



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

# POINTVILLE EXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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## 47-YEAR-OLD IS THE COUNTRY'S LATEST ROAD FATALITY



# Local News



## 47-year-old is the country's latest road fatality

Dale Willock of Seaview Farm is the country's latest road fatality. The 47-year-old died Monday afternoon two days after he was involved in a traffic collision on the Sir Sydney Walling's Highway.

Police reports indicate that on Saturday, a driver of a white Honda Fit motor car, A67300 was travelling from West to East on Sir Sydney Walling Highway at what has been reported as a very high speed. It was further reported that he then proceeded to overtake another vehicle, and in the process collided with the vehicle driven by Willock.

The impact forced Willock's car off the road to the Southern side, where it came to a stop. The EMS arrived on the scene and transported both drivers to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center. Willock was pronounced dead on Monday at 2:35 pm.

The identity of the other driver or his condition were not immediately available.

The police express condolences to his family.



Dale Willock

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## Cabinet approves the purchase of heavy-duty equipment

The Ministry of Works has received the greenlight from the Cabinet to undertake a drive to purchase a set of heavy-duty equipment as the government gets ready to scale up the road construction and rehabilitation programme.

Making the announcement, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said the equipment purchase will cover the range of heavy-duty equipment that the Works Ministry needs urgently to undertake the road programme.

The move is aimed at

ensuring that the Ministry of Works is fully equipped to undertake the road programme and not to depend almost exclusively on private heavy-duty equipment owners.

“We are buying a whole slew of equipment; everything that the Ministry of Works wants it will be equipped with them. So, you’re going to see improvements in the construction of community roads over time. We have made some progress with the main roads, most have been fixed, but



Prime Minister Gaston Browne we know that the All Saints Road is one of those needing repairs and this will be done shortly,” he started.

The prime minister also announced that the National Solid Waste Management Authority will also be acquiring its own set of garbage trucks to make for a more efficient garbage collection system in the country.

“We ordered several garbage trucks, three of which are expected to arrive in the country within a matter of weeks and our plan is to purchase ten such garbage trucks. This is not because we want to displace pri-

vate garbage truck owners but here you have some of these guys who are paid perhaps every other week and are presenting bills totaling \$10-\$15 million dollars and are threatening to withhold their services unless the bills are paid down. If that is the case, then Solid Waste must acquire its own garbage trucks,” he declared.

PM Browne noted that one benefit from Solid Waste owning its own equipment will be a more reliable garbage collection system with garbage being collected twice weekly rather than once weekly as is the current system.

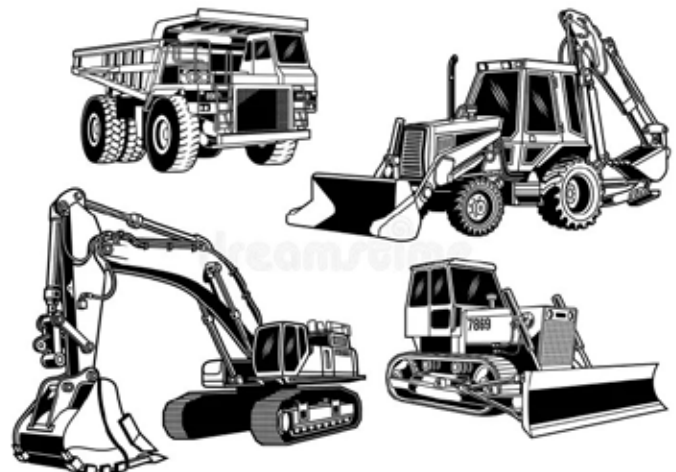
**AT&LU'S SOCIAL NIGHT**  
LABOUR DAY EDITION

**New Date**  
**FRIDAY 3RD, MAY 2024**

**6:00 PM - 12:00 AM**  
**46 NORTH STREET**

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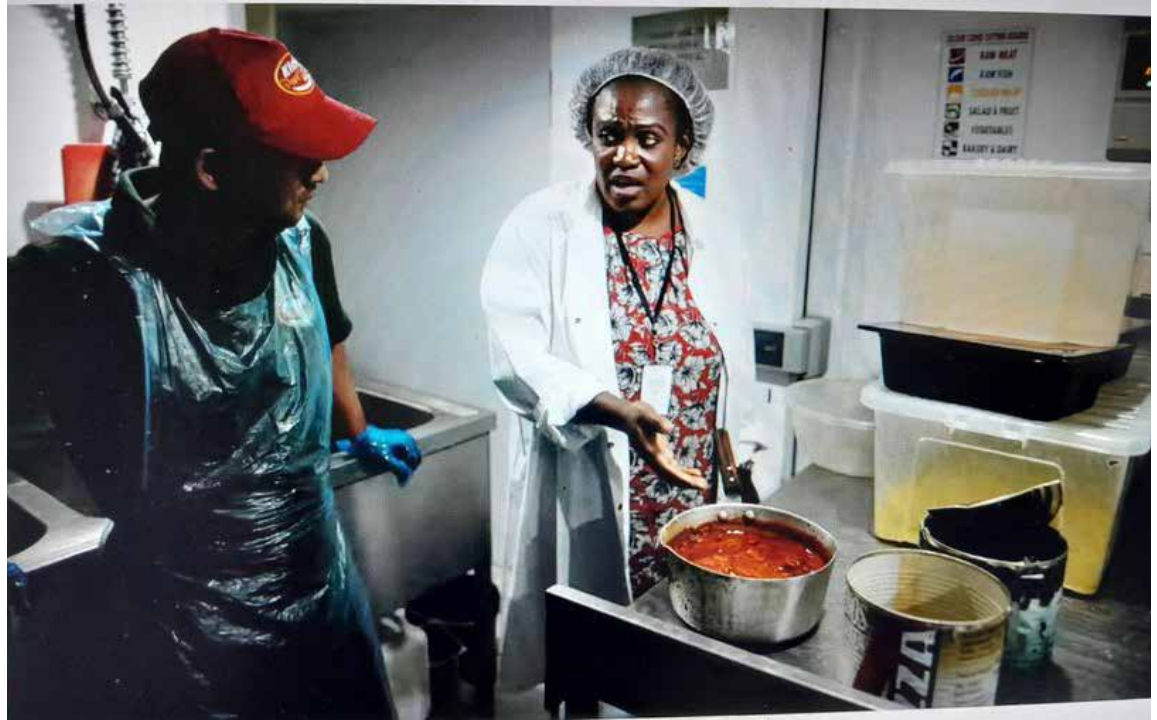


## CBH intensifies inspection of food vendors ahead of major holidays

The Central Board of Health is intensifying its 'rapid inspections' of food vendors scattered across St. John's city.

Over the last weekend, both on Friday night and again on Saturday night, staff from the Public Health Department conducted several rapid inspections in St. John's City. Focus was placed on the possession of a food handlers ID, the presence of a hand washing station, and time and temperature abuse of food. There were many food safety infractions which led to the discontinuation of food for sale to the public.

"On Friday 26th April, a total of seventeen (17) vendors were inspected, ten (10) vendors were instructed to cease the preparation and



CBH inspector carrying out inspection of food preparation

sale of food, seven (7) vendors were operating without a hand washing station, while ten (10) vendors were without a valid food safety badge. Six (6) vendors held

food at incorrect temperature, and food items were seized and disposed of from one (1) vendor," according to a media statement from the CBH.

The exercise was repeated on Saturday, where a total of seven (7) vendors were inspected, four (4) vendors were instructed to cease the preparation and sale of food, three (3) vendors were operating without a hand washing station, while five (5) vendors were without a valid food safety badge. Two (2) vendors held food at incorrect temperature, and food items were seized and disposed of from two (2) vendor.

A meeting was scheduled Monday at the Central Board of Health office, with the owner of the businesses

who were instructed to cease the preparation of food.

The Central Board of Health is appealing to food vendors to obtain a valid food safety badge, and to be in compliant with the recommendations given in order to resume the preparation and sale of food.

In addition, the homes and businesses must be inspected before reopening. There will be a special food safety training on Wednesday 1st May, for those businesses who were instructed to cease the preparation of food for public consumption.

Food Vendors must register no later than Tuesday 30th April, at the Central Board of Health office on Upper Church Street for the food safety training.

### COMMUNITY NOTICE

The St. Andrew District Committee will be having their annual Labour Day Fundraiser on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 in front the church – Fort Road starting from 11a.m. On the menu ...Shad, Shark, Ling fish, Fungi, Ducanna, Seasoned rice, Saltfish cakes with chop up etc....also Local drinks. Turn down your pots and come and support their efforts.

### SAVE THE DATE

**The St. John's Cathedral Parish Caribbean Food fair**  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May (the last Saturday in the Monday) 2-7p.m. Deaner Grounds. Bring the whole family. Sit, relax, mingle, enjoy food from the stalls Antigua Barbuda, Barbados, Cuba, Dominca, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago. Tickets only \$25 and you can call 462-0820 or 729-8399 to get yours. Proceeds in aid of the continued restoration of the St John's Cathedral.



# Labour DAY

**MAY 6TH 2024**

**FORT JAMES**

**12:30 PM BEACH PICNIC**

**2:00 PM ENTERTAINMENT**

CLAUDETTE PETERS | TIAN WINTER | MENACE XL | ZAMONI  
DRASTIC | KAUTION BAND | NEW GEN BAND | SUPA D  
SAMMI C | PEETRON | G'EVE | ISLAND PRINCE  
DJ JIME | MAD RAS

## PM Browne joins CP and talented group of musicians to produce song for SIDS4

Antiguan talent and voices, including that of the iconic Claudette 'CP' Peters, are beautifully blended on a song that was specially created and produced for the 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States, SIDS4.

The song, One Family, was commissioned at the request of Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne, whose interest in getting it produced went as far as him penning several lines in the lyrics, underscoring the significance of the message and the overall importance of the conference to Antigua and Barbuda and all SIDS.

Besides Peters, adding their voices to the collaborative work, are the reigning calypso monarch of Antigua and Barbuda Young Destroyer, former Junior Soca Monarch Island Prince, Naycha Kid, Drastic, Ge'Eve as well as steel

pan virtuoso Aubrey 'Lacu' Samuel.

One Family, was written and produced by accomplished Antiguan and Barbudan musician, Gavin Christopher. Also included in the writing credits are Communications Lead for the SIDS4 Conference, Andy Liburd. Christopher teamed up with fellow writer and producer Dalton Dyer in the mixing and mastering of the song. Executive Producer on the entire production is Cultural

Ambassador at Large Lisa Makhoul. The conference is bringing the global community to Antigua and Barbuda for a once in a decade event where a renewed effort will be pursued in addressing the unique challenges being faced by Small Island Developing States.

One Family seeks to resonate with the overarching theme of the conference, Charting a Course Toward Resil-




Claudette 'CP' Peters

ient Prosperity, as it recognises the fate of all SIDS and their survival without the urgent support and required partnerships from the international community to address the existential threats they face.

It is a clarion call to action for our global family to seize upon this single opportunity to leverage their resources and collaborate meaningfully on solutions to their unique challenges such as the issues of the burdensome debt and the real and present dangers of climate change.

"It is truly heartening and inspiring to see our musical talents collaborate on this venture which not only brings exposure to the incredible talents that abound within our shores but clearly shows their abiding interest in our future survival. It is only together that we can achieve a sustainable future for all. I am indeed grateful for their support and contribution," Prime Minister Browne stated.

Prime Minister Browne expressed hope that all radio stations will make the effort to include the song in their rotations as a visible and conscious show of support of the artists and to help bring attention to the importance of the conference.



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f i t



# Labour Queen 2024

"Salute: The Best Is Yet To Come"



**Venue: ABLP Headquarters**

**Date: May 4th, 2024 | Time: 8PM | ADM: \$45**



Tickets are available at Bridge Gas Station or ABLP Headquarters on either Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 6PM



## PMS scores big at Secondary Schools Drama Festival's "Academy Awards"

The Princess Margaret School dominated the annual Secondary School's Theatre Festival's prize-giving ceremony, fashioned after the Academy Awards held in Hollywood.

The event took place at the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute on Sunday evening with attendees dressed for the occasion; ladies in stylish ankle length dresses and the young men in suits for the awards show, seen as Antigua and Barbuda's version of the Academy Awards.

The annual Secondary School Theatre Festival saw schools competing in two categories; dance and drama. The Princess Margaret School dominated in both categories.

In the drama segment, the PMS won five of the sixteen categories outright and shared the prize for the sixth. PMS play, *Anybody's baby* won for best directing alongside the Ottos Comprehensive School's entry *One-eyed God*, an adaptation of a play writ-



ten by Trinidadian playwright, Anderson Labarie. *Anybody's baby* was written by the school's principal, Dr. Colin Greene. He said the drama programme at PMS has been doing quite well and he noted that the drama programme taking place in schools across the country had its genesis at the PMS.

In the Dance Category, PMS won

four of the eight segments in which prizes were handed out.

The following is the complete list of winners;

**Dance categories:**

Most Promising Male - Mr. Marsa Farrel (ASS)

Most Promising Female - Ms. Cimyra Dover (SNRA)

Outstanding Duet - Ms. Ronique Dharangit & Nikeena Dickenson (PMS)

Outstanding Improvisation- Ms. Cimyra Dover (SNRA)

Outstanding Costume- Princess Margaret School

Outstanding Solo- Ms. Aneea Linzy

Outstanding Group Dance- Princess Margaret School

Outstanding Choreography- Princess Margaret School

**Drama Categories:**

Most Promising Actress- Ms. Nao-

*cont'd on pg 10*

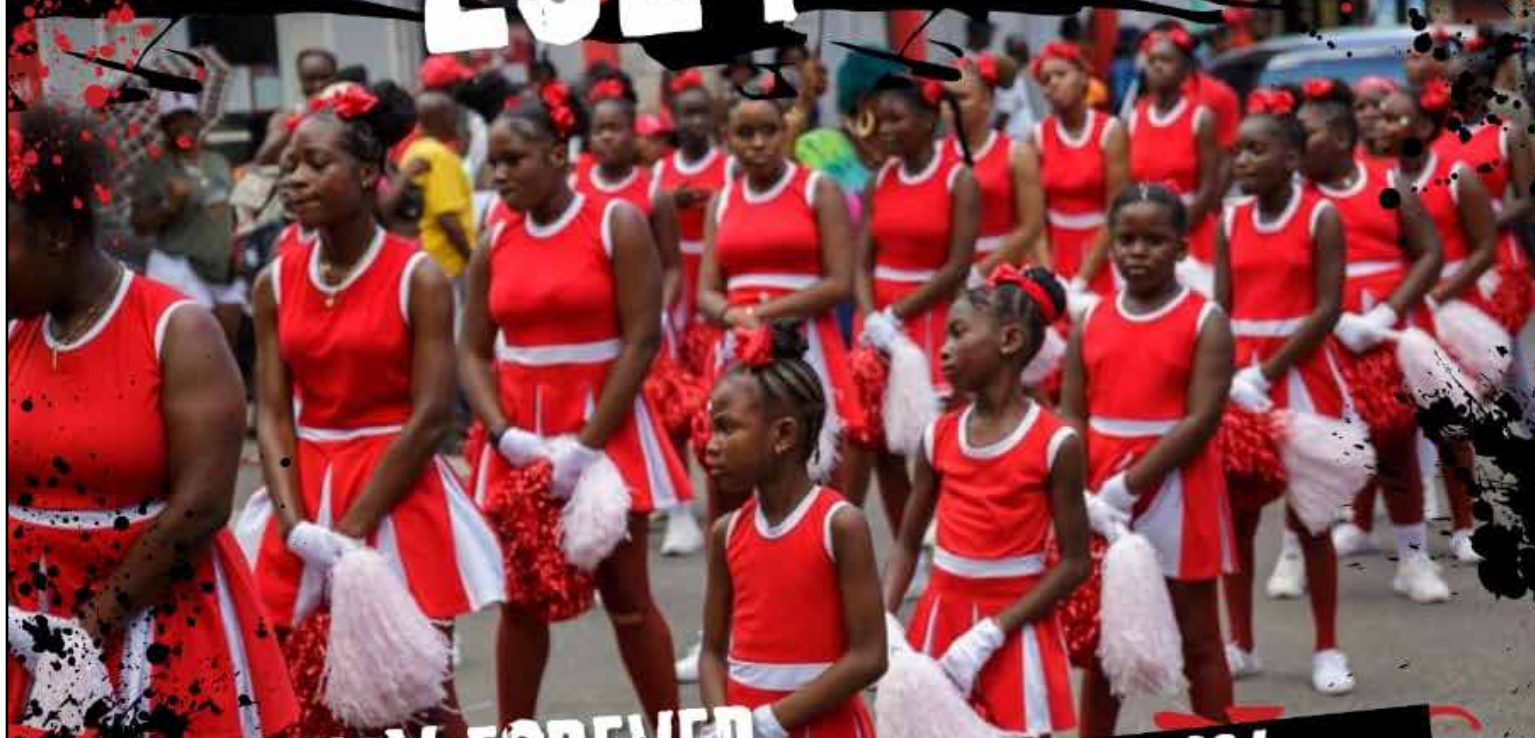






# LABOUR DAY 2024

V.C. BIRD BUST



**SOLIDARITY FOREVER  
AT&LU & ABLP**

**6 MAY 2024**  
STARTS 9.00 AM  
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MARCHING THROUGH THE STREETS OF  
ST JOHN'S, THEN FORWARD ONTO THE  
HISTORIC FORT JAMES FOR OUR LABOUR  
DAY PICNIC & CONCERT.



## Joy-Marie King named among Changemakers for 2024

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs's Director of International Trade and Focal Point for the Sustainable Development Goals, Joy-Marie King, has been singled out for her outstanding work by the World Intellectual Property Rights Organisation.

King's recognition was done as part of the commemoration of World Intellectual Property Day, last Friday. She was among several Changemakers from around the world who were recognized by the World Intellectual Property Rights Organisation.

"This Changemaker gallery features innovators, creators, entrepreneurs and IP practitioners who are using IP rights to accelerate the innovation and creativity we need to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and build our common future," a statement from the Antigua and Barbuda Intellectual Property Office noted.

King's recognition comes considering her exemplary work undertaken thus far in relation to Anti-

gua and Barbuda's implementation of the SDGs.

The honour for King, is also recognition for Antigua and Barbuda through the Antigua and Barbuda Intellectual Property Office.

On the gallery available on <https://www.wipo.int/>, a brief synopsis of King's area of work and SDG's related achievements are presented in addition to photos highlighting various aspects of her work.

King stated, "The coordination for the accelerated implementation of the SDG's is one of my major duties. Intellectual property possesses the potential to turbo charge their delivery within the context of it being half time on Agenda 2030.

"This potential involves IP being a major enabler towards the accelerated implementation of the SDGs within its policy framework to drive innovation, competitiveness, and creativity. All of which are required to achieve the goals. IP therefore allows for the maxim-



Joy-Marie King

zation of the synergistic relations between the goals."

In light of her recognition, King expressed her delight and honour and indicates it's a testament of the hard work she has undertaken and the invaluable

guidance given Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P. Chet Greene, Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Anthony Liverpool, other members of staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and her family.

### cont'd from pg 8

mi McDonald (JSS)

Most Promising Actor: Mr. Pete Charles

Best Improvisation Male: Mr. Rafique Edwards (JSS)

Best Improvisation Female: Ms. Lasahuna Andrew's (SNRA)

Best Actress: Ms. Daniella Desuza (PMS)

Best Actor: Mr. Najah Monford

(OCS)

Best Improvisation School: Princess Margaret School

Best Ensemble Performance: Princess Margaret School

Best Set Design: Princess Margaret School

Best Lighting: Princess Margaret School

Best Sound Effects: Clarehall Secondary School

Best Costume: Ottos Comprehensive School

Best Stage Management: Jennings Secondary School

Best Original Script: Jennings Secondary School

Best Teenage Script: Clarehall Secondary School

Best Directing: Princess Margaret School & Ottos Comprehensive School

ON AIR

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**6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**How Important is the  
Expansion of the Port**

**Hosts**

**Michael Freeland and Senator Rawdon Turner  
talk to Port CEO Darwin Telemaque.**



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Blue Ivy performed alongside her mother on Beyoncé's Renaissance tour.

## Blue Ivy Carter joins mum Beyoncé in Lion King prequel

By Emma Saunders

Beyoncé and Jay-Z's daughter Blue Ivy Carter has joined the voice cast of *The Lion King* prequel *Mufasa: The Lion King*.

Blue Ivy, 12, voices Kiara, daughter of King Simba and Queen Nala, played by her mother.

Beyoncé is reprising the role from Jon Favreau's 2019 photorealistic remake of the animated 1994 original.

The new film, directed by Moonlight filmmaker Barry Jenkins, will explore Mufasa's origin story and his childhood with brother Scar.

Like the 2019 movie, it will also combine live-action filmmaking techniques with photoreal computer-generated imagery.

Jenkins told US breakfast show *Good Morning America* that Blue Ivy was «professional», while Beyoncé

was a «mum first» on set.

“They just approached it that they both wanted to perform and do the best they could. And yet, they didn't have to pretend very much because they really are mother and daughter.”

The first teaser trailer for the film also aired on the programme.

A voiceover says Mufasa was born “without a drop of nobility in his blood” but “would change our lives forever”.

Aaron Pierre and Kelvin Harrison Jr will voice the younger versions of Mufasa and Scar, respectively in the new movie.

The 2019 *Lion King* film, featured the voices of Donald Glover as Simba, Beyoncé as Nala and Chiwetel Ejiofor as Scar.

Glover will reprise his role in Jenkins's prequel. The cast also includes

Mads Mikkelsen and Thandiwe Newton, with Seth Rogan and Billy Eichner also returning.

The movie will feature original songs by Hamilton creator Lin-Manuel Miranda, who has also penned songs for films including *Mary Poppins Returns* and *Encanto*.

While this is Blue Ivy's debut film role, she has performed previously as a dancer on her mum's live tour.

Blue Ivy is the eldest daughter of Beyoncé and Jay-Z. The couple also share twins Rumi and Sir, six.

Her casting will no doubt relight the debate about so-called nepo babies.

The term refers to suggestions of nepotism when a young person follows in their famous parents' footsteps.

*Mufasa: The Lion King* is due to be released in the UK in December this year.

# Tesla shares jump after reports of China deal

By Mitchell Labiak

Tesla's shares have jumped after reports the firm has cleared an important regulatory hurdle in China by partnering with search giant Baidu.

The reports come after chief executive Elon Musk made a surprise visit to meet the country's number two leader, Premier Li Qiang.

The deal with Baidu brings Mr Musk a step closer to rolling out Tesla's self-driving technology in China.

Wedbush analyst Daniel Ives said it was "a watershed moment". Tesla has been contacted for comment. Baidu declined to comment.

Mr Ives said the company faces "massive domestic electric vehicle competition in China along with softer demand", but that its "long-term valuation story" depends on it also getting approval for fully autonomous driving.

The agreement with Baidu that is being reported would allow Tesla to go ahead with some autonomous driving technology in China.

Baidu's mapping and navigation services would aid Tesla's self-driving technology, including assisted parking, but full autonomous technology would still require further approval.

Tesla is one of the



Elon Musk

world's largest electric car manufacturers, and China is its second biggest market, but it has yet to launch autonomous driving there as it has in other countries, such as the US.

Mr Musk strongly believes that autonomous driving is the future.

"If somebody doesn't believe Tesla is going to solve autonomy, I think they should not be an investor," he has previously said.

However, even in the US, autonomous cars face challenges and further regu-

latory hurdles.

Tesla's autopilot allows drivers to hand control to the vehicle's AI, but it still needs constant human oversight.

Despite this precaution, misuse of the technology has been fatal.

Last Friday, the US auto regulator opened a probe into the «adequacy» of a software update Tesla made to try to fix problems with its autopilot feature.

The agency said "foreseeable driver misuse of the system played an apparent

role" in at least 13 Tesla crashes, including at least one death, and many more involving serious injuries.

In December, a former Tesla employee told the BBC he did not believe the technology powering the firm's self-driving vehicles was safe enough to be used on public roads.

Tesla's share price jumped almost 12% as markets opened in the US on Monday and means the stock has recovered some of the value it has lost since the

*cont'd on pg 14*

# Regional News



## Dr. Keith Mitchell raises concerns over government's parliamentary tactics

CMC - Grenada's Opposition Leader Dr Keith Mitchell has accused government of purposefully debating and passing the gun amnesty resolution while he was unavoidably absent.

Speaking to the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) on the sidelines of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Cricket Conference on Thursday – the same day the gun amnesty resolution was passed in the lower house, Mitchell said he believes the government deliberately schedules important sittings of the House of Representatives to clash with his personal appointments.

“It seems like, it appears that they do everything possible to ensure that whenever I am scheduled to an activity outside of the country, or having to do something that I can't avoid that they schedule a meeting,” the former prime minister said.



Opposition Leader Dr Keith Mitchell.

He cited a previous occasion when a meeting of the Finance Committee of the parliament, of which he is a member, was held on the day that he had to attend a court outside of Grenada, despite his request to have the meeting rescheduled.

“It was well known that I had a court date that I had to meet, because it was announced publicly. They scheduled the Finance

Committee on the date of my court date. So one could interpret whatever they want from this.

“And we then ask through our representative to adjust it, the prime minister said he is not adjusting. So they went ahead without me, who would have added the level of experience in my years as Minister of Finance and of course prime minister for 23 years.”

Speaking about the passage of Thursday's resolution in his absence, Mitchell said “certainly a gun legislation amnesty something like this, you would want someone in my experience and certainly it would be useful for them; and for the country for my presence. You may still pass the bill because you have the majority, but certainly you will give yourself and the country an opportunity to hear from someone like myself with all the years of experience.”

Mitchell was also disappointed that he was absent for the passage of the Communication Bill through all its stages.

He said however, the members of the opposition met prior to Thursday's sitting and agreed on areas they will focus on to bring attention to the opposition's concerns regarding the bill.

### *cont'd from pg 13*

start of the year, with the price down over a quarter since January.

The Chinese approval — which hasn't been officially confirmed by Tesla or Baidu but was reported by AP, Reuters, Bloomberg, the Financial Times, and others — comes after Mr Musk flew to China on the weekend to meet with senior officials.

State media quoted Mr Musk as saying Tesla wanted co-operation with the country to “achieve more win-win results”.

Part of the reason analysts believe the firm needs approval in China is because its

financial performance has weakened.

In its results last Tuesday, it recorded \$21.3bn (£17bn) in sales for the first three months of this year.

This was a drop from the \$23.3bn recorded in the first three months of 2023 and lower than analysts' predictions of just over \$22bn.

It pinned its falling sales on “additional competitors” and “changes in government and economic incentives” for electric vehicles.

US revenue decreased from \$11.2bn to \$9.76bn, while Chinese sales fared better, falling from \$4.89bn to \$4.59bn.



Grand Turk - Turks and Caicos Islands (Photo credit: iStock/mikolajm)

## Turks and Caicos assures visitors it remains a welcoming place

The Turks and Caicos Islands is assuring visitors that its destination remains a welcoming and safe haven for travellers seeking an unforgettable escape.

The assurance comes following concerns over the recent charges against US nationals for possession of ammunition offences.

The government confirmed last week that four US nationals have been charged for possession of ammunition offences against the Firearms Ordinance (as amended).

Despite this, the Turks and Caicos Islands wants all visitors to know that the destination is still a welcoming place.

Minister of Tourism, Josephine Connolly said: "We want to reassure

our valued visitors that the safety and well-being of each guest are paramount to us. The Turks and Caicos Islands remain steadfast in our commitment to providing a safe and relaxing getaway experience. We are dedicated to preserving the charm of our destination while upholding the highest standards of safety and hospitality. Our visitors can rest assured that they are in good hands, and we look forward to welcoming them with open arms."

To ensure visitors get the best out of their experience in the Turks and Caicos Islands, Experience Turks and Caicos, the Destination Management and Marketing Organisation of the destination, is reminding all travellers that the Turks and Caicos Islands is a British Overseas Territory with a common law legal sys-

tem and the TCI is guided by these laws.

Travellers are strongly advised to search their luggage before they travel to the Turks and Caicos Islands to ensure they do not inadvertently bring in forbidden items.

It was noted the Turks and Caicos Islands reserve the right to enforce its legislation and all visitors must follow the law enforcement procedures.

With record-breaking arrivals predicted through August, the Turks and Caicos Islands reaffirmed its status as a premier destination for discerning travellers seeking barefoot luxury and tranquillity.

It added that with a vigilant focus on security, travellers can enjoy their time in the Turks and Caicos Islands with peace of mind.



## Kenya flooding: Around 50 killed in villages near Mai Mahiu town

About 50 people have died in Kenya in a deluge following heavy rains and flooding, a Red Cross official has said.

People in villages near Mai Mahiu, about 60km (37 miles) from the capital, Nairobi, were swept away as they slept.

Rescue efforts are continuing to pull people out of the mud, with fears that the death toll could rise.

More than 100 people have been killed in floods that have devastated parts of Kenya in the last month.

A wide brown scar of mud, uprooted trees and crushed houses slices through the area of Mai Mahiu.

A roaring sound woke people up in the early hours of Monday as a tide of water crashed down from upriver.

Residents spoke of a night of frantic efforts to pull people out of the raging flood and dig them out of the mud.

Deden Muiri, 60, said he heard the roar and saw lightning flash. But before he had time to think he was up to

his neck in water.

He saw the flood take his wife and was swept in the opposite direction.

Convinced he was going to die, Mr Muiri said a quiet goodbye to his family.

Miraculously though, he was able to grab a tree branch and clung to life by hanging on.

One of his daughters knows how to swim, he said, and was able to rescue two of his grandchildren.

When we arrived many people were out surveying the damage, walking along the gauged out riverbank, poking through the debris, trying to come to grips with the catastrophe.

Peter Munyinge's house survived but the rest of his neighbourhood did not.

"There are little babies in the water, older people...people are screaming, people are crying, losing their lives and their loved ones," he said.

The Kenya Red Cross has joined search and rescue operations, with its

emergency response manager, Anthony Muchiri, telling the BBC that the death toll has risen to 50.

"This is the worst I've ever come across in my career," he said, adding that not only were people's homes swept away, but also their foundations.

Of the bodies recovered so far, 17 were of children, police commander Stephen Kirui said, cited by Reuters news agency.

The sudden wave of floodwater was initially attributed to a nearby burst dam by local officials.

However, the Kenyan ministry of water, sanitation and irrigation said on Monday evening that the incident occurred as a result of a tunnel - which channels the River Tongi under a railway line - becoming blocked with "debris, stones, trees and soil" during the recent downpours.

This prevented water flowing through it to move downstream, leading to a pool of water suddenly sweep-

*cont'd on pg 17*



## Three police officers shot dead, five wounded in North Carolina home siege

By Max Matza

Three law enforcement officers have been fatally shot and five others were wounded while serving a warrant in Charlotte, North Carolina, officials say.

At least one suspected attacker was found dead in the front yard of a barricaded home after a standoff that lasted three hours, police said.

Authorities said two shooters were involved in the attack.

The injured officers were part of a US Marshals Service-led task force.

They were attempting to serve a warrant for a felon wanted for possessing a firearm when gunfire erupted on the suburban street.

The officers returned fire at an assailant in the front yard, then more shots were fired at them from inside the home, Char-



lotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Johnny Jennings told a news conference.

Shots were still ringing out more than two hours after the attack began on Monday in a residential area in the east of the city.

Residents were asked to shelter in place and nearby streets were closed to facilitate ambulance rescues. Several nearby schools were placed on lockdown during the siege.

On X, formerly Twitter, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Police Department asked people to “steer clear of the area”.

“Residents stay inside of your homes,” they said. “Multiple victims transported to nearby hospitals.”

According to local network WSOC-TV, one US Marshal is among the dead law enforcement officers.

The attack ended when police stormed the home on Galway Drive.

Two other people who were inside the home with a suspect were being ques-

tioned, said police.

Witness Tyler Wilson told CBS News he was working at home when he heard police shout for the suspect to come out of the house.

“After that, it was just chaos,” he said. “There was shots ringing left and right.

“We had Swat, and US Marshals set up snipers in our bedrooms. There was an officer [that] got dragged by his arms through our house.”

“It’s been pretty crazy,” he continued. “It was about 30 minutes where it was a straight shootout.”

Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles said in a statement she was “deeply saddened by the shooting that occurred that involved Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers and US Marshals today”.

“I ask that all Charlotteans keep them, the other injured officers, and their families in your thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult time,” she added.

*cont’d from pg 16*

ing over the railway line, the ministry said in a statement.

“The area has no dam and the only dam upstream in a different tributary is the Matches Dam which is in good condition and stable,” it added.

The small villages of Kamuchiri and Kianugu were among those that bore the brunt of the disaster.

Peter Muhoho said that most of his neighbours were swept away in Kianugu, a village with about 18 homes.

“I was asleep when I heard a loud bang and screams. Water had flooded the area. We started rescuing people,” Mr Muhoho told the BBC.

Pointing to a bag he was holding, Mr Muhoho added: “This bag belongs to a child I knew. He was washed away. I found it [the bag] downstream.”

The government has delayed the opening of schools across Kenya with more rain expected, according to forecasters.

More than 130,000 people have been displaced by the floods, with many people taking shelter in schools.

Heavy rains have also pounded neighbouring Tanzania and Burundi.

At least 155 people have been killed in Tanzania since January.

In Burundi, nearly 100,000 people have been displaced.

The number of casualties is unclear.



Da Squad 2 female volleyball team. (Photo courtesy ABAVA)

## Wins for Chargers Eagles and Da Squad 2 in female development volleyball league

TOA Media and MKUU Tours Chargers Eagles, and Da Squad 2 recorded wins in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Female Division 2 Development League on Sunday.

The Chargers Eagles claimed their fourth win in five games with a 3-1 victory against the Royal Cruisers 2 in the second match of a double header at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

The Chargers Eagles soared to victory in an hour and 40 minutes, prevailing 16-25, 25-23, 25-21, and 25-15 against the Royal Cruisers, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

Da Squad 2 secured their second win in four games by pulling off a 3-1 victory against the Dynasty Queens in the opening game of Sunday's Female Division 2 double header.

Da Squad 2 won 25-16, 25-7, 23-25, and 25-8 in an hour and 22 minutes as the Dynasty Queens suffered their third loss in four games.

Print Xpress Renegades claimed their fifth win in eight games in the Men's Division 1 league by snatching a 3-2 victory against High Flyerz 1.

The Renegades took an hour and 58 minutes to prevail 20-25, 25-13, 25-19, 22-25, and 15-7 against the High Flyerz 1, who lost for the fourth time in seven games.

The Jets recorded their second win in five games with a hard-fought 3-1 victory against the Royal Cruisers in the Women's Division 1 league.

The Jets needed two hours and 13 minutes to prevail 25-22, 25-23, 22-25, and 28-26 against the Royal Cruisers, who suffered their fifth loss in as many games to remain in the cel-

lar.

Reigning champions Caribbean Alliance Insurance (CAI) Da Squad also extended their unbeaten run in the Female Division 1 League.

Da Squad secured their fifth win in as many games with a 3-0 straight-set victory over Starz 1 in a top-of-the-table clash.

Da Squad prevailed 25-20, 25-29, and 25-8 in one hour and 19 minutes against Starz 1, who suffered their first defeat in five encounters.

The Top Ranking Storming Lions claimed their sixth win in eight games with a 3-0 straight-set victory against the High Flyerz 2 Phoenix in the Men's Division 1 league.

The Storming Lions prevailed 25-14, 25-21, and 25-12 against the High Flyerz 2 Phoenix, who suffered their fifth loss in eight encounters.

## Potters Steelers advance to semi-finals in ABBA's Division 1 playoffs

The third-seed Potters Steelers have advanced to the semi-finals of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) First Division playoff championships.

The Steelers booked their spot in the semis after wrapping up their best-of-three first-round series 2-0 against the sixth-seed New Generation All Saints Slam on Sunday night.

The Potters Steelers, who won the opening game 85-63, wrapped up the series by coasting to an 81-74 victory in Game 2 in the second game of a double header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Marlon "Buju" Charles produced 22 points, 13 rebounds, seven steals, and five assists; and Russell Daley had 17 points, six rebounds, and five assists for the Steelers.

In support, Humroy Wright sank 13 points, Iornie Joseph converted 10 points and grabbed 18 rebounds, and Adrian Carnegie scored 10 points for the Steelers.

John Rolland Jr. converted 14 points and claimed nine rebounds; Keady Martin produced 12 points and nine assists; Kim Casey had 11 points and seven assists; and Sergio Symister scored nine points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the All Saints Slam.



The Potters Steelers basketball team

The Potters Steelers will take on the second-seeded Northside Stingerz in the semi-finals. Both teams will clash in Game 1 of the best-of-three series at the JSC Sports Complex on May 2 at 6:45 pm.

But the fourth-seeded Spanish Heat won Game 2 to level their best-of-three first-round series against the fifth-seeded Kennedy's Club Ottos Full Throttle.

The Spanish Heat pushed the series to a deciding Game 3 by prevailing 61-58 in Game 2 in the first game of Sunday's double header.

Steven Matthew Produced a game-high 23 points, seven assists, six steals, and five rebounds, and Damian Floyd converted 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Spanish Heat.

N'Kenge Drew sank 16 points and grabbed 13 rebounds; Akeem Davis produced 15 points, seven steals, and seven rebounds; and Warren Bogle and Shaquille Kelly each chipped in with nine points for the Ottos Full Throttle. The Spanish Heat and the Ottos Full Throttle will clash in the deciding Game 3 at the JSC Sports Complex today.

# Sports News



## Francis Jr. takes up stint with Eastbourne Cricket Club in England

PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks all-rounder Elroy Francis Jr. left the island on Monday to take up a six-month stint with the Eastbourne Cricket Club in Sussex, England.

Francis, who is the physical education teacher at Sea View Farm Primary School, has traveled to England as part of the Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom Cricket Exchange Programme.

Eastbourne Cricket Club competes in the Sussex Cricket League in England.

The Minister of Sports, Honourable Daryll Mat-

thew, extended his best wishes to Francis on the exchange programme, urging him to seize the opportunity.

Minister Matthew also expressed excitement about Francis' cricket skills progressing and his eventual return to share his knowledge with fellow young cricketers in Antigua and Barbuda.

Francis is an attacking right-handed batsman and off-spin bowler.

He captained the Pigotts Crushers for several years before joining the Liberta Blackhawks during the current Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) domestic season.



Minister of Sports Daryll Matthew, right, congratulates Elroy Francis Jr. on his selection as part of the Antigua and Barbuda and United Kingdom Cricket Exchange Programme. (Photo courtesy Ministry of Sports)

## All Saints United keep pressure on Grenades

All Saints United kept alive their hopes of snatching the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League title from the grasp of cup-holders Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades on Sunday. Second-placed All Saints United moved within two points of Jennings Grenades at the top of the Premier League by claiming a 5-2 victory against Swetes in the last game of a triple header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Malcolm Stewart scored twice with goals in the 5th and 75th minutes, Tiquan Isaac had a 33rd-minute conversion, Kenduka Challenger scored in the 84th minute, and D'Andre Bishop scored the last goal for All Saints United in the fourth minute of added time.

Karique Knight had a 54th-minute conversion, and Shafeeq Joseph

scored in the 81st minute for Swetes, who remain second from the bottom of the standings and in the relegation zone with 11 points after suffering their 12th defeat in 17 matches.

Their 15th win in 17 matches carries All Saints United to 46 points, two adrift of leaders and defending champions Jennings Grenades.

The Grenades can retain the Premier League title by beating the Ottos Rangers in the final match of the season on Sunday. That game will be preceded by All Saints United's final match of the season against the Garden Stars.

Pigotts Bullets finished their Premier Division League campaign with a one-nil win against Garden Stars in the opening game of last Sunday's triple header.

Following a goalless first half, Isaac Hughes scored the late winner in

the 85th minute to snatch victory for the Bullets. Both teams finished the match with 10 men after a player on each side was expelled due to receiving red cards.

Garden Stars' Tyrai Francis received a red card in the 12th minute for denying a goal or obvious goal-scoring opportunity, and the Bullets' Javian Linton was sent off in the 87th minute for violent conduct.

The Pigotts Bullets finished their quota of 18 matches with 26 points, and the Garden Stars will remain in seventh place with 25 points after suffering their sixth defeat in 17 matches.

The Greenbay Hoppers also wrapped up their Premier League campaign with a 4-4 draw with Old Road in Sunday's second encounter.

Javorn Stevens converted two penalty kicks in the 37th and 87th minutes, *cont'd on pg 21*

## Blackhawks continue to dominate Super40 Cup

Cup-holders the PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks have continued to dominate the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Super40 Cup as they became the first team to book their spot in the semi-finals.

The Blackhawks confirmed their berth in the semis as they extended their unbeaten run by recording their seventh win in eight matches with a 150-run victory against the All Saints Pythons at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

Captain Karima Gore and Michael Greaves both hit unbeaten centuries as the Blackhawks amassed 303 for two off 38 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat.

The pair shared an unbroken third-wicket partnership of 212 runs, as Gore finished undefeated on 111 off 68 balls, including four sixes and 10 fours.

Greaves hit 102 not out off 99 balls, including seven fours and two sixes. Joshua James, who opened the innings, cracked a run-a-ball 36, and his opening partner

Kofi James struck 34 off 29 balls.

Gore then grabbed three for 13, and Chamiqueko Landerfort captured three for 36 as the All Saints Pythons were dismissed for 153 in 29.5 overs. Opener Michael Marcellin got 34.

The Pigotts Crushers beat the New Winthorpes Lions by 79 runs in New Winthorpes. Demari Benta and Essan Warner both hit half centuries as the Pigotts Crushers made 224 in 37.1 overs after being sent in to bat.

Demari Benta slammed 60 off 58 balls, and Warner struck 52 off 66 balls. Orandel Boston bagged four for 27, captain and fast bowler Nino Henry took three for 46, and Ishmael Peters captured three for 55.

In reply, the New Winthorpes Lions were dismissed for 145 in 34.3 overs. Ian Eusebe hit 37, and captain Kadeem Henry snapped up three for 21.

The WES Rising Sun Spartans snatched a two-wicket win against Combined Schools at Rising Sun in St. John's.



Karima Gore

The Combined Schools were dismissed for 126 in 34.3 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat. Captain George Elvin top scored with 37, and Owen Graham snapped up four for 15.

Melvin Charles struck 42 off 46 balls as the Rising Sun achieved victory at 128 for eight in 19.4 overs. Left-arm pacer Yanique Watley captured three for 13.

The Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles crushed the Bolans Blasters by 83 runs in Bethesda.

The Golden Eagles were dismissed for 188 in 35.2 overs after winning the toss

and batting. Kelvin Pitman slammed 63 off 66 balls, including seven fours and three sixes. Captain and fast bowler Taiem Tonge captured three for 34.

In reply, the Bolans Blasters were dismissed for 105 in 26.4 overs. Showni-sha Hector top-scored with 33. Mekali Tonge and Taryari Tonge each picked up three wickets for 21 runs.

Empire Nation snatched a 15-run victory against the Jennings Tigers in Jennings. Empire won the toss and batted, scoring 125 in 27.2 overs. Justin Athanaze hit an unbeaten 36 off 40 balls.

Samuel Peters took three for 15, and Morton Browne and left-arm spinner Glenton Williams each captured three for 30.

The Jennings Tigers were then dismissed for 110 in 30.5 overs. Emmanuel Lawrence struck a run-a-ball 32.

### *cont'd from pg 20*

Da Paul George scored in the 20th minute, and Yasney Torres had a 69th-minute conversion for the Greenbay Hoppers.

Rodney Lawrence and Stefan Smith each converted twice for Old Road. Lawrence had conversions in the 15th and 48th minutes, and Smith scored in the 22nd and 46th minutes.

Old Road also finished the match with 10 men after Carlos Molina was given a red card in the 86th minute for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.

The Greenbay Hoppers finished their campaign in fifth place with 29 points from their quota of 18 matches. Old Road will remain in third place after advancing to 35 points from 17 matches.

## T20 World Cup ticket offices to open on Thursday

Fans in the Caribbean will be able to buy tickets for the 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup directly from box offices from Thursday, May 2, and confirm their attendance at the biggest cricket carnival spectacle ever.

To celebrate 30 days to go to the start of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup and the launch of the official anthem, box offices will open their doors on Thursday until the end of the event across the six host locations in the West Indies.

### Box office locations:

Antigua and Barbuda:  
Antigua Recreation Ground

Barbados: Kensington Oval

Guyana: Guyana Cricket Board Office

Saint Lucia: Daren Sammy Cricket Ground

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: Commercial Centre

Trinidad and Tobago: Queen's Park Oval and National Cricket Centre

### Opening hours:

Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago: Monday to Friday: 10:30 am - 6:00 pm and Saturdays: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.



Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Monday to Friday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm and Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Box offices will be closed on Sundays. Fans across the West Indies will be able to purchase tickets for all Caribbean match fixtures.

Tickets for 39 of the World Cup's 55 matches, which are to be hosted in the West Indies, will be available with prices starting from as low as US\$6 for selected matches.

Fans can choose from the following ticket categories: Premium, Standard Plus, Standard, Grounds and

Mounds, and Party stand.

Fans will be able to pay with cash in their local currency or with their credit card at box offices. Tickets are also available online on the tournament's official ticketing website, [tickets.t20worldcup.com](https://tickets.t20worldcup.com).

Leading up to the opening of the box offices, ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Tournament Director Fawwaz Baksh said: "With just over 30 days to the start of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, the opening of the ticket box offices in the West Indies from May 2 will mark a pivotal moment in our journey to delivering an out of this world experience for

all fans.

"The opening of box offices also underscores our commitment to ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for all West Indians, who are passionate followers of the game. Their presence in the stadiums will energise players, entertain fans and viewers, and show the world a cricketing spectacle which can only be experienced in the Caribbean."

Venue, hospitality, and party stand packages for ICC Men's T20 World Cup are also available for matches in the West Indies and USA and are available at [tickets.t20worldcup.com](https://tickets.t20worldcup.com).