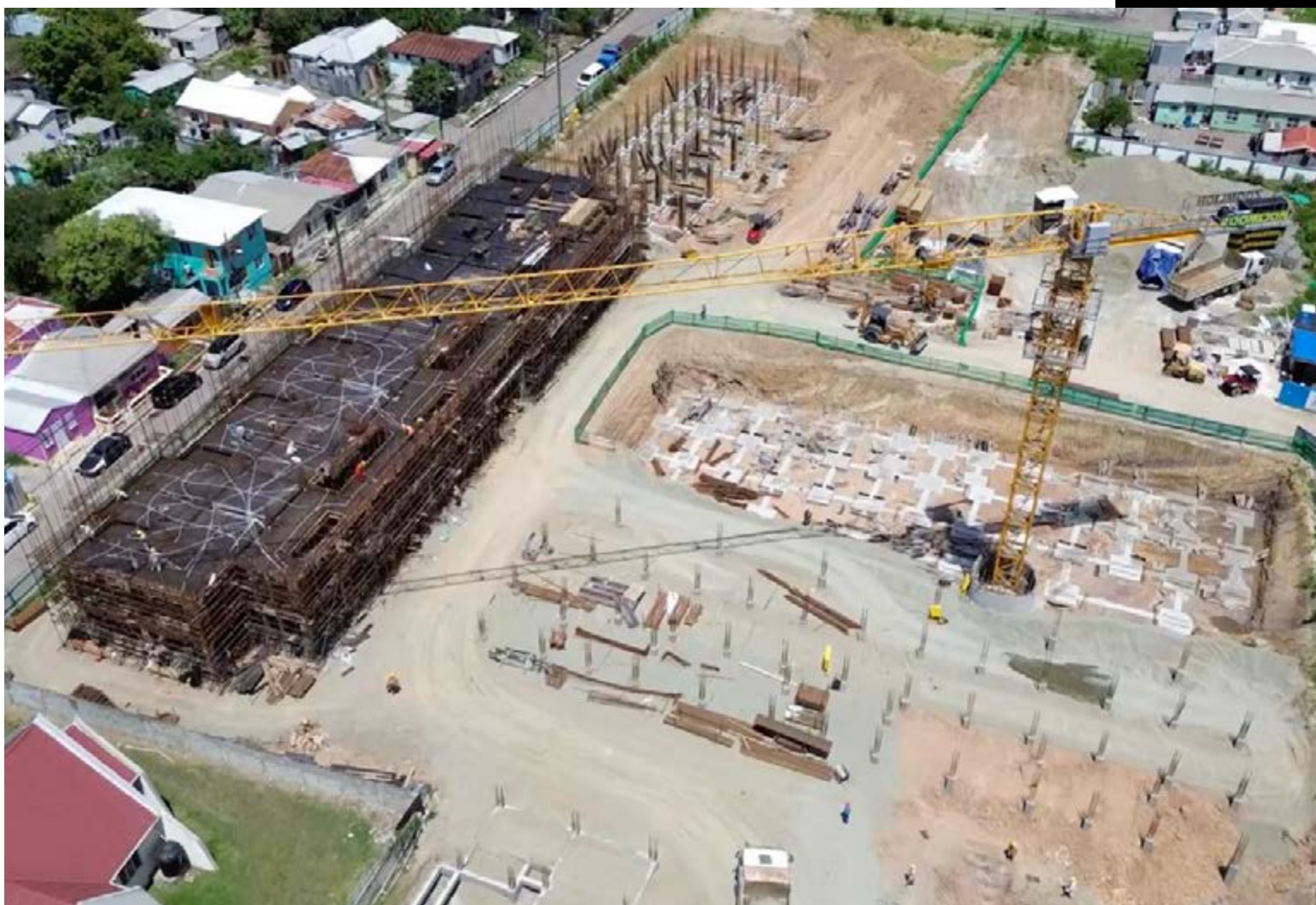


The nation joins Chinese Embassy in mourning worker's death

Story on Page 2



Aerial view of the Booby Alley Housing Project where a Chinese worker died following a construction site accident

Local News



Chinese construction worker dies from an apparent electrocution

The police have confirmed the death of a 52-year old Chinese construction worker who died following what might have been an electrocution at the Booby Alley construction site on Wednesday.

Reports are that the worker and his colleague were erecting a scaffold that came in contact with the high tension wires; the electricity also harmed the second worker.

The victim fell to the ground and may have been injured further. The EMS was immediately summoned to the scene and they tried to resuscitate him. He was rushed

to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre where he died two hours later.

The Prime Minister Gaston Browne has expressed his condolences to the family and colleagues of the worker, and to the Embassy of China for the loss of life. The Minister of Health, Sir Molwyn Joseph who relayed the tragedy to Cabinet, held discussions with Ambassador Zhang Yanling of the Chinese Embassy, expressing the sympathies of the entire Cabinet.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P Chet Greene, who had a previously planned meeting with



Booby Alley construction site

Ambassador Zhang, also used the opportunity to express sincerest condolences to the government and people of China on this tragic incident.

Arrangements are being made to notify the man's family back in China.

The Booby Alley Proj-

ect is a signature development taking place in this previously depressed area of the Point. It serves as a symbol of the close ties that exist between Antigua and Barbuda and the People's Republic of China.

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Vendors get permission to operate Thursday 17 and Saturday 19

The Cabinet is giving vendors who operate in the vicinity of the St. John's Public Market an opportunity to ply their trades on two specific days this upcoming Easter Holiday.

The Cabinet is making this allowance after discussions with vendors who appealed for some accommodation after they had already invested in the purchase of various items for sale over the holiday period.

The matter was discussed at Cabinet on Wednesday and there was a decision made that the vendors would be allowed to operate on Thursday April 17 and Saturday 19. Following the Easter Holidays, effective Tuesday April 22, the vendors are expected to comply with a public notice issued by the St. John's Development Corporation.

The Minister with responsibility for the SJDC had asked the statutory body to publish a Notice indicating that the vendors are to vacate the sidewalks, except on Saturdays when many farmers sell their produce to housewives and others. Following lengthy discussions, it was agreed that the vendors are allowed to extend their presence by one day – Thursday 17 April 2025— but that they move indoors and to other designated places, away from the sidewalks, before the business day commences on Tuesday 22 April 2025.

The Cabinet on Wednesday held a discussion with two officials from the St. John's Development Corporation (SJDC) who are responsible for overseeing the operations of the vendors in St. John's.

The Cabinet Notes said it was agreed that vending along the roadsides near the Public Market gives the city an untidy look and causes traffic to slow to a crawl hence pedestrians are forced to walk in the roads.

Acting Prime Minister, Sir Steadroy Benjamin reported that a special Cabinet committee also met with the



vendors who have indicated a willingness to comply with the dictates of the SJDC. "They have agreed to our offer of vending Thursday (today) and then on Saturday following which they will revert to the direction of the SJDC.

They expressed a desire to work along with the government in this regard recognizing the concerns about the safety of members of the public as well as the overall aesthetics of the city," he stated.



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Taxi Association seeks clarity re: new licence fees

United Taxi Association has sought clarification from the government regarding the new licence fees that have been implemented through the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board.

President of the Association, Ian Joseph along with his deputy, Ian Richards were invited to Wednesday's Cabinet meeting to address some misunderstandings regarding payments to the Transport Board.

"The Association was of the view that its members were exempt from the new user-fee that is being imposed on all cars operating on the streets of Antigua and Barbuda. The Cabinet confirmed what the Association had been told by the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, that each vehicle is required to pay the equivalent of \$2.00 per week (\$100 per year) which will go into a separate fund to repay a \$100 million-dollar-loan from the banks, for road repairs. There was agreement on moving forward on this point. The taxi drivers reminded the Cabinet that roads leading to certain identified hotels are in need of urgent repairs. The Cabinet took note of the proposed repairs and indicated its willingness to share their concerns with the Ministry of Works.

Meanwhile, the Association, which operates from the V.C. Bird International-



al Airport, reported to the Cabinet the ongoing issue where there is an influx of drivers who pick-up and discharge passengers driving cars with "A" and "C" plates but who are doing so for hire.

The United Taxi Association representatives sought

the intervention of the Cabinet to eliminate this practice, which hurts the airport taxi drivers' income and dilutes the security which a registered taxi-driver provides.

"The Cabinet gave a promise to work with the authorities at the Airport to provide

stricter controls. Many solo travelers, the Cabinet was informed, are female; ensuring their greater security on their way to and from the V.C. Bird International Airport is critical to the success of tourism, the United Taxi Association informed," the Cabinet Notes reported.

Antigua Barbuda
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The iconic Burning Flames Band receives honour from UWI



Members of Burning Flames pose with Professor Don Marshall, University Director of SALISES who presented the award.

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) of The University of the West Indies (UWI) has recognized Antiguan Soca band Burning Flames for their outstanding contribution to Caribbean music and culture during the 26th Annual SALISES Conference.

The honour was bestowed upon the legendary band during the prestigious Sir Arthur Lewis Distinguished Lecture at The UWI Five Islands Campus. The recognition

highlights the band's remarkable 41-year journey and enduring impact on Caribbean music.

University Director of SALISES, Professor Don Marshall, presented the award, acknowledging the band's extraordinary longevity in an often-challenging industry. "What businesses have survived 41 years and still remain in popular demand?" Professor Marshall remarked during the presentation. "Our musical icons have managed to navigate the tempest

that is the marketplace out there—to stay current, to stay relevant, to help us beat off the stress of everyday life."

The award, specially designed in the form of a flame, was presented to the band members who were invited on stage during the ceremony. The inscription reads: "The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute wishes to congratulate Burning Flames for a sterling contribution to Caribbean music."

Professor Marshall emphasized the significance of the band's

achievement, noting that SALISES had previously honoured Barbadian band Krosfyah for 30 years of service, but Burning Flames' 41-year run represented an even more impressive milestone.

"The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute and the Five Islands Campus want to pay a special tribute for your longevity, your creativity, and the difference you've made in the lives of so many who listen to the strains of your music and move to the vibrant rhythms of your creative melodies and talents," said Professor Marshall during the ceremony.

Burning Flames, formed in 1984, has become a cornerstone of Antigua and Barbuda's musical heritage and a significant cultural institution throughout the Caribbean region. The recognition came as part of the 26th Annual SALISES Conference, which brought together academics, policymakers, and cultural leaders to discuss social and economic development in the Caribbean.

Antigua and Barbuda youth participate in key international discussion

A four-member delegation from Antigua and Barbuda is participating in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The delegation comprises the Director in the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA), Dr. Jrucilla Samuel, National and CARICOM Youth Ambassador, Esquire Henry, DYA's Youth Coordinator and Mobilization Officer, Russell Ellis, and Programme Assistant Officer, Lael Farrell.

This year's event takes place from April 15-17 under the theme, "Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind."

Youth Ambassador, Esquire Henry, made an intervention on day one of the forum during the thematic session on Sustainable Development Goal 14 titled "Youth for Sustainable Oceans – Mobilization and Actions."

Henry is also a moderator at the Caribbean Breakout Session Wednesday, where the Director of Youth Affairs, Dr. Samuel, presented on the theme, "Navigating our Future: Empowering Caribbean Youth to advance sustainable, inclusive, science and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

Prior to the opening of the Youth forum, the A&B delegation made a courtesy call on Antigua and Barbuda's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Walton Webson, who warmly welcomed the delegation to the Mission and wished them fruitful and productive deliberations during the youth encounter.



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OUR BELOVED PASTOR REV. DR. LESTER EMANUEL

CHURCH STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF OUR BELOVED PASTOR

With deep sorrow and reverence, we announce the passing of our beloved Pastor, Rev. Dr. Lester Emanuel, who faithfully shepherded our congregation for over 40 years. Pastor Emanuel was not only a spiritual leader but a true servant of God, a father, a counsellor, a teacher, and a friend to so many.

Through decades of ministry, he poured his heart into this church and into the lives of everyone he encountered. His unwavering faith, compassionate spirit, and tireless commitment to God's work left a profound and lasting legacy in our church, community, nation and across the world. We are eternally grateful for the love, wisdom, and leadership he provided.

As we grieve this great loss, we also celebrate a life well lived in service to Christ - an example we can all follow. Let us honour his memory by continuing to walk in the path of faith, love, and unity that he so powerfully modelled.

We extend our deepest condolences to our First Lady, Rev. Dr. Clara Emanuel and his children and grandchildren and ask for your prayers during this time of mourning. Details regarding the homegoing celebration and ways to honour Pastor Emanuel's life and legacy will be shared in the coming days.

During this difficult season, the church board, in unity and prayer, will continue to lead and guide the congregation. We are committed to honouring Pastor Emanuel's legacy by ensuring the ongoing care, spiritual direction, and stability of our church family.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:8

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda Partner to Promote Signature Festivals



The Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA) recently completed a successful three-day promotional visit to Antigua and Barbuda. The mission, spearheaded by Ernie George, Sales Manager, and Francine Holder, Marketing Officer, was held in collaboration with The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission with support from Sunrise Airways. The visit underscored the ongoing growth of the partnership between the two destinations, with a focus on the 2025 editions of the Saint Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival and Antigua Carnival.

The campaign featured a packed schedule of interviews on Observer AM, WTP 93.5 FM, Pointe FM 99.1, and ABS TV/Radio 90.3 FM, all spotlighting the upcoming Saint Lucia



Jazz & Arts Festival, taking place from April 30 to May 11, 2025.

Recently nominated for 'Music Event of the Year' at the Caribbean Music Awards, the festival boasts a star-studded lineup featuring the likes of Sizzla, Young Bredda, Lady Lava, Ruger, RickyT, Ronald "Boo" Hinkson, DYP, Sum-

mer Walker, Beenie Man, Bounty Killer, Gretchen Wilson, Earth, Wind & Fire, and John Legend.

"With the Authority's ongoing Caribbean campaign, this initiative is part of our broader strategy to strengthen connectivity amongst the islands, especially with the Northern

Caribbean. With daily non-stop flights, regional travel has never been more convenient for the two islands. We look forward to welcoming our Antiguan brothers and sisters for the 2025 Saint Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival, as we continue this journey of island kinship, cultural exchange, and shared economic progress." Re-marked Ernie George.

Leading travel agencies including Carib World Travel, Going Places Travel, and Wings Travel, were also engaged during the visit. Discussions explored opportunities to enhance regional connectivity and encourage the development of travel packages and inter-island deals. Supporting these efforts, Sunrise Airways announced a 15% promotional discount on fares to

Saint Lucia for the Saint Lucia Jazz and Arts Festival 2025.

On April 10th, 2025, a memorable visit to Stingray City served not only as a tourism activity but as a symbolic gesture of camaraderie. The team also attended Antigua Carnival's Official Sponsors Launch and Queen of Carnival Sashing Ceremony, held at Royalton CHIC Antigua. During the event, the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority was formally recognized as an official partner of Antigua Carnival.

CXC to offer online exams from next year

Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC), Dr. Wayne Wesley has announced changes in the administration of the exams, noting that effective January 2026, “all examinations administered in the January sessions will be offered electronically, either as e-assessment or hybrid e-assessment.”

He made the disclosure while delivering remarks during a virtual press conference at the official start of the 2025 examinations (with the customary oral examinations in Spanish, French and Portuguese) on Tuesday.

According to him, in the event that students are unable to write the exams electronically he/she will be accommodated during the May-June examinations where both the paper-based and e-assessment will be made available.

“CXC is repositioning; the strategic repositioning of CXC marks the beginning of our transformation effort,” Dr. Wesley stated. “This is the beginning of the end of the Caribbean Examinations Council as we know it, as we transform for greater regional impact.”

He pointed out that since December 2023, CXC has been engaged in a comprehensive, strategic repositioning exercise with an intended overhaul of the old CXC.

“This comprehensive strategic repositioning is about transforming for greater relevance and sustainability,” he explained. “It encompasses three main components as follows; the modernization of our governance system which involves a review of CXC’s article of agreement to include expanded stakeholder representation, enhanced accountability structures, relevant expertise, and prudent oversight...”

Dr. Wesley continued, “Secondly, organizational redesign. This speaks to redesigning with a resilient construct to make CXC fit for a purpose in car-



rying its duty of care to the regional education system.”

He said what this means is a CXC transforming for greater relevance, and sustainability to achieve organization agility, “where we are seeking to respond quickly and effectively to unpredictable events and finally institutional capability, developing robust governance framework and enhancing human capacity to be able to [deal] with the many challenges that we must face together.”

He noted that the third element of the repositioning strategy is that of reimagining assessment and certification.

“This calls for the recalibration and refocus of the council’s system of assessment and certification, embracing flexible and progressive learning and competency-based education in alignment with economic and social transformation,” Dr. Wesley explained.

“First of all, we will be emphasising the acquisition of skills and competencies, social, behavioural, and cultural, as well as using prior learning assessment in recognising the competencies students and candidates have achieved.”

He said, secondly, CXC will be rede-

signing its qualifications to achieve optimal balance between content coverage and the acquisition of skills through various approaches, including signalling of current and future employment and skills demands, as well as the modularisation of syllabuses.

“A new qualification has been developed and within this construct, the learner is at the focus...” Dr. Wesley revealed. “We will be dealing with the learning style of the individual, the learning rate and the learning depth; how students learn, the pace at which they learn, and the amount of content that they can absorb at any one time.

“In that regard, we have recognised that there are multiple options; you have advanced gifted students who can take the accelerated track and those who can do so through a compressed programme,” he added.

Moreover, he pointed out that CXC also recognises that there are the typical students who will take the general track, completing a programme in a specified timeframe, as in most of the syllabuses, in two years, “and then you have the individual who will need a flexible track and extended programme time to treat with and absorb the content needed.”

Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission Announces Official Sponsors for Antigua Carnival 2025

The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC) is thrilled to announce the official sponsors for Antigua Carnival 2025. This year's impressive lineup of sponsors demonstrates a strong commitment from the corporate community in Antigua and Barbuda, elevating the festival's status as the Caribbean's premier summer celebration.

Ambassador Elizabeth Makhoul, Chairperson of the ABFC, expressed heartfelt gratitude for this year's cor-

porate partnerships: "We are truly thankful to our corporate community for stepping up in such a bold way for Carnival 2025. To our returning sponsors, we say welcome back and thank you. To our new sponsors, we are dedicated to exceeding expectations. This year's Carnival will be extraordinary, filled with great VIBES!"

Hon. Daryll S. Matthew, Minister for Education, Sports, and the Creative Industries, shared similar sentiments: "It's inspiring to see our sponsors ral-

ly behind Antigua Carnival with such enthusiasm. I invite everyone to immerse themselves in the celebrations, whether it's through our music, performances, steel pan competitions, or exhilarating fetes. This is the year of unmatched energy and VIBES. Antigua Carnival is a cultural experience like no other, and we are set to release the ultimate vibe!"

Official Sponsors of Antigua Carnival 2025, listed by tiers:

Platinum Sponsor

- Citizens by Investment Unit (CIU) Gold Sponsor
- Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority

Silver Sponsors

- State Insurance Company Ltd – Official Sponsor of Panorama
- INET – Title Sponsor, Party Monarch Competition.
- Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) – Title Sponsor, Mr. & Miss Teenage Pageant
- LIAT 2020 Ltd – Official Airline of Antigua Carnival 2025 and T-Shirt Mas Sponsor
- Long Bay Lager – Title Sponsor, Caribbean Melting Pot
- Royalton CHIC Antigua – Official Hotel Partner

Bronze Sponsors

- The University of the West Indies – Five Islands Campus – Title Sponsor, Junior Calypso Monarch
- Dews Pro Builders Ltd
- Coca-Cola

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Carnival Queen Pageant Sponsors

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2. Kaaliyha Guiste - Miss Antigua Masonry Products
3. Danijha Simon - Miss Furniture Gallery
4. Abigail Piper - Miss Board Walk Casino
5. Asheila Pluck - Miss Antigua Port Authority

Carnival Contributors

- Happy Kids
- Food Brokerage
- Stonewall Reloaded

Media Partners

- Pointe Communications – Silver Status Sponsor
- ABS Television and Radio – Bronze Sponsor
- FLAVA FM – Carnival Contributor
- Synergy TV
- Bakanal TV

Official Festival Partner

- St. Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival
- As we count down to the Greatest Summer Festival, Antigua Carnival 2025, the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission extends its sincere gratitude to every sponsor, partner, and contributor. Together, we are shaping a cultural spectacle that celebrates the very best of our music, art, creativity, and community



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As the Elephants Fight...



By E. P Chet Greene

In the intriguing theater of international trade, two colossal economies, the United States and China, are once again locked in a contentious dispute. This editorial aims to dissect the ramifications of their escalating trade row, with a particular focus on its adverse impacts on small island developing states (SIDS) like Antigua and Barbuda. As the elephants fight, it is the grass that gets trampled and in this scenario, the grass comprises vulnerable economies that heavily depend on the global trade ecosystem for our very survival.

Amidst a backdrop of tariffs and counter-tariffs and trade barriers, the U.S.-China rivalry has profound implications not only for the two superpowers but also for smaller nations caught in the crossfire. The rhetoric of “America First” and China’s assertive economic policies create a ripple

effect that is felt at all levels of the global marketplace. For SIDS such as Antigua and Barbuda, the stakes are extraordinarily high.

Global trade is the lifeblood for small island economies that often lack the resources and diversification to withstand external shocks. Tourism and agriculture are the two primary economic drivers for Antigua and Barbuda and the majority of CARICOM nations are particularly susceptible to fluctuations in global trade dynamics. When major trading partners tighten their belts or shift their investment focus due to protracted trade disputes, the fallout can be catastrophic.

Antigua and Barbuda’s reliance on imports for essential goods means that any disruption in global supply chains can lead to increased costs of living and reduced access to vital resources. The ongoing tension between the U.S. and China has already reverberated through the global supply chain, resulting in delays and increased prices for goods. This situation is set to worsen.

As political tensions mount, economic uncertainties deter foreign investments, an essential source of revenue and development for small island nations.

As these larger powers engage in a tit-for-tat trade war, the plight of SIDS who are not at the negotiating table worsens. These are voices that often go unheard in the discussions that significantly

shape and impact their economic futures. While the rhetoric of protectionism may bring short-term gains for the U.S. and China, it represents a long-term threat to the resilience of small economies like that of Antigua and Barbuda.

As the world’s focus remains fixed on the elephantine duel between superflows, it is imperative that the international community pays heed to the needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS. These nations require a seat at the table to advocate for their own interests and find ways to buffer against the hostilities of larger powers. As China and the U.S. grapple with their economic differences, it is the shared responsibility of global institutions to ensure that smaller nations are not left to navigate this all storm alone.

The trade battle between the United States and China serves as a stark reminder of the interconnectedness of global economies. While the giants bicker, the fallouts will inevitably affect the most vulnerable. For Antigua and Barbuda and other small island developing states, the implications of this trade row could be severe. Only through collective action and inclusive trade policies can we hope to ensure a stable future for these nations and safeguard their survival in an ever-complex global trade landscape.

Next week in continuation, I will examine several actionable strategies for public discussion and consideration.

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS

RHYME AND RESOLVE: CLIMATE CALLS

Good Humans
268 Inc

In classrooms bright, with minds so keen,
The seeds are sown to keep Earth green.
From islands kissed by ocean's breeze,
Our youth rise up to care with ease.
In Antigua's sun and Barbuda's shore,
Young voices echo, "We must do more!"
Not just in books, but bins and sand,



They take the climate in their hand.
At schools where learning meets the land,
They separate waste with mindful stand.
Glass, cans, and plastic—each has a place,
Reducing harm, restoring grace.

With every lunch and every snack,
They sort their waste and give it back.



Recyclables now find new birth,
Not left to choke our precious Earth.
At Princess Margaret, records rise,
Twelve hundred pounds—what a surprise!
Of plastic saved in just one term,
They make the planet twist and squirm—
Not in despair, but joy instead,
For youth have turned the tide ahead.
Joshuanette, with vision bold,



Tells stories that are green and gold:
"Our children lead with open hearts,
They play their part with mighty smarts.
They ask, they act, they educate—
This generation won't be late."
They draw, they write, they chant and play,



With climate calls in bright array.
 Their voices ring through halls and parks,
 Like little lighthouses in the dark.



In skits and poems, they do explain
 The dangers of a clogged-up drain.
 In art and music, loud and clear,
 They share the truth we need to hear.
 “All Saints students” paint with pride,
 Messages that won’t just slide.
 “No plastic sea, no dirty stream,
 Let’s live our climate-saving dream!”
 Bins arrive with colours true,
 Red, blue, and green, to guide them through.
 The Department lends its helping hand,
 So students better understand.
 They learn to weigh, to count, to track,
 To hold themselves and others back
 From habits wasteful, lost in greed,
 They plant a planet-saving seed.



Refill stations, no plastic bought,
 A daily change, yet so well taught.

In Barbuda, youth and elders team
 To clean the coast and dream one dream.
 Old bottles now become new art,
 Old chairs revived with clever heart.
 Eco-fairs and markets too,
 Where youth show what small hands can do.

They speak with purpose, bold and bright,
 Of rising seas and coral’s plight.
 They write their pledges on the wall—
 Responding to the climate call.
 This isn’t play, it’s leadership,
 A planet-saving scholarship.
 They build a future, piece by piece,
 For thriving lands and ocean’s peace.



So let us follow where they go,
 These youthful leaders in the know.
 They teach us all to act, not stall—
 And rise to meet the climate call.

From Ottos High to Clare Hall pride,
 A climate shift grows deep and wide.
 They march, they clean, they sort, they share,
 With rhyme and reason, love and care.

In uniform or plain white tee,
 They’re changing what the world will be.
 With every bin and every chant,
 They say, “We can!” and not, “We can’t.”
 So here’s to schools that light the way,
 That rise with Earth in full display.
 With rhyme and rhythm, heart and soul—
 They lead us to a greener goal.

Child kidnapped from Clarendon rescued in Ewarton, St Catherine

Personnel assigned to the National Strategic Anti-Gang Division of the Counterterrorism and Organised Crime Investigation Branch have rescued a 13-year-old girl who was kidnapped in Four Paths, Clarendon, on April 7.

The child was reportedly at home when she was taken by persons who are known to her.

Following the incident, a report was made to the police, and an investigation was launched.

On Tuesday, April 15, the police went to a house in Ewarton, St Catherine, where the child was seen under a bed.

The police suspect that her aunt, who occupies the house in which she was found, is the mastermind behind the crime.

A total of six persons, including three



children, were seen at the premises and were taken into custody. ing withheld pending further investigation. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)

The police say their identities are be-

Cases of malaria detected in Belize

Health officials have confirmed the first locally transmitted malaria cases in Belize in more than six years, prompting increased surveillance and mosquito control measures in affected communities.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness reported Tuesday that three cases of local malaria transmission have been detected in Santa Elena Town and Cristo Rey Village in the Cayo District since January. A fourth case was identified as imported from neighbouring Petén, Guatemala.

The first case was detected on January 17, with sub-

sequent cases identified on March 11 and April 5. All cases were discovered through routine surveillance conducted at both public and private healthcare facilities across the country.

Health authorities have implemented comprehensive response measures including house-to-house fever screening in affected areas, intensified mosquito control activities such as fogging and larviciding, and community awareness campaigns on prevention methods and symptom recognition.

Officials confirmed that all identified patients have re-

ceived appropriate supervised medical treatment and tested negative upon follow-up examinations.

“Enhanced surveillance has been activated along the Western border, particularly in the Santa Elena neighbourhoods of Santa Cruz and Hillview, as well as Cristo Rey Village. The Ministry is actively testing individuals who currently have, or recently had, a fever within the past 30 days,” officials said in a press release.

The ministry is urging residents “presenting with fever and chills, especially those who have travelled to neigh-

bouring countries within the past 30 days, to visit the nearest health facility for free malaria testing.”

Health officials are encouraging preventive measures including the use of insect repellent, bed nets, maintaining clean surroundings, and eliminating standing water around homes where mosquitoes can breed.

Despite this development, “Belize remains committed to maintaining its malaria-free status, which was first achieved in June 2023,” the statement concluded. (*Loop Caribbean*)

Regional News



Jamaica deploying fresh troops to Haiti

A 21-member CARICOM Joint Task Force-Haiti (CJTF-H) relief team comprising members of Jamaica's security forces will be deployed to Haiti to support the Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission there, the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) has announced.

The relief team includes 18 JDF members and three members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and will continue the work started by the CJTF-H advance team that was deployed to Haiti in September 2024.

The JDF said the initial advance team is returning home following the successful completion of its deployment to Haiti as part of the MSS.

The returning team, led by Colonel Kevron Henry, was deployed to assist in the establishment of the MSS Headquarters and lay the foundation for follow-on forces operating in one of the most volatile security environments in the region.

According to the JDF, throughout its deployment, the Jamaican contingent played a strategic and operational role in supporting the MSS mandate. It said among the team's most signifi-



cant contributions was the delivery of essential intelligence and operational planning support to the MSS Headquarters, thereby helping to shape mission strategy and to execute coordinated security operations across Haiti.

In addition, members of the contingent were tasked with providing security at the Logistic Support Area, the main base where MSS personnel are accommodated and critical facilities housed.


Colonel Henry stated, "Our team performed with professionalism, courage, and unwavering discipline in one of the most challenging operating envi-


ronments in the region. The threat level in Haiti is high and constant, but our personnel were highly motivated and undaunted. They contributed meaningfully to the development and execution of the MSS mission and represented Jamaica with distinction."

"I cannot stress how hostile the environment was", he added. "The operational teams led by our Kenyan partners took heavy gunfire regularly and required significant logistical support. The JDF contingent, he pointed out, was vital to this function as we were involved in the training of other deployed personnel, and in the maintenance of Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs), a critical asset in the MSS's operational capabilities."


Henry also noted that the contingent included a legal officer who played an integral role in developing the legal framework to guide the MSS mission and providing compliance oversight and accountability policies for the personnel operating in Haiti.


The JDF said the rotation of personnel reflects Jamaica's long-term commitment to the MSS mission. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)





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New CCJ judge takes oath of office

Justice Chile Eboe-Osuji was sworn in on Tuesday as a judge of the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) with the Court's President, Justice Adrian Saunders, saying "I have no doubt that he will make an important contribution to the development of our Caribbean jurisprudence".

The new judge took the oath of office before Trinidad and Tobago's President, Christine Kangaloo at the President's House.

"The CCJ has been unswerving in the pursuit of its vision of becoming a model of judicial excellence. Today, the CCJ has taken another important step in pursuit of the vision by adding Justice Eboe-Osuji to its ranks.

"Justice Eboe-Osuji is a brilliant legal mind and a gifted jurist whose long and distinguished career has as we have heard spanned many countries and institutions," President Kangaloo said.

Justice Eboe-Osuji, the first Nigerian-Canadian to be appointed to the Court, replaces Justice Andrew Burgess, who retired on April 11,



2025.

He was selected from a pool of 26 applicants by the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC), an independent body of 11 individuals responsible for appointing the judges and staff of the Court.

Justice Saunders described the process for the recruitment as "one of, if not the most sacred role carried out by the RJLSC is the appointment of Judges of the CCJ.

"The selection and appointment process is rigorous, competitive, merit-based and entirely independent of any political involvement," he said, welcoming the new

judge, while indicating that "Mr Justice Eboe-Osuji has an impeccable record of service as a lawyer and jurist.

"I have no doubt that (he) will make an important contribution to the development of our Caribbean jurisprudence."

Justice Eboe-Osuji is an international jurist who brings expertise in criminal law and human rights law to the CCJ. He practised law as a barrister before trial courts in Nigeria and Canada and conducted appeals before the Court of Appeal for Ontario (Canada) and the Supreme Court of Canada.

He previously served as a Judge and President of the International Criminal

Court and, was the Legal Advisor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. He also led the writing of amicus curiae submissions to the European Court of Human Rights and the United States Supreme Court. His diverse legal background also includes several posts as a legal advisor, published author and professor.

He told the ceremony that "the Court serves its purpose not only as a court for CARICOM nations to resolve disputes arising from the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas but also there is no need to look beyond the seas for a final court of appeal, given the quality of judges we have on that Bench and it is an incredible honour for me to have been selected".

Judges of the CCJ, which was established in 2001 to replace the London-based Privy Council as the region's highest and final court, are appointed to hold office until the age of 72, while the President of the Court holds office for a non-renewable term of seven years. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)



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International

AROUND THE WORLD



Peru jails ex-president Humala for 15 years over money laundering

A court in Peru has sentenced former President Ollanta Humala and his wife, Nadine Heredia, to 15 years in prison for laundering \$3m received from Brazilian construction firm Odebrecht and \$200,000 from the government of then-Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

Humala, 62, was taken into custody after the verdict was delivered on Tuesday and later jailed at a police station, but his 48-year-old wife requested asylum at the Brazilian embassy in Lima, according to Peru's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Heredia was granted safe passage to travel to Brazil with her youngest son, the ministry said.

During his trial, which lasted three years following an investigation which kicked off in 2016, Humala decried



the charges as political persecution. His lawyers plan to appeal Tuesday's verdict.

Prosecutors alleged Humala received the illicit funds in his 2011 campaign against Keiko Fujimori, the other former president's daughter, through Humala's Nationalist Party.

Humala, a retired military officer who led the Andean nation from 2011 to 2016,

will likely carry out his sentence on a police base built specially to house Peru's jailed leaders.

Former presidents Alejandro Toledo and Pedro Castillo are currently jailed at the site, while the late Alberto Fujimori stayed there for 16 months until his release in 2023.

Toledo, in power from 2001 to 2006, was sentenced last

year to more than 20 years in prison for accepting \$35m in bribes in exchange for government contracts.

Former President Pedro Castillo is also being detained as he faces charges of "rebellion" after a failed attempt to dissolve Congress in 2022.

In 2019, former President Alan Garcia killed himself by gunshot wound as police descended on his home to arrest him for alleged corruption related to Odebrecht.

In 2016, Odebrecht agreed to pay \$3.5bn in penalties in Brazil, the United States and Switzerland arising out of payments of more than \$788m in bribes to foreign leaders and government officials in order to win infrastructure projects. (*Al Jazeera English*)

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(JELLY BEANS)

Congresswoman denounces President Trump's 'atrocities' against Caribbean migrants



Caribbean-American Democratic Congresswoman, Yvette D. Clarke, has issued her most serious criticism to date against the mass deportation policies of the Donald Trump administration.

Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York, denounced Trump's "atrocities" against Caribbean and other migrants.

"Among the limitless list of Donald Trump's abuses, illegality and cruelty, what this disgraceful president has engineered in El Salvador is an atrocity comparable only to America's most mortal sins," Clarke, the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC).

"Without convictions and, in many cases, without even trials, his administration expelled hundreds of men innocent in the eyes of the law to a foreign prison 3,000 miles from their families.

"However, in the eyes of Donald Trump, our laws are secondary to filling up his quota for human suffering. Let's be clear: this is an existentially dangerous situation for our nation," she added.

Clarke said the administration's "vile undertaking" culminated on Monday in an Oval Office meeting between Trump and Nayib Bukele, the president of El Salvador.

"There, we watched these two eager, up-and-coming dictators who are obsessed with keeping and accruing power fall abruptly powerless when asked if they'd abide by the United States Supreme Court's unanimous order to save the life of an innocent man, Kilmar Abrego Garcia," she said.

"Rather than admit their error in condemning Mr Abrego Garcia to rot in El Salvador's violent mega-prison, CECOT, they lied and maligned him as a 'terrorist'," the congresswoman added. "They mocked the reporters who questioned their actions. And they feigned total exasperation that any court would have the authority to give them orders."

In the same meeting, Clarke noted that Trump told "the small tyrant to his left that 'Home-grown are next' – a reference to his intention to inflict the same fate upon American citizens.

"What's more, the president's promise comes in the aftermath of his administration's proposed partnership with the despicable gang of mercenaries and war criminals known as Blackwater, which has volunteered to design their next phase of mass detention," she said. "In the context of this administration's war against due process and the rights of everyone in this country to the presumption of innocence, these developments are deeply, deeply disturbing."

But Clarke said while this situation is already "severely troubling", she is "certain it will only continue to deteriorate without Congressional intervention.

"To my Republican colleagues, I ask you to stand up for justice and against authoritarianism. I ask you to commit yourself to the truth and to what is right. And, when you fail to answer, I ask: what will it take for you to say that innocent men do not have to die

just so the president does not have to admit he's wrong?"

Clarke said the Trump administration broke the law when it deported these immigrants to a detention center in El Salvador.

On Tuesday, the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC), an umbrella policy and advocacy organization that represents over 200 immigrant and refugee rights groups throughout New York, also condemned the detention of Columbia University student activist, Mohsen Mahdawi.

The US Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency detained Mahdawi at a citizenship appointment in Colchester, Vermont on Monday.

Mahdawi, who has a green card, or permanent residency, has been living in the United States for over a decade.

"The detention of Mohsen Mahdawi is an assault on our democracy, due process and free speech," Murad Awawdeh, NYIC's president, told CMC, adding "Mahdawi is a legal permanent resident, who has not been accused of any crime.

"The fact that this abduction occurred at an appointment that related to his naturalization interview demonstrates the cruelty and disregard this administration has for the rule of law, and the hypocrisy of demanding people emigrate the 'right way.

"Once again, the Trump administration is ripping a page from the authoritarian playbook by weaponizing immigration law to silence dissent and suppress activism. We demand the immediate release of Mr Mahdawi and call on elected officials to stand up and defend the principles of justice and liberty enshrined in the constitution," he said. (*Loop Caribbean*)

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Sen. Chris Van Hollen travels to El Salvador to advocate for Kilmar Abrego Garcia's release

Sen. Chris Van Hollen flew to El Salvador on Wednesday to push for the release of Kilmar Abrego Garcia after the mistakenly deported man was not returned by midweek, one of the senator's conditions for embarking on the trip.

Van Hollen said in a video post from a U.S. airport that he was about to board a flight to the country's capital, adding that his goal was show the Trump administration and El Salvador's government "that we are going to keep fighting to bring Abrego Garcia home until he returns to his family."

Van Hollen, D-Md., represents the state where Abrego Garcia lived. He landed in El Salvador Wednesday morning, a spokesperson confirmed.

"I hope to meet with representatives of the government," Van Hollen said in the video, which was posted to X. "I hope to have the chance to actually see Kilmar and see what his condition is."

Van Hollen previously said he would travel to El Salvador if the Maryland man was not released by midweek, and other Democratic lawmakers

had expressed willingness to join, though they did not appear Van Hollen's video.

A spokesperson for Van Hollen said on Tuesday that no other lawmakers were joining Van Hollen on his trip.

The senator is making the trip in his official capacity, and his team has a meeting scheduled with a high-level government official, according to a Van Hollen spokesperson.

The Justice Department has said that it mistakenly deported Abrego Garcia to El Salvador, and the administration has been ordered by a judge to "facilitate" his return — a move that the Supreme Court later reaffirmed.

In a string of court hearings, the Trump administration has not appeared to make moves to work toward the Maryland man's release to the U.S., and on Monday, El Salvador's president, Nayib Bukele, said during an Oval Office meeting with President Donald Trump that he wouldn't send Abrego Garcia back to the U.S., saying that "the question is preposterous."

Democrats have slammed

officials for refusing to work for Abrego Garcia's release, painting the issue as a matter of the rule of law after court rulings on the case.

"This is about due process. This is about rule of law," Van Hollen said in the video he took at the airport. "What bullies do is they begin by picking on the most vulnerable. But if we get rid of the rule of law and due process in the United States, it's a short road from there to tyranny."

NBC News has reached out to the White House for comment on Van Hollen's trip.

The White House has claimed that Abrego Garcia is a gang member, which his attorneys have denied. Abrego Garcia has never been charged criminally in the U.S. or El Salvador, according to court records.

U.S. District Judge Paula Xinis, who is presiding over Abrego Garcia's case, has questioned an immigration judge's previous determination, saying that the "evidence" against Abrego Garcia consisted of nothing more than his Chicago Bulls hat and hoodie, and a vague, uncorroborated

allegation from a confidential informant claiming he belonged to MS-13's 'Western' clique in New York — a place he has never lived."

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said during a press briefing Tuesday that the administration is complying with court orders, and she criticized "Democrat and media outrage" over Abrego Garcia's deportation.

"Based on the sensationalism of many of the people in this room, you would think we deported a candidate for Father of the Year," she said.

Separately, Rep. Riley Moore, R-W.V., said in a post to X Tuesday evening that he too traveled to El Salvador and toured the prison where immigrants deported by the U.S. have been sent. "I leave now even more determined to support President Trump's efforts to secure our homeland," Moore said in the post.

Abrego Garcia migrated to the U.S. in 2011 and is a legal resident who has been protected by a 2019 court order that he could not be sent back to El Salvador. (*NBC News*)

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Sudan paramilitary declares rival government two years into civil war

Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has announced the formation of a rival government, two years since the country descended into a brutal war that has left tens of thousands dead and triggered what the United Nations calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The RSF, led by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo — also known as Hemedti — declared on Tuesday the establishment of the “Government of Peace and Unity” in areas under its control. The move directly challenges the army-led administration headed by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.

“On this anniversary, we proudly declare the establishment of the Government of Peace and Unity, a broad coalition that reflects the true face of Sudan,” Dagalo said on Telegram.

The RSF and its allies had already signed a charter in Nairobi in February, laying out their intention to form an alternative authority.

Dagalo said they had now endorsed a transitional constitution, which he described as a “roadmap for a new



Sudan”. The document proposes a 15-member presidential council representing all regions of the country.

Experts have long warned that the protracted conflict risks permanently fracturing Sudan. Sharath Srinivasan, a Sudan specialist at the University of Cambridge, told the AFP news agency that the RSF's entrenchment in Darfur could result in “de facto separation.”

Since war erupted on 15 April 2023, nearly 13 million people have been displaced, with no political solution in sight. The fighting began after months of tension between Sudan's military and the RSF, once close allies who jointly led the 2021 coup that derailed a civilian-led transition. (*Al Jazeera English*)



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Sports News



Winnings start for Ravens in Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-out



Juel Canucks of Canada at the 19th Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-Out at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. (Photos courtesy of the CPTSA Wings Sports Club).



Wings Tough Gals of Antigua and Barbuda at the 19th Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-Out at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Defending champions Juel Ravens of Canada made a successful start in defense of their title at the 19th Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-Out at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday evening.

The Ravens launched their campaign in the five-team female basketball tournament, which is organized by the Concerned Parents/Teachers Sports Association (CPTSA) Wings Sports Club, with a 65-37 victory against the Dover Tigers of Barbados in the first game of Tuesday's double-header.

Sydney Cowan produced 13 points, seven rebounds, five assists, and three steals; Talya McNary converted 12 points and claimed five

rebounds; and Audrey Smart scored 10 points and snatched seven rebounds for the Ravens.

Maynya Haynes produced 14 points, 13 rebounds, three steals, and two blocks for the Barbadian Dover Tigers, who lost for the second time in as many games.

Like the Bajans, hosts Wings Tough Gals of Antigua and Barbuda suffered their second loss in as many games, crashing to a humiliating 17-79 defeat against another Canadian team, the Juel Canucks.

Alexia Schryburt led the Canucks to their second win in as many encounters with a game-high 21 points.

In support, Natalie Van

Heswyk produced 19 points and 14 rebounds; Anna Petridis had 13 points, 10 rebounds, four assists, and four steals; and Genevieve Stephens chipped in with 10 points, four rebounds, and three assists for the Canucks.

Jodaliah Constant had five points, four rebounds, and two assists; Alyssa Jardine scored four points and grabbed seven rebounds; and Melissa Haywood produced four points, nine rebounds, and two steals for the Wings Tough Gals.

The tournament will continue with another double-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Thursday (today).

In a battle of the Canadians, the Juel Ca-

nucks will meet the Juel Stingers at 7 pm. Players from all five participating teams will take part in a three-point shootout contest at 7:20 pm, and cup-holders Juel Ravens will take on the Wings Tough Gals at 8 pm.

Action will continue with two more matches and a celebrity shootout contest on Good Friday, and the tournament will come to an end on Saturday evening at the same venue.

The annual tournament is held in honour of former national player Gillian Brazier, who died several years ago after succumbing to multiple sclerosis, which is a disease of the central nervous system.

ABBA league to resume on Tuesday after 8-day break



Action in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) domestic league is currently on an eight-day break to facilitate the 19th staging of the Gillian Brazier Basketball Shoot-out and the Easter Holidays.

The female basketball shoot-out, which is organized and hosted by the CPTSA Wings Sports Club, is being held this year at the JSC Sports Complex from April 14 to 19.

The ABBA domestic league will resume with a Division 2 double header at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday, April 22.

Two struggling teams, Da Project 2 and Michael Joseph Phoenix, will clash at 6:45 pm, and Ramco Pharmacy Fearless Crew will take on Square One Construction United at 8 pm.

According to ABBA, barring any further delays, the Division 2 round-robin league will finish on Saturday, April 26.

The top eight finishers at the end of the nine-team Division 2 League will qualify for the playoffs.

Following the completion of the Division 2 League, action will then commence with the start of the playoff competitions.

All eight teams will compete in the Division 1 playoffs that will begin at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday, April 27. The following day, the Division 2 playoffs will shoot off at the

same venue.

Cup-holders EZ Fit Flyers has already retained the ABBA Division One League title. The Flyers will enter the Division 1 playoffs as the top seed after narrowly clinching the league title ahead of Total Imports EMC's Potters Steelers.

The Flyers, who are also the reigning playoff champions, retained the league crown by virtue of being superior in their head-to-head meetings with the Potters Steelers after both teams ended their campaign with identical records of 13 wins and one loss from their quota of 14 games.

The Potters Steelers, who claimed their runners-up spot in the league, will enter the Division 1 playoffs as the second seeds.

Cutie's Ovals Ojays have already captured the Division 2 League title with two games remaining. The Ojays

currently lead the Division 2 league with a record of 13 wins and one defeat from 14 of their 16 games.

But the battle for the runner-up position is a tight contest between the Navigators and Spanish Heat 2.

The Navigators, the only team to beat the Ojays, are currently in second place with a record of 11 wins and three losses, with two games remaining.

The Spanish Heat 2, who also has one game remaining, is currently in third place with a record of 11 wins and four losses.

Either Da Project 2 or Square One Construction United will be the only team to be eliminated from the Division 2 playoffs. Both teams, who have two games remaining, are currently tied at the bottom of the standings with identical records of one win and 13 losses from 14 games.



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Desmond Haynes appointed to ICC Men's Cricket

Barbados and West Indies cricket legend Desmond Haynes has been appointed to the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Men's Cricket Committee, marking yet another prestigious honour in a storied career that spans decades of excellence and service to the sport.

Haynes joins the committee following the completion of the tenure of former West Indies all-rounder and respected cricket administrator Roger Harper.

The appointment maintains the strong West Indies presence on this prestigious committee and reflects the continuing influence of Caribbean cricket at the highest levels of the sport's governance.

Haynes, who most recently served as the lead selector for the West Indies men's teams from January 2022 to June 2024, brings his wealth of cricket knowledge and administrative experience to this important role.

His appointment was confirmed this week by the ICC, which also announced the reappointment of India's Sourav Ganguly as chair of the committee. Other members include Afghanistan's Hamid Hassan, South Africa's Temba Bavuma, India's VVS Laxman (re-appointed), and England's Jonathan Trott.

The ICC Men's Cricket Committee plays a vital role in shaping the future of the game as they make recommendations on playing conditions and rules that affect cricket at all levels. Haynes' appointment ensures that West Indies cricket continues to have a strong voice in these important discussions.



Dr. Desmond Haynes

Dr. Kishore Shallow, President of CWI, stated, "The appointment of Dr. Desmond Haynes to the ICC Men's Cricket Committee is a significant moment for West Indies cricket.

"Not only does he bring his legendary status as one of our greatest opening batsmen but also his sharp cricket mind and deep understanding of the modern game.

"His proven track record in cricket administration and previous role as lead selector gives him unique insights into both the technical and governance aspects of cricket. Therefore, we had no reservation in proudly recommending him to this committee.

"On behalf of CWI, I must also express our sincere gratitude to Roger Harper, who has served with distinction over the past three years. Roger's contributions have helped shape important decisions in the global game and he has represented West Indies cricket admirably at the ICC level."

The ICC Men's Cricket Committee operates as a subcommittee of

the Chief Executives' Committee, and focuses on matters related to the playing of international cricket.

The body plays a crucial role in advising on various aspects of the game, including the laws of cricket, playing conditions, umpiring standards, technology implementation and the handling of illegal bowling actions.

The committee is chaired by a former international cricketer with at least 30 Test matches or national captaincy experience, supported by 12 additional members, including representatives from former and current international players, umpires, referees, team coaches, board members, associate nations, and the media. Members serve three-year terms, with the possibility of re-election for up to three consecutive terms.

A West Indies legend, Haynes played 116 Test matches, captaining the team in four of those games. He also played in 238 One-Day Internationals (ODIs) for the regional side between 1978 and 1994. He scored 7,487 runs in Tests, including 18 centuries, and 8,648 runs in ODIs, including 17 centuries.

Forming one of the most formidable opening partnerships in cricket history alongside fellow Barbadian Sir Gordon Greenidge, Haynes was an integral part of the West Indies team that won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in 1979.

His contributions to the game were further recognized when he was inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame in June 2021.

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Sports News

Antigua team fly out to 38th CARIFTA Aquatics Championships



The Antigua and Barbuda contingent that will represent twin-island nation at the 38th CARIFTA Aquatics Championships in Trinidad and Tobago this Easter Holiday weekend. (Photo courtesy of the ABSF)

The Antigua and Barbuda 18-member team will leave the island on Thursday (today) to represent the twin-island nation at the 38th CARIFTA Aquatics Championships in Trinidad and Tobago this Easter Holiday weekend.

The annual regional swimming event is scheduled to take place at the National Aquatic Centre in Couva from April 19 to 22.

The CARIFTA Aquatics Championships is a prestigious annual competition that has served as a platform for young swimming talent in the Caribbean since 1985.

The event will see participation from ap-

proximately twenty-five countries, including the Bahamas, Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, and St. Lucia.

Antigua and Barbuda's delegation will feature a talented line-up of swimmers who have successfully met the qualifying standards to compete in this high-caliber event.

The squad comprised 18 swimmers, four less than the Antigua and Barbuda team that finished in ninth place with a total of 18 medals at last year's CARIFTA swimming championships in the Bahamas.

The squad includes five of the six swimmers that won medals at last year's event. They are El-

lie Shaw, Anya De Gannes, Madison MacMillan, Ethan Stubbs-Green, and Alessandro Bazzoni.

The head coach for the team is Wayne Mitchell. He will be assisted by Coach Nelson Molina Fojo, Team Manager Lisa MacMillan, and Chaperones Ayedele Warner and Tallio Joseph. The technical official is Edith Clash-ing.

The list of Antiguan swimmers by age group for the 38th CARIFTA Aquatics Championships in Trinidad and Tobago is as follows:

Girls 11-12

Keziah Joseph
Kaylee Warner
Alyssa Watkins

Willow Zreibi

Boys 11-12

Alessandro Bazzoni
Christopher Walter

Girls 13-14

Anya De Gannes

Boys 13-14

Reuben Edwards

Girls 15-17

Ellie Shaw
Madison MacMillan

Aunjelique Liddie

Mila Festini-Cromer

Alandra Dublin

Selah Wiltshire

Boys 15-17

Tivon Benjamin
Ethan Stubbs-Green
Neil Noronha
Jai Sindhi

Sports News

PAGE 31

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Richards Academy and Edu Sports will also be returning to compete in the javelin after achieving a personal best in a fourth-place finish in Grenada last year.

Ranique Richards of Princess Margaret School (PMS) and Edu Sports will be vying for top honours in the shot put contest.

In the under-17 boys category, Javon Simon of Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) and Panthers Athletics Club will compete in the 200 and 400-meter races.

Naeem Simon of Antigua Grammar School (AGS) and Edu Sports will seek top honours in the high jump competition.

Sprinter Hanief Jones, who is based at Clarendon College in Jamaica, will run in the 100 and 200-meter races, and Marcus Henry of PMS and Edu Sports will compete in the high jump.

In the under-20 female category, sprinter Geolyna Dowdye of PMS and Power Speed and Endurance (PSE) Track Club will battle for top honours in the 100 and 200-meter races.

Dowdye will be hoping to improve

on her bronze-medal performance in the 100-meter race last year in Grenada.

Middle-distance runner Hannah Charles, who is based at Queens School in Jamaica, will contest the 1500 and 3000-meter races.

Sprinter Kettia Ambrose, who is based at Monroe College in New York, USA, will run in the 200, 400, and mixed 4x400-meter relay races.

Shenika Bentick of PMS and PSE Track Club will compete in the 400-meter and mixed 4x400-meter races, while Jada Gunthrope of Antigua Girls High School (AGHS) and Edu Sports will contest the Long Jump.

In the under-20 boys division, Maliek Francis of Antigua State College and CPTSA Wings Sports Club will return to defend his title in the javelin competition.

Francis became the first record-breaker at last year's 51st CARIFTA Games after producing a dominant performance on the way to winning gold in the Under-17 Boys Javelin at the Kirani James Stadium in Grenada.

Sprinter Kasiya Daley of PMS and

PSE Track Club will run in the 100, 200, and 4x100-meter races.

Sprinter Conroy Wilson of PMS and Panthers Track Club will contest the 100 and 4x100-meter races.

Sprinter Daniel Skepple, who is based in Canada, will contest the 200-meter and 4x100-meter races.

Kevon Campbell of Panthers Track Club will battle for supremacy in the 4x100 and mixed 4x400-meter relay races.

Sprinter Judah Ashe of Antigua State College and Phoenix Track Club will contest the 4x100-meter race, and Cleon Joseph, who is based at Monroe College in New York, USA, will compete in the 400-meter and mixed 4x400-meter races.

The athletes are accompanied by Manager/Chaperone Gillian Matthew; Head Coach Jamille Nelson; Assistant Coach Heather Samuel-Daley; Assistant Coach Oswald Baptiste; and Physiotherapist William Richards.

The Antigua and Barbuda contingent is slated to return home on Tuesday, April 22.



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Antigua team departs for CARIFTA Games in T&T



Tyra Fenton



Geolyn Dowdye



Maliek Francis

A 24-member national contingent is slated to depart the V.C. Bird International Airport on Thursday (today) to represent Antigua and Barbuda at the 2025 CARIFTA Track and Field (athletics) Games in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, from April 19 to 21.

The Antigua and Barbuda contingent, comprising 19 athletes and five officials, will battle their counterparts

from across the region for supremacy during three days of intense track and field competitions at the Hasely Crawford Stadium in Mucurapo.

Team Antigua and Barbuda athletes will compete in the following categories and events at this year's CARIFTA Track and Field Games.

In the under-17 girls division, Tyra Fenton of St. Anthony's Secondary

School and Roots Athletics Club will compete in the 200 and 400-meter races.

Fenton will be making her second appearance at the CARIFTA Games after winning bronze medals in both races on debut at last year's event in Grenada.

Zonique Charles of Sir Novelle
con't on pg 31