

# A&B JOINS IN CALL FOR 'HUMANITARIAN CEASEFIRE' IN GAZA

*Story on Page 2*



From left: King Young Destroyer (Lester Jacobs), Dr. Solo (Vernon Benjamin), Jagger Martin and Destroyer Senior (Oglivere Jacobs) at the Independence Service at the Potters Zion Moravian Church on Sunday. *Photos on page 12.*

## Antigua and Barbuda joins in calling for a 'humanitarian ceasefire' in Gaza

Antigua and Barbuda joined with more than one hundred other members of the United Nations in voting in favour of a 'humanitarian ceasefire' in the Middle East, where Israel has stepped up its aerial and other bombardments of Gaza.

Foreign Minister E.P. Chet Greene noted that Antigua and Barbuda was the first CARICOM nation to condemn the Hamas incursion into Israel killing more than one thousand people on October 7.

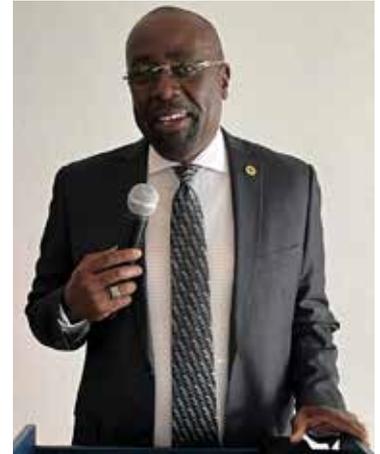
Greene said the country has been consistent in its stance against violence of all

kinds. "On Friday, we voted in favour of the resolution put forward by the Jordanian delegation calling for an immediate ceasefire on humanitarian grounds.

The Israeli reported that just over 1400 of its citizens were killed by Hamas fighters who attacked by air and on land. However, as the Israeli Defense Force has stepped up its bombardment of the narrow Gaza Strip, more than eight thousand Palestinians have been killed and many more wounded. There is almost nowhere to escape to, as Israeli bombs have struck in the north, where it asked peo-

ple to evacuate as well as in the south where, he had indicated, was a 'safe zone.'

Greene explained that the Jordanian resolution had first been amended by the Canadians which Antigua and Barbuda did not support. "However, once they came back to the Jordanian resolution, which had all the ingredients; the release of civilians and humanitarian truce, then, Antigua and Barbuda had absolutely no difficulty in supporting. We believe that the carnage in Gaza must stop; we believe that the force being used by Israel is disproportionate and



Foreign Minister E.P. Chet Greene

we cannot continue to see, in a modern civilized world, this type of behaviour and not at the level of the UN where our voice does count to make our

*cont'd on pg 3*

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KEEP ANTIGUA CLEAN

## Wettest October in more than a decade

Late-season tropical storms and an upper-level trough over the northern Caribbean have given rise to the wettest October in more than a decade.

The Meteorological Office (Met Office) has reported that over the past 48 hours, between two and

three inches of rain fell in parts of Antigua and Barbuda. The rain gave rise to localized flooding in some parts of Antigua.

The heavy rainfall has been attributed to an upper-level trough that blanked the country for the past several days, leading

to heavy rainfall since Friday afternoon. The rains have persisted on and off since then. During all this, the Met Office issued a flash flood warning which was lifted at 5:00 pm on Sunday.

According to the Met Office, there is a 40 percent

chance of rain today, Monday, but the forecasters are anticipating that conditions will improve, and sunshine shall return to the area, as the clouds associated with the trough depart the area.

The latest round of showers has brought the total rainfall for October up to Sunday to 11.99 inches of rain. The forecasters say this has been the wettest October for more than a decade.

The National Office of Disaster Services (NODS) Sherrod James said there have been reports of localized flooding, but he explained that this has more to do with human action than the actual rain.

*cont'd from pg 2*

position clear and to state it where we stand in this conflict," he stated.

The foreign minister said he recognizes that the conflict has some history and that there have been previous UN resolutions that have addressed the issue of the occupation of Gaza by the Israelis going back to 1948 when it was declared a state.

He added that peace in the region will be elusive unless one question is answered; an independent Palestinian state. "I think to

find lasting peace in this situation, there has to be reference to and respect for, the original tenets of the UN position on this matter. In the meantime, what we are seeking is an immediate, durable and sustainable humanitarian truce because the carnage must stop! Diplomacy is at work and I must commend the other 119 nations that voted in favour of this resolution," he declared.

Antigua and Barbuda was among eleven of the fourteen independent CARICOM nations that voted in favour of the resolution.

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# Town hall meeting planned for Booby Alley residents

Now that work on the much-anticipated Booby Alley Housing project is about to start, there are plans to convene a town hall meeting with the residents of the area to discuss with them the preliminary drawings and other matters associated with the project.

That is the word from area representative, Prime Minister Gaston Browne who disclosed that the preliminary drawings have been submitted by the Chinese engineers.

According to PM Browne the Chinese government which will finance

*cont'd on pg 5*



Concept proposal for Booby Alley project

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KEEP A LITTLE

## Change in venue for the National Schools Steel Band Competition

There has been a change in the venue for tonight's National School Steel Band Competition due to the soggy conditions at the Antigua Recreation Grounds, the previously announced venue.

In a statement on Sunday afternoon, the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC) said it regrets to announce a change of venue for the ACB Caribbean - National School's Panorama Competition due to torrential rainfall over the past weekend, making it impossible to prepare the original venue in time for the scheduled event. The new venue for the competition will be The Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority Parking Lot.

"Despite the change in location, we assure you that the rest of the event will re-

main the same.

Get ready for an electrifying blast on Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6 p.m. The excitement will be palpable as the vibrant melodies of Sweet Steel Pan fill the air, immersing you in a world of musical enchantment," the statement said.

The competition will feature five (5) primary schools: Pigotts Primary School, T.N. Kirnon Primary School, Villa Primary, Nelvie N. Gore Primary School (Willikies) and Sunny Side Tutorial, along with five (5) secondary schools: Princess Margaret Secondary School, Antigua Grammar School, Otos Comprehensive School, St. Anthony's Secondary School, and Christ The King High School.

The stage is set for an unforgettable night of fierce

competition and incredible talent.

The National School's Steel Band Competition has become a major feature as part of the annual Independence celebrations, as it has created a high level of competition and rivalry among the bands.

Additionally, support for the competition spreads beyond those who currently attend the participating schools as many adults are attracted to the competition to support their alma maters. The current champion among the primary schools is the Pigotts Primary

School while the Princess Margaret Secondary School carries the banner for the secondary schools.

"Don't miss your chance to experience the magic of the National School's Panorama Competition at the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority Parking Lot.

"Prepare to be swept away by the extraordinary talent, pulsating rhythms, and contagious energy that will make this event one of the greatest spectacles for the 42nd anniversary of Independence," the statement concluded.

*cont'd from pg 4*

the project through a grant, has submitted drawings for condominium-styled buildings for the project and it is at a stage where input from the people who will occupy the buildings should offer some feedback on what is being planned.

"One final thing is to consult with residents, finding them and bringing them together because I need to arrange a town hall meeting to go through the entire concept with them," he explained.

He further explained that approval to proceed has been given by the committee overseeing the project. The proposals were submitted to the team one week after the removal of the final property. "The Chinese will be on the ground within a matter of weeks, in terms of finalizing the design, and I am hoping to have at least one public consultation to get input from the residents," he stated.

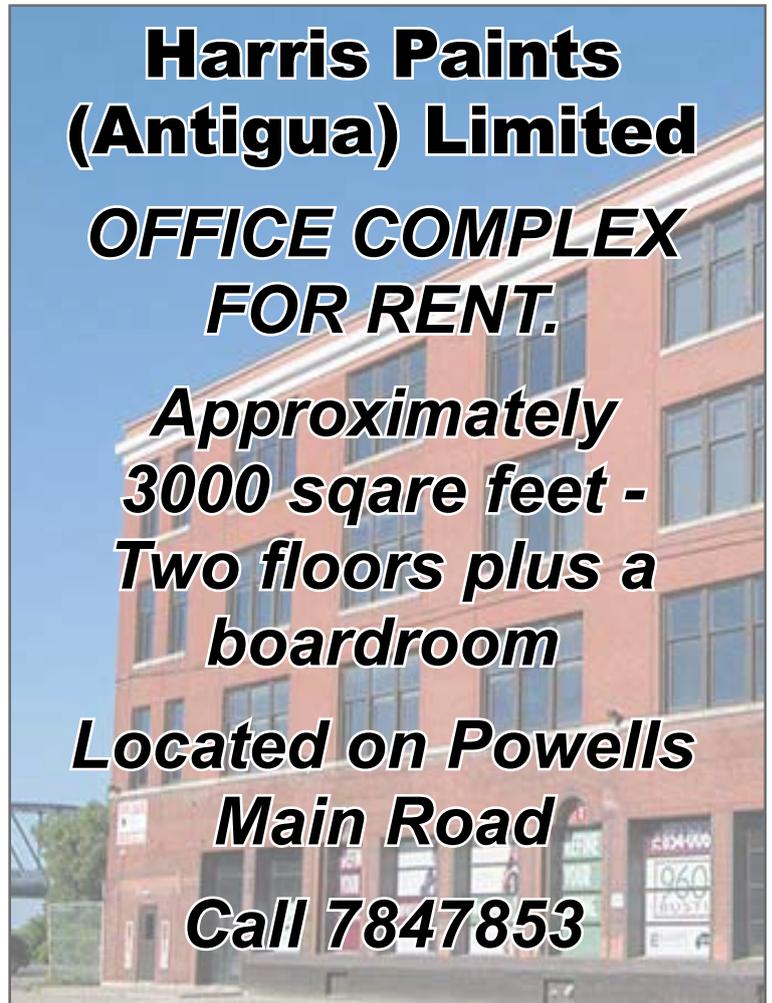
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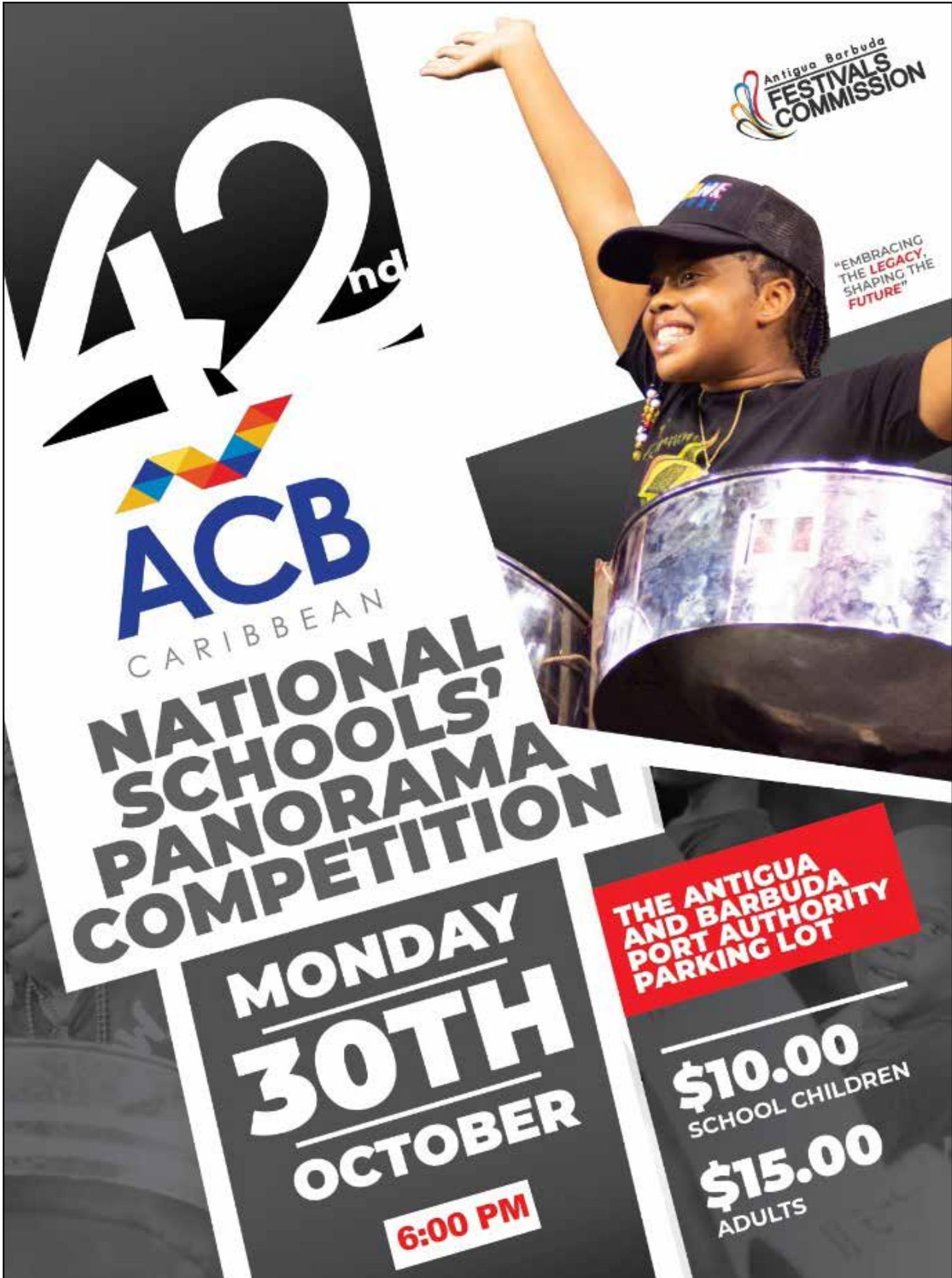
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## Shortened week for schools

Thousands of school children across Antigua and Barbuda are having successive days without school as the annual mid-term holiday is one day before Independence Day, a public holiday. Tuesday is the mid-term holiday and Wednesday is Independence Day.

Director of Education, Clare Browne observed, as he indicated, that schools across the nation will open today, Monday, although the past three days have seen much rainfall across the country.

Browne said he has not received any reports of damage to any school building following the rain, but he expects that when schools open today, Monday, the principals will likely submit such reports if there has been any damage to the school

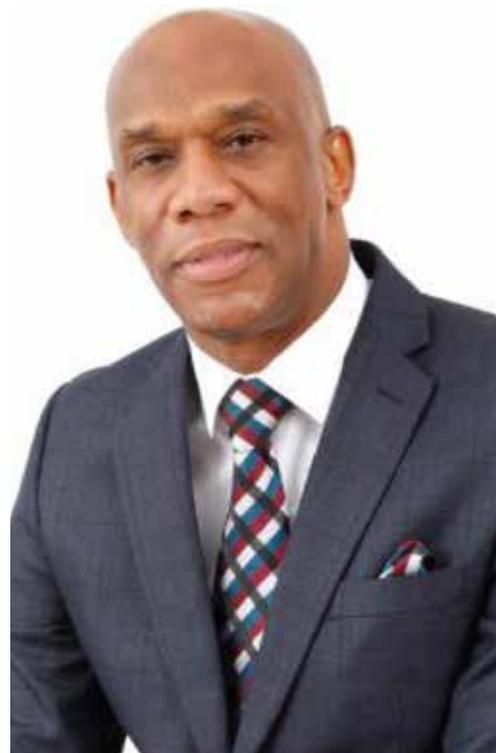
plants.

The director said he is not inclined to close schools simply because the country experienced heavy rainfall this past weekend.

“We have to move away from the notion that whenever there are heavy rains like we had this weekend we will close down the education system.

“When we do that, it has a ripple effect throughout the whole society, because it leaves parents wondering what to do with their children when they are at work,” he observed.

According to the director, the principals at the schools are responsible people who would determine the conditions at the respective schools, if that institution is in any way affected by the rains.



Director of Education, Clare Browne

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## Grades 5 and 6 students of Greenbay Primary undertake an educational tour of Wallings Nature Reserve

Students of Grades 5 and 6 at the Greenbay Primary School were exposed to an engaging and educational Eco Tour of the Wallings Nature Reserve through the efforts of philanthropist Michael Joseph of the Fire Phoenix Foundation.

The event was a joint undertaking of the Fire Phoenix Foundation and the Wallings Nature Reserve Inc. The students were also presented with copies of the Eco Tour Study Guide with Puzzles and Activities, authored by Ambassador Refica Attwood. The students of Greenbay Primary were the first to receive



the resource guides of the 27 Government Primary Schools across Antigua and Barbuda.

The Fire Phoenix Foundation says it recognizes the importance of environmental education in shaping the

next generation of environmentally conscious citizens. “With its focus firmly set on empowering young minds, the foundation has undertaken this initiative to equip students at Greenbay Primary School with the tools they

need to become champions for the environment,” Joseph stated.

Michael Joseph, co-founder of the Fire Phoenix Foundation, expressed his delight about the collaboration, stating, “We believe that education is the key to building a sustainable future. By partnering with Wallings Nature Reserve Inc. and providing the Eco Tour study guide to these young students, we aim to spark their curiosity, encourage their love for nature, and instill in them a deep sense of responsibility towards our planet.”

*cont'd on pg 9*

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*cont'd from pg 8*

The Eco Tour study guide, written by environmentalist and author Ambassador Refica Attwood, Founder and Executive Director of Wallings Nature Reserve Inc. promises to captivate young readers with its engaging content and interactive activities. The guide takes children on a journey through the wonders

of nature, encouraging them to explore the natural world and fostering a love for the environment. With its puzzles and activities, the study guide not only educates but also makes learning fun, ensuring that children remain engaged and motivated.

Wallings Nature Reserve Inc. a local conservation company renowned for its

efforts in preserving natural habitats and promoting environmental awareness and sustainability, is thrilled to partner with the Fire Phoenix Foundation on this initiative.



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## GG reflects on theme for Independence in message

The Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, reflected on the theme for the Independence anniversary celebrations when he brought greetings at the National Service of Thanksgiving for Independence, at the Ebenezer Methodist Church on Sunday.

Sir Rodney said the theme for the celebrations is most appropriate. “The theme for this year’s celebration, “Embracing the Legacy, Shaping the Future,” could not be more fitting. It encapsulates the essence of our journey as a nation, and the indomitable spirit that has brought us to where we stand today.

“As we embrace our legacy, it is imperative that we reflect on our history, for it is the foundation upon which our present and future are built. It is a history that has been

enriched by the values of community, faith, and resilience, which have guided us through the trials and triumphs of our existence,” he emphasized.

He noted that the nation’s journey has been characterized by resilience and the ability to overcome adversity.

“It is in the pages of our history that we find the stories of those who, in their quest for freedom and self-determination, have left an indelible mark on our nation.

“Their legacy lives on in the ideals of democracy, justice, and equality that we hold dear but that we should not take for granted.

The Governor General reminds the nation that as it moves forward towards shaping its future, the path ahead will undoubtedly come with

its own set of challenges and opportunities.

“It is our duty, as citizens of this beautiful twin-island nation, to embrace this future with the same determination and resilience that have defined our past while future-proofing the decisions we make and the range of actions we take,” he remarked.

Sir Rodney urges all to remember the lessons of history, the strength of communities, and the importance of unity.

It is through these values, he emphasized, that the country can shape a future that honours the sacrifices of those who came before and provide hope for generations yet to come.

During the service, lessons were read by Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Opposition Leader, Jamaica Pringle.



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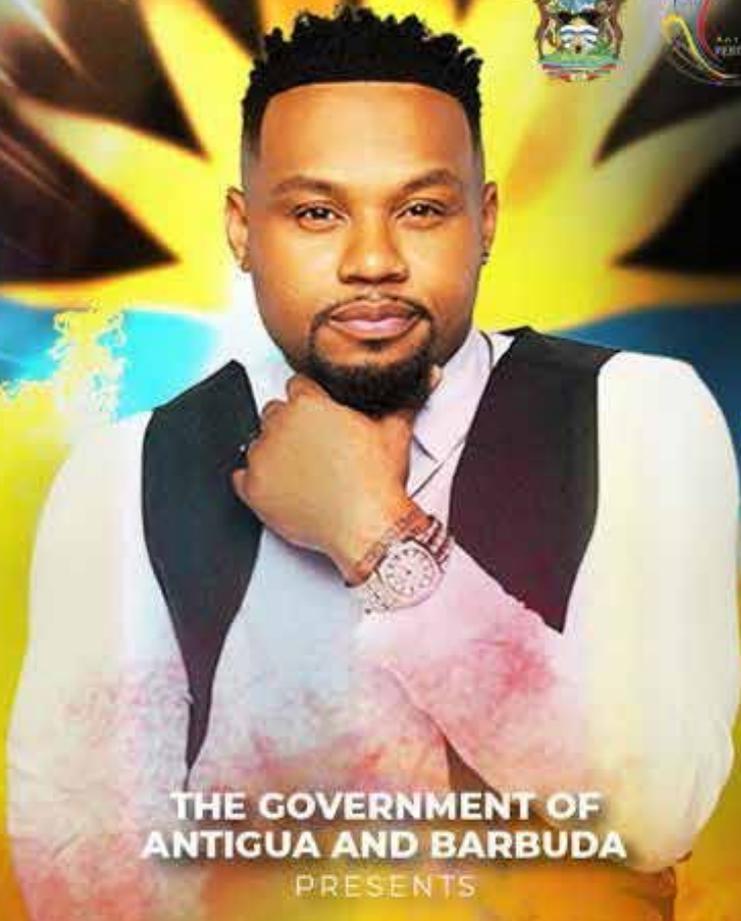
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# Independence Church Service



# Independence Church Service



# 'Friends' star Matthew Perry dies at 54

US actor Matthew Perry, best known for playing wisecracking Chandler Bing in the hit '90s TV sitcom *Friends*, has died at the age of 54.

The actor was found dead at his home in Los Angeles, law enforcement sources told US media.

*Friends*, which followed the fortunes of six young friends living in New York City, aired from 1994 until 2004.

Its final episode was watched by 52.5 million in the US, making it the most watched TV episode of the 2000s.

The LA Times and TMZ, which first reported that Perry had died, said the actor was found unresponsive in a hot tub at his house.

A Los Angeles Fire Department spokesperson told the BBC that first responders went to an address in the Pacific Palisades area, regarding a "water emergency" of an unknown type, but did not name Perry.

Warner Bros, which produced the long-running show whose global reruns were loved by new generations of viewers, described Perry as a "true gift to us all".

Born in Massachusetts in 1969, Perry was raised in Ottawa, Canada, where he attended elementary



school with Justin Trudeau, who later became Canadian prime minister.

Canada's leader wrote on X: "Matthew Perry's passing is shocking and sad. I'll never forget the schoolyard games we used to play, and I know people around the world are never going to forget the joy he brought them. Thanks for all the laughs, Matthew. You were loved - and you will be missed."

Perry moved to Los Angeles as a teenager. He starred as Chazz Russell in *Boys Will Be Boys* and also had roles in shows including *Growing Pains*.

But he became an international star on *Friends*, a show which followed the lives of six New Yorkers navigating dating, careers and friendship.

The comedy, co-starring Jennifer Aniston, Courtney Cox, David Schwim-

mer, Matt LeBlanc and Lisa Kudrow, became one of the most successful shows of all time.

Perry was cast as the awkward Chandler Bing, famous for his sarcastic one-liners and his childish behaviour with room-mate Joey Tribbiani. The role earned him an Emmy nomination in 2002.

But while at the height of his fame, Perry was battling with addiction to painkillers and alcohol, and attended rehabilitation clinics on multiple occasions.

In 2016, he told BBC Radio 2 that he could not remember three years of filming during *Friends*, because of drink and drugs.

In an interview last year, he spoke about how he did not watch the show.

"I didn't watch the show, and haven't watched the show, because I could go, 'Drinking, opiates,

drinking, cocaine,'" he said. "I could tell season by season, by how I looked. That's why I don't wanna watch it, because that's what I see.

"But I think I'm going to start to watch it because it's been an incredible thing to watch it touch the hearts of different generations."

Perry experienced health problems including a burst colon in 2018 due to his drug usage, which required several operations.

Entertainment reporter Sean Mandell described the overwhelming feeling in Los Angeles as "shock" and a "ubiquitous response" in not believing Perry had died.

He told BBC News Perry played an integral part in the success of *Friends* and was someone who was "at the hub of the wheel".

"His character had the perfect combination of wit, but also true heart and it was grounded," he said.

Perry also appeared in several films, including *Fools Rush In*, *Almost Heroes* and *the Whole Nine Yards* - but never found a screen project which came anywhere near matching the huge success and fame he found in *Friends*.

His later TV work, however, achieved some acclaim.

*cont'd on pg 15*

*cont'd from pg 14*

His role as associate White House counsel Joe Quincy in Aaron Sorkin's *The West Wing* earned him two Emmy nominations for outstanding guest actor in a drama series in 2003 and 2004. He played the lead role in Sorkin's later series, *Studio 60 On The Sunset Strip*, then wrote and produced his own show called *Mr Sunshine* in which he also played the lead character.

His final significant TV project - other than the *Friends* reunion - was a TV reboot of *The Odd Couple*, which lasted on American screens for three seasons.

In 2017, Perry tweeted he found out it was being cancelled when he arrived on set and discovered his face on the stage door had been painted over with green paint.

Maggie Wheeler, who played Chandler's troublesome ex-girlfriend Janice in *Friends*, was the first of Perry's co-stars to publicly pay tribute to the actor.

Wheeler said the joy Perry brought to "so many" in his "too short lifetime will live on".

"I feel so very blessed by every creative moment we shared," she wrote on Instagram.

Morgan Fairchild who played Perry's on-screen mother and erotic novel writer Nora Bing, said: "I'm heartbroken about the untimely death of my 'son', Matthew Perry."

"The loss of such a brilliant young actor is a shock," she added.

Cruel Intentions actress Selma Blair said Perry was her "oldest boy friend", adding: "All of us loved Matthew Perry, and I did especially. Every day. I loved him unconditionally. And he me.

"And I'm broken. Broken hearted. Sweet dreams Matty. Sweet dreams."

Lucy Davis, who starred in *Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip*, said it was an "honour" to work with Perry on the show.

In a post on X, she wrote: "He

was as funny off screen as he was on screen. He was really kind to me: I had one week where I was having difficulty with something at work and he came up to me and told me not to worry because he had my back.

"He was generous with his compliments to me when we acted together," *The Office* star added.

"Thanks for all the laughs Matthew. You made a great impact on me."

Perry's final Instagram post, published a few days ago, shows him relaxing in a rooftop pool. It has since attracted a stream of tributes from fans.

Perry leaves parents John Bennett Perry and Suzanne Perry, who split up when he was a baby. He has five half-siblings.

He never married and had no children.

Perry said he was inspired by his father, who was also an actor and appeared in one episode of *Friends* in 1997 as Mr Burgin, the dad of Rachel's love interest Josh.

The advertisement grid consists of six panels, each promoting a Shell Flash Sale with up to 10% off on selected products. The products featured are:

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- Bottom Left:** Tellus S2 MX 32 PAIL, TELLUS S2 MX 46 DRUM, and TELLUS S2MX 68 DRUM.
- Bottom Middle:** Rimula R4L 15W40 DRUMS, RIMULA R4X 15W40 PAIL, RIMULA R4X 15W40 DRUMS, and RIMULA R2 40 GALLONS.

Each panel includes the Shell logo, 'Flash SALE' text, 'UP TO 10% OFF' banner, product images, and contact information for Derrick Ltd. as the Shell Lubricants Distributor. The contact number is TEL: +1 (268) 462-0805/6151.

## Venezuela wants CARICOM to intervene in border dispute

CMC - Venezuela has called on the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) grouping to “promote and facilitate a direct dialogue between the parties” as the National Assembly here has set a date for debate on the ongoing border dispute between Guyana and Venezuela.

Clerk of the National Assembly, Sherlock Isaacs, in a letter sent to all 65 legislators, said the National Assembly would be meeting on November 3, at 10.00 (local time) “to consider a motion on the Guyana/Venezuela border issue.”

Guyana has already denounced the planned December 3, 2023 referendum in Venezuela that asks Venezuelans to formally approve disregarding the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in settling the territorial controversy and instead demand that the two countries do so bilaterally.

But Georgetown is also upset at a question in the referendum that seeks Venezuelans’ support for declaring Guyana’s county of Essequibo a state of Venezuela and to grant citizenship and identification cards to everyone living there.

In its statement, Caracas said that the position of CARICOM “must be to promote and facilitate a direct dialogue between the parties, which will return Guy-



ana to the path of respect for Public International Law, by promoting a peaceful and diplomatic route to address the territorial controversy”.

In a statement on Wednesday, CARICOM said the referendum proposed by Venezuela in December has no validity as the border dispute between the two countries took on a new twist this week.

“The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) notes the decision of the Venezuelan National Assembly to conduct a popular referendum on defending Venezuela’s claim of the Essequibo,” the 15-member regional grouping said in a statement.

“CARICOM further notes that two of the questions approved to be posed in the Referendum, if answered in the affirmative, would authorise the gov-

ernment of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to embark on the annexation of territory, which constitutes part of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, and to create a state within Venezuela known as Guyana Essequibo.”

CARICOM said that it wanted to reaffirm that “international law strictly prohibits the government of one State from unilaterally seizing, annexing or incorporating the territory of another state.

“An affirmative vote as aforesaid opens the door to the possible violation of this fundamental tenet of international law,” it added.

Venezuela had on Tuesday said it rejected the “offensive statements” made by the Guyana government regarding the upcoming consultative referendum on the Essequibo which the

South American country continues to claim as part of its territory.

“The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela categorically rejects the infamous and offensive statements of the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, regarding the consultative referendum scheduled for December 3, 2023, which are loaded with deep contempt for the people Venezuelan, its Bolivarian history and its right to express itself, in a democratic manner, in matters of special national importance,” Caracas said in the statement.

Earlier Georgetown said it was concerned that Venezuela’s referendum could lay the ground work for the annexation of the county of Essequibo, which Caracas has been claiming belongs

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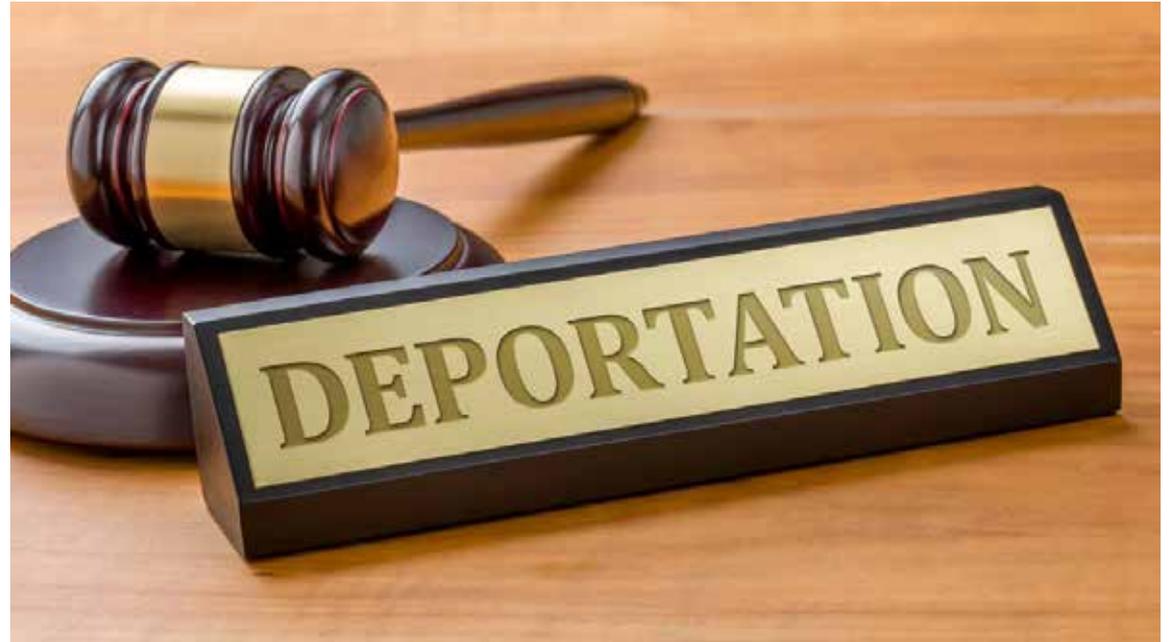
## US Immigration agents conduct multiple removal flights to Caribbean

CMC - The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency says it has coordinated with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in facilitating multiple removal flights, including single adults and family units, to Cuba, Haiti and Jamaica.

On Friday, ICE said that nationals from Angola, Central America, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela were also deported as part of dozens of other routine removal flights conducted throughout the hemisphere and around the world.

Since May 2023, ICE DHS has removed or returned more than 300,000 individuals, including more than 45,000 individual family unit members, to their respective countries.

“Individuals who lack



a lawful basis to stay in the United States are ordered removed, consistent with US law,” ICE said. “All individuals who are removed have been screened for protection concerns.

“This policy applies to all noncitizens regardless of nationality to ensure the orderly and humane processing, transfer, and removal of single adults, family units and others determined to be removable,”

it added.

ICE said noncitizens placed into removal proceedings receive their due process from immigration judges in the immigration courts, which are administered by the Justice Department’s Executive Office for Immigration Review.

Due to operational security reasons, ICE said it does not confirm or discuss future or pending transportation operations.

ICE said its Air Operations facilitates the transfer and removal of noncitizens, including family units, via commercial airlines and chartered flights in support of ICE field offices and other DHS initiatives.

In fiscal year 2022, ICE said its Enforcement and Removal Operations conducted 72,177 removals to more than 150 countries worldwide.

*cont’d from pg 16*  
to it.

Guyana said it had taken “careful note” of the issuance by the National Electoral Council of Venezuela of five questions to be asked in the national referendum.

It said among other questions, all of which are intended to further Venezuela’s “unlawful and unfounded claim to more than two-thirds of Guyana’s national territory, question five is the most pernicious.

Guyana instituted proceedings

against Venezuela by Application to the ICJ on March 29, 2018, asking the Court to resolve the controversy that has arisen as a result of Venezuela’s contention, formally asserted for the first time in 1962, that the 1899 Arbitral Award Regarding the Boundary between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela is “null and void”.

Georgetown said it remains firmly of the view that the Arbitral Award of 1899 is valid and is committed to a path of final and peaceful settlement

and will continue to adhere to the rule of International Law and the procedures of the ICJ.

But in its latest statement, Caracas reiterated that it had no faith in the ICJ.

“Venezuela’s historical position for several decades has been that the International Court of Justice will never reach an equitable solution, as contemplated in the 1966 Geneva Agreement, which makes it the only valid instrument to achieve a solution,” according to a translated version of Venezuela’s statement.

## Lilie James: Murder at elite school horrifies Australia

By Tiffanie Turnbull

On Thursday, as Australia woke to the news a body had been found inside the bathroom of an elite Sydney private school, horror rippled around the country.

Police had turned up at St Andrew's Cathedral School just before midnight, after a chilling triple-zero call.

There they encountered a "confronting scene" - 21-year-old water polo coach Lilie James, dead, with extensive head injuries.

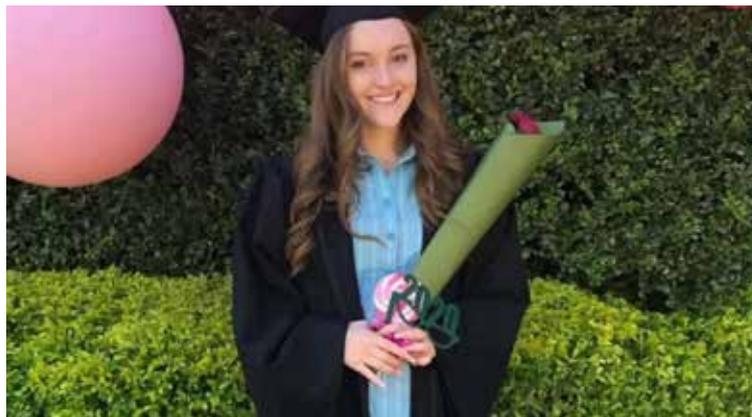
Detectives believe she was murdered - allegedly with a hammer - hours earlier, according to local media who have cited anonymous sources.

CCTV had reportedly captured her colleague, 24-year-old hockey coach Paul Thijssen, entering the bathroom after her. Thijssen, who also made the call to authorities, later emerged alone.

Though police have made no public comments about a potential motive, local media have reported Ms James had recently ended a relationship with Thijssen. They had been seeing each other for only five weeks.

Thijssen had vanished after calling in the tip-off from Vaucluse, and police launched a major manhunt focussed on the cliffside suburb.

There they found items "associated with the homicide" - allegedly the murder



*Lilie James's death has sparked conversations about women's safety.*

weapon - in a bin, and on Friday morning, a body which was later confirmed to be Thijssen.

As friends and family reckoned with the death of Ms James, they remembered her as kind friend and an avid sportswoman.

Along with water polo, she loved dancing and swimming, doing both competitively as a teenager. And she had been studying a sports business degree at university, working at the school on the side.

"She was vibrant, outgoing, and very much loved by her family and friends," Ms James's family said in a statement.

"We are devastated and heartbroken."

Ms James was "stolen from us", family friend Daniel Makovec wrote in a fundraising appeal for the family.

"We will be grieving this loss forever," he said.

In a note to parents, the head of St Andrew's Cathedral School said she was

deeply concerned for all involved.

"The horrors of evil do not, and will not, define our community, that is my oath," Julie McGonigle said.

Mr Thijssen, a Dutch national, was a former sports captain at the school before he became a staff member.

New South Wales Premier Chris Minns too sent his condolences to Ms James's family, describing her death as a "horrible, horrible crime".

"[It is] one of the worst that I've seen in my public life, and I can only imagine what [the] family is going through right now," he said.

The case has reignited conversation about how Australia has long struggled to move the needle on what is often called an "epidemic" of domestic violence in the country.

Ms James is the 41st Australian woman this year to die allegedly as a result of gendered violence, according to the Counting Dead Women

project.

In the past 10 days alone, three women - South Australian Krystal Marshall, an unnamed Canberra woman and Ms James - have all allegedly been killed by men they knew. All were inside their own homes or workplace.

Gendered violence reform campaigner Tarang Chawla - whose sister was murdered by her partner in 2015 - said Ms James's death is a "tragic reminder of the dark, insidious reality of men's violence against women".

"I look at the photos of Lilie and I remember my own 23-year-old sister Niki and how I felt after she was murdered," he wrote on Instagram.

"Lilie, I'm sorry we failed you."

And while the nation grieves, urgent questions are again being asked about how to keep women safe.

Australia has had a National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children since 2010, but the statistics show the rates of violence remain stubbornly high.

A new 10-year plan was introduced last year - this time with actionable targets. It places emphasis on early intervention, improving police and justice responses, creating more emergency housing and increasing the trauma support available to

*cont'd on pg 19*

## Hurricane Otis: Mexico troops tackle looting in devastated Acapulco

Some 17,000 soldiers and police have been deployed in the Mexican resort city of Acapulco, where there has been widespread looting since a powerful hurricane hit the region.

Videos show people taking food and water from shops, while others walk away with expensive electronic items and clothes from shopping centres.

Thirty-nine people are now known to have died in Hurricane Otis.

Hundreds of thousands of people remain without power and water. Otis made landfall on the Pacific coast on Wednesday, with winds reaching 165mph (266 km/h). It had intensified from a tropical storm into a category five hurricane - the most severe category - in just 12 hours.

Acapulco was among the areas worst hit in Mexico, with 80% of the resort's hotels damaged and streets flooded.

The death toll rose to 39



Officials believe the damage could be estimated at billions of dollars.

on Saturday - 29 men and 10 women, the government said, while at least 10 are missing.

Videos have been uploaded to social media showing looting in hard-hit neighbourhoods as food and water supplies run increasingly low.

The main road linking Acapulco to the rest of the country has only now been reopened, allowing the delivery of essential goods to the city.

In the Renacimiento neighbourhood, residents

have been left angered by the lack of aid.

"The government hasn't given us any help, not even hope," Apolonio Maldonado told Reuters news agency, lifting his feet from the water to show deep red cuts on his shins.

"They haven't left any food, or even mattresses or cots."

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has promised to help rebuild the city, but has accused his political

rivals of exaggerating the extent of the looting to discredit his government before next year's presidential election.

"They circle like vultures, they don't care about people's pain, they want to hurt us, for there to have been lots of deaths," he said in a video uploaded to social media.

Officials say Otis was the most powerful storm to ever hit Mexico's Pacific coast, leaving a trail of devastation estimated at billions of dollars.

*cont'd from pg 18*  
victim survivors.

But CEO of Full Stop Australia, Karen Bevan, says it is concerning "cultural attitudes towards gender equality and violence against women" that underpin Australia's domestic violence scourge.

According to a recent survey, while more than 90% of Australians recognise violence against women is a problem in the country, just under half say it is a problem in their own suburb or town.

The same study also found around

four in 10 Australians wrongly believe men and women are equally likely to commit domestic violence.

Ms Bevan says that addressing "myths and misconceptions" of how and why violence against women occurs and greater "community understanding" is key.

NSW Minister for Domestic Violence Prevention, Jodie Harrison, has also appealed for the community to better call out "inappropriate behaviour" in the wake of Ms James's death.

"That's really the start of a lack of

safety for women and children," she told Guardian Australia.

"It's up to every single one of us. Government can fund programs but unless individuals take responsibility for themselves, that government funding will be wasted."

But advocates say more funding and measures to track progress are also needed.

"For all the violence elsewhere that we condemn, Australia has a problem that we urgently need to fix," Mr Chawla said.

**OCT  
31ST  
2023**

START TIME  
**7PM**

**ARG**  
ANTIGUA  
RECREATION  
GROUND



ANTIGUA  
BARBUDA

ANTIGUA-BARBUDA  
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**EMBRACING THE LEGACY, SHAPING THE FUTURE**

## Willock and Jeremiah claim draughts' titles



Masters Division champion Bernard 'King Premier' Willock

Bernard "King Premier" Willock and Amakusa Jeremiah won the masters and seniors division titles in the Spectacular Prime Minister National Independence Draughts Tournament, which was played at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre.

Willock played unbeaten to secure the Masters' Division title. Anthony "Tony" Gomes captured second place, while Marvin "Bruce" Gray claimed third place.

Jeremiah captured the Seniors' Division title ahead of Stevenson "Smoothdee" Vital, who finished in second place, while Jack Matthew claimed third place.

The competition was sponsored by the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Honourable Gaston Browne; the Cool and Smooth Store; and No-velle Martin.



Seniors Division champion Amakusa Jeremiah

## Three teams tie at the top of business basketball league

Reigning playoff champions, Richie's Shooterz, and the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board won their latest matches to join Sandals in a three-team tie at the top of the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League.

All three teams are now leading the competition with identical records of nine wins and two losses.

Richie's Shooterz fired their way to a comfortable

79-48 victory against reigning league champions Eye Mobile Vision Care at the JSC Sports Complex.

Lincoln Weekes produced a game-high 29 points, Darnell Azille sank 17 points, Nickon McGregor scored 13 points, and Kwame Brathwaite chipped in with 10 points for Richie's Shooterz.

Davique Osborne converted 11 points for Eye Mobile Vision Care, which slipped to their seventh loss in 11 games.

The Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board snatched a narrow 65-63 victory against Sandals.

Marlon "Buju" Charles shot a game-high 18 points, Lindsay McDonald scored 13 points, and Russell Daley chipped in with 11 points for the Transport Board.

Kim Casey produced 16 points, while Keroi Lee and Adissa "Ras I" Harris each had 14 points for the Sandals.

H. Wright Promotions

recorded their fourth win in 10 encounters by surging to a 62-51 victory against the Board of Education.

Adrian Carnegie converted 24 points, Humroy Wright sank 11 points, and Sharife Sergeant and Shaquille Kelly each scored 10 points for H. Wright Promotions.

David Hernandez produced 20 points, and Xavier Meade chipped in with 10 points for the Board of Education, which suffered their fifth loss in 11 games.



ANTIGUA  
AND  
BARBUDA

Antigua Barbuda  
FESTIVALS  
COMMISSION

**OCT  
31ST  
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**PASTOR NATHANIEL BASSEY**

EMBRACING THE LEGACY , SHAPING THE FUTURE

## ABBA names 17-member squad to contest Montserrat Invitational Tournament

The Executive of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association (ABBA), in conjunction with senior national team head coach George Hughes and his coaching staff, have announced a 17-member training squad to contest an invitational tournament in Montserrat in December.

A release from ABBA said the squad is, however, subject to change for the upcoming invitational tournament, which is being hosted by the Montserrat Amateur Basketball Association (MABA) from December 11-15.

The squad includes Adonis Humphreys, Jevonte Valerie, Cohen Desouza, Keroi Lee, Kwame Brathwaite, and Selassie Brathwaite.

Also selected are Donte Trimmingham, Kenya Achom, Kareem Ed-

wards, Javonte Daley, Najee George, and Anthony Greer.

The rest of the players selected in the squad are T-Shawn Lewis, Steven Matthew, Ezekiel Francois, Lincoln Weekes, and Jahmarie Hastings.

All the selected players are asked to attend a meeting with Coach Hughes at the office at the JSC Sports Complex today, Monday, October 30, at 7:30 pm.

Meanwhile, the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association has expressed its condolences to the family and friends of former national player Wayne “Doc” Harris, who passed away on Wednesday, October 25.

An ABBA media release states, “Losing ‘Doc’ is a true shock as the basketball community is still trying to deal with the loss of Tekel Gomes.



Steven Matthew of Spanish Heat is one of the players selected in a national 17-member squad to contest the Montserrat Invitational Tournament in December. (File photo)

“Doc’ was not only a great player that paved the way for many, but a great mentor to many of the household names we have come to love so much locally in basketball.

“He always gave back when he could, which was evident with his role as a PE teacher then sports coach, the occupation he held before his untimely passing.”

The release adds that Harris had an illustrious basketball career both locally and for the national team, leading teams like the Heads and the Bulldogs for many years.

It states, “His contribution did not go unrecognized as the ABBA Division One Most Valuable Player award was renamed in his honour some years ago.

“Harris continued his love for the sport long after retiring from competition in his roles as a PE teacher and then basketball coach within the Ministry of Sports, where he touched and shaped the lives of many. It was a position he held up until the time of his death.”

President of ABBA Michael Free-land said, “We will forever miss him. True legends never die.”



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## Secondary schools football league to resume on Tuesday

Action in the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League will resume with matches in the Under-20 Boys Division on Tuesday, October 31.

Two matches will be played in both the east and west zones at 3 pm. Irene B. Williams Secondary will meet Pares Secondary at Parham, and St. Joseph's Academy will take on Clare Hall Secondary at Clare Hall in the East Zone.

The Antigua State College will oppose Ottos Comprehensive School at the Golden Grove playing field, and the Antigua Grammar School will clash with the Jennings Secondary School at the Princess Margaret School playing field in the West Zone.

In the latest round of matches, All Saints Secondary prevailed 1-0 against defending champions, the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE), in a match-up of last year's Under-20 Boys Division finalists.

Devonta Byrne scored the lone goal of the match in the 41st minute of the male Under 20 East Zone encounter at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.



Nashawn Gunthropes scored twice as All Saints Secondary and Irene B. Williams Secondary also recorded wins in the Under-16 Boys Division at the Swetes playing field.

Gunthropes had conversions in the 33rd and 52nd minutes to lead All Saints Secondary to a 5-0 drubbing of Jennings Secondary.

The other goals were scored by Jaden Joseph in the 25th minute, Kymani Francis in the 35th minute, and Denison Hodge in the 45th minute.

Goals by Najae Morton in the first minute and Kadame Tonge in the 25th minute gave Irene B. Williams Sec-

ondary a 2-0 win against Glanvilles Secondary School.

However, an unprepared Princess Margaret School playing field forced the postponement of two of the other three games in the latest round of Under-16 Boys Division matches.

The affected matches were Sir Novelle Richards Academy versus St. Anthony's Secondary School and Princess Margaret School versus Antigua Grammar School.

Another encounter between Clare Hall Secondary School and Ottos Comprehensive School was also not played on the Clare Hall playing field.

## Treasury and ECAB stay unbeaten in business volleyball league

Treasury and the Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) have maintained their unbeaten start in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABA-VA) Business League competition.

Both teams recorded their third wins in as many

games during the latest round of matches at the indoor volleyball facility at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Treasury snatched a 2-1 victory against the Sandals. They prevailed 27-25, 21-25, and 15-9 to inflict the first defeat on the Sandals, which had won their first

two encounters.

ECAB cruised to a comfortable straight-set win against MEDSO Fusion, prevailing 25-19, 25-17. It was MEDSO Fusion's third loss in as many games.

Defending champions APUA INET suffered their first loss in two games into their title defense, losing

2-1 against ICONS.

ICONS won for the second time in three outings by prevailing 25-17, 11-25, and 15-13.

Nate's Photography recorded their second win in three outings by prevailing 27-25, 25-10 against 77 Bus, which lost for the third time in as many encounters.

## West Indies Women 'A' win series in Pakistan

A half-century from Djenaba Joseph and career-best bowling figures from Jahzara Claxton proved instrumental in the West Indies Women "A" team's three-wicket win over Pakistan that ensured a 2-1 victory in their three-match one-day international series on Sunday.

Chasing a target of 163 for victory after Pakistan Women "A" team were bowled out for 162 in 44.2 overs, West Indies Women "A" team scored 164 for seven in 44.5 overs at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore, Pakistan.

Batting first, Pakistan Women "A" team succumbed to the wily spin of Claxton, who snared four for 19, an outstanding return for a player relatively new to the game.

Sidra led all scorers for Pakistan with 27 with contributions of 23, 22 and 21 from Anohsa Nasir, Shawaal Zu-



The West Indies Women 'A' team celebrate after winning the three-match one-day series against host Pakistan Women 'A' team at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore, Pakistan, on Sunday, October 29, 2023. (CWI Media)

Ifiqar and Eyman Fatima, respectively.

Zaida James, who took two for 25, and Sheneta Grimmond, who claimed

two for 40, were also key players in the West Indies Women "A" team's bowling effort.

Joseph's 51 laid the foundation for the West Indies Women "A" team's chase, even though the Caribbean women lost wickets regularly, as Rameen Shamim with four for 13 and Saima Malik with two for 38 produced yeoman efforts in their bid to secure victory for the hosts.

However, key knocks of 37 from Shunelle Sawh and 24 from Shabika Gajabi help steer the West Indies Women towards the series-clinching victory. Cherry Ann Fraser's 18 runs also proved crucial for the tourists.

Claxton took the man of the match award, while captain Williams captured the player of the series award.



West Indies Women 'A' team captain Rashada Williams, left, accepts the series trophy from a Pakistani official at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore, Pakistan, on Sunday, October 29, 2023.