the Quarantine Act, the Public Health Act and of course by no means least COVID-19 Control and Prevention Act, and essentially what it states is that if an individual is away from work by border of being ill or by a state authority then that person is to be considered as being out of the realm of decent work that they would normally have and then when we take into account the Social Security Act...it speaks to sickness benefit, that particular part of the legislation also speaks to that as well."

The Labour Minister also stated: "The fact that when someone is quarantine or isolation as long as they are being gainfully employed and covered under the Social Security Act by virtue of being registered and by virtue of having regular contributions being paid in by the employer on his or her behalf that person's period of quarantine and isolation will be considered to that extent."

In replying to a question of concern about whether workers would be penalised for having to go into quarantine or isolation, Minister Phipps expressed hope that "employers through their own humanity and own regard for public health regulations would recognise that these workers are not in isolation or quarantine because of something frivolous that they would have done on their own, and as such, however, it also then means the requisite paperwork between the Ministry of Health and the Social Security admission would have to be put in place to justify that with the full involvement of the employer."

Front Page Photo: Commissioner of Labour Shernel James

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.

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Leonard Lake of Upper Fiennes Avenue, St. Kitts, having made sworn deposition that Policy No. 055404000 issued by Sagicor Life Inc and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on the life of Shavanience Lake has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17th May, 2021.

By Order

Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary



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