

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION CLARIFIES 'MIS-UNDERSTANDING'

Story on Page 2



Medalists from the recently-held CARIFTA Games, and their coaches with acting Prime Minister Sir Steadroy Benjamin, centre, and Sports Minister Daryll Matthew. The athletes and coaches addressed the Cabinet on Wednesday.

## Ministry of Education clarifies ‘mis-understanding’

There will be no closure of the school system in Antigua and Barbud during the upcoming Fourth Conference of Small Island Development States (SIDS4) at any point during the May 27-30 event.

The clarification comes from the Director of Education, Clare Browne in response to suggestions in some quarters that suggested that schools will be closed during the 4-day event. Nothing is further than the truth where that is concerned, according to Director Browne.

In a public statement,

the director said the entire country will be impacted in some way by the hosting of such a large event, and not to be ‘caught flatfooted’ the ministry decided to take proactive action to ensure that the impact on the education system will be minimal.

He said the first day of the conference, Monday May 27, the opening ceremony starts at 9:00 am and school buses will be used to transport delegates to and from the conference. With this in mind, the ministry has decided to return to remote teaching – for that day

only – but the education system will return to normal on the other three days, May 28-30. The school buses, he emphasized, are not under the direct control of the Ministry of Education. Rather, they fall under the aegis of the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, a division of the Ministry of Works.

The Director of Education said the confusion over what will happen to the education system during the SIDS4 conference seems to have had its genesis in a mis-understanding of a memo that he sent to principals of both public and private schools.

The conference is taking place during the time of the year that students sit Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) exams and even that will not be affected by the hosting of the conference here in Antigua and Barbuda.

“I am told by the Examinations Office that there are three exams on the opening day, May 27; Electronic Document Preparation Management (EDPM) in the morning with a total of 36 students down to sit that exam. These are private students so there is no need for students to be making their way into St. John’s to write that exam on the morning of May 27. In the afternoon (beginning at 1 o’clock)



Clare Browne

are Mechanical Engineering (65 students) across five schools, and Food and Nutrition with 241 students from across all schools,” he revealed.

Unusually, the director noted, the school buses do not provide transportation for students sitting afternoon exams as students would make their way to their respective schools for that purpose.

“I am ‘a little’ taken aback and I am very confused why persons would be asking if the school system would be closed for the duration of the conference. I am also told that there are all kinds of things being stated in some online news portals indicating otherwise so I needed to clarify this matter as my memo was addressed to all principals. Everyone should be aware that there will be school during the SIDS4 conference albeit that on Day 1, schools will be conducted online using the various platforms,” he re-emphasised.

## FREE WEEKEND HPV TESTING

**DOING YOUR HPV TEST PROTECTS YOU FROM CERVICAL CANCER!**

WHO CAN GET TESTED

- Women ages 30–65yrs
- Never done an HPV test
- Never done surgery to remove the uterus

*It doesnt matter if you have done your pap smear, you still qualify!*

BOLANS CLINIC

Date: Saturday, May 4, 2024  
Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm

VILLA POLYCLINIC

Date: Sunday, May 5, 2024  
Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

MOS MEDICAL

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024  
Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

WANT TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?

Click here and complete form.

EMAIL US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
hpvtestingab@gmail.com

Doing your HPV test may just save your life

## Date for re-opening of Cancer Centre still unclear

There is still no clear timeline for when the Cancer Centre will reopen its doors.

The refurbished facility was anticipated to be operational in the first quarter of this year, according to Cabinet notes issued in January.

Despite major developments in the sale of the complex, the new owners - Dr Joseph John and associates could not provide a fixed date as they continue to make efforts to get the medical facility operational.

The government has been in talks with an investment team led by Dr Joseph John over the sale of the Cancer Centre with the hope of reopening the facility within



the next few months.

According to the Cabinet notes, discussions are underway for the sale of the old machines, some of which may need to be repaired.

Once negotiations are completed, Cabinet Spokesperson Lionel 'Max' Hurst shared his optimism that these negotiations can be

concluded in short order.

Hurst's optimism was echoed earlier this week by the President of the Breast Friends group Dr Euletta Bird who went a step further in petitioning to the Health Minister to do whatever he can in speeding up the opening of the centre to reduce the financial burden on cancer

patients.

Originally established in June 2012 to serve cancer patients across the OECS, the Cancer Centre Eastern Caribbean provided radiotherapy for both private patients and those covered by the Medical Benefits Scheme. The Cancer Centre was closed due to financial problems and its reopening has been hindered by disagreement over its value.

The government's valuator gave it a price tag of between 6 and 9 million EC dollars – significantly lower than the majority shareholder's demand of 40 million.

The government acquired the centre last December by compulsory acquisition.

# TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

# 2 DAYS WAYS SAVE

**\$16.99**

- 2 pcs
- Biscuit
- Drink



**\$19.99**

- Zinger / CCB
- Drink



\*limitations apply\*



# Local News



## Nine contestants vie for coveted 2024 Labour Queen title

The annual Antigua Trade and Labour Union/Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party Labour Queen show takes place on Saturday May 4 at the 'Home of Labour' the People's Place on Nugent Avenue.

The contestants will make appearances for judging in the following categories; interview, speech, swim-wear, talent and evening wear.

The nine delegates and the constituencies they represent are;

- St. John's Rural East - Shermain Eustache
- St. Paul - Deneka Dublin
- St. John's City South – Shanakay McDonald
- St. Paul - Kenesha James
- St. John's City West - Nevaeh Greene
- St. George - Nechel James
- St. John's City West - Dominique Trotman
- All Saints West - Aliyah Wayne
- St. John's Rural West - Eddenya Aska

The contestants have been engaged in an intense series of practice sessions over the past several weeks which ramped up to daily practices during this week.

The venue for the show has already been prepared with the stage and lights already in place.

The Labour Queen show has been a feature of the annual Labour Week activities organized jointly by the AT&LU and the ABLP.



## Taste of Wadadli Pastry Chef Competition finalists revealed

The culinary scene of Antigua and Barbuda is once again abuzz with excitement as the esteemed Taste of Wadadli Pastry Chef competition, presented by the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association in collaboration with The Ministry of Tourism, enters its climactic stages.

This gastronomic pursuit owes its development to the exceptional partnership between the ABHTA and industry luminaries including Jesse Thomas, Director of Agri-Tourism in the Ministry of Tourism, Chef Olvanah



Richardson Burnette, Executive Sous Chef at Blue Waters Resort & Spa, Chef Maurine Bowers, Executive Pastry Chef at Curtain Bluff Antigua and ACF Certified Executive Pastry Chef, and Cleo Henry, Accredited Hospitality Trainer, and Consultant. Their collective expertise has been instrumental in shaping the success of culinary initiatives undertaken over the past year.

Over the preceding three weeks, the ABHTA and the panel of Chef Judges embarked on a quest to unearth the island's premier Pastry Chef. In the preliminary round, each Chef was tasked with presenting a dish incorporating local fruits and tubers. The

judges visited the competing properties, evaluating the Chefs on a set criteria including Caribbean identity and utilization of local ingredients, taste, texture, flavor, balance, Creativity, presentation, organization, and time management.

The preliminary round saw the following Chefs competing:

Kimone Stewart, Chef de Partie at Pineapple Beach Club

Tameka Hamilton, Chef de Partie at Blue Waters Resort & Spa

Vivia Ingram, Chef de Partie at Jumby Bay Island

Britanya McLaren, Pastry Cook at Hermitage Bay

Johnisha Hixson, Pastry Cook at Royalton Antigua

Sophy Federick, Pastry Cook at Galley Bay Resort and Spa

Tehrica Benta, Chef Tutor at The Antigua & Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute

The stakes are particularly high for the Pastry Chefs as they vie for a coveted spot on Team Antigua and Barbuda, with the opportunity to represent the nation at Taste of the Caribbean in Miami later this year. As per the guidelines outlined by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association, the team



*cont'd on pg 8*

# Local News



## Christian Hill resident is the country's latest centenarian

Beatrice Thomas was born on May 5th, 1924 however, her documents from the Official Records named 3rd May, 1924 and so from childhood she has always celebrated on 3rd and 5th May. Beatrice was born at Christian Hill to Adelaide Smith and Theophilus Thomas who were both from the same community.

In her early years she washed, ironed, cooked, sewed and worked for the Blanchards and Mamora Bay which is now called St. James where she enjoyed working. She loved doing pastries and learned valuable skills from her parents.

She is very collective and lives with her two (2) children Foster Payne



Beatrice Thomas and Lucinda Payne. Beatrice is the grandmother of seven (7). She is also

known as a hard-working individual, she is kind, loving and a people person who is loved by her community.

Beatrice is a Methodist and enjoys going to church on Sundays where she would sing and worship God.

Some of her favourite songs are Blessed Assurance and The Lord is my Shepherd while her favourite passage of scripture is; let the word of my mouth. One of her favorite sayings is; I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. She also believes in Jesus and that he died for us and will come again.

Her favorite foods are Fungi, Chop up, Fish & Pepperpot.

Pink is her favourite colour.

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

# EV AND OFF-ROAD SUV

Formerly SsangYong

**CONTACT US:**

AL MILS  
764-2011

CLIFTON PHILLIP  
724-1787

ICILMA CHASTANET  
464-3303

**Ace Enterprises Ltd.**

\*Model shown with optional accessories.



# LABOUR DAY 2024

V.C. BIRD BUST



**SOLIDARITY FOREVER  
AT&LU & ABLP**

**6 MAY 2024**  
STARTS 9.00 AM  
MARKET STREET ST. JOHN'S, ANTIUGA

MARCHING THROUGH THE STREETS OF  
ST JOHN'S, THEN FORWARD ONTO THE  
HISTORIC FORT JAMES FOR OUR LABOUR  
DAY PICNIC & CONCERT.



# Local News



## More than 100 persons participated in 'Hike for a Cure'

Over one hundred participants supported the CIBC Hike for the Cure last Saturday.

Hike for the Cure is one of a number of events leading up to the annual Walk for the Cure.

Natasha Charles, one of the Walk Managers, said that while the hike up to Rock Peak, Jennings was challenging in parts, due to the narrow trails, it was lots of fun and the view was spectacular.

"We are happy that so many persons supported this Hike. The AS Bryden staff, which always participates in our Walk for the Cure, was also out in their numbers to support our Hike. We thank everyone for their encour-

agement. We have planned a number of events leading up to this year's Walk for the Cure," she said.

Ms. Charles noted that the aim this year is to break last year's record of \$90,000.

"Last February, we made our largest donation to date of \$90,000 to the Breast Friends Organisation and the SLBMC's Oncology Department, which were funds raised from the 2023 Walk for the Cure. This year we hope and intend to break that record. We can only do so with the support of our sponsors and the public," she added.

The next fundraising event will be Jam for the Cure T-Shirt Mas with



Hikers participating in CIBC Caribbean's Hike for the Cure Saturday 27th April, 2024

Xklusive Mas Troupe on Saturday July 27. Registration is now open at the bank on Old Parham Road.

The 13th Annual CIBC Caribbean Walk for the Cure Will be held on 12th October 2024.

### cont'd from pg 5

composition necessitates a Manager, 2 Senior Chefs, 1 Junior Chef, 1 Bartender, and 1 Pastry Chef.

Among those who have already secured their spots are Chef Rodrick Beazer, Chef of the Year 2022 at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards Gala and Executive Sous Chef at Curtain Bluff Antigua, Chef Ronald Wilson, Chef of the Year 2023 at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards Gala and Chef de Cuisine/Head Chef at Blue Waters Resort & Spa, Altino Spencer, Winner of the Taste of Wadadli Mixology Competition 2022/2023, and Azarie Crump, Winner of the Taste of Wadadli Junior Chef Competition 2023.

Chef Maurine Bowers in her presentation to the Competing Chefs remarked that "I had the opportunity to represent Antigua and Barbuda at

Taste of the Caribbean in 2010. I entered the competition feeling apprehensive as competing for the first time against seasoned Chefs was very scary for me.

Nevertheless, I embraced the challenge, driven by the desire to showcase my skills and, more importantly, to represent my country. When entering this competition, focus not on your stature, but on honing your technical skills and believe in your ability to rise to the top".

The final three Chefs who have secured top marks in the competition are:

Tameka Hamilton, Chef de Partie at Blue Waters Resort & Spa

Vivia Ingram, Chef de Partie at Jumby Bay Island

Britanya McLaren, Pastry Cook at Hermitage Bay

These Chefs must now prepare for the grand finale, scheduled to take place at the Antigua & Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute on Saturday, May 11.

They were introduced to the star ingredient that will feature in the dessert they must prepare for the finale – Sweet Potato. During a presentation by Cleo Henry, it was revealed that Antigua boasts forty-two (42) varieties of sweet potatoes. The Chefs have been tasked with selecting one of the three varieties handpicked by the Judges to be the centerpiece of their dish: Beaugard Sweet Potato, Japanese Purple Sweet Potato, and Back-rah Mary Sweet Potato.

With just over a week remaining, the Chefs now have the opportunity to refine and perfect their culinary creations for the finale.



# VACANCY - HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLNESS INSPECTOR

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority is now seeking applications from suitably qualified persons for the position of Health, Safety & Wellness Inspector:

The Health, Safety & Wellness Inspector is a cross-business unit role responsible for maintaining and improving safety in the workplace by identifying and assessing conditions and procedures of work, which could produce accidents and losses. The Inspector will also contribute to developing accident- prevention and loss-control systems & programs and maintaining effective information systems, which identifies hazards and risks along with the steps required to eliminate or control them. The Inspector will further support developing specifications for hazard specific safety devices and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), sourcing and selecting vendors of the required devices and maintaining an appropriate stock of these items.

**Key tasks include, but are not limited to the following:**

- Notifying Management of accidents or incidents involving employees immediately, on receipt of a report.
- Notifying Management of accidents or incidents involving damage to property within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of report.
- Completing preliminary accident/incident investigations within forty-eight (48) hours of the occurrence of an incident/accident involving an employee or property.
- Training employees in the proper use and maintenance of assigned Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Preparing and maintaining records, inclusive of complaints received, observed safety violations and actions taken.
- Instructing the temporary cessation of tasks whenever there are clear indications of imminent danger.
- Preparing monthly reports in a timely manner.

**The ideal candidate should possess the following:**

- Minimum of an Associate's Degree or equivalent in Occupational Health & Safety, Industrial Hygiene, Biology, Chemistry or a related field.
- Diploma/Certification in Occupational Health and Safety or related field.
- A suitable combination of experience and qualification.
- Attention to detail with excellent communication skills.
- Proficiency with MS Office suite of applications.
- Possess a vehicle and valid driver's license.

**Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:**

The Human Resources Manager  
Antigua Public Utilities Authority  
P.O. Box 416  
Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue  
St. Johns, Antigua  
**OR** Email: [hr@apua.ag](mailto:hr@apua.ag)

**Deadline for application is Wednesday 15th May, 2024**

\*\* Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged \*\*  
"APUA is an equal opportunity Employer"



## Examining Newsweek reporting on China's Presence in Antigua and Barbuda

By Sir Ronald Sanders

Is it ever justifiable for journalism to fan the flames of geopolitical tension? This question arises after reading Didi Kirsten Tatlow's recent Newsweek article, which paints a distorted picture of Chinese involvement in Antigua and Barbuda.

The article, published on April 19, 2024, bore the headline: "China Building New Outpost on U.S. Doorstep, Leaked Documents Reveal". The headline alone is enough to raise eyebrows. It suggests a looming geopolitical confrontation, framing China's activities in the Caribbean in starkly ominous tones.

But what does the article actually reveal? The so-called "new outpost on the U.S. doorstep" refers to the Chinese Embassy in Antigua and a Free Trade Zone that is owned not by the Chinese government, but by private Chinese individuals. This latter point alone raises questions about the underlying narrative of the article.

A brief look at Ms. Tatlow's background shows that she spent thirty-nine years in Hong Kong, Beijing, and Taiwan, and she now resides in Germany. Her writings predominantly critique China's politics and international influence.

The sensational nature of her headline is clear. It screams "Leaked Documents Reveal," yet the con-

tent refers to "Chinese-run special economic zone" that turns out to be a private enterprise, not a state-run operation. This is akin to labeling any business operated by a US national overseas as a "US-run" operation—a misleading comparison at best.

By emphasizing the strategic significance of the location of the Free Trade Zone as near an Antigua and Barbuda military base (which it is not) and linking it to the Government of China (which it isn't), the article wrongly attributes actions to China and frames them as potentially militaristic.

Furthermore, it fails to mention that the Free Trade Zone's establishment and operational scope, debated and approved by Antigua and Barbuda's legislature—including opposition representatives—in 2015 and later amended in 2021, was fully transparent and published in the State's Official Gazette

On other aspects of the characterization of China's relationship with Antigua and Barbuda, the Newsweek article is not just evocative but also shapes a narrative which casts China's diplomatic presence in a suspicious, almost nefarious light.

The choice of phrases like "black-clad" to describe a Chinese security guard at the Embassy and referring to the Embassy as a "fortress"



Sir Ronald Sanders

connotes isolation, impregnability, and a military-like presence, which can enhance perceptions of a secretive or defensive operation rather than a normal diplomatic facility. In fact, the Chinese Embassy in Antigua is no more large, guarded or enclosed than the US Embassy in Barbados.

Beyond just emotive language, the article employs selective fact presentation that further skews perception. The mention of the US "shuttering" its Embassy in 1994 and "relocating" to Barbados implies a strategic shift prompted by recent events. However, the US has maintained an Embassy in Barbados since 1966, well before Antigua and Barbuda established diplomatic relations with China in 1983.

The terms used to describe geopolitical spaces, such as turning Antigua from America's "backyard" into

China's "front yard", imply a possessive and competitive dynamic between the US and China, while, in reality, Antigua and Barbuda fiercely safeguards its nationhood and identity.

The article uncritically accepts a claim by an Antiguan opposition politician that Antigua and Barbuda has 'traded its sovereignty,' suggesting a loss of autonomy due to its engagement with China. This portrayal frames the relationship as a surrender rather than a partnership. However, it's important to note that Antigua and Barbuda's loan agreements with China are purely financial and do not impose any political conditions. Additionally, and in fairness, it is noteworthy that the same politician was part of a previous government that entered into agreements with China.

The use of this term, *cont'd on pg 15*

*cont'd from pg 14*

“Listening Post” in describing the activities suspected to be conducted at the Chinese Embassy conjures images of espionage and surveillance, increasing the sense of threat. This choice of language is an attempt to influence the reader’s emotional response to the information, steering perceptions towards seeing China’s involvement in Antigua and Barbuda as ominous or threatening.

Yet, the Article itself discloses that the US Department of Defence agency, SOUTHCOM, which is based in Florida and has responsibility for providing US contingency planning, operations, and security cooperation for Central and South America and the Caribbean, said it had not identified technologies such as satellite “reference stations” at the Chinese Embassy that would equip it as a “listening post”.

Of course, Antigua and Barbuda is not the only country in the Caribbean in which the Government of China and

Chinese businessmen have partnered, nor is it the biggest beneficiary of Chinese loans.

Further, the largest private sector investors in Antigua and Barbuda are US companies and nationals; not Chinese. US nationals also represent the largest number of tourists and residents who are welcome to the country. These are facts not considered in the Newsweek article.

Antigua and Barbuda, has no greater obligation by treaty or agreements to China than to the US, the EU, the UK or anywhere else. And, while its development partnership with China is greatly valued, it also happily enjoys a high level of cooperation with the US on a range of issues that are vital to human rights, the fight against trafficking in persons and drugs, freedom, security and curbing the impact of Climate Change

The Newsweek article itself admits that the US State Department says, “the

US and Antigua and Barbuda maintain strong and historic ties, with ongoing robust cooperation in regional security initiatives aimed at countering firearms trafficking and crime, as well as other efforts in climate and development”.

The two countries also enjoy a high level of collaboration on issues of human rights and political freedom at the United Nations and the Organization of American States, and, at the people-to-people level, a very long, and highly-valued intertwined relationship.

Thus, while journalistic inquiry remains a cornerstone of a free society, it must strive to present a balanced context and respect the sovereignty of the nations involved, thereby fostering a well-informed and discerning public.

*(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda’s Ambassador to the US and the OAS. The views expressed are entirely his own. Responses and previous commentaries: [www.sirronaldsanders.com](http://www.sirronaldsanders.com))*



# Curry House

## ANTIGUA

A whole new dining experience awaits you.

Call us at 562-5724 | Whatsapp 736-7165

# Commentary



## Reparations essay

Below we publish the winning essay of the Antigua State College Journalism Club / Antigua And Barbuda Reparations Support Commission Heritage Essay Competition. The essay topic was *'The CARICOM case for reparatory justice for the crimes of slavery and the genocide of indigenous people: What are the most assuring strategies for the achievement of reparations and why are youth voices important to the movement'*.

The essay was written by Ms. Brianna Henry:

Reparatory justice for the crimes of slavery and the mistreatment of indigenous peoples is an important and pressing issue that must be addressed in order to move towards healing and reconciliation in the Caribbean region. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has been at the forefront of the movement for reparations for slavery and indigenous peoples, advocating for acknowledgment of past wrongs and compensation for the lasting impact of these crimes.

The case for reparatory justice for the crimes of slavery and the genocide of indigenous peoples is rooted in the historical and ongoing injustices that have been inflicted upon the people of the Caribbean. The transatlantic slave trade and the colonization of indigenous lands resulted in immense suffering and exploitation, leading to the decimation of indigenous populations and the enslavement of millions of African people. The legacies of slavery, such as racial discrimination, economic inequality, and social marginalization, continue to affect Caribbean societies today.

CARICOM has been leading the charge for reparations, calling on former colonial powers such as Britain, France, and Spain to acknowledge



Ms. Brianna Henry

their role in perpetuating these injustices and to provide compensation to the descendants of those who suffered under slavery and colonization. The CARICOM Reparations Commission was established in 2013 to coordinate efforts towards reparations and has been working to raise awareness about the issue and engage with international organizations and governments to push for reparatory justice.

There are several key arguments for reparations for the crimes of slavery and indigenous peoples in the Caribbean. One argument is that reparations are necessary to address the lasting economic and social disparities that have been created by centuries of exploitation and discrimination. The transatlantic slave trade and colonization led to the enrichment of European powers at the expense of African and indigenous peoples, and reparations are seen as a way to redress these imbalances and support the development of Caribbean nations.

Another argument for reparations is that they are a form of recognition and acknowledgment of the harm that has been done to Caribbean peoples. Repa-

rations can help to validate the experiences of those who have been affected by slavery and colonization, and provide a sense of closure and justice for those who have suffered.

By acknowledging the past wrongs and providing compensation, reparations can help to heal intergenerational trauma and promote reconciliation within Caribbean societies.

One example of a CARICOM case for reparatory justice for the crimes of slavery and genocide of indigenous peoples is the case of the St. Vincent Indigenous People. The CARICOM Reparations Commission has been advocating for reparations on behalf of the indigenous people of St. Vincent and elsewhere in the region who have suffered significant harm as a result of colonialism and slavery.

They were forcibly removed from their land and subjected to violence and discrimination during colonial times. The CRC argues that their descendants are entitled to reparations in the form of land restitution, financial compensation, and cultural restitution for the injustices they have endured.

This case highlights the ongoing efforts of CARICOM to seek reparations for the crimes of slavery and colonialism, and to address the legacy of these injustices on indigenous peoples in the Caribbean.

In addition to seeking financial compensation, the reparations movement in the Caribbean is also advocating for other forms of reparative justice, such as educational initiatives, cultural preservation, and land restitution. These measures are seen as essential for addressing the broader impact of slavery and colonization on Caribbean societies, and for promoting healing and reconciliation among affected communities.

*cont'd on pg 13*

*cont'd from pg 12*

There are several strategies that can be employed to achieve reparations for the crimes of slavery and genocide of indigenous peoples in the Caribbean. One approach is to continue to raise awareness and build support for the reparations movement through education, advocacy, and grassroots organizing.

By engaging with the public and mobilizing support from civil society organizations and international partners, the reparations movement can pressure governments and international institutions to take action on reparatory justice.

Another strategy for achieving reparations is to build alliances and partnerships with other groups and movements that are working towards social justice and human rights. By collaborating with indigenous rights organizations, anti-racism activists, and other marginalized groups, the reparations movement can leverage collective power and solidarity to push for meaningful change and accountability from those responsible for past injustices.

Youth voices are particularly important in the reparations movement, as young people are the future leaders and change-makers of Caribbean societies.

By engaging with young people and amplifying their voices and perspectives, the reparations movement can ensure that the issues of slavery and indigenous rights are

not forgotten or marginalized but are instead central to the national and regional discourse on justice and reconciliation.

Youth engagement in the reparations movement can take many forms, such as organizing protests and demonstrations, conducting research and advocacy, and participating in dialogue and debate on the issue of reparations.

By involving young people in the movement, the CRC and other organizations can ensure that the voices and concerns of future generations are heard and incorporated into the reparations agenda.

In conclusion, the case for reparatory justice for the crimes of slavery and genocide of indigenous peoples in the Caribbean is a powerful and compelling one that must be addressed in order to move towards healing and reconciliation.

Through the efforts of CARICOM and other organizations, the reparations movement is making progress in advocating for acknowledgment, compensation, and other forms of reparative justice for the victims of past injustices.

By utilizing strategies such as raising awareness, building alliances, and engaging with youth, the reparations movement can continue to push for meaningful change and accountability from those responsible for perpetuating slavery and colonization in the Caribbean.

Through these efforts,

the Caribbean region can work towards a more just and inclusive future, where the legacies of slavery and indigenous mistreatment are acknowledged, addressed, and ultimately overcome.

Inna deh Caribbean, we bun deh fire,

Fi justice and reparation, we neva tired

CARICOM a lead deh way, we seh loud and clear,

Fi deh crimes of slavery, weh demand reparation, mi dear.

From deh 'fraidy hole a history, we a rise,

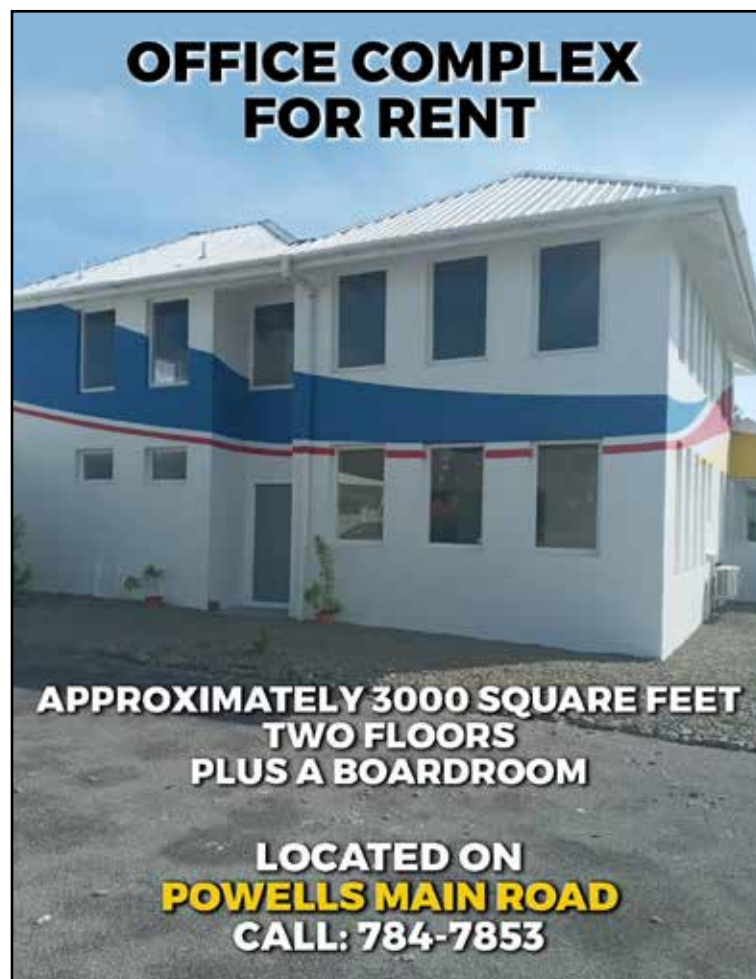
Fi acknowledgment and compensation, we no disguise.

Fi deh indigenous people, we seek justice, mi bredda, Dem suffering and pain, we fi rememba.

Reparatory justice, a beacon inna we sight,  
 Breaking deh chains a oppression, 'til we reach light.  
 Deh youth a rise up, a force fi reckon,  
 Inna deh fight fi justice, dem ready fi step in.

Together we stan',  
 hearts a blaze,  
 Fi a future we all can praise.  
 CARICOM lead deh way,  
 shining bright,  
 Inna deh quest fi justice, weh continue deh fight.

**AND WE LIGHT NAH  
 BUN OUT THROUGH  
 SWEAT BLOOD AND  
 TEARS WE HOLD NUH  
 FORM A FEAR.**



**OFFICE COMPLEX  
 FOR RENT**

**APPROXIMATELY 3000 SQUARE FEET  
 TWO FLOORS  
 PLUS A BOARDROOM**

**LOCATED ON  
 POWELLS MAIN ROAD  
 CALL: 784-7853**

# Message



## Lamin Newton's message of Resolve and Service During the All Saints West Primary Run-off

Dear Fellow Constituents of All Saints West,

I am reaching out to you during this challenging and critical period of the primary run-off process to share my unwavering commitment to serving the people of our constituency and striving for meaningful change within our community.

As we navigate through this lengthy and demanding phase of the electoral process, I want to emphasize my deep-seated desire to bring

about positive transformation and progress for all residents. It is my genuine aspiration to contribute to the betterment of our community and to work tirelessly towards a brighter future for us all.

I acknowledge that many of you are aware of my past as a member and candidate for the opposition. However, through self-reflection and growth, I have come to realize that the ABLP is the better choice for governance in our country.

While I understand that my decision to switch political allegiances may have caused some concerns and uncertainties, I want to assure you that my dedication to this new path is resolute.

Although there may be lingering apprehension regarding my transition, I am fully committed to demonstrating my allegiance through diligent effort and unwavering dedication.

It is true that my political journey began with the

ABLP, and circumstances led me to briefly align with the opposition. I now stand firm in my belief that the ABLP is where I can best serve our constituency and fulfill our shared aspirations for progress and prosperity.

As we move forward through the primary run-off, I will continue to work relentlessly to earn your support and trust. I greatly value the input and feedback of our community, and I am committed to engaging with transparency, integrity, and respect for the will of the people.

I am grateful for your attention and understanding during this pivotal period.

Together, let us strive for a future filled with promise and opportunity for every resident of our constituency.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,  
Lamin Newton  
Member of the ABLP

STATE INSURANCE  
LIFE & MEDICAL  
MOTOR  
PROPERTY  
COMMERCIAL  
Live in a better state of mind

**BARBUDA  
WE'RE HERE!**

OPEN 8:15AM - 4:30PM MON-FRI

RIVER ROAD | MADISON SQUARE  
CODRINGTON | BARBUDA

LIFE & MEDICAL MOTOR PROPERTY COMMERCIAL

(268) 727-7422 (268) 729-7422 INFO@SICANTIGUA.COM WWW.SICANTIGUA.COM

*Editor's Note: In the interest of transparency and impartiality, the above message represents the views of Lamin Newton and is in no way reflective of any preference for one candidate or another. This medium is also available to the other candidate taking part in the ABLP All Saints West run-off election.*



# 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

# Regional News



## BVI Immigration concerned about runaway cruise ship passengers

CMC - Officials within the Immigration Department and the BVI Ports Authority are concerned following a string of incidents in which cruise ship passengers have failed to return to their ships after arriving in the territory.

The issue centres around passengers from the Norwegian Sky cruise ship where five individuals have gone missing over recent visits, prompting discussions between authorities about how to address the situation.

Acting Chief Immigration Officer Nadia Demming-Hodge acknowledged



the concerns and explained that the Immigration Department is investigating the issue.

“It is concerning to us because despite us doing checks of persons on these ships, there are persons that are using this as a mechanism to facilitate illicit activity, which is something that we are prepared to address,” Demming-Hodge said.

She confirmed that the Department investigates all passengers before they arrive. If anything suspicious is found, they can prevent individuals from disembarking. However, Demming-Hodge admits that some people still “slip through”.

Meanwhile, Marketing Manager at the BVI Ports Authority, Natasha Chalwell, described the situation as sensitive. “They are not

topics that I’m at liberty to just expose publicly.” She emphasised that the Ports Authority would follow guidance from the Immigration Department.

Demming-Hodge stressed that collaboration is critical as officials work to curb these incidents. “We’re in the process currently of engaging with our industry partners, the Ports Authority and so on, and that would also eventually include the cruise lines.”

The Acting Immigration Chief said her department intends to increase pre-arrival checks and issue restrictions to prevent individuals from evading authorities and potentially disappearing after arriving in the BVI.

**NATURALIZATION NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Maribel Matos Suero of Nelly Pell Street, Villa, Antigua and Barbuda is applying to the Minister of Naturalization and that any person who knows any reason why naturalization should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of facts to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.





# 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

## Turkey halts trade with Israel over 'humanitarian tragedy' in Gaza

By Aoife Walsh

Turkey has suspended all trade with Israel over its offensive in Gaza, citing the "worsening humanitarian tragedy" in the strip.

The Turkish trade ministry said the measures would be in place until Israel allowed an "uninterrupted and sufficient flow" of aid into Gaza.

Trade between the two countries was worth almost \$7bn (£5.6bn) last year.

Israel's foreign minister accused Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of acting like a "dictator".

Israel Katz said on X that Mr Erdogan was "disregarding the interests of the Turkish people and businessmen and ignoring international trade agreements".

He added that he had instructed the foreign ministry to find alternatives for trade with Turkey, with a focus on local production and imports from other countries.

In a statement, Turkey said the trade suspension covered "all products".

"Turkey will strictly and decisively implement these new measures until the Israeli government allows an uninterrupted and sufficient flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza."

In 1949, Turkey was the first Muslim-majority country to recognise Israel.



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met in September 2023, just weeks before the outbreak of war.

But relations have worsened in recent decades.

In 2010, Turkey broke off diplomatic ties with Israel after 10 pro-Palestinian Turkish activists were killed in clashes with Israeli commandos who boarded a Turkish-owned ship trying to break Israel's maritime blockade of the Gaza Strip.

Relations were restored in 2016, but both countries expelled each other's top diplomats two years later in a dispute over Israel's killing of Palestinians amid protests on the Gaza-Israel border.

Mr Erdogan has become increasingly strident in his criticism of Israel since the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October last

year.

In January, he said the military offensive Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched in response was "not any less than what Hitler did".

Mr Netanyahu responded: "Erdogan, who commits genocide against the Kurds, who holds a world record for imprisoning journalists who oppose his rule, is the last person who can preach morality to us".

Israel has come under increasing criticism for conditions in the Gaza Strip. A UN-backed assessment said last month that 1.1 million people were facing catastrophic hunger and that famine was imminent in northern Gaza by May.

On Thursday, the White House said a pier built by the US military to facilitate the flow of aid into the territory would be open within days.

Israel denies limiting aid deliveries and has blamed the UN for failing to distribute it to those in need inside Gaza.

Israel launched a military campaign in Gaza to destroy Hamas in response to the group's attack on southern Israel on 7 October, during which about 1,200 people were killed and 253 others were taken hostage.

More than 34,500 people have been killed in Gaza since then, according to the territory's Hamas-run health ministry.

**ON AIR**

# **STAY ON POINTE**

**POINTE FM 99.1**

Your **Monday Conversations**,  
this and every **Monday!**

**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.**



**CALL 562- 3989 OR 562-2991 (US) 718-285-7889 FACEBOOK LIVE @POINTE FM99.1**

# Sports News



## Hurricane Power to stage annual run and walk event at YASCO

The annual Hurricane Power 10k/5k Run and Walk will take place on Sunday, May 5. The event will commence at the YASCO Sports Complex at 6:30 am.

This year's event is set to be one of the biggest yet, as a large number of participants are expected to compete in various classes.

Sponsored by Cool and Smooth and Joma Caribbean, J. Tittle Construction, Stonewall Reloaded, First Choice, and several other local businesses, the Hurricane Power 10k/5k Run promises to be a thrilling and exciting event for all involved.

Sunday's event will feature a 2-kilometer class for young participants in the new Under-13 category as part of the Hurricane Power Athletic Club's school project.

The registration fee for the event is EC\$25 for adults, while participants in the under-18 category will be required to pay a registration fee of EC\$15.

The event aims to bring together

professional runners and amateur runners alike, along with young aspiring athletes who are interested in distance events.

All participants will be able to participate in the 10k, 5k, or 2k run or

walk.

Police escorts and technicians from the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will be available to provide support to ensure the safety of all participants in the event.

## Five Islands extend unbeaten run in Primary School Cup

Five Islands have extended their unbeaten run in the Primary School Cup football competition.

After ending the unbeaten run of reigning threepeat champions Golden Grove in their previous outing, Five Islands recorded their fourth win in as many games in Group A with an 11-0 drubbing of the Foundation Mixed School at the Golden Grove playing field during the latest round of

matches.

The Foundation Mixed School remains in the cellar of Group A after losing for the fifth time in as many games.

But defending champions Golden Grove returned to winning ways in Group A by snatching a 2-0 victory against Olivia David Primary to record their fourth win in five matches.

Bendals and Jennings Primary recorded wins in the

other matches in Group A. Bendals Primary snatched a 2-0 victory against Urlings Primary, and Jennings Primary romped to a 4-0 victory against Old Road Primary.

Freeman's Village and Buckley's Primary School also secured wins in Group B at Buckley's Primary School's playing field.

Freeman's Village Primary snatched a 4-3 victory against CT. Samuel Prima-

ry and Buckley's Primary prevailed 2-1 against JT. Ambrose Primary.

But Liberta and Cobbs Cross Primary could only battle to a 3-3 draw in the other Group B encounter.

TN. Kirnon Primary, which finished as runner-up in last year's Primary School Cup, extended their unbeaten run to five matches in Group C.

TN. Kirnon Primary re-

*cont'd on pg 21*



Players of the Green City football team.

## John Hughes and Green City draw encounter in Premier League

John Hughes and Green City fought to a 1-1 draw in a rescheduled second-round encounter in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Wednesday.

Amali Colbourne put Green City ahead with a 9th-minute conversion, and Daniel Bryan scored the equalizer in the 72nd minute to salvage the draw for John Hughes at the ABFA Technical Center.

Akeem Henry of John Hughes was sent off in the 90th minute after picking

up a second caution (yellow card), which is an automatic red card, in the keenly contested encounter.

The match was rescheduled after it was postponed on Sunday, April 21, due to a waterlogged field at the ABFA Technical Center.

The result carries John Hughes to 23 points from 17 matches, and Green City will advance to 22 points from 17 matches.

Cup-holders Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades and second-placed All Saints United are still in contention to capture

the title when the Premier League concludes with the final round of matches this weekend.

Both teams will be in action during the last triple header on Sunday at the ABFA Technical Center.

Cup-holder Jennings Grenades will retain the Premier League title with a victory against the Ottos Rangers in the last game of the season in Sunday's triple header at 8 pm.

A 17th win in 18 matches will give the Grenades, currently on 48 points from 17 games, an unassailable

51 points.

All Saints United, who are their closest rivals in second place with 46 points from 17 games, can only attain a maximum of 49 points by winning their last match.

All Saints United will face Garden Stars in the penultimate game of the season in the second game of Sunday's triple header at 8 pm.

SAP and Sweets will clash in their last match of the season in Sunday's opening game at 4 pm.

Sunday's games will be preceded by the penultimate Premier League triple header at the ABFA Technical Center on Saturday.

Willikies will take on Empire at 4 pm, John Hughes will face Parham at 6 pm, and Old Road will clash with Green City at 8 pm.

### *cont'd from pg 20*

corded their fifth win in as many games by snatching a one-nil victory against Greenbay Primary at the TN. Kirnon Primary School playing field.

But the other two matches in Group C ended in goalless draws. After winning all three previous matches, New Winthor-

pes Primary was held to a nil-nil draw by Pares Primary.

Potters and Pigotts Primary also played to a nil-nil draw in the other Group C encounter.

However, the Group C match between Villa Primary and Sunnyside Tutorial School was postponed.

# Sports News



Players of the Sea View Farm football team.

## Freeman's Village and Sea View Farm enhance chances of promotion

Freeman's Village and Sea View Farm remained on course for automatic promotion in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League on Wednesday.

Both teams, which occupy the top two spots in the Second Division, recorded contrasting wins in their opening matches of the second phase group stage of the league.

Darius Hector scored twice with conversions in the 2nd and 10th minutes as Freeman's Village romped to a 7-0 drubbing of ABAYA at the ABFA Technical Center.

Their 17th win in 20 matches allows Freeman's Village to remain the leaders of the Second Division by advancing to 51 points. ABAYA will remain third from the bottom of the 20-team standings with six points after suffering their 18th defeat in 20 matches.

Sea View Farm won by default against the Young Warriors, who were

unable to field a team for the encounter at Buckley's Primary School playing field.

Sea View Farm was awarded a three-nil win after the Young Warriors forfeited the encounter.

Their 16th win in 20 matches allows Sea View Farm to remain in second place by advancing to 49 points. The Young Warriors will remain in 17th place with nine points after losing for the 17th time in 20 matches.

FC Master Ballerz and TAMO FC also recorded wins in their opening matches of the second phase group stage of the Second Division League.

Brandon Satchell scored twice as FC Master Ballerz romped to a 5-0 drubbing of Glanvilles at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

Satchell had conversions in the 57th and 66th minutes, while Rushane Dench (14th minute), Maykele Culzac (26th minute), and Shareem Richards (47th minute) were the other goal scorers for the FC Master Ballerz.

Their 14th win in 20 matches allows the FC Master Ballerz to remain in third place by advancing to 46 points. Glanvilles will remain in 16th place with 14 points after suffering their 14th defeat in 20 matches.

TAMO FC snatched a surprising 4-3 victory against fourth-placed Urlings in their second-round encounter at the Golden Grove playing field.

Adonijah Dyett scored twice with goals in the 20th and 33rd minutes, Carlos Stephens had a 31st-minute conversion, and De'Aundre Ralph scored in the 77th minute for TAMO FC.

Raheem Horsford (8th minute), Kestone Daley (18th minute), and Conrad Willock (24th minute) were the goal scorers for Urlings.

Their eighth win in 20 matches allows TAMO FC to remain in 13th place by advancing to 27 points. Urlings will remain in fourth place with 41 points after suffering their third defeat in 20 matches.

## Wins for Fearless Crew and Old Road Daggers in Division 2 basketball

Jim Nance Jan Serv Fearless Crew and Old Road Daggers recorded wins in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League on Wednesday night.

The Fearless Crew notched up their eighth win in 11 games with a 59-50 victory against the Court Martials in the opening game of a double header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Ryan Shepherd converted 12 points and claimed nine rebounds; Rafiki Harris sank 11 points and snatched seven rebounds; and Ronel Gomez scored 11 points for the Fearless Crew.

De-Lornge Jules shot a game-high 25 points and claimed six rebounds, and



Baldwin Anthony converted 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Court Mar-

tials, who lost for the fifth time in 10 games.

The Old Road Daggers

claimed their fifth win in 10 games with an 80-46 drubbing of Cecil Charles Cristos United in the second encounter on Wednesday.

Kelvin Simon sank 22 points and grabbed 18 rebounds; Braulio Lopez converted 19 points; and Craig Thomas had 17 points, five rebounds, and five assists for the Old Road Daggers.

Dwayne Samuel scored 14 points and snatched 17 rebounds; Manlight Simmons converted 11 points and grabbed 28 rebounds; and Dorian James had 11 points and five rebounds for Cristos United.

Cristos United remains second from the bottom of the standings after suffering their ninth defeat in 10 games.

*cont'd from pg 24*

to indulge in corrupt conduct during the 2021 edition of Abu Dhabi T10, when he was a part of the Pune Devils team.

The remaining two charges were from the 2022 and 2021 editions of the CPL when he represented St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots and Barbados Royals.

One of the charges was, again, failing to disclose an approach. The second charge is about failing to report the "receipt of any gift, payment, hospitality or benefit (a) that he knew

or should have known was made in order to procure a breach of the CPL Code, or (b) could have brought the player or the game of cricket into disrepute."

"Having played both international and professional domestic/franchise cricket, Devon attended numerous anti-corruption education sessions," Alex Marshall, ICC General Manager - Integrity Unit, was quoted as saying in the release.

"He therefore knew what his obligations were under the Anti-Corruption Codes but failed to meet these

obligations across three different franchise leagues.

"This ban is apt and should send a strong message to players and corrupters that attempts to corrupt our sport will be dealt with firmly."

Thomas, 34, is primarily a white-ball player, having represented West Indies in 21 ODIs and 12 T20Is, from 2009 to 2022, apart from his lone Test in Australia in December 2022.

He last played domestic cricket for the Leeward Islands Hurricanes in the Cricket West Indies regional four-day championship in March 2023.

## Thomas gets five-year ban from ICC

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned West Indies batsman, Antiguan Devon Thomas, from all cricket for five years.

Thomas accepted breaching seven counts of the anti-corruption codes of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) and the Caribbean Premier League (CPL).

Thomas had been suspended for corruption in May 2023 when he was slapped seven charges, which included “contriving to fix” matches.

The period of ineligibility is backdated to May 23, 2023, when he was provisionally suspended.

Thomas accepted breaching the same seven charges of which four were from the SLC anti-corruption code, one from the ECB code, and two from the CPL code.

Calling the five-year-ban a “period of ineligibility,” an ICC release stated “the last 18 months of the period of ineligibility would be suspended.”

Back in 2023 the ICC had stated the charges against Thomas were with regard to his conduct while playing in the SLPL, Abu Dhabi T20, and the CPL.

The most serious charge against him - of attempting to fix a match - was from the 2021 SLPL in which he played just one game for Kandy Warriors.

The four charges under the SLC anti-corruption code were of “contriving or being party to an agreement to fix or attempt to fix, contrive or influence improperly the result, progress,



Devon “Boobie” Thomas

conduct or other aspects of matches”, “failing to disclose (...) full details of an approach” to the Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU), “failing or refusing, without compelling justification, to cooperate” in an ACU investigation, and “obstructing or delaying” the in-

vestigation by “concealing, tampering with or destroying any documentation or other information.”

The single charge he faced under the ECB code was for failing to disclose details of an approach made

*cont'd on pg 23*