

All eyes are on Jamaica as PM voices concern for AB students

Page 2



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Local News

All eyes are on Jamaica as PM voices concern for AB students



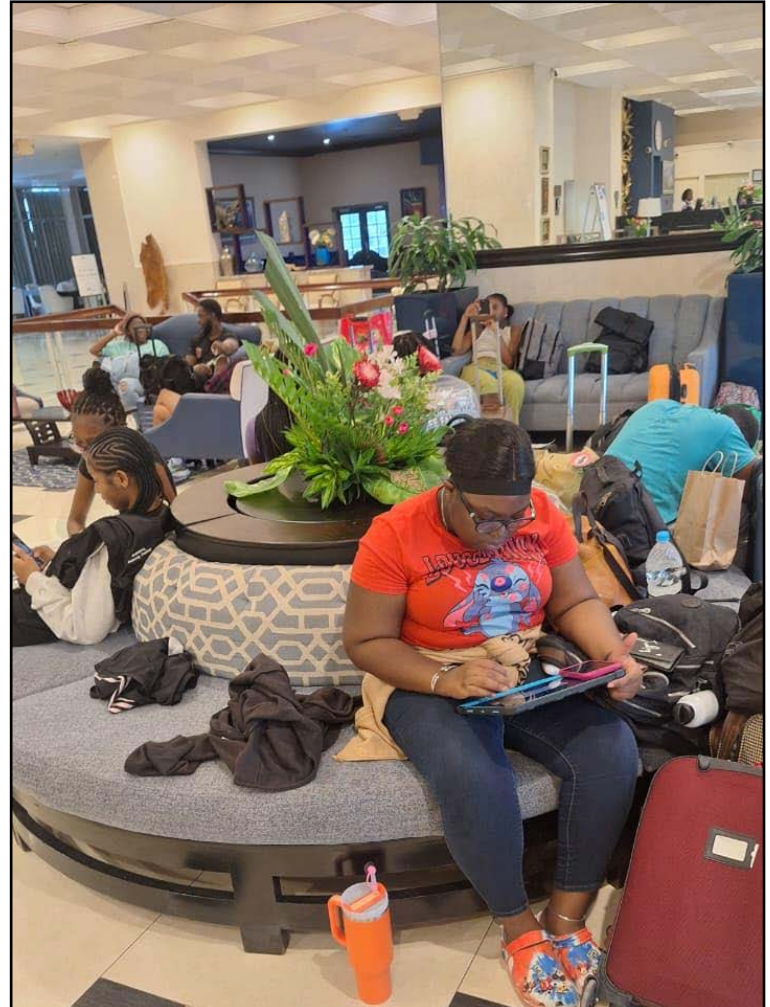
Prime Minister Gaston Browne

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has expressed his thankfulness to all those who made it possible for the 45 students of Antigua and Barbuda nationality to move to safety, during the passage of Hurricane Melissa over Jamaica expected sometime today. The 45 students have been moved to the Hotel Pegasus in New Kingston--at the request and with the compliments of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda--where they will remain until Monday, 27 October 2025, or whenever the winds and rain subside.

The Prime Minister has asked all churches and congregations in Antigua and Barbuda to seek God's blessings on all of Jamaica, and to ask God's protection of the citizens of Antigua and Barbuda and other nation's students studying in

Jamaica. The reports reaching Antigua and Barbuda indicate that the 45 students are securely housed at the multi-storied hotel and are very thankful for the intervention of the Gaston Browne administration.

The Prime Minister pledges further assistance if necessary should the students be displaced following passage of the storm. He appealed to the organizers of Sunday's National Independence Service, that was held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Creekside, to pray for guidance and to say a special prayer for the protection of the students. The Prime Minister is unavoidably absent from the State, but receives regular updates on the Jamaica situation. The Prime Minister returns to Antigua on Monday.



Immigration Minister pleased with engagement with DR community in Antigua and Barbuda

Last Friday, the Department of Immigration hosted the first of what it promises to be a series of interactions with members of the different immigrant communities resident in Antigua and Barbuda.

At Friday's meeting, it was the turn of the Dominican Republic community that was invited to hear directly from the Chief Immigration Officer, Katrina Yearwood and her staff on the procedures for two of the main concerns for members of the community; the issue of residency and the pathway to citizenship.

Speaking through an interpreter, Yearwood explained that there was much mis-conception among members of the DR community here in the country, and the meeting was called primarily to dispel these mis-conceptions.

She urged members of the community



to contact the department if they had queries or to channel these inquiries through the resident Honorary Consul for the Dominican Republic, Joaquin Diaz Lopez.

"We want the DR community to know that we are here to assist them; they need not have any fears about coming

in and have their issues resolved amicably," she told the gathering.

Following a period of interactions with those in attendance, the meeting came to an end with those with more personal issues being advised to contact the Honorary Consul for further submission to the Department of Im-



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Local News



migration.

At the end, the Minister responsible for Immigration, Sir Steadroy Benjamin, said he was quite pleased with how things went at the meeting.

"I'm extremely satisfied and pleased with the organization of this particular session by the Chief Immigration Officer and her staff. It was meant to explain to the Dominicans that we are here to assist; to make certain that they understand that they must comply with the rules of immigration and that there is no need for them to fear immigration. I want to say that this is only the beginning of what is to come because there will be other programmes or sessions, like this designed specifically to improve the relationship between immigration department of our non-national communities," he declared.

Yearwood echoed the sentiments of Minister Benjamin calling the engagement 'a proud moment'. "We had a very good turnout and we are grateful for the support of the minister and the diplomatic corps represented at the meeting. The DR community need not fear the department of immigration, but they do need to understand our rules and procedures which they will soon be able to readily access through our new website that will be launched before yearend," she announced.




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The Department of Immigration debunks social media claims

The Department of Immigration is debunking claims made in a social media post that seeks to undermine what was an otherwise well-attended and well-received engagement that it held with members of the Dominican Republic community here in Antigua and Barbuda.

In attendance at the event were acting Prime Minister Sir Steadroy Benjamin, the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to Antigua and Barbuda, Yolanda Alexandra Victoria, the Consul General of the DR to Antigua and Barbuda, Joaquin Diaz Lopez, Chief Immigration Officer, Katrina Yearwood and other senior officials of the department.

The Department acknowledged that there was enhanced security for persons entering into the meeting area and that this followed both regional and international best practices whenever senior government officials and diplomatic representatives attend functions.

“The Department stands firmly by its security methods, which represent international best practices for protecting executive officials and members of the diplomatic corps. Given the attendance of high-ranking officials at the consultation event, enhanced security measures were deemed necessary and appropriate. These protocols have been developed in consultation with regional and international security partners and are designed to ensure the safety of all attendees and officials present,” a media release from the department stated.

The release added that the Department is aware that some attendees of the October 24th consultation event expressed discomfort with its security measures. “We categorically deny



any suggestion that our checkpoints were created to cause inconvenience or discomfort to members of the Dominican Republic community or any other attendees. Every protocol in place served a legitimate security function necessitated by the presence of high-level government officials and diplomatic personnel, and was applied uniformly and professionally to all persons entering the venue,” according to the release.

One senior official of the department disclosed to **Point Express Newspaper** that during the security checks, four knives were confiscated from individuals with the promise that they would be returned at the end of

the event.

Following the meeting on Friday night, there were a few social media postings indicating that persons were requested to present their passport before entry as part of the security procedures. The department stated categorically that this claim was untrue.

Interestingly, there have been no complaints or concerns expressed by either of the two senior representatives of the Dominican Republic who, along with their teams, were in attendance. Honorary Consul, Lopez also addressed the meeting.

Despite what have been described



as ‘baseless allegations’, the Department said it remains resolute that its policy of engaging with the different immigrant communities in Antigua and Barbuda will continue.

“The Immigration Department recognizes the importance of the consultation event for the Dominican Republic community and appreciates the participation of all attendees. These public consultations are vital forums for dialogue between the government and immigrant communities, and we remain committed to ensuring that security measures, while necessary, do not detract from the meaningful engagement these events are designed to facilitate,” the release continued.

Our Ongoing Commitment

The Immigration Department remains committed to:

- ▶ Maintaining the security and sovereignty of Antigua and Barbuda
- ▶ Treating all individuals with dignity and respect
- ▶ Ensuring transparency in our operations
- ▶ Continuously reviewing our procedures to balance security needs with customer service
- ▶ Engaging with the public to address legitimate concerns

We encourage members of the public who have specific concerns about their experience at our checkpoints to contact the Department directly through official channels. We take all feedback seriously and are committed to ad-

ressing any legitimate issues while maintaining our security mandate.

The safety and security of our nation, its residents, and visitors remain our paramount concern, and we will continue to execute our duties with professionalism and integrity.



FREE ENTRY

44
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FESTIVAL OF CHOIRS

TUESDAY 28 OCT | 8:00PM
AT ST. ANTHONY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES ANNOUNCES THE CHRISTMAS HOME AND BUSINESS LIGHTING COMPETITION 2025:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Wednesday 01st, October 2025 – *St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda.....*
The Department of Creative Industries is pleased to announce the Christmas Home and Business Lighting Competition 2025.

We aim to evoke the spirit of the season through the creative and dazzling lighting display of our 2025 competitors, the Department encourages all interested Home and Business owners to register for the competition on or before Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

Registration Forms are available Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Department of Creative Industries Headquarters on Old Parham Road, upstairs INET or the National Festivals Office, 1st Floor Cecil George-John Building, Redcliffe Street and Corn Alley.

Pre-judging will commence on December 20th and 21st December, 2025, while the final displays will be judged on December 28, 2025. Winners will be announced via Good Morning Antigua, Barbuda on Friday, January 5th 2026.

Home entries will be categorized and judged according to the zones – East, West, North, and South. All Home participants will receive a 100% waiver on electricity service for December 15th 2025 to January 15th 2026, Duty-Free concessions on Christmas Lights and or Decorations and a Cash component for the top three winners in each zone as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Business entries will receive a 50% waiver on electricity service for December 2025, Duty-Free concessions on Christmas Lights and or Decorations and a Cash component for the top three winners as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Register now to be a part of the joy and splendor of Christmas 2025.

END.

Distribution of free eye glasses commences today



Ministry of Health & The Environment, Antigua and Barbuda

Distribution of more than 500 prescription eye glasses through a project jointly organized by the Ministry of Health, United Hands Incorporated and the Seventh Day Adventist Church will take place over the next two days.

The distribution begins on Monday (today) and continues tomorrow (Tuesday). The distribution of prescription glasses will take place at 39ers Square, Ministry of Health Headquarters, according to the following schedule:

Surnames A–D: Monday, October 27 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Surnames E–I: Monday, October 27 | 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Surnames J–Z: Tuesday, October 28 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Persons collecting their prescription glasses are required to present a valid form of identification.

The Ministry of Health describes the distribution of the free prescription



glasses as evidence that it is fulfilling on its promise to provide free prescription eye glasses to those individuals who attended the health fair in July that was help in collaboration with United Hands Incorporated and the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

In a statement, the ministry said that

after of months processing and manufacturing hundreds of prescription glasses, more than five hundred (500+) prescription glasses have been shipped and are now in the Ministry's possession for distribution.

The Ministry extends heartfelt appreciation to United Hands Incorporated and the Seventh-day Adventist Church for their remarkable partnership and generosity in making this vision project possible. Their contribution has helped restore not only sight, but also confidence, dignity, and quality of life to hundreds of citizens.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Health, Sir Molwyn Joseph, expressed sincere gratitude to United Hands Incorporated and the Seventh-day Adventist Church for their generosity and steadfast commitment. He noted that this initiative stands as a testament to the Ministry's mission to ensure that every resident can access quality healthcare and essential dental and vision services.

As the Minister reaffirmed, "When we open our eyes, we open our hearts to the world around us." The Ministry remains steadfast in its vision to ensure that every citizen not only sees more clearly, but lives more fully.



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Antigua and Barbuda's Minimum Wage comes up for review



Minister of Labour, Sir Steadroy Benjamin, Labour Commissioner Eltonia Anthony-David and Deputy Commissioner Pascal Kentish.

The Antigua and Barbuda Minimum Wage comes up for its periodic review with the establishment of an advisory committee as is required by law.

The Ministry of Labour announced that the first meeting of the Minimum Wage Advisory Committee will take place next Tuesday November 4. Minister of Labour, Sir Steadroy Benjamin will address the virtual meeting to provide general directions and to formalize the work of the committee.

The virtual session will be chaired by Labour Commissioner Eltonia Anthony-David, alongside Deputy Commissioner Pascal Kentish.

The committee will receive its terms of reference, which charge the group with investigating working conditions and recommending a minimum basic wage to the Minister of Labour. This recommendation will then be reviewed by the Minister and Cabinet before a final

decision is made.

The MWAC is composed of 18 members, with six representatives each for employers, employees, and the gov-

ernment.

During the inaugural meeting, each member is permitted to invite an alternate representative to participate.

The last adjustment to the minimum wage was in January 2023, when it was increased from EC\$8.20 to EC\$9.00 per hour.



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Delaps Water Treatment Facility Update

ST JOHNS ANTIGUA, 24th October 2025 - The APUA Water Business Unit team is working to gradually bring the Delaps Water Treatment Facility back online. This process involves increased treatment activities, rigorous chemical testing, and the flushing of distribution lines at various points.

Due to the age of the existing distribution valve network, complete isolation may not be possible during this process. As a result, some customers may temporarily notice a mild odour caused by residual water from earlier in the week.

As an added precaution, APUA will engage an independent agency to conduct comprehensive water quality testing before the Delaps facility resumes full operations.

APUA Water Business Unit sincerely apologises for any inconvenience caused and assures customers that the health and safety of the public remain our highest priority. Our Contact Centre remains available 24/7 at 211 to assist customers with any concerns or reports.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work diligently to restore normal service as safely and efficiently as possible.

CKHS emerges as National Schools' Panorama Champions



The Christ the King High School has emerged as the 2025 National School's panorama Champions in the secondary schools division.

With their rendition of the song, *Out Dey*, and which was arranged by Maurisha Potter, Christ the King High School won the secondary school segment of the competition from a field of ten participating steel-bands.

In the primary school segment, the Villa Primary was adjudged winner ahead of a field of six participating band. The band performed the song, *ID – stamp your name*, and it was arranged by Jonathan Mills.

In the secondary schools' competition, second place went to the Princess Margaret School and the Antigua Grammar School took third place. For the primary, the second place went to Sunnyside Tutorial while



Nelvie Gore Primary took third place.

The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC) said it is pleased with the level of participation from the schools this

year, both at the primary and secondary levels. Sixteen schools steel-bands took part in the competition. The ABFC extends heartfelt appreciation to its valued sponsors, The Citizenship

by Investment Unit, ACB Caribbean, and ICool, for their continued partnership and exemplary corporate citizen in support of the National Schools' Panorama. "Continued investment in



our youth and culture is crucial for the transference of our culture from generation to generation as we continue to produce **Solid - Stable - Soaring**. young men and women for tomorrow's world," stated Hon. Darryl S. Matthew, Minister of Education, Sports, and Creative Industries. And he also went on to say "Outlets such as Pan Yards provide our young people with safe

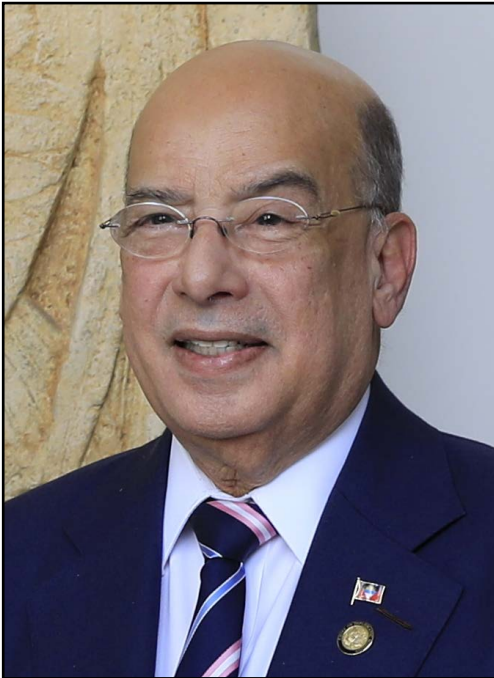
spaces to thrive in a positive environment. I am a firm believer in these sorts of programs. Hence, the establishment of *Pandemonium*, a Pan group for my community, but this is not about me; it's about challenging others to create and support outlets like these for our youth."

Ambassador Elizabeth Makhoul, Chairperson of

the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission, expressed enthusiasm and gratitude: "We are immensely grateful to all our exceptional corporate sponsors. Their dedication, investment, and support in developing our young people and preserving our cultural heritage are truly praiseworthy. I am especially excited to note the growing number of participating schools this

year, so much so that we've outgrown the Antigua Port Authority parking lot and are returning to the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium due to overwhelming participation! I am delighted to welcome newcomers like **Bendals Primary**, **Irene B. Williams Secondary**, and **Sir Novelle Richards Academy** to this year's competition."

Sir Ronald Sanders to be Opening Speaker at United Nations Launch of Report on Arbitrary Detention



Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States and Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States, Sir Ronald

Sanders, will be the opening speaker at the United Nations launch of the Report of the Independent International Panel on Arbitrary Detention in State-to-State Relations, at UN Headquarters, New York, tomorrow, Tuesday.

The event, held during International Law Week is co-hosted by Antigua and Barbuda and Canada, with Australia, Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands as co-sponsors.

The Panel's Report is the first comprehensive legal study of arbitrary detention in state-to-state relations—the seizure of foreign nationals by a State to pressure another State. The practice violates international law, erodes trust between States. The Report sets out legal analysis and concrete recommendations to strengthen prevention, protection, and accountability.

Sir Ronald Sanders will underscore Antigua and Barbuda's early endorsement of the *Declaration Against Arbitrary Detention in State-to-State Relations* and the particular vulnerabilities of small states with limited consular networks. He will emphasize that “the seizure of people to bend the will of States is not diplomacy; it is coercion in daylight.”

Other contributors include Dr. Marja Lehto, Vice-Chair of the Panel; Dr. Jean-Michel Arrighi, Secretary for Legal Affairs, Organization of American States; Dr. Elina Šteinerte, Vice Chair of NPMs, UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture; and Dr. Alice Jill Edwards, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

The event will be streamed live on UN WebTV: <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/klf/klfnirzka2> at 1:15–2:30 p.m. (EDT).



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GG attends local Indian Diwali Festival

Governor-General, Sir Rodney Williams, attended the 2025 Diwali Festival Celebration held at the Sir John E. St. Luce Financial Centre, Factory Road, on Saturday night.

The event was hosted by the Honorary Consul of India, Vijay Tewani, who welcomed distinguished guests including members of the Diplomatic Corps representing Cuba, Venezuela, and the United Kingdom, as well as members of the Indian community and friends of India.

In his remarks, commended the Honourary Consul for his ongoing efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship between Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of India. He described Diwali as “a festival that reminds us of the triumph of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair.”

The Governor-General further highlighted the long-standing cooperation between the two nations, noting India’s generous development assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, including post-disaster support



His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams, Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda (centre), joins members of the Diplomatic Corps and guests at the 2025 Diwali Festival Celebration hosted by the Honorary Consul of India, Mr. Vijay Tewani (fourth from left), at the Sir John E. St. Luce Financial Centre on October 25, 2025.

following Hurricane Irma and aid during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also pointed to continued collaboration in education, health, digital technology, investment, and tourism.

Reflecting on his and Lady Williams’ previous visits to India as Chief Guests at international conferences, Sir Rodney spoke warmly of India’s “rich cultural heritage and enduring commitment to global peace and understanding”.

The celebration featured cultural performances, traditional attire, Indian cuisine, and the symbolic lighting of lamps to mark the triumph of light and goodness

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Feature

Antigua and Barbuda wins Caribbean Dinghy Championship for a 6th time



History was made. The first female with a disability to participate in this championship.

The Caribbean Dinghy Championships were concluded over the weekend with Antigua and Barbuda seated at a familiar place, as the overall winners.

Team Antigua and Barbuda lifted the Nation Cup for the 6th time undefeated.

- 1st Nation Cup Antigua Total 5277.7
- 2nd place St. Maarten Total 4747.1
- 3rd place Trinidad and Tobago Total 3921.8

In the different classes of the regatta.

Ilca 7

Ozani Lafond Antigua 1st place

Scott Gittens Barbados 2nd place

Duncan of Trinidad & Tobago 3rd place

Ilca6

Shanoy Malone Antigua 1st place

D'Juran from Trinidad and Tobago 2nd place

LaPierre from St. Maarten 3rd place.

Ilca 4.7

Carrack Jones Antigua 1st place

Weihardt from St. Vincent and Grenadines 2nd place

Treadwell from St. Maarten 3rd place

Optimist

Sheppard from AHO 1st place

Tyden Jones Antigua 2nd place

Burrell from St. Kitts 3rd place (this is St. Kitts first ever on stage for CDC, capturing 3rd)

Fusion

Versteegden from St. Maarten 1st place

Browne from Trinidad 2nd place

Spiceland from Barbados 3rd place

Venture

Monroe from Trinidad and Tobago 1st place

Henry and Guiste Antigua 2nd place

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone for your amazing participation and support in making the Caribbean Dinghy Championship such a great success!

Your teamwork, spirit, and dedication truly made the difference.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I deeply appreciate all your efforts.

Dr. Clarence E. Pilgrim

Commodore of the Antigua Yacht Club and Chairman of the Caribbean Dingy Championship Committee



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2025 INDEPENDENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

25 OCT - 03 NOV

SATURDAY 25 OCT

- **NATIONAL SCHOOLS' PANORAMA**
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
5:00PM

SUNDAY 26 OCT

- **INDEPENDENCE CHURCH SERVICE**
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH CREEKSIDE
4:00PM

MONDAY 27-29 OCT

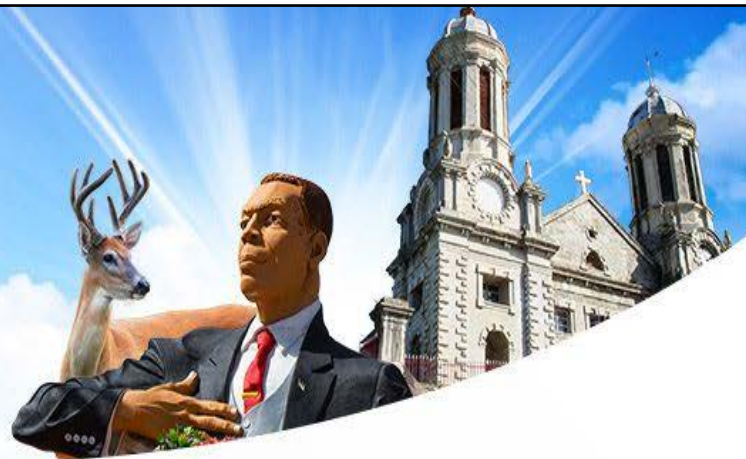
- **NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE
BUSINESS DECOR COMPETITION**

MONDAY 27 OCT

- **NATIONAL HEROES DAY
WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**
HEROES PARK- SIR SYDNEY WALLINGS HIGHWAY
10:00 AM

TUESDAY 28 OCT

- **FESTIVAL OF CHOIRS**
ST. ANTHONY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL
8:00PM



TUESDAY 28 OCT

- **BARBUDA DAY ACTIVITIES (TBC)**

WEDNESDAY 29 OCT

- **SCHOOLS' INDEPENDENCE PROGRAMS**
SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE
- **GOLDEN AGE CELEBRATIONS**
VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
- **THEATRICAL PRESENTATION
"WADADLI ROOTS"**
MULTIPURPOSE CULTURAL CENTRE
7:30PM

THURSDAY 30 OCT

- **NATIONAL YOUTH RALLY** 8:30AM
- **CHEERLEADING COMPETITION** 11:30AM
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
- **INDEPENDENCE CALYPSO COMPETITION**
JACK IDLE
8:00PM

FRIDAY 31 OCT

- **NATIONAL DRESS DAY**
- **NATIONAL FLAG DAY**

MONDAY 03 NOV

- **INDEPENDENCE FLAG CEREMONY**
BARBUDA
9:00AM
- **NATIONAL FOOD FAIR**
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
10:00AM UNTIL
- **INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIAL
PARADE & NATIONAL AWARDS**
SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS STADIUM
5:30PM



Honouring Prince Klaas on National Heroes Day: The King Who Dared to Dream of Freedom

King Court (Prince Klaas)

Did you know?

On October 20th 1736, Prince Klaas, who was also called Court was brutally executed for being one of the masterminds behind an elaborate plot, hatched late in 1735, to overthrow white rule on Antigua and to abolish slavery.

The plan was that, in late October of 1736, during a grand ball for the westerners in honour of George II's coronation, a 10-gallon barrel of gunpowder would be smuggled into the building and blown up killing every single westerner at the ball. The sound of the explosion was to be an alert for several allied enslaved Africans to start killing every white they came across causing a general massacre.

The plan was well hatched and more than ten huge plantations were involved in the plan. During an Akan ceremony at one of the planning meetings, Klaas was initiated as King of the black community. The planned rebellion was uncovered and evidence was found against Klaas and his men. They were sentenced to execution through horrifying means.



Antigua Barbuda
Reparations Support Commission

#knowyourhistory #remembertheirnames
#reparationsnow



King Court (Prince Klaas)

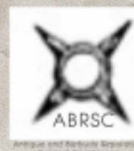
Did you know?

From October 20th 1736, King Court and 87 of his men were executed one after the other in groups. The killings came to a stop during the Christmas period and continued until March 8, 1737.



Antigua Barbuda
Reparations Support Commission

#knowyourhistory #remembertheirnames
#reparationsnow



By: Angelica O'Donoghue
*The Antigua and Barbuda
Reparations Support Commission (ABRSC)*

As Antigua and Barbuda celebrates forty-four years of political independence under the theme “Solid – Stable – Soaring,” we are reminded that the foundation of our nation’s resilience lies in the courage of those who dared to dream of freedom long before independence was imaginable. The theme declares a nation built on strength and endurance, solid in its foundation, stable in its growth, and soaring toward progress. Yet, who we are today is deeply rooted in truth-telling about where we have come from and the sacrifices made to get here.

This National Heroes Day,

as wreaths are laid and tributes are made, the Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission (ABRSC) calls the nation to pause and reflect on the story of Prince Klaas, as he was known by English enslavers but known as **King Court** by his followers. His name has become synonymous with courage, resistance, and vision. Nearly three centuries ago, King Court rose up against the brutality of slavery and paid the ultimate price for freedom.

On October 20, 1736, King Court, an Akan man from present-day Ghana, was executed in St. John’s after being accused of leading one of the most elaborate and coordinated plans to overthrow white colonial rule and abolish slavery in

DEWS

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Antigua. The conspiracy, hatched in 1735, brought together enslaved and free Africans from more than ten major plantations in a shared pursuit of liberation.

King Court, who had been brought to Antigua around 1701 and enslaved by Thomas Kerby, Speaker of the House of Assembly, was considered unusually trusted. He was allowed to “carry on a trade” and to move freely around St. John’s, an opportunity he used not for personal gain, but to mobilize and organize. His fellow conspirator, Tomboy, a carpenter enslaved by Thomas Hanson, also enjoyed a degree of autonomy. He trained apprentices, earned his own wages, and reportedly used his skills to help prepare for the uprising.

During an Akan ceremony held near St. John’s, King

King Court (Prince Klaas)

Did you know?

King Court and five other leaders of various plantations were executed by “breaking on the wheel” – a horrifying death sentence that was a form of crucifixion. His body was strapped to a cartwheel and spun while an executioner stroked his body until he died. Before being wheeled to death, he was severely lashed while tied to the cartwheel. Six others were hanged on iron and left to starve to death while 77 others were burnt to death.



**Antigua Barbuda
Reparations Support Commission**

#knowyourhistory #remembertheirnames
#reparationsnow



Court was crowned King of the Coromantee, symbolizing unity and leadership among the African community. This coronation, rich in cultural and political meaning was viewed as ‘slave

merriment’ and ignored by colonial powers. However, when word of the revolutionary plan which emerged from the ceremony reached Governor William Mathew, he acted swiftly. Klaas,

Tomboy, and scores of others were, held, tortured, and forced into confessions. What followed was the most gruesome episode in Antiguan history.

Between October 1736 and March 1737, King Court and 87 men were executed in waves of English violence intended to crush the spirit of resistance. Some were burned alive, others broken on the wheel, gibbeted (hung in chains), or decapitated their heads displayed publicly as a warning.

Among those executed were men whose names deserve to be remembered: Hercules, Fortune, Jack, Venture, Cudjoe, Quash, Gift, Cuffee, Colley, Ned, Secundi, Jacko, Scipio, John Guy, Billy, Oliver, Monday, Primus, Joe, Jacob, Quamina, Harry, Caesar, Prince, Vigo, Mulatto, and many



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others.

They represented every trade; carpenters, masons, coopers, fiddlers, drivers, and craftsmen, men whose knowledge built the very structures of colonial Antigua, yet whose humanity was denied. Their murders were not just acts of punishment but statements of power, designed to erase the memory of their defiance. Yet, centuries later, their names endure, a salient roll call of bravery.

King Court's own execution was particularly brutal. He was broken on the wheel, burned, and his head mounted on a pole outside the St. John's jail. But even as his body was destroyed, his spirit could not be. His vision of a free people sowed the seeds of resistance that would grow through generations, through rebellion, abolition, self-determination, and eventually, independence.

Today, a monument stands proudly on Independence Drive in his honour. Its bold design by Barry Davis, with the statue fashioned by Sir Reginald Samuel, creator of the national flag captures the enduring power of Klaas's story.

King Court was formally named a National Hero of Antigua and Barbuda in 1998. His legacy extends beyond the history of rebellion; it is a story of vision, of leadership, and of the unyielding belief that people of African descent were born free. His life invites us to continue the journey

King Court (Prince Klaas)

Did you know?

The 88 executed enslaved people who planned the rebellion were skilled workers and had various occupations before their murders. Many were carpenters, masons, drivers, coachmen, musicians, copper-smiths, plantation and sugar-mill workers and a spiritual leader called Obeah Man.



Antigua Barbuda
Reparations Support Commission

#knowyourhistory #remembertheirnames
#reparationsnow



toward full recognition, justice, and development, the pillars of the reparatory justice movement today.

As we celebrate National Heroes Day, may we honour King Court not only as a symbol of rebellion but as a reminder of the unfinished

work of liberation. His sacrifice challenges us to confront the legacies of slavery, inequality, racism, and underdevelopment and to continue building a nation rooted in truth, dignity, and justice.

The Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission (ABRSC) remains steadfast in ensuring that the stories of King Court and his compatriots are not lost to time. We affirm our commitment to truth-telling, public education, and advocacy for reparatory justice, for the generations that came before us, and those yet to come.

For in remembering them, we remember ourselves.

-END-



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Under the Auspices of Senator Michael Joseph

STATEMENT

BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT

Venezuela denounces a military provocation by Trinidad and Tobago, in coordination with the CIA, aimed at provoking a war in the Caribbean

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounces before the international community the dangerous “military exercises” being carried out by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago between the 26th and 30th of this month, under the coordination, financing, and control of the United States Southern Command—an action that constitutes a hostile provocation against Venezuela and a serious threat to peace in the Caribbean.

Venezuela reports that it has captured a mercenary group with direct information from the U.S. intelligence agency, the CIA, determining that a false-flag operation is underway from waters bordering Trinidad and Tobago, or from either Trinbagonian or Venezuelan territory, intended to generate a full-scale military confrontation against our country.

This planned action clearly evokes the provocations of the USS Maine and the Gulf of Tonkin incidents, which led to the war against Spain to seize Cuba in 1898, and later enabled the U.S. Congress to authorize a war against Vietnam in 1964—conflicts from which the United States emerged defeated by the Vietnamese people after causing immeasurable destruction and tragic human losses.

The Government of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has renounced the sovereignty of Trinidad and Tobago to act as a military colony subordinated to U.S. hegemonic interests, turning its territory into a U.S. aircraft carrier for war throughout the Caribbean—against Venezuela, against Colombia, and against all of South America.

By aligning itself with Washington’s militarist agenda, Persad-Bissessar not only seeks to attack Venezuela—a country that has always maintained a policy of energy cooperation, mutual respect, and Caribbean integration, and that shares deep historic ties of brotherhood—but also violates the Charter of the United Nations, the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace approved by CELAC, and the principles of CARICOM, which protect all Caribbean peoples.

This is not a defensive exercise; it is a colonial operation of military aggression intended to transform the Caribbean into a space for lethal violence and U.S. imperial domination.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



The Antigua & Barbuda National Accreditation Board wishes to inform the public that, after extensive research and consultation with our colleagues within the region, we must advise that the **ABNAB does not recognise degrees conferred by the Atlantic International University and CICA International University and Seminary.**

Please be assured that our primary responsibility is to protect the interests of our citizens and maintain the highest standards of quality in higher education. The ABNAB is committed to ensuring that all accredited institutions meet rigorous criteria that reflect both academic excellence and integrity.

We understand that this notice may raise questions and concerns. We encourage you to contact our office for any additional information or clarification you may need.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work diligently to uphold the standards of education in our community.

Regional News

#EyeOnMelissa: Utility providers say recovery may require rebuilding, not just restoration



With Jamaica bracing for the impact of Hurricane Melissa, the country's major utility providers say they are as prepared as possible for the powerful system but warn that recovery efforts may require rebuilding, not just restoration.

At a joint press conference held at the Jamaica Public Service (JPS) head office in New Kingston, JPS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Hugh Grant, Digicel Jamaica CEO Stephen Murad, and Flow Jamaica Vice President and General Manager Stephen Price assured the public that teams are on standby and ready to respond once conditions are safe.

However, they all acknowledged that the projected wind strength and rainfall

from Hurricane Melissa are likely to cause significant damage to critical infrastructure.

"A Category 4 hurricane potentially going through the middle of our island could have unprecedented damage on our facilities. Here at JPS it is likely to be a rebuild and not just a restoration," said Grant.

Grant explained that the storm's expected intensity could result in prolonged outages, which is why JPS has already secured additional equipment and personnel to assist with post-storm operations.

Meanwhile, Flow's Price reported that as of 8:00 pm on Saturday, 771 of 778 sites were fully operational across the island, and all priority one sites serving

the most densely populated areas were at 100 per cent uptime.

Price also issued a strong appeal to the public to avoid acts of theft that could hinder recovery efforts, revealing that during pre-storm assessments, about 1,300 gallons of fuel were stolen from about 10 generators.

"I ask the public to be our eyes and ears out there. When they see anybody doing anything near our sites, just report it to the police," he said.

Flow's emergency lines will remain open 24/7 at 876-929-9834 and 876-929-9837. Price added that once the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) gives the all-clear, technicians will be deployed im-

mediately, pledging transparency and consistent communication with the public.

Digicel's Murad urged Jamaicans to exercise patience as teams work to restore and, in some areas, rebuild damaged networks.

Meanwhile, Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport, Daryl Vaz, commended the readiness of the utility providers, noting that lessons learned from Hurricane Beryl have strengthened the country's emergency response plans. He also urged unity in the face of the looming threat.

"I am satisfied with what has been presented to me and what has been presented to the country, and I think a lot has been learned from Beryl and the continuous dialogue that has taken place since then for us to have a response to this crisis. But I want to caution Jamaica that Beryl was not a direct hit and you saw what happened with that. We are now speaking about the possibility of a direct hit at a level four or five," said Vaz.

"I appeal to all Jamaicans, put aside partisan politics, put aside any rifts you may have, and let us work together, because only that can help us at this late stage of the impending hurricane.

Another press conference is scheduled to be held at noon on Sunday. (Jamaica Observer)

UWI Global Campus 2025 cohort to commemorate graduation via virtual ceremony



The University of the West Indies (The UWI) Global Campus 2025 graduating class will be honored with a virtual commencement next month, organized by the university.

A write-up from UWI shared that this event will mark the third graduation held under the branding of The UWI Global Campus and will celebrate the accomplishments of 1,268 graduates—comprising 219 postgraduate students and 1,046 undergraduates—who form the Class of 2025.

It also stated that these graduates have successfully completed programs leading to Doctorates, Master's, Bachelor's, and Associate degrees, along with Certificates and Diplomas across various fields. Notably, the 2025 cohort is the largest in the history of the campus and includes its first PhD recipient. As in previous years, students from across the Caribbean will participate virtually.

Distinguished guests, including Heads of State and Government, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, members of the University's Executive Management, senior officials from both the University and government, as well as the families and friends of the graduates, have traditionally watched the ceremony online as the graduates are recognized for their achievements and

receive their academic degrees.

This year, the university also announced that it will award an Honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) degree to Sir Calixte George, an esteemed Saint Lucian agronomist, educator, agricultural researcher, and statesman. Sir Calixte's career has reportedly been distinguished by notable contributions to science, governance, and regional development.

The theme for this year's ceremony, "Pelicans in an AI-Driven Future – Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow," aptly reflects the journey of the Class of 2025. Having begun their studies amidst a period of rapid digital evolution, the university acknowledges that these graduates have demonstrated resilience and foresight, positioning themselves as leaders ready to guide the Caribbean into a future shaped by technology.

The Valedictorian for this class is Mr. Alex Anderson, an educator from Jamaica. He is graduating with First Class Honours in Educational Leadership and Management. Currently a primary school teacher, Mr. Anderson is described in the statement as consistently fostering confidence, curiosity, and academic achievement among his students. Following tradition, he will deliver the valedictory address

on behalf of his fellow graduates from across the Caribbean.

It is reported that Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal Dr. Francis O. Severin expressed warm congratulations to the graduates and their families, emphasizing that graduation ceremonies are a reflection of the university's mission. He highlighted that seeing individuals from diverse backgrounds earning degrees at various levels symbolizes access and empowerment. He also noted the significance of the Global Campus's approach—bringing education directly to communities, especially in the Eastern Caribbean—allowing students to celebrate alongside their loved ones and supporters in their own environments.

The official graduation event will conclude with the graduates reciting The UWI Alumni Pledge, followed by a musical performance of the university's anthem, "There is a Light."

The ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM Eastern Caribbean Time, and will be streamed live via UWItv.global, the platform's Facebook Live page, and Flow.

The graduation celebrations will also be accessible through EVO channels and Flow's Bluu mobile app. (Dominica News Online)

Silent mental health issues growing concern in younger Caribbean population, says regional study

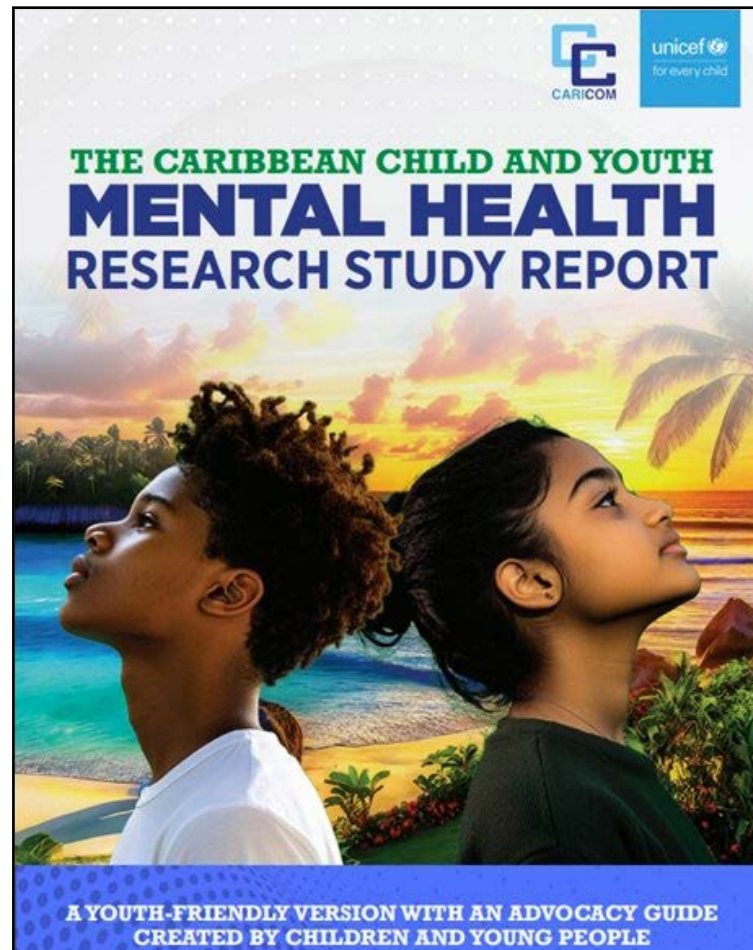
A large proportion of children and teenagers across the Caribbean are experiencing elevated symptoms of depression and anxiety.

This troubling fact is derived from the 2025 Caribbean Child and Youth Mental Health Research Study Report, a comprehensive work resulting from a collaborative effort between the CARICOM Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). CARICOM reported that the survey, conducted in 2024, targeted young individuals throughout the Caribbean region to investigate issues related to their mental health and overall well-being, with the goal of identifying effective solutions. Over 1,500 children and youth from 17 different countries and territories participated in the study.

The findings highlighted alarming trends in the mental health landscape of Caribbean youth: 58% of respondents reported feeling a lack of hope about the future; 56% indicated they often experience ongoing worry; and 54% expressed feelings of sadness, depression, and hopelessness.

During a virtual event on October 22, where the study's results were presented, Hon. Dr. Frank Anthony, Guyana's Minister of Health, praised CARICOM and UNICEF for their vital role in gaining a deeper understanding of anxiety and depression among young populations in the region.

"These findings are signif-



icant because they would help us to address some of the issues that we face across the Caribbean," stated Minister Anthony. "Here in Guyana, we have already been examining issues related to mental health, particularly mental health among young people."

He added, "I hope these findings will lead to meaningful interventions that truly support our young people. This must not be the final study. We need to close the data gaps that persist across the Region."

Additionally, the CARICOM release said that Hon. Steven Jacobs, Guyana's Minister within the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport, highlighted the urgent chal-

lenges impacting young people, which may contribute to heightened levels of anxiety and depression. He called for collaborative efforts to address these issues. "Across our Region, young people are facing increasing pressures from academic stress and unemployment, the lingering effects of the pandemic and social media challenges," stated Minister Jacobs, "Many are silently struggling, unsure where to turn. This is why prevention and early response are so critical. No single ministry can do it alone."

In terms of potential solutions, Michele Small-Bartley, Programme Manager for Youth Development at the CARICOM Secretar-

iat, outlined key recommendations derived from the study's insights. She stressed the importance of improving access to mental health support services for youth, strengthening referral systems, raising awareness to combat stigma, and equipping parents and educators with the skills to recognize signs of mental distress.

"Many children, whether at home, in school, or within their communities, need our support. This document not only presents valuable data, but it also offers practical resources and evidence to guide the development of more tailored and impactful programmes for our Caribbean people," stated the Programme Manager.

Resources

Bertrand Moses, Child Protection Officer, UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area, shared resources developed by CARICOM and UNICEF, with the input of thousands of Caribbean youth, to tackle the issues identified, including a Directory of Governmental Health Services on the Young Caribbean Minds website. This includes links to text lines, hotlines, and other resources with country-specific listings.

The Caribbean Child and Youth Mental Health Research Study Report and related resources can be downloaded via <https://www.youngcaribbeanminds.com>

(Dominica News Online)

Kamala Harris leaves door open for 2028 US presidential run

Former United States Vice President Kamala Harris is not ruling out another run for the presidency.

In an interview with the BBC posted Saturday, Harris said she expects a woman will be president in the coming years, and it could “possibly” be her.

“I am not done,” she said.

Harris said she hasn’t decided whether to mount a 2028 presidential campaign. But she dismissed the suggestion that she’d face long odds.

“I have lived my entire career a life of service and it’s in my bones. And there are many ways to serve,” she said. “I’ve never listened to polls.”

She’s recently given a series of interviews following the September release of her



book, “107 Days.” It looks back on her experience replacing then-President Joe Biden as the 2024 Democratic presidential nominee after he dropped out of the race.

She ultimately lost to Republican President Donald Trump.

In an interview with The Associated Press last week,

Harris, 61, also made clear that running again in 2028 is still on the table. She said she sees herself as a leader of the party, including in pushing back against Trump and preparing for the 2026 midterms.

Asked in an October 17 interview with AP whether she had plans for a 2028 bid, Harris said, “I haven’t decided. Sincerely. I have not

decided. I may or I may not. I have not decided.”

Asked specifically whether she still wanted to do the job itself, she used the past tense, saying, “It’s a job I wanted to do.” But she noted that the only way to do it “is to run” and win.

Meanwhile, political jockeying among Democrats for the 2028 presidential contest appears to be playing out even earlier than usual.

Several potential candidates are already taking steps to get to know voters in key states, including California Governor Gavin Newsom, term-limited Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear and California Congressman Ro Khanna. Upward of 30 high-profile Democrats could ultimately enter the primary. (AP)



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Two arrested over theft of jewels at Louvre museum in Paris



Two suspects have been arrested over the theft of precious crown jewels from Paris's Louvre museum, French media say.

The Paris prosecutor's office said one of the men had been taken into custody as he was preparing to take a flight from Charles de Gaulle Airport.

Items worth €88m (£76m; \$102m) were taken from the world's most-visited museum last Sunday, when four thieves wielding power tools broke into the building in broad daylight.

France's justice minister has conceded security protocols "failed", leaving the country with a "terrible image".

The Paris prosecutor's office said in a statement that the arrests had been made on Saturday evening, without specifying how many people had been taken into custody.

One of the suspects was preparing to travel to Algeria, police sources have told French media, while it is understood the other was going to Mali.

Specialist police can detain and question them for up to 96 hours.

According to reports in French media on Sunday, DNA found at the scene of the robbery led to the identification of one of the suspects.

The gang left behind a number of items, including gloves and a high-vis jacket.

It has previously been reported that they dropped a crown that once belonged to Empress Eugenie, the wife of Napoleon III.

The Paris prosecutor criticised the "premature disclosure" of information related to the case, adding that it hindered efforts to recover the jewels and find the thieves.

The thieves reportedly arrived at 09:30 (08:30 GMT), shortly after the museum opened to visitors.

The suspects arrived with a vehicle-mounted mechanical lift to gain access to the Galerie d'Apollon (Gallery of Apollo) via a balcony close to

the River Seine.

Pictures from the scene showed the ladder leading up to a first-floor window.

Two of the thieves entered by cutting through the window with power tools.

They then threatened the guards, who evacuated the premises, and cut through the glass of two display cases containing jewels.

A preliminary report has revealed that one in three rooms in the area of the museum raided had no CCTV cameras, according to French media.

French police say the thieves were inside for four minutes and made their escape on two scooters waiting outside at 09:38.

The museum's director told French senators this week that the only camera monitoring the exterior wall of the Louvre where they broke in was pointing away from the first-floor balcony that led to Gallery of Apollo.

CCTV around the perimeter was also weak and "ageing", Laurence des Cars said, meaning that staff failed to spot the gang early enough to stop the theft.

Experts have also expressed concern that the jewels may have already been broken up into hundreds of pieces.

Gold and silver can be melted down and the gems can be cut up into smaller stones that will be virtually impossible to track back to the robbery, Dutch art detective Arthur Brand told the BBC.

Security measures have since been tightened around France's cultural institutions.

The Louvre has transferred some of its most precious jewels to the Bank of France following the heist. They will now be stored in the Bank's most secure vault, 26m (85ft) below the ground floor of its elegant headquarters in central Paris. (BBC)

Russia tests new nuclear-capable missile, Putin says

Russia tested a new nuclear-capable and powered cruise missile fit to confound existing defenses, inching closer to deploying it to its military, President Vladimir Putin said Sunday.

The announcement, which followed years of tests of the Burevestnik missile, comes as part of nuclear messaging from the Kremlin, which has resisted Western pressure for a ceasefire in Ukraine and strongly warned the US and other NATO allies against sanctioning strikes deep inside Russia with longer-range Western weapons.

A video released by the Kremlin showed Putin, dressed in camouflage fatigues, receiving a report from General Valery Gerasimov, Russia's chief of general staff, who told the Russian leader that the Burevestnik covered 14,000 kilometers (8,700 miles) in a key test Tuesday.

Gerasimov said the Burevestnik, or storm petrel in Russian, spent 15 hours in the air on nuclear power, adding "that's not the limit."

Little is known about the Burevestnik, which was code-named Skyfall by NATO, and many Western experts have been skeptical about it, noting that a nuclear engine could be highly unreliable.

When Putin first revealed that Russia was working



on the weapon in his 2018 state-of-the-nation address, he claimed it would have an unlimited range, allowing it to circle the globe undetected by missile defense systems.

Many observers argue such a missile could be difficult to handle and pose an environmental threat. The US and the Soviet Union worked on nuclear-powered missiles during the Cold War, but they eventually shelved the projects, considering them too hazardous.

The Burevestnik reportedly suffered an explosion in August 2019 during tests at a navy range on the White Sea, killing five nuclear engineers and two service members and resulting in a brief spike in radioactivity that fueled fears in a nearby city.

Russian officials never identified the weapon involved, but the US said it was the Burevestnik.

"We need to determine the possible uses and begin preparing the infrastructure for deploying these weapons to our armed forces," Putin told Gerasimov.

The Russian leader also claimed it was invulnerable to current and future missile defenses, due to its almost unlimited range and unpredictable flight path.

Kirill Dmitriev, a top Putin aide who was in the US as the video surfaced, said his delegation informed US colleagues of the "successful testing" of the Burevestnik, which he said was an "absolutely new class" of weapon.

Earlier this week, Putin

directed drills of Russia's strategic nuclear forces that featured practice missile launches. The exercise came as his planned summit on Ukraine with US President Donald Trump was put on hold.

The Kremlin said that the maneuvers involved all parts of Moscow's nuclear triad, including intercontinental ballistic missiles that were test-fired from launch facilities in northwestern Russia and a submarine in the Barents Sea. The drills also involved Tu-95 strategic bombers firing long-range cruise missiles.

The exercise tested the skills of military command structures, the Kremlin said in a statement Wednesday. (AP)

Winning start for PMS in defense of U-20 girls division league title

The Princess Margaret School got off to a winning start in the defense of their Under-20 Girls Division League title in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition on Friday.

Princess Margaret School launched their title defense with a 3-0 victory against Ottos Comprehensive School at the ABFA Technical Center.

The goals were scored by Samoya Weeks in the seventh minute, Kayla Bellot in the 29th, and Karmiellia Hughes in the 48th minute.

Jennings Secondary pulled off a 3-1 victory against HCABSCE in their opening match in the Under-20 Girls Division League at Golden Grove.

Abigail McDonald had a double conversion with goals in the 26th and 29th minutes, and Latoya Williams scored in the 21st minute for Jennings. Adisha Carram scored in the sixth minute for HCABSCE.

Meanwhile, the Princess Margaret School also got off to a winning start in the defense of their Under-20 Boys Division League title in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup.

Princess Margaret School launched their campaign with a 13-0 drubbing of Pares Secondary School at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park in St. John's.

Alan Henry converted four goals, while Malik Samuel, Shumba Thomas,



The Princess Margaret School football team with their medals after winning the 2024 Under-20 Girls Division League title by beating Antigua Girls High School 3-0 in the final at the ABFA Technical Center on Wednesday, April 9, 2024. (Photo courtesy of the Ministry of Sports)

and Roshan Samuel each scored twice. The other goals were scored by Zadier Forde, Mario Lewis, and Shamar Walters.

It was the second loss in as many games for Pares Secondary, who suffered an 8-2 loss against Ottos Comprehensive School in their opening encounter.

After suffering a 4-2 loss to the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) in their opening game, Sir Novelle Richards Academy rebounded to claim their first win with a 3-1 victory against Irene B. Williams Secondary in their second encounter at the same venue.

The goals for Sir Novel-
le Richards Academy were
scored by Isjaunti Isidore
in the sixth minute, Case-
an Dennis in the 57th, and
Agieano Williams in the
73rd minute.

Nequan Tanner scored a consolation goal for Irene B. Williams Secondary,

who were playing their first match in this year's competition.

But ABCAS conceded two late goals that resulted in a 4-4 draw with Ottos Comprehensive School in their second encounter at the ABFA Technical Center.

Tafari Looby scored in the 75th minute to make it 4-3, and teammate Demarre Swift snatched the equalizer for Ottos Comprehensive School in the 77th minute with his second of two goals.

Swift scored his other goal in the 27th minute to give Ottos Comprehensive a 2-1 lead. Jahkim Benjamin put Ottos Comprehensive ahead with a 13th-minute conversion, and Cody Richardson scored in the 24th minute to equalize for ABCAS.

Ojahrie Mitchell made it 2-2 when he scored a second equalizer for ABCAS in the 42nd minute. Conversions by Dennison Stevens in the 48th minute and

Andre Henry in the 72nd minute gave ABCAS a 4-2 lead before Ottos Comprehensive scored twice in the latter stage to salvage the draw in their opening match of this year's competition.

The Harrison Center Antigua and Barbuda School of Continuing Education (HCABSCE) also got off to a winning start, coasting to a 4-0 victory against Jennings Secondary School in their opening encounter at the Golden Grove playing field.

The goals for HCAB-SCE were scored by Adonijah Dyett in the fifth minute, Khadeel Greene in the 27th, Romario Christian in the 35th, and Aafique Edwards in the 43rd minute. It was also the first match for Jennings Secondary in this year's competition.

Jennings Secondary maintained their unbeaten start to the Under-14 Boys Division League, claiming their second win in three matches by snatching a 3-1 victory against St. Joseph's Academy at the ABFA Technical Center.

The goal scorers for Jennings Secondary were Elreekk Francois in the seventh minute, Shaquan Joseph in the 10th minute, and Zahier Joseph in the 55th minute.

Tariq Roberts scored in the 12th minute for St. Joseph's Academy, who suffered their first defeat in two matches after snatching a 4-3 victory against All Saints Secondary in their opening encounter.

Success for Villa Tech Enterprise in Business Football League

Villa Tech Enterprise moved into third place in the Group 4 standings in the 2025 JOMA Caribbean Ministry of Sports Business Football League Championship during the latest round of rescheduled matches.

Villa Tech Enterprise claimed their third win in five matches with a 5-1 drubbing of Cocos Hotel at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Villa Tech came out firing from the first whistle, and it was Jahlanie Barzey who stole the spotlight with a sensational hat trick, striking in the 5th, 29th, and 40th minutes.

Jahzhino O'Garro added to the tally in the 25th minute, and Kadeem Campbell sealed the deal with a composed finish in the 51st.

Zakeba McDougal gave Cocos Hotel something to cheer about by scoring a consolation goal in the 36th minute.

The result carries Villa Tech Enterprise to third place on goal difference by advancing to nine points, the same as 2023 champions APUA Telecoms, who are in second place with a game in hand.

Defending champions Hermitage Bay Strikers currently lead Group 4 with 10 points from four matches.

Fresh Acres Enterprise consolidated their second-place position in Group 2, securing their fourth win in six match-



Jahlanie Barzey of Villa Tech Enterprise

es with a 4-0 drubbing of the Central Marketing Corporation (CMC) at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

Vashawn James broke the deadlock with a strike in the 10th minute, followed by a flurry of second-half goals from Dejaz Christian in the 39th, Nigel Graham in the 40th, and Quami Byers in the 49th minute to complete the rout.

The result allows Fresh Acres Enterprise to advance to 13 points, the same as Group 2 leaders, the Ministry of Agriculture. The Central Marketing Corporation remains in sixth place on goal difference with seven points after crashing to their third loss in six matches.

The National Housing Development (NHD) Demolition Squad also consolidated their fourth-place position in Group 1, recording their second win in five matches with a 2-0 victory against Sandals.

Jamore Benjamin opened the scoring in the 18th minute, and Yanil Stevens added a second just a minute later with a strike in the 19th minute.

The result carries NHD Demolition Squad to seven points, one adrift of Sandals, who remain in third place with eight points after suffering their second loss in six matches.

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Sandals extend unbeaten run in Business Basketball League

Defending champs Sandals continued their unbeaten run in the 2025 Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League championships on Saturday night.

Sandals joined the Board of Education at the top of the standings with an identical 10 wins in as many games by pulling off a 66-54 victory against the Antigua Power Company.

Selassie Brathwaite produced 17 points, six rebounds, and five steals; Lopez Adams had 11 points, 16 rebounds, and five blocks; Keroi Lee sank 11 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, and Adissa Harris scored 10 points for Sandals.

Sheldon Abrams converted 12 points and claimed seven rebounds, and Tristan Jacobs scored 10 points for Antigua Power Company, who suffered their fifth loss in 11 games.

In their previous outing, the Antigua Power Company recorded their sixth win in the competition with a 45-34 victory against Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

Amare Browne converted 12 points and snatched eight rebounds, and Tristan Jacobs scored 12 points and claimed seven rebounds for Antigua Power Company.

Point guard Nigel Joseph scored 10 points for Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, who suffered their eighth loss in 12 games.

In one of the biggest up-



The Sandals basketball team. (Photo courtesy of the ABBA)

sets in this year's competition, struggling Fearless Security Services notched up their third win in 12 games by snatching a surprising 64-59 victory against 2023 champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board.

Beniah Mark shot a game-high 18 points and grabbed 12 rebounds; Emeka Emjuru converted 11 points; and Shaquille Kelly produced 11 points, 11 rebounds, and four blocks for Fearless Security Services.

Elijah Charles converted 15 points, Lindsay McDonald sank 11 points, and Marlon Charles chipped in with 10 points, 12 rebounds, and four blocks for the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, who suffered their fourth loss in 12 games.

In their previous outing, the Antigua and Barbuda

Transport Board claimed their eighth win in the competition with a 76-42 victory against J&J Company Landscaping Services.

Elijah Charles shot a game-high 28 points for Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board. Tyndale Telemaque converted 15 points, and Daysher Samuel scored 10 points for J&J Company Landscaping Services, who remain second from the bottom of the standings after suffering their ninth loss in 10 games.

The Sledge O Ballers recorded their fifth win in 11 games with an 83-54 drubbing of Police. Marlon Davis and Dajon George each sank 14 points, and Joovan Gordon scored 13 points for the Sledge O Ballers.

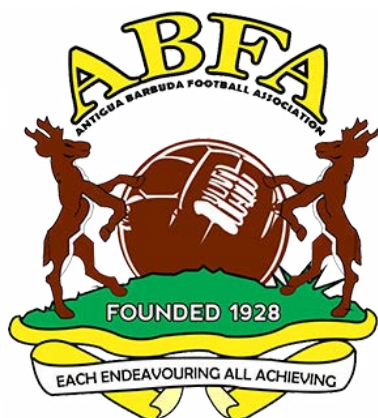
Julian Henry shot a game-high 18 points, Javon Simon

sank 12 points, and Gavin Walker scored 10 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Police, who finished their campaign in the cellar of the 14-team round-robin competition without a win by virtue of losing all their 13 games.

H. Wright Promotions notched up their ninth win in 12 games with a 67-46 victory against Antigua Computer Technology. Donte Trimmingham shot a game-high 30 points for H. Wright Promotions.

Hansel Piper produced 16 points, eight rebounds, and five assists, and Henry Dorsette scored 11 points for Antigua Computer Technology, who slumped to their eighth defeat in 10 games.

Opening game wins for Villa, Pigotts, and Old Road in Premier League



There were winning starts for Villa Lions, Pigotts Bullets, and Old Road in their opening-round matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's Premier Division League on Saturday.

Jahlanie Barzey scored twice as the Villa Lions came from behind to pull off a 4-2 victory against the Potters Tigers in the opening game of a triple-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Barzey had conversions in the 85th and the third minute of added time (93rd minute), while the other goals for the Villa Lions were scored by Orel Edwards in the 32nd minute and Dahvia Hughes in the 74th minute.

Jamour Martin scored the first goal of the match in the 10th minute to put the Potters Tigers ahead, and teammate Mark Portsmouth converted their second goal in the 35th minute.

The Pigotts Bullets launched their campaign with a 3-0 victory against John Hughes in the day's second encounter. The goals for the Bullets were scored by Sujae Mcbean in the 15th minute, Javier Wilmott in the 43rd minute, and Kimon Harrigan in the first minute of added time (91st minute).

Forward Rakeem Joseph scored twice in leading Old Road to a 4-2 victory against Ottos Rangers in the last game of Saturday's triple-header.

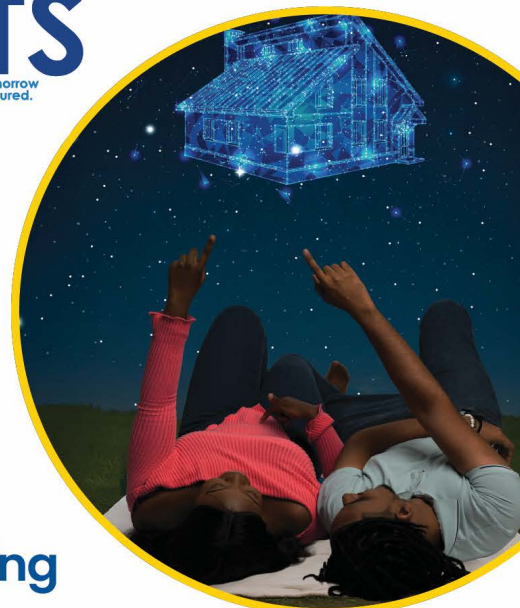
Rakeem Joseph had conversions in the 20th and 71st minutes, while the other goals for Old Road were scored by Kevon Lucas in the 41st minute and Gisner Joseph in the seventh minute of added time (97th minute).

Sanjae Carr had a 22nd-minute conversion, and Josue "Naymar" Arias scored in the 28th minute for Ottos Rangers.



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

Winning start for Antiguans in LICB tournament in St. Kitts



The Antigua and Barbuda senior men's teams prior to their departure to St. Kitts to compete in the 2025 Leeward Islands Cricket Board's (LICB) Mixed Format Tournament. (Photo courtesy of the ABCA)

Antigua and Barbuda got off to a winning start in the Leeward Islands Cricket Board's (LICB) Mixed Format Tournament in St. Kitts on Saturday.

The Antiguans launched their campaign in the one-day format with a seven-wicket win against St. Maarten at the St. Paul's Sporting Complex.

St. Maarten was dismissed for 116 in 28.3 overs after being sent in to bat. Michael Palmer scored 37, and Israel Morton made a brisk 29

off eight balls, including three sixes and two fours.

Antiguan captain and off-spinner Rahkeem Cornwall snapped up three wickets for six runs to claim the man of the match award. Medium pacer Elroy Francis Jr. picked up two for 13, and left-arm spinner Karima Gore claimed two for 18.

Opener Tyrone Williams Jr. struck an unbeaten half century to guide Antigua and Barbuda to victory at 117 for three in 24.1 overs. Williams Jr. slammed 61 not out off 83 balls, including

six fours and two sixes. Kofi James made 19, and Jewel Andrew hit 16 not out.

A winning start as well for host St. Kitts and Nevis in the other two opening one-day matches. Opener Mikyle Louis slammed an unbeaten century to lead St. Kitts to a three-wicket win against Montserrat at Warner Park Stadium.

Set 166 to win, Louis struck 109 not out to lead St. Kitts to victory at 171 for seven in 41 overs. Louis faced 111 balls and struck nine fours and five

sixes. Zawandi Whyte claimed three for 28, and leg-spinner Hayden Walsh Jr. took two for 28.

Montserrat were dismissed for 165 in 36.3 overs after being sent in to bat. Whyte hit a top score of 50 off 60 balls, and Kriston Yearwood struck 38 off 43 balls. Pacer Sheno Berridge grabbed five for 18, Kunal Tilokani claimed two for 39, and Captain Terence Warde captured two for 40.

Nevis prevailed by eight wickets against Anguilla at the Conaree Cricket Center. Anguilla were bundled out for 108 in 33.5 overs after being asked to bat first.

Deon Burton hit 35, and Jaidel Richardson scored 18. Left-arm spinner Onaje Amory bagged three for 17, and Jaden Carmichael took three for 29.

Captain Carlon Tuckett hit an unbeaten 53 off 45 balls to lead Nevis to victory at 111 for two in 24.1 overs. Ross Powell made 28, and opener Jamie Cornelius scored 20.