

# DEMOCRACY AT WORK

*Story on Page 2*



Leader of Government Business in the Upper House Senator Shenella Govia, centre is flanked by (from left) Education Minister Daryll Matthew, Foreign Affairs Minister E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Works Maria Browne, and Attorney General Sir Steadroy Cutie Benjamin. *Story on page 4.*

# Local News



## Democracy at work: PM Browne describing his weekly radio programme

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is urging the people of Antigua and Barbuda not to under-estimate the value and significance of the radio programme that he does each week on Point FM, the Browne and Browne show.

Speaking last Saturday, PM Browne said the programme offers a unique opportunity for citizens and residents to pose questions to him, make suggestions or even to offer criticism in places where they feel that it is needed.

“We come here every Saturday primarily to account to the people of Antigua and Barbuda; this is the prime minister coming to the people and saying, ask me anything about my stewardship of the country.

“Even to be critical as this provides an opportunity for people to participate

in the democratic process,” he emphasized.

The prime minister noted that there have been many times where listeners to the programme call and make suggestions and his government had seen value in these recommendations and where possible have implemented them.

“We are not so conceited to feel that we have all the answers for everything, but by having these types of engagements, it’s a form of participatory governance.

“A lot of people don’t recognize this, but when you can have access to a prime minister every week and you can call him, and engage him that is a form of participating in the governance.

“For example, when you have public consultations, people often feel intimidated. However, when



Prime Minister Gaston Browne a person can stay from the comfort of their homes and ask me questions, that says a lot.

“There are also those who don’t understand my personal commitment to coming here every Saturday because I believe in participatory governance,” he remarked.

As leader of the country, PM Browne said it is important that the citizens of the country always have access to him and hold him accountable for the stewardship of the country.

He also noted that when politicians have something to hide, they often avoid such open engagements with the people, but as someone who believes in and practices transparency, he is not afraid to have

open dialogue with the people. “Generally speaking, when politicians are involved in mis-conduct they hide from the people, but I want to demonstrate the openness of my government and anyone can challenge me on any matter, even the lack of performance by any minister,” he extolled.

PM Browne also heralded an agreement with social media influencer, J-Truth, with whom an arrangement has been made for him to carry the Browne and Browne show on his popular social media platform.

According to the prime minister this move is for a wider cross-section of the population to have access to him on a weekly basis.

### NOTICE: Road Closure

The Ministry of Works (MoW) is announcing a total closure of the intersection between Wireless Road and Lauchland Benjamin Drive for major repairs

This project is expected to run for approximately five (5) weeks. During this time, a diversion route will be used in the local area to facilitate the flow of traffic.

Motorists, pedestrians and other road users are urged to exercise caution and adhere to the directives of MoW personnel who will be directing traffic.

The Ministry of Works apologizes for any inconvenience caused and your understanding is appreciated while improvements are being made to the road conditions.

-ends-

Contact: Miss Makeida Antonio  
Phone: 722-7025

## Climate Change Ambassador Ruleta Camacho attends Ministerial Meeting at COP29

Climate Change Ambassador Ruleta Camacho represented Antigua and Barbuda at the Second High-Level Ministerial Meeting for Culture-Based Climate Action during COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan. The event brought together global leaders and advocates to discuss the pivotal role of culture in addressing the pressing challenges of climate change.

Ambassador Camacho's representation underscores Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to integrating culture into climate solutions. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Antigua and Barbuda faces the dual challenge of preserving its rich cultural heritage while navigating the escalating impacts of climate change. Iconic sites such as Nelson's Dockyard, Fort James, and Black Point Fort embody the nation's identity, history, and economic resilience, yet are increasingly threatened by rising seas, intensifying storms, and coastal erosion.

In her address, Ambassador Camacho emphasized the importance of decisive action, highlighting Antigua and Barbuda's proactive steps, including:

Advancing the Cultural Heritage (Protection) Bill, 2024, which will create a legal framework for safe-



guarding the nation's cultural and historical assets.

Supporting the Group of Friends for Culture-Based Climate Action (GFCB-CA) to integrate cultural heritage into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Ambassador Camacho called on global stakeholders to prioritize:

1. Developing climate-resilient infrastructure to protect heritage sites.
2. Enhancing monitoring systems and conducting vulnerability assessments.
3. Building capacity for disaster preparedness and cultural preservation.

"These actions are not only critical for safeguard-

ing our heritage but also for fostering sustainable livelihoods, supporting tourism, and preserving the identity of our communities," stated Ambassador Camacho. "Culture is more than a relic of the past—it is a powerful tool for resilience and

a beacon of hope for future generations."

The government of Antigua and Barbuda remains steadfast in its mission to protect and promote its cultural legacy while advancing global efforts to combat climate change.

### SPECIAL NOTICE RE: CLOSURE OF SSWH

The Project Implementation Management Unit within the Ministry of Works has carefully taken the feedback provided by its stakeholders and the general public into consideration.

As a result, all stakeholders are hereby notified that the planned closure of the Sir Sydney Walling Highway (SSWH) between Pares Village and Collins junction, scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 has been postponed to allow an alternative route to be investigated.

A further update will be issued early next week.

-ends-

Contact: Miss Makeida Antonio  
Phone: 722-7025



# Local News



## Senator Govia vows to continue advocacy for women

Senator Shenella Govia has now stepped into a new role as Leader of Government Business in the Upper House.

Sen. Govia, the youngest member of the Upper House, was sworn in at Government House on Friday in front of ABLP colleagues, fellow senators, other government officials, family and friends. She replaces Senator Samantha Marshall who resigned from the role last month.

"I wish to place on record my profound thanks and appreciation to Prime Minister Gaston Browne and the Cabinet for the confidence that they have demonstrated in me with this significant appointment. It shows that the Gaston Browne Administration has time and again demonstrated its confidence in the young people of Antigua and Barbuda by carving out roles for them in the overall governance framework of Antigua and Barbuda. I am truly honoured, grateful and blessed to assume this important role," she stated.

Sen. Govia was also appointed as the Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Sports and the Creative Industries.

She was already serving as Parliamentary Secretary within the same ministry since January 2023.

Sen. Govia is adamant that her appointment should be a testament to other young women to not let society's ideologies deter them from entering into politics or any other male dominant space.

She vows to continue to advocate for women.


"I would just encourage women should not be deterred by superficial matters from assuming any leadership roles. It's not about how you look, it's

about what you do.

"I want to serve as a motivation and an encouragement to women to not shy away. If men can do it, then we can do it too. Those who know me know that I have been mentored by great women who have gone before me. Senator Mary Clare Hurst, the former Senator Samantha Marshall, the current President of the Senate, Alin-

*cont'd on pg 5*





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*cont'd from pg 4*

cia Williams-Grant, Gail Christian and many others so I feel that it's only fitting that I pay it forward so my role will be to continue to mentor and encourage others," Sen. Govia added.

In speaking on her new role and what areas will be focused on, Sen. Govia mentioned that the ministry will continue efforts to elevate youth involvement in the arts.

"What we are focusing

on, you know, back in the day the Department of Culture and Festivals had various youth groups and activities so that is something that we are bringing to the forefront again. So, you will see the Youth Drama Club returning, the Youth Steel Orchestra, the Youth Choir because we want to ensure that young people can stay engaged in things that are positive.

"If you provide them with positive activities and avenues to channel their energy, then you will find that they are not so idle in doing things that are destructive," Sen. Govia said.

Her appointment comes



just days after, Senator Michael Joseph had a dual appointment; as a member of the Upper House and then as a Minister of State in the Ministry of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation and the Environment.





# Local News

## Antigua and Barbuda recognized for progress towards Child Justice Rights

A paper presented Antigua and Barbuda at the International Society of Family Law 4th Caribbean Conference held in Trinidad and Tobago last week.

Senior Magistrate, Ngaio Emanuel represented Antigua and Barbuda at the conference and she presented a paper entitled: The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC): In the Context of Child Justice Reform in Antigua and Barbuda.

In the paper, Magistrate Emanuel noted that since Antigua and Barbuda ratified



the UN Convention in 1993, this has catalyzed significant legal and procedural reforms, shifting the nation's approach

from punishment to rehabilitation and reintegration.

"The enactment of legislation provided the creation

of child-friendly institutions like the Family and Social Services Division and the es-

*cont'd on pg 7*

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*cont'd from pg 6*

establishment of a dedicated Child Justice Board and Juvenile Court. This demonstrates Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to aligning its domestic laws with the Convention's principles.

"However, despite notable progress, challenges persist. Limited resources, capacity constraints, and deeply ingrained cultural practices and societal attitudes pose obstacles to the complete realization of children's rights within the justice system. This paper analyzes these challenges, comparing Antigua and Barbuda's experiences with those of other Caribbean nations to provide regional context," she noted.

Notwithstanding the challenges, Magistrate Emanuel observed that the influence of the Convention on Antigua and Barbuda's child justice landscape is undeniable. "This paper also offers concrete recommendations for strengthening the implementation of the CRC's

principles. Further recommendations emphasize strengthening legal frameworks to prioritize non-custodial measures and addressing societal attitudes through advocacy, public awareness campaigns and community engagement. By embracing these recommendations, Antigua and Barbuda can continue its progress towards a truly child-centered justice system that upholds the rights and well-being of all children," she emphasized.

According to Magistrate Emanuel Antigua and received a passing grade for keeping its promise on Child Justice rights in the Caribbean region. The dream has not been deferred completely because improvements should be implemented.

Along with her position as a senior magistrate within the magistracy of Antigua and Barbuda, Magistrate Emanuel also serves as the treasurer of the Eastern Caribbean Women Judges' Association.



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# Local News



## More than 11-thousand cruise passengers and crew members arrive on Saturday

St. John's was a hive of activities for Saturday as the cruise vessel – Arvia – along with three other cruise ships arrived in the port. The activities continued on Sunday as Arvia over-nighted on Saturday and remained in port until Sunday evening at 6:00 o'clock.

The cruise vessel, Arvia of the P&O Lines, arrived for the first time this cruise season for its home-porting visit. This season, the vessel will overnight each time it arrives.

Reports from the Antigua Cruise Port said there were four vessels in port on Saturday; two of which did home-porting. The other was Sea Dream 2.

“There were 714 passengers that joined the Arvia here in Antigua with 665 disembarking. There were another 4,574 passengers who just holidayed in Antigua. In all, we had an overall passenger movement from Arvia of 5,953. For Sea Dream 2, 74 passengers joined



the cruise, while 57 disembarked; the overall passenger movement here was 135,” Operations Manager Rawle Reynolds reported.

The other two vessels were Viking Sea with 902 passengers and Spirit of Discovery with 956 passengers. “On

Saturday, we had a total of 7,946 passengers coupled with 2712 crew members for a total of passengers and crew of over 11-thousand. This was a good day for everyone associated with the cruise business here in Antigua and Barbuda,” he reported.

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## Brandon Potter shines at World Maritime University

Brandon Potter emerged among the top students in his class of 134 graduating with Masters degrees from the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden.

He graduated on November 2, 2024 with a Master of Science degree in Maritime Affairs with specialization in Port Management.

The UN sponsored scholarship given to young Potter and his fellow students from 130 countries around the world who work at ports their respective countries, is geared to infuse global Port Operational strategies.

During his studies at the World Maritime University he visited a number of countries where he observed the operations of some of the world's largest and most important ports including Denmark, Germany, Hamburg, Tokyo and Poland. He gleaned an education which will help boost the connectivity and efficiency re-

quired to operate an international port, as Antigua and Barbuda pushes forward in Caribbean port leadership.

Brandon was accorded this honour to present himself for leadership, from his first scholarship earned

from Antigua Port Authority. He first demonstrated his true potential at the Marine College in Jamaica where he excelled.

In Europe his entire personality and dynamic energy were very well received,

accepting his certification amid cheers and shouting from his fellow students and moreover his professors.

Brandon is the son of trade unionist, Ralph Potter and his wife, Sharon, a banker.



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# Local News



## Police recruits attend church service ahead of graduation

Recruits of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda preparing for their graduation ceremony on Thursday, attended a Thanksgiving Mass at the Holy Family Catholic Cathedral on Michael's Mount on Saturday evening.

The recruits were reminded by the Very Rev.

Father Pierre Tevi-Bennisan, Vicar-General of the Diocese of St. John's Basseterre of their duty of service to the people of Antigua and Barbuda. He told the recruits that their service to protect and serve is a special one with which God is most pleased.

Father Pierre asked the



congregation to continue to keep the police and the new recruits and their trainers in their prayers and to continue to support them in their work in keeping the people of Antigua and Barbuda safe.

Special prayers were offered for Commissioner Atley Rodney, his Assistant Commissioners, Com-

mandant of the Sir Wright George Police Academy and trainers who attended the Mass.

On Thursday 21st November, during the 49th Graduation Ceremony at the Sir Wright George Police Academy, the sixty-nine recruits will officially become police officers.



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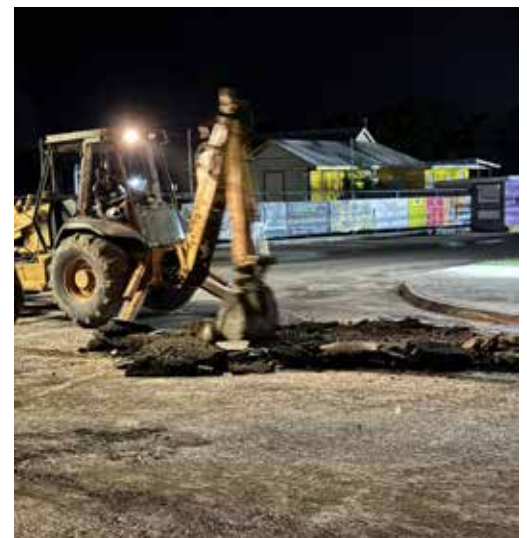
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# Photo Essay

Road work in progress overnight at YMCA/Round-a- bout as well as near Harney Motors on American Road. The Ministry of Works has been making robust efforts across the island to ensure that the roads are repaired and maintained.





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# Opinion



## Tomorrow will be too late

By Tony Deyal

This song by the great Elvis Presley constantly made the point, "It's now or never / My love won't wait." However, not everyone sees it that way. One view is that tomorrow never comes, yesterday never was, and today never ends. What makes it worse is that tomorrow is the future but also the present. This means that today is the day which is happening now. Except that one of my friends in Canada was told by his wife, "Forget about the past, you can't change it. Forget about the future, you can't predict it. And forget about the present, I didn't give you one!"

To put it in the recent past, Kamala Harris, who wanted to become president of the US, said, "Today is today and yesterday was today yesterday. Tomorrow will be today tomorrow. So, live today so the future today will be as the past today, as it is tomorrow."

No wonder she ran into a man who blows his own Trumpet in the air and caused hers to end drowning in the deep water. The one thing I hope she learned, as I did, is that tomorrow never comes for the speaker.

In other words, if you put something off until tomorrow, it never gets said or done, because tomorrow is always the next day and not today. Matthew 6:34 in the Bible put it another way, "Therefore do not worry

about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." To put it in my own language, "Why is tomorrow infertile? Because tomorrow never comes."

This is why, starting tomorrow, whatever life throws at me I will duck so it hits one of you out there. This is what happened in history and still continues.

The inventor of TV, Dr Lee DeForest, was adamant, "Man will never reach the moon regardless of all future scientific advances." The man who managed the US atomic bomb project was sure that man will never reach the moon regardless of all future scientific advances.

Even my Aunt Moon knew better than that. But she believed Robert Willikan, who couldn't when he told everybody, "There is no likelihood man can ever tap the power of the atom." Popular Mechanics, which I have been reading for years but not in 1949 when it claimed that computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." It was like my Uncle Jacket's cows in the cane-field carrying heavy loads to the factory.

Thomas Watson, the chairman of IBM, two years before I was born, was adamant that the world market would only need at most five computers, and a memo in the Western Union, the



Tony Deyal

money transfer leader, was certain that, "This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us." The same with the "wireless music box" which the American businessman, David Sarnoff, made it clear, that "it has no imaginable commercial value" and asked, "Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?"

Just to make sure that it was not only the money area, the big star of the time, Gary Cooper, laughed loudly and said, "I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's falling on his face and not Gary Cooper."

The movie was Gone With The Wind. Lord Kelvin, the British mathematician, was certain, "Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible." Fortunately, he was wrong, otherwise Frank Sinatra could not have made it big with Fly Me To The

Moon. And, fortunately for Trinidad, the American businessman Edwin L. Drake, did not listen to workers he asked to work to drill for oil in 1859, and was told by them, "Drill for oil? You mean drilling into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy."

Obviously, they were not as smart as the people who say the sign, "JOB OPPORTUNITY: Riot police officers needed. Interviews are being held tomorrow. Come early to beat the crowd!"

On the other hand, when one of those who got the job decided to give someone a ticket, the person said, "Officer, you can't do that? I have to run the marathon tomorrow!"

The policeman replied, "That's now how you play the race card!" This was still better than the married couple, Harry and Esther, who were out shopping when Esther reminded her husband,

*cont'd on pg 15*



## Guyanese opposition MP wins lawsuit over travel ban

CMC - The High Court has awarded opposition parliamentarian David Patterson GUY\$1 million (US\$4,767) in damages after he was wrongfully prevented from leaving Guyana in 2023.

In her ruling on Friday, Chief Justice Roxane George-Wiltshire also ordered the State to pay Patterson GUY\$250,000 (US\$1,191) in legal costs.

Though a victory for Patterson, it fell short of his GUY\$25 million (US\$119,190) claim. The lawsuit stemmed from an incident where authorities blocked him from leaving the country on September 26, 2023, when he was scheduled to join an opposition delegation meeting with American congressmen and other officials.

Patterson had cleared security



David Patterson.

checks at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport and was preparing for his flight when Immigration officials prevented his departure.

The Chairman of the Alliance For Change (AFC) was allowed to travel several days later. His attorney, Nigel Hughes, subsequently filed a lawsuit claiming breach of fundamental right to freedom of movement, seeking exemplary damages and costs. Patterson claimed he experienced loss, shame, and embarrassment due to the travel restriction.

The Guyana Police Force (GPF) attributed the incident to Patterson being mistakenly left on an Immigration Department watch list following an earlier indecent exposure charge.

The Police Force, whose Commissioner serves as Chief Immigration Officer, issued an apology to Patterson, who was later acquitted of the indecent exposure charge in February 2024.

*cont'd from pg 14*

"Darling, it's my mother's birthday tomorrow. What shall we buy for her? She said she would like something electric?" Harry replied, "How about a chair?" It is like when I had just got into secondary school and told my teacher that I would be late for school the next day.

He so did not trust me because, sometimes, with a few of my classmates, we went to the 10 o'clock cinema and shared a couple cigarettes. He asked, "What are you doing tomorrow?" I told him, "Sir, I am getting glasses for the first time."

He then asked me, "And after that?" I replied, "I will see!" It was my friend

who I asked, "What is your wife's favourite day to make love?" He replied, "Tomorrow."

This is what happens when we look ahead! For instance, Russia has announced early results from the election which isn't until tomorrow, but they already announced that Putin has won. It is like my children in the car when we went for a trip. Every few minutes, they asked, "Daddy, are we there yet?"

This is the kind of thing that the future drops on you. A teacher, trying to get the older kids in his class, asked them, "What do you want to do in the future?" One boy, let's call him Peter, replied, "I want to be a pilot." An-

other, Tommy, was certain that he wanted to be a doctor. When it was Margaret's turn, she smiled happily, "I want to be a good mother." The fourth kid, Frank, was clear, "Sir, I want to help Margaret."

I like this attempt at the future very much. Even though I am 79, I can see six years into the future. Instead of a 20-20 vision, I have 20-30. One of my buddies told me that taking money out of my savings account is stealing from my future self.

My reply was, "Well it's luck for me that my future self won't be able to afford a lawyer to press charges in the court against me."

The one that got to me was a fortune teller. I asked

her to see what was in my future and she told me that any day I die would be a Trinidad holiday.

That sounded like I had done well for my country, but, to be certain, I asked her why she was so convinced. She answered, "Any day you die, Tony, the politicians in power, regardless of whether Indians or Africans, will make sure it is a Trinidad holiday."

**Tony Deyal was last seen remembering the man who went to a fortune teller to see his future. She told him, "Oh, I see that, on Friday, your wife will die." He replied, "I already know that. What I need to know is whether I will be arrested."**

# Regional News



## St Kitts and Nevis citizen pleads guilty in crypto scam

CMC - The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) says a dual citizen of China and St Kitts Nevis, along with persons from China, Cambodia, and the United Arab Emirates, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering for his role in a scheme to launder millions of dollars in proceeds of cryptocurrency investment scams.

Daren Li, 41, and his co-conspirators laundered over US\$73 million from the victims of cryptocurrency investment scams, using a web of shell companies and international bank accounts.

"Although Li committed this offense from outside the United States, he was not beyond the reach of the Justice Department," said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Nicole M. Argentieri, head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, on Tuesday.

"Today's plea reflects our ongoing commitment to working with our domestic and international partners to hold accountable anyone responsible for cryptocurrency investment fraud against US victims — wherever the perpetrators are located," she added.

Li was arrested on April 12 at Hartsfield-Jackson



Atlanta International Airport and subsequently transported to the Central District of California.

According to court documents, Li admitted that he conspired with others to launder funds obtained from victims through cryptocurrency scams and related fraud.

"In furtherance of the conspiracy, he communicated with his co-conspirators through encrypted messaging services," the DOJ said.

In order to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership and control of the fraudulently obtained victim funds, the DOJ said Li would instruct co-conspirators to open US bank accounts established on behalf of shell companies and would monitor the receipt and execution of

interstate and international wire transfers of victim funds.

"Li and other co-conspirators would receive victim funds in financial accounts they controlled, and then monitor the conversion of victim funds to virtual currency, specifically Tether (USDT), and the subsequent distribution of that virtual currency to cryptocurrency wallets controlled by Li and his co-conspirators," the DOJ said.

It said Li admitted that at least US\$73.6 million in victim funds were directly deposited into bank accounts associated with him and his co-conspirators, including at least US\$59.8 million deposited from US shell companies that laundered victim proceeds.

"Financial criminals

and the money launderers who enable them wreak untold harm, ruining lives in the process," said United States Attorney Martin Estrada for the Central District of California. "Investors should be diligent and on guard against anyone offering quick riches via new, exotic investments. A healthy dose of skepticism could prevent financial ruin down the road."

Acting Assistant Director of Investigations Michael Ball of the US Secret Service (USSS) said: "This investigation demonstrates how domestic and international partnerships are vital to successfully combating transnational crime."

The DOJ said Li is scheduled to be sentenced on March 3, 2025, and faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison.



# Hezbollah media chief killed in Israeli strike in Beirut

By Mallory Moench

Hezbollah's media chief Mohammed Afif has been killed in an Israeli strike in central Beirut, the Lebanese militant group has confirmed.

A strike hit the headquarters of the Baath political party in the densely populated Ras al-Naba neighbourhood on Sunday, according to Lebanon's state-run National News Agency.

The country's health ministry said four people were killed, but did not name the victims.

Afif, one of the few remaining public faces of the group, was last seen on Monday, when he gave a press conference in Beirut's southern suburbs, where the group is based.

Hezbollah confirmed the death on Sunday evening, several hours after it was first reported.

Most of the headquarters of the Lebanese branch of the Syrian Baath party was destroyed in the strike, as rescue and civil defence teams rushed to aid a number of people trapped under the rubble, the National News Agency reported.

The health ministry said 14 people were injured as well as the four killed.

The Lebanese Baath Party is a branch of the Syrian Baath Party, head-



Hezbollah media chief killed in Israeli strike in Beirut

ed by President Bashar Al-Assad, and a long-time Hezbollah ally.

Its Lebanese headquarters are located by a busy central intersection connecting western and eastern Beirut with the city centre and the airport road, which passes through the southern suburbs.

BBC Middle East correspondent Lina Sinjab said the development raised concern that Israel was expanding attacks beyond Hezbollah military officials. Hezbollah is also a political party with representatives in parliament and ministers in government.

"That is really sending alarm to people, that there are no signs of de-escalating this situation or finding a solution, but rather further escalation and widen-

ing Israeli targets against Hezbollah in Lebanon," she told BBC's news channel.

Later on Sunday, another strike in central Beirut on Mar Elias Street killed two people and wounded 13 more, the Lebanese health ministry said.

The BBC has reached out to the IDF about the second strike in central Beirut.

Earlier on Sunday, the IDF said it had conducted strikes on six Hezbollah military targets in the southern suburbs.

In the past week, the Israeli military has intensified its attacks on Beirut, amid renewed efforts led by the US for a ceasefire in the war.

Israel already killed Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah and other top

commanders and senior officials in Beirut strikes in late September, when Israel launched an offensive against the Iran-backed group.

Israel said it wanted to return tens of thousands of displaced residents to the country's north nearly a year after Hezbollah stepped up rocket attacks in support of Palestinians after Hamas's attack on Israel on 7 October 2023.

More than 3,400 people have been killed in Lebanon since then, including at least 2,600 since Israel launched a intense air campaign followed by a ground invasion in the south in late September, according to the Lebanese health ministry.

Another 1.2 million people have been displaced.

## Biden allows Ukraine to strike inside Russia with missiles

US President Joe Biden has given the green light for Ukraine to use long-range missiles supplied by the US to strike Russia.

A US official has confirmed the move, a major change of US policy, to the BBC's US partner CBS.

For months, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has been urging that the restrictions on the missiles, known as ATACMS, be lifted - allowing Kyiv to strike outside its own borders.

On Sunday he reacted to the reports, saying "such things are not announced, missiles speak for themselves".

Russian President Vladimir Putin has previously warned Western nations against such a move, saying it would represent the Nato military alliance's «direct participation» in the Ukraine war.

He was yet to comment on Sunday's reports although other senior Kremlin politicians described it as a serious escalation.

Washington's decision on ATACMS is couched in terms of being limited to the defence of Ukrainian forces inside Russia's Kursk region, where Kyiv launched a surprise incursion in August.

In effect, the Biden administration is telling Ukraine that it will support its efforts to hold onto the



Volodymyr Zelensky (left) has been urging Joe Biden (right) to allow Ukraine to use its long-range missiles inside Russia for months.

small chunk of Russian territory it currently occupies, as a powerful bargaining chip for any possible negotiations in the future.

Serhiy Kuzan, chairman of the Kyiv-based Ukrainian Security and Cooperation Centre, told the BBC that Joe Biden's decision was "very important" to the country.

"It's not something that will change the course of the war, but I think it will make our forces more equal."

Unnamed US officials have told the New York Times and the Washington Post that Biden's approval of Ukraine's use of the ATACMS came in response to Russia's decision to allow North Korean soldiers to fight in Ukraine.

Mr Kuzan said Sunday's decision came just in time to

counter the expected start of a major assault by Russian and Korean troops, designed to dislodge Ukrainian forces from Russia's Kursk region. The assault is expected within days.

Ukraine has previously estimated that there are 11,000 North Korean soldiers in Kursk.

There is another knock-on consequence. President Biden's decision will finally enable Britain and France to grant Ukraine permission to use long-range Storm Shadow missiles inside Russia.

Neither the UK nor France has yet responded to Biden's decision.

ATACMS can reach up to 300km (186 miles) and are tough to intercept due to their high speed.

Last month, Zelensky

confirmed that Ukraine had used US-supplied long-range missiles for the first time to strike Russian targets in the country's east.

For months, Ukraine has been battling to push back Russian troops who have been slowly advancing in the eastern Donetsk region towards the key city of Pokrovsk - a major supply hub for Ukrainian forces.

Moscow has also massively increased its number of drone strikes on Ukraine. More than 2,000 were launched in October, according to Ukraine's general staff - a record number in the war.

Overnight on Saturday, Russia launched what is thought to be its biggest co-ordinated assault in months, killing at least 10

*cont'd on pg 18*





Players of the Garden Stars FC. (File photo)

## Garden Stars go top of Premier Division

Garden Stars FC extended their unbeaten run to five matches to jump to the top of the standings in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Saturday.

The Garden Stars notched up their fourth win

in five matches by snatching a 1-0 victory against Parham FC in the second game of a double header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Wilden Cornwall Jr. scored the winner and only goal of the match in the 15th minute for the Garden Stars, who advanced to 13

points from five matches and moved to the top of the Premier Division League.

Parham FC is still searching for their first win and will remain in the cellar of the 14-team round-robin competition without any points after crashing to their fifth defeat in as many

matches.

The Willikies Warriors recorded their third win in five matches with a 3-1 victory against John Hughes FC in the opening game on Saturday.

Novelle Francis Jr. scored in the seventh minute, Zahdeir Forde had a 24th-minute conversion, and Nadre Thomas scored in the 70th minute for Willikies.

Deno Bryan scored a consolation goal for John Hughes when he converted a penalty kick in the 82nd minute.

The result allows the Willikies Warriors to advance to nine points from five matches, and John Hughes FC will remain on four points after suffering their third defeat in five encounters.

### *cont'd from pg 17*

people. Around 120 missiles and 90 drones were launched, according to Zelensky.

Attacks continued on Sunday evening, with officials in Sumy region - near the Russian border - reporting another eight killed, including two children, after a missile hit a residential building.

Ukraine has argued that its allies have not provided the country with enough support to allow it to effectively defend itself.

Joe Biden, who will leave the White House in January, has been seeking to expedite further aid to Ukraine.

There are concerns that his successor, Donald Trump, will slow or halt any further support.

He has described the military support as a drain on US resources and has signalled he will end the war, without explaining how this would happen.

The US has been the greatest supplier of arms to Ukraine. Between the start of the war and the end of June 2024, it delivered or committed to send weapons and equipment worth \$55.5bn (£41.5bn), according to the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, a German research organisation.

# Sports News



## West Indies restore pride with victory over England in fourth T20I

GROS ISLET, St. Lucia (Reuters) - West Indies restored some pride by securing a thrilling five-wicket victory against England with a blistering run chase in their Twenty20 International (T20I) in St. Lucia on Saturday.

A big-hitting 55 from opener Phil Salt and an even more aggressive unbeaten 62 from Jacob Bethell, who brought up his second T20I half-century with three successive sixes, helped England post an imposing 218 for five from their 20 overs.

In reply, West Indies openers Shai Hope and Evin Lewis smashed 136 off the first nine overs to put the hosts in the driving seat, with captain Rovman Powell's 38 steering his side to their highest-ever successful run chase in the Caribbean with six balls to spare.

England nonetheless hold an insurmountable 3-1 series lead into the fifth and final T20I showdown took place at the same venue on Sunday.

"We've been losing early wickets so we needed to understand the best remedy to combat their bowlers," Hope said.

"I just believe in doing what the team requires. Obviously, different situations require different approaches. Just doing what the team need in a particular moment."

With the series victory



West Indies' Shai Hope, right, and Evin Lewis celebrate scoring a hundred runs during their partnership against England during the fourth T20 cricket match at Daren Sammy National Cricket Stadium in Gros Islet, St. Lucia, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024. (AP)

already wrapped up, England's aggressive top order could really loosen the shackles after being put into bat first, with Salt, a centurion in the opening T20 of the series, in particularly fine fettle, racing to a 32-ball 50.

Salt, who now has 640 runs against West Indies in T20 cricket - more than any other England batsman has scored against a single opponent - helped the tourists amass more than 100 runs inside the first 10 overs of a T20I when batting first for only the seventh time.

Skipper Jos Buttler continued the big hitting, but it was Bethell who stole the show, hammering nine boundaries to all corners of the ground en route to his highest T20I score to date.

With England firmly in the driving seat and the West Indies top order struggling in the series before Saturday's encounter, few gave the hosts any chance of victory, but Lewis and Hope slammed 10 sixes on their way to match-winning contributions of 68 and 54, respectively.

Three wickets in three

balls saw Hope, Lewis and Nicholas Pooran depart, Hope ran out for the second match in a row, to swing the pendulum England's way once more, but the hosts' score of 138 for three was still their highest after 10 overs of a T20I innings.

Powell, the only West Indies batsman who has performed consistently throughout the series, again took the attack to England, before Sherfane Rutherford sent back-to-back sixes sailing over the boundary rope to secure the West Indies victory.





The CPTSA Wings football team. Wings played to a goalless draw with Bethesda at the Bethesda playing field on Friday, November 15, 2024. (CPTSA Wings Sports Club)

## Young Lions and English Harbour's perfect runs end in Second Division

The Young Lions of Old Road and English Harbour FC both dropped points when their perfect starts were ended during the latest round of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League.

The Young Lions, which had won their first three encounters, remain unbeaten after four matches but were held to a 1-1 draw by Real Blizzard at the ABFA Technical Center.

Nathan Fenton scored in the 22nd minute to put Real Blizzard ahead, and Marcus Joseph snatched the equalizer for the Young Lions by converting a penalty kick in the 36th minute.

The result allows Real Blizzard to pick up their first point in three matches after losing their first two encounters.

English Harbour FC, which had won their first three matches, lost for the first time in four encounters in a 4-0 defeat against Golden Grove FC at the Golden Grove playing field.

Tyler Anthony scored twice with

conversions in the 22nd and 76th minutes, Nyique Baptiste scored in the 75th minute, and Stephen Hughes had an 88th-minute conversion for Golden Grove FC, which advances to six points after recording their second win in three matches.

After winning their first two matches, Bethesda FC also dropped points when they played to a goalless draw against CPTSA Wings at the Bethesda playing field.

The result carries Bethesda FC to seven points from three matches, while the CPTSA Wings picked up their first point in three encounters after losing their first two games.

Guydadli FC claimed their second win in four matches by snatching a 3-2 victory against Blackburn Palace FC at the PMS playing field.

Michael Peters scored twice with conversions in the 36th and 59th minutes, and Teroy Ponde scored in the 34th minute for Guydadli FC, which advances to six points from four match-

es.

Ivan Grant scored an own goal in the 45th minute, and Diondre Harri-gan had a 57th-minute conversion for Blackburn Palace FC, which will remain on three points after suffering their first defeat in two matches.

In an earlier encounter, Belmont FC won for the third time in four matches with a 4-3 victory against Sea View Farm FC at the Cashew Hill playing field.

The result carries Belmont FC to nine points from four matches, while it was the first defeat in three matches for Sea View Farm FC, which remains on six points after winning their first two matches.

The Second Division will continue with two matches on Monday (today) at 4:20 pm.

Glanvilles FC will take on Earthquake FC at the Glanvilles playing field, and TAMO FC will clash with the Young Warriors FC at the Golden Grove playing field.



# Sports News



## CWI names Windies squad for home Test series against Bangladesh

Cricket West Indies (CWI) announced the West Indies Test squad for the highly anticipated two-match series against Bangladesh.

This home series, scheduled from November 22 to 4 December 4, 2024, in Antigua and Jamaica, marks a crucial chapter as the team looks to capitalize on home conditions and finish the World Test Championship on a high note.

Led by Kraigg Brathwaite, the squad features an exciting mix of seasoned, in-form players and fresh talent. The in-form Justin Greaves is in the squad following a sensational run in the CG United Super50 Cup, where he smashed three centuries.

His recent performances have been a highlight of the domestic season and underscore how pivotal domestic platforms are for the next generation of talent.

Kevin Sinclair also returns to the squad as a valuable spin bowling option, while Jason Holder will miss the series as he continues rehabilitation for a shoulder injury.

West Indies fans throughout the region can catch the action on ESPN Caribbean, while in Bangladesh, the Toffee digital platform will feature the matches.

Meanwhile, ahead of the series, Test captain Kraigg Brathwaite will lead a CWI Select XI, 13-man squad, for



Justin Greaves

the two-day warm-up match against Bangladesh, scheduled for November 17 and 18 at the CWI-owned Coolidge Cricket Ground (CCG) in Antigua.

This warm-up match holds significant importance in preparation for the main Test series. It offers a valuable opportunity for fringe players to showcase their skills in a competitive setting, while also providing Test players with an opportunity to fine-tune their form.

Head Coach Andre Coley remarked on the upcoming series.

“We expect the series

against Bangladesh to be a competitive one between two emerging squads. The build up to the series, through the two-day warm-up match and training camp will provide us with the best possible preparation, as they will afford opportunities for both experienced and emerging players to fine-tune their skills ahead of the Test series.”

The CWI Select XI primarily consists of players not selected for their territorial CG United Super50 squads, allowing emerging talent to gain important exposure ahead of the series.

The match also presents

a chance to develop young coaching talent, with Nikita Miller, a former West Indies international and first-class veteran, heading the coaching unit.

Antigua and Barbuda’s Pernel Watley, a locally identified pathway coach, will provide additional support.

### West Indies Test Squad:

Kraigg Brathwaite (captain), Joshua Da Silva (vice-captain), Alick Athanaze, Keacy Carty, Justin Greaves, Kavem Hodge, Tevin Imlach, Alzarri Joseph, Shamar Joseph, Mikyle Louis, Anderson Phillip, Kemar Roach, Jayden Seales, Kevin Sinclair, and Jomel Warrican.

### Team Management:

Head Coach: Andre Coley; Team Manager: Rawl Lewis; Assistant Coach (Batting): Jimmy Adams; Assistant Coach (Bowling): James Franklyn; Assistant Coach (Fielding/Wicket-Keeping): Jamal Smith; Physiotherapist: Dr. Denis Byam; Strength & Conditioning Coach: Ronald Rogers; Masseuse: Darc Browne; Team Analyst: Avenesh Seetaram; and Media Officer: Jerome Foster.

### CWI Select XI Warm-Up Match Squad:

Kraigg Brathwaite (captain), Justin Greaves (vice-captain), Ryan Bando, Daniel Beckford, Navian Bidaisee, Joshua Dorne, Nathan Edward, Chaim Holder, Tevin Imlach, Jordan Johnson, Jair McAllister, Shaaron Lewis, and Kimani Melius.



## SAP FC remains unbeaten but drop points in First Division

SAP FC dropped their first points in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division during the latest round of matches.

Tyrique Tonge snatched an equalizer in the final moments of the game to preserve SAP's unbeaten start to their First Division campaign by salvaging a 1-1 draw against Jennings United at the Bolans playing field.

Following a goalless first half, Tonge scored in the second minute of added time (90 + 2 minutes) for SAP FC after Jean-Pierre Williams converted a penalty kick in the 66th minute to give Jennings United the lead.

It was the first draw in four matches for SAP FC, which had won all three previous matches to advance to 10 points. Jennings United

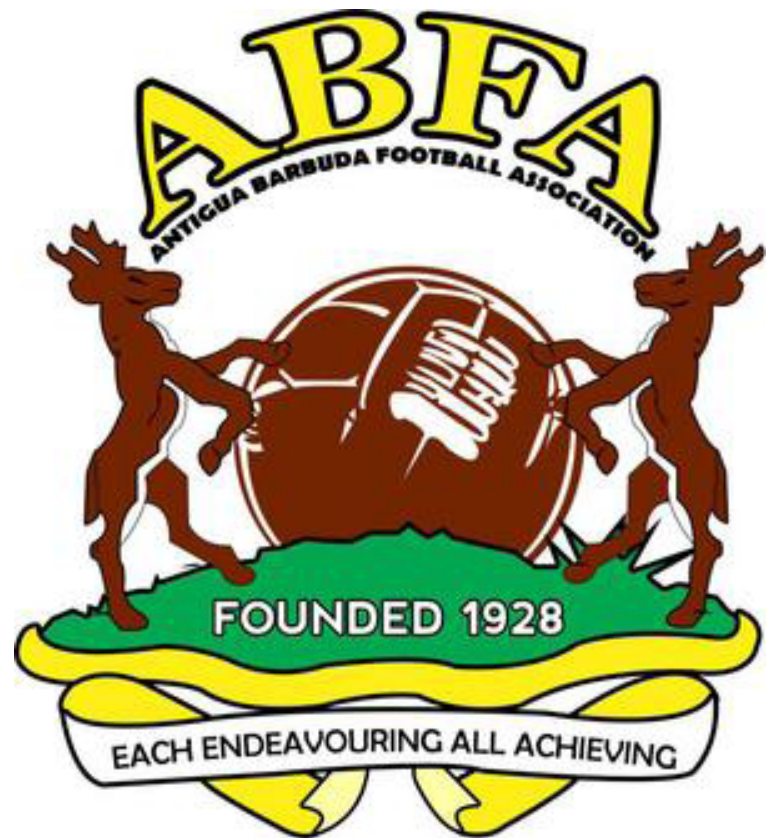
also remains unbeaten after drawing for the second time in four encounters to advance to eight points.

Swetes FC claimed their second win in three matches by snatching a 3-2 victory against FC Master Ballerz at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints Village.

The goals for Swetes FC were scored by Jondale Jno-Lewis in the 16th minute, Shalon Knight in the 51st minute, and Tnoy Andrew in the 55th minute.

Shemarah Andrew had a 14th-minute conversion, and Greg Eustace Williams scored in the 87th minute for FC Master Ballers, who lost for the second time in three matches.

Joumol Semper struck a hat trick as Police claimed their second win in four matches with a 4-0 drubbing of the bottom team, the Liberta Blackhawks, at the



ABFA Technical Center.

Spencer had conversions in the 17th, 60th, and 75th minutes, and Jalan Willock scored the other goal in the 24th minute for the Police.

The Liberta Blackhawks

remain in the cellar of the First Division after suffering their fourth loss in as many games.

After suffering defeats in their first two encounters, Lion Hill FC recorded their first win in three matches with a 4-0 drubbing of Bolans FC at the Golden Grove playing field.

Tristan Davis scored twice with goals in the 25th and 68th minutes, Jaquan Joseph scored in the 15th minute, and Oneil Brown converted a penalty kick in the 30th minute for Lion Hill FC.

The result ensured that Bolans FC will remain on three points after crashing to their second defeat in three matches.

*cont'd from pg 24*

Heinz Mörschel each recorded twice. Romero started the scoring as he elevated over defenders and headed in the opening goal in the 13th minute.

Travist Joseph scored an equalizer for Dominica in the 30th minute, unleashing a rocket from distance.

The Dominican Republic responded by regaining their lead in the 37th minute as Mörschel scored with a superb strike of his own. He added his second in the 49th minute, converting a rebound in the penalty area to give the Dominican Republic a 3-1 lead.

Romero's low strike in the 65th min-

ute went past goalkeeper Glenison Prince to further extend the lead for the Dominican Republic.

Rafael Mata scored in the 68th minute, and Erick Paniagua scored the final goal for the Dominican Republic when he converted a penalty kick in the fifth minute of added time (90 + 5 minutes).

The winner of Group D will earn promotion to League A and a spot at the 2025 CONCACAF Gold Cup.

The second and third place finishers will remain in League B, and the team that finishes in the cellar will be relegated to League C for the next edition of the CONCACAF Nations League.

## More misery for Benna Boys in CNL

Antigua and Barbuda's senior national team, the Benna Boys, plunged further to being relegated to League C in the CONCACAF Nations League (CNL) after suffering another defeat in their penultimate match in Group D of League B in the Dominican Republic on Saturday.

Antigua and Barbuda remain in the cellar of the four-team Group D after slipping to a 2-1 defeat against second-placed Bermuda at the Estadio Cibao FC in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic.

Antigua and Barbuda's demise started in the eighth minute by conceding an own goal as defender Zafique Drew tried to clear the ball off his line and knocked it into his net.

Bermuda extended the lead in the 48th minute when Reggie Lambe scored off the volley.

Antigua and Barbuda tried to spark a rally as substitute Daryl Massicot curled in a beautiful shot in the 69th minute to cut the deficit by one.



The Antigua and Barbuda starting XI for their CONCACAF Nations League Group D match against Bermuda at the Estadio Cibao FC in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, on Saturday, November 16, 2024. (ABFA Media)

However, the Benna Boys were unable to make further inroads and slumped to their fifth defeat in as many matches to remain in the cellar of Group D without any points and only one game remaining.

Their latest win over Antigua and Barbuda allows Bermuda to stay in contention for the top spot

in Group D. Bermuda is in second place in Group D with 12 points, three behind leaders Dominican Republic.

Bermuda's final match will be against the Dominican Republic on Tuesday as they battle for that top spot.

Antigua and Barbuda will also play their final

match in Group D at the same venue on Tuesday when they face Dominica as both teams try to avoid relegation.

The Dominican Republic remained undefeated in the tournament with a 6-1 victory over Dominica on Saturday.

Dorny Romero and  
*cont'd on pg 23*