

BY-ELECTION DAY IN ST. PETER

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By-Election Day in St. Peter

The people of St. Peter are going to the polls today (Tuesday January 14) to select a candidate who will represent them in the House of Representative.

The Antigua and Barbu-

da Labour Party has named Rawdon Turner as its candidate while the opposition, United Progressive Party has named George Wehner as its standard bearer.

Supervisor of Elections,

Ian Hughes said approximately 21-hundred people have applied for Voter ID replacement cards in order to exercise their franchise. That is from a total of 28-hundred people whose

Voter ID cards needed to be replaced.

Hughes said people with expired Voter ID cards may still participate in the election by going to the ABEC office to apply for temporary cards.

According to the Supervisor of Elections there are 4,762 persons eligible to vote in the by-election. Polls open at 6:00 am and run until 6:00 pm. There are eleven polling stations set up to facilitate the voting process. Voting will take place at Parham Primary, Pares Primary and the Precision Centre.

The Returning Officer for the constituency is Rev. Stephen Samuel who will have a team of 40 persons working along with him assisting with the voting process.

Hughes also reported that persons were picking up their cards at the Precision Centre Monday night taking advantage of the extension of the hours to do so.

He said everything is in place for a smooth voting process and he does not anticipate any issues as voters turn up to the polling stations to cast their ballots.

Counting of the votes will take place at the Parham Primary School roughly an hour after the end of voting.

The by-election became necessary following the untimely death of the then representative, Asot Michael.

VACANCY

Position Description: Assistant Auto-Parts Manager

Position Summary:

The Assistant Automotive Parts Manager strives to assist the Parts Manager in returning a satisfactory profit on dealer capital invested in parts inventory. Accomplishes objectives using proper purchasing procedures, inventory control, staff utilization, security and pricing.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities include:

- Assist the Parts Manager with forecast goals and objectives for the department and strives to meet them.
- Monitors the performance of all parts department staff.
- Assist with the preparation of the annual operating budget for the parts department.
- Ensure adherence to established individual parts inventory levels and balances for maximum turnover.
- Ensures that parts inventory turns at least four times per year.
- Monitors and adjusts inventory to minimize obsolescence.
- Supervises stock order procedures.
- Enforce the policy on the special ordering of parts.
- Analyzes inventory, sales and expenses monthly to maintain profit goals.
- Analyzes departmental operations and storage layout and make recommendations as needed for maximum effectiveness.
- Coordinates a prompt, efficient and timely flow of paperwork.
- Supervise shipping and receiving efforts to ensure timely processing.
- Monitors daily reports such as sales productivity.
- Understands, keeps abreast of, and complies with local regulations that may affect parts sales.
- Maintains professional conduct with staff and customers.
- Assist with organizing the physical annual stock taking with the auditors
- Ensures that all stock received is adequately processed and entered into the inventory.
- Assist with the quarterly reconciliation of physical stock levels to computerized stock levels for selected stock items.

Skills

- Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals.
- Ability to read, analyze and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations.
- Ability to write reports, business correspondence, and procedure manuals.
- Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from groups of managers, clients, customers and the public.
- Ability to respond to common inquiries or complaints from customers, regulatory agencies or members of the business community.
- Ability to apply concepts such as fractions, percentages, ratios and proportions to practical situations.

Desired Qualifications & Experience:

- A university graduate
- Three (3) to five (10) years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience in inventory management preferably auto-inventory.
- Knowledge of automotive dealership software (especially CDK) would be an assets
- Sound knowledge of the automotive industry

The successful candidate should email applications to accting.officer@gmail.com on or before **January 22,2025**.



Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs Minister convenes planning meeting with staff

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs, E.P Chet Greene, on Monday convened separate departmental meetings with staff to plan the various work programmes for the upcoming year.

Accompanied by the Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Clarence Pilgrim, Greene first met with the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who he thanked for their efforts which led to the ministry receiving much kudos for its performances for 2024. He said the efforts of the ministry became highly visible especially with the successful staging of the 4th Conference of Small Island Developing States (SIDS 4) held in May last year.

“Success breeds success, and it is not enough for us to sit on our laurels now that a new year is before us with new challenges and new opportunities. The government has signaled its intention to build upon those successes of the past to host several international conferences this year, including the Organisation of American States (OAS) in June. This ministry will be expected to play a lead

role in the organisation and execution of those plans,” he noted.

Minister Greene spoke of plans to set up a special working committee to begin the work of planning for the conference as well as to identify a suitable location to establish a secretariat.

On the issue of training, the minister said that this is going to be an area of focus for the ministry over the coming months and he is committed to upskilling the human resource capacity within the ministry. He urged the staff members to take advantage of the many opportunities that are available for training.

He also spoke of the need to develop a cadre of individuals who at a moment’s notice will be able to fill openings that will develop from time to time in the diplomatic services. He added that this is an area of immediate need.

Later in the day, Minister Greene and PS Pilgrim met with the staff from the other departments including Ministry of Trade, Consumers Affairs Division, the Bureau of Standards, Stiches 365 as well as the Office of the National Authorising Officer.

There, Minister Greene again emphasized the need for staff members to engage in continuous education and training, noting that where possible, they should pursue training even in areas that are not necessarily their specialty. This, in the end will result in more rounded, staff members.

In the two meetings, both Minister Greene and PS Pil-

grim spoke of the need for a more sustained public relations efforts noting that a special communications unit has been created to provide information on the happenings within the ministry in an ongoing basis.

The ministry officials are expected to travel to Barbuda on Friday for a meeting of the Barbuda Department of the ministry.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
A.D. 2025

AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Instructed by the ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DEVELOPMENT BANK of 27 St. Mary’s Street, in the City of Saint John, in the State of Antigua and Barbuda, I will sell by public auction on Wednesday 5 February 2025 at 11:00 a.m. on site, the under mentioned wooden residential dwelling registered in the name of Shemeca Colbourne of Golden Grove Ext, St. John’s, Antigua.

The Chattel Dwelling House is located in Golden Grove Extension, St. John’s Antigua, and comprises of a 700 sq. ft. duplex situated on 0.10 acre of leasehold land owned by William D. Martin. Each of the duplex units consists of an open living/ dining room, kitchen, 1 bedroom, and 1 bathroom. The service lines for potable water, electricity and telephone which are provided by A.P.U.A are accessible to the property.

The leasehold land is registered under the Registered Land Act, 1975 as follows: -

REGISTRATION SECTION: Five Islands
BLOCK: 54 1489A
PARCEL: 1729

Leasehold Parcel No. 1729 of Block No. 54 1489A is bounded by the following:

- On the North by: Parcel 1728;
- On the South by: Access Road;
- On the East by: Parcel 1152;
- On the West by: Parcel 1726 & 1728

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Local News

Court grants Forfeiture of over \$14 million US dollars and €17 million Euros

On 13th November 2024, Justice Rene Williams in the High Court of Justice granted the Attorney General a Recovery Order under section 60BB of the Proceeds of Crime Act 1993 forfeiting all the property of the Panamanian company Creswell Overseas SA held at Meinl Bank (Antigua) Ltd. (In Receivership). This included the recovery of \$14,019,257.08 United States Dollars and €17,587,692.84 Euros.

The claim was based on the financial investigations of the Office of National Drug and Money Laundering Control Policy (ONDCP) which froze the funds and proceeded to do a thorough investigation after Creswell Overseas SA demanded the release of

its monies but failed and refused to provide proof of business contracts alleged to be the basis on which monies in its accounts had been paid to it.

The claim alleged that investigators of the ONDCP had found links to the Brazilian company Odebrecht.

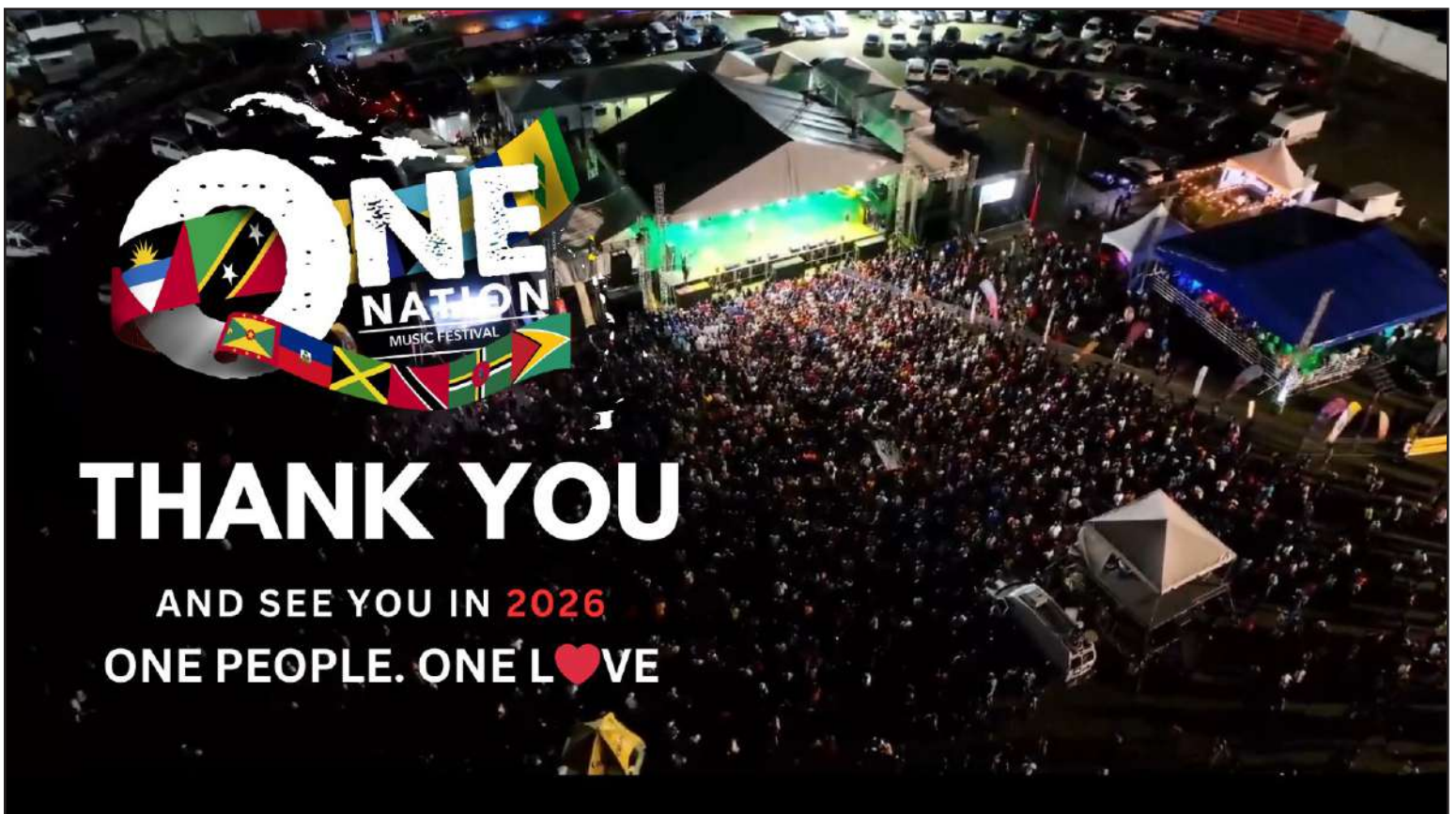
The case for the Recovery Order alleged that monies in the accounts at Meinl Bank (Antigua) Ltd. came from accounts controlled by the Brazilian company Odebrecht SA as part of the notorious Operation Car Wash, alleged to be in connection with the payment of bribes in relation to awarding of or the payment of invoices connected to large-scale construction contracts.

The Court, taking into consideration the guidance of the Privy Coun-

cil in *Lux Locations v. Yida Zhang* [2023] was satisfied that the grounds for the judgement was met.

The Director of the ONDCP, Lt. Col Edward Croft, has expressed great satisfaction with the performance of his financial investigators of the ONDCP's Investigations Department, whose investigations have brought about the recovery of the proceeds of ill-gotten gains and thereby taken the profit out of crime.

Director Croft indicated that the year of 2024 ended reasonably well with the ONDCP successful pursuing several forfeitures, confiscation and civil recovery orders of property to the value in excess of US \$35,214,698.61 or EC \$ 95,079,686.25.





Thank you

The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission, under the auspices of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all who contributed to the successful staging of our first One Nation Music Festival.

We are immensely grateful to our esteemed sponsors for their unwavering support and belief in the vision of this festival. Special thanks to our executive producers: Antigua Barbuda Tourism Authority and Citizenship by Investment Unit. Our Partner Producers: Brydens, Carib, Remy Martin, INET, Arton Capital, Kingdom Soundz Ministries Antigua, Point Broadcast Network, and LAVA International. Our Media Partners: ABS - TV & Radio, Bakanal TV, Flava FM, Jump FM, and VIBZ FM. Your contributions were instrumental in bringing this event to life.

To my amazing One Nation Team, from Management to Logistics, Marketing, Hospitality, Drivers, Engineers and the Men-At-Work, this festival was executed at the highest level of professionalism and expertise. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude for your hard work and dedication.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our service providers who went above and beyond the call of duty. Your dedication and professionalism ensured the festival's seamless execution.

To the incredible lineup of artists, from nightly hosts and DJs to our musicians, local, regional, and international, you were all selected with intention and purpose. You understood the assignment and delivered first-class performances that made One Nation Music Festival high-energy, electrifying, memorable, emotional and almost magical.

To our amazing patrons, thank you for entrusting us with your presence at this festival. Your support, compliance with changes, and unwavering pursuit were vital to its success. You helped create an atmosphere of unity and celebration that truly embodied the spirit of **"One Nation, One People."**

This inaugural One Nation Music Festival was historic, representing inclusiveness and unity. As we reflect on this achievement, we look forward to building upon this foundation for an even more spectacular festival in 2026.

Yours in Gratitude,

Amb. Elizabeth Makhoul
Chairperson, Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission

ONE PEOPLE. ONE LOVE

Local News



Antiguan-born psychotherapist and former UN official offers free therapy sessions

In light of the urgent need to support persons, families and communities affected by a series of complex and traumatic life experiences, former United Nations (UN) official and international psychotherapist Jamion Knight is offering free trauma recovery and psychotherapy sessions to Antiguan and Barbudans.

This support is being provided through the Mental Fitness Centre initiative which was recently launched by Knight, a British-trained psychotherapist and trauma recovery coach who was born and raised in English Harbour.

“There are many people who are finding it difficult to sleep and concentrate properly due to life challenges such as cancer, negative childhood experiences, nightmares and unwanted sexual experiences. Some are suffering in silence as they are unable to get help due to a lack of funds. I want to help them smile and laugh again. I want to help them fulfil their potential. Therefore, I will be spending 2025 volun-

teering my services to those who need help,” said Knight.

“From my experience working on mental health issues in different parts of the world, I have noted that people are becoming more open to speaking with mental health professionals about the challenges that they face. This means that there is increasing demand for support. However, in addition to the financial challenges, there are other factors preventing them from getting support such as the inability to get appointments at night and on the weekends. The Mental Fitness Centre will be responding to this reality by offering flexible appointment options,” Knight emphasized.

The support being offered by the Mental Fitness Centre will be provided online and through face-to-face sessions to persons living in Antigua and Barbuda, Kenya, Rwanda, Costa Rica, Syria and Sierra Leone. Each person supported by the Centre can receive up to 5 sessions, following a 30-minute



Jamion Knight

telephone evaluation. Once the sessions are completed, the Centre will collaborate with them to develop a personal development plan. This support is one of the pillars of the International Mental Fitness Initiative which has been launched by Knight, and which is focused on building resilient communities across the world in the face of climate change, conflict and humanitarian crises.

Knight, a former island scholar, has worked alongside cancer survivors through

the Macmillan Cancer Support, one of the largest cancer charities in the world. He has received training in a wide range of areas such as Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PET), Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for insomnia and suicide prevention, mental health in complex emergencies, and working with male victims of sexual violence. He is registered with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and received a MSc in Mental Health and Psychological Therapies from Queen Mary University of London and a MSc in Counselling and Psychotherapy from Keele University in the UK. In addition, he has a MA in Diplomacy, International Law and International Economics from SOAS, University of London, and a Diploma in Mediation and Conflict Resolution from the Alberto Hurtado University in Chile.

Deon Lloyd remanded to prison until March 26

Murder accused Deon Lloyd of Lower Ottos has been remanded in prison until March 26 following his first court appearance on Monday.

Lloyd is charged with the murder of Jevon Williams following an incident on January 2, this year, when he allegedly shot and killed the victim. Williams died

on the spot.

However, Lloyd himself was hospitalized for wounds he encountered in the incident that led to the shooting.

He appeared before Senior Magistrate, Ngaio Emanuel, with his right hand in a cast. He is being defended by Wendel Alexander.



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ONE PEOPLE. ONE LOVE

Commentary



As the bell tolls...

By E.P Chet Greene

The bell tolls in the St. Peter's constituency, signaling the imminence of bi-election 2025 which effectively marks the end of an era and the beginning of a new and transformative chapter in Antigua and Barbuda politics. The shocking murder of MP Asot Michael has set the stage for a consequential by-election, one that will reshape the political landscape of the nation.

The legal requirements for a by-election have seen a compressed campaign season in St. Peter's, creating an intense and high-pressure environment for political contenders. While the United Progressive Party (UPP) scrambled to field a viable candidate, the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) seized the moment with strategic precision, rallying around Rawdon Turner as our champion. The legal timeline has brought to the forefront the stark contrasts between the parties, their candidates and their readiness to lead.

Turner's ascendancy has been nothing short of remarkable. Through a combination of organization, discipline and a track record of delivering public services, he has emerged as the clear frontrunner. Turner's approach resonates with the electorate, offering a tangible and practical vision for St. Peter's that contrasts



sharply with the floundering efforts of his opponent.

His campaign has been characterized by a boots-on-the-ground strategy, addressing immediate community concerns while presenting a broader vision of governance. From infrastructure improvements to social initiatives, Turner has demonstrated that leadership is not just about promises but more so about delivering results. His ability to connect with constituents and mobilize grassroots support has solidified his position as a beacon of hope in a constituency which has nurtured him from childhood.

In stark contrast, the UPP's choice of candidate, George Wehner has proven to be a misstep. Void of charisma, bereft of political acumen or a compelling platform, Wehner's campaign has failed to gain traction. Political observers, including UPP sympathizers, have labeled his selection as symptomatic of a party out

of touch with its base and the needs of the electorate. This miscalculation underscores deeper issues within the UPP, exposing it as a party struggling to find its footing in an evolving political landscape.

The UPP's inability to mount a credible challenge in St. Peter's is emblematic of a broader crisis within the party. Once a formidable force, the UPP now appears bereft of leadership, talent and energy. Internal divisions, lackluster campaigns and a failure to articulate a coherent vision for the future have left the party in disarray.

As the by-election looms, the UPP faces not just the prospect of defeat but the risk of irrelevance. Rumors of key members preparing to exit the party abound, with speculation that a new political entity could emerge from the ashes of this once formidable organization. Such a development would mark a seismic shift in Antigua and Bar-

buda's political dynamics, further eroding the UPP's influence and relevance.

A victory for Rawdon Turner in St. Peter's is more than a win for the ABLP; it is a renewed contract with the people. Turner's election signals a new era of politics and governance, one characterized by accountability, responsiveness and a focus on tangible outcomes.

For Antigua and Barbuda, this by-election is a watershed moment. It is a reminder that leadership matters, that vision and execution are non-negotiable and that the electorate will no longer tolerate mediocrity. Turner's rise represents a departure from the past, heralding a future where political leaders are expected to earn the trust and confidence of the people through action and results.

As the bell tolls for the by-election in St. Peter's, the stakes have never been higher. St. Peter's under Turner's leadership, stands poised to usher in a new chapter of progress, prosperity and stability. Meanwhile, the UPP faces an existential crisis, its future uncertain and its relevance waning. The outcome of this pivotal contest will not only shape the fate of St. Peter's but also redefine the political landscape of Antigua and Barbuda for years to come.

Congratulations are in order.

Celebrating a Remarkable Life: Lucy Braithwaite - 95



Born on January 14, 1930, Lucy Braithwaite has lived an extraordinary life rooted in service, love, and community. Originally from Cedar Grove, Lucy moved to the Point community before settling in Villa, where she has resided for over 70 years.

A dedicated member of the Villa Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lucy's youthful and adult years were devoted to various ministries. She was especially active in In-Gathering efforts, tirelessly collecting contributions to assist those in need—victims of disasters such as fires and hurricanes, as well as vulnerable families in her community.

Lucy's compassion extended beyond her church work. She was known for feeding children in the community and ensuring they attended Sabbath School. Her selflessness and commitment to others left an indelible mark on all who knew her.

Even at 95, Lucy remains active. She enjoys reading, walking through her community, pruning her trees, and manicuring her lawn. Her resilience and vibrant spirit inspire all who encounter her.

One of Lucy's favourite hymns, *Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me*, reflects her lifelong dedication to her faith and service. She holds deep love for her adopted daughter, Verlyn Wright, and her family, especially her grandson, Officer Jamal Wright, and Hon. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda.

Lucy's legacy is further enriched by her cherished siblings' families: Charles Harris, Johnaton Harris, Steadman Harris, Marilyn Harris, Coralita Harris, and Beryl Harris.

Today, we salute Lucy Braithwaite for her unwavering contributions to her community and church and for her enduring example of love, faith, and service.

Workplace



Dadli Directory launches new jobs section: Connecting job seekers and employers across Antigua & Barbuda

Antigua & Barbuda's leading business directory, Dadli Directory, is proud to announce the launch of its brand-new **Jobs Section**, a dedicated platform designed to connect talented job seekers with top employers across the nation. The new feature aims to simplify the job search. This can be found at dadlirectory.com/jobs

A One-Stop Hub for Employment Opportunities The Jobs Section on Dadli Directory is an intuitive and user-friendly plat-

form that offers a wide range of features for both job seekers and employers. Users can explore:

Up-to-Date Job Listings: Find the latest opportunities across various industries, including hospitality, retail, healthcare, education, and more.

Advanced Search Options: Filter jobs by location, industry, and job type to quickly find positions that match your skills and interests.

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sign: Enjoy a smooth experience whether browsing on desktop or mobile devices.

Empowering Job Seekers and Employers For job seekers, the Jobs Section provides helpful resources such as resume tips, career advice, and the ability to sign up for job alerts tailored to their preferences. Employers can benefit from premium tools, including featured job postings, analytics dashboards to track applications, and access to a growing pool of local talent.

Supporting Economic Growth in Antigua & Barbuda "The launch of the Dadli Directory Jobs is a significant step in our mission to empower individuals and local businesses," said Dwayne Simon, Founder of Dadli Directory. "By creating a centralized hub for employment opportunities, we're helping to drive economic growth and foster stronger connections between employers and job seekers within our community."

Get Started Today The Jobs Section is live now and ready for you! Whether you're searching for your next career move or looking to recruit the best talent, Dadli Directory's Jobs Section is here to help. Visit dadlirectory.com/jobs to explore opportunities or post a job today.

For more information, please contact: dadlirectory@gmail.com

About Dadli Directory Dadli Directory is Antigua & Barbuda's premier online business directory, offering comprehensive listings, advertising solutions, and community-driven features to support local businesses and residents. From real estate to events and now job opportunities, Dadli Directory is committed to connecting the community and driving innovation.

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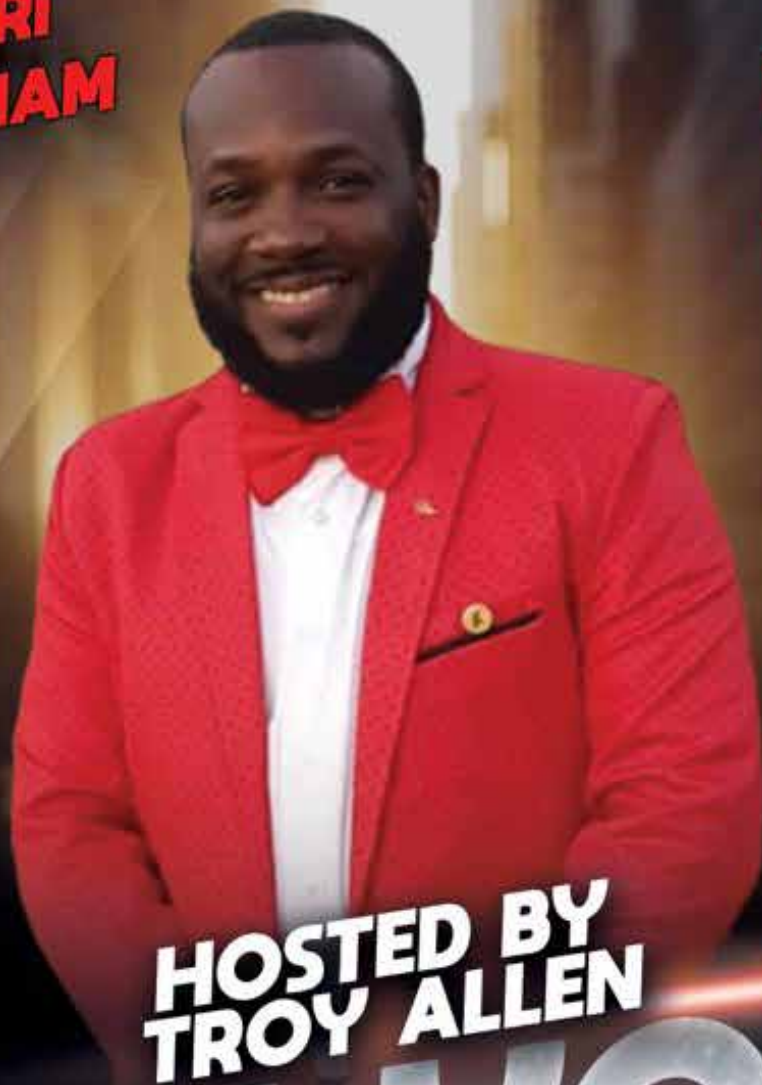
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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Opinion



Bloodbath front, back and behind

By Tony Deyal

Dedicated to the people of the Caribbean who are joining the forces to make their families, homes and countries safe for all.

Jerry Seinfeld, the American stand-up comedian and actor, made the point, “I read a report about an earthquake where local officials trying to explain the damage said, ‘The earthquake wasn’t that bad. It’s just that the buildings weren’t designed to withstand.’ Would you accept an explanation like that in the courtroom? ‘Your Honour, the police didn’t murder this man. His body simply wasn’t designed to withstand bullets.’”

It sounds almost like what the combination of the Jamaican duo, Chaka Demus and Pliers, sang in the 1992 Mango Records album, Bam Bam It’s Murder. It was the best song of all, and five star all the way, mainly because of Murder She Wrote, the song which made it clear, “Murder she wrote/ Murder she wrote ...”

These days, if anyone wants to build on that song, it would be murder she found, wrote, cried, begged for help and pray to God, not just in Jamaica, but Trinidad and several other Caribbean countries, even Barbados. For many, it is an ongoing bloodbath.

Going through the newspapers, we read, “Police minister’s purse stolen at police conference”; “10 police of-

ficers held for stealing from thief”; “Seven officers accused of extortion”; “Three police complainants face discipline after corruption case”; “Cops linked to fatal shooting of three men in East Kingston now”; “Two cops charged with murder over Windward Road triple”; and “Jamaica: First police officer in over six years convicted of murder while on duty”.

The Trinidad Express wrote in an article about crime in Trinidad that, in 2018, there were 82 officers under investigation; in 2019, there were 90; in 2020, 124; and in 2022 there were 133. It added that, from these investigations, evidence was found for criminal intent for 19 officers in 2013; 23 officers in 2019; 16 officers in 2020; and 18 officers in 2021.

Most of the charges laid against officers were for misbehaviour in public office; corruption under the prevention of corruption act (bribe taking); and perversion of the course of public justice. A senior superintendent noted that, in 2019, there were seven convictions; in 2020, 10 convictions; in 2021, there were 12; and for 2022 there were 17 and counting.

When I was a youngster going to elementary school over 70 years ago, all the boys used to play a game called ‘Police and Thief’. In those days, all of us wanted to be “police” to chase down and “lock up” the criminals.

It was not long before



Tony Deyal

we found out that there was absolutely no difference between the two groups – police and thief. They were one and the same. What I found funny is that, when I was 10, I went to another elementary school, this time in Port-of-Spain. There, I found out that they had moved from “police and thief” to “rescue”, or what we thought of as “no police eh see”.

What we didn’t know as we laughed and shouted was what the research saw in the “endorphins” or “feel good chemicals for well-being”. The laughter it activated in us was the same receptors as drugs like heroin with pain-killing, and euphoria-producing elements.

In fact, nervous laughter is very much our brain’s way of dealing with negative emotions or events. It is laughter that happens when we feel anxious, stressed, or uncomfortable.

This is why I share jokes with friends and readers when I’m dealing with crimes, criminals and pun-

ishment. Even though one of my friends told me that I should quit worrying about life because I won’t survive it anyway, I can’t do that. More, I’m certain that my readers in the Caribbean will not run for cover.

As one friend told me, “With election coming in Trinidad and almost all the regional countries in the year ahead, the Government, the Opposition and the Police Service decided to boast about being the best at catching criminals.

“The governor decided to give them a test and released a rabbit into a forest for each of them to catch. The government people, using an FBI support group brought in especially for them, received over 1,000 tips about the rabbit’s location. However, they said it is not their business to investigate, and packed up.

The Caribbean support group for all the national members burnt down the whole forest and said, “Were

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going back to our countries. There are no longer any rabbits here.” But the Police Service was right in its element. They dragged a man out of the forest, beat him badly on his front, back and side until he screamed out loud, “OK, OK, I am a rabbit. True, true officers, I am a rabbit.”

There are jokes, of course, like, “There are a few criminals in Port-of-Spain that keep stealing wheels from police cars parked in the restaurants, clubs and brothels. The cops are working tirelessly to catch the suspects.”

Then one of my real buddies, whose name I will not use, boasted that he was half-way of his dream of being a criminal lawyer. All he needs to do now is to work on the

lawyer part. What I heard in my village where the worst police were posted was a beauty.

There was a criminal there so fat that the police could not surround him because all of them were fatter than him. There are some serious-but-funny ones, like, “A policeman, a thief and a criminal walked into a bar. He demanded a beer from the owner and a bottle of rum to go.”

One that I heard in my days at university in Trinidad was, “Criminals are called criminals because, if they can commit a crime without being caught, most of them would be called politicians, or even police!”

Another told me flatly, “Listen, they say criminals always return to the scene

of the crime. But then they call themselves POLICE and if you laugh, they lock you up!” One of my favourites is, “Why was the police officer sleeping on the job?” He was under cover.

Over cover, what hits all of us is that the streets of Trinidad and, increasingly, Tobago, are a bloodbath. While this might be seen as one-sided, it is still very different and much more frightening than the man who slipped and hit his head in the shower.

Or one who took a shower with a vampire. Or even the lady who wanted to relax when on her period. These were bloodbaths, yes, but nothing like the extreme view of Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Jamaica and other countries today.

Every day seems to be full of crime and murders, like, ‘Five killed in Central Trinidad’; ‘Kidnapped man found dead in Ste Made-line’; ‘13-yr-old girl stabbed, beaten at Chaguanas mall’; ‘Barber shot dead in Sangre Grande’; and ‘18-yr-old killed in Belmont shooting near school’. Kenneth Mohammed, of the British Guardian, made it clear, “Trinidad and Tobago’s streets are a bloodbath. Yet all our politicians offer are platitudes.” Or, like the police in my community, “FATITUDES”.

Tony Deyal was last seen saying that despite knowing he might be harassed by the police for this article, he will be like the blood cell before it died in an artery. It said, “I will not die in vein.”



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Business

TikTok says report of possible sale to Musk 'pure fiction'

By João da Silva

TikTok has called a report that China is considering allowing a sale of the social media company's US operations to Elon Musk "pure fiction."

The firm's comments came in response to a report by Bloomberg that Chinese officials are weighing an option that could see its business in America being sold to the world's richest person if the US Supreme Court upholds a ban on the app.

Supreme Court justices are due to rule on a law that set a 19 January deadline for TikTok to either sell its US operations or face a ban in the country. TikTok has repeatedly said that it will not sell its US operation.

"We can't be expected to comment on pure fiction," a TikTok spokesperson told BBC News.

Bloomberg reported, citing people familiar with the matter, that one possible scenario being considered by Chinese officials would see Musk's X social media platform take control of TikTok's US operations.

Musk is a close ally of US president-elect Donald Trump, who is set to return to the White House on 20 January.

Last month, Trump urged the Supreme Court to delay its decision until he takes office to enable him



to seek a "political resolution".

His lawyer filed a legal brief with the court that says Trump "opposes banning TikTok" and "seeks the ability to resolve the issues at hand through political means once he takes office".


That came a week after Trump met TikTok's chief executive, Shou Zi Chew, at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.


The Biden administration has argued that without a sale, TikTok could be used by China as a tool for spying and political manipulation.

The company has repeatedly denied any influence by the Chinese Communist Party and has said the law to ban it in the US violates the First Amendment free speech rights of its users.

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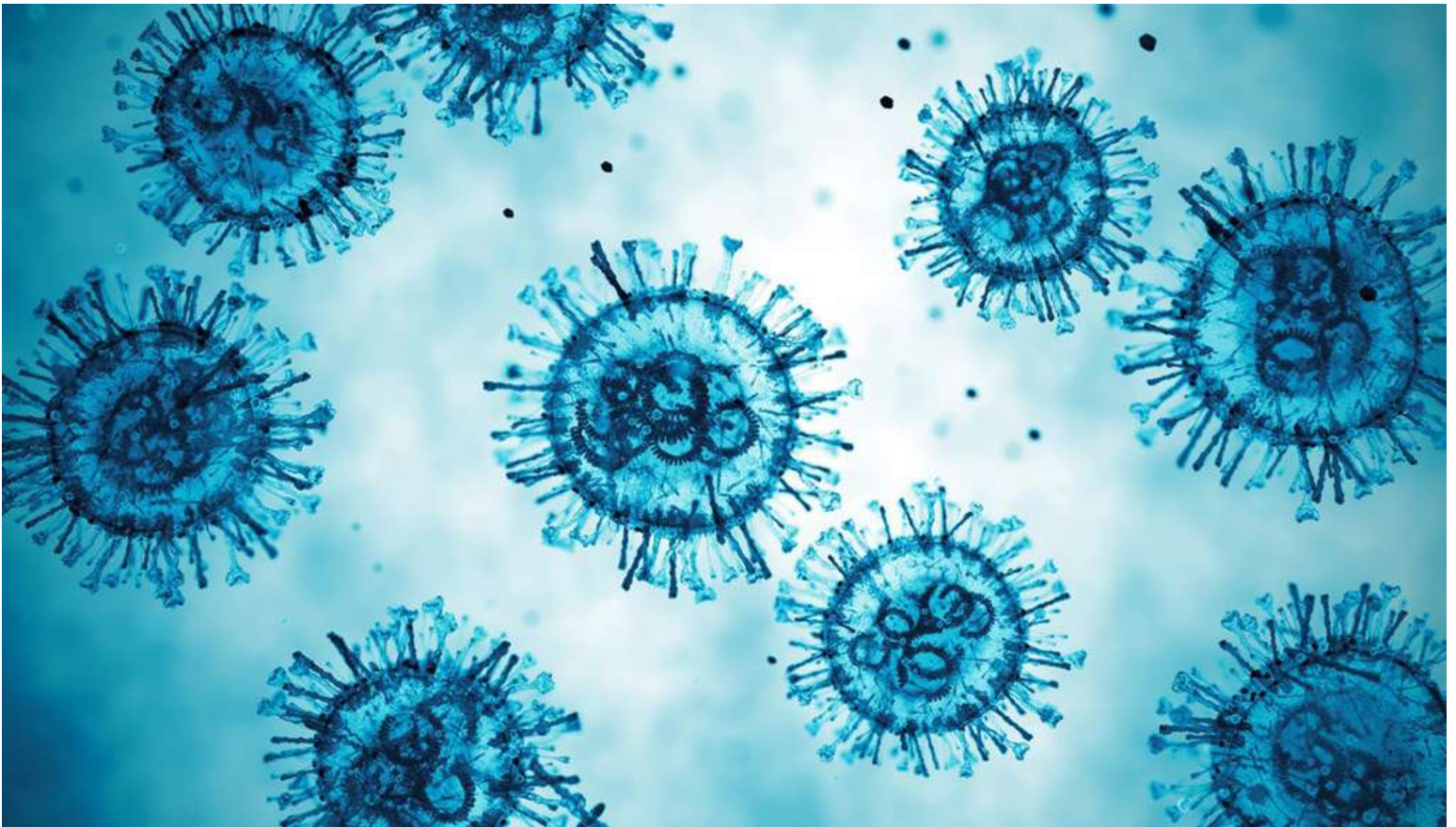
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CARPHA monitoring viruses; says potential exists for increased risk

The Caribbean Public Health Agency says its monitoring seasonal viruses such as the Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) and Influenza, and while currently the risk posed toward the Caribbean is low, there is the potential for increased risk.

In a statement, CARPHA said:

“The reports speak of an increase in cases of Influenza A, Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV), Mycoplasma pneumoniae and COVID-19, resulting in overwhelmed hospitals and crematoriums.

“This reported increase in respiratory infections is expected during the winter period in the northern hemisphere.

“Importantly, CARPHA notes that there have been no official reports, with details, from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, to complement second-hand reports giv-

en by various news agencies. Notably China had a similar surge in respiratory illnesses in November 2023 which was reportedly due to seven respiratory viruses.”

In terms of the risk to the Caribbean, CARPHA said:

“The Caribbean region is currently experiencing peak travel and tourism season, marked by increased air and cruise ship travel, which is typically associated with a rise in respiratory illnesses among both travellers and local populations.

“The concurrent occurrence of multiple respiratory outbreaks, as seen in China, poses a risk of straining health systems and response efforts.

“Respiratory illness activity in the Caribbean showed a mixed pattern at the end of December 2024.

“Overall, cases have slightly increased, though severe acute respira-

tory infection (SARI) cases remain low.

“Influenza activity is rising, driven primarily by Influenza A(H1N1), while respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity, although elevated, has declined over the past four epidemiological weeks. COVID-19 activity continues at low levels.

“CARPHA assesses that while the current risk is low there is potential for an increased risk to the Caribbean and strongly recommends enhanced surveillance across Member States.”

CARPHA said it will continue to monitor the evolving epidemiological situation and analyse syndromic data related to fever and respiratory symptoms.

The agency said this evolving situation underscores the importance of continued monitoring and enhanced

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Dominica: Police investigate body found in waters off Marigot

Police are currently investigating the discovery of a male body found in the waters of Marigot.

Local reports indicate that the body was in an “advanced state of decomposition” when it was retrieved from the water.

A medical doctor officially pronounced the individual deceased at the scene.

The body has been transported to a funeral home for further examination, including a post-mortem to determine the cause of death.



Authorities have revealed that the man had been living with epilepsy, a medical condition that causes frequent seizures due to abnormal electrical activity in the brain. The investigation into this incident is ongoing.

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surveillance to track respiratory illness trends and respond effectively

About HMPV

Human metapneumovirus (HMPV) is a respiratory virus in the family with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

It generally causes upper and lower respiratory disease in people of all ages, especially among children under 5, older adults, and those with weakened immune systems.

Symptoms include cough, fever, nasal congestion, and shortness of breath which may progress to bronchitis or pneumonia, similar to other viruses that cause upper and lower respiratory infections.

The estimated incubation period is 3 to 6 days but can extend to 14 days and the median duration of illness can vary depending upon severity but is similar to other viral respiratory infections.

Laboratory Recommendations

CARPHA recognizes that its Member Countries may have molecular testing capacity for the detection of HMPV included in special viral panels such as the BioFire. For respiratory samples sent to CARPHA, the CARPHA Medical Microbiology Laboratory (CMML) follows its algorithm for respiratory testing.

As such, samples are first screened for influenza viruses; if negative for COVID-19 and Influenza, and the samples meet the special criteria of patients <5yrs & >65 yrs with special respiratory conditions such as pneumonia, bronchopneumonia, bronchiolitis etc., same sample will then be tested for non-Influenza viruses, of which HMPV is 1 of 7.

During 2024, the CMML performed 313 tests for non-influenza viruses of which 11 were positive for HMPV.

CARPHA Recommendations

CARPHA said it is focused on bolstering national and regional capacity

to respond to potential outbreaks and pandemics. Given the above, CARPHA recommends that member states should strengthen respiratory disease surveillance systems as well as public health capacity to promptly detect and respond to suspected cases, ensure the health system is well-equipped to deal with any possible increase in respiratory illness cases.

CARPHA added that appropriate non-pharmaceutical measures be used where there is suspected exposure or risk in keeping with established protocols.

The Agency said tourism-based surveillance, for travellers arriving by air and sea, should be enhanced through CARPHA THiS and CVSS web based real time surveillance systems.

CARPHA said this approach serves to safeguard the health and well-being of residents and visitors, thereby enhancing the overall public health resilience of the Caribbean.

ICJ president Nawaf Salam named Lebanon's new prime minister

By David Gritten

Nawaf Salam, the president of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) at The Hague, has been named as Lebanon's new prime minister.

Two thirds of the 128 members of parliament nominated the 71-year-old judge for the post - reserved for a Sunni Muslim under a sectarian power sharing system - during consultations with newly elected President Joseph Aoun. Caretaker PM Najib Mikati got nine votes.

The presidency said Salam would return to Lebanon on Tuesday.

His appointment is another blow to Hezbollah, which had sought to reappoint Mikati but ended up nominating no candidate. The Iran-backed Shia Muslim militia and political party has been significantly weakened by its recent war with Israel.

Senior Hezbollah lawmaker Mohammed Raad accused its opponents of working for fragmentation and exclusion.

He complained that his group had "extended its hand" by supporting Aoun's election only to find the "hand cut", and warned that "any government at odds with coexistence has no legitimacy whatsoever".

However, Christian and Sunni allies of Hezbollah did back Salam.



Nawaf Salam was elected president of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the UN's top court, last February.

Gebran Bassil, the leader of Lebanon's biggest Maronite Christian bloc, called him the "face of reform". Sunni lawmaker Faisal Karami meanwhile said he had nominated the ICJ chief due to the demands for "change and renewal" as well as promises of international support for Lebanon.

Salam is a member of a prominent Sunni family from Beirut. His uncle, Salam, helped Lebanon gain independence from France in 1943 and served several terms as prime minister. His cousin, Tammam, was also prime minister from 2014 to 2016.

He holds a doctorate in political science from Sciences Po university in France, a doctorate in history from the Sorbonne and a Master of Law degree from Harvard Law School.

Salam worked as a lawyer and a lecturer at several universities before serving as Lebanon's permanent

representative to the United Nations in New York from 2007 to 2017.

He became a member of the ICJ - the UN's top court - in 2018, and was elected president for a three-year term last February. He took over as the ICJ heard a case brought by South Africa that accused Israeli forces of committing genocide against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Israel dismissed the allegation as baseless.

Now that he has been designated prime minister by President Aoun, Salam must agree a cabinet line-up that can win a confidence vote in Lebanon's deeply-divided parliament.

Former Lebanese army chief Aoun's candidacy for the presidency - a role reserved for a Maronite Christian - was backed by many key political parties in parliament as well as the United States, France and Saudi Arabia.

Hezbollah and its ally,

Amal, voted for him in the second round of last Thursday's presidential election following the withdrawal of their preferred candidate.

After the election, Aoun declared that "a new phase in Lebanon's history" had begun and vowed to work to ensure that the Lebanese state had "the exclusive right to bear arms" - a reference to Hezbollah, which had built a force considered more powerful than the army to resist Israel before their 13-month conflict in violation of a UN Security Council resolution.

The army was not involved in the war and has a key role under the ceasefire deal agreed between the Lebanese and Israeli governments at the end of November. It is required to deploy soldiers in southern Lebanon as Israeli troops withdraw and to ensure Hezbollah ends its armed presence there by 26 January.

Aoun also promised to help the new government push through the political and economic reforms widely seen as necessary in a country that has been affected by multiple crises.

Besides the Hezbollah-Israel conflict, they include a six-year-long economic depression that is one of the worst recorded in modern times, and the 2020 Beirut port explosion that killed more than 200 people.

LA braces for stronger winds as fires continue to burn

Los Angeles residents are bracing for further destruction as weather forecasts indicate that winds helping fuel the flames might pick up again.

Three fires continue to blaze. The largest, the Palisades Fire, has burned more than 23,000 acres and remained at 14% contained as of Monday evening.

LA Mayor Karen Bass said “urgent preparations” are being made in advance of near hurricane-force winds predicted to peak on Tuesday.

At least 24 people have died in the fires and 23 others are missing in the Eaton and Palisades fire zones.

On Monday, authorities also announced nine people were arrested for looting and one for arson.

At a news conference, LA District Attorney Nathan Hochman showed videos of some looting and outlined maximum sentences if the accused are convicted.

In some of the cases the suspects could face life in prison under California’s “three strikes” law – under which repeat offenders can be sentenced to 25 years to life after a third conviction.

The one arson suspect was arrested in the nearby city of Azusa, around 20 miles (32km) east of downtown Los Angeles. The arson is not linked to any of the major fires but was allegedly started in a local park.

Law enforcement also warned against price gouging, internet scams, and flying drones, which can interfere with firefighting aircraft.

They said a number of ongoing investigations means more charges could be filed.

Blake Chow, the assistant chief of the Los Angeles Police Department’s office of special operations, issued a stern warning to looters: “You’re not



National Guard troops are helping to patrol areas in Pacific Palisades. going to get away with it.”

Also on Monday, two lawsuits were filed against power company Southern California Edison (SCE) by property owners who lost homes in the Eaton fire.

They alleged the company failed to de-energise its electrical equipment despite warnings of high winds.

A company spokesperson said that SCE had not yet been served with the complaint but that would review it once received.

“The cause of the fire continues to be under investigation,” the spokesperson said.

The Eaton Fire, the second-largest of the series of blazes that broke out across the city last week, has burned more than 14,000 acres, and is 33% contained, authorities said.

There has been “very little fire growth” of the Palisades blaze on Monday, said Jim Hudson, deputy chief of CalFire.

The BBC Weather Centre says Santa Ana winds - blowing in from the east or north-east - could reach gusts up to 70mph (112km/h) on Tuesday, potentially stoking further fires.

Weather officials say lighter winds are forecast to develop after Wednes-

day, bringing an opportunity for firefighters to further contain the blazes.

A curfew remains in place in evacuation areas between 18:00 and 06:00 local time.

Adam Schiff, the newly elected Democratic senator for California, told the BBC that he hoped that the incoming Trump administration would move quickly to provide disaster relief.

When asked whether wildfires had become increasingly politicised, Schiff said: “There has been people doing that since the moment the fires started.”

“It’s not helpful right now, let’s just focus on putting these fires out, getting people the help that they need.”

President-elect Donald Trump is reportedly planning to visit the area in the coming days.

Federal lawmakers are set to meet on Tuesday morning to discuss disaster aid for the state.

President Joe Biden said he has directed hundreds of federal personnel, aerial and ground support to California, and his team will “respond promptly” to any request for more help.

“Our hearts ache for the 24 innocent souls we have lost,” he said.

Sports News



Two Antiguanans in CFU's Next Generation Referees Class of 2025

Two Antiguan referees, Portia Davis (female) and Shemroy Alie (male), will be among 22 match officials, representing 15 member associations, who will be participating in the 2025 edition of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) Next Generation Referee Course in Barbados this weekend.

The Barbados Football Association (BFA) will host the course, which runs from January 17-19.

Launched in 2022, the initiative, supported by CONCACAF, provides Caribbean match officials with the prerequisites to matriculate to the FIFA Refereeing International Lists.

The course equips participants with theoretical and practical skills, ultimately leading to nomina-

tions to the FIFA rank.

Dave Meikle, a CFU Referee Committee member and Next Gen administrator, is supported by a team of instructors comprised of FIFA Fitness Refereeing Instructor and CFU Referee Committee Member Kelesha Antoine, FIFA Technical Instructor Dianne Ferreira-James, Instructor Victor Stewart, CONCACAF Technical Instructor Ishan Philip, and CONCACAF Fitness Instructor Rohan Thobourne.

FIFA match officials and World Cup candidates Odette Hamilton (Jamaica) and Crystal Sobers (Trinidad and Tobago) will be mentors.

Over three days, the match officials will undergo intense training on the



FIFA Referee Fitness Instructor, Kelesha Antoine of Antigua and Barbuda, puts members of the class of 2024 through their paces.

field and in the classroom. The training then transfers online, with the instructors designing a bespoke programme for the cohort, monitoring their progress, and providing mentorship.

Next Gen students may also receive appointments to competitions, such as the CFU Girls U-14 Challenge Series slated for the summer.

The in-person programme continues at that time with more practical and technical training.

Victor Moore, the BFA's head of refereeing, said the BFA is delighted to host the 2025 programme.

"We look forward to the 2025 edition with high expectations. We are pleased to be represented, along with other young, emerging, talented match officials, as part of this distinguished

gathering with top referee tutors," Moore said.

Referee education and physical development are critical to meeting the CFU and CONCACAF objective of having a panel of match officials present at every FIFA-recognized tournament, including the World Cup. The high success of previous Next Gen Courses indicates that the programme has the potential to achieve the CFU's desired expectations."

The Next Gen initiative is an impactful and pivotal programme for the CFU. Eight students debut on the 2025 FIFA International Refereeing List.

They are McManaman Bedeau (Grenada), Cleon Cully (Barbados), Jonathon Hughes (Cayman Islands), Evens Julims (The

cont'd on pg 21



FIFA Technical Instructor Dianne Ferreira-James, right, works with a match official during a Next Generation Referee Course in 2024. (Photos courtesy of the CFU)

Zamine Shipping to face TG Welding in final of MPL

Zamine Shipping has advanced to the final where they will face cup-holders TG Welding for the title in the Mandy Premier League (MPL), Cool and Smooth, Joma, and Sherma Jackson Business Softball Cricket League.

Zamine Shipping advanced to the final of the T10 competition after recording a five-wicket victory against the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force (ABDF) in the second semi-final at the Potters playing field on Sunday.

The Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force was restricted to 75 for seven off their allotted 10 overs. Tron Payne and Julio Charles each made 16 runs.

Erwin Mathrine and Creston Scotland each captured two wickets for nine runs, and Andra Samuel claimed two for 12.

Zamine Shipping achieved victory by scoring the required 76 runs for the loss of five wickets with an over to spare. Male player of the game Tyrone Williams hit 25, and Dorian Grant got



The Zamine Shipping softball cricket team. (Photos courtesy of the MPL)

13. Kerry Burton took two for 21, and Carla Weatherhead picked up a wicket for eight runs. Sacha Michael of Zamine Shipping claimed the female player of the game award.

Defending champions TG Welding advanced to the final of the T10 competition after surging to an eight-wicket victory against Buck and Sons Landscaping Services in the first semi-final at the Potters playing field the previous Sunday.

Buck and Sons Landscaping Services were restricted to 24 for seven off seven overs, and TG Welding achieved victory at 27 for two in 6.5 overs.

Zamine Shipping and TG Welding will clash in the final at the Potters playing field on Sunday, January 19.

The final will be preceded by a playoff for third place between losing semi-finalists, the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force and Buck and Sons Landscaping Services.



Sacha Michael, left, and Tyrone Williams Jr. of Zamine Shipping.

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Bahamas), Edson Lieveld (Suriname), Jaselle Louison (Barbados), Amaury Majors (Bermuda), and James Ramprasha (British Virgin Islands).

Randolph Harris, president of the CFU and the BFA, hailed the programme's success.

"We have seen the tangible bene-

fits of Next Gen, with our Caribbean referees getting match appointments, moving on to the CONCACAF Academy, and dozens advancing to the ranks of FIFA, all in a few short years," Harris said.

"Intangibly, we have, for aspiring Caribbean match officials, examples of the development and growth of peo-

ple from within their sphere, and they know that there is a pathway for them to advance their careers.

"The success of the programme is due to a collaborative approach between the CFU and CONCACAF and the support of the member associations, and we are grateful to all of the partners."

Sports News

CWI announces schedule for four-day championship

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced the schedule for the 2025 West Indies Four-Day Championship, which continues the eight-team format that was introduced in 2024.

There will be several innovations in the upcoming edition of the West Indies Four-Day Championship, including the return of first innings points in drawn matches, the use of Kookaburra balls for two rounds, and at least one pink ball day/night fixture per team.

Teams will be battling for the prestigious Headley Weekes Trophy and an attractive prize purse of US\$250,000 for the champions and US\$100,000 for the runners-up.

Miles Bascombe, Cricket West Indies' Director of Cricket said, "The return of the West Indies Championship is a crucial pillar in our cricket development pathway. Having eight (8) teams competing across the region reinforces our commitment to first-class cricket, which remains the foundation for developing Test cricketers.

"This year we have introduced several initiatives geared at broadening the experience of our regional players by exposing them to many of the challenges they would otherwise only experience on tour.

"We are happy to be tak-



Guyana Harpy Eagles are the defending champions after winning the 2024 Championship. (CWI Media)

ing the championship around the region again ensuring that players are tested in the various conditions our region serves up. This can only add to the resilience needed by our players to excel at the international level."

The teams competing over seven (7) rounds of matches are defending champions Guyana Harpy Eagles, Barbados Pride, Combined Campuses & Colleges, Jamaica Scorpions, Leeward Islands Hurricanes, Trinidad & Tobago Red Force, West Indies Academy and Windward Islands Volcanoes.

Both the West Indies Academy and the Combined Campuses & Colleges (CCC) have retained their

places as permanent fixtures in the championship following their impressive debut seasons. The Guyana Harpy Eagles won last year's very exciting competition, to earn their seventh crown in nine years, after heading into the final round with three other teams within touching distance of the title.

The competition kicks off in late January and fans will be treated to three action-packed rounds from January 29 to February 15.

The first round of games will take place in four host countries – Guyana, Trinidad, St. Vincent, and Antigua. For the second and third rounds, play extends to Barbados, Dominica, and St.

Kitts.

The second block of matches commences on March 5, with the fourth and fifth rounds scheduled to be held in Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Guyana, and Antigua. The tournament resumes just under a month later with the final two rounds in Antigua, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, and Trinidad, from April 2 to 12.

Cricket enthusiasts worldwide can catch every moment of the action through live streaming on the Windies Cricket YouTube channel. Matches begin at 10 am (Atlantic Standard Time) daily, while pink ball matches will commence at 1 pm.

Pakistan names squad for Test series against West Indies

Pakistan has unveiled a spin-dominant squad for the upcoming two-match home Test series against West Indies, aiming to exploit the visitors' well-documented struggles against spin bowling.

With the strategic selection, which includes the recall of experienced spinners Sajid Khan and Noman Ali, along with Abrar Ahmed, Pakistan just about signals their intent to leverage spin-friendly conditions in Multan.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced the changes to the squad, as key pacers Mohammad Abbas, Naseem Shah, Aamer Jamal, and Mir Hamza have been rested as part of workload management.

"As part of workload management, the pace quartet... has been rested," the PCB stated in a media release.

The decision to emphasize spin comes in anticipation of pitch conditions expected to heavily favour slower bowlers, which could spell trouble for the West Indies, who have historical difficulties against quality spin attacks.

Khan, who played a piv-



Players of the Pakistan Test team

otal role in Pakistan's series win against England earlier in the season, is expected to be at the forefront of the home team's charge, alongside Noman Ali.

The absence of Shaheen Afridi and Naseem Shah marks a significant shift from the start of Pakistan's home season, which began with optimism surrounding their pace depth.

Both players were considered the spearheads of Pakistan's pace attack but have struggled with injuries and form, playing sporadically throughout the season.

They managed only five Tests between them across

the home season, and neither featured in Pakistan's recent all-pace attack in Cape Town against South Africa.

Meanwhile, the squad also sees the exclusion of Saim Ayub, who fractured his ankle during the South Africa series, and Abdullah Shafique, whose prolonged slump in form—including three ducks in as many ODIs—prompted his omission.

Imam-ul-Haq and Muhammad Hurraira have been called up to fill the void at the top of the order.

Fast bowler Kashif Ali has earned his maiden call-

up, while Mohammad Ali makes a return to the squad. Their inclusion adds depth to the pace department in the absence of senior pacers.

Rohail Nazir has been named as the backup wicket-keeper for Mohammad Rizwan, replacing Haseebullah Khan, who sustained a hand injury in South Africa.

Both Tests against the West Indies will be played in Multan, with the first starting on January 17 and the second on January 25.

Pakistan squad: Shan Masood (captain), Saud Shakeel (vice-capt), Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Imam-ul-Haq, Kamran Ghulam, Kashif Ali, Khuram Shahzad, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Hurraira, Mohammad Rizwan (wk), Noman Ali, Rohail Nazir (wk), Sajid Khan, and Salman Agha.

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Javorn Benjamin had a double conversion with goals in the 34th and 52nd minutes, and Keon Greene scored in the 11th minute for the Potters Tigers. Javorn Stevens scored a consolation goal in the 66th

minute for the Greenbay Hoppers.

The Potters Tigers advanced to 14 points from 12 matches, while the Greenbay Hoppers remain in the cellar of the competition on three points after suffering their 11th loss in 12 matches.

Grenades beat United to stay top of Premier League

The Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades took a major step towards recapturing the title in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Sunday by ending the unbeaten run of their closest rivals, defending champions Special Security Services and Bitar Pizza All Saints United.

The Grenades maintained their unbeaten run and extended their lead at the top of the standings by pulling off a 3-1 victory against All Saints United in a top-of-the-table clash in the feature match of a triple header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Goals by former All Saints United player Malcolm Stewart in the ninth minute, Luis Labrada in the 36th minute, and Renay Serano in the 77th minute propelled the Grenades to their 10th win in 12 matches.

National winger Raheem Deterville scored the only goal in the 59th minute for All Saints United, who suffered their first defeat in 11 matches and ended their unbeaten run.

The result allows the Grenades to open up a four-point lead over All Saints United and Old Road at the



Players of the Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades football team

top of the 14-team league.

The Grenades advanced to 32 points from 12 matches, while All Saints United will remain on 28 points from 11 encounters. It means that All Saints United and Old Road are now in joint second place behind the Grenades.

All Saints United are now level on points with Old Road, who have played 12 matches.

FC Aston Villa Lions and the Potters Tigers recorded wins in the other two matches during Sunday's Premier League triple header.

The Villa Lions wrapped

up their campaign in the first round and consolidated their position in sixth place with a 2-1 victory against Five Islands in Sunday's opening game, in which a player from both sides was expelled for violent conduct.

Rakeem Joseph of the Villa Lions and Brandon Emanuel of Five Islands received red cards and were both sent off in the 77th minute.

Following a goalless first half, goals by Tyrik Hughes in the 50th minute and Rakeem Joseph in the 56th minute gave the Villa Lions

a two-nil lead. Darbel Nado Tito scored the only goal for Five Islands in the 85th minute.

The Villa Lions will advance to 21 points after recording their sixth win from their quota of 13 matches in the first round. Five Islands will remain on 10 points after suffering their seventh defeat in 11 matches.

The Potters Tigers claimed their fourth win in 12 matches with a 3-1 victory against the bottom team, the Greenbay Hoppers, in Sunday's second game.

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