



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA  
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# PM BROWNE MEETS WITH 2DRILLY CREW

*Agreement to pursue positive  
pathway of peace reached*



Foreground: Prime Minister Gaston Browne (centre) is flanked by King Sagifu (left of PM Browne) and Luther Lee (right of PM Browne) after a constructive engagement with members of the 2Drilly crew.



## PM Browne meets with 2Drilly Crew

Prime Minister Gaston Browne on Thursday evening had a very constructive engagement with members of the 2Drilly crew.

During the engagement, which commenced with prayers invoking God's presence, the Prime Minister learnt that there are feuding gangs in the country including the Grays Farm Killers (GFK) who have been engaged in gang warfare using cutlasses and cleavers and resulting in serious wounds to various members.

The Prime Minister called for the warring parties to bring an end to the conflicts and to pursue a pathway of peace, while reinforcing the fact that "as Antiguans and Barbudans, we are one family with a common destiny."

He said to them that their purpose in life is not to kill or to maim but to be productive, empathetic and caring members of the society.



PM Browne outlined that he will seek to engage the Grays Farm Killers (GFK) next week and hopes to get similar commitments of peace and reformation.

During the discussions, the members of the crew agreed to pursue a

positive pathway of peace and to become productive citizens.

The country's Prime Minister committed to providing employment and opportunities for skills development at the Harrison Center School of

*cont'd on pg 3*

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*cont'd from pg 2*

Continuing Education. A number of the members of the 2Drilly crew also agreed to enroll in the YEOP, Second Chance programme.

In addition, the Prime Minister agreed to a proposal to assist the 2Drilly crew in establishing an egg retail business.

This is the second time Prime Minister Browne has engaged in gang rehabilitation. The other was the Red Shut Gang which himself and community activist Luther Lee assisted in reforming, two decades ago. The Red Shut gang eventually dismantled after the members were productively engaged.

Also in attendance at the meeting were King Sagifu and High Priest Selah who encouraged the youth to engage in positive development. Community activists Mitch Jeremiah and Sylvester Jawato Joseph were also in attendance.

Over the weekend, following reports of a rise in youth criminal activity, Prime Minister Browne on

public radio sent out an invitation to meet with the 2Drilly Crew which was accepted by its members. The meeting was held at the Villa Community Centre.



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# Local News



Information Minister Melford Nicholas

## The police will soon have the right to monitor electronic communications

The government is moving to strengthen its arsenal of methodologies to combat the recent upsurge of criminal activities in the country.

Information Minister Melford Nicholas has announced that the government is giving serious consideration to enacting legislation to allow the po-

lice to monitor electronic communications as part of its crime fighting initiatives.

According to the information minister, this was one of the matters about which he updated the Cabinet on Wednesday. "There are other updates that I gave the Cabinet including assisting the police with their ability to extract evidence electronically and what we are going to be able to do with respect to the lawful intercept of information. There is also one other piece of legislation that we are likely to take before parliament which will be discussed when I meet with the Attorney General on Thursday.


"This concerns a piece of legislation that deals with lawful intercept that makes it clear to the telecommunications operators how they are expected to operate in this particular environment and going forward," Nicholas reported.

Additionally, Minister Nicholas revealed that consideration is now being given to authorize law enforcement to seek information from foreign entities or governments that host information in the Cloud to be able to access those


*cont'd on pg 5*

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## Stakeholders insights guide development of Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The Urban Renewal Department of the National Housing and Urban Renewal Company convened an important consultation session Thursday with key stakeholders to finalize the design requirements for the forthcoming Juvenile Rehabilitation Center.

This initiative marks a significant step forward in the government's efforts to provide a dedicated facility for the rehabilitation of young offenders.

The meeting, chaired by Senator Rawdon Turner, brought together representatives from various sectors critical to the project's success. Among those in attendance were officials from His Majesty's Prison (HMP), the Police High Command, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Trans-



formation, and the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force.

Senator Turner emphasized the importance of the collaboration, stating, "This consultation is a critical first step towards completing a much-needed facility that will play a pivotal role in the rehabilitation and reintegration of our youth.

"By engaging with key stakeholders, we ensure that the center is not only fit for

purpose, but also equipped to meet the diverse needs of the young people it will serve."

The stakeholders offered valuable insights and contributions to the discussion, focusing on essential requirements such as security, educational programming, and social support services.

Their input will guide the final design, ensuring that the facility provides a safe, rehabilitative environment

conducive to the development and reformation of its occupants.

The Ministry of Education highlighted the necessity of integrating educational programs tailored to the individual needs of the juveniles, while the Ministry of Social Transformation underscored the importance of providing comprehensive psychological and social services.

The Police High Command and the Defense Force representatives contributed perspectives on security measures, ensuring that the facility will maintain a balance between safety and a rehabilitative atmosphere.

This consultation is just one of many steps in the journey toward establishing a center that will not only house but also rehabilitate and educate the youth, setting them on a path towards positive societal contribution.

*cont'd from pg 4*

information.

"We also want to ensure that the way is clear for unfettered support from any state or agency outside of Antigua and Barbuda.

"There is a convention known as the Budapest Convention that we are now viewing to ensure that our security forces are able to escalate and to seek support and assistance from any other country which hosts any information in the Cloud that will assist us to uncover any criminal activity that may take place there, particularly in cyberspace," he

emphasized.

He reiterated that the intent is to ensure that criminals are not able to 'hide their activities' or their behavior.

"This is a clear indication to especially those young persons, who are misguided, to think that they can wreak havoc on the society or segment of the society, by taking it to social media thinking that there is a hiding place for them there. There is no hiding place there!" he declared.

Government is exploring different options to take the crime situation head-



# Local News

## ABEMS takes proactive measures in response to Mpox concerns

The Antigua and Barbuda Emergency Medical Services (ABEMS) is advising its technicians to be on the alert for signs of Mpox as they perform their tasks within this key aspect of the healthcare delivery system.

In a statement, the Ministry of Health said this move forms part of the ABEMS taking proactive steps in response to recent concerns regarding Mpox.

“In light of these concerns, the management of ABEMS has issued a comprehensive alert to all Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), emphasizing the importance of vigilance in identifying signs and symptoms associated with the virus,” the release stated.

It added that as part of these efforts, ABEMS has aligned its practices with industry best practices and standard operating procedures (SOPs) by implementing strict precautionary measures.

EMTs are now required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times during their duties, with all necessary supplies

made readily available to them.

“In the coming weeks, ABEMS will conduct targeted training sessions for its staff.

“These sessions will focus on the identification of Mpox symptoms, the correct usage of PPE, and updated reporting protocols.

“The goal of this educational programme is to enhance the ability of EMTs to accurately and promptly identify individuals who may present with symptoms such as skin rashes or other signs of viral infection when calling for medical assistance,” the release noted.

ABEMS remains unwavering in its commitment to providing exemplary service while ensuring the health and safety of both the public and its personnel.

The organization continues to prioritize effective response to all medical and trauma emergencies, with a strong emphasis on the protection of its staff and their families during this period of heightened concern.



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## 'Antigua Day' celebrations take place in New York City tomorrow

Antigua and Barbuda culture will be on full display in New York City tomorrow (Saturday) as thousands are expected to gather to celebrate the annual 'Antigua and Barbuda Day' festivities.

The organisers say the event is the largest gathering of the Antigua and Barbuda diaspora in the United States. Between nine and ten thousand patrons are expected to attend the one-day free event that will be held in Claremont Park for this first time this year.

"We have this problem called 'we are getting too big', so we were in St. Mary's Park up to last year, but the park's manager said to us, 'you need a bigger venue' because of the large

turnout to the event. So we reached out to the mayor's office hoping to get Central Park, but that was taken so the Claremont Park manager reached out to us, so that's where we will be on August 31," Tyra Mason, one of the organisers stated.

According to Mason, the new venue is ideally located as 70 percent of the Antigua and Barbuda diaspora in the New York area lives within a few miles of the park.

The activities will include performances from several of the top performers who participated in the 2024 Carnival festivities. Popular Antigua and Barbuda dishes will also be available for purchase from the many ven-

dors who will set up shop at the event.

Creative Industries and Festival Minister, Daryll Matthew will lead of team of officials from the ministry who will accompany the performers in the US.

The team will include deputy chairperson of the Festivals Commission, Michael Freeland, soca diva, Claudette Peters and Communications Manager, Cecelia Thwaites.

One of the highlights of this year's festivities will be a tribute to the late soca artist, Ricardo Drue, who was the featured act at last year's event.

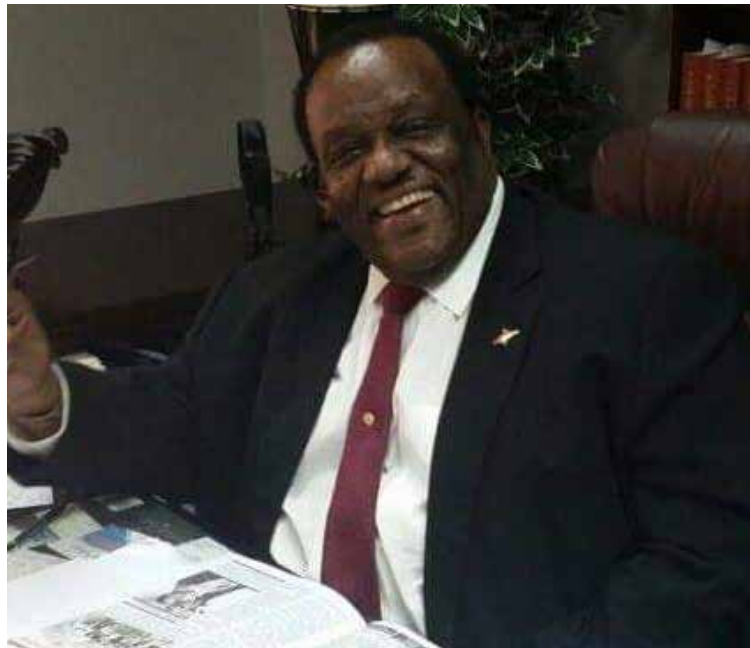
NYC-based radio personality, Lawrence Mason and Ibis the Livest will jointly emcee the programme.

## Attorney General congratulates 2024 Chevening Scholars

The Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin, has extended heartfelt congratulations to the 2024 Chevening Scholars, Annetta Jackson and Constable Latisha Browne, on their outstanding achievements.

Annetta Jackson, Crown Counsel in the Attorney General's Chambers, and Constable Latisha Browne of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, have been awarded the highly competitive Chevening Scholarship.

This scholarship, funded by the UK government, provides exceptional professionals from around the world the opportunity to develop in their respective fields through a one-year



Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin

Master's degree programme in the United Kingdom.

Sir Steadroy expressed his pride and admiration for both scholars, emphasizing the significance of their ac-

complishments.

"The selection of Ms. Jackson and Constable Browne as Chevening Scholars is a testament to their dedication, hard work,

and commitment to excellence.

"Their achievements reflect not only their personal capabilities but also the high standards and potential of our public service sector," said Sir Steadroy.

He further stated, "We are proud to have professionals like Annetta and Latisha representing Antigua and Barbuda on an international stage.

"This opportunity will enable them to enhance their knowledge and skills, which will undoubtedly contribute to the betterment of our nation. I have no doubt they will excel in their studies and return with fresh perspectives and ideas that will benefit our country."

# Old Road man to be sentenced on gun charges

Thirty-two-year-old Jareem Henry of Old Road is making another appearance in the All Saints Magistrate's Court today (Friday) where he will be sentenced for the unlawful possession of a modified flare gun.

Henry appeared before Acting Chief Magistrate Ngaio Emmanuel on Thursday to answer the charge following his arrest on Monday.

He was accused by the police of assaulting the

virtual complainant, Justin Peters of Radio Range by brandishing the weapon against him.

Henry pleaded guilty of the charge when he appeared in court and he was remanded into custody to

be returned today for sentencing.

He was unrepresented by counsel.

## Former Attorney General Keith Forde to get official funeral

Former Attorney General, Keith Forde, who served in the post as part of the VC Bird Administration in the 1980's and 1990's, who died earlier this week, will be accorded an official funeral.

Forde contested the 1980 general elections under the banner of the ALP by was defeated by the PLM's candidate Sir Rob-

ert Hall.  
In 1984, he was replaced on the ALP ticket by a young aspiring politician, Molwyn Joseph, now Sir Molwyn Joseph. He however continued to serve as AG until 1994 when Sir VC Bird retired from active politics. He used the opportunity to return to private practice.

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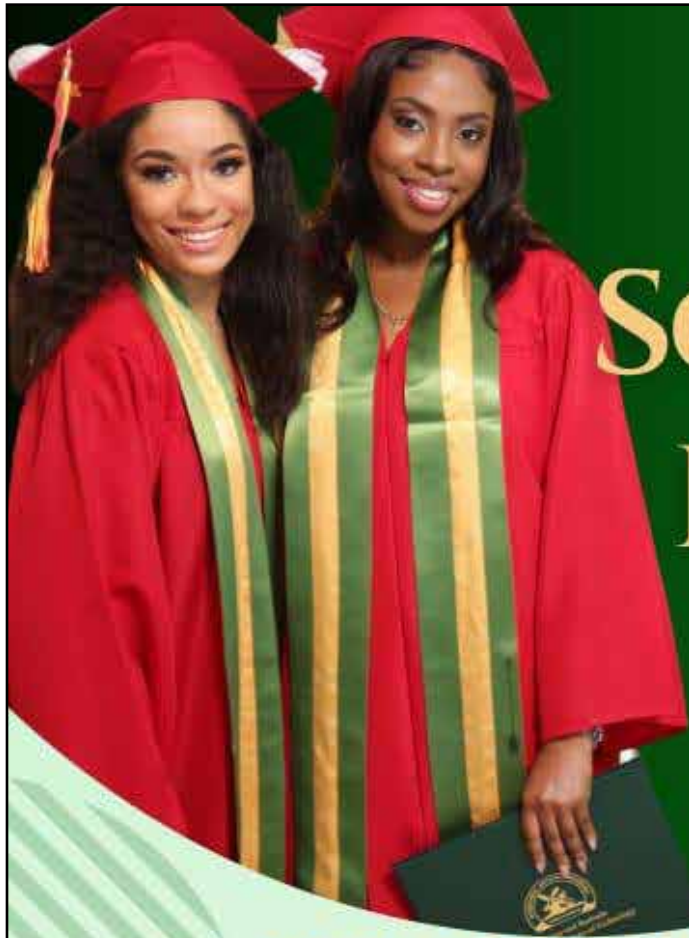
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# Opinion



## Poverty - The root cause of global and National Tensions: A Call for OAS Action

By Sir Ronald Sanders

Poverty is the festering wound at the heart of the world's social, economic, and political tensions. In the Americas, it is a stark reality that not only divides but destabilizes entire nations.

Despite advances in the fight against poverty, the rich continue to grow richer, while the chasm between the wealthy and the impoverished remains perilously wide. This division, both within and between nations, is exacerbated by the compounded crises of climate change, insufficient access to concessional financing, and unfavourable terms of trade, particularly for developing nations.

The grim truth is that without decisive action, the world will become increasingly unsafe, more chaotic, and less conducive to peace.

The recent "Manifesto Against Poverty," submitted to the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) by the Ambassador of Colombia, Secretary-General Luis Almagro and me, as the Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda, is a clarion call to address this issue head-on. This manifesto underscores a fundamental truth: poverty is not just a domestic issue but a global crisis that fuels inequality, stunts development, and incites conflict. It is the root cause of many of the challenges facing our world today, from mass migration to escalating crime rates. As such, the fight against poverty must become a central priority for nations, especially those in the Americas—the most unequal region on the planet.

The statistics are alarming. According to the World Bank, poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean increased from 28.3 percent in 2019 to 30.3 percent in 2021, a surge driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation, and global economic disruption caused by

the Russian war against Ukraine.

The impact of poverty is particularly severe on the most vulnerable—children, indigenous communities, people of African descent, and women. In many cases, families must choose between feeding their children or buying essential medicines, a tragic illustration of the daily hardships faced by millions.

Poverty is not just a statistic; it is a powerful force that undermines peace and security. It drives people to desperation, forcing them to undertake perilous journeys in search of better lives, as we have seen with those who trek through the treacherous Darien gap, to suffer as desperate refugees on the southern border of the US. It fuels crime, violence, and instability, creating fertile ground for organized crime and drug trafficking, including among gangs of young persons.

The ripple effects of poverty do not respect borders; they spill over into neighbouring countries and destabilize entire regions. Thus, the fight against poverty must be inclusive and comprehensive, involving all sectors of society and requiring a coordinated international response.

The manifesto's call for the OAS to adopt a unified stance against poverty is not only timely but essential. It is a significant opportunity for the OAS to demonstrate leadership and make a meaningful impact on the lives of millions. The adoption of this manifesto would be a landmark achievement, signalling the organization's commitment to addressing the root causes of inequality and underdevelopment. By establishing a Working Group on Poverty, the OAS can mobilize the collective efforts of the organs of the Inter-American System, including the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan-American Health Organization and the Inter-American



Sir Ronald Sanders

Commission on Human Rights to develop and implement strategies that address the multifaceted nature of poverty.

At the meeting of the Permanent Council, it was encouraging to see that the majority of countries were attentive to the gravity of the problem and recognized the urgent need for action. However, it was troubling that representatives from a few countries, despite the prevalence of poverty within their own borders and their subjection to global disparities, became bogged down in questioning the relatively small cost of establishing a Working Group. This group would collaborate with other organs of the Inter-American system to advance the cause of poverty alleviation as outlined in the manifesto. Their hesitation underscores a troubling position that, if not addressed, could undermine the broader, more critical goal of fostering long-term development and stability across the region.

This manifesto is not just about alleviating poverty; it is about transforming the structures that perpetuate it. The manifesto highlights the need for inclusive institutions that empower the poor

*cont'd on pg 11*



*cont'd from pg 10*

and provide them with the tools they need to escape the vicious cycle of poverty. It calls for a universal basket of services that ensures access to housing, education, health-care, and social protection for all. This approach recognizes that poverty is not simply about a lack of income but is a multidimensional problem that requires a comprehensive and targeted response.

The responsibility to eradicate poverty lies not just with individual nations but with the international community. The OAS, as the most important and inclusive regional organization, has a moral and legal obligation to lead this fight. The OAS Charter explicitly states the organization's purpose to "eradicate extreme poverty, which constitutes an obstacle to the full democratic development of the peoples of the hemisphere." This mission is more critical now than ever before.

Caribbean and Central American countries, being among the most deprived in the Americas, should be at the forefront of promoting this manifesto. These nations should fully understand the devastating impact of poverty on their people and their societies. Their leadership in this initiative would not only benefit their citizens but would also set a powerful example for the rest of the region and the world.

The adoption of the "Manifesto Against Poverty" by the OAS represents a pivotal moment. It is an op-

portunity for the organization to assert its role as a force for good, leading the charge in the global fight against poverty.

The OAS must seize this opportunity to fulfil its charter obligations and demonstrate that it is committed to not only defending democracy and human rights but also

to advancing development and eradicating poverty. The time to act is now, for the sake of our region, our world, and future generations.

The OAS, through its Permanent Council in collaboration with its Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, still have the chance to act in the coming days,

and, by doing so, demonstrate that the Organization is relevant to the people of The Americas.

*(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.sirronaldsanderson.com](http://www.sirronaldsanderson.com))*



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# Commentary



## Spotlight: Cortwright Marshall

By J.E.Knight

In the mid 1970's, a teenager by the name of Cortwright Marshall, came to the ACLM (The Antigua-Caribbean Liberation Movement). He came as one of a few young people accompanying George Junie Goodwin, from Bolans, as he came every Thursday night, religiously, you may say, to the weekly meetings of the organization.

Those were the years when returning to Bolans at 11:00 or later in the night, the only other lights one often saw, for most of the way, were the reflections from the eyes of the black cows that suddenly appeared in the middle of the road. Nevertheless, Corty was a regular, at what we called over half-century ago, the Movement meetings.

People come to an organization in various ways; and people remain in an organization for various reasons. There may be active recruitment, but many simply come accompanying friends. Some come because they are impressed by a member or members of the organization, or by the activities of the organization itself.

Some remain only to be with the friends, some remain because they develop an amorous interest in someone there, or they find the membership a convenient pretext for getting out of the house, whether they are really attending a meeting or not.

There are those who remained, never fully grasp the mission or the vision of the organization, for one reason or the other, but knew how to play along, because they see the organization as a possible vehicle for taking them along the road to realizing some very personal ambition of their's. For them, it's whatever seems fashionable, convenient or, above all, possible, in the moment.

But then, there are those who genuinely stayed to learn, to understand, and



Cortwright Marshall

to commit themselves to pursuing the vision of the organization. Cortwright Marshall was one of such persons in the ACLM. He was very studious and sought to catch up on all that had been discussed in those weekly meetings in the years before he got there.

That is, what CLR James wrote; what Frantz Fanon wrote; what George Lamming wrote; what Eric Williams wrote; what Arthur Lewis wrote. The trade and labour movements in the region. The greatest international mobilization of black people until this day, led by Marcus Garvey. The Civil Rights Movement in the USA. The Cuban Revolution. The Black Panther Party.

The origins of the Hippie Movement and the Peace Movement against the horrific and senseless mass murder of the Vietnamese people. The struggles for liberation on the African continent, the plight of the Palestinian people, and the Latin American people's struggles against the murderous dictatorships being propped up in power by the USA.

Marshall wanted to understand the relevance of it all to us in this region. He wanted to understand where we were historically and what should be the way forward. In other words, he wanted to be clear as to what was the historical mission of his generation, and what was his historical obligation. His ambition was never personal. He wanted to make a genuine progressive difference in this society.

So, over the years, he was involved in the discussions that produced many of the ideas that appeared in the manifestos and in the numerous other publications of the ACLM, including those ideas that were taken to the UPP when that party was formed as a hopefully progressive merger.

The establishment of a Public Accounts Committee, headed always by the Leader of the Opposition, and the full pension for parliamentarians who served at least two full terms, were adopted by the Labour Party government, though the ideas for campaign finance regulation have not taken hold until now.

But there were other ideas. The National Social and Economic Commission, the School Meals and the School Uniforms Programs were ideas for the new government. Cortwright Marshall, a progressive economist and a lawyer, understood quite clearly how the Social and Economic Commission could function. He knew that it had to be the national representation of community-based organizations that discussed the needs, the problems, the resources, the capacities and potentials of their communities, so that they could contribute to national planning and budgeting.

He knew that the school meals were to begin with a healthy breakfast for children from households below a certain level of income, and that healthy lunches were to follow in the same way, with the hours of supervision for students to be extended, and appropriate amenities put in place to facilitate the formation of wholesome, imaginative, productive, purposeful and peaceful human beings, with healthy bodies and healthy minds.

Marshall knew that the school uniforms program was not just to provide students from lower income homes

*cont'd on pg 13*





# Commentary

*cont'd from pg 12*

with uniforms, but it was also to stimulate local industrial production. Beside all students, the majority of the workers in this country can be seen in uniforms. Uniforms are imported from the USA; likely made in China, or elsewhere. The school children also use sports apparel, and everyone uses t-shirts and shorts.

So east, west, north and south in this country, there could have been established, with government backing, units of production, distribution, accounting, maintenance, etc. For what other purpose would CXC students be studying Principles of Business? Where is the business?

They also learn Principles of Accounting and Office Procedures. There is also the two-year State College program in Mechanical Engineering and Mechanical Repairs? Where are the machines?

As an economist, Marshall knew that teaching those subjects in a vacuum is not preparing our students for any national development and therefore no national, or regional economy. He understood that government programs should always be aimed at maximum positive social and economic impact, and not be mere gimmicks.

Such was Marshall's passion to see a new society, that even as he and his like-minded colleagues from the ACLM were being sidelined, or pushed out from the

political merger, and even after other members left in disillusionment, he kept clinging with an unrealistic hope that his progressive voice might make a difference, eventually. That baffled many of us, absolutely.

Because intellectually, one only had to watch an episode or two of Sesame Street, to recognize that one of those guys did not belong with the others.

We like to mention, that in the early years of the ACLM, people at various levels in this society, and in various manners of expression, suggested that Tim Hector was just using us.

Not only did we disapprove of that low-minded suggestion, but we soon came to appreciate that if a man of the caliber of Tim Hector found that we could be used effectively, we must have been quite useful.

Furthermore, he made sure to leave many of us so much more useful than how he met us. That is the hallmark of a true leader. A legacy of notable substance.

Cortwright Marshall was a part of that rich legacy, because in the ACLM, he had prepared himself to work toward a new society.

It must be extremely painful when you are even-

tually forced to accept, that even those against whom you voice the greatest opposition, hold you in far higher regard than do the people with whom you choose to associate yourself. It must be devastating.

Or, worse yet, when at the hands of your associates, you become a victim of what's known in the jargon of criminology, in some jurisdictions, as *alveoli*. That is, a planned attack, without warning, and in a manner that allows the victim absolutely no chance of defending him or herself. In our jurisdiction, we may simply speak of treachery.

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# Regional News



## Bermuda appoints new Attorney General for third time this month

Bermuda's Cabinet announced today, a reshuffling of ministerial responsibilities and the appointment of a new Attorney-General.

The most prominent change is the appointment of a new Attorney-General, Cindy Clarke, who currently serves as the Director of Public Prosecutions, has been appointed as the interim Attorney-General.

This appointment comes as Kim Wilson, has relinquished her responsibilities as Attorney-General and Minister of Legal Affairs.

She will now focus ex-

clusively on her role as Minister of Health, returning to the singular responsibility she held before her brief tenure as Attorney-General.

These latest developments come on the heels of a period of significant flux in the Attorney-General's office.

Just earlier this month, on August 5, 2024, the resignation of Kathy Lynn Simmons as Attorney-General was announced.

This was quickly followed by Wilson accepting the post on August 7.

*cont'd on pg 15*

Bermuda's interim Attorney-General Cindy Clarke. Photo: The Government of Bermuda

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LIAT20 heads to Dominica for the first time since it's launch. Photo: File photo

## LIAT20 adds Dominica, St Kitts, and Grenada to flight network

Island hopping in the Caribbean has been made a little easier as LIAT20 takes another step in expanding its operations.

The regional carrier has added three new destinations to its growing

network, further enhancing connectivity across the Eastern Caribbean.

As of today, the airline has commenced services to Dominica, St Kitts, and Grenada.

The inaugural flight to

Dominica took place today, symbolizing the official launch of these new routes.

This expansion comes just weeks after LIAT20's initial launch on August 6, 2024, when it began opera-

tions with flights connecting Antigua, St Lucia, and Barbados.

The launch of these new routes is expected to have a positive impact on regional travel, tourism, and business connections among the islands.

It provides more options for both leisure and business travelers, potentially stimulating economic activity across the region.

Passengers can reserve their flights online at [www.flyliat20.com](http://www.flyliat20.com), by email at [reservations@flyliat20.com](mailto:reservations@flyliat20.com), or by phone at 268-713-LIAT (5428).

### *cont'd from pg 14*

Now, with the appointment of Clarke on August 29, Bermuda sees its third Attorney-General within the span of a single month.

The appointment of a public officer as Attorney-General has necessitated further changes in the cabinet structure.

The departments and responsibilities that previously fell under the Ministry of Legal Affairs have been temporarily reassigned. These will now be overseen by the Deputy Premier, Walter Roban, until a

more permanent arrangement is made.

Additional changes in the Cabinet include new responsibilities for the Minister of Transport, Wayne Furbert.

He will assume responsibility for matters under the Cabinet Office, though this too is described as a pending arrangement, suggesting further changes may be forthcoming.

The government has also assigned the oversight of Consumer Affairs and land licenses to the Minister of Economy and Labour, Jason Hayward.

# Millions told to evacuate as typhoon batters Japan

Japan has issued its highest level alert to more than five million people after the country was hit by one of its strongest typhoons in decades.

At least four people have been killed and more than 90 injured after Typhoon Shanshan made landfall in the country's south-west. Hundreds of thousands of people have been left without power.

The level five order issued in parts of the southern island of Kyushu told residents to take immediate life-saving action by moving to a safer location or seeking shelter higher in their homes. In other areas, people have been advised to leave.

After making landfall, the typhoon weakened to a severe tropical storm and is pummeling its way north-east, bringing torrential rain and severe disruption to transport services.

Shanshan landed in Kagoshima prefecture, in the southern island of Kyushu, at around 08:00 local time on Thursday (23:00 GMT Wednesday), the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) said.

It has left a trail of destruction in its wake, with many buildings damaged and windows shattered by flying debris, trees uprooted and cars overturned.

Late on Tuesday, three



people from the same family - a couple in their 70s and a man in his 30s - were killed by a landslide in central Japan ahead of the typhoon's arrival. Their home in Gama-gori was swept away, while two other female relatives were rescued.

A fourth person was confirmed dead by police on Thursday. The 80-year-old man from Tokushima prefecture was trapped after the roof of a house collapsed about 17:30 local time (08:30 GMT), according to Japan's national broadcaster NHK.

The fire brigade rescued the man around 50 minutes after the incident but he later died in hospital. The JMA recorded 110mm of rainfall in the area around the time of the incident.

The agency has issued its rare "special warning" for the most violent storms, warning of landslides, flood-

ing and large-scale damage. High winds of up to 252 km/h (157mph) have been reported on Kyushu.

Most of the evacuation orders are in place for the southern island, but some were also issued for central Japan.

Videos online show large trees swaying, tiles blown off houses, and debris being thrown into the air as heavy rains lashed the island.

Major carmakers like Toyota and Nissan shut down their plants, citing the safety of employees as well as potential parts shortages caused by the storm.

Hundreds of flights to and from southern Japan have been cancelled, with some high-speed train services have also been suspended.

JMA expects the storm to move across Japan over the weekend before it reaches

the capital Tokyo.

Special typhoon warnings, like the one issued for Shanshan, are declared in Japan in cases of extraordinarily powerful storms. The same warning was issued in September 2022 as Typhoon Nanmadol approached Kyushu - the first such warning declared for a region other than Okinawa.

Shanshan comes in the wake of Typhoon Ampil earlier this month, which caused only minor injuries and damage but still disrupted hundreds of flights and trains.

Before that, northern parts of Japan saw record rainfall when Tropical Storm Maria hit Honshu island.

Typhoons in the region have been forming closer to coastlines, intensifying more rapidly and lasting longer over land due to climate change, according to a study released last month.



## Liberian ex-chief justice acquitted of niece's murder

By Wycliffe Muia

Liberia's former justice minister and chief justice Gloria Maya Musu-Scott has been acquitted of the murder of her niece by the country's Supreme Court.

The 70-year-old and three female relatives had been sentenced to life in prison for the brutal killing in February 2023 of 29-year-old Charlotte Musu.

The case gripped the nation as Ms Musu-Scott had been one of Liberia's most famous judges and politicians, a champion of women rights and at the time of her conviction had just won a significant case against the electoral commission as part of the then-opposition party's legal team.

A jubilant crowd greeted them outside the jail as they were freed after serving more than eight months.

Shortly afterwards, Ms Musu-Scott said she and her family rejoiced in their release but she lamented the state of the justice system.

"There are a lot of innocent persons in jail in this republic. So I say thank you to the lawyers. But I say to them, there is still work to be done."

Ms Musu-Scott served as Liberia's justice minister and later as the chief justice of the Supreme Court until her retirement in 2003.

She later transitioned to politics and was a lawmaker in Maryland County until 2012.

She was still a member of the Unity Party - whose leader Joseph Boakai became president in January - and had been part of the legal team that successfully challenged the electoral commission's refusal to allow parties to see the voters' roll.

Ms Musu-Scott and her three rel-



Gloria Maya Musu-Scott served as Liberia's justice minister and later as the chief justice until her retirement in 2003.

atives were found guilty by a lower court in December of stabbing her niece and also for conspiracy and making a false report to the police. They were sentenced to life in January.

The former chief justice had denied the charge, saying the 29-year-old had been killed by an "assassin" who had entered her home in the capital, Monrovia.

Delivering the appeal verdict on Wednesday, Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene Yuoh ruled that there was not sufficient evidence to link the former judge and her relatives to the crime.

"The state did not meet the burden of proof to warrant the conviction of the defendants. Therefore, the defendants are hereby acquitted of the crimes of murder, criminal conspiracy... as charged in the indictment," Justice Youh ruled.

The top court said the evidence presented by the state prosecutors failed to identify the specific individual responsible for the murder.

State prosecutors had earlier acknowledged that the conviction was based on circumstantial evidence, local media reported.

Women's rights groups have urged that the Charlotte Musu not be forgotten.

The acquittal had "reopened wounds and ignited a sense of urgency to seek true justice" for the murdered woman, the Women Non-Governmental Organizations Secretariat Of Liberia (Wongosol) said in a statement.

"Justice cannot be sacrificed for the sake of the wrongly accused."

The group added that the acquitted women would also need help to rebuild their lives.

"While we acknowledge that the criminal justice system is designed to protect the innocent, we cannot ignore the fact that a grave injustice has been done.

"The individuals who were wrongfully accused and detained have endured immense suffering."

# Sports News



## Willikies and Freeman's Village advance to quarter-finals in PSL

Willikies and Freeman's Village booked their places in the quarter-finals of the second annual Parham Super League (PSL) on Wednesday night.

Both teams recorded victories in their final matches in the group stage

during a double header at the Parham playing field.

Willikies snatched a one-nil win against defending champions Pigotts Bullets in the first encounter.

Following a goalless first half, Shyen Hastings

scored the only goal of the match in the 69th minute to secure the third win in five matches for Willikies.

The result meant that Willikies finished second on goal difference behind Group A winners Garden Stars after both teams end-

ed tied with 11 points from their five group matches.

The top four sides in each of the two six-team groups will qualify for the knockout phase that will commence with the quarter-finals.

Freeman's Village snatched the last quarter-final berth in Group A after coming from behind to snatch a 3-1 victory against the Attacking Saints in their last group match on Wednesday.

Joshua Samuel put the Attacking Saints ahead with a 15th-minute conversion. Kevin Gregory scored the equalizer for Freeman's Village in the 31st minute.

Malik Charles gave Freeman's Village a 2-1 lead with a 36th-minute conversion, and Prince Walters scored an own goal in the 44th minute to extend their advantage and complete the victory.

Advancing to the quarter-finals from Group A are, Garden Stars (11 points), Willikies (11 points), Pigotts Bullets (8 points), and Freeman's Village (7 points).

FC Master Ballerz or the Greenbay Hoppers will claim their last quarter-final spot from Group B. Both teams will clash in the final Group B match at the Parham playing field

*cont'd on pg 19*

**IT'S OUR GAME**

### WEST INDIES MEN

## HOME SERIES SCHEDULE 2024

| SOUTH AFRICA IN THE WEST INDIES |                      |          |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| MAY 23, 25 & 26                 | 3 T20Is              | JAMAICA  |
| AUG 7 - 11                      | 1 <sup>st</sup> TEST | TRINIDAD |
| AUG 15 - 19                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> TEST | GUYANA   |
| AUG 23, 25 & 27                 | 3 T20Is              | TRINIDAD |

| ENGLAND IN THE WEST INDIES |                                       |           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| OCT 31, NOV 2              | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> ODI | ANTIGUA   |
| NOV 6, 9 & 10              | 3 <sup>rd</sup> ODI & 2 T20Is         | BARBADOS  |
| NOV 14, 16 & 17            | 3 T20Is                               | ST. LUCIA |

| BANGLADESH IN THE WEST INDIES |                      |             |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| NOV 22 - 26                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> TEST | ANTIGUA     |
| NOV 30 - DEC 4                | 2 <sup>nd</sup> TEST | JAMAICA     |
| DEC 8, 10 & 12                | 3 ODIs               | ST. KITTS   |
| DEC 15, 17 & 19               | 3 T20Is              | ST. VINCENT |

Visit [windiescricket.com](http://windiescricket.com) for more info



## Deandra Dottin returns in West Indies squad for ICC Women's T20 World Cup



Deandra Dottin

Star all-rounder Deandra Dottin will wear West Indies colors once again as she was named on Thursday in the regional squad for the (ICC) International Cricket Council Women's T20 World Cup scheduled for October 3-20 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Dottin is in line for her first international appearance since her 2022 retirement when the West Indies take on South Africa in their first group match on October 4.

The best female cricketer in the world right now, Hayley Matthews, will once again lead the side that also sees the inclusion of regulars Stafanie Taylor, Afy Fletcher, Chinelle Henry, Chedean Nation, Shamilia Connell, Aaliyah Alleyne, Shemaine Campbelle and Karishma Ram-

harack.

The squad also boasts a fine mixture of youth and experience with the presence of 19-year-old Zaida James and 20-year-old Ashmini Munisar, who both represented the West Indies at the most recent ICC Under-19 Women's World Cup.

St. Lucian Nerissa Crafton is the only member of the squad with no international experience, while this will be the first T20 World Cup for Qiana Joseph and Mandy Mangru.

In addition to South Africa, the West Indies will take on Bangladesh, England, and Scotland in Group B of the tournament.

After facing South Africa on October 4, they will Scotland on October 6, Bangladesh on October 10, and England on October 15. The top two teams from the group will advance to the semi-finals.

Full Squad: Hayley Matthews (C), Shemaine Campbelle, Aaliyah Alleyne, Afy Fletcher, Ashmini Munisar, Chedean Nation, Chinelle Henry, Deandra Dottin, Karishma Ramharack, Mandy Mangru, Nerissa Crafton, Shamilia Connell, Stafanie Taylor, Zaida James, and Qiana Joseph.

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on Friday.

The Greenbay Hoppers will enter the final Group B match with three points, one less than FC Master Ballerz from four matches.

Group B winners Potters (15 points), second-place finishers All Saints United (10 points), and John Hughes (5 points) have already qualified for the quarter-finals from Group B.

The quarter-finals will be played at the Parham playing field on Saturday and

Sunday.

In Saturday's double header, Willikies will face John Hughes, and the Pigotts Bullets will take on All Saints United.

Freeman's Village will meet Potters, and Garden Stars will tackle either the Greenbay Hoppers or FC Master Ballerz on Sunday.

Twelve teams are participating in the second annual Parham Super League, which is organized by Eastboys Promotions. The winning team will take home a grand prize of EC\$5,000.

## Windies players make big gains in ICC Men's T20I Rankings

The West Indies players enjoyed big moves in the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's T20 International Rankings, which serves as just reward for another convincing 3-0 series sweep of South Africa in their recent series in Trinidad and Tobago.

Wicketkeeper batsman Nicholas Pooran moved three spots to break into the top 10 after scores of 65 not out, 19 and 35 across the three games. The aggressive left-hander is now the Caribbean side's highest-ranked batsman in the format, overtaking the injured Brandon King, who slipped one place down to 10 after he sat out the series.

Johnson Charles, who also didn't feature in the series, also slipped one place down to 11th, while West Indies captain Rovman Powell stood still at number 34.

Shai Hope continues to prove his worth in the games shortest format, as his scores of 51, 41, and an unbeaten 42 saw him jump 32 places up to 40th, overtaking out-of-favour Kyle Mayers, who slipped three spots down to 42nd as the next West Indies players in the top 50.

Despite the loss, South Africa's Reeza Hendricks also made gains, as he moved up to 13th position.



Nicholas Pooran

In the bowling rankings, West Indies left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein moved up four places to second position after taking four wickets in three matches. He was joined by fellow left-arm spinner Gudakesh Motie, who moved 10 slots up to third, while Romario Shepherd moved 13 spots up to 31st position.

Alzarri Joseph, who slipped four spots to 15th, Jason Holder (44th) and left-arm seamer Obed McCoy (50th) are the other West Indies bowlers in the top 50.

Meanwhile, England batter Harry Brook moved up to fourth position, while Mushfiqur Rahim and Mohammad Rizwan have reached career-best positions in the ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings af-

ter their fine performances over the past week.

Brook's scores of 56 and 32 in the first match of their ICC World Test Championship series against Sri Lanka in Manchester lifted him three places to fourth position, just one adrift of his career-best third position attained following his second-innings century against the West Indies at Trent Bridge last month.

Bangladesh batter Mushfiq's match-winning 191 in the first Test of the WTC series against Pakistan in Rawalpindi has helped him advance seven places to a career-best-equaling 17th position, while Pakistan's Rizwan is in the top 10 for the first time after scores of 171 not out and 51.

Others to move up

the Test rankings include Sri Lanka batters Dinesh Chandimal (up four places to 23rd) and Kamindu Mendis (up eight places to 36th), Bangladesh's Liton Das (up two places to 27th) and England's Jamie Smith (up 22 places to 42nd).

In the Test bowling rankings, England's Chris Woakes is up four places to 16th after taking three wickets each in both innings against Sri Lanka, while Asitha Fernando is up 10 places to 17th after also finishing with six wickets in the match.

Pakistan's fast bowler Naseem Shah (up four places to 33rd), England's new-ball bowler Gus Atkinson (up four places to 42nd) and Matthew Potts (up five places to 57th) are the prominent movers in the bowling rankings.





Antigua and Barbuda with their championship trophy after winning their first ever Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's Senior Men's title at the indoor facility at the YMCA Sports Complex on Sunday, 10 July, 2022. (File photo)

## Antigua to host 2024 ECVA's men and women volleyball championships

The Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) will be hosting the 2024 Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's (ECVA) male and female volleyball championships on back-to-back weekends in October.

The ECVA women's championship will be held from October 17 to 20, and it will be followed by the men's competition from October 24 to 27 at the indoor volleyball stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex in St. John's.

It is anticipated that a minimum of nine (9) countries will travel to Antigua to participate in both the male and female competitions.

The tournaments, which are expected to provide great entertainment as a result of the high level of volleyball that will be on display, will feature defending female champions St. Lucia and hosts and defending male champions Antigua & Barbuda.

The ABAVA has selected a 21-member female squad and a 23-member men squad that have already started training since the middle of August in preparation for the upcoming championships.

The female squad includes setters Allisha Jno Baptiste, Anjelina Morris-Silston, Jaya Carr, Elizabeth Smith, and Naveah Robertson.

The outside/opposite hitters chosen are Alliyah Smith, Jassania Joseph, Josanne Lewis, Zellene Edwards, Sharon Tessa Payne, Tia Walker, Jahzara Donovan, and Nashea Browne.

The other players selected are middle blockers Mali Nyota Peters, Rayana Regis, Kwansia Carr, Alexis Tomlinson, and Rihanna Browne, and liberos Tiffiney Kaladin, Sharifa Simmons, and Rosemarie Simon.

The national senior female volleyball team is being prepared by coach Olson Joseph, with assistance from

Jacqueline Ladoo, Dairyllis Cruz-Perez, and Ismay Caraballo.

The national senior men's squad includes setters Barrymore Daley, Miguel Pena-Lugo, Stefan Warren, and Dave Rouse.

The outside-opposite hitters chosen are Jamarie James, Erwin Mathurin, Khaliq Joseph, Jedidiya Christian, Brendan Hopkins, Kylon Cabrall, Adrian Constant, and George Freeland.

The other players selected are middle blockers Dwight Bonnie, Cairon Davis, Ronel Richards, Delron Frederick, Paul Richards, Jervon Carbon, Shamar Bannis, Kemarni Joseph, and Amali Mannix, and liberos T'mar Seaman and Yashid Auguste.

The national senior men's volleyball team is being coached by Carl Williams and assistant coaches Michael Hamilton, Braulio Estrada, and Joelle Thomas.

## Grenades lose opening match in Caribbean Cup

Antigua and Barbuda's Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades lost their opening match in Group B of the CONCACAF Caribbean Cup in the Dominican Republic on Wednesday night.

The Grenades, who were making their debut in the competition, suffered a 2-1 loss in their opening match against Cibao FC at the Estadio Cibao FC in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic.

After collecting a pass from Ernesto Trinidad in the center of the box, Jean López opened the scoring in the 27th minute with a right-footed strike into the bottom left corner of goal to give the home side a 1-0 halftime lead.

Juan Díaz came close to doubling Cibao's lead when his shot from close range was denied by the crossbar in the 45th minute.

Following the half-time interval, the Grenades snatched an equalizer early in the second half.

Sherman Augustin scored the Grenades' equalizer in the 52nd minute when he met a cross from Malcolm Stewart and placed the ball into the back



The starting XI of the Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades in their Group B match against Cibao FC in the CONCACAF Caribbean Cup at the Estadio Cibao FC in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, on Wednesday, August 28, 2024. (Grenades FC)

of the net.

Stewart nearly put Grenades ahead in the 64th minute after striking inside the box to force a save from Cibao's goalkeeper Miguel Lloyd.

But Eddipo Rodríguez snatched the winner for Cibao in the 72nd minute with a strike from the left side of the box.

Lloyd produced a fine save to deny the Grenades another equalizer with their last attempt of the match in

the sixth minute of added on time.

Lloyd made the save to deny Keanu Barrett, who struck from outside the box in the 96th minute, in the last attempt from the Antigua and Barbuda side.

Grenades will play their second encounter against AC Port of Spain on September 17 in Couva, Trinidad and Tobago, hoping to collect their first three points of the competition.

The victory elevated Ci-

bao FC to second place in Group B, only behind fellow Dominican club Moca FC on goals scored. Both teams from the Dominican Republic have four points each from two matches.

Moca FC snatched a 3-2 victory against AC Port of Spain at Estadio Moca 85 in Moca, Dominican Republic, on Tuesday.

Cibao FC will also face AC Port of Spain in their next encounter in Couva, Trinidad, on September 24.