

SPECIAL

EDITION



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

POINT EXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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A NATION MOURNS



Gone Too Soon...

A Nation Mourns

It is difficult to find a time in our recent memory that an abduction and death of anyone have stirred the collective conscience of Antigua and Barbuda as the death of 9-year old Chantel Crump. Rarely have we seen an event that has galvanized the nation in this overwhelming sense of loss and outright disgust as the homicide of this minor.

The outrage cuts across all groups of society; religious, political and social. This is a rarity for a society that so sharply divided, especially along political lines. Yet, when the news reports that the 9-year old went missing on Wednesday, and the nature of her disappearance became obvious; there was no holding back in the emotions, the concern and the anger.

The concerns of the society reached the ears of the Acting Commissioner of Police and his senior staff and they too reacted in kind. By Thursday, there was a press conference to report to the nation the progress being made thus far to locate the child, and to seek the public's help in finding her. Then there were the obvious questions; why Chantel; was she targeted, and for what purpose was she abducted?

When the news of the discovery of her body was made public, the anger being felt by the community was manifested with an impromptu gathering outside the police headquarters early Saturday morning. Others took part in a march. Hundreds participated in both events. They were united in one cause; this was a 'bridge too far' that had been crossed.

Chantel's disappearance and her subsequent death came against the backdrop of a sudden increase in the number of people who had been reported missing just in the first two and a half months of the year. Enough

was enough!

It could be argued that the outrage at Chantel's abduction and the discovery of her body just over 48 hours later had much to do with who she was and from whence she came. She was a 9-year old belonging to a family from one of the poorest parts of the country. Perhaps, her family was not well-connected socially or even politically. Therefore, in the eyes of the perpetrators she may have been seen as 'an easy target'. No one would miss her; no one would care. This may have been their calculation, but how wrong they were.

The national outrage sends a clear message to those with evil intent; Chantel, in their eyes may have been 'a nobody', but a society of Christian-minded, God-fearing people

stood up and say 'No'! No more preying upon the least among us; no more sleepless nights for the families of those who have gone missing and who have not returned (or found) even as weeks, even months have passed.

A Nation (Antigua and Barbuda) Mourns; a people distressed, pained, troubled and angry. A Nation prays; for the soul of Chantel Crump and for those who have gone missing and have not been heard from by their families and loved ones.

May the mighty hand of God reach out to touch each of us in this moment of trial and distress; may peace and comfort descend upon our Nation; this is our prayer!



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National Address by Hon Gaston Browne



Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda Gaston Browne

Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda

My Fellow Citizens and Residents of Antigua and Barbuda.

I am addressing you now with a heavy heart.

Several recent events in our beloved country have caused me great distress. Each is disturbing, but the murder of nine-year-old Chantel Crump is particularly painful.

My wife and I are parents of a four-year-old girl, and I was at the hospital with her when I received the sad news of Chantel. I know how worried I was about my own daughter's illness, and I can only imagine - with deep sorrow - the profound grief of Chantel's family.

Thankfully, my daughter is recovering from vicious flu and its attendant symptoms, which included a recurring fever. She is expected to be discharged from the hospital this evening

and I give thanks to Almighty God for his mercy and loving care.

However, the sadness over Chantel continues to weigh heavily on me.

I cannot honestly say that I do not feel anger and outrage at the murder of this innocent child.

Let me assure everyone in our country that my administration will not rest until justice is delivered in full measure to the perpetrators. This is not only on behalf of Chantel and her family, but also to safeguard every other children- and every other person - from anyone in our society who would commit such heinous acts.

We resolve that Antigua and Barbuda must be safe for all our people.

It must be particularly safe for all our children.

My government will vigorously investigate all who may be involved in crimes of this nature and determine their motivations. Not only will we bolster the investigative power of the

Police, but we will also enhance their capacity by providing cadaver dogs trained to find bodies and to detect DNA traces of those involved in killings.

We will stamp out this evil that has befallen our country before it spreads any further.

As a nation, we mourn Chantel Crump, and, as a nation, we must resolve - individually and collectively - to ensure that there are no further acts of this kind.

However, law enforcement cannot do it alone.

We must report all suspicious activities, and send a clear message to anyone who commits or plots such crimes, that we will not allow them to contaminate our country, harm our children, or intimidate our society.

I solemnly pledge to allocate all the resources necessary to end such evil in Chantel's name and for the safety and well-being of all our children.

Fellow Citizens and Residents, I also want to express my sadness at what appears to be the suicide of a female officer of the Police Force yesterday (Friday).

Such an act only arises from severe depression and a sense of hopelessness.

It is a form of mental illness that has plagued societies all over the world, causing various self-destructive deeds.

But no one should have to take their God-given life, and no society should fail to act to support persons whose circumstances lead to mental health issues. We must not continue to stigmatize mental health, turn a blind eye and weep after the loss.

We must act empathetically and proactively to preserve life and to restore the health of everyone whose mental

con't on pg 4

Rest in peace Chantel

Local News

con't from pg 3

health deteriorates.

As a product of a mother (now deceased) who was plagued with mental health challenges for virtually all of her adult life; I am very empathetic to individuals with mental health challenges.

This is why my government and I, personally, have pursued a policy of improving responses to mental health globally and domestically. I have personally raised this issue with the UN Secretary General, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, and the Director of the Pan American Health Organization.

In June this year, at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), a resolution on joint action, to address mental health in the countries of the Americas will be prominently on the agenda. Additionally, the Pan American Health Organization will hold a special meeting here in Antigua and Barbuda with the Health Ministers of all the countries in our hemisphere, to focus attention on this matter.

Mental health issues come in many forms, including depression and loss of self-esteem among children who experience bullying. In extreme cases, they can lead to self-harm, including suicide. We have the power, as a caring society, to prevent such outcomes through early intervention and care.

That is the action we can take, we must take, and we will take.

Every life in our society is too precious to lose and too valuable to disregard.

My friends, I also want to touch briefly on two other matters which have been the subject of discussion on social media and elsewhere.

The first concerns the sale of the yacht, Alfa Nero, and various claims alleging wrongdoing.

I want to make it absolutely clear that none of these claims or allegations

has any truth whatsoever.

To this end, the Financial Secretary will, in the coming days, publish a complete, transparent accounting of all monies that were received from the sale of the Alfa Nero, and exactly how every cent was spent.

It will categorically demonstrate the falsehood of the allegations and claims that were fed by members of the Opposition party to the Associated Press news agency, which carried the malicious article. Legal action is also being contemplated against all who conspired to create these falsehoods in an attempt to malign and smear hard-earned reputations.

Despite their attempts to defame, I remain firmly committed to good governance and will continue to govern our country in a transparent and accountable way. Those who defamed me and my family members will have an opportunity, if they dare, to repeat their lies in court and to suffer the consequences of their deceitfulness.

The other matter relates to an article in yesterday's New York Times which claims that the U.S. government is preparing a list of 44 countries from which travel will be banned or restricted.

According to the article, Antigua and Barbuda is among the countries that will appear on the restricted list.

This morning (Saturday), I requested our Ambassador to the U.S., Sir Ronald Sanders, to dispatch a note to the U.S. government seeking confirmation of the article's claims, and to make it clear that our government has worked harmoniously with the U.S. to ensure that our relations are mutually beneficial.

We were especially careful to emphasize that our government maintains a sanctions policy fully aligned with that of the U.S. Treasury in all financial matters. Furthermore, regarding

the Citizenship by Investment Programme (CIP), Antigua and Barbuda does not accept applications from any country that is currently on a U.S.-banned list.

All applications are rigorously vetted by recognized international agencies, including INTERPOL, to ensure that no applicants with a criminal background or current charges (including terrorism) are considered.

We also affirmed our intention to continue working closely with the U.S. government on this matter.

Therefore, while I cannot guarantee the decisions of the U.S. government, I am confident that, upon any objective analysis, it will be found that there is no reason to restrict travel from our country.

My brothers and sisters, let us stand together in faith and determination, as we work to protect our children, promote mental well-being, and guard our nation's good name. We have faced sorrow and anxiety in recent days, but in these moments of darkness, we must draw ever closer as one people; united in love, empathy, and our shared desire to see Antigua and Barbuda thrive.

Let not those who seek power, at the expense of nation and its people divide us.

May our collective compassion illuminate every corner of our society; ensuring that no child's voice goes unheard, no troubled mind is left unaided, and no slander is left unchallenged.

If we remain steadfast and resolute - continuing to lift up those who are suffering, championing the cause of justice, and safeguarding our sovereignty - Antigua and Barbuda will emerge stronger, more compassionate, and more unified than ever before. God Bless you and God bless our beloved Antigua and Barbuda
Thank you.

Murder accused to appear in court

By Phil George

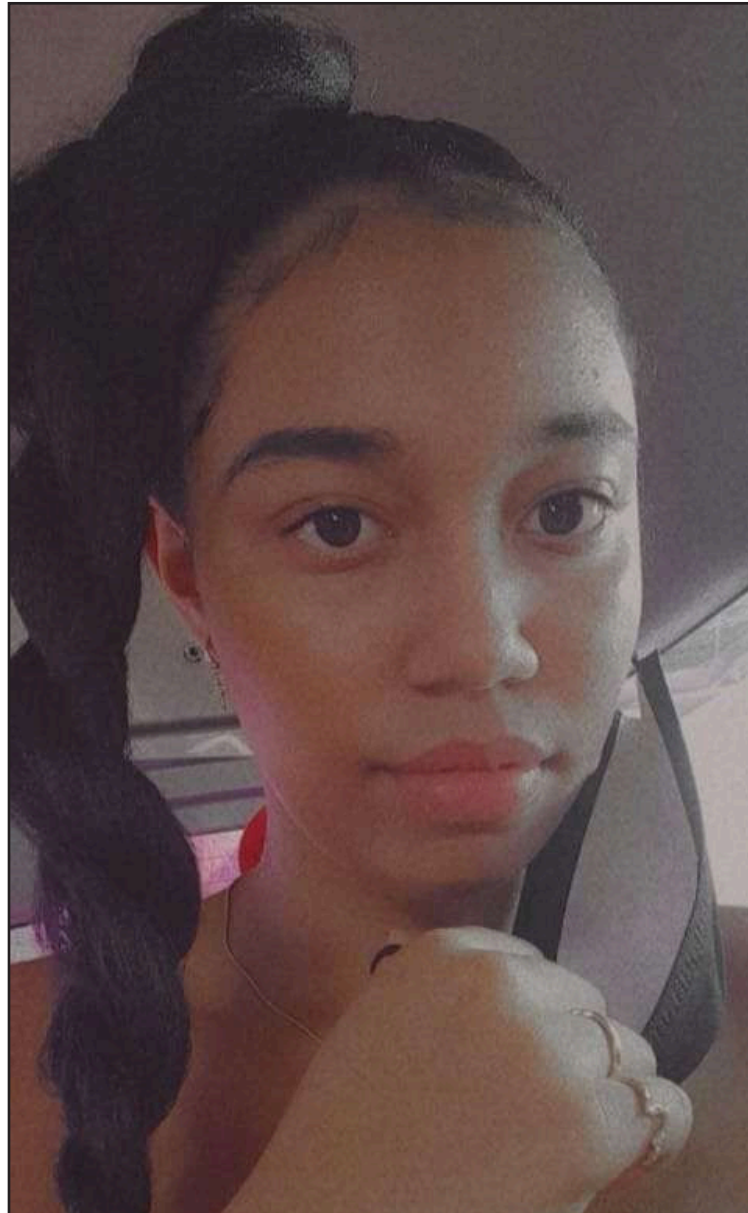
The 20-year-old woman charged with the murder of Five Islands Primary School student Chantel Crump will likely make her first court appearance today.

Angela Mejia, will appear before a magistrate, who is expected to remand her to His Majesty's Prison until the commencement of her committal proceedings.

The charge Mejia faces is indictable and the case must be tried in the High Court. While on remand, it is possible for her attorney/s to petition a judge for bail on her behalf.

The Hispanic woman was charged for the heinous crime on Saturday evening, hours after Assistant Commissioner of Police Everton Jeffers, assured angry protestors a few yards away from the entrance of Police Headquarters that the person was in custody and will be charged.

Chantel Crump, a 9-year-old resident of Grays Farm, was abducted on Wednesday, mere minutes away from her home, allegedly by Angela Mejia in a silver Honda Car. The child, according to police, was walking home with two students at the end of the school day, when the vehicle pulled up and Crump entered, waving to her friends as it moved off. The child's mother, Marsha Crump, was then notified and a report was made to the



Angela Mejia

Grays Farm Police Station. A massive search was subsequently launched, which included the police and defence forces and public-spirited citizens, determined to safely return Chantel home.

On Thursday, two people were taken into custody and a car, suspected to be the one that Chantel Crump entered was impounded as the authorities raced against time. On Friday evening, the hopes of thousands of

Antiguans and Barbudans at home and abroad were dashed, when it was revealed that Angela Mejia led investigators to Weatherills, where Chantel Crump's body was discovered. While police have not confirmed the state in which the body was discovered, unconfirmed reports are that the child likely suffered a gruesome death.

Little is known about the accused. However, there are reports she was once a stu-

dent of the Harrison Centre Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education but was expelled for reasons unknown.

A pall of grief now hangs over the country, with angry residents demanding that justice be swift. However, Acting Commissioner of Police, Everton Jeffers, while addressing protestors on Saturday cautioned that there must be due process.

"The court must run its course. It's not up to me now. We are going to make the arrest and from the arrest, then the court will take it from there," Jeffers stated. "So, I hope that that would have eased your fears...she is 9-years-old of course it is tough, but listen, we are going to make it through this".

Acting Commissioner Jeffers thanked members of the general public for the role they played in assisting the police in their investigation.

"Some of you standing that you supported the police and the police and to thank you for your support. It is because of some of you standing there why we were able to crack this and so with your continued support, we will make further inroads in what is happening here in Antigua and Barbuda."

The acting top cop has pleaded for the public's continued support as all sides work toward the reduction of crime.

Rest in peace Chantel

Local News

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Assistance pledged to Crump family; PM says perpetrators will face justice



By Phil George

As the Crump family struggles to come to terms with the homicide of young Chantel Crump, the prime minister has said they will be provided with financial support.

Speaking on his radio programme on Saturday, Prime Minister Gaston Browne revealed that he was kept abreast of the abduction investigation every step of the way while dealing with his sick daughter and also gave instructions for the members of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force to join the search for the late child.

PM Browne, who said he has known

Chantel's father, Ernest Crump, for many years, has offered condolences to the family and via telephone has committed to the family his support and that of the government of Antigua and Barbuda, to include funeral expenses.

"I've indicated to him that he'll have my personal assistance as well as that of the government to assist with all expenses associated with the burial," the prime minister pointed out.

Additionally, the head of government pledged that the matter will continue to "occupy the attention" of his administration and all resources -internal and external -will be made available to the authorities, as they continue their investigations.

In an address to the nation on Saturday, the head of government outrage at the demise of Chantel Crump and affirmed that steps will be taken to ensure such heinous crimes are not repeated.

"Let me assure everyone in our country that my administration will not rest until justice is delivered in full measure to the perpetrators. This is not only on behalf of Chantel and her family, but also to safeguard every other child- and every other

person - from anyone in our society who would commit such heinous acts. We resolve that Antigua and Barbuda must be safe for all our people. It must be particularly safe for all our children. My government will vigorously investigate all who may be involved in crimes of this nature and determine their motivations."

Prime Minister Browne informed the nation that priority will be given to improving the investigative powers of the police and enhance their capacity to solve cases of murder, including the provision of cadaver dogs to detect bodies that may be hidden.

"We will stamp out this evil that has befallen our country before it spreads any further. As a nation, we mourn Chantel Crump, and, as a nation, we must resolve - individually and collectively- to ensure that there are no further acts of this kind," he said.

He called on citizens and residents to play their part in thwarting the plans of criminal elements by reporting suspicious activities to the police, not allowing "them to contaminate our country, harm our children, or intimidate our society".

Police Continue Probe Death of Female Police Sergeant

Police are continuing investigations into the circumstances surrounding the death of Sergeant Iyo Malone-Merchant.

Sergeant Merchant was pronounced dead at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center on Friday, March 14 at 2:

21pm, as a result of an alleged gunshot wound. The incident occurred shortly after 1:30 pm. The Police Administration expresses condolences to her immediate family and colleagues as they continue to investigate the incident.

Acting Commissioner, Everton Jeffers wishes to thank all those who have been reaching out to offer condolences to her family, colleagues, and close friends on her passing. Further details of the investigation will be provided in other updates.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
 Ministry of Public Safety and Attorney General

15 March 2025

MEDIA STATEMENT

ON

THE DEATH OF A POLICE OFFICER and THE KILLING OF A 9-YEAR OLD

These past 72 hours have been very painful and difficult for two families, their friends and neighbours, for school mates, for Police Officers, in fact for the entire population of Antigua and Barbuda.

On Wednesday evening 12 March 2025, parents reported that their 9-year old daughter, Chantel Crump, failed to return home from The Five Islands Primary School and could not be found. By Thursday morning, 13 March 2025, the entire nation was aroused by the ugliness of that report which caused everyone to feel threatened and we began praying for the safe return of the 9-year old to her parents.

With the assistance of the community and neighbours, the Police were able to detain a man and his female partner. The man was the registered owner of the vehicle into which the young girl entered freely. The Police persisted with their questioning of the couple. Finally on Friday night, the female suspect on her own volition took the Police Officers to a secluded area at Weatherills Estate, and showed them where the young girl's body could be found. After conducting the necessary police procedures the body was taken to a funeral home.

This morning, a large crowd gathered outside of Police Headquarters on American Road expressing its sympathies with the family of Chantel Crump. Acting Police Commissioner Ellerton Jeffers addressed the crowd, shared the details of the findings in that harrowing case, and thanked the public for its assistance and the valuable information which led the detention of the two suspects. In my capacity as Attorney General and with specific responsibility as Minister for Public Safety, I express condolences to the Mom and Dad of the deceased, to other members of the Crump family, the little girl's schoolmates, the community of Grays-Green, and the entire nation of Antigua and Barbuda.

While the nation's focus was squarely placed on the tragedy of Chantel Crump, another was unfolding at the Langfords Police Station where a female officer, Senior Sergeant Iyo Malone, a police officer with more than a decade of experience, apparently took her life by discharging a handgun that brought an end to her life. This incident was most unfortunate and regrettable. In this regard too, I express heartfelt sympathies to the Malone family including her children, her colleagues in the RPFAB, her friends and the entire nation of Antigua and Barbuda.

These two shocking and inexplicable occurrences have brought much pain, suffering and concerns for the people of Antigua and Barbuda. I must thank the public for its support, understanding, and concern for the safety of the citizenry of this country. Finally, I must thank the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda for its professional approach in solving these two regrettable incidents in a very short space of time. May the souls of these deceased persons rest in eternal peace. May God continue to bless us and may we always remember to love one another. -end-



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON THE TRAGIC LOSS OF CHANTAL CRUMP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 15, 2025, St. Johns, Antigua..... It is with a heart weighed down by pain and grief that I pen this missive. The Ministry of Education, alongside a shattered community, mourns the devastating conclusion to the search for 9-year-old Chantal Crump, a young student whose life was tragically cut short. Words falter in the face of such sorrow, but we must come together to honor her memory and support those left behind.

No title or role weighs heavier than the duty to safeguard our children, Chantel's loss is a piercing reminder that every child is our child. As Minister, I feel this responsibility deeply, and I share in the profound grief engulfing her family and our nation.

Chantal's disappearance last week united communities in a desperate search fueled by hope - a hope that has now dissolved into profound mourning. Today, we confront the unthinkable: a classroom seat left empty, a laughter silenced, and a future stolen.

As Minister of Education, I speak not only for this institution but as a parent, a neighbor, and a fellow human being grappling with this loss. To Chantal's family, there are no words adequate to soothe your pain. We share your anguish and stand with you in this darkest hour. To the educators and students who cherished her, know that her light will forever remain lit.

In scripture, we are reminded: **"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted"** (Matthew 5:4). Let these words guide us as we lean on one another for strength. The Ministry will mobilize counseling services to assist students and staff affected by this tragedy.

Chantal's story is a piercing reminder of the fragility of life and the sacred responsibility we bear to protect and nurture our children. While questions remain, let us focus now on compassion - on holding one another up when the weight of grief feels insurmountable.

To every parent hugging their child a little tighter, to every teacher wiping a tear, and to every child struggling to understand this loss: You are not alone. Together, we will carry Chantal's memory forward, ensuring her spark is never forgotten.

Hon. Daryll Matthew
Minister of Education, Sports, and The Creative Industries
- END -

Queen Elizabeth Highway, St. John's, Antigua
Email: MinistryOfEducationAntigua@gmail.com
Tel: 268.468.3022 / 268.468.3023

MEDIA STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL & URBAN TRANSFORMATION



Condolences to the Family of Chantel Crump
15th March 2025

It is with profound sorrow and a heavy heart that we extend our deepest condolences to the family of Chantel Crump, whose life was tragically taken from us. The entire Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation mourns alongside her loved ones, our colleagues, and the people of Antigua and Barbuda. To Chantel's family, no words can ease your pain, but please know that you are not alone. Your grief is our grief, and your sorrow is felt throughout the nation. We stand with you, offering our unwavering support and love in this dark hour. May you find strength in the embrace of those who care for you and in the prayers of a nation that mourns this devastating loss. This tragedy is deeply personal to us, as Chantel was the sister and niece of members of our staff. As a Ministry dedicated to the well-being and protection of our nation's most vulnerable,

we feel this loss not only as colleagues but as a family. It is also a painful reminder of the urgency of our work—to create safer communities, strengthen protections for our children, and ensure that no family endures such heartbreak again. Chantel's passing must serve as a call to action for all of us to be vigilant, to stand against violence, and to work together to safeguard the innocence of every child in Antigua and Barbuda. To the people of Antigua and Barbuda, let us unite in grief, compassion, and unwavering resolve. Chantel's memory must not fade—it must fuel our determination to build a society where our children are safe, cherished, and protected from harm.

May her innocent soul rest in eternal peace, and may her family find strength in the love and support that surrounds them.

Hon. Rawdon Turner
Minister of Social & Urban Transformation

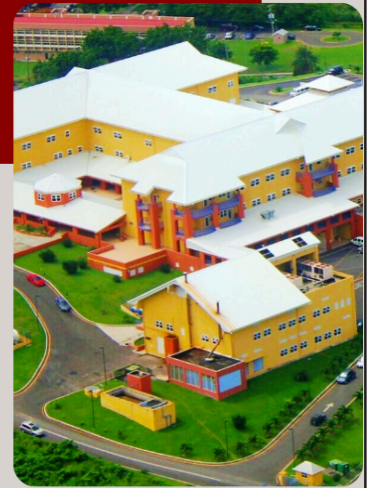
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Submission Deadline: March 21, 2025.



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Rest in peace Chantel

Local News



The Antigua Christian Council

P.O. Box 863

St. John's

Antigua

Email: antiguachristiancouncil1977@gmail.com

Saturday, March 15, 2025

To the People of Antigua and Barbuda,

In the spirit of love and unity, we, the Antigua Christian Council, feel compelled to address the heart-wrenching tragedy that has recently befallen our beloved nation. The senseless killing of Chantel Crump, along with the numerous unsolved murders and the heartache of countless missing persons, weighs heavily on our collective conscience. These acts of violence are not merely statistics; they represent lives cut short, families shattered, and communities left in despair.

We stand united in our condemnation of these heinous acts. Each loss is a profound tragedy that underscores the urgent need for change within our society. Violence begets violence, and in order to break this cycle, we must first look inward. We call upon every citizen of Antigua and Barbuda to engage in a period of reflection and repentance. It is time to renew our commitment to the values of love, respect, and compassion that are foundational to our communities.

Let us not be consumed by anger or fear, but rather let this moment serve as a catalyst for transformation. We urge our leaders to prioritise the safety and well-being of all citizens, to seek justice for those who have suffered, and to ensure that no family is left to grieve in silence. Law enforcement agencies must be supported and empowered to solve these cases, while also fostering a spirit of trust and collaboration with the community.

Furthermore, we appeal to the hearts of our citizens: let us stand together against the tide of violence. We must foster dialogue, understanding, and support for one another. It is only through a collective effort that we can heal the wounds that plague our nation and restore hope for a brighter future.

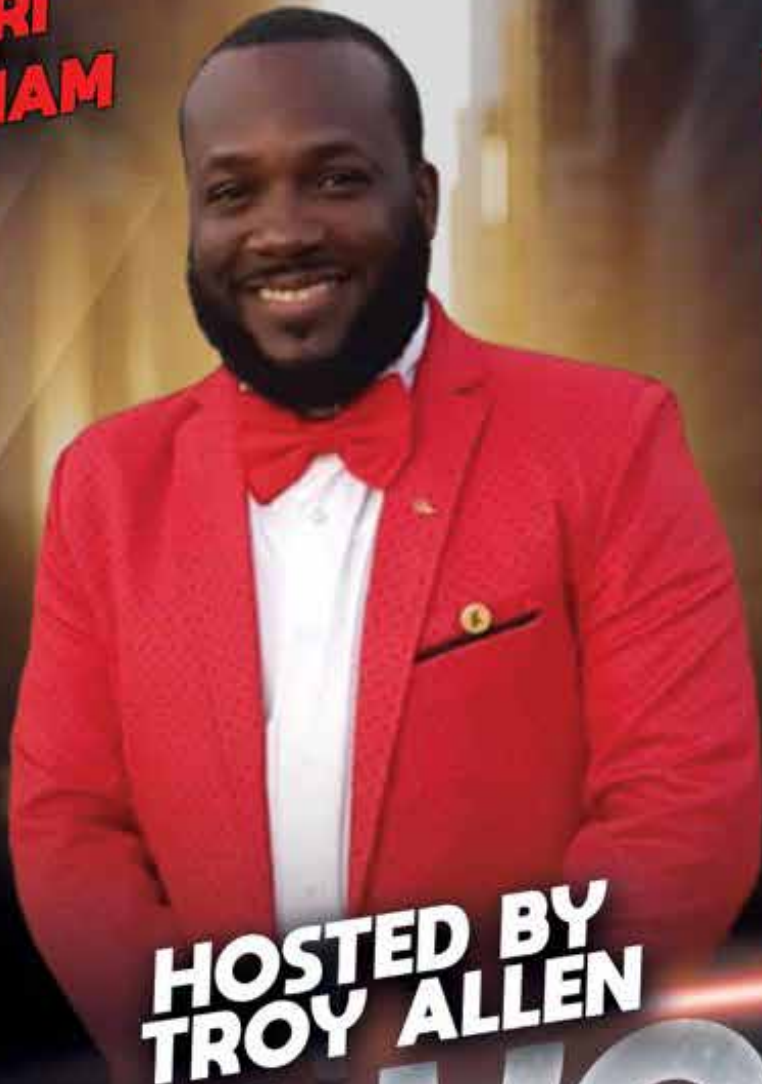
In this time of sorrow, we also recognise the resilience of our people. Together, let us be the change we wish to see, embodying the principles of peace and justice in our everyday lives. May we honour the memory of those we have lost by striving to create a safer, more loving Antigua and Barbuda for generations to come.

In faith and hope,

Bonnie E.B.W. Smith (Rev. Dr.)
President
Antigua Christian Council



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March 15, 2025

Press Release

The Seventh-day Adventist Community is pained by the loss of young Chantel Crump. We wish to express our profound sadness over these recent developments in our nation of Antigua and Barbuda and offer heartfelt condolences to the family members who are left to mourn. We are appalled and disgusted by the senseless and brutal abduction and murder of an innocent infant. In some ways, this is a reflection of the level of perilous times to which we have sadly come.

Today, Saturday March 15, the Seventh-day Adventist Community celebrates Global Youth Day. While we always have a strong emphasis on the youth, on this day, we allow them to "be the church" by intentionally going into the community and share food, give blood, provide health education and many other acts of kindness. It is one of the ways we demonstrate that youths are making a difference. As we leave the church buildings today and mingle in the various communities, we remember young Chantel and her grieving family. We will offer prayers for the family and also for the nation. We will call upon God to intervene in the crime and to help our people to live godly lives.

To Chantel's family, we wish for you to know that we weep with you. We offer our prayers and support. We stand ready to provide grief counseling and any other form of help that may be necessary. May God comfort you in this moment of crisis and may God help our nation.

Dr Carson L. Greene
President, South Leeward Conference of Seventh-day Adventist.

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We are deeply saddened and heartbroken by the tragic loss of Chantel Crump. The violence that took her life is an unspeakable act carried out by those with no regard for humanity. Our country mourns this senseless act, and our hearts go out to her grieving family. We offer our deepest condolences and want them to know that they are in our thoughts and prayers during this devastating time. We stand united in the fight for justice for Chantel.

#JusticeforChantel

A Heartfelt Tribute: NVRCPD Offers Support and Condolences to the Crump Family

In a moment of unimaginable loss, the National Vocational and Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities (NVRCPD) stands united in sorrow and support for the family of 9-year-old Chantal Crump, who tragically went missing on Wednesday afternoon and whose body was found just after midnight in the wee hours of Saturday morning.

Regan Calliste, Director of the NVRCPD and the sole focal point person for all disability-related matters in Antigua and Barbuda, along with his dedicated staff, extend their deepest condolences to Chantal’s family during this painful time. They offer not only their sympathies but also their unwavering support, especially to Toshiba Proctor, Chantal’s sister, who is a valued and committed member of the NVRCPD team. “Words cannot fully express the



sorrow we feel for this heartbreaking loss,” said Calliste.

“We want Toshiba and the entire Crump family to know that we are here for them. As a department, and as a Ministry, we will provide all the support we can during this difficult journey.” In this time of grief, the NVRCPD team encourages the Crump family to lean on their faith,

knowing that the Heavenly Father will walk with them through the darkest moments. “It is through faith that we find the strength to carry on,” Calliste said, “We trust that God’s presence will bring peace and healing in the midst of this storm.”

The NVRCPD, along with the Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation, assures Toshiba and the Crump family that they are not alone. The team is ready to provide support in any way needed, offering a strong network of love, prayer, and strength as they face this unimaginable sorrow.

As the community mourns, we remain hopeful that love, faith, and the support of family, friends, and colleagues will help carry them through this dark time, and that the memory of young Chantal will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

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- Biscuit
- Drink



\$19.99

- Zinger / CCB
- Drink

limitations apply

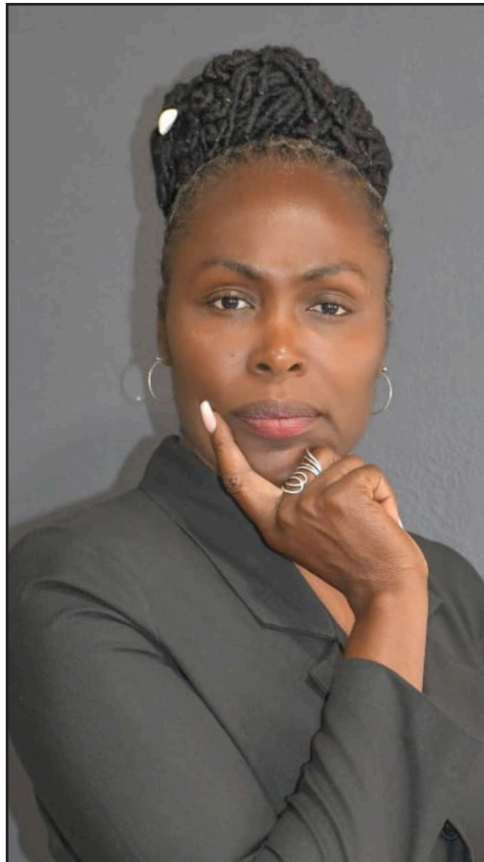


Jail would be just as good as a pat on the back

Child abuse is one of the most heinous crimes, stripping away the innocence and security of the most vulnerable members of society. The trauma inflicted on a child can last a lifetime, affecting their emotional, psychological, and even physical well-being.

Many believe that simply imprisoning offenders is too lenient, as it does not truly make them experience the suffering they have caused. A more severe and fitting punishment should reflect the gravity of their actions, ensuring they never have the opportunity to harm another child again.

While justice systems focus on imprisonment as a deterrent, some argue that harsher measures



are necessary to instill true fear in potential offenders. The pain and destruction caused by child abuse cannot be undone, and the law must be firm in ensuring these criminals are held accountable in a way that serves as both punishment and a warning to others.

Whether through stricter sentencing, public awareness, or alternative forms of justice, society must take a stand to protect children and ensure that predators face the full weight of their crimes.

Terri London

Community activist, St Mary's North Constituency

PDV Caribe
Antigua and Barbuda Ltd.

THE PDV HOUR

MONDAYS
11AM - 12NOON

MRS. JELLETTE RALPH
(JELLY BEANS)



Media Release

The Kiwanis Club of Antigua AR Fusion expresses profound sadness on the abduction and subsequent tragic loss of Chantel Crump. As an organization whose motto is “Serving the Children of the World”, we are deeply saddened by the loss and the apparent senseless violence inflicted on this child.

We are challenged to do even more and to advocate louder for the safety and well-being of the children in our communities. We invite the rest of the nation to join us in any way you can to make this country a safe and healthy place for our children. A place where the evil elements of this world do not feel welcomed. A place where our children can thrive and mature into adults who are mentally, emotionally, educationally and spiritually equipped to enjoy life and be able to confront its attendant challenges. Indeed, all children deserve to live in safety and peace.

We mourn with the family, friends, schoolmates and indeed the entire nation on the loss of this light, Chantel Crump, that has been taken from us. We pray that God grants healing to all those who grieve. In the midst of our grief, may we all have hope that this country will be a safe place for all our children.

May the soul of Chantel Crump Rest in Peace and may God bless Antigua and Barbuda.

The End.

Rebekah Warner
President

1 (268) 779-3457
president@kiwanisarfusion.org

Monique Francis
Secretary

1 (268) 764-9362
secretary@kiwanisarfusion.org

La-Verne Francis-Browne
Treasurer

1 (268) 720-6311
treasurer@kiwanisarfusion.org

Senate President pushes for stronger UN mechanisms to combat violence against women



President of the Senate, Alinecia Williams Grant has expressed grave concern about the effectiveness of CEDAW, the United Nations convention that requires signatory countries to take decisive steps in promoting gender equality and address meaningfully the issue of violence against women and girls.

Senator Williams Grant, who led a national delegation to the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN in New York, was a featured speaker at one of the conference's high level side events on Friday. The packed United Nations conference room engaged the panelists on the matter on the theme of the discussions, **'Towards a new optional protocol to CEDAW dedicated to end violence against Women and Girls.'**

The new protocol to CEDAW would create additional mechanisms and procedures by which countries can escalate their

complaints about violations against women and girls in instances where their national courts are proving ineffective.

Pointing to alarming global figures that show 1 in 3 women have been victims of some form of violence in their lifetime, Senator Williams Grant says the new optional protocol should be an urgent priority.

"The current optional protocol in place has had the buy in of many member states, which is noteworthy, as this is indicative of global political will to address the issue of violence against women and girls," she stated.

But she laments that implementation has been an issue as the number of complaints reaching the CEDAW committee do not exactly correlate to the scale of the global scourge of violence against women.

"It would appear that civil society organisations and NGOs have not been as active as anticipated, in rela-

tion to utilizing the optional protocol to report flagrant violations of women and girls' human rights in relation to facing violence, and systemic inequities, so that they could be highlighted and addressed by the committee, and subsequently, the respective governments," Senator Williams Grant revealed.

"It is imperative that we join forces and speak with one voice, as political actors, policy makers, diplomats, governments, gender equality practitioners, international development agencies and civil society, to call for the creation of a new optional protocol that is designed to truly function as a dependable mechanism for reporting instances where the principles of CEDAW and similar conventions are being ignored or disregarded, and more so, to bring light to instances where women and girls and vulnerable groups are being subjected to violence, discrimination and abuse," she stressed.

Incidentally, Senator Williams Grant's exhortation on Friday came mere hours before the tragic discovery of 9-year old homicide victim Chantel Crump, after being abducted close to her home only on Wednesday. While expressing her sadness and sympathy with the family, she noted the national cry for justice resonates with the principles of CEDAW as nations need to work together in establishing the deterrents from such tragic and fatal incidents.

"It takes a village, not only to raise our children, but to protect our women and girls from all incidents of violence," she commented.

Accompanying Senator Williams Grant to the side event were the other members of her delegation, Executive Director of the Directorate of Gender Affairs, Jamie Saunders and Programme Officer, T'Chell Looby-Antonio as well as First Secretary at the Antigua and Barbuda Mission, Asha Challenger.

PM Browne confirms legal action will be taken over Alfa Nero misinformation

By Carlena Knight-Humphreys

Last week, Prime Minister Gaston Browne would have given a stern warning to persons and media houses who were spreading misinformation about the sale and monies collected from the Alfa Nero superyacht.

A news article in the St. Kitts and Nevis Times questioned PM Browne's role in the matter while other publications like the Associated Press and some opposition members in Antigua and Barbuda were laying claim that PM Browne, his family and other public officials benefitted from the sale.

The matter of the monies collected from the yacht has been a major topic of discussion for the past week after it was revealed that a lawsuit has been filed in a United States Federal Court in Puerto Rico regarding the purchase amount of the Alfa Nero.

An article was published in the Associated Press online news portal referencing this lawsuit. The article, which heavily cites opposition United Progressive Party (UPP) officials, alleges that the lawsuit aims to investigate whether any undisclosed dealings for personal gain occurred.

Following those publications, PM Browne shared he was speaking with his lawyers on possible legal action but on Saturday during the *Browne and Browne* Show, he confirmed he will be suing several persons including the UPP Chair D. Giselle Isaac and the Associated Press.

He would not be going forward with the litigation against St. Kitts and Nevis Times since they would have posted a retraction.

But PM Browne has no intention to spare Isaac and others who he termed as 'conspirators'.

"We can prove it, and we will prove it. Y'all may say I am wicked but it's



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

about protecting my integrity. When for example, they are going to make claims that I own Fancy Bridge and therefore getting dividends cheques from WIOC and try to link me with all kinds of things.

"I am definitely going to sue them. I think they went too far and those publications who repeat it here in Antigua and Barbuda, here in the Caribbean, be careful too," PM Browne warned.

He believes that this entire matter stems from the UPP who are trying to find avenues to "muddy his name".

"They were saying publicly, using innuendos that me and my family members got the commission. A commission of four and a half percent was paid to the broker and by the way the 40 million didn't come to the government you know, it was paid to the broker from the buyer. The broker took out their brokerage fees and then

sent the difference to us... and for D Giselle Isaac to say to the Associated Press that I have not accounted is totally untrue," he added.

Senior Counsel Tony Astaphan also referred to the UPP's trend of deliberately "manufacturing misinformation where they collaborate and are happy to give interviews to foreign persons who are quite willing to publish and to print matters that conflicts with the public interest of the country or the reputation of the politicians that are in government".

He said misinformation is a threat to democracy as persons would vote based on fabricated stories.

"It is an unfortunate trend, but it is happening throughout the OECS if you listen to the radio," Astaphan added.

Cabinet has spoken on the matter as well, joining with the PM in criticizing opposition members referring to it as a "politically motivated attempt to malign the Prime Minister and his family".

Documents confirm that the proceeds from the Alfa Nero's sale—amounting to US\$40 million—were allocated to cover expenses related to the yacht's maintenance, services, and supplies and payments of the commission to the agency that facilitated the sale of the super yacht.

Additionally, approximately US\$29 million of the proceeds were used to address critical fiscal obligations of the Government, including payments to domestic and external creditors such as the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, Software One Inc. and Judgment debts and land compensation awards.



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Ministry of Finance, Corporate Governance and Public Private Partnerships

March 14, 2025 -REV

	USD	ECD
SALE OF ALFA NERO TO YM Thunder (Yildirim Group) - July 2024		
<i>Sale brokered by Northrop and Johnson - Superyacht Brokerage</i>		
Sale Price	40,000,000.00	108,000,000.00
<i>Brokerage fee deducted by Northrop and Johnson</i>	<i>1,800,000.00</i>	<i>4,860,000.00</i>
Balance Remitted to Government of Antigua and Barbuda	38,200,000.00	103,140,000.00
Amount deposited to Government of Antigua and Barbuda Account at Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) on July 18 2024	36,000,000.00	97,200,000.00
Amount deposited to Government of Antigua and Barbuda Account at ECCB on September 5 2024	2,200,000.00	5,940,000.00
Payments/Reimbursement for Alfa Nero Crew, Fuel, Supplies and other Expenses		
Reimbursement to Port Authority for Alfa Nero Expenses	518,518.52	1,400,000.00
Reimbursement to Government of Antigua and Barbuda for Weekly Payments to Marina and Resort Lt. to meet Crew expenses (April 11-2023 to June 14, 2024)	1,736,000.00	4,716,538.40
Legal Fees - Christopher and Associates	300,000.00	810,000.00
Legal Fees- Anthony Astaphan	96,296.30	260,000.00
Payment to West Indies Oil Company for Fuel Supplies	694,385.19	1,874,840.00
Payment to Registrar of High Court - Consent Order - Marshall and Co. (Attorney for - Tina Westwood/Caribbean Concierge Services)	114,408.86	308,903.93
Payment to Marshall and Co. (Attorney for -Tina Westwood/Caribbean Concierge Services)	43,622.90	117,781.84
Payment to Registrar of High Court - Consent Order for Alfa Nero Crew	3,124,523.09	8,436,212.34
Payment to Marina and Resort Ltd. for Crew, Security and other expenses	2,962,426.61	7,998,551.85
Total Alfa Nero Expenses	9,071,662.95	24,522,828.36
Other Payments		
Lorna Nanton - Land Acquisition	370,370.37	1,000,000.00
BDO- Henry Estate - Land Acquisition	370,370.37	1,000,000.00
Software One	549,473.53	1,483,578.54
Canadian Bank Note	185,185.19	500,000.00
Caribbean Development Bank Loans	5,522,265.62	14,910,117.17
ECCB Advances	16,068,838.15	43,385,863.01
ECCB Debenture	2,877,524.07	7,769,315.00
Payment of Securities	1,119,724.90	3,023,257.24
World Bank Loan	187,041.63	505,012.40
IMF XDR Purchase	531,650.48	1,435,456.30
Abu Dhabi Fund	590,136.16	1,593,367.63
Richards and Co- HMB Judgement Debt	800,000.00	2,160,000.00
Stanford Development Company-Receiver - Judgement Debt	370,370.37	1,000,000.00
Total Debt Payments	29,542,950.85	79,765,967.29
Grant Total	40,414,613.80	109,119,457.26

“Standing Up Against Disrespect: The Call for Decency in Political Discourse”



By Samantha Marshall

In a recent political march against the ruling Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party Government, a disgraceful placard was displayed by Leon Chaku Symister, an attorney at law and an official member of the Opposition United Progressive Party (UPP).

Although he did not name anyone explicitly, the implications were clear: he was targeting the elected members of

the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Government and, by extension, the Cabinet members. Most disturbing was his use of the word “whore,” likely aimed at the sole elected female member of Parliament. Coupled with derogatory language regarding his perceived competency of the Government, this act is wholly unacceptable.

The lack of any disavowal from either the UPP or Symister himself strongly suggests that

this was a deliberate choice of words. This is particularly troubling given that we have just celebrated International Women’s Day, a time when we advocated for greater female participation in politics. Is this really the environment we want to foster for women who aspire to hold political office? Should political attacks on women be so humiliating and degrading?

It is crucial to consider that the elected member in question is a mother of two young children. Is this the kind of description they should hear about their mother? Does Chaku have daughters? Does he have sisters? Would he accept such a description being applied to any of the women in his life, including his mother?

As an attorney and an official within a political party, it is imperative to confront the moral decay we are witnessing in our society. Is this truly acceptable behavior? UPP, your silence speaks volumes. Is this really the kind of rhetoric you want to be associated with?

Furthermore, we must

reflect on our own silence as women. Today it may be her, but tomorrow it could be any of us. Should we all remain silent in the face of such disrespect? It is time to stand up against this behavior and demand a political culture that respects and uplifts women rather than degrades them. We must unite in our voices for decency and integrity in political discourse, for the sake of all women and future generations.

Editor’s Note:

During last Saturday’s *Browne and Browne* show, Donna Chaia, a member of the show’s panel, called on the women of the UPP to distance themselves from the Symister and his placard. Silence, she noted, would be interpreted as consent for this level of ‘gutter politics’.

It is our hope that they are indeed listening!

[#AccelerateAction](#)

[#womensupporting-women](#)

[#nodisrespect](#)

**TUES - FRIDAY
11AM - 2PM**



**HOSTED BY
SENATOR COLIN O'NEAL BROWNE**

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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Antigua and Barbuda seeks clarity from US Administration

Antigua and Barbuda is asking US authorities clarify news reports that the country has been placed on a draft list of countries from which citizens will have certain restrictions from entering the United States.

The information is contained in a New York Times article published last Friday.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has reported to the nation that he has informed the Ambassador to the United States, Sir Ron Sanders, to contact the US government to seek clarity on why Antigua and Barbuda is reportedly listed among these countries.

PM Browne indicated that the suspects that this may be related to Antigua and Barbuda's operation of a Citizenship by Investment Programme, but he gave the assurance that the programme operated by the government goes the extra mile to ensure that it meets all international standards of transparency and accountability, including not accepting applications from countries whose citizens are banned from entering the US.

The text of Sir Ron letter to the US State Department is re-produce below;

***Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda
Washington, DC***

The Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda presents its compliments to the Department of State and has



the Ambassador to the United States, Sir Ron Sanders

the honour to refer to an article in the New York Times of 14 March 2025, titled "Draft List for New Travel Ban Proposes Trump Target 43 Countries." The article asserts that Antigua and Barbuda has been placed on a "Yellow List" of countries "which would be given 60 days to clear up perceived deficiencies."

The Embassy expresses its deep concern about these reports and respectfully requests clarification regarding whether the Department of State has, in fact, drawn up such a list naming Antigua and Barbuda. The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has received no prior notice from any branch of the U.S. Government regarding this matter, and thus, would be grateful for any official information the Department of State can provide.

In the event that the information in the article is accurate, the Em-

bassy, mindful of the mutually beneficial relations between our two countries and determined to uphold these close ties, kindly requests details of any "deficiencies" perceived by agencies of the United States so that they may be promptly discussed and remedied.

The Embassy takes this opportunity to reaffirm that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda maintains a sanctions policy fully aligned with that of the U.S. Treasury in all financial matters. Furthermore, in relation to the Citizenship by Investment Programme (CIP), Antigua and Barbuda does not accept applications from any country that is currently on a U.S. banned list. All applications are rigorously vetted by recognized international agencies, including INTERPOL, to ensure that no applicants with a criminal background or current charges (including terrorism) are considered.

The Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda would welcome a timely response from the Department of State so that we may continue to advance and safeguard the valued cooperation between our two countries.

The Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State of the United States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Letter to the Editor

Rest in peace Chantel

Dear Editor,

The recent passing of Police Sergeant Iyo Malone-Merchant has sent shockwaves through our nation, compounded by the tragic loss of 9 year old Chantel Crump. As a decorated officer and a devoted member of our community, her loss is felt deeply, especially by those who knew her struggles and the battles she fought. At WISH – the Wadadli Initiative for Self-care and Healing, we extend our deepest condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues who are grieving this tremendous loss.

Yet, as they grieve, they are also being forced to endure a storm of speculation, conspiracy theories, and cruel accusations. Instead of being allowed to mourn in peace, they are witnessing a flood of misinformation—claims that Iyo was silenced due to her knowledge of a recent murder investigation, accusations that her own colleagues forced her hand, and outright refusal to believe the pain she carried.

This kind of rhetoric is not only disrespectful and deeply hurtful to those grieving, but it is also dangerous. Imagine being a family member, already struggling to comprehend this loss, and seeing wild accusations about your loved one spreading across social media. Imagine being a colleague who served alongside her, now forced to watch as the integrity of your team is questioned. Imagine being an officer who is silently struggling with your own mental health and seeing how people react to this tragedy—not with compassion, but with doubt and blame.

We must ask ourselves: Would we be seeing this level of speculation if she weren't a police officer?

Rather than allowing baseless theories to overshadow the truth, this mo-

ment should force us to confront an uncomfortable but necessary reality—law enforcement officers are not immune to mental health struggles. They face extraordinary levels of stress, witnessing violence, tragedy, and suffering as part of their daily jobs. Yet, many feel they cannot speak about

ture where well-being is prioritized, where officers feel safe asking for support, and where mental health is treated with the same urgency as physical health.

To the men and women in uniform: Your mental health matters. Your



their struggles because they fear judgment, stigma, or professional consequences. If we continue to perpetuate a culture where officers feel that their pain will be dismissed or turned into conspiracy, how many more will suffer in silence?

At WISH, we advocate for mental health awareness, support, and reform in all sectors of society, including law enforcement. It is crucial that officers have access to confidential, professional mental health services and are encouraged to seek help without fear of being seen as weak or incapable. Leadership must actively foster a cul-

struggles are valid. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but a courageous act of self-care.

We cannot allow baseless speculation to overshadow the real issue at hand—the urgent need to address the mental health of those who serve and protect us. Let us honor Iyo's memory by fostering real change, breaking the silence on mental health, and ensuring that no officer feels alone in their struggles.

Sincerely,
The Wadadli Initiative for Self-care and Healing



PARTY MONARCH

SEMI-FINALS

THE COOLER FETE

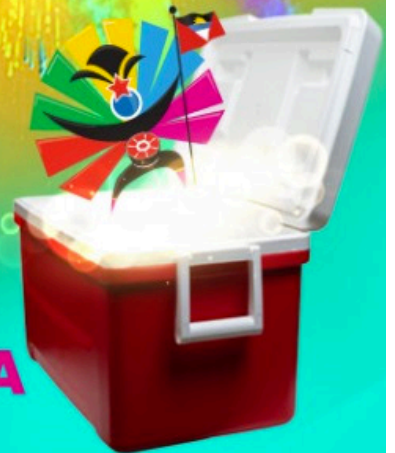
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Rest in peace Chantel

Sports News



Winning start for Royal Cruisers in women's volleyball league



Royal Cruisers women's volleyball team

The Royal Cruisers have made a successful start to their campaign in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Women's Division 1 Local League.

Royal Cruisers, who finished at the bottom of the standings in their debut

season in 2023 and last year, launched their 2025 campaign with a 3-0 victory over former perennial champions and 2024 third-place finishers, Paragons, at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

The Royal Cruisers secured victory

25-19, 25-21, and 25-18.

Renegades also got off to a winning start in the Men's Division 1 competition. The Renegades prevailed 3-1 against the Invaders, winning 26-24, 21-25, 25-19, and 25-16.

Starz Seniors, who finished third in the Women's Division 1 League last year, began their campaign in the new season with a 3-1 victory against Stoneville.

After losing the opening set 23-25, Starz Seniors recovered to beat the Stoneville women 26-24, 25-23, and 25-23 in an hour and six minutes.

Reigning champions Stoneville launched their defense of their Men's Division 1 title with a 3-0 victory over the Phoenix High Flyerz in their opening affair.

The Stoneville men took an hour and 15 minutes to beat the Phoenix High Flyerz 25-14, 25-22, and 25-16.

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

Antigua Barbuda FESTIVALS COMMISSION

ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

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AUG 05 2025

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Five Islands draw opening match in defense of Primary School Cup

Reigning champions Five Islands Primary were held to a draw in the opening round of matches in the annual Ministry of Sports Primary School Cup football competition on Friday.

Golden Grove Primary, which won the competition for three consecutive years before being dethroned by Five Islands, held the defending champions to a 1-1 draw in their opening encounter in Group A at the Golden Grove playing field.

But Jennings and Greenbay Primary got off to winning starts in the other opening round matches in Group A.

Jennings Primary prevailed 2-0 against Urlings Primary, and Greenbay Primary snatched a 4-2 victory against Olivia David Primary of Bolans.

Runners-up in last year's competition, T.N. Kirnon Primary made a poor start to their campaign in the Primary School Cup.

T.N. Kirnon Primary suffered a 1-0 loss to Parham Primary in their opening encounter in Group B at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG).

But Buckley's, Freemansville, and St. Peters all launched their campaigns with victories in Group C at the Buckley's playing field.



2024 Primary School Cup champions Five Islands and coach Lyndon 'Luda' Lawrence

Buckley's Primary romped to a 5-1 victory against Sea View Farm Primary, Freemansville Primary also recorded a 5-1 win against J.T. Ambrose Primary, and St. Peters Primary secured a 3-0 victory against C.T. Samuel Primary.

Meanwhile, defending champions, Princess Margaret School, recorded victory by a wide margin in the latest round of

matches in the Under-20 Division of the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth Joma International Female School Football League.

Kamiellia Hughes struck a hat trick, and J'hayla Bellet and Zoya Simon each scored twice to lead Princess Margaret School to a 10-0 drubbing of Harrison Center Antigua and Barbuda School of Continuing Education (HCAB-SCE) at the ARG.

Hughes had goals in the 22nd, 34th, and 52nd minutes; Bellot scored in the 13th and 14th minutes; and Simon had conversions in the 44th and 46th minutes.

The other goals for Princess Margaret School were scored by Irressia Allen in the first minute, Ajahna Martin in the third minute, and Rolesha Humphreys in the 50th minute.

Aliah London scored twice to lead Clare Hall Secondary to a 3-0 victory against Jennings Secondary in their encounter at the ARG.

London struck in the 10th and 40th minutes, and Sanique Levy scored the other goal in the 18th minute for Clare Hall Secondary.

But Antigua Girls High School was held to a 1-1 draw by St. Anthony's Secondary School at St. Anthony's playing field.

Gabby Mansoor had the conversion for St. Anthony's Secondary School, while Nafisa Quashie scored for Antigua Girls High School

Important Notice

The operations of the Antigua and Barbuda Bureau of Standards are closed until further notice. This is to facilitate the relocation of the office. Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.

Permanent Secretary

Jennings get second win in schools' cricket competition

Jennings Secondary secured their second win in the Ministry of Sports Schools' Cricket Under-19 30-Over Championship on Friday. After launching their campaign with an 88-run drubbing of Ottos Comprehensive School, Jennings made it two wins in as many games with a crushing 162-run victory against Clare Hall Secondary School at Clare Hall.

Tanez Francis smashed an unbeaten century as Jennings Secondary amassed 231 for four off 18 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Francis cracked 121 runs not out, and J'Quan Athanaze made 48. Nevan Lashley picked up two wickets for eight runs. In reply, Clare Hall Secondary crashed to 69 all out in 14.4 overs. Jayden Charles scored 23 runs. Francis snapped up six wickets for six runs, and Giovanni Thomas captured two for



Tanez Francis

26 runs.

Meanwhile, Antigua Grammar School, Ottos Comprehensive School, and All Saints Secondary all recorded wins in the opening round of matches in the Under-15 Division 30-Over Competition.

Antigua Grammar School beat Sir Novelle Richards Academy by nine wickets at Clare Hall. Sir Novelle Richards Academy was

restricted to 59 for seven. Donte Odium grabbed three wickets for five runs, Rolando Fields picked up two wickets for six runs, and Sherwin Martin claimed one wicket for three runs. Antigua Grammar School achieved victory at 60 for the loss of a wicket. Rolando Fields hit 36, Rohan John made 11, and Donte Odium got 10. Ottos Comprehensive

School defeated Irene B. Williams Secondary by 10 wickets at Rising Sun. Irene B. Williams Secondary was dismissed for 44. Akez Francis bagged five wickets for five runs, Kimahly Benjamin claimed three for 14, and Jighan Hunte picked up one wicket for seven runs.

The Ottos Comprehensive School achieved victory at 45 without losing a wicket. All Saints Secondary prevailed by 48 runs against Clare Hall Secondary at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

All Saints Secondary made 86 for nine. Jamarri Laville captured three for 16. In reply, Clare Hall Secondary tumbled to 38 all out. Zion Challenge snatched two wickets for four runs, Kamarilie Benjamin took two wickets for six runs, LeBron Jarvis claimed two wickets for eight runs, and Nasri Brooks captured two for 10.

POINTE ON DE STREETZ
HOSTED BY
VERNON A. SPRINGER

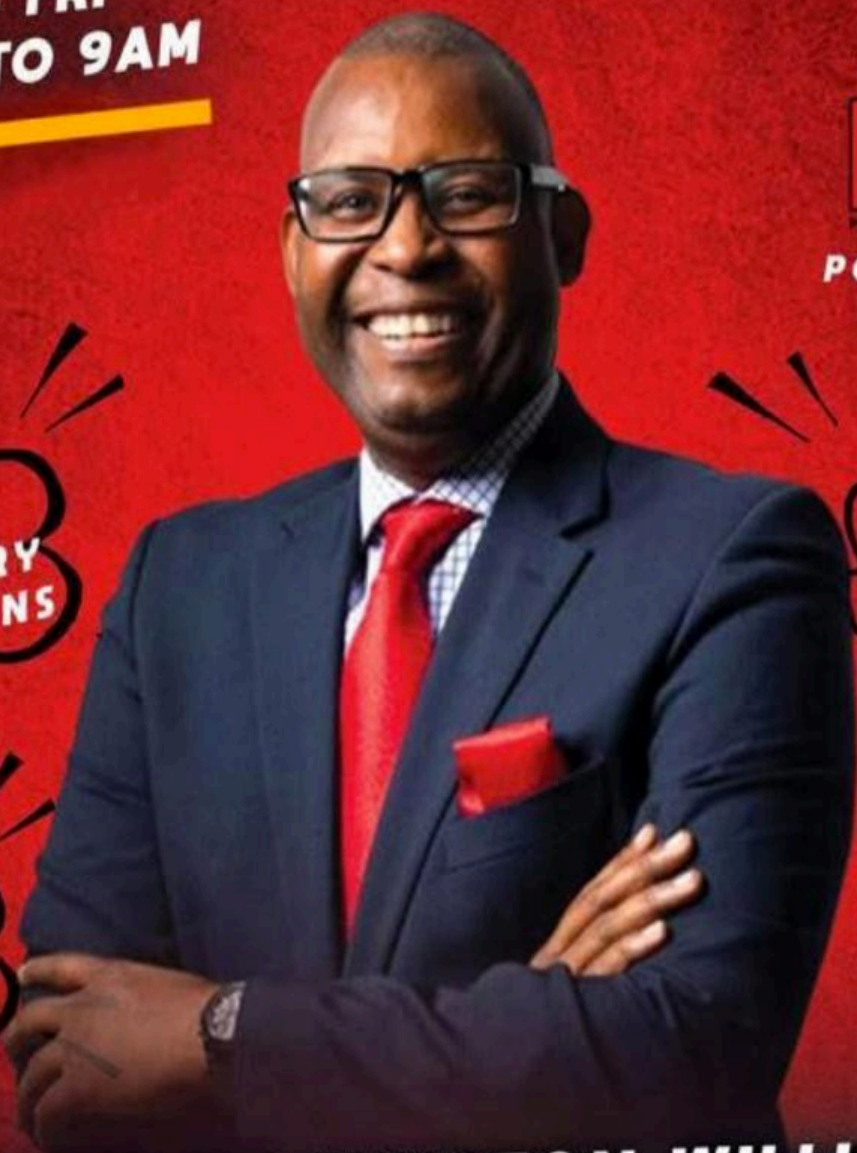
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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER**

Rest in peace Chantel

Sports News



SASS among winners in school basketball league

St. Anthony's Secondary School (SASS) was among the winners in the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth Inter-School Basketball League on Friday.

St. Anthony's Secondary School defeated Ottos Comprehensive School 35-26 in the Junior Boys Division at the JSC Sports Complex.

Kamal Mason sank 10 points and Aiden Carbon scored eight points for St. Anthony's Secondary School, while Ajani Adams converted 13 points for Ottos Comprehensive School.

Antigua Grammar School and Princess Margaret School recorded wins in the Senior Boys Division.



Kamal Mason of SASS

Antigua Grammar School snatched a 57-48 victory against Clare Hall Secondary in their encounter.

Raheem Sawyer shot a game-high 26 points, and Najee Simons converted 14 points for Antigua Gram-

mar School, while Tajahron Davis sank 23 points and Orion Seraphine scored 21 points for Clare Hall Secondary School.

Princess Margaret School romped to a commanding 54-31 victory against St.

Mary's Secondary. Tyrese White sank 36 points for Princess Margaret School, while Yohan Nicholas scored 10 points for St. Mary's Secondary School.

However, St. Mary's Secondary defeated Island Academy 47-24 in the Junior Boys Division. Yohan Nicholas converted 18 points for St. Mary's Secondary, while Sheldon George also scored 18 points for Island Academy.

There was success as well for Clare Hall Secondary, who prevailed 12-6 against Island Academy in the Miniboy's Secondary Division. Dante Richards scored eight points for Clare Hall Secondary School.

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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS

Ottos Full Throttle gets first win in ABBA's Division 1 League



Kennedy's Club Ottos Full Throttle recorded their first win in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) First Division League in their latest outing.

Ottos Full Throttle, who will remain at the bottom of the standings, won for the first time in 10 games by clinching a 72-64 victory against Lava Smoke Shop Warriors at the JSC Sports Complex.

Mali Newton sank 17 points and claimed five rebounds; Morlon Davis produced 16 points, 10 rebounds, and five assists; Akeem Davis converted 14 points and grabbed 12 rebounds; and Allister Nibbs had 10 points and five rebounds for the Ottos Full Throttle.

Lincoln Weekes shot a game-high 24 points, and Kebo Orford

sank 18 points and grabbed seven rebounds for the Warriors, who lost for the sixth time in 10 games.

All Saints Slam claimed their fourth win in 10 matches, winning by default over the Northside Stingerz, who failed to show up on time for their encounter for the second successive time.

It means the Northside Stingerz will remain second from the bottom of the standings after losing a match for the ninth time in 11 games.

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administration made.

"We were intentional about making accountability, integrity, and transparency our watchwords, and we have been successful," Harris said.

"I am proud of our work and the inroads that we have made, both in terms of reputation and advancing football in our region."

Harris included the gains made by a rebranded CFU, the rebuilding of bonds and trust with FIFA and CONCACAF, the introduction of the Under-14 Challenge Series, the Next Generation Referee Course, the tran-

sition of the Club Shield from CONCACAF to the CFU, and a myriad of capacity-building initiatives for the benefit of the membership.

Harris, who was elected by acclamation as member (Caribbean) on the FIFA Council one day earlier at CONCACAF's 40th Ordinary Congress at the same venue, also urged togetherness, with a singular focus on football.

"Remember that our strength is our unity, and our reason for being is football," he said.

Harris thanked the outgoing executive committee members, Luis Hernandez (Cuba),

Rignaal Francisca (Curaçao), Richard Dijkhoff (Aruba), Ruben Garcia (Dominican Republic), Jeaninne Wong Loi Sing (Bonaire), and Gwendolyn Salmon (Antigua and Barbuda).

In addition to the delegates, attendees included FIFA President Gianni Infantino and CONCACAF President Victor Montagliani, who offered remarks.

Infantino congratulated Cooper, referencing his long commitment to football and track record of leadership. He also thanked Harris for his continued stewardship.

He encouraged the CFU membership to

continue making a difference through football.

"The World Cups that you win every year are exactly the smile of that girl and that boy who played on the football team," Infantino said.

Montagliani thanked the outgoing president, hailing him as a "distinctive leader in the region." He welcomed Cooper, saying, "I know you will do a tremendous job."

Acting President Gwendolyn Salmon and General Secretary Rohan Hector represented the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) at both the CONCACAF and the CFU congresses in St. Lucia.

Cooper elected President CFU



The newly elected CFU Executive Committee in St. Lucia. Front row, from left to right, FIFA President Gianni Infantino, CFU Incoming President Lyndon Cooper, CFU Outgoing President Randolph Harris, Concacaf President Victor Montagliani; back row, from left to right, Michael Ricketts, Jean Dartron, Sonia Fulford-Missick, Mark Wade, Girdon Connor, and Ivan Rivera. (Not pictured: Anya James, John Krishnath, and Maurice Victoire.)

Lyndon Cooper, President of the St. Lucia Football Association (SLFA), was elected president of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) when the organization held its 48th Ordinary Congress at Royalton Hotel in Cap Estate, St. Lucia, on Sunday.

Cooper, who has served as vice president of the CFU Executive Committee since 2012,

was unopposed and, therefore, elected by acclamation in accordance with the CFU Statutes.

All positions on the executive committee were up for election, and all the candidates were unopposed. The officers are Vice Presidents Michael Ricketts (Jamaica), John Krishnath (Suriname), Jean Dartron (Guadeloupe), and Ivan Rivera (Puerto Rico).

The members are Glen Etienne (Dominica), Anya James (The Bahamas), Girdon Connor (Anguilla), and Mark Wade (Bermuda).

Cooper pledged to find consensus among the 31 members of the CFU and committed to continued collegiality with FIFA and the One CONCACAF philosophy.

“We have, and will continue, to add value

to the membership with our initiatives and by working with CONCACAF, FIFA, and all our stakeholders. This spirit of continued collaboration will be one of the hallmarks of my leadership. I trust that you understand that by doing so, we are pooling our power rather than ceding it,” he said during his acceptance remarks.

He called for sustained harmony and for the membership to use football to unite across the English, Dutch, French, and Spanish-speaking union.

“As I accept this presidency, I charge all of us to use football as a tool to unite, dismantle barriers to development, and build bridges and alliances,” he said.

The outgoing president, Randolph Harris of Barbados, recapped his tenure during his address, recalling the tumult he inherited when he became acting president in 2017 and president in 2018 after being first elected to the executive committee as a member in 2016. He also noted the strides his

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