

Arrangements finalized to evacuate A&B students from Jamaica

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The Long Bay Brewing Company, a locally owned company that produces lager beer, IPA and stout for the local market at its facility near Long Bay.

Local News

Arrangements finalized to evacuate A&B students from Jamaica

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has concluded arrangements with the C.E.O. of LIAT Air to evacuate the Antigua and Barbuda students from Jamaica, should the need arise, following passage of Hurricane Melissa. The Prime Minister met with Mrs. Hafsa Abdulsalam, the Chief Executive Officer, on Tuesday morning, who gave the Prime Minister the assurance that a LIAT aircraft will be made available as soon as the conditions allow, should evacuation be necessary.

The Prime Minister reported to the CEO that all 53 students are secure and safely housed at the Pegasus Hotel in New Kingston since Friday past, and that they have all the creature comforts to enable them to study while they await the worst of the hurricane.



PM Browne and LIAT Air CEO Hafsa Abdulsalam meet at PM Office Tuesday 28 October 2025

The storm made landfall Tuesday, traveling at an exceedingly slow rate, with winds exceeding 185 miles per hour that make it a powerful Category 5 hurricane. It was seen as a grave danger to life and property.

The Prime Minister continues to encourage all congregations to pray for Jamaica and all who reside there, seeking God's intervention to lessen the harm that will likely result. Nearly everyone in Antigua and Barbuda knows what harm hurricanes inflict, and the cost of recovery from their devastating winds and water. The Prime Minister assures the nation that Antigua and Barbuda will provide some assistance to Jamaica in the post-hurricane recovery period.



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Distribution of Prescription Glasses extend to Friday

The Ministry of Health has announced that the distribution of prescription eye-glasses has been extended to this week's Friday.

The ministry had previously announced that it had just over 500 glasses to distribute with the expectation that this would have been completed over two days; this week's Monday and Tuesday. But with only two hundred glasses collected over the first two days, the ministry decided to extend the distribution until the end of the week.

Distribution hours are as follows:

Wednesday, October 29: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

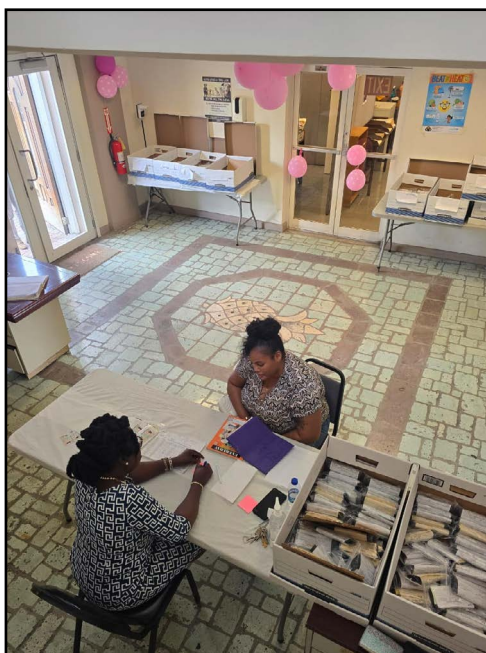
Thursday, October 30: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday, October 31: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

All remaining individuals who were prescribed glasses during the Health Fair held in June 2025 at the Multi-Purpose Cultural and Exhibition Centre are encouraged to visit the Ministry during the stated hours to collect their eye-wear.

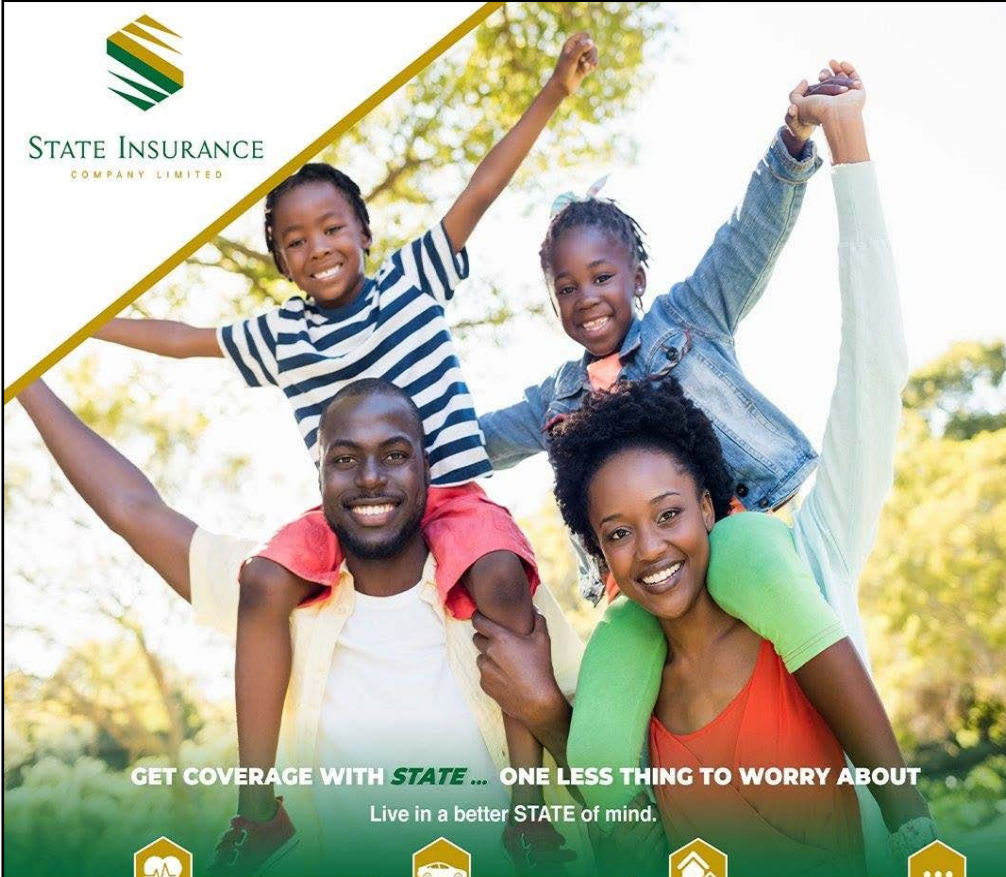
Persons collecting their glasses are reminded to bring along a valid form of identification.

The Ministry of Health remains committed to ensuring equitable access to healthcare and improving the quality of life for all citizens through ongoing outreach and vision care initiatives.





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Local beer company provides insights into its operation



The Long Bay Brewing Company, a locally owned company that produces lager beer, IPA and stout for the local market, held an ‘Open House’ on Tuesday when members of the media, consumers and other were given an opportunity to see up close its operations.

Established some three years ago as part of the Barrett Group, the company has been supplying the local market with beer sold in kegs for bars, hotels and restaurants.

“From this summer we decided to start producing beers in cans and therefore to enter the retail market. Since then, we have had a very positive response to our beer from the consumer,” said marketing consultant, Calvert Francis.

Francis said the company has been sponsoring several major local events as part of its brand awareness strategy. “We participated in Caribana in Barbuda and in fact, we did our activation there before coming over to Antigua. We were the official beer for Carnival ’25 as well as a main sponsor for the

Melting Pot show. In addition, we sponsored several mas troupes this past carnival as well as being associated with several of the fetes,”

he revealed.

The product is now establishing itself through these partnerships and the company has rolled out an ag-




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gressive distribution plan with the beer being available in just about every community across Antigua and Barbuda. “From Freetown to English Harbour to places in and around St. Johns, including the major supermarkets, the Long Bay Beer is available,” Francis stated. The marketing consultant added that the price of the product has

been competitively placed allowing for bars and other outlets to run their own promotions.

Regarding the taste of the beer and how it compares with other more popular and established brands, Francis said the feedback has been good with some indicating that it is similar to their favourite beers.

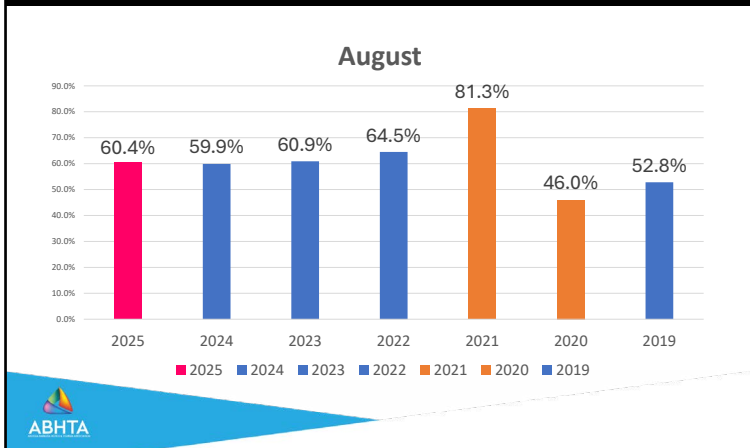
The company produces between

1500 to 2000 cases of beer per week, but has the capacity is there to produce up to 3000 if the demand is for that amount.

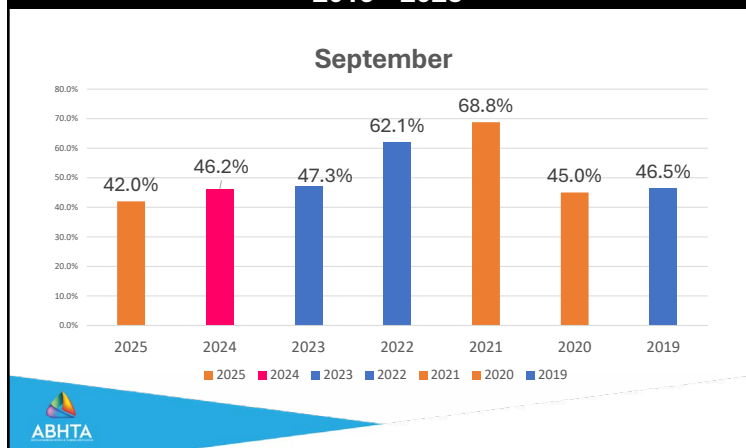
Francis noted that the company is concentrating on establishing the brand in Antigua and Barbuda as its immediate goal. However, he does not rule out regional expansion in the months and years ahead.

Latest tourism figures reflect historical trend lines

Occupancy - August
2019 - 2025



Occupancy - September
2019 - 2025



The latest figures of the performance of the hotels sector for the months of July, August and September reflect what has been a historical fact; the summer months continue to be a challenge for the sector.

Occupancy rates for August in the hotels that comprise the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourist Association (ABHTA) were 60.4 percent. This was marginally better than the 59.9 percent that was recorded in 2024.

For September, occupancy rates fell to 42 percent which showed a decline from the 46.2 percent recorded a year earlier.

Arrivals by Country YTD 2025 versus 2024

Market	2025	2024	Avriance 2024/2019
USA	115,959	109,016	6%
UK	44,007	42,152	4%
Canada	17,578	20,660	-18%
Caribbean	16,033	18,169	-13%
Italy	1713	1718	0%
Other	10603	13289	-25%
Total Arrivals	205,893	205,004	0%

The data did not include stay-over numbers for the two months. However, the arrivals for the first seven months of the year were released.

The figures showed that

there was a slight improvement in the arrivals from January to July, 2025, compared with the same period in 2024.

Arrivals for the first seven months this year totaled:

205,893. The figures for the same period last year were; **205,004.**

The United States continues to dominate tourism arrivals accounting for more than half of all arrivals to the country. From January to July this year arrivals from the US totaled, 115,959. For the same period in 2024 it stood at, 109,016.

The second most important market is the UK with 44,007 visitors. This is up from the 42,152 recorded in 2024. Canada comes in third. However, it recorded an 18 percent decline this year compared with last year; 17,578 (2025) compared with 20,660 (2024).



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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.

The annual Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards ceremony set for November 29

One of the most sought after event on the tourism industry calendar – the annual Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards Ceremony – will take place on Saturday November 29, at Sandals Antigua Resort and Spa.

This important social event is a joint undertaking of the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA). The awards ceremony is widely regarded as an annual celebration of excellence, innovation, and service within the nation's vibrant tourism industry.

This year's prestigious event promises an unforgettable evening of glamour and recognition. Under the theme "Mirror Ball Gala – A Night to Reflect and Shine," the Gala celebrates the brilliance of Antigua and Barbuda's hospitality professionals. Much like a **mirror ball** casting reflections in every direction, this Gala honours the countless moments of dedication, passion, and excellence shown by teams across the industry—each individual effort coming together to create something spectacular.

"On this glamorous night, we pause to reflect on the hard work, resilience, and service excellence that continue to elevate our nation's tourism sector," a media release from the ABHTA stated.

Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation, and Investment, Charles Fernandez, stated, "The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards embody the pride and professionalism that define Antigua and Bar-



buda's tourism product. This year's 'Mirror Ball Gala' theme captures our collective spirit—one that continues to reflect the hard work, creativity, and excellence that make our destination shine among the best in the world."

ABHTA Chairman, Craig Marshall, added: "The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Awards are a vital celebration of the heart and soul of Antigua and Barbuda's hospitality sector. Under our theme, 'Investing in People, Powering the Future,' we recognise that our industry thrives because of the dedication, passion, and excellence of our professionals."

The 2025 Tourism Awards will recognize outstanding achievements in a wide range of categories, including:

- Employee of the Year
- Supervisor of the Year
- Rising Star of the Year

- Young Hotelier of the Year
- Young Chef of the Year
- Chef of the Year
- Transportation Service Provider of the Year
- Tour Guide of the Year
- Port Frontline Employee of the Year
- Customer Service Excellence Award
- Social Media Excellence Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations for these awards were open to both private and public sector tourism businesses, with winners to be selected by a distinguished panel of industry leaders. Honourees will be celebrated alongside Government officials, senior executives, and tourism stakeholders in a night dedicated to shining a light on the best of Antigua and Barbuda's hospitality talent.



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Temporary Closure of the Willikies Police Station

The Police Administration is informing the general public that the Willikies Police Station has been temporarily closed to the public due to infrastructural issues affecting the facility.

In the interest of the safety and well-being of the officers assigned to that station, the decision to close the facility was taken in collaboration with the Police Welfare Association and will remain in effect until further notice.

As a result, officers attached to the Willikies Police Station have been temporarily relocated to the Parham and Freetown Police Stations.

Residents of Willikies, Glanvilles, Seatons, Pares, and other surrounding areas may still contact the Willikies Police Station at 463-2000 or the Parham Police Sta-



tion at 463-2060 to file complaints or request police assistance.

Additionally, persons who are on bail and were instructed to report to the Willikies Police Station as part of their bail conditions are now required to report to the Parham Police Station.

In the interim, the Police Administration has im-

plemented measures to ensure increased patrols throughout the affected areas to maintain law and order and safeguard the welfare of residents.

The Police Administration regrets any inconvenience this temporary closure may cause and assures the public that the safety and security of all citizens remain a top pri-

ority.

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda sincerely thanks the residents of Willikies and the neighboring communities for their cooperation and support as efforts are being made to resolve the issue and restore full operations at the Willikies Police Station as soon as possible.



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Ministry of Health PS O'Keffe Attends Pan-American Highway for Digital Health Meeting in El Salvador

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Colin Okeiffe, is representing Antigua and Barbuda at the Pan-American Highway for Digital Health (PH4H) meeting currently taking place in San Salvador, El Salvador, from October 27 to 30.

The high-level regional meeting, convened under the theme "Driving Innovation and Connection in the Americas," brings together representatives from all PAHO Member States to advance the digital transformation of health systems across Latin America and the Caribbean.

The PH4H initiative seeks to establish a connected and interoperable digital health ecosystem that promotes Interoperability, Continuity of Care, Patient-Centered Approaches, Information Verification and Regional Resilience.

Across the Americas, countries have taken various approaches to integrating technology into healthcare. However, misalignment among national systems has hindered information sharing and weakened the region's ability to respond swiftly to health threats. The PH4H initiative aims to bridge these gaps by transitioning Member States from isolated information systems to a fully digitized, interconnected health sector.

Facilitated by the Pan American Health



PS O'Keffe is representing Antigua and Barbuda at health meeting in El Salvador

Organization (PAHO) in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the workshop focuses on developing legal, ethical, and governance frameworks to ensure privacy, confidentiality, and secure data exchange across borders. PAHO will support Member States with the implementation of these systems following national readiness assessments.

Among the key benefits expected from this initiative are:

- Shared capacity building and regional collaboration

- Strengthened cybersecurity and cyber-resilience in healthcare
- Improved patient engagement, access, and confidence
- Data-driven decision-making and cost efficiencies
- Greater stakeholder participation and public trust in healthcare systems
- Digitized allied registries and regional integration of health data

Permanent Secretary Colin Okeiffe emphasized the significance of this initiative in improving patient care across the Americas.

"One of the most powerful outcomes of this digital transformation is that every person's health will travel with them," he stated. "Within the PAHO region, regardless of culture, age, or background, there will be no barriers to accessing an individual's health information — with their permission — in the interest of their care. Your health travels with you, without barriers or borders."

The Ministry of Health reaffirms its commitment to supporting regional collaboration that strengthens healthcare systems, promotes technological innovation, and ensures that no PAHO Member State is left behind in the digital transformation of public health.

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Recall of Neutrogena Make-up Remover Ultra-Soft Cleansing Towelettes

The Prices and Consumer Affairs Division is informing consumers of a product recall for Neutrogena Make-up Remover Ultra-Soft Cleansing Towelettes due to possible bacterial contamination.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has stated that an internal investigation done by Kenvu Brands LLC, Neutrogena's parent company, revealed that the brand's Make-up Remover Ultra-Soft Cleansing Towelettes tested positive for a bacteria known as *Pluralibacter gergoviae*. The FDA has classified the risk level as a Class II recall, indicating that the product "may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences, or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote."



Wipes affected in the recall have the lot number: 1835U6325A

According to the manufacturer, *Pluralibacter gergoviae* is a bacteria that can cause severe infections in people with weakened immune systems, chronic illnesses, or those undergoing

surgical procedures. It has also been linked to respiratory diseases, urinary tract infections, eye infections and sepsis, according to Malbec Microbiology.

The Division is advising consumers who may have purchased the product not to use the item, but return it to

the place of purchase for a full refund.

Consumers may also contact the Prices and Consumer Affairs Division at 462-4347 or consumeraffairs@ab.gov.ag for additional information or assistance.


 The poster features a large, stylized golden trophy in the center, set against a dark background with many small golden stars. To the left of the trophy are the logos of the Ministry of Sports and the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission. To the right, the text 'ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 2025 NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS' is displayed in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom, the date and location '28TH FEB 2026 | ROYALTON ANTIGUA' are written in white.

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Local News

Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre Staff Lead by Example in Annual Flu Vaccination Drive

The Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) has launched its annual Flu Vaccination Drive for staff, reinforcing the importance of prevention and protection as the flu season begins.

The campaign, coordinated by SLBMC's Infectious Disease and Employee Health teams, encourages healthcare workers to lead by example in protecting themselves, their patients, and their families from influenza.

Dr. Margrethe Belle, Administrative Head of Infectious Diseases Employee Health Division and Infectious Disease Specialist at SLBMC, said vaccination is a simple yet powerful act of care.

"As healthcare workers, we come into contact with people who are most vulnerable to serious flu-related illness. Getting the flu shot helps us protect them and ourselves. It's one of the safest and most effective tools we have to reduce the spread of infection and keep our hospital community strong."

While the drive focuses on staff, Dr. Belle stressed that vaccination is important for everyone, especially people with chronic conditions, older adults, and those with weakened immune systems.

Philis Humphreys-Harris, SLBMC Infectious Disease/Employee Health Nurse, encouraged both staff and the wider community to approach vaccination with confidence.

"Every year, many of us experience the flu and recovering can be tougher than we expect. That's because the flu virus changes each season. But there's



**SLBMC Medical Director
Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis leads by example**
as she receives her flu shot during the hospital's annual Flu Vaccination Drive

SIR LESTER BIRD MEDICAL CENTRE
 @slbmedical

good news—the flu vaccine offers strong protection. It reduces the severity of illness, prevents complications, and helps stop the spread to those most vulnerable."

Continued Nurse Humphreys-Harris... "I highly recommend getting vaccinated. I received my flu shot for the 2024 period, and I haven't caught the flu since. It truly works and it saves lives."

The flu vaccine is available at health

centres across the island and through healthcare providers. SLBMC's staff vaccination drive will run over the next several weeks, with hospital employees urged to take advantage of the opportunity to stay protected this flu season.

"When our healthcare workers roll up their sleeves, they're setting an example for all of us," added Dr. Belle. "Prevention starts with each of us doing our part."



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Joanne Smith sworn in as a member of the Industrial Court



A Swearing-In Ceremony was held on Tuesday at Government House where Joanne Smith was sworn in by the Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, as a member of the Industrial Court. Smith, an attorney,

was supported by family and friends who were present at the brief ceremony.

The appointment fulfills the full complement of the court. The Industrial Court is headed by Samantha May-Francis as President.



Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre Observes World Stroke Day: “Every Minute Counts”

ST. JOHN’S, Antigua, October 28, 2025 the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) joins the global community in observing World Stroke Day 2025, themed “Every Minute Counts”, highlighting the urgent need to recognize stroke symptoms quickly and act immediately. Timely treatment can significantly improve recovery and reduce disability.

Stroke remains one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide, with the global burden increasing each year. Experts emphasize that effective management relies on the four pillars:

Surveillance – monitoring stroke trends and risk factors

Prevention – addressing lifestyle and medical risk factors

Acute care – rapid and effective treatment during a stroke

Rehabilitation – supporting recovery and quality of life

Dr. Gaden Osborne, Neurologist and Chair of Subspecialty Services at SLBMC, underscored the importance of acting fast:

“When a stroke occurs, symptoms appear suddenly. We can treat many



SIR LESTER BIRD MEDICAL CENTRE

29.10.2025

WORLD STROKE DAY

On this World Stroke Day, we come together to raise awareness, educate, and inspire action against this often—preventable and treatable medical emergency.

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patients effectively—but only if they arrive early. Delays can make the stroke worse and may mean missing the critical window for treatment and recovery. That’s why remembering BE FAST—Balance, Eyes, Face, Arms, Speech, Time—is so important. Every minute truly counts.”

SLBMC has been strengthening its acute stroke care capabilities, recently

achieving World Stroke Organization (WSO) Certification as an Essential Stroke Centre. This certification reflects the hospital’s commitment to providing rapid, evidence-based stroke care and highlights the enhanced services available to patients.

“World Stroke Day is a reminder that stroke is preventable and treatable,” added Dr. Osborne. “At

SLBMC, we are proud to work together—across departments, disciplines, and with the community—to fight stroke through prevention, acute care, and rehabilitation.”

For advice on stroke prevention, recognizing warning signs, and treatment options, please speak with your doctor or healthcare provider.

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Beyond Restitution: A National Conversation Continues



By Hon. E.P. Chet Greene

In last week's publication I advocated for restitution in the wake of the massive organized crime ring that robbed the treasury of millions of dollars and as was expected, it ignited a crucial and necessary national conversation. The dialogue has, among other things, been vibrant, engaging and ultimately a sign of a maturing democracy. While some have sought to politicize this novel approach, others have recognized its necessity in the face of prosecutorial limitations for recovering public funds. So thought provoking was my line of reasoning that a member of the legal fraternity could not resist being drawn into the conversation to promote what he/she saw as a looming opportunity for courtroom benefits. I welcomed the contribution, if for no other reason than its enforcement of my warning.

A pivotal question from thoughtful citizens demands an answer: 'What's next now that restitution has been finalized?'

This is precisely the question we must now address our collective minds. The

finalization of restitution is not the finish line; it is the starting block for the real work of national repair. The return of funds, while vital, is merely a symptom of a deeper disease, a troubling reality that our country is lacking in personal responsibility and national consciousness.

This scandal, though horrifying, presents a painful but profound opportunity for a national reset. It is a chance to move from outrage to action and to finally accept our individual and collective responsibilities to the project of Antigua and Barbuda. To that end, we must undertake critical steps to review, reset and establish new guidelines to protect our public assets for generations to come. To jumpstart a deeper conversation about the next steps, I hereunder fashion the national discourse:

1. **Legislative Overhaul: Building an Impenetrable Legal Fortress.** We must immediately move to strengthen our suite of good governance laws. This will include a strengthened Integrity in Public Life Act with real investigative and prosecutorial teeth, a Freedom of Information Act that guarantees public transparency and a first time ever Whistleblower Protection Act that robustly shields those brave enough to expose corruption.

2. **Fortifying Financial Controls:** An enhanced system of checks, balances and audits. The loopholes exploited by this crime ring must be surgically identified and closed. This requires a top to bottom review of our financial management systems, mandating real time auditing of all major transactions by an independent, external body. Procurement processes must be digitized and made publicly accessible, creating a transparent trail for every dollar spent. As the Prime Minister stated, a new era begins now.

3. **Cultivating a Culture of Accountability: From the Top Down**

Accountability cannot be a concept reserved for the powerless. We must institutionalize a culture where every public official, from the permanent secretary to the minister, is answerable for their stewardship. This means mandatory, published performance reports and clear consequences for negligence or malfeasance. Leadership at every level of the system must exemplify this new standard, or the entire effort will fail.

4. **Fostering Civic Education and National Consciousness.** The "lack of national consciousness" is not an abstract failing; it is the fertile ground in which corruption grows. We must integrate civic education into our school curriculum and public discourse, teaching not just the rights of citizenship, but its profound responsibilities. We must celebrate integrity and service and relentlessly scrutinize the use of our collective resources. A vigilant and informed citizenry is the ultimate safeguard.

5. **Establishing a Permanent Anti-Corruption Framework.** This cannot be a one-time, scandal-driven reaction. We must establish a permanent, independent Anti-Corruption Agency with a mandate that spans prevention, investigation and public education. Its work should be ongoing, ensuring that the lessons of this scandal are woven into the very fabric of our governance, preventing such a systemic failure from ever happening again.

The path of restitution was the first step in acknowledging a grave wrong. The path forward is the harder, more enduring work of building a country where such a wrong is impossible to repeat. This is our moment to choose. Will we be defined by the scandal that shamed us or by the reforms that saved us? The reset begins now and it begins with us.



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Ten lies the US Ambassador told the UN about the blockade on Cuba

Ahead of the UN vote on the US-imposed blockade on Cuba, the US once again spread lies about the nature and intent of its coercive policy on Cuba.

The United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Mike Waltz, told multiple lies during his speech in the debate on the resolution demanding an end to the blockade against Cuba.

His speech repeated – almost point by point – the repertoire of already debunked arguments that Washington typically uses to justify its sanctions regime that is condemned year after year by the international community.

Under the guise of “correcting misinformation,” Waltz repeated claims that do not stand up to confrontation with the facts nor with current US legislation itself, and which seek to shift the focus from the material responsibility of the blockade towards political accusations against Cuba.

Waltz received a strong reaction from the Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs Bruno Rodríguez who interrupted the representative from his seat:

“The Permanent Representative of the United States is not only lying, substantially straying from the topic, but he is also speaking rudely and, contrary to his president, against the dignity of the assembly and the member states. He is doing so in an uncivilized, crude, and rude manner. That is not acceptable in this democratic forum. Mr. Waltz, this is the United Nations General Assembly. It is not a Signal chat, nor is it the House of Representatives.”

The ten lies of the US Ambassador:



1. “The blockade does not exist.”

The US legislation that sustains the blockade – the Helms-Burton Act (including its Title III), the Torricelli Act, the “180-day rule,” sectoral and financial sanctions lists – exists and is in force. The Cuban Resolution against the blockade does not “invent” these rules: it documents them and shows their practical application. Furthermore, official US documents, such as the reissuance of Presidential Memorandum No. 5 (06/30/2025), confirm the continuity of the “maximum pressure” policy against Cuba.

2. “Cuba’s economic difficulties are the exclusive responsibility of the Havana government.”

The stated goal of US policy is to “strangle the economy” to provoke social unrest; this includes targeting fuel, finances, tourism, and medical cooperation. This siege impacts prices, investments, logistics, and liquidity, and

explains a large part of the current economic tensions.

3. “The annual UN resolution is propaganda.”

The vote expresses a broad defense of international law and the UN Charter; the unusual deployment of US diplomatic pressures to alter votes underscores the isolation of this policy and the relevance of the multilateral pronouncement.

4. “The shortage of food and medicine is the fault of the Cuban government.”

There is a chain of bottlenecks caused by the US economic siege: in health-care, the Basic Drug List (651 items) shows a 69% impact, with 364 drugs (56%) lacking due to payment obstacles, suppliers refusing to operate, and technological prohibitions blocking equipment or supplies with $\geq 10\%$ US components. This prevents the acquisition or severely increases the cost of



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advanced medicines and critical devices (for example, percutaneous aortic valve prostheses or dialysis equipment), with a direct impact on care and health indicators.

Regarding food, the lack of financing and banking refusals forced the halt of imports of approximately 337,000 tons of corn and ~120,300 tons of soybeans (animal feed), leading to failures in the production of eggs for the Basic Food Basket. Even “authorized” purchases in the US are made under non-standard conditions: specific licenses, cash payment in advance (without credit), transport only on US ships and on one-way trips, which increases freight costs and delays deliveries. The lack of goods is due to lack of financing, limited access to credit, increased prices, high freight costs, and delays in arrivals, direct consequences of the blockade.

5. “The blockade allows for free export.”

There is no commercial “freedom”: the US legal framework establishes a policy of denial for exports/re-exports to Cuba (EAR) and prohibits subsidiaries of US companies in third countries from trading with Cuba; furthermore, the “180-day rule” is in effect, which discourages shipping companies from calling at Cuban ports, and permitted agricultural sales require cash payment in advance, without US financing. All this restricts and makes any operation more expensive, both for exporting and importing.

Added to this is extraterritorial financial persecution: fines and threats to banks and suppliers, refusals to open or maintain accounts, and blocked operations that cut off payment and collection flows. Cuba’s own report includes recent cases (OFAC fine to EFG; refusal to open an account for the EXPO Osaka; closures of embassy accounts) and quantifies widespread impacts on contracts, letters of credit, and transfers.

That is to say, far from “exporting freely,” Cuba trades under veto, li-

censes, and regulatory fear; in fact, the document lists measures that Washington could authorize – biomedicine, mining, tourism, easing of investment licenses, raising the 10% US component threshold, authorizing banking correspondents, removing Cuba from the SSOT list, and suspending Title III – and which it currently obstructs.

6. “Cuba has full freedom to trade with other countries.”

The US secondary (extraterritorial) measures deter and punish third parties (banks, shipping companies, insurers), increasing the costs and risks of operating with Cuba, which restricts real freedom of trade.

7. “The Cuban government traffics its medical personnel.”

Cuba maintains voluntary and widely recognized international cooperation; the US persecution seeks to cut off these revenues and deprive vulnerable

populations of essential services, ignoring UN and PAHO standards.

8. “The Cuban government benefits from mercenarism.”

Cuba applies “zero tolerance” to mercenarism and has criminally prosecuted recruiters; it does not support or condone the participation of its nationals in external conflicts.

9. “Cuba destabilizes the hemisphere.”

What is destabilizing is the US military deployment and diplomatic blackmail in the Caribbean and the region; Cuba and CELAC uphold the principle of a “Zone of Peace”.

10. “Cuba contributes to the Russian ‘war machine’.”

Cuba does not participate in the war in Ukraine nor send troops; it has dismantled recruitment networks and sanctions mercenarism.



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**GOLDEN AGE
CELEBRATIONS**

WEDNESDAY 29 OCT
VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN ANTIGUA
AND BARBUDA

Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS
COMMISSION



**FREE
ENTRY**



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WADADLI ROOTS

WEDNESDAY 29 OCT | 7:30PM
MULTIPURPOSE CULTURAL CENTRE





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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

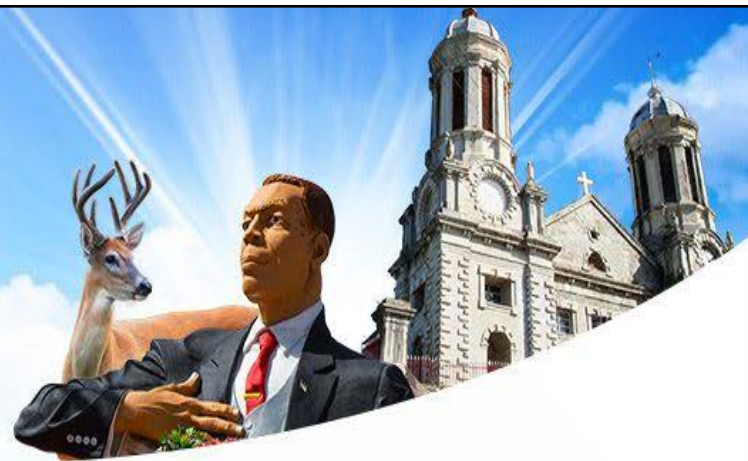
- **NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE
BUSINESS DECOR COMPETITION**

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



Regional News

National reserve called out by JDF as part of Hurricane Melissa response plan

The Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) says it has called out the Jamaica National Reserve in response to the threat posed by Hurricane Melissa.

The army says the move forms part of its wider operational response plan to support the national disaster preparedness and humanitarian assistance efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa.

With the hurricane projected to bring sustained winds, flash flooding, and storm surges across most of Jamaica, army reserve personnel are being mobilised to assist in relief operations, search and rescue, logistics support, and the security of high-risk areas in coordination with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) and other government agencies.

Commander of the national reserve, Brigadier Ricardo Blidgen, has urged all personnel to first ensure the safety and security of their homes and families, and then stand ready to assist in securing the nation.

“Your service matters now more than ever,” he said, adding that “this is a national mission and all of you are essential to the JDF’s ability to protect lives, restore stability, and support our fellow Jamaicans in their time of need.”

According to Acting Chief of Defence Staff, Brigadier O’neil Bogle, who is over-



seeing the JDF’s response operations, “the JDF is committed to providing a rapid, disciplined, and compassionate response. Our forces, including the Jamaica National Reserve, will be on the ground to support relief operations, safeguard communities, and restore critical services as quickly as possible.”

The JDF says its mobilisation is being coordinated in full alignment with national disaster management protocols and that JDF troops have already been pre-positioned in some of the areas that are expected to be hit hardest.

Bogle is urging the public to remain calm, stay informed through official updates, and to cooperate with authorities as emergency teams are deployed across the island. (Jamaica Gleaner)

DEWS

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Anderson outlines ways Jamaicans in the US can help in Melissa aftermath

Jamaica's ambassador to the United States, Major General (Ret'd) Antony Anderson, has sought to rally the Jamaican Diaspora across the US to provide disaster assistance to Jamaica in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa, while outlining the avenues through which such aid can be directed.

In a virtual town hall meeting Monday evening, Anderson told his audience that the embassy in Washington DC has been designated as the lead mission for disaster coordination.

He said that the embassy is plugged into the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management in Jamaica so it can get the latest information to share with the diaspora.

To this end the embassy has established a special email address that Jamaicans can use for donations or to have questions answered. The email address is www.disasterresponse@jamaicaembassy.org.

He also said that a hotline is being established through which members of the diaspora can contact the embassy for up-to-date information.

He said that the town hall meeting was necessary so that the diaspora can organise itself to support Jamaica in what could be a significant time of need.

"We know that diaspora members are very concerned about what is occurring in Jamaica. [There's] a certain level of nervousness among people in the diaspora," Anderson said.

Describing Hurricane Melissa as a very significant threat, the ambassador said that he has spoken to the US Department of State which has already sent in a pre-team to Jamaica with other members standing by for deployment to Jamaica after the hurricane.

He also told his audience that several countries, non-governmental organisations and other organisations have pledged assistance to Jamaica



"We have been given a needs list which we will be sharing with the diaspora, but this list will change depending on the needs on the ground," he said.

He also said that the embassy will be posting drop-off points across the diaspora and that they are being consolidated for better, more efficient delivery of supplies to Jamaica.

"We have to ensure that the supplies sent into Jamaica go into the right hands for distribution. We have seen in the past where there has been an oversupply of some items and an undersupply of others and we are seeking to ensure that this does not occur this time around," he said.

"I don't want there to be a sense of divergence that supplies sent to assist the people in the most needy communities will not get those supplies. Those most affected will receive supplies," he told the more than 500 people on the Zoom call.

The ambassador said that a list of 501 non-profit organisations is also being developed so that people who want to

utilise these organisations will be able to do so.

Anderson further stated that he will be setting up a database of volunteers with various skill sets that will be able to go into Jamaica to assist the country.

"The first 72 hours after the hurricane hits will be crucial and we will be monitoring the situation as to assistance needed on the ground at the outset," he said

In addition, Anderson clarified that there will not be a blanket waiving of customs fees, but accommodation will be made for those supplies certified as being for disaster response.

Ambassador Anderson said that there will be future meetings to keep the diaspora informed as more information comes in regarding the needs of Jamaica.

"It is going to be one heck of a recovery effort and we will need all hands hard at work to assist in the recovery," he concluded. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News



Discover Dominica officials say ‘based on reviews from public’ WCMF25 was a success

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Discover Dominica Authority (DDA), Marva Williams, is reporting a successful staging of the 25th Edition of the World Creole Music Festival (WCMF), which took place from Friday, October 24, to Sunday, October 26, at the Windsor Park Sports Stadium.

Bunji Garlin and Fay-Ann Lyons of Trinidad & Tobago brought the curtain down on the final day with what is being described as an electric performance.

Other spectacular performances on the final night came from several popular local acts, including Extasy Band, Bouyon Pioneers WCK, Shelly & the Signal Band, Trilla G, Reo, Nice, Michele Henderson, and Elisha Benoit. Nigerian Artist Tiwa Savage, Ezra “Da Fun Machine” of St Lucia, and Legendary Kassav, who provided an unforgettable experience for hundreds of visitors and Dominicans alike.

“International Superstar Kehlani”, who was scheduled to perform at the WCMF on the final night, was unable to grace the stage. The Oakland, CA, native’s charter flight was reportedly cancelled due to the effects of Hurricane Melissa.

“When we started off, we started pushing the fact that this is a Jubilee year that we’re celebrating 25 in 2025, and we always told the public that it’s going to be a massive year for us,”



she said during an interview with state-owned Radio DBS. “Not only in terms of investment, but in terms of the number of acts that are on the line up. Why? Because this year, while we celebrated over 10 genres of music, we also celebrated the locals through the Bouyon and the Cadence-lypso.” She continued, “That is the significance of the festival, and I think that is the message that has carried all through to this day.”

Williams added, “Based on the reviews from the public, based on what we’ve been monitoring, we can say that the event has been successful. Every event that you plan is a different project. So, it’s the same World Creole Music Festival brand, but it is always a different project. And with different projects as you implement, you learn, you grow, you always encounter difficulties, challenges, [but] figure out ways to overcome them, and you use them to build on the next event. So, in our opinion, from public perception, generally, we can say that the event was successful.”

However, she pointed out that in order to go deeper into the numbers and figures, a little more time is needed to put this information together.

Meanwhile, Night One (Friday, October 24) presented ‘Fire & Foundation’. A tribute to the pioneers and influential figures who have shaped Caribbean music:

Performances came from :

- Burning Flames (Antigua)
- Midnight Groovers (Dominica)
- Halibut (Dominica)
- Gilles Fontaine (Dominica)
- Nu Look (Haiti/USA)
- Romain Virgo (Jamaica)
- Oswald (St. Maarten)
- TK International (Dominica)
- Steel Pulse (UK/Jamaica)
- Masicka (Jamaica)

Night Two: ‘Creole Carnival’ (Saturday, October 25)

An energetic display of Creole expression and cross-Caribbean vibrancy:

- Bouyon Boss Asa Bantan

(Dominica)

– WCK (Dominica)

– The Bouyon Assembly (Dominica: Rohie, Ridge, Pudaz, Kenny G, Quan, DJ MJ, Little Boy, Faithi “Bouyon Barbie,” and Ebony Empress; Guadeloupe: Jixels and Shanika)

– First Serenade Band (Dominica)

– Gordon Henderson (Dominica)

– Ophelia Marie (Dominica)

– Lynford John (Dominica)

– Joé Dwét Filé (Haiti/France)

– Kes The Band (Trinidad & Tobago)

– Spice (Jamaica)

– Vybez Kartel (Jamaica)

Night Three: (Sunday, October 26)

– Bunji Garlin and Fay-Ann Lyons (T&T)

– Tiwa Savage (Nigeria)

– Kassav (Guadeloupe)

– Extasy Band (Dominica)

– Michele Henderson (Dominica)

– Elisha Benoit (Dominica)

– Trilla G (Dominica)

– NICE (Dominica)

– Reo (Dominica)

– Signal Band (Dominica)

The special commemorative theme for the event was: “Global Echoes of the Nature Island: Celebrating 25 Years of Creole Music, Magic, and Memories.” (Dominica News Online)

Apple becomes third company in history to crack \$4 trillion market value

Apple on Tuesday became only the third company ever to break through the \$4 trillion market value milestone.

Apple shares rose fractionally in early trading, just enough to briefly push the company's value above the historic level.

Nvidia and Microsoft previously crossed the \$4 trillion threshold in July. Nvidia's market valuation grown even more since then, hitting \$4.71 trillion.

Microsoft's value rose above \$4 trillion again Tuesday, on separate news that the Windows software maker's stake in a reorganized OpenAI would be worth \$135 billion.

Apple has lagged several of its Big Tech peers this year, with fears that its artificial intelligence efforts are coming up short. Apple has gained just 7.3% in 2025, well behind Nvidia's 45%, Alphabet's 42% and Meta Platforms' 30%. For the year, the broad-based S&P 500 has risen 17%.

But Apple's fortunes have changed in recent months.

In early September, a federal judge ruled that Google did not have to divest its Chrome browser business, which benefitted Apple. As part of the ruling, the judge said Google



could continue to pay to have its search engine preloaded on devices, such as iPhones. Alphabet currently pays Apple billions of dollars a year to do so.

In mid-September, the company released its newest iPhones. The extra-slim iPhone Air, which briefly faced a delay before customers in China could purchase it, eventually was released and sold out in minutes in the country.

The negative sentiment regarding Apple among some Wall Street analysts also began turning around in recent weeks.

"Our checks suggest this may be more than the average iPhone refresh cycle, as lead times for the

base iPhone 17 continue to outpace last year's levels," analysts at Evercore ISI wrote on Monday. "In addition, our survey work points to a strong demand environment."

Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks during a meeting with President Donald Trump, in the Oval Office on Aug. 6. Demetrius Freeman / The Washington Post via Getty Images

To add to the company's good luck, over the course of President Donald Trump's trade war, most Apple products have been exempt from tariffs. Apple CEO Tim Cook has paid Trump multiple visits in the Oval Office, attended a state din-

ner that King Charles III hosted in Trump's honor this summer. On Tuesday, Cook appeared again with Trump in Japan.

Over the last month, Apple has overtaken other major tech companies with a more than 5% gain, well ahead of Amazon's 3% and close to Nvidia's 7% jump. Over the last month, Meta's shares have returned only 1.5%.

Apple reports earnings on Thursday. Wall Street analysts expect that the company has even more room to run. As of Tuesday, the Wall Street consensus is for the tech giant to report more than \$100 billion in quarterly revenue. (NBC)

Amazon confirms 14,000 job losses in corporate division



Amazon has confirmed it plans to cut thousands of jobs, saying it needs to be “organised more leanly” to seize the opportunity provided by artificial intelligence (AI).

The tech giant said on Tuesday it would reduce its global corporate workforce by “approximately 14,000 roles”.

Earlier reporting had suggested it was planning to lay off as many as 30,000 workers.

Beth Galetti, a senior vice president at Amazon, wrote in a note to staff that the move would make the company “even stronger” by shifting resources “to ensure we’re investing in our biggest bets and what matters most to our customers’ current and future needs”.

She acknowledged that some would question the move given the company was performing well.

At the end of July, Amazon reported second quarter results which beat Wall Street expectations on several counts, including a 13% year over year increase in sales to \$167.7bn (£125bn).

But Ms Galetti said the cuts were needed because AI was “the most transformative technology we’ve seen since the Internet” and was “enabling companies to innovate much faster

than ever before.”

“We’re convicted that we need to be organised more leanly, with fewer layers and more ownership, to move as quickly as possible for our customers and business,” she added.

The note, shared with Amazon employees earlier on Tuesday, said the company was “working hard to support everyone whose role is impacted” - including by helping those affected find new roles within Amazon.

Those who cannot will receive “transition support” including severance pay, it said.

The company has more than 1.5 million employees across its warehouses and offices worldwide.

This includes around 350,000 corporate workers, which include those in executive, managerial and sales roles, according to figures that Amazon submitted to the US government last year.

Like many technology firms, Amazon hired aggressively during the Covid-19 pandemic to meet the surge in demand for online deliveries and digital services.

Amazon boss Andy Jassy has since focused on reducing spending as the

company invests heavily in AI tools to boost efficiency.

Mr Jassy said in June that the increase in AI tools will likely lead to job cuts as machines take over routine tasks.

“We will need fewer people doing some of the jobs that are being done today, and more people doing other types of jobs,” he said then.

Amazon has carried out several rounds of cuts to its corporate division in recent years.

It laid off around 27,000 workers over several months in 2022, as rivals similarly looked to reverse hiring increases made during the pandemic.

After the company posted its latest financial results in July, its more subdued profit guidance for the forthcoming quarter left some sceptical of whether - or when - its enormous AI investments would pay off.

Slower growth for its cloud business, Amazon Web Services (AWS), compared to rivals Microsoft and Google, also sparked concern among some investors.

Amazon will report its latest results on Thursday for the period ending 30 September.

Ben Barringer, technology analyst at Quilter Cheviot, said the wider industry would be watching Amazon closely as it embarked on its latest round of cuts.

“We are already seeing jobs in software development be shed thanks to the capabilities of some of these AI tools, and the big companies will be looking to redistribute and restructure their workforces accordingly,” he told the BBC.

“They have the data and can apply AI in a way that unfortunately means job losses are inevitable.” (BBC)

US kills 14 in strikes on four alleged drug boats in Pacific



US forces have killed 14 people in strikes on four alleged drug boats in the Pacific, Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth says.

He said one survivor was rescued by Mexican search and rescue personnel.

It is the latest in a series of attacks on boats the US says have been carrying drugs in both the Pacific and Carib-

bean.

The latest strikes in the eastern Pacific, which Hegseth said happened on Monday at the direction of President Donald Trump, mark an escalation in what it says is a campaign to target drug traffickers.

At least 51 people have now been killed in the strikes, which has led to escalation

tensions between the US and the governments of both Colombia and Venezuela.

Most have taken place off the coast of South America, in the Caribbean, but more recently it has carried out strikes in the Pacific Ocean as well.

The US strikes have drawn condemnation in the region and experts have questioned their legality. Members of the US Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, have also raised concerns and questioned the president's authority to order them.

In a statement on X, Hegseth said the four vessels hit on Monday "were known by our intelligence apparatus, transitioning along known

narco-trafficking routes and carrying narcotics".

Hegseth added that eight "narco-terrorists" were killed in the first strike. Four and three were killed in the following two strikes.

One person survived the strikes. According to Hegseth, Mexican search-and-rescue authorities "accepted the case and assumed responsibility for co-ordinating the rescue."

The condition of the survivor or his current whereabouts are unclear.

"The department has spent over two decades defending other homelands," Hegseth wrote. "Now, we're defending our own." (BBC)



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More success for Antiguanans in LICB tournament

Antigua and Barbuda made it three wins in as many games in the Leeward Islands Cricket Board's (LICB) Mixed Format Tournament in St. Kitts on Monday.

Antigua and Barbuda claimed their third win with a 56-run victory against Anguilla at Warner Park Stadium. Antigua and Barbuda made 217 all out in 45.1 overs after being asked to bat first.

Opener Tyrone Williams Jr. recorded his second half-century of the tournament, hitting a top score of 68 off 79 balls, including seven fours and three sixes.

All-rounder Elroy Francis Jr. struck 50 off 68 balls, Kofi James smashed three sixes in his knock of 27 off 18 balls, and Michael Greaves chipped in with 23 off 29 balls. Mark Gokarran captured four for 45, and pacer Chamiqueko Landerfort took three for 42.

In reply, Anguilla tumbled to 161 all out in 40.5 overs to suffer their third loss in as many games. Deon Burton struck 62, and Dimitri Adams made 36.

Young leg-spinner Micah McKenzie grabbed four for 43, while captain and off-spinner Rahkeem Cornwall picked up two for 28.

Host St. Kitts joined An-



Antiguan batsman Tyrone Williams Jr.

tigua and Barbuda as the only remaining unbeaten teams in the tournament by recording their third consecutive win with a 78-run victory against Nevis at the Conaree Cricket Center.

Opener Mikyle Louis, who hit 109 not out against Montserrat and 115 against

third-wicket partnership with captain Terence Warde, who struck 111 off 103 balls, including five sixes and five fours. Akadianto Willett captured three for 61.

In reply, Nevis succumbed to their second loss in three matches after being dismissed for 264 in 46.3 overs. Shelton Forbes hit 65, Colin Archibald struck 36 off 33 balls, and opener Carlton Pluck scored 31 off 34 balls. Larry Audain captured three for 43.

After losing their two previous matches, St. Maarten rebounded to claim their first win by snatching a one-wicket win against Montserrat at the St. Paul's Sporting Complex.

Set 124 to win, St. Maarten achieved their victory target for the loss of nine wickets in 30.3 overs. Nathan Edward hit 62 off 75 balls, including nine fours and a six. Leg-spinner Hayden Walsh Jr. snapped up seven for 47 for Montserrat, who slumped to their second loss in three matches.

Montserrat was dismissed for 123 in 35.2 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat. Captain Shernyl Burns hit 27, and Jemuel Cabey struck 26 not out. Captain Daniel Doram claimed three for 18.

St. Maarten, recorded his third consecutive century to propel St. Kitts to 342 for four off their 50 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Louis slammed 170 off 153 balls, including nine sixes and 11 fours. Louis shared a 261-run

BOE joins Sandals at the top of Business Basketball League



The Board of Education basketball team. (Photo courtesy of the ABBA)

The Board of Education joined defending champs Sandals at the top of the standings in the 2025 Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League championships on Monday evening.

The Board of Education joined Sandals as joint leaders of the 14-team round-robin business league, extending their unbeaten run by surging to their 11th win in as many games with a 49-45 victory against Antigua Power Company at the JSC Sports Complex.

Daniel Perez produced 15 points, 11 rebounds, and four steals, and Xavier "X-Man" Meade scored 12 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Board of Education.

Akeem Davis produced 13 points, six rebounds, and four assists for the Antigua Power Company, who suffered their sixth loss in 12 games.

There were also wins for the Sledge

O Ballers and Fearless Security Services in the other two matches on Monday. The Sledge O Ballers notched up their sixth win in 12 games with a 91-62 drubbing of J&J Company Landscaping Services.

Dajon George shot a game-high 30 points, Kareem Edwards sank 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Morlon Davis chipped in with 11 points, 18 rebounds, and six assists for the Sledge O Ballers.

Tyndale Telemaque sank 19 points; Daysher Samuel produced 17 points, 10 rebounds, eight steals, and five assists; and Molefi Joseph scored 17 points for J&J Company Landscaping Services, who slumped to their 10th defeat in 12 games.

Fearless Security Services wrapped up their league campaign by recording their fourth win from their quota of 13 games with a 57-41 victory against Antigua Computer Technology in their

last outing.

Shaquille Kelly sank 13 points and grabbed 18 rebounds for Fearless Security Services. Delroy Foster Jr. and David Mensah each converted nine points for Antigua Computer Technology, who suffered their ninth loss in 11 games.

The Board of Education and Sandals will meet in a top-of-the-table clash in the last game of a triple-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Wednesday evening at 8:45.

The winner of the penultimate encounter for both teams will more than likely determine the winner of this year's league competition.

In the other two games on Wednesday, the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board will take on the Antigua Computer Technology at 6:45 pm, and the Antigua Power Company will meet Richie's Shooterz at 7:45 pm.

Sports News

PSG made nearly US\$1 billion in club-record revenue last season



PSG's Achraf Hakimi, fourth from left, celebrates with his teammates after scoring his side's opening goal during the French League One soccer match between Brest and Paris Saint Germain in Brest, France, Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025. (AP)

PARIS (AP) — Champions League winner Paris Saint-Germain generated club-record revenue of 837 million euros (US\$976 million) last season.

The figures released by the club on Tuesday include 175 million euros in match-day revenue and 367 million euros in commercial revenue, with six new partners joining the club.

The figures encompass the men's and women's soccer teams as well as handball and judo teams. By comparison, revenue for the 2023-24 season was 806 million

euros, which was the third highest in European soccer.

PSG's men's team won the domestic double and clinched the Champions League for the first time by routing Inter Milan 5-0 in the final, giving the club's Qatari investor QSI the trophy it craved after taking over the club in June 2011.

The club was valued by Forbes at US\$4.6 billion in May, placing it seventh among the world's most valuable soccer teams. Real Madrid led with US\$6.75 billion, followed by Manchester United (US\$6.6

billion) and Spanish champion Barcelona (US\$5.65 billion).

However, low television revenue in Ligue 1 and the Parc des Princes stadium's 48,000-capacity — considerably smaller than other leading clubs in Europe — were hampering further financial growth for PSG.

The Parc des Princes was owned by Paris City Hall and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo does not want to sell the stadium to the club, which hoped to buy it and expand it rather than go elsewhere.

"Our door is always open to expanding the Parc des Princes, which is owned by the City of Paris," Hidalgo told Le Parisien newspaper in June. "Not to sell, but to expand."

Plans for a new and bigger stadium away from Parc des Princes with a minimum capacity of 60,000 were still being considered in Passy or Massy, both on the outskirts of the city.

A decision on the new stadium was expected to be taken in autumn of next year.

NBA players set record with 16 40-point games in first week of season



Los Angeles Lakers guard Austin Reaves (15) drives to the basket with Sacramento Kings guard Dennis Schröder, left, defending during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, California, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025. (AP)

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A week into the NBA season, the defenses are losing. By a lot. If it seems like there's never been this many high-scoring performances in the first few days of a season, that's because this indeed is unprecedented.

Going into Tuesday, there have been 16 instances of a player scoring 40 or more points in a game already this season. Austin Reaves and Luka Dončić of the Los Angeles Lakers have already had 40-point games twice, and Philadelphia's Tyrese Maxey has two so far himself.

The others who have done it so far this season: Denver's Aaron Gordon, Minnesota's Anthony Edwards, Brooklyn's Cam Thomas, Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo, Den-

ver's Jamal Murray, Boston's Jaylen Brown, Utah's Lauri Markkanen, Oklahoma City's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Golden State's Stephen Curry and San Antonio's Victor Wembanyama — who did it in his first regular-season game in eight months following the deep vein thrombosis scare last season.

"I felt like I needed to make a statement to my teammates," Wembanyama said.

There seems to be a lot of that going around. Players are making statements just about every night so far this season.

All these big-number games are being somewhat overshadowed right now by last week's news that Portland coach Chauncey Billups and Mi-

ami guard Terry Rozier were among those arrested by federal officials for their alleged roles in gambling-related schemes.

There are two different cases; one claims defendants were involved in poker games that used technology to defraud players, the other case revolves largely around tipping bettors off with inside information that they could use to wager on NBA games.

Both the House and Senate have asked the NBA for more information, and Commissioner Adam Silver — in remarks last week on Amazon Prime Video's first NBA regular-season broadcast — apologized to fans that the on-court play wasn't the biggest story in the league right now.

Sports

WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2025

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TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

More success for PMS in defense of U-16 Division title

The Princess Margaret School (PMS) continued their successful start in defense of their Under-16 Boys Division league title in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition on Monday.

Princess Margaret School maintained their campaign for a third consecutive title by securing their fourth win in as many games with a 4-0 drubbing of Jennings Secondary School at the Golden Grove playing field.

Alan Henry converted twice with goals in the 12th and 22nd minutes. The other goals for PMS were scored by Mario Lewis in the 25th minute and Shumba Thomas in the 35th minute as Jennings Secondary suffered their second loss in as many games.

But the perfect starts made by last year's second-place finishers, Ottos Comprehensive School, and Antigua Grammar School came to an end as both teams dropped points for the first time in four matches.

After both teams won their first three matches, Ottos Comprehensive School and Antigua Grammar School fought to a 1-1 draw in their fourth-round encounter at the Antigua Grammar School's playing field.

Lijthaddeus Christian put Ottos Comprehensive



The five goal scorers for St. Joseph's Academy against Clare Hall Secondary School.

School ahead with a strike in the 21st minute, and Tafari Parker snatched the equalizer for Antigua Grammar School with a 32nd-minute conversion.

After suffering a 4-2 loss to Sir Novelle Richards Academy, St. Joseph's Academy notched up their third win in four matches with a 5-0 drubbing of Clare Hall Secondary at Antigua Grammar School.

The goals for St. Joseph's Academy were scored by Sadiq Williams in the 20th minute, Erije Joseph in the 22nd, Iczjaire Sebastian in the 46th, Ajabe Rae in the 50th, and Zahid Derrick in the 53rd minute.

After losing their opening game, the Sir Novelle Richards Academy notched up their second successive win with a 4-0 victory against St. Mary's Secondary School at

Golden Grove.

The goals for Sir Novelle Richards Academy were scored by Darkarie Gore in the fifth minute, Ajay Barthley in the 32nd, Tequan Anthony in the 45th, and Jedi Winston in the 51st minute.

After drawing their opening game, it was the third loss in four games for St. Mary's Secondary School.

All Saints Secondary School recorded their third win in four matches with a 4-0 victory against Pares Secondary School at the Mock Pond playing field in All Saints.

Elijah Harriet had a double conversion with strikes in the second and 60th minutes, while the other goals for All Saints Secondary were scored by Kymani Francis in the eighth minute and Kemari Brodie in the 56th minute.



Alan Henry of PMS

After drawing their opening game, it was the third loss in four games for Pares Secondary School.

Irene B. Williams Secondary Irene B. Williams Secondary, who lost their previous two matches, recorded their first win in three outings after being awarded victory via default against St. Anthony's Secondary School, who failed to show up for their encounter at the Mock Pond playing field in All Saints.

It was the third loss in as many games for St. Anthony's Secondary School.