



NATIONWIDE

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CARING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



\$14 MILLION ON HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY

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“Take ②” - A fifteen minute news review of the week.
Every Friday at 6.15 p.m. on **NTN**, Cablevision Channel 2.

Government Notebook
A fresh news package daily
on all local radio stations



New Fire Chief Appointed



Mr. Leslie Fontenelle



Hon. Senator Calixte George
Minister for Home Affairs and
Internal Security



A new chief has been appointed to head the St. Lucia Fire Service. He is Mr. Leslie Fontenelle,

who has worked in the service for almost twenty years. The announcement of Mr. Fontenelle's appoint-

ment was made last week and comes a couple of weeks after Minister of Home Affairs and Internal Security, Senator Calixte George, had disclosed that the matter of the appointment of a Chief Fire Officer and Deputy was being addressed by the Public Service Commission. The two year vacancies at the top of the St. Lucia Service were among issues which had caused fire service personnel to undertake

protest action – a mass sick out - last month. At the time, the Home Affairs Minister had stated that the issues of concern to the fire officers had been or were being addressed.

The new Fire Chief was in Barbados attending a training exercise when the announcement of his appointment was made. However Mr. Fontenelle is now back in St. Lucia and assumed his position on Monday.

55 More Scholarships for Saint Lucians

P rime Minister Dr Kenny D. Anthony and the President of Grambling State University (GSU) on Friday signed an agreement between Grambling State University and the Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) to provide Fifty (50) Partial International Presidential Student Scholarships and five (5) Full International Students Scholarships (FISS) for Saint Lucian students.

The 55 scholarships will all be tenable at Grambling State University, which is based in Louisiana in the United States.

Under the Partial International Presidential Scholarship arrangement, the 50 renewable but cash non-redeemable scholarships will each be valued at US\$21,400 over four years and will be disbursed at US\$5,350 in annual increments.

Under the Full International Scholarship arrangement, a student awarded a scholarship by GSU will receive full tuition and housing costs and must attend both the Fall and Spring semesters to receive the entire amount of the award.

The scholarships under the Partial International Presidential Student programme will be awarded on the basis of academic excellence and/or hardship, and will be administered by the

Centre for International Affairs and Programs (CIAP) of the GSU.

Representatives of Grambling State University conducted a well-attended career showcase and interviewed scores of interested students here earlier this year, to explain the programmes offered by the University.

The scholarship programme for Saint Lucians takes effect this month (June 2006) and will last for five years.

Rock Hall residents to receive assistance

O ver thirty families squatting on government owned lands in the Rock Hall area are expected to benefit from programmes to rationalise housing and land ownership. Member of Parliament for Castries East Hon. Philip J. Pierre says that proposals are being prepared for submission to the Cabinet of Ministers for improving the conditions of those families living on lands adjacent to the Rock Hall Senior Primary School. Mr. Pierre added that this programme will commence following the partial decommission-

ing of the Rock Hall Senior Primary School later this year.

Mr. Pierre is due to meet residents of the area soon, to follow-up on a meeting held months ago when the issues affecting the residents were examined and proposals discussed on the way forward.

In the past few years, in order to address the squalid living conditions, Government has constructed some basic infrastructure in the area, such as electricity and water. According to Mr. Pierre "there must be some rationalisation of the lands and housing before

any additional infrastructure can be put in". He added that drainage, roads and footpaths are needed to alleviate the unsatisfactory living conditions of the residents. "This is where PROUD comes in" he added.

PROUD was established in April 2000 to address issues related to housing congestion resulting from squatting on government owned lands, and is an integral part of the Government's shelter development and land reform programme. Residents of thirteen communities throughout the island have benefited from interventions by PROUD.



East Castries Parliamentary Representative Hon. Philip J. Pierre

CDF Director Says End Armchair Support For Carnival

The Cultural Development Foundation - CDF - has issued an official invitation to Saint Lucians calling on them to shift from giving Carnival armchair support to becoming actively involved in order to make the event truly national. Executive Director Teddy Francis, who issued the official invitation said, the CDF is well on its way in its efforts to mobilise people and to present a superior cultural event.

Mr. Francis issued his call at the offi-

cial launching of the 2006 Carnival at the Pigeon Island National Park last Sunday. Among the highlights of the launching were the portrayals of the bands, the presentation of the six contestants vying for the Carnival Queen Pageant title and a guest appearance by Edwin Yearwood of Barbados. Twelve bands will parade on July 18th and 19th, among them is Saint Lucian Spirit which is making a comeback after taking a year off and a new "Ole Mas Band led by Morgan George.



2005 Carnival Band

CARING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

In his 2006 Budget Address, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Dr. Kenny Anthony announced plans by the Government to improve on its programmes of care for the country's senior citizens and disadvantaged youth. Outlining the Government's investments in the social sector for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, Dr. Anthony spoke about a new senior citizens home, a home repair programme for the elderly and increased subvention to CARE, the institution for marginalised youth, with a total of 14 million dollars to be spent on the first two. The following is the Prime Minister's statement.

New Senior Citizens' Home

This Fiscal Year the Government will bring to fruition a long standing promise to construct a new Senior Citizens' Home in Vieux Fort. The existing Senior Citizens' Home in Malgretoute is an old, dilapidated structure. It has been in poor condition for some time. Government officials have long advised that given the condition of the facility, it would be more cost effective to construct a brand new facility than to attempt to renovate the present structure.

The Government has accepted this advice and will build a modern home for the elderly from the proceeds of the sale of the existing site.

For many years, different prospective investors have advanced plans for a hotel development at Malgretoute, the site where the existing Senior Citizens' Home is located, but nothing, absolutely nothing materialised. But it was not until last year that serious negotiations were entered into for the sale of the lands. The hotel developers who had already acquired some of the adjoining private lands approached the Government to purchase the Malgretoute site for construction of a five star Hotel and Residential Resort. The proposed development includes a marina charter facility, a marina quay and a condominium.

In order to satisfy itself that it obtained the best possible price for the land, the Government commissioned five valuations of the property, four of which came from the private sector. In the end, the Government agreed to sell



Senior citizens at one of the homes for the elderly

eight acres of land on the basis of the highest valuation, that is \$8,655,046.

Government will utilize the proceeds of the sale towards the construction of a new modern facility in Eau Piquant, Vieux Fort, on lands already earmarked for that purpose. The new facility will have the capacity to accommodate two and a half times the population of the existing Home. The Malgretoute Home presently accommodates 60 persons, while the new Senior Citizens' Home will house 150 people. The stated intention of Government in undertaking this project is to design and build a modern facility through which the standard and quality of care provided to our senior citizens can be improved now and in the future. Consequently, the new Senior Citizens' Home will be outfitted with modern amenities for the assurance of the comfort and wellbeing of our senior citizens. We cannot allow our senior citizens to live in the dehumanising conditions that currently obtain at Malgretoute. It is time for us to right yet another wrong.

The cost of the new Senior Citizens' Home is estimated at approximately EC\$ 13.5 million. In this financial year, a sum of \$8.6 million is allocated for the commencement of construction. The project is expected to be completed within two years.



St. Lucy's Home

Home Repair Programme For The Elderly

Since 2000, Mr Speaker, the Government has repaired or rebuilt approximately 171 homes of elderly persons, some of whom have been abandoned by their families, at a cost of \$1 million.

The total number of houses repaired or rebuilt from the inception of the programme is as follows: (1) 73 in 2000/2001; (2) 20 in 2001/2002; (3) 49 in 2002/2003; (4) 29 in 2003/2004. The total is 171.

In this financial year, I propose to allocate \$500,000 to this programme so as to allow for a continuation of this much needed support for our senior citizens, many of whom are no longer able to fend for themselves.

Increased Allocation To C.A.R.E.

Mr. Speaker, as we move to Universal Secondary Education, we will still have disadvantaged and marginalised youth in our midst. Many of these young persons were not able to secure places in secondary schools. These young persons are extremely vulnerable and at risk. It is important,

therefore, that special programmes are provided to these individuals so that they can be equipped with the necessary skills to find employment.

In this regard, I wish to commend the excellent work being undertaken by the Centre for Adolescent Renewal & Education or CARE as it is known. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Government of Saint Lucia, I wish to express my appreciation to the founders of that institution.

CARE offers a two-year programme to students at five centres in Castries, Vigie, Anse-La-Raye, Gros Islet and Soufriere. The training culminates with a six-week job-training experience. A large percentage of the students are immediately employed after job training and 85% of the trainees find gainful employment. There are currently 300 trainees, of whom 60% are boys and 40% are girls, with ages ranging from 15-19 years. The majority of the students who enrol at CARE have parents with limited financial resources.

The finances of CARE come from the students who pay \$200 per term, benevolent benefactors and Government. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the excellent work being undertaken by CARE, I propose to increase their subvention by \$100,000 to \$300,000.



The privately run Marian Home

PRIME MINISTER RETURNS FROM OFFICIAL CUBA VISIT

Prime Minister Dr Kenny D. Anthony returned to the island last week at the end of an official visit to Cuba. The Prime Minister was accompanied on his

Cuba visit by External Affairs Minister Senator Petrus Compton and Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Hon. Jon Odium. The delegation participated in several

meetings with Cuban officials including one meeting with President Fidel Castro. One of the major outcomes of the talks was an agreement for Cuba to train 300 local nurses in Cuba. Recruitment for

this programme has already begun based on applications now being received and processed by the Ministry of Health. Discussions were also held with Boxing officials on Cuban assistance to the

St. Lucia Amateur Boxing association. The President of the St. Lucia Association, Joseph Reds Perreira said he had requested the following: that the Cubans admit twelve young St. Lucian boxers to

their boxing school later this year; provide a Cuban coach to work in St. Lucia in 2007; build four small boxing gyms in St. Lucia; and send two champion Cuban boxers to do public exhibitions in St.

Lucia. These matters are under consideration by the Cubans. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Anthony also met with St. Lucian patients in Cuba participating in the Cuban miracle eye care

programme as well as with St. Lucian students studying at Cuban universities. The Prime Minister is expected to report to the nation shortly on his discussions with the Cuban authorities.

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY'S VISIT TO CUBA

THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS DELEGATION MEET WITH PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO AND OTHER CUBAN OFFICIALS



A PRESS BRIEFING



LAYING A WREATH AT THE JOSE MARTI MEMORIAL



VISITING WITH SAINT LUCIAN EYE PATIENTS



MEETING WITH SAINT LUCIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



GG Welcomes First Swiss Ambassador To Saint Lucia

Governor General, Dame Pearllette Louisy has welcomed Switzerland's First Ambassador to St. Lucia. In what was a historic moment for both countries, Ambassador Walter Suter presented his credentials to the Governor General last Thursday at Government House. Following is the statement by Ambassador Suter after he delivered his letter of credence to the Governor General and the reply by her Excellency.

The Ambassador's Remarks

"It is an honour to request Your Excellency to accept the Letters by which the Swiss Federal Council accredits me as first Ambassador of Switzerland to St. Lucia.

In the performance of my duties and the exercise of my responsibility, may I express the hope that I shall be able to rely on the valuable support and confidence of Your Excellency and of the Authorities of St. Lucia.

It is with much admiration and liking that Switzerland has followed over the last decades the impressive making of St. Lucia into a prosperous and stable country in the region.

Switzerland wants to be a reliable and close partner of St. Lucia by eager-

ly exploiting all ways that contribute to the further strengthening and intensification of the already excellent and variegated bilateral relations between our two Countries.

It is now my pleasant duty to convey to convey to Your Excellency the feelings of high esteem of the Swiss Federal Council for the People and Government of St. Lucia, as well as its wishes for their happiness and well being. I also avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurances of my deep respect and to express my wishes for your personal happiness."

The Governor General's Reply

I am pleased to welcome you to Saint Lucia and to accept from you the Letters of Credence by which the Swiss Federal Council accredits you as the first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Switzerland to Saint Lucia. These will, in due course, be laid before Her Majesty the Queen.

In establishing diplomatic relations with your country, we are mindful of your foreign policy objectives which embrace, among others, the peaceful co-existence of nations, respect for human rights, democracy and the rule



Dame Pearllette Louisy welcomes Ambassador Walter Suter

of law, and the alleviation of need and poverty in the world. These are in fact, some of our policy objectives as well, and we therefore have the foundation on which we can continue to strengthen and intensify the already excellent relations that we enjoy in the international and multinational agencies and organisations of which we are members and partners. With that type of history between our two countries, you can rely, Your Excellency on my support and on the support of the Saint Lucian Authorities, both at home and abroad. I hope therefore that your tour of duty among us, as the first Swiss Amba-

sador to Saint Lucia, will be a fruitful, rewarding and engaging one as we explore the possibilities that undoubtedly exist for the sharing of experiences, for joint initiatives and for technical assistance in the various sectors of our two economies.

Please express my thanks to the Swiss Federal Council for the kind sentiments and wishes which you have so warmly conveyed. In turn, I will ask that you do me the honour of conveying to the Council my own best wishes for its continued prosperity and that of the People of Switzerland.

Air and Sea Ports mount OECS 25 Banners

With an attractive yellow backdrop, the first OECS 25th Anniversary banner for Air and Sea Ports was recently mounted at the George Charles Airport in Vigie Castries St. Lucia.

The banner positioned in the arrival lounge of the George Charles Airport is targeting the many OECS nationals who frequent that area on a daily basis as well as others to enhance awareness of the OECS and participation in the many activities organised for "OECS 25". The banner displays the official OECS 25th Anniversary logo and a simple message to encourage support for the integration effort.

The OECS Secretariat has sought the support of OECS Air and Sea Ports Authorities in sponsoring the banner for their respective countries.



The OECS 25th Anniversary banner for Air and Sea Ports in the OECS complements audio and video jingles regard-

ing the landmark achievement of the regional integration machinery.

The ceremonial hoisting of the first

ever OECS flag and the unveiling of a new OECS Economic Union Treaty will be among key events when OECS Heads of Government, representatives of international development partners and other regional and international dignitaries return to the birthplace of the OECS, Basseterre St. Kitts/Nevis, in June this year to continue celebrations of the Organisation's 25th anniversary.

The Heads and other delegates will gather at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) headquarters on the morning of June 21st for the ceremonial first raising of the OECS Flag, which was selected from among submissions by groups and individuals across the OECS region. The new OECS Flag will, from then on, be flown alongside flags of Member States at all OECS regional events.

PM Meets with Caricom Governance Working Group

Prime Minister Dr Kenny D. Anthony last Thursday met with a high-level Technical Working Group on Governance to discuss proposals for reform of governance arrangements in the Caribbean Community (Caricom). The Technical Working Group was led by Professor Vaughan Lewis, who is Chairman.

The group of eminent West Indian scholars also included UWI Professor Denis Benn (Deputy Chairman), Professor Ralph Carnegie, Professor George Belle of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the UWI (Cave Hill) in Barbados, as well as Dr Cuthbert Joseph and Special Advisor to the Caricom Secretary Gen-

eral, Ms Marilyn Trotz.

The Technical Working Group met Prime Minister Anthony in his capacity as the Lead Caricom Prime Minister for Justice and Governance. The Group and the Prime Minister discussed several proposals to reform Governance arrangements within the Caribbean Community. During the discussions, Professor Vaughan Lewis highlighted three key issues for consideration of the Prime Minister.

Firstly, the Prime Minister was asked to consider whether it is advisable to introduce commissioners to assist in the implementation of decisions taken by Caricom. Secondly, he was asked to

consider whether it's time to introduce a system to allow for automatic payments of dues to Caicom by member-states, to ensure they all meet their financial obligations to the Community. Thirdly, Dr Anthony was asked to consider what reforms would be necessary to be introduced to enable the Association of Caribbean Parliamentarians to function in a manner that will strengthen debate and dialogue within the region.

Following their discussions with Prime Minister Anthony, Professor Lewis and his team left for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where similar discussions will be held with Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves.



Dr. Vaughan Lewis
Chairman Caricom Governance
Working Group

NON - STATE ACTORS ADVISORY PANEL FOR EDF

The National Authorizing Office of the European Development Fund has established a Non-State Actors Advisory Panel. This is in keeping with the spirit of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement concluded in 2000 between the African, Caribbean and Pacific ACP countries and the European Union.

The Agreement recognizes the complementary role to be played and potential contribution to be made by non-state actors to the development process. The Non-State Advisory Panel, the first created in the OECS—according to Head of EU Delegation for this hemisphere Amos Tincani, will provide a forum for tripartite dialogue, information and consultation on development cooperation between the EU and St. Lucia. Mr. Tincani said:

“This is a tool and so we need to use



EU Ambassador Amos Tincani

it and the reply will be in the practice and how we do it. I hope that it will be positive—we have indicated that we want to have a dialogue with the non-state actors panel, essentially on issue pertaining to our cooperation with St. Lucia, to try to indicate what are the orientations, the policies, the focal areas, their opinion on how we are proceeding or whether we should correct our programme as we go along.”

The Advisory panel will consist of no more than 13 and no less than eight members, each representing a category or sector including manufacturing and trade, small business, agriculture, tourism, community based organizations, co-operatives, trade union, health and disaster response among several others. According to the newly installed EDF National Authorizing Officer Donovan Williams.

“The idea is for this panel to be so

diverse in its representation, it would by its very nature incorporate those types of views that perhaps have not always been reflected in some of the development programmes that we have initiated through EU funding. The idea is to ensure that we have civil society directly participating in the process of identifying exactly what can and should be done in terms of using EU funds for our developmental efforts.”

It is expected the National Authorizing Office of the EDF will be in constant dialogue with the Advisory Panel.

Members of the panel signed an agreement with the European Commission last week at a ceremony to mark the launch of the initiative. Member organizations will hold office for a two year term, after which organizations will replace existing representatives on the panel.

Special education decade Launched

Local UNESCO officials who recently mounted a Summit of UNESCO Associated Schools, in observance of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, have challenged participating students to remain vocal and actively committed to issues surrounding sustainable education.

Schools from all over the island were represented at the forum organised by the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network -ASPNet. The summit held on Friday, May 26th, marked Saint Lucia’s launch of the observance of a special decade in

education declared by the United Nations in 2005.

Secretary General of the National Commission for UNESCO Mrs. Paule Turmel John said ASPNET is dedicated to providing students with opportunities to understand the world in which they live.

“Students are again given another opportunity to demonstrate their ability at grasping concepts and elaborating on issues of particular relevance to them and their environs.” The ASPNET students presented concepts papers on current issues, including “Quality Education, Desserts and Desertification, HIV and AIDS and the Caribbean Sin-

gle Market and Economy CSME.”

The forum was formally declared open by Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education Ms. Esther Brathwaite who is also vice chairperson of the National Commission for UNESCO. She highlighted the positives of the summit which included four panel discussions and question and answer sessions.

“It’s an opportunity to express your views, your opinions, where you believe the education system should go, given this decade of education for sustainable development. There’s a lot to be learnt, a lot to be achieved, a lot to think about, a lot to express on your

views on where the Ministry of education, the education system should go in expressing, in articulating and in putting policies together on where education should be in the area of sustainable development., she told students.

The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development spans 2005 to 2014. The overall goal of the International Decade of Education for Sustainable Development is to integrate the values inherent in sustainable development, into all aspects of learning to bring about changes in behaviour that allow for a sustainable and just society for all.

WORKSHOPS

POVERTY ASSESSMENT

The Ministry of Social Transformation, Culture & Local Government this week hosted two important workshops as part of the training component of the 2005/2006 Poverty Assessment (CPA) exercise which is currently nearing completion. The first Country Poverty Assessment for Saint Lucia was conducted in 1995.

The workshops will review two of the major components of the current Country Poverty Assessment exercise; the Participatory Poverty Assessment and the Survey of Living Conditions.

The Participatory Poverty Assessment is an exercise which targets deprived communities to collect specific information about how community members perceive, define and experience economic and social deprivation and how they cope and sustain their livelihoods. It also seeks to obtain their views and suggestions about intervention strategies to improve their living conditions.

The Survey of Living Conditions is an instrument used to col-

lect specific information from a sample of households so as to obtain a picture of living conditions in the country. The survey focused on the household which is the critical unit of analysis in poverty assessment. This household survey entailed in-depth interviews of representatives of households on demographic and other information, as well as income and expenditure of the household.

The workshop provided opportunities for research facilitators to share and reflect on their experiences in the field and to identify lessons learnt during the research process. In addition, members of the National Assessment Team reviewed and analyzed the key findings of the Assessment in preparation for production of the final report.

The 2005 Country Poverty Assessment was conducted over a nine month period with support from the Caribbean Development Bank. The overall objective of the Country Poverty Assessment is to assess the current conditions affecting the welfare of people and to identify policies, strategies and action programmes that would reduce the extent and severity of poverty within the country.

AGED CARE TRAINING

The first in what will be a series of “Aged Care Training Workshops” for care givers of older persons has been described as very successful.

The National Community Foundation NCF initiative was a pilot project identified after the organization held consultations with the various homes for the elderly around the island.

As a result, a two week training workshop utilizing facilitators from

the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College Division of Health Services and Victoria Hospital was conducted for caregivers from the northern region of the island, including Dennery and Roseau.

Member of the Older Persons Committee Elvina Raveneau highlighted that persons who give care to the elderly must themselves receive social support. She said as of the commencement date of the training programme

on May 15th, a fresh approach to the vocation of caring for the elderly began to take root.

“During this course, access to appropriate comprehensive information which

We must realize that some of our older persons in society are still capable of making valuable contributions to society

will enable the participants to provide the best possible care and at the same time be able to have more control over their own lives and to maintain their own health and wellbeing was made available to their participants.”

Meanwhile a participant of the workshop Angelina Augustin said the workshop was a very beneficial exercise. “I have been taught that older persons have rights. The older persons must be given the respect. They must be allowed to exercise their rights. We must realize that some of our older persons in society are still capable of making valuable contributions to society.”

A THIRD TEST MATCH FOR A CHANGING BEAUSEJOUR

St. Lucia's state of the art cricket stadium, one of the most modern in the region, will this weekend host its third test match since its opening when the West Indies and India play the second test match of the current Indian tour of the West Indies. The match, which begins on Saturday morning, has aroused great interest following the dramatic draw achieved by the West Indies in their first match at the Antigua Recreation Grounds earlier this week, when its two fast bowlers and last two batsmen, Corey Collymore and Fidel Edwards stoically held on to their wickets to deny the Indians the thrill of bowling them out and winning the game in the last few overs.

While this will be the first test match for the Indians here, it will not be the first time that an Indian team has appeared at Beausejour. The first game at the ground was in fact one between India and a representative regional Busta XI. However as St. Lucia prepares to host games in the 2007 Cricket World Cup, this West Indies - India

match will take place at a Beausejour Ground which will look different from the Ground which on which the Indians played three years ago and even the one which welcomed the Zimbabweans last year, as new features have been added for the World Cup. Three of the most distinctive are a Venue Operations Centre, a replay screen, and a promenade from the new Bella Rosa road to the Ground. Other changes have been made to internal facilities. For this West Indies India test match, there are alterations to the Super J stand to accommodate the large Indian Press corps traveling with the team.

Interestingly enough, the Test match comes at the end of the IX Venue Summit organised here by the Cricket World Cup West Indies to assess, with the International cricket Council, the state of readiness of the venues to be used for next year's World Cup as well as to evaluate the work being undertaken by the Local Organizing Committees in the territories hosting the games in CWC 2007. According to reports, St. Lucia's Beausejour Cricket Ground continues to receive high marks and so, it is on



A section of the Beausejour Cricket Ground

to the Second test match between India and the West Indies from today Saturday. It would not be surprising if the ambience of the BCG has a role to play

in the outcome of this third test at a ground which has quickly gained international recognition for its beauty and player friendly facilities.

BLIND CRICKET ASSOCIATION LAUNCHED



Windward Islands Blind Cricket Team made up of Saint Lucians and Dominicans

The spotlight shifted to blind cricket over the weekend with the inauguration of the Windward Islands Cricket and Sports Association of and for People with Impaired Vision on Saturday, June 03rd.

Executive Director of the Saint Lucia Blind Welfare Mr. Anthony Avril says the event was timely because of the presence the various blind cricket teams currently on island.

"This weekend will be long remembered as the weekend where it all began in Saint Lucia in respect to sports particularly blind cricket. The Windward Islands Association was launched. It's

called Wicksa. It is the Windward Islands cricket and other sports Association of and for people with Impaired Vision."

Meantime the Bank of Nova Scotia on Friday June 2nd became the first corporate sector entity to respond to the association's call for help in meeting the cost of hosting the blind cricket training tournament. The tournament forms part of preparations leading to the first West Indies Blind Cricket Tournament in July. Executive Director of the SLBWA Mr. Anthony Avril, described the areas in which the Scotia Bank donation will be used.

"We have to make an advance pay-

ment for example for the Windward Islands team that will be participating in Barbados; we have to send a thousand US dollars up and then some of that money will go to that. It's costing us a lot of money to be transporting the team so with ground transportation, we have to also feed and we are responsible for the accommodation." Mr. Avril is calling on other bodies to come forward to assist his group.

Over the weekend official blind cricket matches were played between Barbados and the Windward Islands on Saturday and Sunday. The 40 overs matches were played at Corinth and at the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College.



THIS WEEK ON NTN

Sat. May 10th to Fri. June 16th
, 2006

NTN – PROVIDING INFORMATION YOU NEED

The NIC explains the concept of the Emerald Housing Development and fields questions from potential buyers - Sat. June 3rd, 12:00 noon

Operation Miracle: The Cuban Eye care Programme - Sun. June 4th - 11:30 a.m.

The Health Centres Project – A national refurbishment of health centres is ongoing – find out more on – Mon. June 5th – 8:00 p.m.

Rebroadcast: "Feedback" We spotlight the elderly – Tues. June 6th, 9:00 p.m.

Living well with diabetes: A must for diabetics - Wed. June 8th, 6:15 p.m.

AgriFocus: "Water in the Valley" – Thurs. June 9th, 7:30 p.m.

King & Queen of the Bands 2005 – Fri. June 10th, 9:00 p.m.

Remember to tune in for: GIS News Breaks and Kweyol News daily from 6:30 p.m.

Issues & Answers/Mondays at 8:00pm:

Interview/Tuesdays at 6:15pm :

Konsit Kweyol/Tuesdays at

8:00pm (Kweyol Discussion):

Your Right to Know/Thursdays at

6:15 p.m. (Min. of Ed. Prog).

Take 2/Fridays at 6:15pm

(Week in Review)

Weflechi/Fridays at 6:40pm -

(Week in Review—Kweyol)

For the complete programme guide, log on to our website at www.stlucia.gov.lc and then click on the NTN icon.

www.stlucia.gov.lc

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