

Prime Minister Browne Attends 4th International Conference on Financing for Development

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PM Gaston Browne with students selected to attend opening of OAS General Assembly at AUA

Prime Minister Browne Attends 4th International Conference on Financing for Development



Prime Minister Gaston Browne and Ambassador Aubrey Webson, the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, is leading Antigua and Barbuda's delegation to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4), being held from 30 June to 3 July 2025 at the FIBES Seville Exhibition and Conference Centre in Seville, Spain.

The Prime Minister arrived in Seville on Sunday. During his four-day mission, Prime Minister Browne will actively participate in a series of high-level engagements focused on global financing, climate resilience, debt sustainability, and strategic partnerships for development.

On Monday, Prime Minister Browne will deliver the country statement during which he will call for urgent global financial reform to address the deep vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

He is also expected to call for the immediate implementation of the Debt Sustainability Support Service (DSSS)—a SIDS-led initiative launched through the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)—to help unlock investment, reduce debt risk, and value climate resilience as a financial strength.

An advanced copy of Prime Minister Browne's remarks outlined a five-point plan, including adopting the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) and institutionalizing the SIDS Centre of Excellence.

On Wednesday, 2 July, Prime Minister Browne will deliver the keynote address at a prominent side event titled "Financing Development in a Climate-Challenged World: Debt Sustainability Support Service (DSSS)," where he will

highlight the importance of restructuring the global financial architecture to better serve Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and climate-vulnerable nations. The DSSS, a mechanism co-led by Antigua and Barbuda and the Maldives, is featured in the FFD4 outcome document, the *Compromiso de Seville*.

Prime Minister Browne is also expected to emphasize that Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and other climate-vulnerable countries face worsening debt crises due to unfair financial systems and climate shocks. It is also anticipated that he will highlight the DSSS as a transformative mechanism developed under the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS).

The Antigua and Barbuda leader is expected to announce that the DSSS is moving into implementation, with foundational work completed, partners identified, and regional roll-outs planned.

In addition to participating in the Opening Plenary and General Debates, the Prime Minister is also confirmed to deliver a Special Address at Round Table 5: "Realizing a Development-Oriented Sovereign Debt Architecture" on Wednesday afternoon.

Throughout the conference, Prime Minister Browne will engage in several bilateral meetings with international

partners including:

- The Director General of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
- The OPEC Fund
- H.E. Pedro Sánchez, Prime Minister of Spain
- Dr. Jarbas Barbosa da Silva Jr., Director of PAHO
- Ireland's Minister for International Development and Diaspora, Neale Richmond

These engagements will focus on scholarships, climate finance, regional resilience building, health cooperation and advancing the mental health awareness agenda, and deepening Antigua and Barbuda's diplomatic relations.

The Antigua and Barbuda delegation to the Conference also includes Ambassador Aubrey Webson, the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations; Peter Abraham Jr., Debt Manager and Antigua and Barbuda's Representative on the UN Loss and Damage Fund; and Claxton Duberry, Third Secretary at the Antigua and Barbuda Mission to the United Nations.

Prime Minister Browne will return to Antigua on Thursday, 3 July 2025, following his departure from Seville on Wednesday evening.

FA Minister Greene says Antigua and Barbuda looks beyond 'dollars and cents' to measure its successful hosting of the OAS General Assembly



Foreign Minister E.P Chet Greene and the OAS secretariat staff

Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene says Antigua and Barbuda does not count the success of hosting the 55th General Assembly of the Organisation of American States simply in 'dollars and cents'.

Rather, he noted, the country sees hosting the three-day event last week as it making a contribution to the preservation of important values such as democracy and the maintenance of human rights.

"We don't necessarily count the cost in dollars and cents even

though I know that the delegates would have had an impact on our tourism sector. We look at this in terms of what it does for our contribution to the development of peace, democracy and justice in the Americas. That's our first focus. In terms of the benefits to our economy and our people, two thousand plus delegates would certainly have brought added value to our economy and the name of Antigua and Barbuda is now known across the region and the world because of our successful

hosting of this event. So we make these investments, not for short-term benefits but for the medium to long-term benefits," he stated.

He emphasized that the major take-away has to be that a small country like Antigua and Barbuda was able to make a significant contribution to the stability of the region on the issue of peace, democracy which are quintessential especially in today's global environment.

Minister Greene made the point speaking at the end-of-meeting press conference Friday night.

In his remarks to the closing exercises, Minister Greene noted that the conference had achieved much on several critical issues before the delegations.

"The General Assembly also produced concrete and timely results. We adopted important resolutions that strengthen hemispheric cooperation in key areas – particularly in addressing the growing mental health crisis in the region, an urgent issue that demands coordinated, sustained action," he stated.

He added that the General Assembly reaffirmed the value of shared memory and cultural identity through the commendation of significant historical milestones and took steps to ensure the financial sustainable and institutional effectiveness of the organization for years to come.

OAS delegations offer much commendation to Antigua and Barbuda for a 'successful 55th Regular Session of the General Assembly' held at AUA Conference Centre



Officials of the Antigua and Barbuda and the hundreds involved in the country's successful hosting of the Organisation of American States (OAS) 55th Regular Session of the General Assembly are beaming with pride following the outpouring of praise and congratulation for a successfully executed event.

From the Secretary General, Albert Ramdin, to heads of delegation and ordinary delegates and officials, all have come away with nothing but high marks for a country of 100-thousand people to have so successfully hosted such a prestigious international event.

Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the OAS, Sir Ronald Sanders was especially joyous when he noted that there has not even been one complaint about the organisation and execution of the meeting.

"This conference was a superb accomplishment by Antigua and Barbuda. We are what is considered a micro-state, but we have shown, that micro-state we may be, what a powerful state we

are when we are ready to deliver to the international community and we have shown it here this week. You have heard the responses of the delegates here today; not one word of criticism, every work was a word of praise and directed at the people of Antigua and Barbuda for making this possible," he remarked.

Sir Ronald noted that it was massive collaborative effort from the Prime Minister Gaston Browne who first made the suggestion, to the synergies it created between the people on the ground here in St. John's and the team in Washington working on the agenda. "From the level of the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, E.P Chet Greene, to Ambassador Anthony



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Local News

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PM Gaston Browne with students selected to attend opening of OAS General Assembly at AUA

Liverpool, who led a team of remarkable people, many of whom were volunteers; all of the agencies of govern-

ment which contributed to making this thing work, technically, logistically, and transportation wise. All of that and

what we did in Washington, which is the guts of the meeting to get the declarations and resolutions ready and to get all these people enthusiastic about coming here. They came; some with trepidation but they are leaving with a great feeling of happiness. Not a single person has made one complaint, except, they are leaving too early. They all want to stay!" he declared.

While the obvious words of congratulations naturally would go to the government, the volunteer corps was especially singled out for their hard work and the efficient manner in which they carried out their tasks.

The consensus is that Antigua and Barbuda, with the facilities available at AUA and with the support of the government along with entities such as the volunteer corps, the country is well-positioned to continue hosting major conferences and events such as the just concluded OAS General Assembly.

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Local News



Paul Spencer retires from the OAS after a 32-year career with the organization

Paul Spencer, the Antigua and Barbuda national who has worked at several levels of the Organisation of American States (OAS) in its Secretariat in Washington, D.C, is retiring after 32 years with the organization.

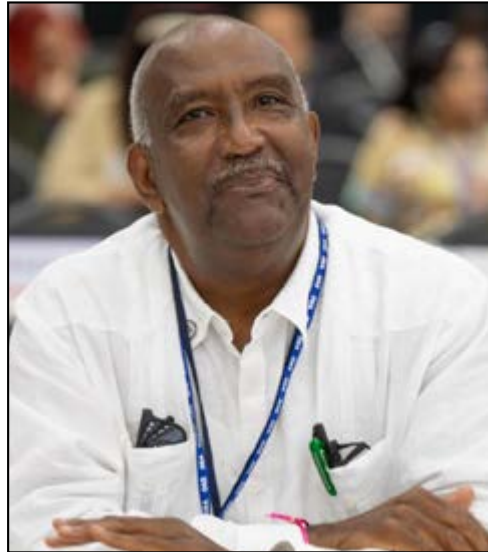
Spencer's retirement was announced by Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene, during the closing ceremony of the 55th Regular session of the OAS that was held in Antigua and Barbuda from June 25 to 27.

"I take this opportunity to recognize a distinguished national of Antigua and Barbuda, Mr. Paul Spencer, whose service to the Organization of American States spans an exceptional 32 years. For many of those years, he was the only national of Antigua and Barbuda on the professional staff of the OAS. Throughout his long and dedicated career, he has served in many capacities, including as Adviser in the Office of the Secretary General and as an OAS Country Representative.

"This General Assembly marks his final participation before entering retirement. On behalf of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, I wish to express our deep appreciation for his outstanding service, professionalism, and steadfast commitment to the principles and mission of this Organization," Minister Greene stated.

In an interview with Pointe Express newspaper, Spencer said his time at the OAS brought him in contact with many 'highly intelligent' people who believe sincerely in what the OAS, as an organization, is doing and can achieve.

"I have had a wonderful career working in different parts of the Secretariat. I have worked in various offices



Paul Spencer,

going as high as that of the Secretary General as well as working in the field in different parts of the Caribbean in particular and I am retiring knowing that I have made some contribution to the Americas," he remarked.

What's next for Spencer? Well, his immediate response was; "My family would like to see more of me." He followed up by stating that he will likely take about six months off before seeking an assignment as a consultant or something along those lines.



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Local News



US Ambassador Michael Kozak Tours Caribbean LNG Inc. Facility, Praises US-Antigua Partnership



Chairman of Antigua Power Company Francis Hadeed

Senior Bureau Official in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs Ambassador Michael Kozak completed a comprehensive tour of the Caribbean LNG Inc. facility, praising the groundbreaking project as a testament to successful collaboration between American investors, local enterprise, and the government of Antigua and Barbuda.

“It’s a fantastic project,” Ambassador Kozak stated following his walk-through of the facility. “This shows what can be done when you get sound American investors working with local private enterprise and with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda. It all came together very, very well.”

The Caribbean LNG Inc. terminal, developed through a partnership between Eagle LNG and Antigua Power Company Ltd. (APCL), represents a \$50 million American investment in the region’s energy infrastructure. The tour was guided by General Manager of Antigua Power Company Ltd - Calid Hassad, Project Engineer, Nicholas Saoud and other members of the management team of APCL.

Chairman of Antigua Power Company Francis Hadeed highlighted the significant progress made, noting that “the relationship, the partnership with the

American firm with LNG has been a success story.” Hadeed emphasized that the facility positions Antigua and Barbuda to “become an LNG hub to export this product throughout the whole region, and there’s none like it in the Caribbean.”

The facility delivers significant environmental benefits with 40% lower CO₂ emissions, 90% lower particulate matter, 75% lower NO_x emissions, and 99% lower SO₂ emissions compared to traditional heavy fuel oil. Minister of Energy and Public Utilities Melford Nicholas noted these environmental benefits during the facility tour, stating that the facility supports Antigua and Barbuda’s transition toward renewable energy and compliance with the Paris Agreement 2050 goals.

Ambassador Kozak emphasized the continued commitment of the US government to the project and regional partnerships. “The American government has been very helpful. They call us on a monthly basis. They send people here, they have a keen interest in it,” noted Chairman Hadeed regarding ongoing US support

Regional Maritime Services Expansion

The facility is positioned to serve the

growing marine bunkering market as the International Maritime Organization mandates cleaner marine fuels. Minister Nicholas noted that “this plant is positioned to become a major refueling stop for ships as they travel across the area,” including cruise ships and cargo vessels transitioning to LNG fuel.

The terminal positions Antigua and Barbuda as a unique LNG distribution hub for the Caribbean region.

Unlike larger facilities in Trinidad that focus on major shipments, the Caribbean LNG facility can handle smaller parcels through ISO tankers carrying 10,000 gallons, making it accessible to smaller island nations throughout the region.

“The potential is huge for Antigua and Barbuda because Antigua and Barbuda can become an LNG hub to export this product throughout the whole region, and there’s none like it in the Caribbean,” explained Chairman Francis Hadeed during the Ambassador’s visit. “Trinidad has a huge facility, but they cannot do small parcels, and they cannot do ISO tankers that carry 10,000 gallons.”



Senior Bureau Official in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs Ambassador Michael Kozak completed a comprehensive tour of the Caribbean LNG Inc.

Advanced Technology and Infrastructure

The facility features state-of-the-art vaporization technology that converts liquid natural gas into gaseous form for immediate use in power generation. Project Engineer Nicholas Saoud guided the Ambassador through the technical systems, which include:

- Advanced control room with comprehensive CCTV monitoring and automated systems
- Pneumatic valve systems for precise flow control and pressure regulation
- Redundant safety systems with multiple backup pumps (three pumps with only one required for operation)
- 800-meter pipeline connecting to APC's 45MW power plant
- LNG storage tanks with 10,000 m³ capacity
- Capacity for both large-scale distribution and small-parcel exports via ISO tankers
- Compliance with NFPA 59A and ASME B31.3 standards
- Advanced safety features including flame and gas detection systems and fire hydrants

Final Phase Implementation

The facility is operationally complete, with final harbour dredging work expected to conclude by August-September 2025. Minister Nicholas confirmed that the government is “significantly pushing right now for the completion of the dredging that will allow us to be able to benefit from the reduced cost of the fuel.” Once completed, the deeper channel will accommodate LNG vessels, enabling full-scale operations and regional distribution capabilities.



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Education Minister Matthew provides insights into decision to merge two eastern secondary schools

The Education Minister, Daryll Matthew, is providing further insights into the decision to merge the Pares Secondary School and Glanville's Secondary School, located nearby, into one secondary school effective from September.

Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Minister Matthew said both schools by themselves did not have 'critical mass' to justify their separate operations, noting that they still required the full complement of teachers offering subjects when sometimes there were no students.

"In order to offer proper education to our students we must have critical mass. In Glanville's and in Pares, each of the schools about 150-160 students. However, with 150 students you still had to provide a full complement of teachers. You need a principal, you need administrative staff and what ends up happening is that you have near empty classes while you still have to offer the full spectrum of courses to the students," the minister noted.



Glanville's Secondary School (GSS)



Pares Secondary School (PSS),

According to the minister there are multiple times when teachers only have classes with two students. He added that even when both schools are merged into a single school, it will still be the smallest secondary school in terms of number of students. "This is not the most efficient way of utilising our resources when you consider schools such as Princess Margaret or Ottos Comprehensive with student enrollment over one thousand often face a shortage of teachers," he explained.

Based on these circumstances, a recommendation was made to merge both schools and Cabinet has given its 'green-light' to proceed.

The minister was quick to point out that efforts will be made to ensure that the merger does not provide any additional strains on the parents of the students who are effected as in one example, students from Glanville's will receive extra uniform grants.

Additionally, the Ministry and the Board of Education will be upgrading the facilities at Pares to bring it to a standard comparable to that at Glanville's.

Cabinet approved the merger after Acting Director of Education, Dr. Jonah Greene, informed the Cabinet that the merger was necessary due to the declining student populations at both institutions. Glanville's currently enrolls 163 students and Pares 178 students—figures that have led to unsustainably small class sizes and underutilized subject offerings in both schools.

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Hundreds Attend Opening Day of Health Fair



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ing offered.

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Hundreds of individuals took advantage of the opening day of the Ministry of Health's multi-day health fair, held at the Multipurpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre. The event is being held in collaboration with United Hands Inc. and the South Leeward Conference of Seventh Day Adventists.

The first day was dedicated exclusively to children aged 12 and under and adults 60 years and older, offering a safe and focused environment for two of the most at-risk age groups.

Attendees benefited from a wide range of free health services, including general medical check-ups, dental screenings, vision assessments, and other essential tests.

The health fair continues over the next three days—July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd—when it will be open to the general public. All are en-



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FRI 4TH & SAT 5TH JULY



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Two road fatalities within thirty-six hours

The police are investigating the circumstances surrounding two separate traffic accidents over the weekend that resulted in deaths. The accidents happened within the space of thirty-six hours.

The first accident happened on Friday afternoon along the Bethesda Main Road.

According to police reports the incident occurred around 3:57 p.m. in the vicinity Crazy's Junk Yard involving a rose-coloured Toyota Vitz motor car, R3494, driven by 63-year-old Victor Ramsey, a Guyanese national who last resided at Villa.

Police arrived at the scene and found the vehicle overturned on its roof off the eastern side of the road. It is unclear at this time in which direction the vehicle was travelling.

The driver was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre by emergency personnel with severe injury to his left leg. Despite efforts to resuscitate him, he was later pronounced dead by a medical doctor.

The investigation into the circumstances surrounding the collision is ongoing. The police are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has relevant information to contact the Freetown Police Station at 460-4121, or the Traffic Department at 462-0125.



The following day, the police were called to investigate into a fatal traffic collision that occurred on Sir George Walter Highway in the vicinity of Romeo Plumbing.

The incident took place around 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, involving a white Toyota Vellfire minivan driven by a 40-year-old male of New Winthorpes, and a pedestrian, identified as 58-year-old Kendrick Hughes of Light Foot West.

The allegations are that the driver was travelling from south to north on Sir

George Walter Highway, and upon passing a parked truck on the western side of the highway, the vehicle came in contact with the pedestrian.

Emergency Medical Services arrived at the scene shortly after; however, the pedestrian succumbed to his injuries. He was pronounced dead at 10:46 p.m.

The Police Administration extends sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of the late Kendrick Hughes during this difficult time.

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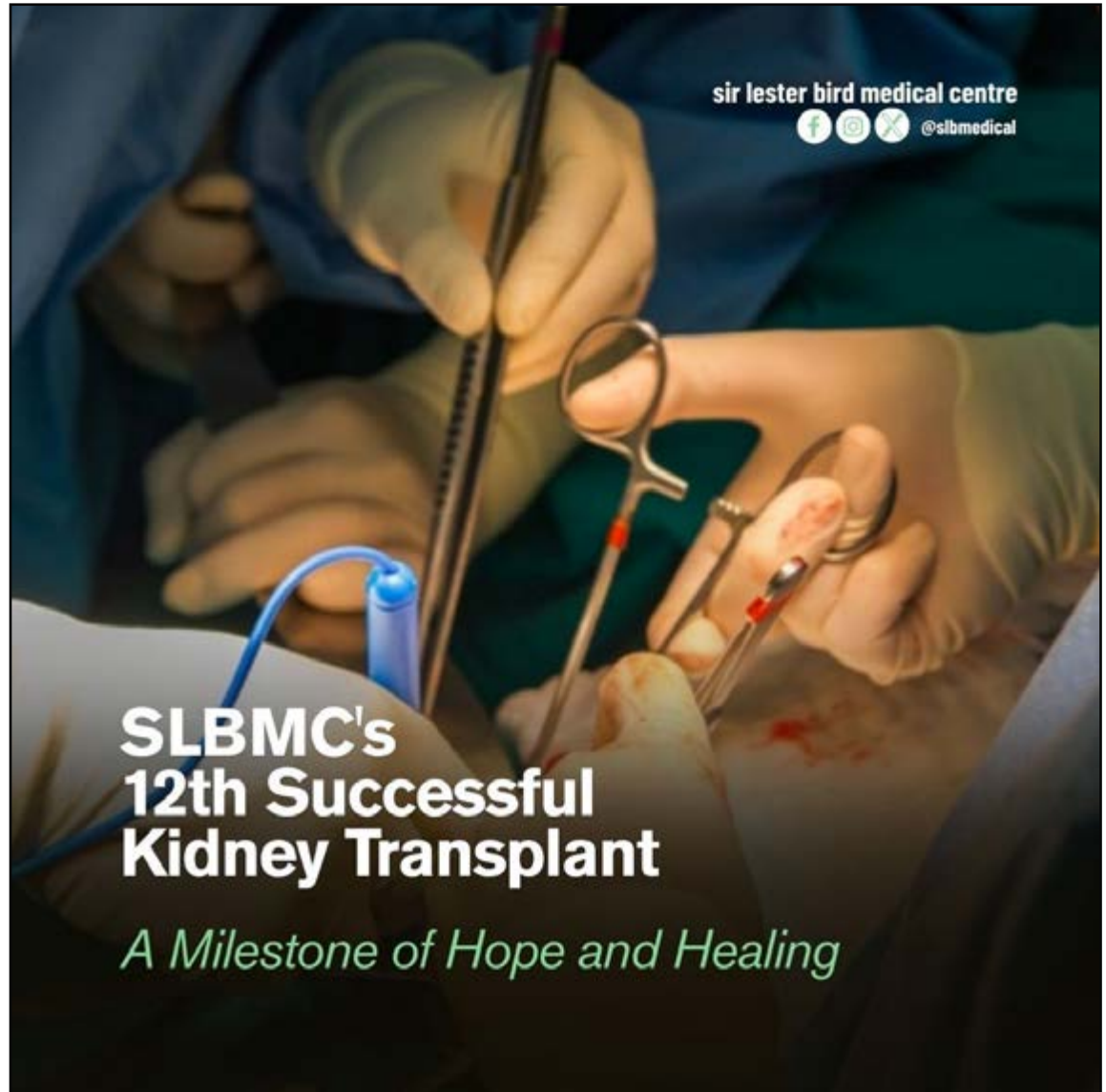
SLBMC completes its 12th kidney transplant – A milestone of hope and healing

The Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre has announced that it has performed its 12th successful kidney transplant—a moment filled with hope, courage, and life-changing impact for the patient and family.

For someone living with kidney failure, this isn't just a procedure—it's a second chance. It's waking up with energy again. It's more time with loved ones. It's freedom.

This milestone reflects the power and promise of the Kidney Transplant Program—the first of its kind in the OECS. That a hospital in a small island nation like Antigua and Barbuda can provide this advanced level of care at home is extraordinary. It means patients no longer have to travel or leave their support system to get the help they need.

“We’re deeply proud of what this says about our team, our country, and our commitment to excel-



lence.

“To our skilled and compassionate staff, to our nurses, anesthesiologists,

nephrologists and post-op care team—and especially to Dr. Obi Ekwenna, our dedicated transplant surgeon—thank you. You are

helping to transform lives, one kidney at a time,” SLBMC said in a statement.

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ABYSO and the Atlanta Music Project Build on New Partnership



Twelve musicians from the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) have participated in the Atlanta Music Project (AMP) Senior Youth Orchestra Summer Tour in the United States. The AMP operates in under-resourced communities to provide world-class music training and performance opportunities that support youth growth and development believing that the pursuit of musical excellence leads to the development of confidence, creativity and ambition, bringing together youth, family and community for the greater good.

Following the launch of a new partnership with AMP in April 2025 which saw eight AMP tutors and musicians travel to Antigua to participate in the ABYSO, Inspire Youth Choir and Kanneh-Masons' Playing to Inspire 7 Concert, the ABYSO was thrilled to accept the offer for its musicians to join this 10-day Summer Tour in June 2025.

The ABYSO joined musicians from AMP, the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Spartanburg Philharmonic Youth Orchestra to rehearse and perform in two concerts in Atlanta, Georgia and Spartanburg, South Carolina. The rehearsals were led by Maestro Boris Cepeda, a distinguished German pianist and conductor and founder of the European

Piano Academy and the Richard Wagner Society of Atlanta. He was supported by Jordan Christopher Owen, conducting fellow with the Spartanburg Philharmonic for the 2024-25 season.

The ABYSO musicians engaged in intense rehearsals covering repertoire which included Finlandia by Jean Sibelius, Ballade for Orchestra by the black British composer Samuel

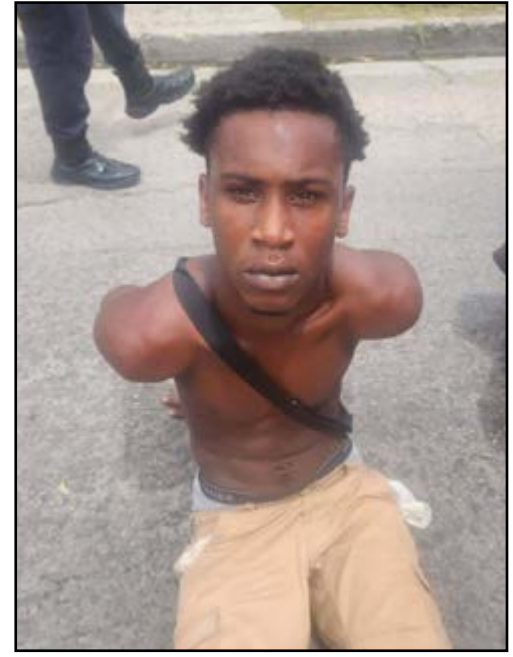
Coleridge-Taylor and Danzon No 2, by Mexican composer Arturo Marquez. The rehearsals included sectionals and chamber music.

The ABYSO musicians were violinists Anaiah Francis, Aria Tulloch and Fayth Moses; violists Amari Cornelius and Da'Quan Christopher, cellists Alycia Allie and Sa'Kyah Leadeatte, double bassist Draeden Gibbs, clarinetist Zende Hazelwood, flautist Janbunee Maynard, oboist Ja'Quan Christopher and trombonist Gianna Calliste. Chaperones were the ABYSO Inspire Youth Choir Director Adrienne Henry and Operations Officer Cortez Jeremiah supported by the ABYSO Health and Safety Officer Dr Cherie Tulloch.

Zende Hazelwood described his experience as follows, "During our time rehearsing with AMP, I have learned much more material and many more techniques and notes on my clarinet which ultimately improved my skill. I also made new friends and most importantly, I had fun and enjoyed my stay".



Police investigate robbery and shooting incident at Gray's Farm



Police are searching for a suspect involved in a shooting incident that left a 54-year-old woman nursing a gunshot wound to her leg.

The incident took place around 12:30 a.m. on Sunday, 29 June, outside the Now and Later Supermarket.

It was reported that the woman was about to close her business place when she was accosted by an unknown male, who robbed her of an undisclosed amount of money and shot her in her left leg.

The suspect is described as approximately 5 feet 7 inches tall and dressed in a grey hoodie pulled over his head.

The victim was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, where she is being treated. Medical personnel have also confirmed that her injury is not life-threatening.

Anyone with information that may assist in identifying or locating the suspect is asked to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or call the Crimestoppers anonymous tip line at 800-TIPS (8477).

The Police Administration is urging members of the public to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity immediately.

Meanwhile in related news:

The police are currently questioning three male suspects in connection with a robbery at a business establishment in Herberts.

The incident occurred around 8 a.m. on Sunday, 29 June. Shortly after receiving the report, officers intercepted a white Toyota Passo motor car in the Jonas area with three male occupants: a 17-year-old and an 18-year-old, both

of All Saints, and a 30-year-old of Swetes. They were taken into custody and are assisting police with ongoing investigations.

The police are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed the incident or may have information that can assist in the investigation to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or call Crimestoppers at 800-TIPS (8477). Further investigations are continuing.



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WE ARE GETTING STRONGER

Tanya Ambrose, Daughter of Cricket Legend Sir Curtly Ambrose, Earns Master of Public Health from the University of South Carolina



of West Indies cricket icon Sir Curtly Ambrose, has proudly graduated with a Master of Public Health (MPH) from the renowned Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina. With a concentration in Health Services Policy and Management and a Graduate Certificate in Maternal and Child Health, Ambrose continues to position herself at the forefront of advocacy and research for health equity across underserved communities.

Tanya, a proud Antiguan, describes the journey as nothing short of transformative. “From the late nights and imposter syndrome to the breakthroughs and moments of deep growth, I’ve emerged stronger, wiser, and more grounded in my purpose,” she shared. As proud alumna of the Antigua Girls’ High School, Tanya has consistently leveraged her academic and professional journey to support public health initiatives both in her home country, Antigua and Barbuda and in the United States.

Throughout her studies, she remained deeply rooted in conducting community-based research that has informed maternal health programming and strengthened reproductive health education and activism. Additionally, Tanya holds credentials as a Certified Lactation Counselor, and a trained birth and postpartum doula, providing culturally competent, person-centered care to women and families.

Tanya’s practicum work with the Medical University of South Carolina’s Women’s Reproductive Behavioral Health Division focused on “*Improving Access to Perinatal Psychiatric Care: A Community Engagement and Policy Approach*.” The project examined systemic gaps in mental health access for pregnant and postpartum individuals, reinforcing her lifelong commitment and passion towards maternal wellness. “This achievement is more than a personal milestone,” Ambrose reflected. “It’s

Founder and researcher, Tanya Ambrose deepens commitment to advancing women’s and maternal health

in the Caribbean and beyond. With grace, grit, and a deep sense of purpose, Tanya Ambrose, the daughter



the beginning of a new chapter rooted in intention, service, and passion. I carry this degree in honor of every girl and woman, your voice and health matter.”

Tanya Ambrose’s story is one of perseverance, purpose, and legacy. As the Founder and CEO of Scrub Life

Cares, a nonprofit championing menstrual equity and reproductive health literacy, Tanya has led transformative initiatives in both the Caribbean and the U.S. These public health programs have delivered menstrual supplies to students, facilitated comprehensive health workshops in schools and communities, and initiated ongoing

dialogues around dignity, access, and empowerment. A fusion of her clinical and nonprofit work, Tanya is the creator and host of the acclaimed podcast **“Tea with Tanya”**, a space dedicated to whole-woman wellness and transformative living.



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Regional News



Dominican Republic extradites two men to us on drug, fraud charges

Dominican Republic authorities have extradited two men to the United States to face charges including drug trafficking, electronic fraud, and money laundering.

Ezequiel Jose Brito Paulino and Carlos Javier Estévez were handed over to US Marshals at the International Airport of the Americas this weekend by tactical units from the National Directorate of Drug Control (DNCD).

Brito Paulino, 41, is wanted by a New Jersey District Court on charges of criminal association to distribute and possess one kilogram or more of heroin and 400 grams or more of fentanyl.

Estévez faces accusations of belonging to a network that defrauded hundreds of elderly Americans out

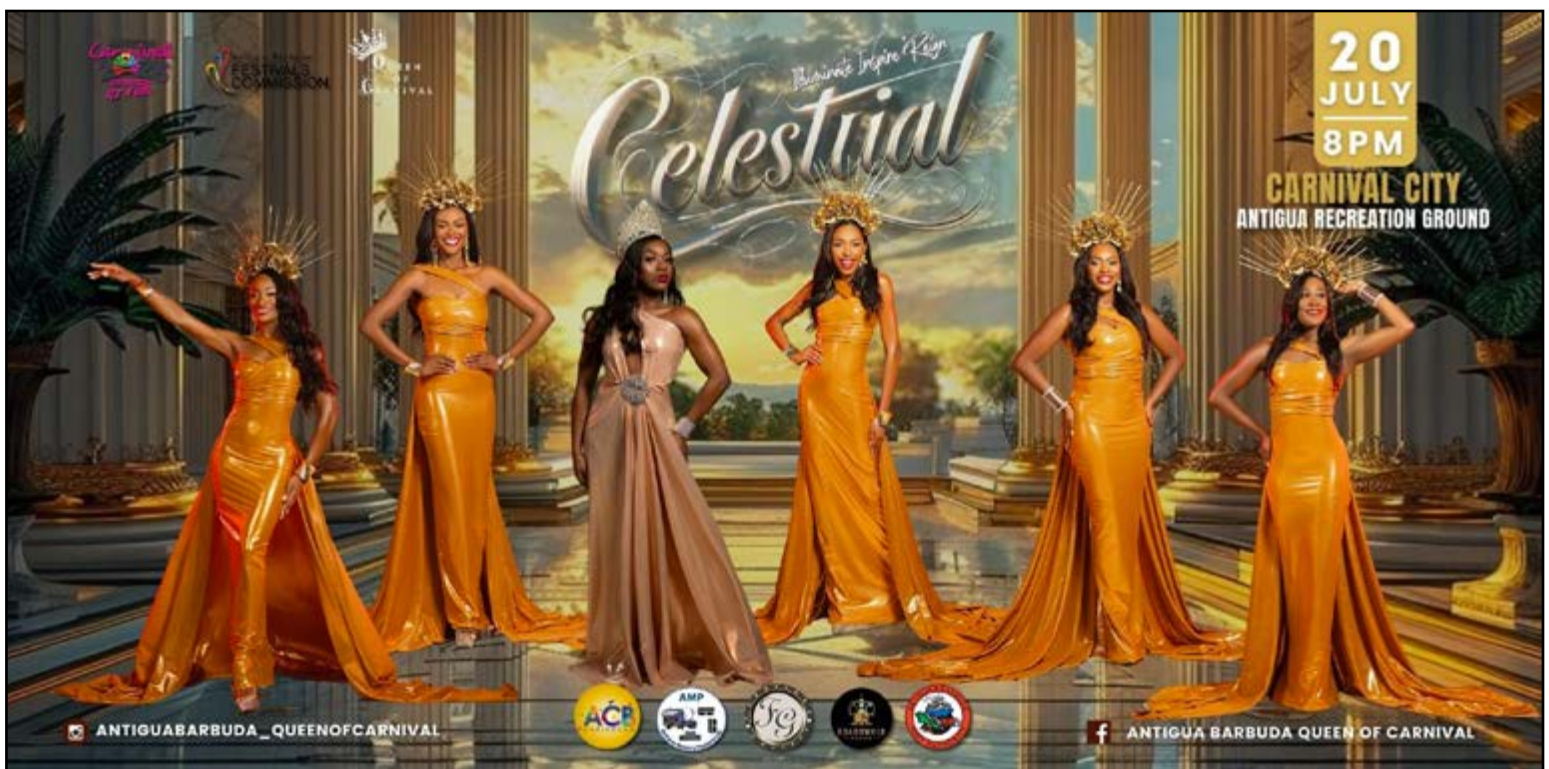


of millions of dollars. According to authorities, the scheme involved making telephone calls from the Dominican Republic, with suspects posing as relatives asking for financial help to resolve alleged traffic accident problems.

The District Court for the District of New Jersey issued an arrest warrant for Estévez in January 2024 on charges of criminal association to commit electronic and mail fraud, as well as money laundering resulting from the profits of the fraud

scheme.

Both men were arrested in search and capture operations carried out in Duarte province and Santiago. (*Loop Caribbean*)



Grenada: Government moving to amend marijuana legislation



The Grenada government says there will be several restrictions in place when it seeks parliamentary approval to amend the legislation that will decriminalise the use of cannabis or marijuana for recreational, religious and medicinal use.

“We also want to make it clear that this will only be permissible most likely to persons 21 and over and there are still going to be significant restrictions on likely no smoking of marijuana in public, absolutely no smoking around educational or school institutions and so on,” said Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell.

Speaking on his weekly Tuesday “DMs with the PM” programme, Mitchell, who is also the Minister for National Security, told viewers that the intention of the proposed legislation is to “de-penalise” cannabis use in small quantities.

He said that it is also intended to permit the growing of a small number of cannabis plants for personal purposes in small quantities and that the exact amount is going to be determined as part of the policy.

“We intend to establish a medicinal industry, a commercial as well as the religious and sacramental use of marijuana. So, in the case of religious and sacramental, certainly we are starting with the Rastafarian community who we know uses it as part of their religious practices and from an industry commercial perspective we are seek-

ing to enact legislation that will actually permit via a licensing and permitting process the growth and development of a medicinal marijuana industry,” Mitchell said.

“As part of this process we are also looking to have an amnesty or expunging of records for persons who would have been convicted of possession of marijuana in the past, up to whatever is the amount we agree upon for small

personal use,” said Prime Minister Mitchell, whose National Democratic Congress (NDC) campaigned in the 2022 general election promising to legalise the use of cannabis.

“I want to emphasise that this is not a straightforward and simple answer as Grenada like most of the world is a signatory to certain treaties or conventions addressing the use of narcotics and we have to comply with our international obligations in relation to those issues as well,” he said while giving the assurance that law enforcement will not be going after people for a marijuana spliff.

“We certainly don’t want our officers spending their time chasing someone for a marijuana spliff, we think there are better ways in which those resources can be utilised,” he said while reiterating that several restrictions will be put in place. *(Loop Caribbean)*



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Regional News



St Kitts PM vows justice after 15-year-old found dead



Prime Minister Terrance Drew has pledged unwavering commitment to seeking justice following the discovery of 15-year-old Janelika Romney's body and the arrest of a suspect in connection with her disappearance.

The Royal St Christopher and Nevis Police Force confirmed that Romney's body was discovered this morning at approximately 11:30 am in the White Gate area. The teenager from New Guinea was last seen in her school uniform on June 16.

In a statement released Friday, Prime Minister Drew expressed his profound grief over the tragic loss.

"It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest condolences to the parents, family, and friends of young Janelika. Her life was taken far too soon. She was a child, innocent, full of promise, and undeserving of such a tragic fate," Drew said.

Police have arrested and charged 64-year-old Selwyn Pringle, also known as 'Judge,' of Dieppe Bay, with kidnapping and false imprisonment in connection with Romney's disappearance. The scene has been secured and a full investigation is underway.

The Prime Minister emphasized his administration's commitment to pursuing the case with full legal force.

"From the very beginning, I made it unequivocally clear that no stone would be left unturned in the search for Janelika and in the pursuit of justice for this heinous act. Today, I reaffirm that commitment," Drew stated.

"Let me be clear: we will continue to pursue justice with the full weight of the law. No stone will be left unturned."

Drew acknowledged the collaborative efforts of law enforcement and community members in addressing the case.

"I wish to thank Commissioner Sutton,

the Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force, Acting Commander Sutton and the members of our Defence Force, our international partners, and the community, for their unwavering support and collective effort in addressing this painful matter," he said.

The Prime Minister concluded his statement with a call for the tragedy to strengthen the nation's resolve to protect its children. "May Janelika's soul rest in eternal peace, and may her memory forever strengthen our resolve to protect all our children," Drew said. (Loop Caribbean)

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Anna Wintour is seeking a new Vogue editor-in-chief but will maintain editorial control



Anna Wintour is stepping down as Vogue editor in chief but will retain editorial control over the storied magazine.

The longtime Vogue powerhouse is seeking a head of editorial content to handle more of the day-to-day operations but is holding on to plenty of power to keep her a force at the magazine that built her reputation in fashion, a person familiar with the decision said Thursday.

Wintour will remain chief content officer for Condé Nast and global editorial director of Vogue, said the person who was not authorized to speak about the change publicly. She broke the news to Vogue staff in a meeting earlier Thursday.

The news shook the fashion

world and Wintour-watchers on social media amid breathless headlines that she was “stepping down” from Vogue. The new lead will report directly to Wintour in her capacity as global editorial director, the person said.

As chief content officer, Wintour will continue to oversee every Condé Nast brand globally, including American Vogue, Wired, Vanity Fair, GQ, AD, Condé Nast Traveler, Glamour, Bon Appétit, Tatler, World of Interiors, Allure and more, with the exception of The New Yorker.

Wintour also oversees the annual Met Gala, fashion’s biggest night and a major fundraiser for the fashion wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. And she’ll

remain involved in Vogue World, a traveling fashion and cultural event the magazine began in 2022.

Four years ago, Condé Nast changed its editorial structure, bringing together editorial teams around the world for the first time. Every market where Condé Nast operates has a head of editorial content led by a global editorial director. The new role at American Vogue is part of that reorganization. The new structure has already been rolled out at other Vogue titles around the world.

The company will not seek an editor in chief to replace Wintour at American Vogue, replacing that title with the new head of editorial content. The idea is to afford Wintour more time to tend to other titles in her portfolio.

Wintour transformed Vogue during her decades at the magazine. She was named creative director in 1983, served as editor in chief of British Vogue from 1985 to 1987 then rejoined the American title as editor in chief.

She modernized the magazine by featuring celebrities on its covers and mixing high fashion with more affordable street style. She championed emerging designers, including Marc Jacobs, Alexander McQueen and John Galliano, and broadened the brand’s reach by adding new titles around the world. (*Loop Caribbean*)



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Congo and Rwanda sign US-mediated peace deal aimed at ending decades of bloody conflict

The Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda have signed a peace deal facilitated by the United States to help end decades of deadly fighting in eastern Congo. It will also help the US government and American companies gain access to critical minerals in the region.

“Today, the violence and destruction come to an end, and the entire region begins a new chapter of hope and opportunity, harmony, prosperity, and peace,” President Donald Trump told the foreign ministers of the two countries at a White House meeting on Friday.

The agreement was signed earlier at the State Department’s Treaty Room beneath a portrait of Colin Powell, the first African American to hold the job of top US diplomat. There, Secretary of State Marco Rubio called it “an important moment after 30 years of war.”

The Central African nation of Congo has been wracked by conflict with more than 100 armed groups, the most potent backed by Rwanda, that have killed millions since the 1990s.

While the deal is seen as a turning point, analysts don’t believe it will quickly end the fighting because the most prominent armed group says it does not apply to it.

Many Congolese see it mainly as an opportunity for the US to acquire critical minerals needed for much of the world’s technology after their government reached out to Trump for support in fighting the rebels.

Trump has pushed to gain access to such minerals at a time when the United States and China are actively competing for influence in Africa.

Congo’s Foreign Minister Therese Kayikwamba Wagner invoked the millions of victims of the conflict in signing the agreement with Rwandan Foreign Minister Olivier Nduhungirehe.



Both expressed optimism but stressed significant work still to do to end the fighting.

They, along with Rubio, lauded the support of the Gulf Arab nation of Qatar in facilitating the agreement, which Doha has been working on for months at the request of the U.S. and others.

The agreement has provisions on territorial integrity, prohibition of hostilities and the disengagement, disarmament and conditional integration of non-state armed groups.

Asked in the Oval Office about violations of the agreement, Trump said he didn’t think that would happen but also warned of “very severe penalties, financial and otherwise,” if it did.

The Rwanda-backed M23 rebel group is the most prominent armed group in the conflict, and its major advance early this year left bodies on the streets. With 7 million people displaced in Congo, the United Nations has called it “one of the most protracted, complex, serious humanitarian crises on Earth.”

Congo hopes the US will provide it with the security support needed to fight the rebels and possibly get them to withdraw from the key cities of Goma and Bukavu, and from the entire region where Rwanda is estimated to have up to 4,000 troops.

Rwanda has said that it’s defending its territorial interests and not supporting M23.

M23 rebels have suggested that the agreement won’t be binding for them. The rebel group hasn’t been directly involved in the planned peace deal, although it has been part of other ongoing peace talks.

Corneille Nangaa, leader of Congo River Alliance - known by its French acronym AFC - which includes M23, told The Associated Press in March that direct peace talks with Congo can only be held if the country acknowledges their grievances and that “anything regarding us which are done without us, it’s against us.”

The conflict can be traced to the aftermath of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, where Hutu militias killed between 500,000 and 1 million ethnic Tutsi, as well as moderate Hutus and Twa, Indigenous people. When Tutsi-led forces fought back, nearly 2 million Hutus crossed into Congo, fearing reprisals.

Rwandan authorities have accused the Hutus who fled of participating in the genocide and alleged that elements of the Congolese army protected them. They have argued that the militias formed by a small fraction of the Hutus are a threat to Rwanda’s Tutsi population.

Since then, the ongoing conflict in east Congo has killed 6 million people, in attacks, famines and unchecked disease outbreaks stemming from the fighting. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)

Advocates, legislators condemn US Supreme Court ruling on Birthright Citizenship for Caribbean immigrants



Caribbean immigration advocates and legislators on Friday condemned the United States Supreme Court's decision in partially staying preliminary injunctions on President Donald Trump's birthright citizenship executive order for Caribbean and other immigrants, sending the issue back to lower courts for further action.

In a 6-3 decision, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) on Friday sided with Trump in *Trump v. CASA*, granting his request to narrow the multiple nationwide injunctions that had blocked his Executive Order to end birthright citizenship.

"By narrowing nationwide injunctions, the court has opened the door for Trump to advance his dangerous and unconstitutional attempt to end birthright citizenship—a right clearly guaranteed by the 14th Amendment for more than 150 years," Murad

Awawdeh, president and CEO of the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC), an umbrella coalition of over 200 immigrant and refugee groups in New York, told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC).

"This same Supreme Court never thought to say that the many national injunctions and stays that it upheld against the Biden administration were outside the judiciary's power to enact," he added. "Today's ruling shows that the Supreme Court now operates as an extension of Donald Trump's political will, empowering Trump to escalate his anti-immigrant agenda with fewer legal checks and threatening the safety, dignity, and future of millions of Americans."

"Trump has made it clear that he will stop at nothing to tear immigrant families apart and rewrite the very meaning of who gets to belong in

this country," Awawdeh continued. "We will not stand by as Trump and his enablers undermine our Constitution to try to erase these rights of our communities."

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) – chaired by Caribbean-American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, who represents the 9th Congressional District in New York – also condemned the US Supreme Court's ruling.

"By limiting the federal judiciary's ability to issue nationwide injunctions against the Trump administration's extremist and authoritarian policies, the conservative supermajority on the Supreme Court is once again bending the law to serve President Trump instead of defending the Constitution and the American people," said CBC in a statement.

International

AROUND THE WORLD



“While this ruling makes it harder for courts to fully block the unlawful policies of the Trump administration, the judicial fight to protect birthright citizenship and our fundamental rights will continue,” CBC vowed. “For more than a century, a cornerstone of our law is that those born on US soil are American citizens. President Trump’s unlawful attempts to nullify birthright citizenship is in clear violation of the Fourteenth Amendment, which established African Americans as equal citizens under the law.

“President Trump has absolutely no authority to unilaterally write American citizens out of the Constitution, and any challenge to that notion is utterly fanciful,” it continued.

New York Attorney General Letitia James said the US Supreme Court’s decision on Friday “is a profound and disappointing setback for the families who now face tremendous uncertainty and danger, for the millions of people who rely on the courts to protect their constitutional rights, and for the fundamental rule of law.

“Every child born on US soil is a citizen of this country, no matter which state they are born in,” she said. “This has been the law of the land for more than a century.”

But James said the case “is not over,” expressing confidence that the case in defending birthright citizenship will ultimately prevail.

“My heart breaks for the families whose lives may be upended by the uncertainty of this decision,” she said. “My fellow attorneys general and I will continue to defend the Constitution and the common values that unite us.”

On January 21, Attorney General James and 18 other states sued to

block the president’s “unconstitutional executive order” purporting to end birthright citizenship.

On February 13, the court granted the coalition’s motion for a preliminary injunction, which was later upheld by the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

On Friday, the US Supreme Court, the highest court in the country, partially stayed the preliminary injunction, sending the issue back to the lower courts to narrow their order.

According to the Washington-based think tank Cato Institute, the 14th Amendment became part of the US Constitution 150 years ago in July 1868.

Among other things, the institute said the amendment “enshrined our traditional common law practice of granting citizenship to those born in the United States who are subject to its laws—specifically it guaranteed that the recently freed slaves and their descendants would be citizens.”

The institute also said the 14th Amendment also applied to the children of immigrants, including Caribbean immigrants, “as its authors and opponents understood at the time.”

But the Cato Institute noted that Trump’s immigration position paper “famously endorsed an end to birthright citizenship.” (*Loop Caribbean*)

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Old Stagers continue poor run, Yorkshire get first win in ASCFL

Defending champions Old Stagers have continued to struggle, while Yorkshire have clinched their first win in the All Saints Community Football League (ASCFL).

Old Stagers are still searching for their first win after battling to a 2-2 draw with Attackers in their Zone A encounter at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

Andy Daniel scored in the 25th minute to give At-

tackers a one-nil lead at halftime, and Old Stagers drew level via Keith Kelly's 49th-minute conversion.

Jaquan Watts restored the lead for Attackers with a goal in the 52nd minute, but Old Stagers drew level once more and salvaged the draw when Lee Andrew snatched the equalizer with a 62nd-minute conversion.

Old Stagers remain second from the bottom of the six-team Group A with two

points from three encounters. Attackers advanced to four points after securing their first draw in three matches.

Yorkshire recorded their first win in three matches by snatching a 2-1 victory against Ovals in a Zone B encounter.

Devonte Geran put Yorkshire ahead with an 11th-minute conversion, and Andre Browne scored an equalizer for Ovals in the

28th minute as both teams reached halftime deadlocked at 1-1.

However, Tyrik Hughes snatched the winner for Yorkshire with a conversion in the 38th minute.

The result allows Yorkshire to advance to four points from three matches, and Ovals will remain on three points after suffering their second loss from the same number of encounters.

Winning start for Strictly Business in ABSCA's T20 competition



The Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association made a presentation of two bats to Antigua Grammar School on Friday, June 27, 2025. From left to right: Principal of the Antigua Grammar School, Samuel Roberts; Secretary of the ABSCA Menova Govia; Treasurer of the ABSCA Robin Valgobin; and President of the ABSCA Mandy Weatherhead. (Photo courtesy of the ABSCA)

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business have made a winning start to their campaign in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) T20 Competition.

Strictly Business launched their

campaign with a five-wicket victory against PMS at the Powells playing field.

PMS was restricted to 101 for eight off their allotted 20 overs. Kurl Simon hit 36, and Walter Carr struck 26 not out. Owen Graham picked up two for 16, Adrian Abbott took one wicket for five runs, and Kerry Mentore captured one for 14.

Strictly Business achieved victory by scoring 102 for five in 15.4 overs. Player of the match Kim George slammed 47, and Melvin Charles struck 27.

Kurl Simon claimed three for 22, and Hughon Tonge picked up one for 23 for PMS, who lost for the second time in as many games.

Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js also opened their campaign with victory via default against Dredgers, who were unable to field a team for their encounter at the Dredgers playing field.

Meanwhile, the ABSCA is mov-

ing forward with its initiative to get schools across Antigua and Barbuda to incorporate the playing of softball cricket as a part of their curriculum.

President of the ABSCA Mandy Weatherhead, who is spearheading the initiative, made a presentation of two softball cricket bats to Principal of the Antigua Grammar School, Samuel Roberts, on Friday.

In making the presentation to Roberts, Weatherhead was accompanied by secretary of the ABSCA Menova Govia and treasurer Robin Valgobin.

Friday's presentation was made with the support of Johnathan Joseph, Jason Mannix, and Gail Jobe.

The ABSCA plans to make a similar presentation to each school, including the learning institutions on the sister isle of Barbuda.

However, the ABSCA is seeking sponsorship for materials such as wood, varnish, and rubbers to facilitate the project.

Sports News



Chase believes questionable umpiring affected result of First Test



Players of the Australian team celebrate after defeating the West Indies on the third day of the first cricket Test at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados on Friday, June 27, 2025. (Getty Images)

New West Indies captain Roston Chase believes questionable umpiring decisions, that went against his side, significantly affected the outcome of the first Test against Australia at the Kensington Oval in Barbados.

Chase's comments come after coach Daren Sammy criticized the work of TV Umpire Adrian Holdstock after day two.

The hosts suffered a 159-run loss inside three days after a promising opening day that saw them dismiss the World Test Championship finalists for 180, thanks to some excellent bowling from their pacers.

"This game is a frustrating one for me and for the team as well because we bowled them out for a relatively low score. We were very happy

with that but then there were so many questionable calls in the game and none of them went our way," Chase said in his post-match press conference.

"As a player, when you're out there giving your all and fighting and then nothing is going your way, it could be heartbreaking and breaking a lot of momentum as well," he added.

The main calls in question came on day two when the hosts were responding to Australia's first innings total. Chase and Shai Hope were in the midst of a 67-run partnership for the sixth wicket with the score on 139.

Chase, on 44 at the time, was given out leg before wicket off the bowling of Australia captain Pat Cummins in the 50th over, a de-

cision the West Indies skipper reviewed.

The replay showed the ball clearly deflecting off the bat of Chase before striking him on the pad but Holdstock was unmoved, telling umpire Richard Kettleborough to stay with his on-field decision of out.

The second decision came in the 58th over when Hope, on 48 at the time, inside edged a ball off Beau Webster that was caught by wicket-keeper Alex Carey.

Upon replay, however, the ball seemed to have hit the ground while Carey was in the process of completing the catch. The umpires sent it upstairs and fans watching at the Kensington Oval and around the region were stunned when the out verdict came up on the big screen.

"You see what set batters

can do on the wicket. The wicket was one that, once you get in, you can get runs but the hardest part is to get in," Chase said.

"Me and Shai Hope were going well and then, obviously, we had some questionable calls and that really set us back in terms of creating a big lead on the total that Australia set," he added.

These decisions came after, during the Australian first innings, Travis Head edged behind to Hope who seemingly caught the ball, only for Holdstock to rule it not out. Head was on 53 at the time and went on to make 59.

"We even had a catch that went against us in the first innings when we were bowling. So, you never know what the score could have been, but I don't want to harp on it," he said.

Chase called for more accountability on umpires for poor decisions, although the ICC has an annual assessment process in place which can see international umpires removed from the elite panel based on performance.

"It's frustrating because as players, when we mess up, when we get out of line, we're penalized harshly but the officials, nothing ever happens to them. They just have a wrong decision or questionable decision and life just goes on," he said.

"You're talking about guys' careers. One bad decision could make or break a guy's career. I just think that it should be an even play-

ground in terms of when players step out of line, they're penalized. I think that there should be some penalty put in place when you have blatant decisions going against you," he added.

Another big factor contributing to the loss was the West Indies horrific performance in the field, dropping

seven catches in the match, the last of which came early on the third day when Head was dropped by Justin Greaves at second slip on 21 with Australia's lead only 97. He went on to make 61.

"There's nothing I can say to justify the guys dropping the catches," Chase, who dropped one himself on the first day, said.

"We've been working hard on the slip catches. Every day, we try to take at least 30 to 40 catches. But practice and in the game is a big difference. I just think it's more a belief.

"From the time one goes down, I think guys tend to get a bit nervous and second guess their catching ability, and sometimes it can throw

you off. But once you put one down, you have to look forward to taking the next one."

The West Indies will look to bounce back when they face the Australians in the second Test in Grenada, beginning on Thursday, July 3.

Sammy fined for breaching ICC Code of Conduct



Daren Sammy

The West Indies coach Daren Sammy has been fined 15 per cent of his match fee for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct on the second day of the first match of their ICC World Test Championship series against Australia in Bridgetown last Thursday, June 26.

Sammy was found to have breached Article 2.7 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to "public criticism of, or inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in an international match or any player, player support personnel, match official or team participating in any international match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made."

In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to Sammy's disciplinary record, for whom it was the first offence in a 24-month period.

Sammy was penalized for criticising

one of the umpires during the press conference at the end of the second day's play. The criticism of the umpire related to several incidents that occurred throughout the match.

Sammy admitted the offence and accepted the sanction proposed by Javagal Srinath of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, so there was no need for a formal hearing.

On-field umpires Richard Kettleborough and Nitin Menon, third umpire Adrian Holdstock and fourth umpire Gregory Brathwaite levelled the charge.

Level 1 breaches carry a minimum penalty of an official reprimand, a maximum penalty of 50 per cent of a player's match fee, and one or two demerit points.

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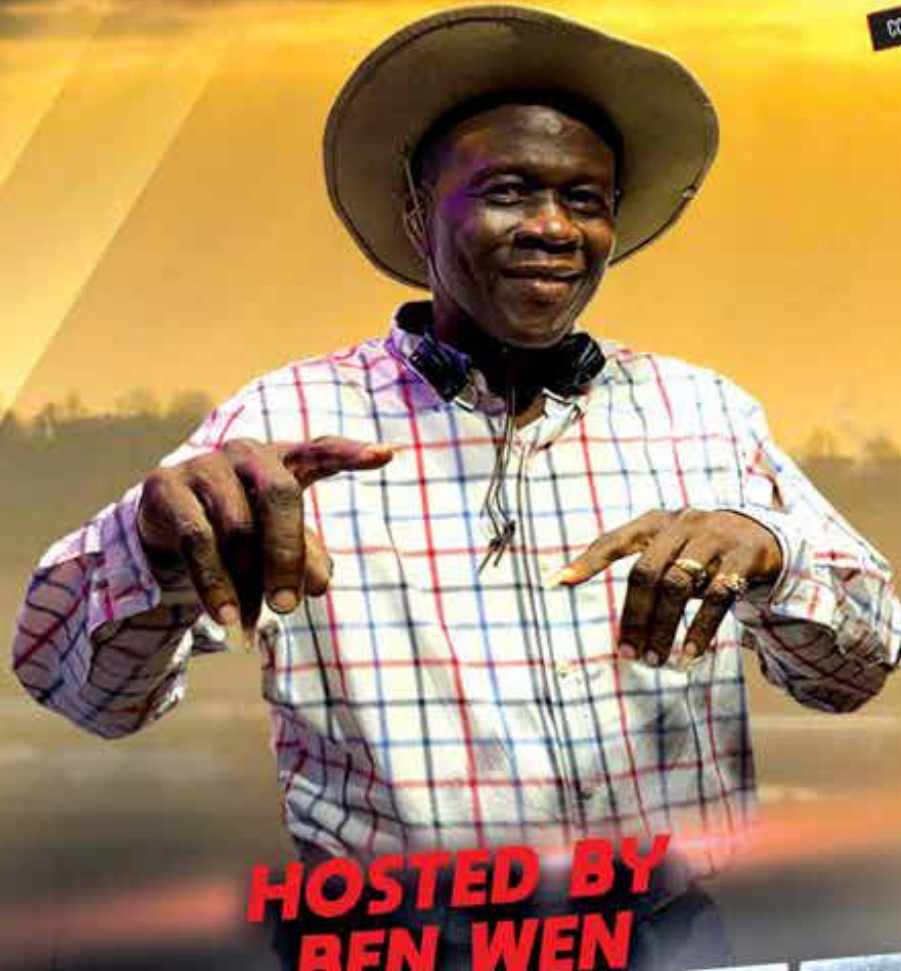
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Coach Randy St. Jean celebrates with players of the champion Island Academy boys and girls teams. (Photos by Elwin Francis)

con't from pg 34

the deficit and clinched the second set 25-23.

Harrigan, who was in attendance to present the awards, was greatly impressed.

"I know they could play, but they really surprised me quite a bit with the quality of play. So the future looks good for them," Harrigan stated.

Island Academy retained both female and male division titles in the Inter-School Volleyball League by winning the finals at the YMCA

Sports Complex on Friday, March 21.

Island Academy defeated Christ the King High School 2-0 in the female division final, winning 25-18, 25-21.

Island Academy-1 defeated Antigua Grammar School 2-0 in the male division final, winning 25-17, 25-21.

The first team of the Antigua Girls High School and the Harrison Center of Antigua and Barbuda School of Continuing Education (HCABSCE) each won bronze after the losing semi-finalists in both divi-

sions met in their respective playoffs for third places.

AGHS-1 prevailed 25-21 and 25-20 against AGHS-2 in the female third-place decider, while HCABSCE defeated Island Academy-2 25-23, 19-25, and 17-15 to win the battle for the bronze medals in the male division.

All top three teams in both divisions were presented with medals and trophies. All the players who participated in the two exhibition matches received commemorative trophies.

All coaches in the Ministry of Sports volleyball pro-

gramme were also presented with tokens of appreciation. Among them was the Coordinator of the Inter-Schools Volleyball Competitions, coach Irvin Lewis, who thanked Harrigan and the ABAVA for their contribution and support.

Harrigan said the contribution is part of the national federation's mandate to support the overall development of the sport.

Harrigan said the school system is an essential breeding ground for players to make the transition into the national youth and senior volleyball programmes.

"We must have a feeder system. I have to continue to encourage the young people, and without them, we are nothing. I am saying to you, for those who were not here to see the quality of the sport, they are truly missing something special that is happening with our young volleyballers and their positive development," Harrigan stated.

"It will take time to build anything of quality, and we are growing. I am not in any hurry, but we do need some sponsorship. So I am looking forward to growing volleyball in the schools in a big way."



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Open Daily -
7:00am - 11:30pm



- ↑ Thursdays, 7:30pm - Karaoke
- 🎵 Saturdays, 8pm - Live Band
- 🍳 Breakfast served from 7:30am
- 🎮 Games Night - COMING SOON!

Sports

MONDAY 30TH JUNE 2025



Outstanding teams in inter-school volleyball league receive awards



President of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association Wilbur Harrigan presents medals to boys' champs of the Inter-School Volleyball League Island Academy during the official prize-giving ceremony at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on the evening of Thursday, June 26.



President of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association Wilbur Harrigan presents medals to girls' champs of the Inter-School Volleyball League Island Academy during the official prize-giving ceremony at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on the evening of Thursday, June 26.

More than two months after capturing their third consecutive titles in both girls and boys' divisions in the

Ministry of Sports JOMA Caribbean Inter-School Volleyball League, reigning three-peat champions Island

Academy were presented with their championship trophies.

The outstanding teams in the 2025 Inter-School Volleyball League received their medals and trophies during the official prize-giving ceremony at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on the evening of Thursday, June 26.

The presentation of awards, which were sponsored by President of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) Wilbur Harrigan, was preceded by two exhibition games between champions Island Academy and select All-Star teams.

Islands Academy proved their dominance of the school volleyball league by winning one and drawing the other exhibition match against All Stars teams that comprised players from the other participating schools.

In highly competitive and good-quality matches, the Island Academy girls prevailed 2-0 against the female All Stars, winning 25-15 and 25-20. But the Island Academy Boys champions were held to a 1-1 draw by the All Stars.

Islands Academy took the opening set 25-17, but the All Stars, who were trailing by six points at one stage, showed tremendous fight and resilience to overcome

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