

THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 57

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LAUT ON

 Mix to Win Juice Making Contest (OPEN TO EVERYONE)

Mango & Pineapple Eating Competition

CADES BAY
AGRICULTURAL STATION
AUGUST 17TH,
10AM-8PM

Admission: FREE

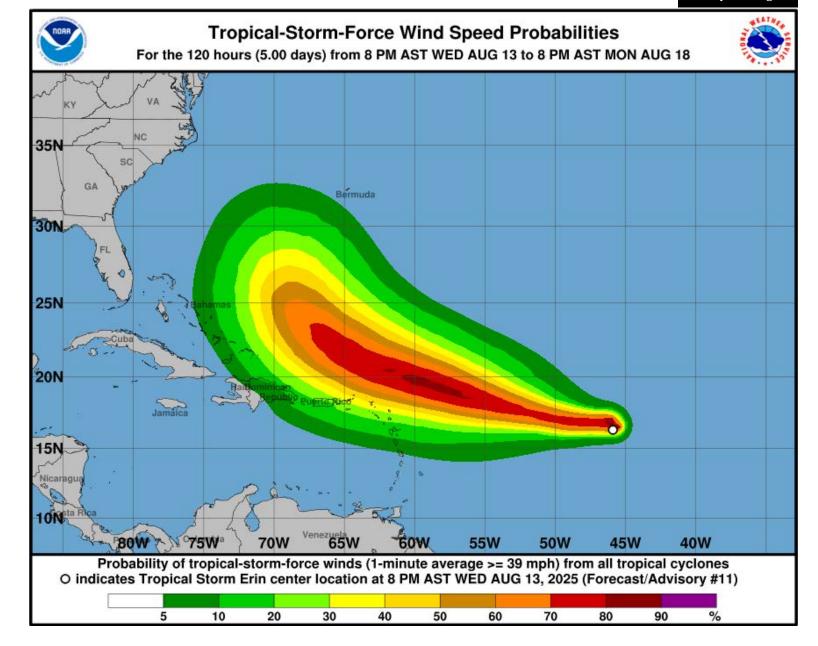
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PM Browne issues national alert regarding Hurricane Erin

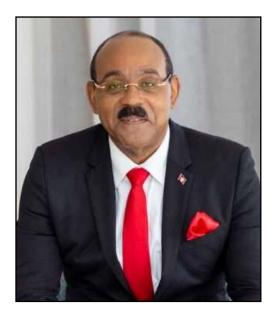
Story on Page 2



Local News



PM Browne issues national alert regarding Hurricane Erin

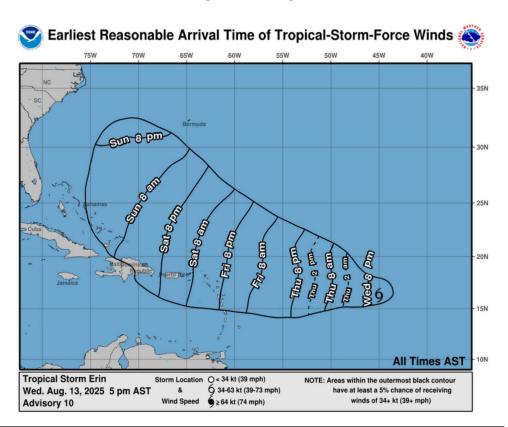


Prime Minister Gaston Browne continues to monitor the progress of that dangerous hurricane named Erin, as it makes its way towards the Caribbean. Wednesday morning, the Met Office provided an update to all Cabinet members via Zoom, utilizing its own broadcast studio. Later in the afternoon, the Met Office updated its forecast, cautioning the Antigua and Barbuda people to be prepared.

The Prime Minister has joined in the chorus of reasonable voices, asking "all residents of Antigua and Barbuda to be prepared and to take nothing for granted." While not present in the country at this time, the Prime Minister has not relented in his attention to the hurricane that threatens the country and all small island-developing States that are a part of the Caribbean archipelago.

"I wish us to stand together, as we have historically done in the face of these natural disasters, and to place on high alert the CDEMA (the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency), in the event the hurricane changes its path and heads south," the Prime Minister asserted.

The Prime Minister remains hopeful and optimistic, believing that our prayers to the Most High will be heard, and that our small island-developing State will not be adversely affected by Erin. All are asked to pay close attention to the Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Office announcements.









Ministry of Works' fast-paced roadworks continue in multiple communities



The Ministry of Works continues its island-wide road construction programme with teams working simultaneously in several communities across Antigua.

One of the successes that the ministry has been celebrating is its accomplish-

ment on Tuesday where 90 yards (270 feet) of concrete were poured on roads in Cedar Grove.

Other communities that are experiencing the road construction initiative include Golden Grove Extension which the ministry announced is receiving resilient concrete roads, as it delivers on its commitment to island-wide road infrastructure upgrades.

The ministry is also reporting that extensive work has been done to upgrade Anchorage Road including drainage and sidewalk upgrades, resurfacing,











improving junctions, and placing road markings.

Based on what has been achieved so far, the ministry has expressed heart-felt thanks to all its team members and partners, including the Project Implementation Management Unit (PIMU), C.O. Williams, and the Antigua Bar-

buda Transport Board (ABTB).

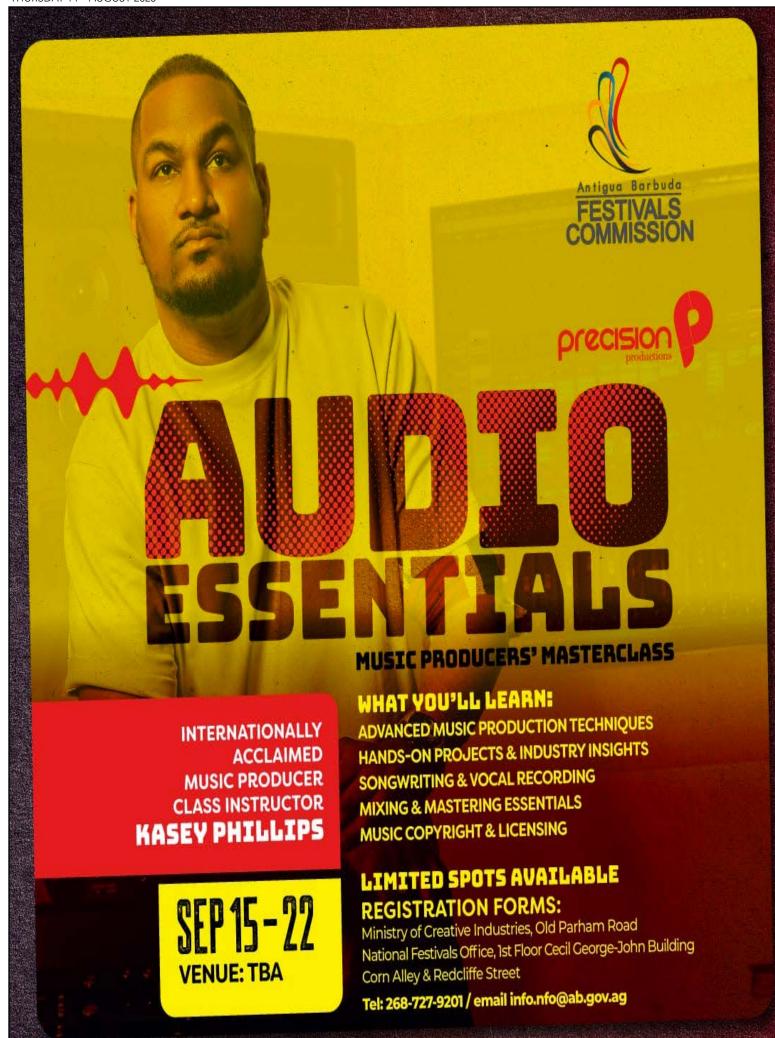
The ministry is reporting that following recent major reconstruction, Fort Road now stands freshly paved with road markings being painted daily and full completion is just around the corner.

With its multiple teams in the field,

the ministry revealed that Belmont is receiving resilient concrete roads, as part of the commitment to island-wide road infrastructure upgrades.

These announcements from the ministry are all accompanied by photographs.









Top-flight entertainment in store for this weekend's PiAngo Festival

Some of Antigua and Barbuda's top entertainers are booked to appear on stage this Sunday at the annual Pi-Ango Festival taking place at Cades Bay, in the south of Antigua.

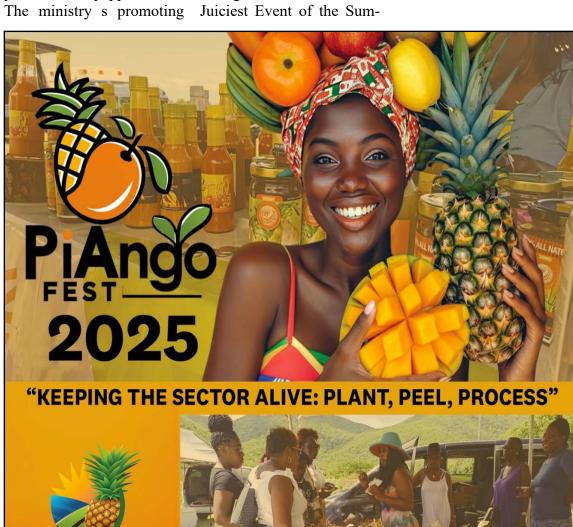
The Ministry of Agriculture, which has organized the event, has announced that the popular Burning Flames band, currently celebrating their 40th anniversary, will headline the list of entertainers. Others include the entertainer known as 'the Soca Diva', Claudette Peters as well as female calypsonians, Empress and Tammy. The Kaut On Band is also slated to appear on stage during the festival.

There will also be special chilentertainment for dren such as bounce castle, face-painting, inflatable candy-machines, slides, bubble machines and inflatable games.

The festival will feature the best of the country's agricultural sector to include those involved in agro-processing producing a wide variety of products including jams, sauces, wines, preservatives etc.

As part of the excitement, the ministry will also host a competition among the agro-processors to determine the 'Best Agro-Processor' where the winner will receive special prizes. Additionally, there will also be a competition among the

producers of pepper sauce. PiAngo Fest 2025, as "The mer!"







CADES BAY AGRICULTURAL STATION

> AUGUST 17[™]. 10AM - 8PM





YOU CAN STILL REGISTER TO BE A VENDOR!!!

Download the Vendor Registration Form, from the PiAngo Fest Facebook or Instagram page, fill out the form and submit it to the Ministry of Agriculture Nugent Ave (West of YASCO Sports Complex) along with the \$75 registration free. You can also go to the Ministry and register there.







Halo Foundation Donates \$50,000 to Sickle Cell Association of Antigua and Barbuda



The Halo Foundation has donated EC\$50,000.00 to the Sickle Cell Association of Antigua and Barbuda (SCAAB) to support the organization's essential operations and programmes.

This contribution will help SCAAB sustain its ongoing services, including the sheltered workshop that provides meaningful activities, modest earnings, and opportunities for engagement and care for individuals living with sickle cell disease. The Foundation's support also underpins the Sickle Cell Clinic, which faces ongoing needs for staff training, improved supplies, and targeted educational support for children whose schooling is disrupted by the condition.

Sickle cell disease is a chronic and painful condition that can limit individuals' ability to work and participate fully in daily life. By strengthening access to care and community resources, SCAAB aims to reduce isolation, promote early and consistent treatment,

and improve overall quality of life for patients and their families.

Current estimates indicate that approximately 1,000 people (1 %) in

Antigua and Barbuda are affected by the disease, with a broader community of carriers and affected families (approximately 18%) that face significant challenges. Approximately 6 babies are born with the illness each year, The Association emphasizes that enhanced care, education, and community support are vital to improving outcomes and reducing the burden of the illness.

SCAAB operates under the patronage of the Governor General Sir Rodney Williams and Lady Williams and it is dedicated to advancing the health and well-being of those impacted by sickle cell disease. The organization is led by Dr. Edda Hadeed.

The Halo Foundation remains committed to supporting, whenever possible, charitable organizations that provide essential health services and direct assistance to families in need. This gift underscores a shared commitment to compassion, resilience, and the quest for better health for all.

THE LIONS CLUB & DR DWAYNE THWAITES

with assistance from : DR. BRIAN COHEN, DR. DANIEL CARUSO, DR. CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ, DR. REGENE JOHNSON, DR. OBI AKEWENNA & DR. ADRIAN RHUDD

PRESENTS

THE 17TH ANNUAL
FREE
PROSTRATE SCREENING

Checked!

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST 2025 AT THE LIONS DEN REGISTRATION begins at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 11:00 a.m. EXAMINATION begins at 8:00 a.m.

A CONTRIBUTION OF \$35.00 TOWARDS REGISTRATION

Sponsored by: Airport Services Antigua Ltd, Caribbean Water Coolers, Francis Trading Ltd, Grant Thornton, Hadeed Motors Ltd, Harney Motors Ltd, Jack Idle, Lion Club, Splash Antigua, The Medical Benefits Scheme,

Local News



Minor injuries reported for latest Bendals shooting

A 37-year old All Saints man has been treated at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre for non-life-threatening wounds allegedly sustained during a shooting incident in Bendals on Tuesday afternoon.

The police say they are currently conducting further investigations into the shooting incident.

According to police reports it was reported that around 12:30 p.m., a 37-year-old man was driving from east to west along the road leading from Pioneer Kennels, when a man approximately 5 feet 11 inches tall, dressed in a black hoodie, black pants, and armed with a gun, exited a parked vehicle and opened fire at him.



In an attempt to escape, the victim's vehicle collided with a fence and another vehicle along Bendals Main Road. He sustained a gunshot wound to his right hand and was transported to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, where he is currently receiving treatment. His injury is not believed to be life-threatening.

The suspects were last seen fleeing the area in a white Honda Fitz motor car.

The police are appealing to anyone with information that may assist in this investigation to contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or call the Crime Stoppers anonymous hotline at 800-TIPS (8477).

Four in Police Custody for Unlawful Possession of Ammunition and **Controlled Drugs**

Four individuals are currently in police custody for questioning following the discovery of ammunition and controlled drugs during two separate search warrant operations.

On Wednesday, at approximately 4:30 a.m., officers attached to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Task Force executed a search warrant at a residence in Cedar Valley, and during the search, the police found a quantity of cannabis, cocaine, and four rounds of ammunition. Several other items were also seized for further investigation.

In a separate operation, two people were arrested and taken into custody



their property at Cades Bay and seized a quantity of cannabis.

after the police carried out a search on Investigations into both incidents remain ongoing.



Excitement fills the air as Antigua and Barbuda hosts its 15th annual Hampton Challenge in Sag Harbour



The 15th Annual Antigua and Barbuda Hamptons Challenge Regatta set sail on earlier this month, bringing the vibrant spirit of the Caribbean to Long Island's shores. The race, held in Sag Harbor, featured a highly competitive fleet of sailing enthusiasts from across the region, all competing for the grand prize: an all-expenses-paid trip to Antigua to compete in Antigua Sailing Week 2026.

After a beautiful day of racing under near-perfect summer weather, the winning team was celebrated at a classy awards gala held at The Bell and Anchor. To promote community and empowerment, the event also featured a \$5,000 donation from the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority to i-tri, a local non-profit that builds confidence and resilience in middle school girls through triathlon training and mentorship.

"This regatta is more than just a raceit's a celebration of the deep historical and cultural ties between Sag Harbor and English Harbour in Antigua," said Minister of Tourism Charles Fernandez. "Both harbours are rich in maritime heritage, and this annual event beautifully showcases that connection while also building bridges between our communities."

The Antigua and Barbuda Hamptons Challenge has become one of the most anticipated regattas in the Northeast, blending top-tier sailing with meaningful philanthropy and a display of Antiguan hospitality. Colin C. James, CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, highlighted the event's significance to the island's tourism strategy: "The Hamptons Challenge not only promotes Antigua and Barbuda as a premier sailing destination but also enables us to connect directly with travelers who appreciate culture, community, and world-class experiences. It's always a privilege to bring a piece of Antigua to the Hamptons."

Guests at the awards gala enjoyed a Caribbean-inspired evening featuring island cuisine, rum cocktails, and music, reflecting the warmth and vibrancy that Antigua and Barbuda is known for. The winning skipper, Lee Oldak, who led "Purple Haze" to victory, has competed in every race since it began and finally won on his 15th try. His crew received an all-expenses-paid trip to Antigua to participate in Antigua Sailing Week, one of the world's most prestigious regattas.

As part of the weekend's events, the ABTA hosted a lunch for VIP travel advisors from Long Island. Dean Fenton, U.S. Director for the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, addressed the guests, "I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations for the vibrant spirit of collaboration you have displayed throughout our time working together. As the Director of Tourism for the USA, I've seen firsthand how, as travel advisors, your dedication and personal connections help bring our islands to life for clients. I firmly believe that the strongest sales are built on relationships, not just transactions, and your role as trusted advisors offers insight, creativity, and support that elevate our marketing and our destination in meaningful ways. Together, we continue to chart a course toward unforgettable experiences and lasting partnerships."

In attendance at the multiple events over the weekend were the representatives from The Hut on Little Jumby Island, George Adams, Sophie Kirkpatrick, and Gary Randall from Blue Waters Resort & Spa. The storytelling about these establishments informed the media and travel advisors about the luxury offerings from both places.

As the sun set over Sag Harbor, participants and guests toasted to another successful year of racing, camaraderie, and cultural exchange, cementing the Antigua and Barbuda Hamptons Challenge as a cherished tradition with increasing influence.

Feature



All Saints West: Voting History Favors the ABLP in the Next Election



By Hon. E.P. Chet Greene

The constituency of All Saints West has long been a fascinating case study in Antiguan and Barbudan politics. Its voting patterns reveal a clear preference for homegrown candidates aligned with the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP), punctuated only by brief deviations. As the next general election approaches (due by 2028), the question is not whether the ABLP can retain the seat, but rather just how decisively it will do so.

Since 1984, All Saints West has largely been an ABLP stronghold. Hilroy Hum-

phreys, uncle of Anthony Smith, a beloved local figure, secured four consecutive victories (1984, 1989, 1994, 1999) under the ABLP banner, with commanding majorities exceeding 50% in each election. This era cemented the constituency's loyalty to Labour, reinforcing the idea that voters here prefer candidates who are deeply rooted in the community and aligned with the party's vision.

The brief UPP interlude in 2004 and 2009, led by Chanlah Codrington, another homegrown politician, was an anomaly, not a trend. By 2014, voters returned to their natural political home, electing Dr. Michael Browne, a young and dynamic ABLP representative, for two consecutive terms. This shift back to Labour underscores a fundamental truth that All Saints West voters may flirt with alternatives, but they consistently return to the ABLP when given a credible local candidate.

The 2023 election saw Anthony Smith win on a UPP ticket, but his victory was never truly a UPP triumph. Smith's political DNA is ABLP through and through. His father, Anthony Smith Sr, was a former campaign manager for Dean Jonas, the former ABLP St. George representative. His defection from the UPP to the ABLP in July 2024 was therefore not a betrayal but a homecoming.

What did Smith see or hear on the campaign trail that led to his departure from the UPP? Likely, he recognized what history has shown: All Saints West voters prefer Labour-aligned leadership. His move was not just politically astute, it was inevitable.

The UPP's decision to field

Harold Lovell, a 70-year old former leader who has lost multiple elections, defies both historical trends and electoral logic. No MP has ever been elected in All Saints West at that age, and Lovell's recent defeats, including the razor thin loss in 2023 suggest diminishing appeal.

Moreover, Lovell's return has sparked internal UPP strife, with analysts near and far warning that his ambitions could destabilize the opposition rather than strengthen it. The UPP's gamble on nostalgia over new energy is a misreading of the constituency's pulse.

History does not lie. All Saints West has voted ABLP in six of the last eight elections and the two exceptions were short lived. Harold Lovell's candidacy is a throwback to a fading era. In local parlance, the word in the street is that Lovell 'mussa tink blow name Ferrol'.

When the next election comes, All Saints West will reaffirm its loyalty to Labour—just as it always has.

The verdict? Labour all the way!



VACANCY NOTICE- ACCOUNTING OFFICER- RECEIVABLES

Caribbean Premium Motors – a member of the Hadeed Group of companies is seeking a highly motivated, competent and reliable professional to join the accounting team.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Receipting customer payments
- Be responsible for keeping customer's charge accounts up to date and accurate
- Produce and dispatch monthly statements to customers.
- Responsible for contacting customers on overdue payments to ensure proper debt management
- Assist with monthly bank reconciliations
- Perform sub-ledger to general ledger reconciliations when and where necessary
- Asist with the preparation of monthly management accounts.
- Participate in the monthly intragroup reconciliations.
- Assist in month-end and year-end close process
- Assist with internal and external audit requests.
- Any other duties that may arise within the department

Qualifications

• The successful candidate should at a minimum hold a diploma in accounting/ finance, level 1 ACCA or pursuing a similar designation.

Other Requirements

- A minimum of 2 years' experience in a similar role
- Must be able to learn and apply knowledge quickly.
- You will need to possess a professional and proactive attitude.
- You should have the ability to solve problems quickly and meet strict deadlines.
- Must be able to work well independently as well as in a team environment.
- You will be required to have speed, accuracy and attention to detail in all accounting activities.
- You will need to have a pleasant telephone manner and demonstrate high levels of customer care.
- Must have good work ethic and integrity, dependable, adaptable, cooperative, and motivated to take on new responsibilities.
- You will need to demonstrate highly effective communication skills both written and oral.
- Must have proficient computer skills

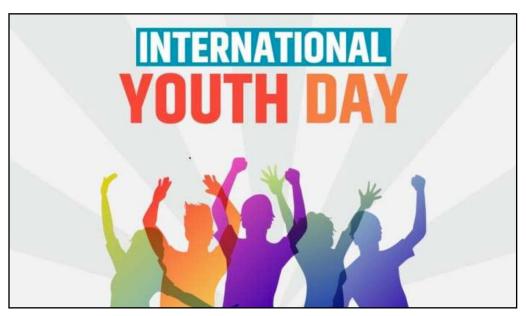
Deadline for the receipt of applications is August 26,2025, with the names and contact information for 2 referees able to provide professional references on your behalf.

Email applications to: Accting.officer@gmail.com

Feature



International Youth Day: Colors, Courage, and Community



International Youth Day has a way of sneaking up on you. One moment, the calendar says "August," and the next, you're standing in the middle of a field that's buzzing with laughter, music, and the sound of sneakers hitting the ground. This isn't just any field—it's the heart of our community for the day, transformed into a living showcase of inclusion, creativity, and youthful leadership.

The United Nations created International Youth Day to celebrate the role of young people in shaping our future, but here, we see it as something even more personal. It's the day our Student Community Service Program opens its arms wider than usual, inviting youths with disabilities to join hands with their peers to do something extraordinary—not for show, but for each other.

Some of the faces are familiar—students who've been volunteering for months. Others are new, stepping nervously into the mix, unsure what to expect. But within minutes, the nerves melt away. That's the thing about service: when you're shoulder to shoulder with someone, building something together, labels stop mattering. As APJ Abdul Kalam once said, "Youth is the

energy of the nation, the future of a country." And that energy? You can feel it in the way a teenager adjusts a basketball hoop to the perfect height for a player using a wheelchair, or the way a shy student's grin widens as they're cheered on during a relay.

The morning kicks off with an art station, the kind that invites experimentation and laughter. There's paint—lots of it—and recycled materials that will soon become part of a massive collaborative mural. A volunteer hands a palette to a young artist with limited mobility, and together they figure out how to angle the easel for easier reach. No one's in a rush. The process is just as important as the result. Watching them, you remember Emma Watson's words: "You are never too young to make a difference." It's not a cliché here—it's the truth in action.

Over near the sports area, another kind of magic is happening. Volunteers and youths with disabilities are playing side by side in a game that blends soccer with obstacle challenges. Everyone adapts. Everyone laughs. The scoreboard isn't the focus—it's the connections being built. Lord Akinsanya once said, "Your differences are

your power. Never apologize for being authentically you." That power is on full display in every pass, every high-five, every cheer.

The beauty of the Student Community Service Program is that it isn't a one-way street. Yes, the volunteers give their time, but they receive something just as valuable in return. They learn patience when an activity takes longer than planned. They learn empathy when someone shares a personal story about navigating life with a disability. They learn creativity when they have to reimagine a game so everyone can participate. And they learn leadership—not the kind that shouts orders, but the kind that listens, adapts, and lifts others up.

At midday, the mural begins to take shape. Bright blues, sunny yellows, and deep greens blend together. Some parts are abstract; others are carefully detailed. A student steps back to admire their work, then waves over a friend to add the finishing touches. Watching this teamwork, you can't help but think of the Aristotle quote: "The duty of the youth is to change corruption." Here, change isn't loud or confrontational—it's painted into existence, a quiet but powerful protest against exclusion.

As the day wears on, there's a rhythm to everything. Stations swap out, activities rotate, and conversations deepen. One group sits in the shade, swapping stories about school. Another group brainstorms ways to make next year's event even bigger and more inclusive. A third group is busy setting up the final activity of the day—a community circle where everyone shares one thing they've learned.

When the sharing begins, it's clear this isn't just about fun. A volunteer says they've learned how much assumptions can get in the way of gen-

Feature

PAGE 15

uine connection. A young participant says they feel proud for completing a game they didn't think they could do. Someone else says they finally feel seen. That's when you remember Swami Vivekananda's advice: "Dream, Dream, Dream, Dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts result in action." This day is one of those actions—a dream of inclusion turned into something tangible.

And then, there's the laughter. Because even with the big conversations and important lessons, it's still a celebration. Someone accidentally paints their own shirt. A ball rolls away midgame and sparks a mad dash to retrieve it. The music plays, and a spontaneous dance circle forms. That's when Thomas Gray's words float into your mind: "Youth smiles without any reason. It is one of its chiefest charms."

But maybe the real charm of the day isn't just in the smiles—it's in what

those smiles represent. They represent belonging. They represent moments where no one feels like an outsider. They represent a future that could be our reality if we keep choosing inclusion, not just on International Youth Day, but every single day.

As the sun dips lower, the mural stands finished, a burst of color against the wall. The sports field quiets. The laughter turns into lingering conversations. Volunteers and participants exchange numbers, promising to keep in touch. And as everyone begins to leave, you can feel it—the shift. People aren't walking away as strangers anymore. They're part of the same story now.

So, why does this matter? Because this is how change starts. Not always with a grand speech or a sweeping policy, but with a paintbrush shared between two people who might never have met otherwise. With a soccer game that

makes space for everyone, regardless of ability. With the simple but radical belief that no one should be left out.

Next year, we'll gather again. There will be new faces, new games, new colors. But the heart of it will be the same: young people showing us, in every way they can, that they are ready—not just to inherit the future, but to shape it. And maybe that's the biggest takeaway of all: we don't have to wait for tomorrow's leaders. They're here, right now, painting, playing, and proving that a better world is already possible.

Joshuanette Francis

Founder and President, Good Humans 268 Inc.

Mobile: +1 (268) 789 GOOD (4663) Website: https://goodhumans268.org/ Tel 268 727 2120 or 268 463 5674



Regional News



PNP launches 10-pillar plan to transform Jamaica's future

Opposition Leader Mark Golding says the People's National Party's (PNP) manifesto stands on 10 pillars that will build Jamaica.

Golding was speaking last night at The Jamaica Pegasus hotel in New Kingston during the launch of the document titled Mission Jamaica Love, A People's Pledge to Country.

He said that while Jamaica's macroeconomic numbers have improved steadily since 2013 due to bipartisan commitment to a sustained programme of fiscal reform, the daily reality faced by Jamaicans is very different.

He said wages cannot stretch; prices are rising daily; basic public services are substandard; young people have too few opportunities; and communities across the country are trapped in poverty, crime, and neglect.

Further, he argued that stability in the public finances without quality of life for people is not prosperity and is why Jamaicans are "clamouring for change".

"We understand both the progress and the pain because we have walked this road with you. We were the architects of Jamaica's celebrated macroeconomic reforms, from the key elements of the Fiscal Responsibility Framework to the modernisation of the revenue system, bringing the nation's debt under control and allowing a regime of in-



flation targeting to be introduced," said Golding.

He said it was the PNP that initiated the fundamental social reforms that decolonised the Jamaican society and created lasting programmes like PATH, the National Health Fund, and JADEP for seniors.

"We built institutions like the National Housing Trust, the Jamaican Urban Transit Company, and modern infrastructure like the major highways, expanded seaports and airports, and we enabled investments in modern telecommunications and the transition to renewable energy through Wigton Wind Farm and the large solar projects," he said.

Still, he said the benefits of national development have not reached far enough.

He said interior roads in every parish are in a deplorable

condition, and many communities do not have access to water in their homes.

"Urban blight and decay plague our cities while rural Jamaica has been left behind. Farm roads are impassable, irrigation is inadequate and outdated, and farmers lack the tools, machinery, and support systems to produce and prosper," said Golding.

He said the 60-page manifesto is the PNP's plan for a new chapter built on its vision, Jamaica Love.

The PNP president said the plans stand on justice for all, access to quality education, modern infrastructure, agriculture and food security, innovation and industry, care for the vulnerable, accountability in governance, land and housing, opportunity for youth, violence prevention, and environmental resilience.

He said the pillars formed a compass.

"They will guide us to invest in people, close the gaps between uptown and downtown, between tourism zones and rural parishes, between the well-connected few who thrive while the majority feel neglected and dejected," he said.

Golding said a future PNP government will protect economic stability and leverage it into inclusive and sustainable growth, creating a new era of opportunities for those who are now excluded from prosperity while tackling corruption and the abuse of power in governance.

"Jamaica, time come to lift our country higher and build a future that belongs to all of us. Let us take this journey together," Golding said. (Jamaica Gleaner)





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Regional News



US grand jury indicts one of Haiti's most powerful gang leaders and one of his friends



A federal grand jury has indicted one of Haiti's most powerful gang leaders and a US citizen accused of conspiring with him to violate US sanctions and fund gang activities in the troubled Caribbean country, the US Justice Department announced Tuesday.

Jimmy Chérizier, best known as 'Barbecue', is a leader of a gang federation called Viv Ansanm that the US designated as a foreign terrorist organisation in May.

Chérizier lives in Haiti, and the United States is offering up to \$5 million for information leading to his arrest or conviction.

Chris Landberg, a senior US State Department official, said Chérizier's "reign of terror and mass violence against Haiti must end." But Jake Johnston, author of "Aid State" and international research director at the Washington-based Center for Economic and Policy Research, questioned the government's reason for offering a bounty.

"This is a guy who is giving international media interviews regularly. I don't think the issue is being able to find him," Johnston said, adding that the indictment doesn't represent a threat to Chérizier since he lives in Haiti. "It's hard to see how it'll have much of an effect."

Chérizier is a former elite police officer who was fired in December 2018 and was later accused of organising large-scale massacres in the slums of Grand Ravine in 2017, in La Saline in 2018 and in Bel-Air in 2019. More than 100 people were

killed in the massacres, which Chérizier has denied organising.

"Haiti is a hotspot right now ... there is incredible violence going on there," US Attorney Jeanine Pirro said Tuesday, calling La Saline killings "notorious because (Chérizier) both planned and participated" in the slaughter.

In June 2020, Chérizier created the "G9 Family and Allies," an alliance that grew from nine gangs in lower Delmas and the Cite Soleil and La Saline slums to include more than a dozen gangs, according to a UN Security Council report.

The alliance was blamed for the killings of some 145 people in Cite Soleil and the rape of multiple women.

In December 2020, the US

Treasury Department issued civil sanctions against Chérizier and others accused of being involved in the massacres.

The G-9 alliance later became part of the Viv Ansanm gang federation created in September 2023 that saw the merging of Haiti's two biggest gangs that were once bitter enemies: G-9 and G- Pèp.

Since then, the federation has taken control of 90 per cent of Port-au-Prince. It launched multiple attacks on key government infrastructure in February 2024 and raided Haiti's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates. It also forced Haiti's main international airport to close for nearly three months.

The surge in violence led to the resignation of former Prime Minister Ariel Henry, who was locked out of his country while on an official visit to Kenya.

The gang federation continues to attack once peaceful communities in Port-au-Prince, and it is accused of helping gangs in Haiti's central region.

Also indicted is Bazile Richardson, whom officials say is a naturalised US citizen from Haiti who grew up with Chérizier and lives in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Both are accused of leading a "wide-ranging conspiracy" by directly soliciting money transfers from

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members of the Haitian diaspora to raise funds for Chérizier's gang activities in Haiti, according to the indictment. It stated that the money was used to pay the salaries of gang members and buy weapons from illegal dealers in Haiti. Most of the firearms are smuggled in from the US since Haiti does not produce weapons.

According to the indictment, there are two other unnamed co-conspirators from Haiti who live in New York and Massachusetts, and five others who live in Haiti.

Chérizier could not be immediately reached for comment. It was not immediately clear if Richardson had an attorney.

The indictment noted that Chérizier and Richardson have acknowledged the sanctions against Chérizier, adding that the alleged conspiracy began around December 2020 and continued through January of this year.

One voice memo that an unidentified co-conspirator in Haiti allegedly sent to Richardson stated: "If I have backup, we will take the power, and you will be able to come back to your country. You will need to serve in the new government."

Richardson forwarded the alleged memo to Chérizier in June 2022, nearly a year after former President Jovenel Moïse was killed at his private residence.

Another person identified only as a Haitian co-conspirator allegedly sent a voice memo to Richardson saying, "we want to start a revolution in Haiti and are trying to collect funds." Part of the plan was to have 1,000 individuals give \$20 each or 1 million Haitians abroad give \$1 each, as well as collect money from 1,000 people for each of Haiti's 10 regions, according to the indictment.

"With this money, they can buy pick-up trucks, weapons, ammunition, clothing to include T-shirts, boots and hats. We want to change everything in Haiti," according to one alleged voice memo.

In June 2021, Chérizier held a press conference announcing the start of a revolution.

The indictment comes as gang violence continues to surge in Haiti's capital and beyond, with gunmen kidnapping an Irish missionary and seven other people, including a three-year-old, from an orphanage earlier this month.

The office of Haiti's prime minister did not immediately return a message seeking comment on the indictment.

Johnston said the broader strategy in the fight against gangs remains unclear.

"It does seem like there's sort of an escalatory framework happening both in Haiti and the US," he said. "Where does that actually go?"

Darren Cox, acting assistant director of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division, said the bureau's Miami office is leading the effort to apprehend Chérizier.

"The FBI is focused more than ever on crushing violent crime," Cox said. "There is no safe haven for them, or the people like them." (AP)



International



Evacuations in Alaska after glacial melt raises fears of record flooding



Some Alaskans are evacuating their homes as meltwater escapes a basin dammed by the Mendenhall Glacier raising fears of record-breaking flooding in the US state's capital city.

The National Weather Service (NWS) office in Juneau has issued a flood warning as glacial outburst water flows into Mendenhall River, putting homes in the area at risk.

For days, local officials have warned residents they may be forced to evacuate. On Tuesday, they confirmed water had begun escaping the ice dam and flooding was expected in the coming days.

The glacier, a popular tourist attraction, is 12 miles (19km) from Juneau.

Water levels reached 9.85ft (3m) on Tuesday, below major flooding levels which begin at 14ft, the NWS said. But by Wednesday morning they were above 16ft, which is considered a crest.

"This will be a new record, based on all of the information that we have," Nicole Ferrin, a weather service meteorologist, said at a press conference on Tuesday.

The Juneau city website explains that glacial lake outbursts happen when a lake of melting snow and ice and rain drains rapidly. It compares the process to pulling out a plug from a full bathtub. When meltwaters reach a certain level, they can overtop a glacier that previously held them back.

Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a state disaster declaration on Sunday because of the "imminent threat of catastrophic flooding from a glacier lake outburst flood (GLOF)" in the Juneau area.

Flooding has been an annual concern

in the area since 2011, as homes have been damaged and swept away by deluges. Last year, hundreds of residences were damaged.

Mountain glaciers are shrinking around the world as temperatures rise.

Extra meltwater can collect to form glacial lakes. Scientists have observed an increasing number and size of these lakes globally since 1990.

The natural dams of ice and rock that hold the lakes in place can fail suddenly and unpredictably, triggering floods.

Researchers expect climate change to increase the number of these outburst floods in future, although past trends – and the causes of individual floods – are complicated. (BBC)





International

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AROUND THE WORLD

Apple rejects Musk's App Store bias claims

Apple has rejected accusations from Elon Musk that its App Store stifles competiton, insisting it is "designed to be free and fair of bias."

X owner Musk has threatened Apple with legal action after claiming it had made it "impossible" for apps to compete with ChatGPT-maker OpenAI in the store

He also called OpenAI boss Sam Altman a "liar" - after Altman claimed Musk used his platform to "benefit himself and his own companies".

The row is the latest flashpoint in what is an ongoing feud between the billionaires who co-founded OpenAI - but now fiercely compete after Musk left the firm.

Apple announced a partnership with ChatGPT in June 2024 - but there is no suggestion Apple favours one app over the other, and several rival AI apps such as DeepSeek and Perplexity have topped the App Store charts since then.

In a statement sent to the BBC, Apple said: "We feature thousands of apps through charts, algorithmic recommendations and curated lists selected by experts using objective criteria."

In a later post Musk took aim at Apple again, asking the firm why it would not promote X - or its AI app Grok - in the "Must Have" section of the App Store.

"X is the #1 news app in the world and Grok is #5 among



all apps," he said in a post now pinned to his X profile.

ChatGPT is currently the most downloaded free app in the UK, with Grok a close third. X does not make the top 40.

This seemed to draw the attention of Altman, who linked to a report by tech newsletter Platformer which claimed Musk had made his own personal X posts more prominent in people's feeds.

The feud between Musk and Altman has, over time, encompassed a slew of lawsuits, email dumps and social media digs.

Their rivalry can be traced back a decade, with Musk's now public belief that OpenAI, under Altman's leadership, abandoned the principles he and others used to found it in 2015.

The firm was created with the intention of building artificial general intelligence (AGI) - AI that can perform any task that a human being is capable of - but by making its technology open-source and promising to "benefit humanity".

OpenAI was also set up as a not-for-profit company, meaning it would not aim to make money, but in 2019 it established a for-profit arm which Musk felt was antithetical to its original mission.

Musk argued in his March 2024 lawsuit that the firm had instead been focusing on "maximising profits" for its major investor Microsoft.

And while he unexpectedly dropped his lawsuit last year, OpenAI then filed a counter-suit against him in April.

It claimed the X owner had engaged "non-stop" in "bad-faith tactics" to try and slow down the company's AI development.

OpenAI has also claimed Musk is not motivated by preserving the company's founding mission - but rather by his "own agenda".

And the feud has not stopped at just words and legal action. In February, Musk made a shock move to try and buy the company for \$100bn (£74bn) - a bid rejected by OpenAI's board. The BBC has approached Apple for comment. (BBC)

International



Greece battles wildfires as heatwave rages across southern Europe



Firefighters are battling several wildfires in Greece as a scorching heatwave wreaks havoc across southern Europe.

In the past 24 hours alone, more than 152 new fires have broken out across Greece - and thousands of people have been evacuated. Around 4,850 firefighters are engaged in a multi-front battle to contain the flames.

At least three people have died in Spain, Albania and Turkey, with dozens more, including firefighters, taken to hospitals with smoke inhalation and burns.

Temperatures surpassed 40C in several locations earlier this week, with record temperatures hitting France and Slovenia.

In Greece, thousands of people have been evacuated from the tourist islands of Chios and Zakynthos.

In the western Peloponnese, flames swept into the city of Patras overnight, destroying homes, businesses and vehicles.

On Zante, three separate fire fronts spanning more than 15km (9 miles) re-

main uncontained. Damage has been reported to homes, tourist facilities and farmland.

At least 13 firefighters have been treated for burns and other injuries, fire brigade spokesman Vassilis Vathrakogiannis said on Wednesday, warning the conditions could become even more challenging in the coming days.

"Today, it will be another very difficult day, as the wildfire risk for most of the country's regions will be very high," Vathrakogiannis said. Rescue boats have been evacuating beachgoers trapped by advancing flames on Chios and authorities have requested firefighting aircraft from other European Union countries.

In Spain, more than 4,000 people were evacuated overnight in the north-western province of León. A volunteer firefigher died in the same area.

An equestrian centre employee also died after suffering severe burns in Tres Cantos, near Madrid, where winds over

International

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70km/h (43mph) drove flames near homes, forcing hundreds to flee.

The Spanish government has raised its national emergency response level.

"We are at extreme risk of forest fires. Please be very cautious," Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said.

Elsewhere in Europe, heat alerts remain in place in France, Spain, Portugal, Italy and the Balkans, with temperatures expected to soar above 40C (104F) in some regions.

Slovenia reported its warmest ever night, with temperatures in one port not dropping below 28C.

One child died of heatstroke in Italy on Monday, where temperatures of 40C are expected to hit later this week. Red heat alerts were in place for at least 10 Italian cities, including Rome, Milan and Florence.

A four-year-old Romanian boy, who was found unconscious in a car in Sardinia was airlifted to a hospital in Rome but died due to irreversible brain damage, reportedly caused by heatstroke, medical authorities told AFP.

France's Health Minister Catherine Vautrin said hospitals were braced for fallout from the country's second heatwave in just a few weeks.

In Montenegro, a soldier died and another was seriously injured when their water tanker overturned while battling flames n the hills north of the capital, Podgorica.

In Portugal, firefighters battled three large wildfires, including a large blaze in Trancoso in the centre of the country.

Turkey has brought several major fires under control, including in Canakkale and Izmir, after hundreds were evacuated and the Dardanelles Strait and Canakkale airport were closed.

Parts of the UK are sweltering in its fourth heatwave of the year, with temperatures hitting 33C and amber and yellow heat health alerts in place for all of England.

Two grassfires broke out in the capital on Tuesday, one in Ealing and another in Wanstead Flats, burning more than 17 acres combined.

Scientists warn global warming is making Mediterranean summers hotter and drier, fuelling longer and more intense fire seasons. (BBC News)





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Press Release

8th August, 2025

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Staff and Membership of the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (AT&LU), I express our deepest and sincere condolences to the William's Family and friends due to the passing of former Labour Commissioner: Hesketh Williams. This is indeed a difficult time but may the consolation of the positive and precious memories of him strengthen you all in time to come.

The AT&LU salutes the sterling contribution of former Labour Commissioner Williams to the Nation of Antigua and Barbuda as it relates to Industrial Relations. He had a wealth knowledge, balanced in judgement and an intellect among the best. His legacy will live on for decades to come.

May the Almighty Father continue to comfort all who mourn at this time of bereavement and may the divinity the Holy Ghost transcend the fallen to the great beyond. Let us now appreciate the scripture from John 16:22, "So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy."

May he rest in perpetual peace.

Respectfully yours,

Bernard de Nully

President



Sports News



James cleared to resume bowling following remedial work



Joshua James bowls during the West Indies Breakout League in Trinidad earlier this year. (CWI Media)

Trinidad & Tobago fast bowler Joshua James has been officially cleared to resume bowling in all West Indies international and regional matches following the successful completion of a remedial programme and a reassessment of his bowling action.

James was initially reported for a suspect bowling action during the West Indies Breakout League earlier this year. Match officials cited concerns during the first two matches against the Barbados

Pelicans (April 25) and the Guyana Rainforest Rangers (April 26), held at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Trinidad.

In accordance with Cricket West Indies' (CWI) protocols, video footage and a written report were submitted to Loughborough University in the United Kingdom for independent analysis.

On April 28, the Opinion Report from the university's Independent Assessor confirmed that James' bowling action was illegal, with deliveries exceeding the permissible limit for elbow extension under ICC regulations. As a result, he was suspended from bowling in all West Indies-sanctioned competitions and other domestic leagues globally.

Since then, James has undertaken an intensive period of remedial work under the supervision of the Trinidad & Tobago Cricket Board.

Updated footage of his

revised bowling action was submitted to Lough-borough University on August 8, 2025. The latest Opinion Report confirmed that his action complies with the regulations and he has been cleared to resume bowling with immediate effect.

CWI acknowledges the commitment shown by Joshua James throughout the remedial process and extends its appreciation to the coaching and support staff who assisted in his return.

Sports News



Sir Viv inspired CWI Academy players in legacy session



Sir Viv signs autographs with Cricket West Indies Academy players. (Photo courtesy of CWI Media)

Cricket West Indies (CWI) recently hosted another installment in its series of inspiring Legacy Sessions, this time featuring one of the game and region's greatest icons Sir Vivian Richards, who addressed West Indies Academy players.

Sir Vivian delivered a passionate presentation focusing on what it truly means to wear the maroon and the qualities required to become a champion, especially against the backdrop of the ever-changing face of the world game.

The cricket icon reflected deeply on the mindset, unity and sacrifices that he and his teammates embraced during their era of dominance and emphasized how their togetherness enabled them to conquer the cricketing world. The session fell within Part 3 of the CWI's ongoing History of West Indies Cricket/Legacy Sessions programme, which focuses on The Golden Era (1976–1995).

It is highlighting key achievements, including the West Indies' remarkable 15-year unbeaten streak in Test series (1980–1995), their World Cup victories in 1975 and 1979, as well as Richards' era as captain (from 1984-1991), which was characterized by fearless cricket and supported by the dominance of legendary bowlers Malcolm Marshall, Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh.

These sessions form part of CWI's broader player development strategy designed to ensure that promising young cricketers receive world-class

guidance both on and off the field, with previous sessions held in May of this year featuring West Indies greats Sir Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh.

Sir Vivian's presentation was preceded by brief comments from Andy "Job" Christian, one of Antigua's most talented all-round athletes, and close friend of Sir Viv, who represented the country in track and field, football and basketball, and spoke directly to the Academy players about the national and regional pride.

These sessions serve as vital reminders to Academy players of the legacy of which they are a part as West Indies cricketers by connecting them to the proud heritage that defines the region's cricketing excellence.

Sports News



Strictly Business and Buckley's 3Js reach ABSCA's Men's T20 final



Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js men's softball cricket team. (File photo)

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business and Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js have advanced to the finals of the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Men's T20 Competition.

Both teams booked their spot in the finals after securing victories in the semi-finals at the Rising Sun playing field. Strictly Business trounced Goody's Taxi Service and Tours 300 by 163 runs.

Strictly Business made 221 for seven off their 20 overs. Jevon Howel slammed 73, including 10 sixes. Kerry Mentore hit 29, Owen Graham struck

scored 21.

Jared Roberts picked up three for 20, T'noy Andrew claimed two for 57, and Kennedy Tonge captured one for 26.

In reply, 300 were dismissed for 58 in 13 overs. Jared Roberts scored 15. Kerry Mentore snapped up three wickets for four runs. Owen Graham took two for 12, Melvin Charles picked up one wicket for five runs, and Kenrique Mentore captured one for 16.

Buckley's 3Js crushed defending champions Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets by 125 runs. The Buckley's 3Js

28, and Kenrique Mentore made 180 for five off their 20 overs.

> Kenrick Scott hammered 43, including five sixes. Steve Martin hit 37 not out, Denley Thomas struck 33, and Randino Turner scored 24.

> Deran Benta claimed two for 20, Shaquan Reifer took one for 25, and Andra Samuel captured one for 40.

> In reply, Bullets were dismissed for 55 in 16.5 overs. Kerry Burton scored 14, and Deran Benta made 13.

> Gus Merrick snapped up two wickets for three runs, Zavier Otto snatched two wickets for five runs, Richie

Thomas picked up two for 12, and Rodney Williams captured one for 16.

Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors and defending champions Alzarri and Sharon Joseph North Sails Antigua Female Flyers recorded wins in two rescheduled matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Women's T20 Competition.

Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors defeated Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets by seven wickets at the Rising Sun playing field.

Bullets were restricted to 108 for three off their 20 overs. Annette Frank smashed 33, Cheryl Williams hit 29 not out, and Lana Thomas made 16. Loukheul Pelle picked up one for 13.

Survivors achieved victory by scoring 110 for three in 16.1 overs. Joan Samuel cracked an unbeaten 40, Sacha Michael hit 20 not out, and Leukelle Pelle made 16.

Annette Frank claimed one for 22, Lana Thomas took one for 24, and Mary Browne captured one for 28.

Female Flyers were awarded victory by default against Potters Uprising Cricket Team, who were unable to field a team for their encounter.

Sports News



Antigua and Barbuda Falcons soaring with Liat Air



The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons watching their favourite team away The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons prior to the team's departure from V.C. Bird International Airport on a Liat Air flight to St. Kitts on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. (Photo courtesy of Antigua Falcons)

have announced an official partnership agreement with Liat Air – "The Pride of the Caribbean". This pioneering collaboration marks a significant milestone for the newest franchise in the Caribbean Premier League (CPL).

With Liat Air, this is part of the new synergy, as Antigua and Barbuda Falcons will feature on select Liat Air flights and digital assets, symbolizing the shared values of excellence, pride, and great love for the game of cricket.

Jeff Miller, Chief Executive Officer of Antigua and Barbuda Falcons, expressed great pleasure to be onboard with Liat Air.

"This partnership takes Antigua and Barbuda Falcons to new heights on and off the field. Together with Liat Air, we'll connect fans, communities, and cultures through cricket and travel. We started last year and were thrilled with the overwhelming support from our players during our home matches at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium," Miller said.

"We expect much more of the same this year. Now with Liat Air 20 as part of the Falcons family, our fans can travel around the region and fly the flag while they have a great time from home as well."

This groundbreaking partnership signals a tourism and travel boost, especially for Antiguans and Barbudans at home and away matches, for the "biggest party in sport".

Launched in February 2024, the Falcons are Antigua and Barbuda's franchise team in the CPL. It is based at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium. Coached by Paul Nixon, the team represents national pride and seeks to soar in the 2025 edition of the CPL.

This year's squad features a mixture of global stars as well as talented regional players. These include Shakib al-Hasan, Imad Wasim, Fabian Allen, and Obed McCoy as well as local favourites Rahkeem Cornwall and teenager Jewel Andrew.

The opening match of the 2025 CPL campaign is on Thursday, August 14, against St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots at Warner Park in Basseterre.

The first home match is two days later at the home base at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium against Barbados Royals at 7pm.

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Meeting Notice

Friday 8th of August, 2025

To: The Monthly Workers of APUA,

A General Meeting for all Monthly Workers of APUA will take place on Thursday 14th of August, 2025 at the APUA Training Room located at Cassada Gardens at 4 PM. Please make a special effort to attend. The Antigua Trades and Labour Union thank you, the Monthly Workers of APUA for your continued cooperation, patience and understanding during this period.

S DOFTS THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025



Falcons and Patriots clash again in CPL opener

Just like last year, the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons will lock horns with neighbours St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots on Thursday night to kick off the 13th edition of the Men's Caribbean Premier League (CPL).

The Falcons and Patriots will clash at Warner Park in Basseterre, St. Kitts, at 7 pm in the opening match to start the tournament, which is dubbed "the biggest party in sports".

This year's CPL promises to be a pulsating tournament with plenty of local and overseas superstars show-casing their prowess over the course of the next five and a half weeks.

It will be a chance for redemption for both teams after a disastrous last season. While the Patriots finished at the bottom of the table with nine defeats from 10 matches, the Falcons did not fare much better with seven losses from as many encounters in what was their debut season.

The strength of the Falcons this season will be the collective might of their all-rounders. Shakib Al Hasan of Bangladesh is widely rated as the best spin-bowling all-rounder in limited overs' history, while Imad Wasim of Pakistan has been Mr. Consistent for Falcons over the last two seasons.

Wasim scored 177 runs while also picking up nine wickets at seven runs per



Tabraiz Shamsi of St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots celebrates a one-wicket victory against the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons in the opening match of the 2024 CPL at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on August 29, 2024. (CPL via Getty Images)

over in the 2024 CPL. Fabian Allen is restrictive with the ball while being a ferocious hitter in the lower-order, while Shamar Springer showcased his wicket-taking prowess with 12 wickets in eight matches at a strike rate of 11.5 last season. Odean Smith has a bowling strike rate of 16.4 and a batting strike rate of 131 in T20 cricket.

The X-factor in the batting for Falcons could potentially be the New Zealand middle-order batter – Bevon Jacobs – who has smashed 467 runs in 19 innings at a strike rate of 147 in T20s.

The Patriots were the champions in 2021 and the runner-up in 2017 and have rebuilt their squad this season, covering most bases from last year. Andre Fletcher – their leading run-getter last season and the second-highest scorer in CPL history – will be the

pivot in the top order.

Evin Lewis and Rilee Rossouw, a veteran of 378 T20 matches in which he has smashed 9343 runs at a strike rate of 145.3 with nine hundreds, are expected to up the ante and press on the accelerator when required.

Jason Holder and Kyle Mayers will be the key all-rounders, while the bowling will be led by the Afghanistan pair of Fazalhaq Farooqi and Waqar Salamkheil.

Farooqi's propensity to pick up wickets can be seen from his bowling strike rate of 16.8 in all T20 cricket. The Chinaman Waqar Salamkheil bagged 15 wickets from 10 encounters at a strike rate of 15.6 for the Trinbago Knight Riders last season.

Warner Park in Basseterre has hosted 90 matches in the CPL, with the team chasing

winning 50 of these encounters. The team setting the target has been victorious in 38 matches. The average score batting first at the venue is 168.

Spinners have enjoyed bowling at Basseterre, with an average of 25.7 at the venue – marginally better than the pacers, who have conceded 26.4 runs apiece. The spinners have also been more restrictive with an economy of 7.3, while pacers have an economy of 8.9.

Thursday's match is anticipated to be a keenly contested affair, but the Falcons will be seeking to launch their campaign with a win before returning to their base at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua to play their five home matches, starting on Saturday night against the Barbados Royals.

The Patriots' Probable Playing XI: Evin Lewis, Kyle Mayers, Alick Athanaze, Andre Fletcher, Dominic Drakes, Ashmead Nedd, Mikyle Louis, Jason Holder, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Waqar Salamkheil, and Naseem Shah.

The Falcons' Probable Playing XI: Bevon Jacobs, Justin Greaves, Rahkeem Cornwall, Imad Wasim, Amir Jangoo, Odean Smith, Shakib Al Hasan, Shamar Springer, Karima Gore, Obed McCoy, and Jayden Seales.