

Another case of UPP grandstanding

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Piling Phase Completed at Antigua Cruise Port's Upland Development

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Another case of UPP grandstanding



The United Progressive Party is again demonstrating that it is a party in search of an issue; anything to garner the public spotlight, even if it has to create one out of thin air. Its latest act demonstrates clearly that it is a party with a so-called 'solution' in search of a problem.

The Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda has been made aware of the documented acts of vandalism, intimidation and trespassing on private property executed by leaders of the Opposition United Progressive Party over the Whit holiday weekend when they visited a number of hotels and private properties under the guise of wanting public access to beach. It must be noted that as a matter of law

and a policy of the Gaston Browne Administration is that all beaches in Antigua and Barbuda are public.

The actions therefore by the Opposition United Progressive Party is another form of deception and blatant fakery attempting to pivot to another platform in light of their failed attempts to gain public support by defaming the good name of Prime Minister Gaston Browne, members of his family, public officials and Antigua and Barbuda with concocted stories and blatant lies attributed to the sale of the Alfa Nero yacht, which is a dead issue.

Cabinet believes the actions of the Opposition, trespassing and vandalizing private property and

intimidating workers pose a significant threat of damaging the investment climate of the country and the fragile tourism industry which provides employment to thousands of Antiguan and Barbudans and the economic viability of Antigua and Barbuda. One major investor has advised the Cabinet that he intends to take le-

gal action against individuals who are seen on video committing unlawful acts on his property.

While Cabinet acknowledges that the Opposition has demonstrated that it has no loyalty to country, it calls on the Opposition to act responsibly in an effort to regain lost credibility as an opposition party.



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Speaker
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Commendations for the Utilities Minister



The Cabinet has extended commendations to the Minister for Utilities, Melford Nicholas, for the Antigua Public Utilities Authority's (APUA) milestone achievement in reaching a daily water production capacity of 9 million gallons, with projections to attain 12 million gallons by Mid-October.

This marks an unprecedented accomplishment in the history of Antigua and Barbuda, surpassing the

performance of all previous administrations.

To further support APUA's efforts in meeting national water demand, the Cabinet gave a commitment to APUA to continue its expansion programme towards meeting maximum capacity in the provision of water to the Antigua and Barbuda population, ensuring a consistent and resilient water supply for both residential and agricultural sectors.



DAILY PROGRAMMING



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

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

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

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

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

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Piling Phase completed in Antigua Cruise Port's Upland Development



Piling Phase Completed at Antigua Cruise Port Upland Development

Antigua Cruise Port (ACP) has announced the completion of a significant milestone of its Upland Development on Lower Newgate Street; the sinking of 377 piles marking the end of that phase of the development.

In a press statement, ACP said completing the piling works now sets the stage for the next critical phase of construction.

"This milestone paves the way for the commencement of pile capping, a key component of the foundation works that will support the new cruise terminal, commercial complex, signature restaurant, and upgraded transportation infrastructure," the statement said. Project Manager Ulises Torres and ACP General Manager Gasper George were both on-site to commemorate the occasion. Their presence underscored the continued dedication of the entire project team and the importance of maintaining momentum toward timely completion.

"This milestone is a testament to our commitment to excellence in construction and our long-term vision for the future of this facility," said Torres.



"As we enter the foundation phase, we're confident in the strength of the partnerships and planning that have brought us to this point."

"The completion of the piling works marks solid progress on a development that will bring long-term value to Antigua and Barbuda," said Gasper George, General Manager of Antigua Cruise Port. "This project is about

creating a functional, modern, and welcoming space that supports cruise operations, enhances the visitor experience, and provides real opportunities for local businesses and the wider community. We remain focused on delivering each phase with precision and purpose."

The upland development is poised to significantly enhance the cruise and visitor experience in Antigua. Once completed, the site will feature a state-of-the-art terminal facility, an expanded retail experience, and new lifestyle and leisure amenities, benefiting both the local community and international visitors.

As the project advances, the team remains focused on delivering a modern, efficient, and welcoming port environment aligned with the strategic growth of Antigua and Barbuda's cruise tourism and the general tourism sector.


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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
Antigua and Barbuda

PROJECT CLEAN UP

We're cleaning and clearing out debris in key areas to help reduce storm-related risks in the community.




Fort Road, Yorks, and McKinnons area


7:00 AM – 3:00 PM


Comfortable clothing, closed-toe shoes, and sun protection

SAFER WITH STATE.

Antigua Cruise Port to enforce parking and solicitation regulations in Lower St. John's



Antigua Cruise Port - St John's Drone View

Antigua Cruise Port (ACP) has signaled its intention to enforce parking, vending and solicitation operations in key parts of the City of St. John's, especially on days when cruise ships are in port.

In a press statement, ACP said it is implementing these measures in accordance with statutory regulations – public parking is prohibited on designated streets which are reserved for only authorized taxis as assigned by the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board (ABTB) and there is no soliciting including vending outside of the designated areas assigned by St John's Development Corporation (SJDC) within the City of St John's on cruise ship days.

Consequently, the statement added, ACP will work closely with the police to ensure that those who violate the provisions of the relevant laws will result in vehicles being ticketed and towed or individuals will face prosecution under applicable laws.

Prohibited Parking in St John's:

-Public parking is regulated from 6:00 am – 6:00 pm on designated taxi parking streets within St John's, including lower Nevis Street, Redcliffe Street, St Mary's Street, Long Street, and High Street.

-The St John's Taxi Association Inc. (SJTA) is the exclusive transfer and taxi operator at Antigua Cruise Port. Only drivers from their approved list are permitted to park in designated taxi parking areas in St John's.

No Soliciting or Loitering in Heritage Quay:

- Loitering, vending, pan handling or any form of unauthorized promotion of services is always prohibited within Heritage Quay, regardless of whether a cruise ship is in port. Passengers are welcome to visit our newly established Guest Information Centers (GICs) within Heritage Quay to inquire about tours, taxis, rentals or any other experiences.
- Only drivers from the approved list of the St John's Taxi Association Inc. (SJTA) will be allowed to operate within agreed guidelines at the Taxi Booth located on High Street next to Kings Casino and at the three (3) designated Guest Information Centers (GIC) within Heritage Quay.
- Only authorized tour operators and their agents will be granted access within the newly established "ZONE 7" area for Guest Services area to offer car rentals, mopeds rentals or to collect pre-booked tour arrangements from cruise vessels.



Antigua Cruise Port - St John's Drone View

According to ACP these measures are designed to maintain Antigua and Barbuda's reputation as a premier cruise destination, ensuring a safe, comfortable and welcoming atmosphere for everyone.

"As the island welcomes the passengers and crew of "Rhapsody of the Seas" that will dock in Heritage Quay on Thursday 12th June, 2025 from 6:00 am – 4:00 pm; we kindly ask for all stakeholders to cooperate in adhering to these regulations," the statement added.

The ACP is asking interested individuals seeking additional information or wishing to apply for permits to please contact its office located at Heritage Quay.

"Antigua Cruise Port – Ready, Set, Sail... Unlocking Quay Opportunities for Antigua and Barbuda!"

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

Antigua Barbuda
**FESTIVALS
COMMISSION**

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VENUE | TIME | **\$20**
JACK IDLE | 8 PM

DATE

FRIDAY 13TH AND SATURDAY 14TH

(continuing every Friday and Saturday thereafter)

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Antigua's Carnival Festivals Commission



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Local News



SLBMC's Hyperbaric Team Saves Local Diver with "The Bends"



affect various areas of the body after a rapid ascent from deep waters. Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) is the gold standard for treating this condition, using pressurized oxygen to reduce symptoms and support recovery.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Calvin Ayre Foundation for generously gifting our hospital this vital piece of equipment, which helped make this outcome pos-

sible. Their support has been a powerful force for good—strengthening our capacity to save lives and care for you and your family when it matters most," the SLBMC statement noted.

It said this is the kind of care that changes communities—and SLBMC is proud to be able to offer it right here in Antigua and Barbuda. Special thanks to Dr. Bienvenido Bridge, the physician who led the care team.

The Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre has announced that its medical personnel were recently able to save the life of 37-year-old certified diver, Akeam Bretney, who was brought to SLBMC with decompression sickness—commonly known as "the bends".

In a statement, SLBMC said its team was ready as thanks to the hospital's hyperbaric chamber facility, Akeam received critical care close to home and has made a full recovery. In the photo, he gives the peace sign—a symbol of his strength and resilience.

Decompression sickness occurs when dissolved gases come out of solution in bubbles and can

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AI Focal Point, Andrea Jacobs, to speak at international conference in Norway



Andrea A. Jacobs, Antigua and Barbuda's National Focal Point for Artificial Intelligence

In a landmark recognition of the Caribbean's growing voice in global AI governance, Andrea A. Jacobs, Antigua and Barbuda's National Focal Point for Artificial Intelligence, has been officially invited by the Government of India to join its high-level panel at the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2025 in Norway. The session will explore the role of inclusive AI governance in addressing pressing societal challenges and promoting equitable global development.

The panel will spotlight the transformative potential of AI to enhance public service delivery, drive climate resilience, and improve access to education, healthcare, and sustainable agriculture—especially for nations in the Global South. But it will also confront a difficult truth: as AI advances at breakneck speed, its benefits remain unequally distributed.

"Research, development, and AI infrastructure are still overwhelmingly concentrated in a handful of countries," said Jacobs. "Meanwhile, regions like the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia continue to face barriers in accessing the tools, compute resources, and platforms that define AI progress."

As the designated AI National Focal Point for Antigua and Barbuda, Jacobs has worked to amplify the region's perspectives on digital inclusion, eth-

ical AI governance, and equitable access to emerging technologies. Her invitation to IGF 2025 reflects both individual leadership and the Caribbean's growing role in shaping global tech policy.

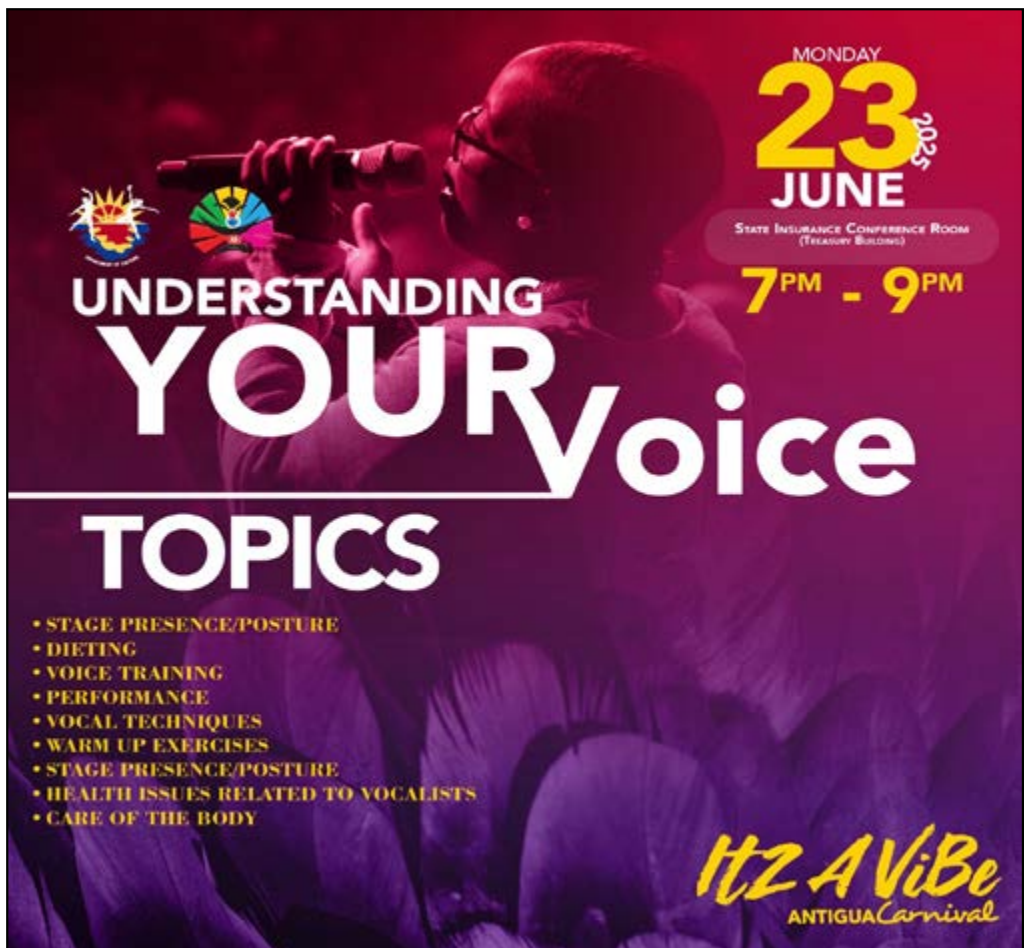
"The Global South accounts for nearly 85% of the world's population, yet remains vastly underrepresented in how AI is built, governed, and applied," Jacobs noted. "Without intentional inclusion, AI risks deepening global inequalities and encoding systemic biases into the technological infrastructure of the future."

The IGF 2025 panel, convened under the auspices of the United Nations, will serve as a key precursor to the AI Impact Summit, to be hosted by India in 2026. The discussions aim to advance multilateral cooperation on AI, develop inclusive policy frameworks, and democratize access to foundational AI resources.

"AI should not be the privilege of the technologically rich. It must be a tool for inclusive progress," Jacobs emphasized. "By bringing together voices from every region and income level, we have a chance to build systems that are not only powerful but just and representative."

"To go from those early days to now being part of this global conversation is a powerful reminder of how far we've come," Jacobs said. "But the real work is ahead: ensuring that the future of AI is built by *everyone*, for *everyone*. That starts with showing up—and speaking up."

Antigua and Barbuda's participation at IGF 2025 is a powerful signal that small nations have not only a voice but a vital role to play in shaping the global future of AI—one that is **equitable, inclusive, and deeply human-centered**.



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23 2025
JUNE

STATE INSURANCE CONFERENCE ROOM
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7PM - 9PM

UNDERSTANDING YOUR Voice

TOPICS

- STAGE PRESENCE/POSTURE
- DIETING
- VOICE TRAINING
- PERFORMANCE
- VOCAL TECHNIQUES
- WARM UP EXERCISES
- STAGE PRESENCE/POSTURE
- HEALTH ISSUES RELATED TO VOCALISTS
- CARE OF THE BODY

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ANTIGUA Carnival



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Ministry of Creative Industries Announces National Adjudication Workshop for Calypso and Soca Competitions:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Tuesday 10th, June 2025 – St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda.....

The Ministry of Creative Industries is pleased to announce the hosting of the National Adjudication Workshop for both new and returning adjudicators of the nation's premier Soca and Calypso vocal competitions. The two-day workshop will be held on Saturday, June 21st and Sunday, June 22nd, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, at the State Insurance Company Limited Conference Room, located in the Treasury Building at the corner of St. Mary's Street and Independence Avenue.

This workshop is a critical component of the Ministry's ongoing commitment to elevating the standards of cultural adjudication and ensuring fairness, transparency, and cultural integrity in the judging process. It is mandatory for all adjudicators wishing to be considered for selection in the 2025 national Soca and Calypso competitions to attend this workshop.

Workshop sessions will be facilitated by the esteemed **Sylvester "King Socrates" Hodge**, a celebrated cultural icon, veteran calypsonian, and respected adjudicator with decades of experience in the field.

This year's training will include sessions on:

- Understanding Calypso as a Cultural Expression
- A Deep Dive into the Calypso Criteria
- A Deep Dive into the Soca Criteria
- Practical Sessions: Approaches to Scoring
- Understanding Soca: Structure and Purpose
- Ethical Judging and Bias Awareness
- Open Session with Artists, Writers, and Composers

All persons interested in participating must register in advance at the **Festival Office on Redcliff Street**. For more information, please call the **Festival Office at 562-7267 or 562-9606**.

The Ministry encourages the participation of both seasoned adjudicators and newcomers who are passionate about the development and fair evaluation of Antigua and Barbuda's vibrant musical traditions.

Ministry of Creative Industries
Fostering Excellence in Cultural Expression

Antigua and Barbuda Urges Global Action at UN Ocean Conference 2025



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

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Lands and the Blue Economy Anthony Smith Jr. delivered a compelling national statement at the UN Ocean Conference 2025, emphasizing the urgent need for collective action to safeguard the world's oceans, especially for Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

In his address, Minister Smith highlighted the vital role that the ocean plays in Antigua and Barbuda's economy, culture, and identity, underscoring that the health of the ocean is directly linked to the sustainability and resilience of SIDS communities worldwide.

"We call on all to uphold the commitments under the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)," Minister Smith said. "This framework places ocean action at the core of sustainable development and charts our course toward resilient prosperity."

Antigua and Barbuda announced its ongoing initiatives to advance ocean sustainability, including the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for

Oceanography and the Blue Economy at the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus. This center aims to lead research, innovation, and skills development critical for the Caribbean and SIDS to harness ocean resources responsibly.

The nation also reaffirmed its pioneering efforts in combating plastic pollution, being among the first to ban single-use plastics globally and actively participating in negotiations for a comprehensive treaty on plastic pollution that addresses the entire lifecycle of plastics.

Further, the country remains committed to sustainable fisheries, calling for strengthened enforcement, better governance, and increased support for small-scale fishers to ensure food security and coastal livelihoods.

Antigua and Barbuda welcomed the recent ratification of the BBN Agreement and emphasized the importance of scalable, predictable support in addressing climate change impacts rising seas, ocean acidification, and warming waters that disproportionately affect SIDS.

Concluding his remarks, Minister Smith called for genuine partnerships, increased investment, and urgent collective action, urging the international community to move from promises to tangible outcomes for a healthier, more resilient ocean.

"We don't need charity. We need partnership. We need urgent action," he stated. "Let this be the moment when we move from promise to delivery and from commitments to real change."

Antigua and Barbuda participated in High-Level Commonwealth Health Dialogue



Sen. Michael Joseph (third from left (seated) at High-Level Discussion recently

Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of State in the Ministry of Health, Senator Michael Joseph, participated in a landmark intergenerational health dialogue convened by the Commonwealth Secretariat in May 2025. The event brought together more than 90 young professionals from across the Commonwealth and was held on the margins of the 37th Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting.

Senator Joseph represented Antigua and Barbuda in critical discussions focused on strengthening global health and care workforces. His intervention underscored the urgent need to empower young people with more than a voice — but with the tools, platforms, and authority to lead.

“Today's intergenerational dialogue highlights the vital energy and ideas young people bring, who too often remain underrepresented in decision-making,” Sena-

tor Joseph stated. “Systems must be established that go beyond inviting youth to speak, providing them with the resources and platforms to drive meaningful change.”

Senator Joseph also reaffirmed Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to advocating for strategic investment in health systems at the highest political levels — a collective response necessary to meet global demands while preserving and strengthening national health workforces.

Hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat, the dialogue assembled young health professionals from countries including Canada, India, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

Antigua and Barbuda stands in solidarity with other Commonwealth nations in recognizing the value of intergenerational collabo-

ration and the need for forward-thinking policies that

invest in youth capacity and leadership.


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FESTIVALS
COMMISSION**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

13TH JUNE 2025

CATEGORIES:

- Carnival Floats
- The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus Junior Calypso Monarch
- Junior Party Monarch
- LIAT 2020 T-Shirt Mas Troupes
- Koscab Junior Carnival
- Calypso Monarch
- APUA INET Party Monarch
- Koscab J'ouvert Troupes
- Individual Mas
- Road March 23RD JULY 2025
- Monday Wear
- Mas Troupes
- Vendors & Booth Operators 30TH JUNE 2025

WHERE TO COLLECT FORMS:

- National Festivals Office, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Corn Alley & Redcliffe Street
- Ministry of Creative Industries, Old Parham Road (Upstairs KFC/INET Building)

HOURS:

MON - THURS
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

FRI
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

mail: info@ab.gov.ag or WhatsApp: (268) 727-9201. For inquiries, call (268) 462-4707

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ANTIGUA Carnival 2025

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SAT. JUN 14TH | 2:00PM

REDCLIFFE STREET
(BETWEEN CROSS STREET & TEMPLE STREET)

Hellsgate | Halcyon | Westside
Original | Pandemonium | Panache



Sandals Foundation and CDEMA Celebrate Success of 3-Year Leadership Development Programme



Forty-five (45) Senior Officers from three cohorts at the National Disaster Organisations (NDOs) and National Emergency Sectors in seventeen (17) Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Participating States have benefited from a Strategic Leadership Development training programme that is in its third year, building their capacity and advancing disaster preparedness and response across the Caribbean.

With the Atlantic Hurricane Season already started (June 1 - November 30), Senior Officers from Anguilla, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, , Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia , Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and British Virgin Islands have been equipped with strategic leadership skills to enhance their ability to develop and implement disaster preparedness plans, coordinate and manage emergency responses, and support recovery efforts to strengthen their coordination, communication, and leadership in times of emergency.

Taking a holistic approach to Disaster Risk Management, the intensive programme enhances leadership skills through six (6) courses over a six-month period with modules in Leadership, Strategic Management, Project Management, Financial Management, Proposal Writing, and Crisis Commu-

nication and Incident Management.

In partnership with Sandals Foundation and the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business (ALJGSB) at the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI), the carefully curated curriculum successfully used interactive lectures, one-on-one coaching, and psychometric assessment to enhance officers' approach to community wellbeing before, during and after a natural hazard.

Gayle Drakes, Education and Training Specialist at CDEMA, said, "The preventative approach to Disaster Risk

Management at CDEMA is risk-reduction centred, emphasising an understanding of hazard exposure, vulnerabilities and capacities, and styling appropriate interventions for building more resilient communities."

"CDEMA is proud to have collaborated with the Sandals Foundation and the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business on this initiative to strengthen the foundation of national and regional resilience. As we enter the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season, we are confident that this cadre of professionals is better equipped to lead preparedness, response, and recovery efforts that result in safeguarding lives and livelihoods throughout the Caribbean." said Executive Director of CDEMA, Elizabeth Riley.

Sandals Foundation, for its part, provided necessary funding to implement the programme for its three-year duration, valued at some US \$150,000. Heidi Clarke, Executive Director at Sandals Foundation, says she is optimistic about the future for both NDO Officers and the citizens of the Caribbean.



National Taxi Association celebrates 60th anniversary



One of the oldest taxi associations in the country, the National Taxi Association which groups taxi operators based at hotel properties, is celebrating a major milestone; its 60th anniversary.

Formed in 1965 and still going strong, members of the association completed a series of events to mark the occasion, including a gala dinner and awards ceremony last Saturday night.

President of the Association, Gregory Athill, said the awards ceremony honoured these individuals who have made sterling contributions to the growth and development of the association over the years as well as to the development and professionalization of taxi operations in the country.

“Persons were honoured for serving fifty years or more as well as others will many years of service to the organization. Our celebrations started with a church service at the St. Paul’s Anglican Church and ended with the dinner/awards ceremony at the Copper and Lumber Store in Nelson’s Dockyard,” he reported.

The Governor General’s Deputy, Sir Clare Roberts was on hand to present the awards while Director of Policy and Planning, St. Clair Soleyn gave remarks on behalf of the Ministry of Tourism. The feature address was delivered by Jamion Knight, an International Psychotherapist.



Local News



4-years and four months prison term for Akini Walker

Akini Walker of Cassada Gardens was slapped with 4-years and 4-months prison term when he appeared in the St. John's Magistrate's court for sentencing on Wednesday.

Walker, 27, previously pleaded guilty to the possession of a FN70 high-powered rifle and 18 rounds of ammunition. The magistrate sentenced him to 4-years and 4-months for the possession of the firearm and a further two-years for the possession of the ammunition. Both sentences are to run concurrently.

The magistrate was particularly concerned that a civilian would have in his possession such a powerful firearm. "The firearm is particularly dangerous. From the facts given by the learned prosecutor, I quote, "the firearm is an extremely deadly weapon known as a battle rifle which originated from Belgium. It can fire a total of 650 to 700 rounds of ammunition per minute. This firearm has a range of 1000 metres. The only ballistic vests that are able to withstand one of these rounds is a level III vest specifically designed with hard armor plates none



Akini Walker

of which is available to the Police of Defence Force in Antigua and Barbuda," the magistrate told the defendant and his attorney.

In a statement, the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda said it remains committed to combating illegal drugs and firearm offences.

Meanwhile, Devonte Green of Kentish Road, Rolando Watts of Union Road, Hatton, and Otnell Roberts of Jennings Extension all appeared in court on separate drug-related charges.

Devonte Green was charged with

unlawful possession of 93 grams of cannabis and possession with Intent to Transfer. He pleaded guilty to the charge of possession and was convicted and fined \$2,000 to be paid within thirty (30) days or serve thirty (30) days at His Majesty's Prison in default. The charge of possession with intent to transfer was withdrawn.

Rolando Watts pleaded guilty to possession of four (4) grams of cocaine, and was fined \$500 to be paid within seven (7) days, or serve ninety (90) days at His Majesty's Prison in default.

Otnell Roberts, on the other hand, was remanded to His Majesty's Prison pending sentencing on June 13. He pleaded guilty to possession of 576 grams of cannabis.

Similarly, Sheldon Sambury of Bendals was remanded to prison until Thursday, June 12, pending sentencing for unlawful possession one (1) Smith and Wesson .357 Magnum Revolver, and possession of eight (8) .357mm rounds of ammunition. The defendant pleaded guilty to both charges.

PDV Caribe
Antigua and Barbuda Ltd.

THE PDV HOUR

MONDAYS
11AM - 12NOON

MRS. JELLETTE RALPH
(JELLY BEANS)

Eco-Consultation Launches at Jolly Harbour



Joshuanette Francis, founder and director of Good Humans 268 Inc.

Excitement filled the Bougainvillea Conference Room at Jolly Beach Hotel as more than 50 citizens gathered for the first national consultation on Eco-Communities, Eco-Businesses, and Eco-Events—a visionary project designed to reimagine life in Antigua and Barbuda through a sustainable lens.

Led by the dynamic non-profit Good Humans 268 Inc., this event marks the beginning of a wider engagement process that will travel to multiple communities across the island, collecting data and building partnerships to tackle climate change, pollution, and waste at the grassroots level.

“This is a long-term conversation with the community, not a one-off,” said Joshuanette Francis, founder and director of Good Humans 268 Inc. “We’re here to listen, to learn, and to build. Every comment, concern, and idea shared today brings us closer to practical solutions that work for real people.” Participants split into breakout groups to explore the three pillars of the initiative: “This is exactly what we need in Antigua,” said one participant, “People are tired of just hearing

about climate change—we want to do something. And this gave us a way to act, right here where we live.” Residents learned about upcoming pilot projects.

“I’ve already signed up to be part of the Eco-Community pilot,” said a Jolly Harbour homeowner. “It’s time we stop waiting for someone else to fix the problem. We are the solution.” Data from the consultation will be compiled and shared with government ministries, NGOs, and international donors to support new investments in waste infrastructure, renewable energy, and eco-entrepreneurship.

Francis closed the session with a heartfelt reflection. “What we saw today confirms what we’ve always believed: the will to change is here. Now, it’s our job to provide the tools, support, and structure to make that change sustainable and inclusive.”

The team from Good Humans 268 Inc. plans to visit several more communities over the next six months. Each visit will tailor its approach to the community’s unique needs—urban or rural, coastal or inland—but always centered around the core mission: a cleaner, greener, more inclusive nation.



ABLP St. John's Rural West Youth Arm & Senator the Hon. Michael Joseph presents

FATHER'S DAY SIP AND PAINT

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of laughter, creativity, and connection, for fathers or father figures and their child/children only.
No solo attendees — this event is all about sharing the moment together.

15
JUNE 2025
1pm - 4pm

- LAWN GAMES 1-2PM
- SIP AND PAINT BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 2PM
- SPACES ARE LIMITED — RESERVE YOURS NOW!

FREE
ENTRY

MULTIPURPOSE CULTURAL CENTER

SCAN HERE

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS

RHYME AND RESOLVE: CLIMATE CALLS

Good Humans
268 Inc

Community Heroes, Recycling Their Zeroes

In towns where the garbage once piled so high,
And plastics would float as they reached for the sky,
A movement took root, with a mission so clear—
To clean up our islands and hold them more dear.



With bins in their hands and a spark in their soul,
They marched for a planet that's healthy and whole.
Not waiting for leaders or laws to appear,
These heroes stepped up without praise, without fear.
They gathered the bottles, the plastics, the cans,
With gloves on their fingers and purpose in plans.
Each item they touched was no longer a waste—
But something of value, reborn in its place.

From schoolyards to churches, the message was spread:
“Don’t throw it away—recycle instead!”
Each child, each elder, each teacher who came,
Became part of a legacy greater than fame.



But what of the zeroes? The ones cast aside,
Those told they were “less,” who tried hard to hide?
They too joined the fight with fierce dedication—
Transforming their pain into bold innovation.

A young girl in braces with fire in her stride,
Led talks about oceans and rising tide.
A man who once struggled to walk on his own,

Now helped others move past what they'd always been shown.



Not all disabilities are visible, but all are valid.

For disabilities weren't seen as defeat,
But power reshaped from the soul to the street.

And Antigua, Barbuda, our islands so bright,
Made room for all voices to join in the fight.

"Let's build it with ramps and wide paths to explore,

Let's open our parks and our government doors.

Let's teach our young artists to paint with new hues,

And write out a future the whole world can use."

From waste to new purpose, from silence to song,

These heroes proved all of us truly belong.

They sorted the glass and they counted each ton,

And tracked how their mission was only begun.

The beach, once polluted, now sparkles again,

Thanks to the hands of these women and men.

The bins overflow not with garbage or shame,

But with pride in their purpose and pride in their name.

PURPOSE. **PRIDE.** PASSION.

They're teachers, mechanics, young kids after class,

They're changemakers rising like dew on the grass.

They measure their worth not in dollars or gold,

But in lives that they've touched and the stories they've told.

Some say, "It's just trash, why bother at all?"

But heroes know greatness can come from the small.

A bottle, a can, a forgotten old shoe—

Each one holds a chance to start something new.

So here's to the zeroes recycled with care,
To people who dared just to stand and declare:

"My value's not tied to what others may see—

I'm strong, I'm aware, and I care endlessly."

In cities, in villages, near oceans so blue,
The green wave is rising with each thing we do.

It's powered by love and by purpose that grows—

From compost and courage to gardens and shows.

Yes, change is a journey, and storms may appear,

But these heroes stand tall, they've made that clear.

For the heart of a movement will always be those—

Community Heroes, Recycling Their Zeroes.





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Gov't building 27 new operating theatres in hospitals across Jamaica

Minister of Health and Wellness Dr Christopher Tufton said the government is currently building out 27 new operating theatres in hospitals across Jamaica.

"That's a 37 per cent increase in new operating theatres over the next two years," he stated during his sectoral presentation in Parliament on Tuesday.

He noted that Cornwall Regional Hospital will have 11 new operating theatres, Spanish Town Hospital will get an additional three operating theatres. Meanwhile, St Ann's Bay Hospital, May Pen Hospital, Chapelton Community Hospital, Noel Holmes Hospital, National Chest Hospital, Lionel Town Community Hospital, and the Linstead Hospital will all get one or one additional theatre. In the meantime, the Western Child and Adolescent Hospital will receive four.

"We will as a government improve our existing maintenance arrangements for operating theatres and add significant inventory," he said.

He lamented frequent down time in operating theatres are too frequent, leading to surgeries being cancelled.

"At any point in time we have between 25 and 20 per cent of our operating theatres down, we have about 73 in the public health system including 17 at the University (Hospital) of the West Indies," he said.



He stated that he has instructed the regional health authorities to appoint an operating theatre manager at each hospital who will have the responsibility to ensure that best practice protocols are followed for scheduled maintenance and usage.

They have also been charged to develop and implement a revised policy and supplier servicing and inventory of parts to ensure quick turnaround for repairs.

Tufton stated that the government will also be looking at how to better maintain efficient ventilating systems in the operating theatres.

A malfunctioning air-conditioning

(AC) system forced the closure of the four main operating theatres at the Kingston Public Hospital recently, causing the development of mould in the facility.

They have since been reopened following repairs to the system, and mould remediation.

Tufton disclosed that the government will also be investing in backup ventilation systems for hospitals.

"I have asked that all operating theatres have a backup ventilating system for when the main system goes down, either unexpectedly or for maintenance," he said. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)



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Regional News



C&W Communications rebrands as Liberty Caribbean



Leading telecom provider C&W Communications has officially transitioned to the new identity of Liberty Caribbean, signaling what it defines as a significant evolution in its more than 150-year legacy of connecting communities throughout the Caribbean region.

A press release from the company said that this rebranding reflects the company's strengthened alignment with its parent organization, Liberty Latin America, and underscores a renewed commitment to supporting digital transformation across the Caribbean.

The name change is part of a strategic move to unify the company's branding and operations under the Liberty Caribbean umbrella, shared the release. Alongside this rebranding, the company's C&W Business brand will now operate as Liberty Business, under the unified Liberty Caribbean identity.

Inge Smidts, Chief Executive Officer of Liberty Caribbean, stated, "For well over a century we have been a vital link across the Caribbean – from the first undersea telegraph cables in the 19th century to today's high-speed broadband, mobile, and enterprise solutions. As Liberty Caribbean, we embark on our next chapter with excitement and determination, unwavering in our mission to bring people together and enrich lives."

Despite the change in name, day-to-day operations remain unaffected. Customer plans, points of contact, and service levels will continue seamlessly, ensuring no disruption to service, assured the company.

"While our corporate name changes, everything our customers know, and love remains the same. Our trusted consumer brands of Flow and BTC will continue un-

der their current names, and our day-to-day operations, customer service channels, points of contact, and service agreements remain unchanged," Smidts added.

The rebranding coincides with the launch of "Let Your Riddim Flow," a culture-driven campaign designed to celebrate each island's unique rhythm and identity. According to Liberty Caribbean, this initiative, supported through collaborations with local artists, community activations, in-store experiences, and digital storytelling, aims to elevate Flow and BTC beyond traditional telecommunications, transforming them into movements that embody Caribbean spirit and progress.

"This is not simply a rebrand, but a recommitment to the people we serve," Smidts emphasized. "Our new corporate identity reflects the unity and strength

we gain by operating together under one purpose and one name. Our community initiatives and charitable efforts under the renamed Liberty Caribbean Foundation will also ensure that we continue to uplift every community we touch."

Furthermore, the company said it is dedicated to investing more in its networks to provide fast, reliable connectivity across all Caribbean communities. Enhancements include improved customer service experiences via the Flow and BTC apps and support through WhatsApp, making assistance more accessible than ever. To show appreciation for customer loyalty, Liberty Caribbean is also rolling out new rewards and loyalty programs aimed at giving back to those who stay with them.

Balan Nair, CEO of Liberty Latin America, expressed enthusiasm about the rebranding, stating, "By uniting under the Liberty Caribbean banner, we reinforce our century-long promise to harness connectivity as a force for economic growth, enhanced public services and social impact. Whether enabling remote work, linking families across islands or empowering small businesses to thrive, Liberty Caribbean stands ready to write the next chapter of Caribbean progress," he said. (*Dominica News Online*)



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PRESENTS
“Understanding Your Voice” – A Vocal Development Workshop for Soca and Calypso Artists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Tuesday 10th, June 2025 – *St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda*.....

As Antigua and Barbuda prepares for the highly anticipated carnival and festival season, the Department of Creative Industries is proud to announce groundbreaking **Vocal Development Workshop** titled “**Understanding Your Voice**”, led by internationally acclaimed vocal trainer **Yulexis Garcia**. The workshop will be held on June 23rd 2025 at the State Insurance Conference Room in the Treasury Building from 7pm to 9pm.

This specialized workshop is designed to support all vocalist particularly those who participates in the **Soca and Calypso competitions**, in achieving peak performance while safeguarding their vocal health. Recognizing that the art of performance in these genres is both a cultural treasure and a rigorous discipline, the Ministry has crafted this initiative to enhance **vocal ability, longevity, and stage impact**.

Who Should Attend:

- **Soca and Calypso singers** preparing for the upcoming competitive season
- **Vocalists** looking to refine technical skills and preserve long-term vocal health
- **Emerging artists** seeking professional guidance and development

Workshop Focus Areas:

- Understanding Vocal Mechanics
- Vocal Health and Maintenance
- Performance Readiness and Stamina
- Breath Control and Projection
- Stage Presence and Delivery Techniques
- Practical Exercises for Long-Term Vocal Care

Led by the exceptional **Yulexis Garcia**, whose expertise in vocal training has benefitted artists across the Caribbean and Latin America, this session promises to equip participants with critical tools to elevate their artistry and preserve their vocal instrument throughout their careers.

Interested participants are encouraged to stay connected through the Ministry's channels. For more information, please contact the **Festival Office at 562-7267** or call **562-9606**.

1st Floor Cecil George-John Building | Corn Alley & Redcliffe Street
St. John's | Antigua and Barbuda
Office: 1 (268) 462-0194 / 562 7267

Regional News



Belize: Government says it has not issued any online gaming license

Belizean authorities are warning against a number of online gaming websites claiming to have an online gaming license from Belize.

“The Government of Belize informs the internet community and the public that Belize currently has a moratorium on issuing online gaming licenses. As a result of this moratorium, no online gaming companies are currently licensed to operate from Belize. Furthermore, no licenses will be issued until further notice,” the Ministry of Investment, Policy & Compliance Unit said in a statement.

It said that several online gaming websites were “falsely claiming to hold an online gaming license from Belize or spreading false information about online gaming licensing in Belize.”

“The Government of Belize advises the general public that any operations involving online gaming activity in Belize are regulated and require licensing from the Gaming Control Board, as per the Gaming Control Act.”

The ministry said that all entities claiming to possess an online gaming license from Belize “must



immediately cease and desist, as their operations are unauthorized and illegal.”

“The Ministry urges all internet users to refrain from engaging in business with such companies,” it added. (*Loop Caribbean*)



ST. JOHN'S DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (SJDC)

VACANCY

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The St. John's Development Corporation (SJDC) invites applications from suitably qualified professionals to fill the post of Chief Financial Officer.

The successful candidate will provide strategic financial leadership and oversee the Corporation's financial operations, including accounting, budgeting, financial reporting, treasury management, and compliance. The CFO will also supervise the Accounts Department and work closely with the Executive Director and Board of Directors to support the Corporation's strategic goals.

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversight of all financial activities including Payroll, Accounts Payable/Receivable, Cash Flow, and Debt Management.
- Prepare budgets, monitor performance, and conduct variance analysis.
- Manage internal and external audits.
- Ensure accurate financial reporting and compliance with the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda.
- Lead the development and implementation of financial systems, controls, and policies.
- Supervise and guide accounting personnel, including performance evaluations and training.

Minimum Qualifications:

- A Degree in Accounting, Finance, or Business Administration.
- Professional designation (ACCA, CPA, CGA) is required.
- A Master's in Business Administration (MBA) would be an asset.
- Minimum of 7 years' experience in a senior financial management role.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Excel, and QuickBooks.
- Excellent communication, analytical, and leadership skills.

Application Instructions:

Interested persons should submit a cover letter, detailed resume, and copies of relevant qualifications no later than June 15, 2025 to:

The Executive Director
St. John's Development Corporation
P.O. Box 1473
St. John's
Antigua
Or email: hr@sjdcanu.com

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Alabama executes a man by nitrogen gas for the beating death of a woman in 1988



An Alabama man convicted of killing a woman in 1988 was put to death Tuesday evening in the nation's sixth execution by nitrogen gas.

Gregory Hunt was pronounced dead at 6:26 p.m. at a south Alabama prison, authorities said, one of four scheduled this week in the United States.

Strapped to a gurney with a blue-rimmed mask covering his entire face, Hunt gave no final words but appeared to give a thumbs-up sign and a peace sign with his fingers before the gas started flowing. It was not clear when the gas began.

Hunt briefly shook, gasped and raised his head off the gurney. He let out a moan at about 5:59 p.m. and raised his feet. He took a series of four or more gasping breaths with long pauses in between, and made no visible movements after 6:05 p.m.

Hunt was convicted of capital murder for the killing of Karen Lane, who was 32 when she was killed on August 2, 1988, in the Cordova apartment she shared with another woman in Walker County.

Hunt had dated Lane for about a month. Prosecutors said that after becoming

enraged with jealousy, he broke into Lane's apartment and sexually abused her and beat her to death, inflicting 60 injuries on her body. Jurors convicted him in 1990 and recommended a death sentence by an 11-1 vote.

In a statement, Governor Kay Ivey said Lane experienced an "unimaginable final hours of her young life."

"Tonight, the state carried out the lawfully imposed punishment for Gregory Hunt who is undeniably guilty," Ivey said.

Hunt, who was born in 1960, was among the longest-serving inmates on Alabama's death row. He told The Associated Press last month that finding religion in prison helped him get "free of my poisons and demons" and that he tried to help other inmates.

"Just trying to be a light in a dark place, trying to tell people if I can change, they can too ... become people of love instead of hate," he said.

Lane's sister declined to comment

when reached by telephone this week.

But in 2014 at a vigil for crime victims, she said, "The way she was killed is just devastating."

"It's hard enough to lose a family member to death, but when it's this gruesome," she said.

Hunt acted as his own attorney in a filing to the US Supreme Court seeking to halt the execution, arguing that prosecutors misled jurors about the evidence of sexual abuse.

The Alabama attorney general's office called the claim meritless.

Last year Alabama became the first state to carry out an execution with nitrogen gas. The method has now been used in six executions — five in Alabama and one in Louisiana.

Hunt selected nitrogen gas over the other options, lethal injection or the electric chair, before Alabama developed procedures for the method. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)



Gavin Newsom warns 'democracy is under assault' in speech blasting Trump's immigration tactics

California Gov. Gavin Newsom delivered a scathing address Tuesday night that took aim at President Donald Trump's federalization of the National Guard and use of Marines to quell protests in Los Angeles.

Newsom, a Democrat who is considered a potential 2028 presidential candidate, blasted Trump's immigration enforcement tactics in remarks designed for a national audience after days of clashes between protesters and law enforcement.

"This is about all of us. This is about you. California may be first, but it clearly will not end here. Other states are next. Democracy is next. Democracy is under assault before our eyes. This moment we have feared has arrived," Newsom said.

"Authoritarian regimes begin by targeting people who are least able to defend themselves. But they do not stop there," he said.

Trump has activated thousands of National Guard members, without a request from Newsom, and deployed more than 700 Marines in California since the protests began Friday.

He has also lobbed a barrage of criticism and personal insults at Newsom, at one point suggesting he should face arrest after he dared "border czar" Tom Homan to apprehend him.

"I would do it if I were Tom," Trump told reporters Monday, calling Newsom "grossly incompetent."

In his speech Tuesday, Newsom argued that Trump has a record of supporting violence when it suits him.

"Trump and his loyalists, they thrive on division because it allows them to take more power and exert even more control. And by the way, Trump, he's not opposed to lawlessness and violence, as long as it serves him," Newsom said, citing the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at

the U.S. Capitol.

"The rule of law has increasingly been given way to the rule of Don," he added.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday night.

Los Angeles Police Chief Jim McDonnell said Tuesday that there have been "several consecutive days of growing unrest throughout the city," with 378

people arrested since Saturday. A curfew in downtown Los Angeles took effect Tuesday evening.

Protests have also unfolded in other cities across the country, with demonstrations opposing the Trump administration's immigration policies and deportation efforts in New York, Boston, Chicago, Dallas and Atlanta. (*NBC News*)



ST. JOHN'S DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (SJDC)

VACANCY

MAINTENANCE MANAGER

The **St. John's Development Corporation (SJDC)** is inviting applications from suitably qualified individuals for the position of **Maintenance Manager**.

The successful candidate will be required to ensure smooth, safe, and efficient operation of the Corporation's facilities by overseeing all aspects of maintenance, including planning, scheduling, execution and quality control. This involves managing resources, leading a team and optimizing maintenance practices to reduce downtime, extend asset life and minimize cost. The Maintenance Manager will be required to work closely with the Executive Director and Board of Directors to support the Corporation's strategic goals.

Key Responsibilities include:

Overseeing daily maintenance of facilities, equipment, and machinery

- Managing and guiding maintenance staff
- Developing preventative maintenance schedules and procedures
- Coordinating with vendors and contractors
- Managing inventory, budgets, and maintenance records
- Ensuring compliance with safety regulations
- Supporting emergency repairs and disaster preparedness initiatives

Minimum Qualifications:

- Degree or certification in Engineering, Facilities/Maintenance Management or a related field (BSc/BA in Business or Facility Management is an asset)
- Minimum 5 years' experience in maintenance management
- Strong technical knowledge in plumbing, electrical, carpentry, and mechanical systems
- Proven leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills

Application Instructions:

Interested persons should submit a cover letter, detailed resume, and copies of relevant qualifications no later than June 15, 2025 to:

The Executive Director
St. John's Development Corporation
P.O. Box 1473
St. John's
Antigua

Or email: hr@sjdcanu.com

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Mexico's security chief says drug cartels are recruiting former Colombian soldiers

Mexico's most powerful drug cartels are recruiting former Colombian soldiers, prompting Mexican authorities to turn away dozens of Colombians trying to enter the country in recent weeks, Mexico's security chief said Tuesday.

Security Secretary Omar García Harfuch's comments followed the arrest last week of 12 Colombians in the western state of Michoacan in connection with a mine attack that killed eight Mexican soldiers.

Through contact with Colombian authorities, García Harfuch said that nine of the 12 individuals were former soldiers and the remaining three were civilians with weapons training.

Close underworld ties have long existed between organized crime groups in Mexico and Colombia. For many years, Colombian drug traffickers produced cocaine and heroin and moved it themselves by boat or plane to the United States.

Later, as US authorities cracked down on trafficking in the Caribbean, Mexican cartels' power grew as they moved Colombian drugs over land and via small plane to the US border and smuggled them across.

Decades of internal conflict in Colombia have produced tens of thousands of former soldiers, paramilitaries and guerrillas with weapons training and combat experience.

Colombians have been hired guns in the 2021 assassination of Haiti President Jovenel Moïse and in the ongoing war in Ukraine.

In recent weeks, Mexican immigration authorities rejected 69 Colom-



bians trying to enter Mexico, some of whom in interviews said "they had been co-opted by some criminal group." García Harfuch said Tuesday that both the Sinaloa and Jalisco New Generation cartels were recruiting Colombians.

Colombia's ambassador to Mexico, Fernando García, said last week that he feared the arrests would negatively impact ongoing negotiations with Mexico to reduce the number of Colombians prevented from entering the country at Mexican airports. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)



Austrian police find bomb plans at shooting suspect's home as nation mourns



Austrian police investigating a school mass shooting in the city of Graz this week said they had found discarded plans for a bomb attack at the suspect's home, as the grief-stricken country embarked on three days of national mourning.

Investigators said on Wednesday that they had discovered abandoned plans for a bombing, a non-functional pipe bomb and a farewell letter and video during a search of the home of the dead suspect, who shot dead 10 people during the previous day's rampage at the city's BORG Dreierschützengasse high school, before pulling the trigger on himself in a school toilet.

Police said the 21-year-

old, a former student of the school, had acted alone, his farewell note revealing no motive for the attack. Austrian media reported the suspected gunman had been bullied at school, but police have not confirmed that as of yet.

The mass shooting killed nine students – six girls and three boys aged between 14 and 17, one of whom had Polish citizenship – as well as a teacher, leaving 11 wounded.

Austria came to a standstill at 10am (08:00 GMT) on Wednesday – the time of the previous day's carnage – to commemorate the dead. There will be one minute's silence on the first of three days of national mourning following what

appeared to be the deadliest attack in the country's post-World War II history.

In Vienna, St Stephen's Cathedral rang its bells, collective transport came to a halt and public broadcaster ORF paused all radio and TV programmes, broadcasting images of candles and a message to say the country was mourning the victims.

In Graz, Austria's second-biggest city, close to where the assailant lived with his mother, hundreds of people lined the central square, laying candles and flowers in front of the city hall, adding to a growing memorial to the victims.

The suspected gunman, who has not been formally identified, had not com-

pleted his studies at the school, according to the authorities.

"It's surreal, you can't describe or really understand it," said Ennio Resnik, a pupil at the school, speaking to reporters outside a centre where students were being offered counselling.

Some of the students gathered there cried, while others held each other.

Franz Ruf, director general of public security, told ORF on Tuesday that investigations into the motive were moving swiftly. "We don't want to speculate at this point," he said.

Police have said that he used two weapons, a shotgun and a pistol, which he owned legally.

By Wednesday morning, the authority that runs hospitals in Graz said that all patients were in a stable condition.

Nine were still in intensive care units, with one needing a further operation on a facial wound and a second on a knee injury, while another two had been moved to regular wards.

Police said none of their lives were in danger and that the wounded people, among them two Romanian nationals and an Iranian citizen, were aged between 15 and 26. (*Al Jazeera English*)

England complete 3-0 series sweep with win in third T20I



England celebrate with the trophy after sweeping the West Indies during their third T20 International at the Rose Bowl in Southampton, England, on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. (Getty Images)

The West Indies showed fight with the bat but it ultimately wasn't enough as England secured a 3-0 T20 International series sweep with a 37-run win in the third match at The Rose Bowl in Southampton on Tuesday.

The West Indians were put in a tough spot from the get go after winning the toss and choosing to field as England openers Jamie Smith and Ben Duckett continued their dominance in the powerplay that they showed throughout the series.

The pair pummeled the West Indian bowlers on the way to putting on 83 in the first six overs with Duckett bringing up his third T20I fifty off just 20 balls, the fourth-fastest in the format by an Englishman.

Smith also brought up his fifty, his first in the format, off 23 balls as the partnership blossomed to 120 in the ninth over before Smith finally fell for 60 off 26 balls including four fours and five sixes.

Jos Buttler then came and went for a brisk 22 off 10 balls before Duckett's onslaught came to an end in the 15th over when he fell for a top score of 84 off 46 balls, including 10 fours and two sixes with the score on 178.

Jacob Bethell and captain Harry

five overs before captain Shai Hope and Shimron Hetmyer pulled together to form a mini revival.

That ended when Hetmyer, after accumulating 26 off just seven balls, fell halfway through the seventh over with the score on 69. Just one run later, Sherfane Rutherford, hampered by a hamstring injury he picked up in the field, fell for one.

Rovman Powell then joined Hope and the pair added 49 for the fifth wicket before Hope had to go back to the dugout for a well-played 45 off 27 balls, including three fours and three sixes.

Jason Holder also tried his best alongside Powell with 25 off 12 balls including three sixes. In the end, the West Indies ended up 211 for eight in their 20 overs.

Left-arm pacer Luke Wood picked up 3-31 from his four overs while Adil Rashid was excellent for his 2-30 from four overs. The West Indies will now turn their attention to a three-match T20I series against Ireland beginning on Thursday (today).

Brook then made 36* off 16 balls and 35* off 22 balls, respectively, as England piled up a massive 248 for three in their 20 overs.

The West Indian chase started out poorly as both Evin Lewis (9) and Johnson Charles (9) fell within the first



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Sports News

Hurricane Power dominates Wings Whit Monday Road Relay



Sea Dawgs relay team

Members of the Hurricane Power Athletic Club dominated the 31st Annual CPTSA Wings Whit Monday 4x1.5 Miles Road Relay and 10K & Fitness Walk on June 9.

Kemar Thomas produced an inspiring run to lead Hurricane Power to the title by winning the overall male category in the 4x1.5 Miles Road Relay in 37 minutes and 26.43 seconds.

Thomas also won the overall men's title in the 10-kilometer run in a time of 33 minutes and 35 seconds. Kyle Mah finished in second place.

Thomas ran the first leg for the Hurricane Power relay team and continued on the rest of the 10K route, which started at the YMCA Sports Complex and culminated inside the Christ the King High School compound.

His powerful start boosted the rest of the Hurricane Power relay team to finish

first and capture the title.

Anika James of Hurricane Power won the overall title in the women's 10-kilometer run by clocking 53 minutes and 17.15 seconds.

James also ran the first leg for her Hurricane Power Relay team, which captured the title in the women's under-16 Category in a time of 59 minutes and 49.31 seconds.

The Hurricane Power Club has been dominating the Wings Whit Monday event for the past several years.

Sophie Bown of the University of Alberta Antigua Champions finished second in the women's 10K run in a time of 58 minutes and 27 seconds. Makayla Porteous claimed third place in an hour and four minutes.

The Sea Dawgs captured the overall title in the Women's 4x1.5 Miles Relay by winning the Under-30 category in a time of 53 minutes



The FireHawks relay team receive their prize from Barbara Coates of Wings Sports Club.



Anika James, right, accepts her certificate from Barbara Coates of Wings Sports Club.

and 17 seconds. Berta Babes finished second in a time of 53 minutes and 48 seconds.

FireHawks were the most

exciting relay team as they produced a fine performance to win the Men's Under-16 category.

con't on pg 31

Stoneville clinch third place in Women's Division 1 League



Theatric Lighting and Stage Effects and JOMA Caribbean Stoneville women's volleyball team.

Theatric Lighting and Stage Effects and JOMA Caribbean Stoneville clinched third place in the Women's Division 1 competition of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Local Club League on Tuesday evening.

Stoneville were awarded a 3-0 victory by default against bottom team Royal Cruisers, who failed to show up for their final encounter at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Stoneville were credited with a 25-0, 25-0, 25-0 victory to wrap up their campaign with their fifth win from their quota of 10 matches in the six-team round-robin league.

The result allows Stoneville to leapfrog Jets from fourth to third place, with both teams finishing on 25 points apiece. However, Stoneville clinched third place by virtue of recording five wins, one more than the Jets.

The Royal Cruisers also finished

their campaign in the cellar after slumping to their ninth loss during their quota of 10 games.

Meanwhile, bottom team Phoenix High Flyerz claimed their first win in the Men's Division 1 League on Tuesday.

The Phoenix High Flyerz were awarded a 3-0 (25-0, 25-0, 25-0) victory against the Renegades, who were unable to field a team for the encounter.

The Phoenix High Flyerz, who have one game left to play, will remain in the cellar of the seven-team round-robin competition after securing one win in 11 encounters.

The Renegades remain second from the bottom of the standings with 14 points after losing for the ninth time in 11 games.

The Men's Division 1 League will resume with a double-header at the YMCA Sports Complex on Thursday (today).

High Flyerz will clash with the Phoenix High Flyerz at 6:45 pm, and newly crowned first-time champions ABI Insurance and Cool and Smooth Pytonz will tackle the Invaders at 7:45 pm.

con't from pg30

Guy Yearwood Jr. of Wings won the overall title in the men's 8-kilometer power walk. Steadroy Williams finished second.

Sharon Christian captured the overall title in the women's 8-kilometer power walk. Amoci Clarke claimed second place.

Elijah Bowen of Wings grabbed the overall title in the men's under-16 Division in the 8-kilometer power walk. Morris finished in

second place.

Several students from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, are currently visiting Antigua and Barbuda on a revived International Health Education and Research Experience (IHRE) programme.

Several students from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, who are currently visiting Antigua and Barbuda on a revived International Health Education and Research Experience (IHRE) programme,

participated in and assisted the CPTSA Wings Sports Club in executing its event on Whit Monday.

This year, the CPTSA Wings Sports Club was without a title sponsor for its 31st Whit Monday event. However, the Antigua Champions of the University of Alberta, Canada, and several corporate citizens provided tangible support for the success of the event.

The CPTSA Wings Sports Club takes the opportunity to express its sincere thanks

and gratitude to those businesses who willingly donated prizes and items in support of its 31st Whit Monday Event.

They are Subway Restaurant, Gores Wholesale, Louis Brothers, Bounty Furniture Mart, Design Center, Top Ranking, Anjo Wholesale, ANR Hardware, Zephies, Robinson Gas Station, Cool & Smooth, and Little Canton.

Sports News



Sir Curtly Ambrose open to coaching stint in Bermuda

Cricketing icon and former West Indies fast bowling maestro Sir Curtly Ambrose has signaled his willingness to lend his expertise to Bermuda's cricketing development if the opportunity ever arises.

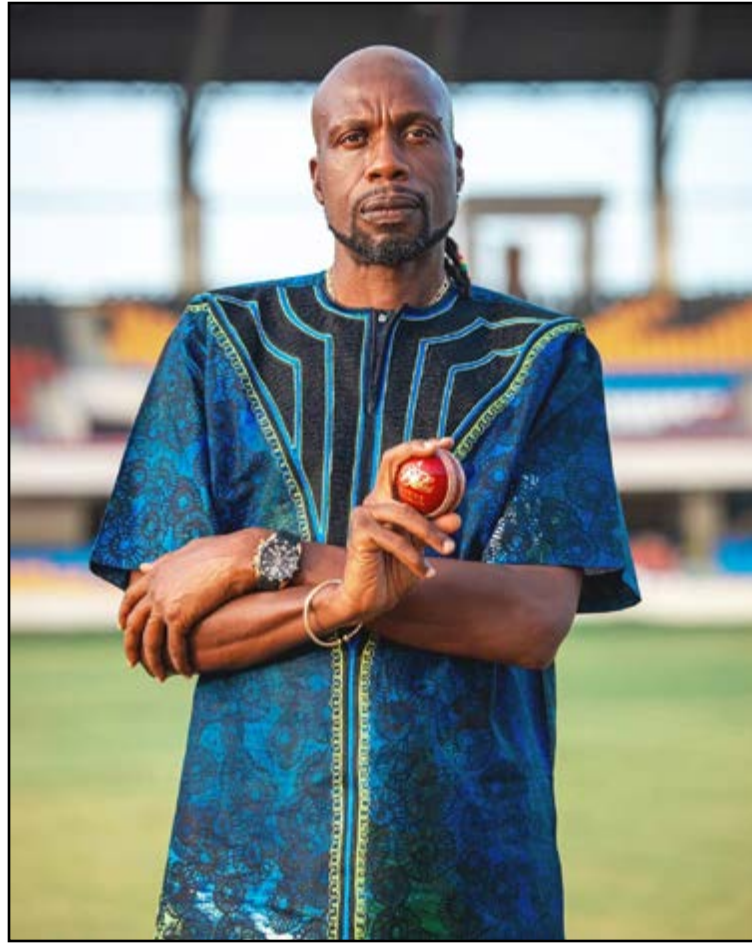
The towering Antiguan, revered as one of the most fearsome pacemen in the history of the sport, said he would welcome a coaching role on the island, as he praised Bermuda's long-standing cricket culture and its passionate supporters.

"Of course," Ambrose told *The Royal Gazette* when asked if he would consider coaching Bermuda.

"Even when I played, there was always a strong following from Bermuda. You see them in the stands cheering on the West Indies team and all that stuff, so I know they are passionate about cricket.

"If the opportunity comes where the cricket association here in Bermuda sees fit to invite me here to do coaching, I will gladly accept because it gives me pleasure just giving back," he added.

Now 61, Ambrose has devoted his post-playing years to helping the next generation understand and master the art of cricket. A certified Level 3 coach—one of the highest qualifications in the sport—he has worked with players across the region and remains deeply commit-



Sir Curtly Ambrose (Facebook)

ted to sharing the wealth of knowledge he gained during a storied career.

"I do a lot of coaching because I believe that I've learned a lot during my playing days, and giving back to cricketers means a lot to me. Hence why I did all these coaching courses. I am a Level 3 coach, so I am qualified to coach any team generally," he explained.

In addition to coaching, Ambrose has embraced commentary, which allows him to offer sharp, seasoned insights into the modern game.

"I also enjoy commentary, just to look at the game from a different angle and give

my insights into what I am seeing in the middle, and I love it," Ambrose declared.

Ambrose pointed out that his connection with Bermuda extends beyond cricket. Having visited the island twice, he has since developed genuine affection for its laid-back charm and warm hospitality.

"It's nice to be back, and what I like about Bermuda is it's quiet, and I've always liked a quiet place. It's small, and you see everybody every day just within driving distance, so it feels like I am at home. I know for sure that I will be back to see more of Bermuda," he stated.

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West Indies names squad for home series against Australia



Players of the West Indies team.

Guyanese batter Kevlon Anderson and Jamaican stroke-maker Brandon King have earned their first Test call-ups, while John Campbell returns to bolster the top order, as Cricket West Indies (CWI) named its 16-man squad for the upcoming home Test series against Australia.

The series, which starts on June 25 at Kensington Oval in Barbados, will see the two teams battle for the Sir Frank Worrell Trophy and marks the critical start of the 2025-2027 ICC Test Championship cycle. Several changes have been made to the West Indies squad following their last Test series against Pakistan.

CWI's Director of Cricket Miles Bascombe said the squad was selected with a bold, execution-driven identity in mind, especially as the team looks to climb the global Test rankings.

"The start of the Test Championship Cycle is

critical to building positive momentum as we strive to work our way up the rankings. Beginning with a strong showing against a team like Australia would be ideal in our quest to bring West Indies back to the helm of Test Cricket," said Bascombe.

"It was imperative that we sought to put a squad together that was well equipped, in both the batting and bowling departments, to manage the ebbs and flows of this format of the game, while possessing the ability to apply pressure in key phases through disciplined, purposeful play," he added.

Among the changes are Anderson, who earns his call-up after back-to-back prolific domestic seasons, which included three centuries, and West Indies ODI vice-captain, King, who has enjoyed strong white-ball form. Campbell returns to strengthen

the opening options after a strong domestic campaign, while Keacy Carty is recalled to add depth to the batting lineup, along with Shai Hope, who returns to the Test setup, bringing stability and experience.

Head Coach Daren Sammy praised the selectors for identifying players aligned with the team's new vision.

"We analyzed what the top teams in the world are doing and what is needed for us to bridge the gap. We have identified a direction, along with the group of players and resources to give us the best advantage as we seek to take the team up the ladder and challenge the best in the world," Sammy said.

"I'm excited about the inclusion of young prospect Kevlon Anderson, who comes in after solid seasons in our domestic competitions to help provide stability in the top order, while the return of Shai Hope is welcomed given his consistency in white ball cricket. Brandon King's inclusion fits a role we have identified that needs special focus to take our team to those closer to the top of the rankings," he noted.

Jayden Seales, Alzarri Joseph, and Shamar Joseph headline the fast-bowling attack. Additionally, Johann Layne, 21, a product of the West Indies Academy, who claimed 63 first-

class wickets in 17 matches, along with Anderson Phillip, who recently captured a five-wicket haul for West Indies A against South Africa A, have been called up to provide reinforcement. Spin responsibilities will be handled by Captain Roston Chase and vice-captain Jomel Warrican.

Despite being under consideration, veteran pacer Kemar Roach has not been included and has been duly informed.

Sammy, while asking for patience from the fans towards the players, said they can look forward to an exciting style over the series.

"I am truly looking forward to this series because we want to start off strongly and make our home turf a fortress during this cycle while having our passionate and proud fans behind us. The matches will be challenging, but I believe in this core of players, and they are eager to wear the maroon and make our fans happy," Sammy stated.

West Indies Test Squad: Roston Chase (Captain), Jomel Warrican (Vice Captain), Kevlon Anderson, Kraigg Brathwaite, John Campbell, Keacy Carty, Justin Greaves, Shai Hope, Tevin Imlach, Alzarri Joseph, Shamar Joseph, Brandon King, Johann Layne, Mikyle Louis, Anderson Phillip, and Jayden Seales.

Sports

THURSDAY 12TH JUNE 2025



Antigua lose last World Cup Qualifier in Honduras



Players, coaches, and management staff of Antigua and Barbuda's senior men's national team during their fourth and final encounter against Honduras in Group A of their CONCACAF Qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup at the Estadio José de la Paz Herrera Uclés in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. (ABFA)

Antigua and Barbuda ended their campaign in the CONCACAF (Confederation of North, Central America, and Caribbean Association Football) Region in the second round of qualifying matches for the 2026 FIFA World Cup Finals with another defeat on Tuesday evening.

The Antigua and Barbuda senior Benna Boys wrapped up their campaign with a 2-0 loss away to Group A winners Honduras in their fourth and final encounter at the Estadio José de la Paz Herrera Uclés in Tegucigalpa.

Following a goalless first half, Honduras took the lead in the 49th minute by Getzel Montes, who scored a header after receiving a pass from Joseph Rosales.

Anthony Lozano squandered a chance to score for

the home side when his penalty kick in the 64th minute was saved by Antigua and Barbuda's goalkeeper Shaoi Dorsett, who produced an outstanding performance for the Benna Boys.

However, Alexy Vega doubled his team's advantage when he scored their second goal from outside the box in the 80th minute to seal the victory for Honduras.

Antigua and Barbuda finished at the bottom of the five-team Group A with one point after drawing one and losing their other three matches.

It was the fourth win in as many games for Honduras, who won Group A with a perfect 12 points. The group winners and runners-up, Bermuda, will progress to the third and final round of World Cup qualifiers.

Bermuda snatched a 2-1 victory against Cuba in their final Group A match at Estadio Antonio Maceo in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba, on Tuesday.

The Bermudans took the lead in the 6th minute with a goal from close range by Djair Parfitt-Williams.

Jorge Aguirre equalized for Cuba in the 58th minute by putting the finishing touch on a pass from Marcos Campo.

But Reggie Lambe reclaimed the lead for Bermuda by scoring his team's winner in the 74th minute with a poised finish in the box after connecting on a through ball from Ne-Jai Tucker.

With the victory, Bermuda overtook Cuba for the second place in Group A and booked their ticket to the

final round of CONCACAF Qualifiers.

Following the completion of the second round, 12 teams, comprising the group winners and runners-up, are progressing to the third and final round of CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers.

The second round of the CONCACAF qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup featured 30 CONCACAF member associations that are also FIFA members (excluding the three World Cup hosts, Canada, Mexico, and the United States).

For the second round, the 30 participating teams were divided into six groups of five each during the CONCACAF World Cup Qualifiers official draw on January 25, 2024.

The third and final round matches will be played during the September, October, and November 2025 FIFA Match Windows.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup tournament will take place from June 11 to July 19. It will be jointly hosted by 16 cities in three North American countries: Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

The tournament will be the first hosted by three nations and the first North American World Cup since 1994. Argentina is the defending World Cup champion.