

NDC holds successful meeting at Darvey

The residents of Darvey, Prospect and surrounding villages turned out in their numbers on Wednesday, 5th April to a meeting of the NDC St. Patrick West Constituency Branch.

Speakers explained that it was the recklessness and the corruption of the NNP that resulted in the massive national debt and subsequent economic problems. As a consequence, the Mitchell-led government was forced into an IMF-regulated Structural Adjustment Programme, which has wreaked havoc on the working and middle classes, and reduced the poor to a state of destitution.



Addressing the crowd, Deputy Party Leader and caretaker for St. Patrick West, Joseph Andall, bemoaned the neglect that the current MP has shown towards the cluster of villages that comprise Polling Division RO 7. Andall highlighted the terrible state of the main road passing through Prospect, Darvey and Mt. Alexander. He pointed out that funds had been secured by the NDC government for the reconstruction of that road and queried why the project has not begun, going into the 5th year of the NNP administration.

Regarding NDC's plans for those communities, Andall pledged to work with all residents, regardless of political affiliation, to secure recreational facilities, improve transportation services and attend to the dismal state of the roads.

He outlined NDC'S commitment to improve agriculture and fisheries, the main sources of income for the villagers. Andall spoke of the great potential for nature tourism in the area, and assured residents that he would work tirelessly to ensure that the natural attributes of Darvey and Mt. Alexander are converted into economic opportunities for the people. A proposal to introduce weekly, themed village events on a rotational basis throughout the constituency, was warmly received.

In closing, Andall urged the people to review the nature of the relationship they have with the sitting MP and his party. He reminded them that in spite of consistently voting NNP over the last 4 elections, RO 7 had very little to show in return, therefore, the time for ending the relationship had arrived.

The series of St. Patrick West village meetings will resume after the Easter holidays.



THE ALTERNATIVE

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The \$\$\$Million Dollar Question

As minister responsible for the Citizenship by Investment Programme, Dr. Keith Mitchell must explain to the nation what became of the US one million dollars that CBI agent, Martin Oveson, is alleged to have conned out of Robert Ver. The government's claim that this is a matter between two private individuals is totally unacceptable and, as such, the people of Grenada and potential foreign investors must be given a satisfactory response.

If a registered CBI agent can simply walk away with a client's money and the government makes no attempt to help the client recover it, what type of programme is this? We must ask ourselves whether any minister or other employee of the CBI programme benefited from Mr. Ver's stolen money. **Why the reluctance to investigate?**

From its inception, Grenada's CBI was set up as a cartel, with most of the main players linked by marriage, blood or membership in the NNP hierarchy. The regulatory and investigative agencies have been compromised by having politically exposed persons at the helm. It is no wonder, therefore, that problems are beginning to surface with CBI.

The success of such programmes depends on the trust that people have in it. Government's apparent collusion with Oveson could only make it more difficult for genuine investors to participate in the Grenada programme.

Grenada cannot afford a repeat of the off-shore banking scandals under the previous NNP government. NDC calls on Dr. Mitchell to ensure a thorough and transparent investigation into the Oveson/Levera fiasco, and to take appropriate measures to protect investors and save Grenada's reputation.



Cool Head, Safe Hands

School children never throw stones at empty mango trees. The relentless attacks on NDC Party Leader, Senator V Nazim Burke, give truth to this old Grenadian proverb. Never before has one man been subjected to such an unrelenting wave of unjustified attacks, as Naz has had to face. Thinking people must be wondering why he is being constantly targeted.

It is clear that some people will go to any length to achieve political power. In our recent history, we have the example of Keith Mitchell stabbing Herbert Blaize in the back and hijacking the NNP. Peter David led a group of rebels who succeeded in derailing the NDC government and almost taking over the brand. Mitchell himself has said that nothing would stand between David and Power. It will be interesting to see the outcome of the Mitchell/David romance!

Burke, on the other hand, has proven to be a team player. When the chips were down, he stood firm with Uncle Tilly. He sacrificed constituency time to ensure that Grenada's economy did not crash during the World Financial Crisis. When NDC was at its lowest ebb, Naz put his hand up and was elected by the overwhelming majority of delegates, in a free and open process.

The NNP and the Davidians see Nazim Burke as a threat to their ambitions to establish a one-party state in Grenada; therefore, they have unleashed a massive propaganda campaign against him. They don't have any criminal, moral or ethical charge against him, so they revert to rumours, innuendo and outright lies. The goal is to create doubt and mistrust in people's minds, so that the NNP/David Cartel can continue the pillaging of our homeland.

Nazim Burke's calm and measured response to these vicious attacks shows the exemplary character of the man. Grenadians are getting to realise on a daily basis that what we need at this time of crisis is a leader with a cool head and safe hands.

Naz is the man!

Where there is Smoke ...

For years it has been an open secret that all of the social safety net programmes run by the NNP regime are riddled with corruption. No lesser person than Anthony Boatswain, former finance minister, called in to the *Sundays with George Grant* programme after the NNP defeat in 2008, to advise the NDC government to review these programmes because of rampant irregularities.



It is a bit strange, therefore, to see the sudden flurry of investigations into corrupt practices within the debushing, beach cleaning and housing programmes, especially in St. Patrick West. Minister Bowen's claim that nothing could be done before because people were unwilling to testify, is laughable. Mr. Bowen is an engineer, not a detective nor a lawyer. If people complained to him as MP or minister, all he had to do was inform the police so that they could investigate.

Now that investigations have finally begun, NDC demands that they be allowed to continue without political interference. We also hope that not only the small fish will be targeted but that any MP, minister or political aide who is found to be involved in corruption, be brought to justice.

For too long, the NNP has been abusing the resources of the state for nakedly partisan purposes. Contracts are awarded to party supporters without any bidding. There are credible reports of massive kickback schemes with these contracts. We would welcome an investigation into allegations that government ministers have used "front" men and women to set up security, construction and garbage collection companies, which are then awarded huge government contracts.

Though it is widely believed that the current investigations are nothing but smoke screens, it is an indication that NNP and corruption go hand in hand. They cannot be trusted with small things; imagine what would happen if NNP is in charge when we start producing oil!

For Grenada to grow, Mitchell and NNP MUST go!

Activities

**Polling Divisions 1 and 2
of NDC St. Patrick West
invite all to
A massive Fun Day
on Sunday, April 30
at Hermitage Playing field
from 11:00 AM.
lots of games, sports and
general fun.
Eats and drinks on sale.
Come support!**



BRAIN FOG: REASONS YOU MAY HAVE IT!

“Brain Fog” isn’t a medical condition. It’s a term used for certain symptoms that can affect your ability to think. You may feel confused or disorganized or find it hard to focus or put your thoughts into words.

Pregnancy Many women find it’s harder to remember things during pregnancy. Carrying a baby can change your body in lots of ways, and chemicals released to protect and nourish your baby may bring on memory problems.

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) This disease affects your central nervous system and can change the way your brain “talks” to the rest of your body. About half the people who have MS have issues with memory, attention, planning, or language. Learning and memory exercises can help, and a therapist can give you new ways to handle the tasks you have trouble with.

Medication Some kinds of drugs -- over-the-counter and prescribed -- can cause brain fog. If you take medicine and notice that your thinking isn’t as clear as it should be or you suddenly can’t remember things, call your doctor. Be sure to let him know all the medications you take.

Cancer Treatment -Chemotherapy -- a treatment for cancer that uses strong drugs -- can lead to what’s sometimes called “chemo brain.” You may have trouble remembering details like names or dates, have a hard time multi-tasking, or take longer to finish things. It usually goes away fairly quickly, but some people can be affected for a long time after treatment.

Menopause-Women may find it harder to learn or remember things when they reach this stage of life. It happens about a year after their last period, usually around age 50. Along with brain fog, they also may have hot flashes - sudden sweating with a higher heart rate and body temperature - and other body changes. Hormone supplements and other types of medication may help.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) With this condition, your body and mind are tired for a long time. You may feel confused, forgetful, and unable to focus. There’s no known cure for CFS, but medication, exercise, and talk therapy may help.

Depression- You may not remember things well or be able to think through problems easily. It’s hard to know if this is linked to the loss of energy and motivation that comes with depression, or if depression affects your brain in a way that causes the fog. Treatment for your depression, which includes medication and talk therapy, should help get you back on track.

Sleep- You need sleep to help your brain work the way it should, but too much can make you feel foggy, too. Aim for 7 to 9 hours. To get good rest at bedtime, you may want to avoid caffeine and alcohol after lunch and keep the computer and Smartphone out of your bedroom. It also can help to get to bed and wake up at the same time every day.

**NDC ST. PATRICK EAST AND WEST
5TH ANNUAL CRUISE
JUNE 10
ABOARD RHUM RUNNER 2.**



**TICKETS COST \$40
AVAILABLE FROM CARETAKERS
AND MEMBERS
OF THE ST. PATRICK BRANCHES.
IT'S GONNA BE HUGE!
WEAR SOMETHING BLACK.**