

Cabinet, APUA GM discuss water challenges

Story on Page 2



A delegation from the Past Students Association of the Princess Margaret School along with the principal visited the Cabinet on Wednesday

Cabinet, APUA GM discuss water challenges



The Cabinet invited the General Manager of APUA, John Bradshaw, to address a water supply shortage reported by several Ministers, within their constituencies.

Bradshaw reported that the RO plant at Crabbes usually provides 4.5 million gallons of potable water daily. The plant is 27 years old and requires maintenance from time to time, which causes it to go offline. Currently, it is only producing 1.5 million gallons of water; by the end of the week, the General Manager reported that it will be back up to 4.5 million gallons.

Meanwhile, he disclosed that the RO plant at

Fort James is adversely impacted by rough seas and high turbidity; it is producing 900,000 gallons of potable water each day, while its capacity is 1.5 million gallons. The Cabinet learnt that a super filtration system is being added to that plant and, wells which fill up with water that has been filtered by the earth, will also be dug in and around Fort James.

With regard to the plant at Pigeon Point, that facility, it was reported, relies upon wells and operates at 100% capacity despite turbid waters; its capacity is less than one million gallons per day, and is intended to

supply the villages in St. Paul. The General Manager also explained that hundreds of valves have to be adjusted daily whenever water is to be diverted from one destination to another. For example, at nights when demand subsides, water is diverted to reservoirs in order to meet additional demands during the day or for storage in the event the RO plants may shut off for any reason.

As the Cabinet turns its attention to another subject for discussion, it invited the Port Manager, Darwin Telemaque, a representative from Blue Ocean Dredging, and Bradshaw, to address the

issue of dredging in the North Sound area leading to Crabbes.

“There is a need to bring bigger cement-carrying vessels to Crabbes in order to make more cement regularly available to contractors,” sources familiar with the discussion revealed.

At present, the cement delivered to Crabbes by smaller vessels is all sold within 24 hours; one week passes before the storage unit is resupplied. For this reason, the larger vessels, requiring greater draughts, compel that the channel to Crabbes must be dredged to a greater depth. APUA also purchases Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) to power a modern electricity plant that has recently been built. The ships which bring the LNG also need a draught deeper than what now exists; hence, the need for dredging and the involvement of APUA in the discussions. Blue Ocean will join with another firm to minimize the number of days which the dredging will require. APUA will also make the payments to Blue Ocean for the dredging work.

A study is underway to determine how best to utilise the Old Terminal building at VCBIA



The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA) is looking at a strategic re-use plan for the Old Terminal Building at the VC Bird International Airport.

Chief Executive Officer, Wendy Williams, said several options are being considered as the authority has to consider the growing demand for commercial space at the airport as well as the overflow of passengers at peak hours at the main gateway.

“Right now we are actually creating more space for our tenants and to develop the space we have at the old terminal, Terminal B. We have signed the contract to replace the current roof of the building with a new one and work should start by the middle of March,” she disclosed.

The main aim, according to Williams, is to re-use the terminal. “We have actually surpassed the carrying capacity of the new terminal, Terminal A, during peak hours of operation. One

option that we are looking at is to have all the regional and domestic traffic utilize Terminal B, while Terminal A continues to service international flights.” She explained.

CEO Williams further

explained that Terminal A’s peak carrying capacity is 1,700 passengers per hour. However, during peak hours that figure rises by an additional 2-300 passengers.

“Not only do we need to

keep Terminal B, but we also need to look at diverting some of the traffic there from Terminal A. In a month’s time, we are expected to have in hand a plan for the further use of Terminal B,” she noted.



**New
Cement
Stock Has
Arrived!**

**Shop
Now**

**Factory Road,
St. Johns, Antigua
268-562-9139**

mannatradingltd@gmail.com



Young man dies from suspected suicide

Delroy Victor, a 29-year-old from Jonas Road, was found dead in his home just after midday on Wednesday.

The cause of death appears to be hanging. Victor, a farmer, had been discharged from the hospital after allegedly ingesting poison the day before.

According to the reports, Victor, a Guyanese national, was found by a family member with whom he shares the house on Jonas Road.

Following the unsuccessful attempt to take his own life on Tuesday, Victor was told to return to the hospital on Wednesday. He never made it.

Meanwhile, WISH has issued a statement on Victor's passing noting that 'losing someone in such a heartbreaking manner is a painful reminder of the urgent need to continue open conversations about mental health and suicide

prevention in our community'.

"We recognize that Antigua and Barbuda does not yet have a dedicated suicide

prevention hotline, but there are trained professionals ready to offer guidance and support. If you are feeling overwhelmed,

please speak with a doctor, therapist, or counselor. There is hope, and help is within reach," the statement added.



Dominica Antigua CONNECTION

CALYPSO GRAND FINALS

Watch Party

PRESENTED BY
DOMINICA ANTIGUA CONNECTION

Enjoy some sweet kaiso music by Dominica's top calypsonians
Who will dethrone the ten times Calypso Monarch King Dice?
A well stocked **BUSH RUM** Bar awaits you.

Saturday, 1 March, 2025 | **Starting at 7:30pm**
Show time 8:30pm

ENTRANCE FEE: \$20

JULEES
Cross & Tanner Street, St. John's Antigua

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

 Dominica Antigua Connection  @dominicaantiguaconnection

Arry Simon attends IPCC meeting in Hangzhou, China

Arry Simon of the Department of the Environment is among delegates from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) who are meeting in Hangzhou, China, from February 24-28, 2025, to review key elements of the Seventh Assessment Report (AR7).

This includes draft outlines for reports by the IPCC's three Working Groups, which will cover the physical science of climate change, impacts and adaptation, and mitigation strategies. Simon is representing Antigua and Barbuda at the session which will also be used as an opportunity to address the IPCC Trust Fund Programme and budget for 2024-2027, as well as plans for expert meetings and workshops.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are actively participating in the IPCC process, emphasizing their vulnerability to climate change impacts like sea-level rise and extreme weather. They are pushing for stronger focus on limiting global warming to 1.5°C, enhanced adaptation strategies,



and recognition of loss and damage. SIDS also seek greater inclusion of indigenous knowledge and increased financial and technical support to build resilience.

SIDS expect the AR7 cycle to provide robust scientific evidence to support their calls for urgent climate action. They hope for detailed assessments of 1.5°C pathways, stronger guidance on adaptation, and equitable deployment of carbon removal technologies. The IPCC's work will play a critical role in shaping global climate policies and supporting vulnerable nations in their fight against climate change.



ABLP ST JOHN'S RURAL WEST

MEET AND GREET

BUILDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

14 MARCH

Eldeana R. Martin Recreational Community Park
Golden Grove New Ext.
6-9pm

Sen. Michael Joseph
ABLP CARETAKER- ST. JOHN'S RURAL WEST

Refreshments will be provided

The Agriculture, Fisheries Minister pens personal letter to family of missing fishermen

Agriculture, Fisheries Minister Anthony Smith Jnr. has reached out to family members of the three fishermen who have been missing at sea since last Friday. Minister Smith used the medium of a writing a personal letter addressed to family and friends of the men to expressed his deep concern over the fate of the missing trio. The full letter is published below;

Dear Fellow Citizens, Members of the Fishing Community, and Cherished Families and Friends,

As Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries, and the Blue Economy, it is with a heavy heart that I extend my hopes for the safe recovery of FV 'MOYA' and her crew: Mathias Greenaway (Captain), Glenmore Matthew, and Clancy Samuel. Their 30-foot vessel, described as having a grey hull with a white superstructure, departed from Market Wharf in Antigua at approximately 1:00 PM on Friday, February 21st, 2025, and was expected to return by 8:00 AM the following day.

After noon on Saturday, February 22nd, the owner of the vessel, Mr. Eugene Lobby, made a report to the Antigua Barbuda Defense Force Coast Guard, at which point they issued a radio alert regionally. Local fishing vessels that attempted a search returned home without sighting FV 'MOYA'.

After receiving reports of the missing vessel, a coordinated search and rescue operation was initiated with vessels from multi-

ple agencies, including those from the Antigua Barbuda Defense Force Coast Guard, St. Kitts and Nevis Coast Guard, and St. Vin-



Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Anthony Smith Jnr.

cent and the Grenadines Coast Guard, alongside air support from the ABDF Air Wing and the Maritime Rescue Coordination Center in Fort-de-France and the relevant authorities in St. Maarten.

On Sunday, February 23rd, and Monday, February 24th, the Antigua Barbuda Defense Force Air Wing assisted the search effort by carrying Coast Guard personnel on an aerial search for the vessel.

Despite treacherous sea conditions, our officials remain fully committed to locating FV 'MOYA' and are using all available resources and technology to seek her safe return.

Incidents like this bring deep sorrow to our nation, especially to the families and friends of the missing fishers. My thoughts and

prayers are with you during these difficult times.

To our brave fishers, I extend my deepest gratitude. Your unwavering commitment to the sea provides not only for your families but also for the nation. The fishing industry is a pillar of our food security and economy, and we owe you respect, appreciation, and continued support.

I urge the nation to recognize and honor the hard work and sacrifices of our fishing community. You put your lives at risk to feed us, and it is only right that we show you the respect and appreciation you deserve. Let us stand in solidarity with our fishers, their families, and the coastal communities that depend on them.

While we cannot promise immediate solutions, I assure you that we remain committed to the continued development and improvement of the fisheries sector. We will strive to enhance safety measures, strengthen industry support, and promote sustainable practices to ensure a brighter future for all involved.

Thank you for your service, your resilience, and your dedication to our nation. May we continue to work together to support and uplift this vital sector.

With deepest respect and appreciation,

Hon. Anthony Smith

Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries, and the Blue Economy

Dr. Knolly Hill receives GG's Faithful and Meritorious Award



Photo: Dr. Knolly Hill FMC, third from left, His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, with family and friends of the honouree.

Dr. Knolly Hill, whose career spans psychology and music, has been presented with the Governor General's Faithful and Meritorious Service Cross at an Investiture Ceremony held at Government House on Tuesday.

A statement from Government House observed that the Faithful and Meritorious Service Awards are conferred by the Governor General to individuals who have rendered outstanding long service to an organization or humanity or have performed one or

more meritorious acts. The Faithful and Meritorious Service Cross is the highest rank in this category and is reserved for distinguished contributions to national development.

Dr. Knolly Hill was recognized for his exceptional contributions to cultural development, particularly in the field of music and choral excellence. Throughout his life, he has played a pivotal role in preserving and advancing choral music in Antigua and Barbuda and beyond. His dedication to fostering

musical excellence has made a lasting impact on the cultural and artistic landscape of the nation.

GG Sir Rodney Williams, in his remarks, highlighted Dr. Hill's impressive academic and professional journey. A duly qualified psychologist, Dr. Hill obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1985 and has been a licensed psychologist in Pennsylvania since 1979. He holds Fellowship and Diplomate status with the American Board of Medical Psychotherapists and

Psychodiagnosticians and is an accredited Senior Disability Analyst with the American Board of Disability Analysts.

Despite his professional accomplishments in psychology, Dr. Hill has remained deeply committed to music and choral development, dedicating his time and talent to ensuring that generations of Antiguan and Barbudans continue to appreciate and uphold the nation's rich musical heritage.

The citation, read by the Herald, detailed Dr. Hill's unwavering dedication to cultural preservation, mentorship, and leadership in the field of music. His passion for developing choral traditions has made him a respected figure in the cultural community.

Dr. Hill expressed his gratitude for the recognition, acknowledging the support of his family, colleagues, and the many individuals who have influenced his journey. He reaffirmed his commitment to continuing his work in music and cultural enrichment.

The ceremony was a fitting tribute to a man whose lifelong contributions have left a profound and lasting impact on Antigua and Barbuda's cultural landscape.

Police Probe Break-in at Trinity Academy School



Police are searching for the perpetrators who broke into the Trinity Academy School

at Jennings and stole a variety of perishable and non-perishable items, including

electric appliances.

It was reported that sometime between 6 p.m. on Monday, February 24, and 6 a.m. the following day, thieves broke into several of the school's classrooms, cafeteria, kitchen, and administrative offices and stole a microwave oven, a 32" Samsung television, ten cases of sodas, two cases of water, six cases of soft drinks, juices, assorted candies, hotdog sausages,

burger patties, and an assortment of snacks.

The perpetrators further spray-painted nude graffiti on several office doors and other areas of the compound. The police are appealing to anyone with information regarding this incident to contact the Bolans Police Station at 462-1080 or the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913.

Heart & Stroke Hosts FREE Public Lecture

The Heart & Stroke Foundation of Antigua & Barbuda invites you to our 1st Public Lecture - **Matters of the Heart Made Ridiculously Simple** - where expert medical professionals will break down key issues affecting your heart health.

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025

Location: Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) Auditorium

Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Cost: **FREE**

Join us in person or tune in live via YouTube: <https://youtube.com/live/K9F-NhAdlvI?feature=share>

Topics Include:

All You Need to Know About Stroke

The Effects of Marijuana on the Heart

The Effects of Anxiety and Depression on the Heart

Our distinguished speakers, Dr. Ian Thomas, Dr. Gaden Osborne, and Dr. Jefferson Garraway, will share insights to help you protect your heart.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn and ask questions. Bring a friend and spread the word!

For more information:

+1-268-732-3861

info@heartandstrokeag.org

FLOW makes donation to the Antigua State College

Telecoms company, FLOW demonstrates its support to Antigua and Barbuda's efforts of tertiary Education with a timely donation to the Antigua State College.

Country Manager Wayne Hull, has presented a Samsung smart-phone and tablet to the Vice Principal Antigua State College, Robyn Joseph Nathaniel.

In his remarks, he emphasized the organization's commitment to supporting the institution's growth and development, stating, 'We are excited to contribute to the educational journey at Antigua State College and look forward to continuing our strong partnership for years to come.'



DAILY PROGRAMMING



EARLY VIBRATIONS 6AM-10AM MON. - FRI.
WITH GREMSTA

THE RUSH HOUR SHOW 5PM-7PM MON. - FRI.
WITH ROGER LAKE 6AM-9AM SATURDAYS

TOUCHLINE 7PM-9PM MON. - THURS.
WITH EPILUS

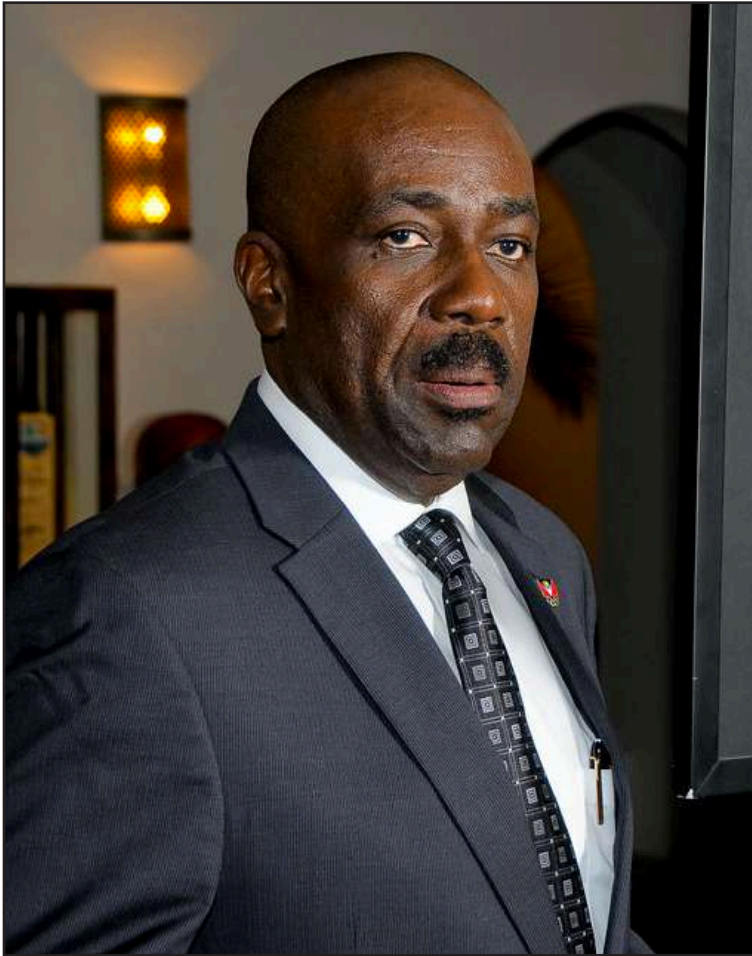
BAD COMPANY 2PM-6PM THURS. 12PM-4PM SATURDAYS
LIVE FROM THE V.I. & 1PM-5PM ON SUNDAYS

REGGAE INSPIRATION 9PM-12AM MON. THURS. SUNDAY
WITH SELECTOR KEEGAN

JAH WADADLI 7PM-9PM FRIDAYS
WITH DJ JAH WADADLI

Commentary

Fixing our infrastructure is not a political football, it requires responsible dialogue



E. P. Chet Greene

By E. P. Chet Greene

There is no denying that Antigua and Barbuda's most pressing infrastructural challenges remain our roads and water supply. These issues, longstanding and deeply embedded in our national development narrative, have often been met with temporary solutions rather than strategic, sustainable interventions. Citizens have endured subpar services for decades, leading many to question the political will of successive administrations to truly fix these fundamental concerns.

Encouragingly, the gov-

ernment has made notable strides in addressing the water crisis, primarily through investments in Reverse Osmosis (RO) technology. The commissioning of the Pigeon Point plant has already improved water service in English Harbour, Cobbs Cross, Falmouth and Piccadilly. More recently, the RO plant at Ffryes has significantly enhanced supply in the southern corridor, directly benefiting residents, businesses and importantly the tourism sector.

The expansion of water facilities has also extended to other regions, with the Fort

James plant improving supply in the northwest and the Ivan Rodrigues and Crabbs plants boosting service in the eastern and central parts of the island. While progress has been made, full resolution remains a work in progress, with areas like Liberta, All Saints, Buckleys and John Hughes awaiting completion of new reservoir systems to ensure consistency in service.

Given Antigua and Barbuda's history of drought-prone conditions, reliance on surface and groundwater sources has been unpredictable. However, recent rainfall has temporarily alleviated some service issues. The increased implementation of RO solutions, though costly, is proving to be an essential and long-term investment for an economy experiencing upward growth and increased demand for reliable water access.

The efforts of the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) and government leadership should be recognized for making tangible advancements in water security. While more work remains, an objective and depoliticized national dialogue is necessary to acknowledge the improvements made while identifying areas that still require urgent attention.

The conversation surrounding Antigua and Barbuda's deteriorating road network

is reaching a critical juncture. The government's announcement of a \$500 million road improvement initiative marks a major step forward in addressing what is arguably the most discussed and frustrating issue for residents and businesses alike. This plan includes the creation of a special purpose vehicle (SPV) for road financing, partially funded through a modest increase in vehicle licensing fees.

Despite its necessity, this funding mechanism has met resistance from opposition figures who have yet to present viable alternatives. The argument that the government should first construct the roads before increasing fees is impractical, as existing revenue streams cannot sustain the required upgrades without such targeted financial strategies. Additional taxation is not the answer, but leveraging structured financing mechanisms can ensure long-term infrastructural improvement without undue economic burden on citizens.

The condition of our roads is a universal grievance, cutting across all demographics. Whether it is a daily commuter, a pastor addressing their congregation, or a housewife managing household expenses, everyone has been impacted by the state of our road network. The high cost of

con't on pg 11

Commentary

PAGE 11

con't from pg 10

vehicle maintenance due to potholes and poorly maintained roads has strained household and business budgets, further underscoring the urgency of implementing a lasting solution.

Much like the water supply issue, road infrastructure challenges did not emerge overnight. Years of underfunding and poor maintenance have exacerbated the problem, requiring bold and strategic investment. While citizens have a right to demand efficient execution of

these projects, it is equally important to contribute constructively to the national conversation.

Moving beyond partisan rhetoric and focusing on collective national progress is essential for real change.

Antigua and Barbuda stands at a pivotal moment in its infrastructural development. The progress in water supply through RO technology is evidence that long-term solutions, though costly and gradual, yield significant benefits. The road rehabilitation plan, if

effectively implemented, can similarly transform the country's economic and social landscape.

However, achieving these goals requires a shift in perspective. Instead of engaging in divisive political debates, citizens must support evidence-based policies and hold leadership accountable through constructive engagement.

National development is not the responsibility of the government alone; it is a collective effort that demands active participation

from all sectors of society.

Rome was not built in a day, but the commitment of its people ensured its grandeur. Likewise, Antigua and Barbuda can achieve infrastructural resilience and sustainability through collaboration, foresight and unwavering determination. Let us commit to fixing our nation's problems, one step at a time, for a stronger and more prosperous future.



Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION

ANTIGUA
AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...

**ANTIGUA
CARNIVAL 2025**

LAUNCH

Itz A ViBe

TIME THURSDAY **2025**
5:30 PM FEB 27

VENUE:
WEATHERILL'S
ESTATE

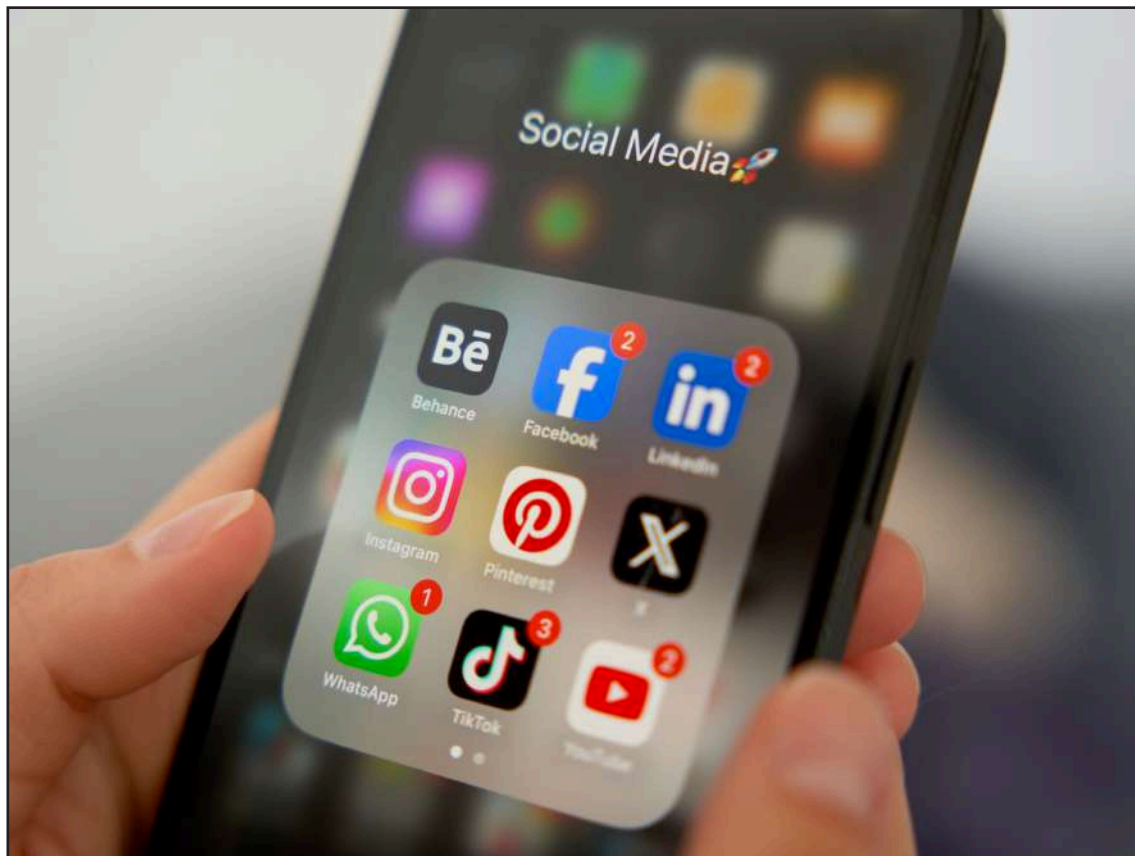
f Antigua Carnival @antiguafestivalsofficial X Antigua Carnival 268 727 9201

Should Social Media Platforms be held Liable for User Content?

By Andrecia Lewis

Would it be ethical to hold a bookstore owner accountable for the content of the books in their library? Many would argue such a practice to be unfair. After all, the content of the book is the responsibility of the writer. If this principle was applied to Big Tech social media sites, would it be unjust for these companies to be indicted for user content? Or should the responsibility fall solely in the hands of the users?

Numerous scientific studies have been conducted listing social media platforms as a major contributing factor to many social ills. Frequently, instances of bullying, harassment, misogyny, racism, prejudice, misinformation and disinformation remain unchecked on these platforms. Recently, Argentina's President Javier Milei endorsed a cryptocurrency coin on X, causing its value to increase. However, it dropped suddenly causing many traders to lose a significant amount of money. His tweet was swiftly deleted only after the damage had already occurred. Additionally, social media has been regarded as a hub for terrorist organizations to spread propaganda and recruit individuals. Again, should the blame be laid on the user, or the platforms lack of swift and effective



regulatory controls?

Stricter regulations on these platforms may seem to be the perfect solution in theory. However, is it possible for social media sites to monitor and regulate every interaction? Most importantly, how can this be carried out without infringing upon user's privacy and freedom of speech? Furthermore, these regulations can exist, however can they be enforced?

The European Union developed the Digital Services Act, (DSA) to hold tech giants accountable for the content on their platforms. This law aims to protect citizens, especially minors, banning targeted

ads to persons between the ages of 13-17. Additionally, The DSA bans psychographic profiling, or targeted ads based on a person's race, religion, attitudes etc. Moreover, it requires users to be able to opt out of the algorithm or personalized content on their News Feed, which decreases filter bubbles.

In contrast, Section 230 of the United States' Communications Decency Act seeks to do the opposite. These "26 words that created the internet" protects social media platforms and tech giants from being held liable for the content that is posted by users on their platforms. The reality is, if

this was not the case, the internet and social media as we know it today would not exist. Whether this is good or bad is all a matter of subjective opinion.

What does all of this mean for small island developing states of the Caribbean? Well, CARICOM can follow in the footsteps of the European Union and create a policy to protect citizens and attempt to force tech giants into submission. Or perhaps, this is a concern which is not of immediate relevance to SIDS. Instead, CARICOM's focus should be on the development of a comprehensive and effective CARICOM Digital Literacy Policy.

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS



RHYME AND RESOLVE: CLIMATE CALLS

Good Humans
268 Inc

I'm Earth, your home, your land, your sea,
But I need help—will you hear me?
The air is warming, the ice caps melt,
The weight of waste is deeply felt.

Plastics pile up, the oceans choke,
The trees are falling—this is no joke.
But hope still shines, if we unite,
To change our ways and do what's right!

Your bottle's not trash—it's got a new face!
A can, a box, a glass so clear,
Can all be used again next year.
So rinse it out, sort it right,
Keep our planet shining bright!

Turn off the lights, let sunshine beam,
Solar power—it's the dream!
Wind can spin and water flows,
Clean energy—our future grows.

A single seed, a mighty tree,
More shade, more air, more buzzing bees!

If we plant, our world will thrive,
Giving back to keep it alive.

Storms get stronger, droughts bring fear.
But change is simple, starts with YOU,
Small steps lead to something new.

Walk, don't drive—bike or bus,
Choose less plastic, avoid the fuss!
Eat what's local, waste no more,
Repair, reuse—don't buy the store!

Now's the time to lend a hand.
Recycle, plant, conserve, and teach,
A cleaner world is within our reach.

So take this pledge, say it loud,
For Earth, for us—stand up proud!

*"I will reduce, I will reuse,
For a cleaner world, I will choose!
I will recycle, I will repair,
Because I know Earth needs my care!"*

Answer to last week's Question

Are biodegradable and compostable plastics recyclable?

Answer: These materials are designed to break down and should not be recycled with regular plastics.

This week's Question

Can you recycle a paper cup?

Think you know the answer? Check back next week to see if you're a recycling pro!

Photo Story

Another busy day at Cabinet



Photo Story

Another busy day at Cabinet



Regional News



The Bahamas: Daughter of former PM Ingraham passes at 45

The Bahamas is mourning with and expressing deep sympathies to former Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and his family upon the passing of his daughter Kelli Ingraham.

According to the Bahamas Press, last week Ingraham was taken to a hospital in the United States to undergo treatment following a short illness, which was said to be not life-threatening.

She passed away today just over a month after she celebrated her 45th birthday.

In a statement, Prime Minister Philip Davis offered condolences to the family saying, "There are no words to fully express the pain of losing a child, and I can only imagine the grief he and his family are experiencing," Davis said. "Ann and I offer our deepest sympathies and pray that they find strength in the love and support of those around them during this incredibly difficult time.

"On behalf of the government and the people of The Bahamas, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Ingraham and his family. May Kelli's soul rest in peace."

Deputy Prime Minister Chester Cooper also joined in extending his sympathies to the Ingraham family.

"Kelli was energetic, lively and possessed a great sense of humour and clarity of purpose," he reminisced, "May God grant comfort and strength to her family during this difficult time, and may she rest in eternal peace."

Leader of the Free National Movement, Michael C. Pintard reached out to the family via statement also expressing deep sympathies.

"Kelli was a shining star in her field, an emerging force whose impact was already being felt and whose poten-



tial was limitless," Pintard said.

He called her death a profound tragedy.

"During this time of unimaginable grief, I extend our deepest sympathies to her entire family," Pintard added.

Kelli Ingraham served on The Bahamas Bar Council and on The Bahamas Financial Services Board for several years.

Between 2017 and 2021, she served as the chairman of the Straw Market Authority in the last term of the Minnis Administration, and according to Bahamas Press was an aspiring potential candidate in the upcoming General Election for North Abaco seat. (Loop Caribbean)

STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED
Live in a better State of mind

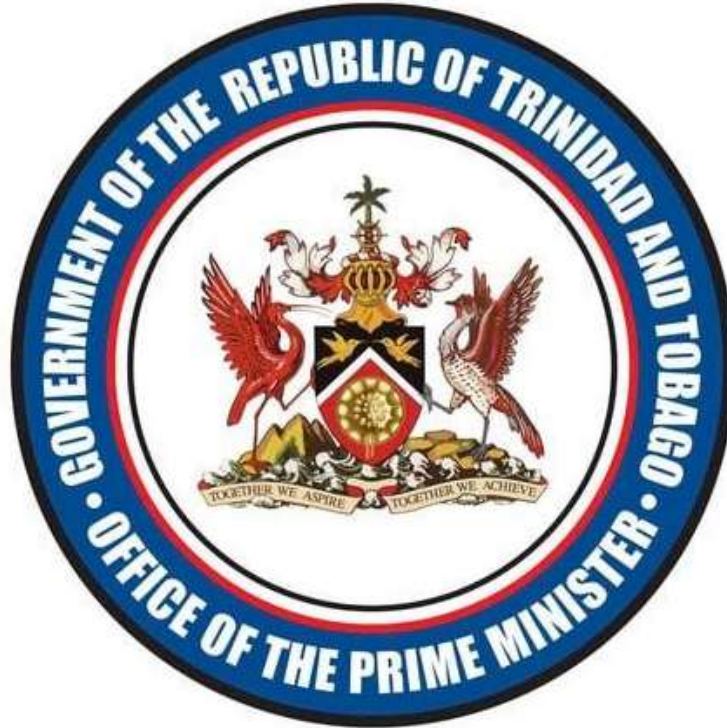
THIS IS A REMINDER TO REVIEW YOUR POLICY!

ANTIGUA (268) 481-7800/04 BARBUDA (268) 727-7422 www.sicfinancial.com

T&T's new Coat of Arms featuring the steelpan officially in use today

The new Coat of Arms, featuring a gold steelpan and two pan sticks replacing Christopher Columbus' three ships, is officially in use from today.

Both the Office of the Prime Minister and the Trinidad and Tobago Government Communications have updated their official Facebook pages to reflect the change.



Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley first announced the redesign on August 18, 2024, during a special PNM convention at the National Academy of the Performing Arts (NAPA).

The new design was created by jeweller and artist Gillian Bishop. (Trinidad Express)

3 teens arrested after violent tourist robbery in Sint Maarten

Three teenagers have been arrested following a violent robbery that left a female tourist injured on Sint Maarten's popular Front Street Sunday afternoon. The incident occurred shortly after 5:00pm on February 23, when three young males reportedly attacked a woman walking with her husband, forcefully stealing her handbag and causing her to fall.

The victim sustained a head injury requiring immediate medical attention, according to police reports.

Multiple patrol units and detectives responded to emergency calls, quickly apprehending a 14-year-old male suspect in Philipsburg. Later that evening, around 9:00pm, the parents of



two additional suspects—aged 14 and 17—surrendered their children to authorities at the Philipsburg Police Station. Police successfully recovered the victim's handbag and its contents during the investigation. "Crimes against residents and visitors will be met with decisive action. Violent behaviour, espe-

cially from individuals so young, is deeply troubling. Parents and guardians must take responsibility for guiding their children, emphasizing that criminal acts can have lasting, life-altering consequences," said the Sint Maarten Police Force (KPSM).

KPSM officials further emphasized that "Every person on this island—resident or visitor—deserves to feel safe."

"Those who attempt to disrupt that safety will face the full force of the law, KPSM urges the community to remain vigilant, report suspicious activities, and have meaningful conversations with our youth about respect for others and the law," they added. The investigation remains ongoing. (Loop Caribbean)

Regional News

Grenadian Coast Guard rescue 4 Trinidadians after boat sinks

Four Trinidadian men were rescued after their vessel sank in Grenadian waters on Friday, following a swift response by the Grenada Coast Guard.

The rescue operation was launched immediately after authorities received a distress call on February 21.

Coast Guard personnel arrived at the scene to discover the original vessel had

already sunk after taking on too much water.

After searching the surrounding area, the rescue team located four male Trinidadian nationals, aged between 35 and 55, who had managed to escape onto a makeshift raft.

According to Coast Guard officials, the men's situation was deteriorating rapidly as their raft had also begun

taking on water.

The Coast Guard successfully brought all four men aboard their vessel and transported them to Queen's Jetty. The survivors were subsequently taken to the General Hospital for medical evaluation and treatment.

Officials from the Royal Grenada Police Force praised the Coast Guard's

efforts, highlighting the team's bravery and quick response in challenging conditions.

In the wake of the incident, the Grenada Coast Guard has issued a reminder to "review weather conditions before departure, as rough seas played a significant role in the difficulties encountered by the distressed vessel." (Loop Caribbean)



HEALTH ON POINT

WITH CHRISTOPHER HONORE

HEALTH COACH & NUTRITIONIST

EVERY MONDAY!

ON POINTE FM 99.1

12 NOON TO 2PM

POINTE FM 99.1
BROADCASTING FROM THE POINT COMMUNITY



QUEEN OF CARNIVAL IS CALLING!



Application Open!

Requirements:

Citizen of Antigua & Barbuda
Female, 18-26 years
Minimum 5 CSEC, including English A
Never married & no children
No criminal record

Forms can be collected at:

The Ministry of Creative Industries,
Old Parham Road, upstairs KFC
Mon-Thurs: 10am - 2pm
Fri: 10am - 1pm
Call: 562-9605/06

Deadline March 14th 2025

Bosnian Serb leader Dodik sentenced to prison for defying peace envoy



A Bosnian court has sentenced Bosnian Serb leader Milorad Dodik to one year in prison for defying the rulings of the international peace official overseeing peace in the Balkan country.

On Wednesday, the court in Sarajevo also handed the 65-year-old from Bosnia's autonomous Serb Republic a six-year ban from office.

Dodik, president of Bosnia's autonomous Serb Republic, was indicted in 2023 for signing laws that suspended rulings by the constitutional court and by international peace envoy Christian Schmidt.

The Bosnian Serb leader rejected the indictment as politically motivated.

"There is no reason to worry. I learned to put up with more difficult things," Dodik told supporters in Banja Luka.

"We must be cheerful, I am sentenced to one year for their crap and their jail," he also said.

Under criminal law, Bosnians can pay a fine instead

of facing jail time if the sentence is no more than one year.

Dodik has two weeks to appeal the ruling. It was not clear if he would appeal.

The leader and his lawyers were not in the court during the sentencing.

In response, Dodik also stated that the Bosnian Serb parliament will ban the work of the state pros-

ecutor, the state court, and the intelligence agency in the Serb Republic area of Bosnia.

Before the ruling, Dodik had said that he would disobey any conviction and threatened "radical measures" in response, including the eventual secession of the Serb-run entity in Bosnia called Republika Srpska from the rest of the country.

Dodik had said a ruling against him could "strike a death blow to Bosnia and Herzegovina".

The court acquitted a second defendant, Milos Lucic, the former acting director of the Serb entity's Official Gazette. He had also been accused of deliberately obstructing the enforcement of decisions made by Schmidt.

The first-instance verdict could still be amended. Dragan Bursac, a colum-

nist and political analyst for Al Jazeera Balkans, said it remains to be seen whether he "can buy out his sentence, if it's possible, and whether he'll be freed or if a compromise will be reached."

"The real concern is whether he'll be able to hold other political positions within Bosnia and Herzegovina or not, the part of sentence which hurts him the most," Bursac said.

"In a month's time, we'll know the second-instance verdict, but I don't believe the judicial system will stray much, and I don't expect significant changes in the appellate process. These are likely the final details of Dodik's sentence."

The case has been widely seen as a potential test of the Balkan nation's weak central government after Dodik flouted the country's peace deal and court system. (Al Jazeera English)

CELEBRATING
6 YEARS OF
AMAZING
SERVICE!!





SHERWIN-WILLIAMS.
Cassada Paints & Supplies Inc
Utility Drive Cassada Gardens
(268) 562-9450



15% OFF STOREWIDE

MARCH 10TH - MARCH 15TH

Trump administration creates registry for immigrants who are in the US illegally

The Trump administration is creating a registry for all people who are in the United States illegally, and those who don't self-report could face fines or prosecution, immigration officials announced Tuesday.

Everyone who is in the US illegally must register, give fingerprints and provide an address, the Department of Homeland Security said in a statement. It cited a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act — the complex immigration law — as justification for the registration process, which would apply to anyone 14 and older.

The announcement comes as the administration seeks to make good on campaign promises to carry out mass deportations of people in the country illegally and seal the border to future asylum-seekers.

“An alien’s failure to register is a crime that could result in a fine, imprisonment, or both,” the statement said. “For decades, this law has been ignored — not anymore.”

On its website, the US Citizenship and Immigration Service said it would soon create a form



and process for registration.

In one of his 10 inauguration day executive orders related to immigration, President Donald Trump initially outlined plans for creating a registry and required that Homeland Security “immediately announce and publicize information about the legal obligation of all previously unregistered aliens in the United States to comply.”

It was not immediately clear how many people living in the country illegally would voluntarily come forward and give the federal government information about

who they are and where they’re living. But failure to register would be considered a crime, and the administration has said its initial priority target for deportation is people who’ve committed crimes in the US.

The National Immigration Law Center, an immigration advocacy group, said in a posting on its website before the Tuesday night announcement that “the Alien Registration Act of 1940 is the only time the US government carried out a comprehensive campaign to require all non-citizens to register.”

The organization said un-

der that process, people had to go to their local post office to register, and the goal was to identify “potential national security threats broadly characterized as communist or subversive.”

The group warned that the registry was meant to help find potential targets for deportation.

“Any attempt by the Trump administration to create a registration process for non-citizens previously unable to register would be used to identify and target people for detention and deportation,” the organization said. (Jamaica Gleaner)

**MON - FRI
6:30AM TO 9AM**



POINTE FM 99.1

**BIRTHDAY/
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS**

INTERVIEWS

**COMMUNITY
UPDATES**

POLITICS

HOSTED BY WINSTON WILLIAMS

MORNING POINTE

CALL: 562-3989 OR 562-2991 | US: 718 285 7889

FACEBOOK LIVE @ POINTE FM99.1

WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Texas couple found dead inside Mexico City rental property, police confirm

A Texas couple vacationing in Mexico City were found dead in their apartment rental on Tuesday, Mexican police say.

Mexico City Office of Citizen Safety officers responded to a report of an unconscious person in an apartment on Emilio Dondé and Tres Guerra streets in the Centro neighborhood in the municipality of Cuauhtémoc, authorities said Tuesday.

Officers interviewed a 61-year-old woman who said a couple, who had “virtual credentials” saying they were from Texas, had rented one of the apartments in the building, police said.

She knocked on their door multiple times to notify them of a repair for a leak in the water meter but received no response. Eventually she decided to let herself into the apartment and upon entering, she found them unconscious and called police.

Paramedics responded and identified the couple as a 35-year-old man and a 37-year-old woman.

The cause of their death is not yet known.

A Public Ministry officer, part of the Mexican Attorney General’s Office, is investigating their deaths. (NBC News)

AGRICULTURAL CAREER FAIR & EXPO

This career fair & expo introduces secondary school students to career opportunities in the agricultural sector, connecting them with industry professionals and showcasing pathways for future growth and development.



Thursday

February 27th 2025



Time

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



Multipurpose Cultural Center

JOIN US



1 (268)-785-9958



agriculture.gov.ag



Sports News

Ojays stay perfect in ABBA's Division 2 league



The Cutie's Ovals Ojays continued their successful start to their campaign in the Second Division of the 2025 Antigua and Barbuda

Basketball Association's (ABBA) domestic season on Tuesday evening.

The Ovals Ojays 2 made it five wins in as many

games with a 72-32 drubbing of the Navigators in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Dajon George and Tajahron Davis each produced 18 points, and Jayleyle Joseph scored 10 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Ovals Ojays 2.

Victor Osbourne converted 15 points for the Navigators, who lost for the third time in five games.

Michael Joseph Phoenix notched up their second win in five encounters with a 79-42 victory against Square One Construction United in the second game of Tuesday's double-header.

Daysher Samuel produced 17 points, nine

assists, and seven steals; Shalom Bloodman sank 16 points and grabbed 12 rebounds; and Tyreke Lewis scored 14 points and claimed eight rebounds for Michael Joseph Phoenix.

Andrew Simon shot a game-high 20 points for United, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

ABBA's First Division League will resume with another double-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Thursday (today).

Spanish Heat will tackle Da Project in their first encounter at 6:45 pm, and the Northside Stingerz will take on the All Saints Slam in the second game at 8:30 pm.

Big wins for Potters and Cedar Grove in School Basketball League

Potters and Cedar Grove recorded wins by 13-point margins in the Mini Boys Primary Division in the Cool and Smooth Inter-School Basketball League on Tuesday.

Potters Primary romped to an emphatic 20-7 drubbing of Post Millennial Academy in one of four games at the JSC Sports Complex. Derick Perez scored all 20 points for Potters Primary.

Kai Charles converted eight points to lead Cedar Grove Primary to an equally convincing 17-4 victory against Five Islands Primary.

Success as well for Golden Grove and Villa Primary in the other two games.

Kemar Lloyd scored six



Players of Potters Primary and Post Millennial Academy (yellow uniform) compete in the Mini Boys Primary Division in the Cool and Smooth Inter-School Basketball League at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. (Photo courtesy of the School Basketball League)

points as Golden Grove Primary prevailed 8-2 against S.R. Olivia David Primary of Bolans.

In the day's most keenly contested encounter, Greenbay Primary snatched a narrow 12-11 victory against Villa Primary. Raylin Rodriguez converted eight points for Greenbay Primary.

Meanwhile, action continued in the Ministry of Sports JOMA Caribbean Inter-School Volleyball League at the YMCA Sports Complex on Tuesday.

There were wins for the Antigua Girls High School second team (AGHS-1) and the Antigua Grammar School.

The Antigua Girls High School second team (AGHS-1) prevailed 25-23, 25-18 against defending champions Island Academy in the female division.

Antigua Grammar School overcame Ottos Comprehensive 2-1 in the male division, winning 22-25, 25-20, and 15-8.

Benna Girls end CONCACAF U-20 Qualifiers with win over Belize



The Antigua and Barbuda Benna Girls celebrate after scoring one of their five goals during their third match against Belize in Group A of the 2025 CONCACAF Under-20 Women's Qualifiers at the ABFA Technical Center on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. (ABFA Media)

Antigua and Barbuda's Benna Girls managed to salvage some lost pride with a win in their final match of the 2025 CONCACAF Under-20 Women's Qualifiers, which took place across six four-team groups in four host countries from February 21 to 25.

Gabrielle De Suza scored twice as hosts Antigua and Barbuda wrapped up their campaign with a 5-3 victory against Belize in the last match in Group A at the ABFA Technical Center in Paynters on Tuesday.

Ajahna Martin opened scoring for the Benna Girls with her second of the competition in the 22nd minute.

Iressiea Allen scored the second goal for Antigua and Barbuda with a right-footed shot in the 24th minute. An own goal from Riann Acal in the 28th minute gave the Benna Girls a 3-0 lead.

But Khalydia Velasquez

pulled one back by scoring the first goal of the tournament for Belize in the 36th minute.

De Suza scored the fourth goal of the match for Antigua and Barbuda with a left-footed volley in the 38th minute.

Betsy Perez closed the first half by scoring Belize's second goal in the first minute of added time.

Velasquez scored her second of the match and the third goal for Belize with a header in the box from a free kick in the 79th minute.

De Suza got her second goal of the match and the fifth for Antigua and Barbuda in the fourth minute of added time to ensure the Benna Girls end their participation in the 2025 CONCACAF Under-20 Women's Qualifiers with a win.

It means Antigua and Barbuda finished third in Group A with three points after losing their other two

matches. Belize finished in the cellar of the four-team Group A with one point, drawing one and losing their other two matches.

Earlier on Tuesday, Guyana qualified for the CONCACAF Women's Under-20 Championship by winning Group A.

Guyana booked their spot in the CONCACAF Women's Under-20 Championship by snatching a 1-0 victory against favourites Haiti in their final Group A match at the ABFA Technical Center in Paynters.

Myanne Fernandes scored the decisive goal in the 57th minute, sending Guyana through to the tournament's main draw for a second time. In 2020, they reached the quarter-finals, where they were knocked out by Haiti.

Guyana needed a win against Haiti to progress, as only the top team from the group would advance. Tuesday's win meant Guyana won Group A with

seven points from their three matches, while Haiti finished in second place with six points by winning their other two matches.

The Guyanese girls will now join the other six winners of the 2025 CONCACAF Under-20 Women's Qualifiers and pre-seeded powerhouses, the United States and Mexico, to compete for places at the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup in Poland in August 2026.

The other five group winners to qualify for the CONCACAF Women's Under-20 Championship are Puerto Rico (Group B), Panama (Group C), Nicaragua (Group D), Canada (Group E), and Costa Rica (Group F).

The 2025 Under-20 Women's Championship will determine the four CONCACAF representatives for the 2026 FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup in Poland.

Sports News

Caribbean prime ministers rally behind initiative to fund West Indies cricket

In a major boost for West Indies cricket, prime ministers across the Caribbean are rallying behind an initiative that will generate nearly US\$100 million for the sport over the next 10 years.

Robert Washington, CEO of Caribbean CAGE, revealed this development during an interview on the 'Mason and Guest' cricket show in Barbados on Tuesday night.

The initiative stems from a historic 10-year partnership between Cricket West Indies (CWI) and Caribbean CAGE, a leading gaming and sports betting operator. The agreement, which was signed in December 2024 and takes effect on April 1, 2025, is also expected to generate US\$158 million for governments in the region.

Washington emphasized that sustainable revenue is crucial for the growth and competitiveness of West Indies cricket on the global stage.

"Cricket needs recurring, sustainable revenue because you need new academies, new technology, new grounds, but you have to have income," Washington stated. "Gaming, as we all know, is a tax on the willing."

He explained that Caribbean governments are taking a proactive approach similar to how U.S. states fund education and sports



CEO of Caribbean CAGE, Robert Washington, left, and President of Cricket West Indies Dr. Kishore Shallow.

through lottery systems.

"What I think the Caribbean is doing now, which is very significant, is similar to what has been done in the US with the South Carolina Educational Lottery and the Georgia Education Lottery," he said.

"Without resources, how does Cricket West Indies compete with India, South Africa, Pakistan, and England?"

Washington credited the CARICOM Prime Ministerial Subcommittee on Cricket, led by Chairman Dr. Keith Rowley, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, for its efforts in mobilizing government support for the initiative.

"That committee has been very active and supportive of getting governments to

ensure that seven percent of adjusted gross revenue goes directly to Cricket West Indies.

"If all the governments participate, we conservatively estimate close to US\$100 million will be generated for cricket over the next decade, along with an additional US\$158 million for the governments. And that's where we are. That's our commitment."

He also acknowledged the involvement of several regional leaders, including Guyana's President Irfaan Ali, Barbados' Prime Minister Mia Mottley, Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne, St. Lucia's Prime Minister Philip J. Pierre, and Grenada's Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell.

The funds will be generated through regulated gaming operations, including sports betting and virtual sports, which will be conducted within a controlled, geo-fenced environment.

"These are games that will allow people to bet on sporting events – cricket, baseball, football, tennis, soccer – any game in the world. You can bet from your home, from your office, at a bus stop, at a restaurant," Washington explained.

He highlighted Caribbean CAGE's partnerships with global industry leaders, such as FanDuel (part of Flutter Entertainment) and Sportradar, a top sports content provider.

"We are bringing new technology, including digital wallets, which will

Antigua and Barbuda Football Coaches Association to host meeting



Antiguan coaches listen to facilitator Patrick Beckles of Barbados during a Safeguarding Workshop, which was hosted by the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association at the ABFA Technical Center from December 10 to 15, 2024. (ABFA Media)

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Coaches Association (ABFCA) will be hosting an important meeting on Sunday, March 2.

The session will take place at the Conference Room of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association

Technical Center, starting at 10:30 am.

This gathering is crucial for the advancement of football coaching in our twin island state of Antigua and Barbuda.

All coaches, along with potential members of the local football fraternity, are encouraged

to attend.

Among the agenda items to be discussed is the ratification of the ABFCA's constitution. The participants will review and approve the association's governing document to ensure effective and professional operations moving forward.

There will also be the election of a steering committee, which will be an established group of dedicated individuals to guide the association's initiatives.

The participants will also approve a date for the election of five executive board members. This will include the selection of a presi-

dent, general secretary, treasurer, and two floor members to provide prudent and comprehensive leadership for the Association.

All interested coaches and stakeholders are invited to participate in this significant event as the ABFCA works towards the strengthening of local football while enhancing the football fraternity in Antigua and Barbuda.

For further information, please contact Ivor Luke (Tel. #268-732-1230), Micah Samuel (Tel. #268-780-9370), Schyan Jeffers (Tel. #268-720-8636), or Lenny Hewlett (Tel. #268-773-8059)

con't from pg 28

allow players to securely place bets. This will also enable tourists to participate in gaming while adhering to international standards."

Washington also pointed out that the Caribbean has long suffered from unregulated, untaxed gaming operations that provide no financial benefits to cricket or local governments.

"Today, any company in the world can take bets in the Caribbean and not pay governments or cricket a dime. In America, it's a

violation of the Wire Act to have interstate gaming. But in the Caribbean, these operations are rampant," he noted.

Washington praised Caribbean leaders for recognizing this issue and taking steps to combat illegal gaming.

"Now that governments are prepared to shut down ISPs that facilitate illegal gaming, watch how it accrues to the benefit of cricket and the governments of the Caribbean.

"You can't do this in the

US, Canada, England, Germany, Austria, Australia, or China – only in the Caribbean. But I'm delighted that the political leadership understands this and is taking appropriate steps to ensure that cricket and the people of the Caribbean benefit."

With this initiative, Cricket West Indies is poised to receive a consistent stream of revenue to invest in player development, facilities, and overall cricket infrastructure, ensuring a stronger future for the

sport in the region.

Washington, who has deep personal ties to the Caribbean, expressed his passion for helping to revive West Indies cricket.

"I have been in the Caribbean community for over 30 years. My children grew up here, my son's wife is from St. Kitts, my youngest son was born in Barbados. This is home for me. And cricket is a vehicle for us to help grow the sport." (Sportsmax)

Cochrane joins England senior men's coaching team



Coach Justin Cochrane

First team coach of English Premier League's (EPL) Brentford FC, Justin Cochrane, has joined Thomas Tuchel's England coaching staff, but the 43-year-old will continue in his role at the Bees.

Cochrane represented Antigua and Barbuda between 2007 and 2012 and has regularly offered his time and considerable skill to coaches and teams across the island.

"This is really an exciting opportunity for me, and I'm extremely grateful to Brentford for allowing me to take on this role," Cochrane said.

Cochrane, no stranger to the England set up, has influenced many of the current talent in the England squad, while Manager at under-15, under-16, and under-17 levels.

The likes of Noni Madueke, 22, and



Justin Cochrane, left, and current Brentford FC Manager Thomas Frank. Cochrane joined Brentford FC in 2022.

20-year-olds Lewis Hall and Rico Lewis -- who are now all full England internationals -- have been coached by Cochrane, having played under him during his time as manager of England's Under-15s, Under-16s and Under-17s.

"I'm looking forward to coaching this very talented group, alongside some very skilled and experienced colleagues," Cochrane stated.

Highly respected across the United Kingdom and proud of his Antigua and Barbuda roots, Cochrane has built his coaching career at clubs like Tottenham Hotspur, Manchester United, and Wimbledon, all before joining Brentford FC in 2022.

Former Antiguan defender and manager Fernando "Nando" Abraham, who was instrumental in ensuring Cochrane's international debut for Antigua and Barbuda said, "Justin is a quality coach, excellent with players and communicates his style and vision with ease. Above all, he's a better person; a top, top man. I'm delighted

to see his outstanding progress."

Former Antigua and Barbuda international Cochrane's 13-year playing career in club football peaked in the English Championship with Crewe Alexandra, for whom he made 72 appearances between 2003 and 2006.

Cochrane started his coaching career with Tottenham before joining Manchester United as the head of player development and coaching of the club's academy.

He joined Brentford in 2022, a year after the Bees' promotion to the English Premier League.

Cochrane is the latest appointment to Tuchel's backroom staff, with assistant Anthony Barry, goalkeeping coach Henrique Hilario, and performance coach Nicolas Mayer already in place.

Tuchel's first game in charge of England will be on March 21, when the Three Lions host Albania at Wembley in London.

con't on pg 27