

ABLP Condemns UPP Deliberate Lie as 'Election Desperation'

Story on page 2



THIS SATURDAY
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APRIL

SIZZLA

THIS SATURDAY
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APRIL

MASICKA

THIS SATURDAY
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ASA BANTAN

THIS SATURDAY
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APRIL

DESTRA

THIS SATURDAY
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APRIL

TIAN WINTER

THIS SATURDAY
25
APRIL

CLAUDETTE PETERS

Flyers of several of the artists who will perform at Saturday's 'Red and Reddy' concert at the Rising Sun Grounds

ABLP Condemns UPP Deliberate Lie as 'Election Desperation'



E.P. Chet Green Chairman of the ABLP

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party categorically rejects as false, malicious, and deliberately deceptive the so-called letter circulating on a recently created website and purporting to seek action by the United States Attorney General against the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and members of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party.

The document claims to have been issued by an entity calling itself the **Caribbean Anticorruption Association**. There is no evidence that any such organisation exists. The letter itself is a concoction of recycled accusations, wild assertions, and politically motivated falsehoods advanced for years

by leaders of the United Progressive Party (UPP).

Its fabrication is further exposed by its own obvious errors. Among them, the letter lists as a copied recipient Ambassador Linda Tagliatela as U.S. Ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, even though Ambassador Tagliatela left that office at the end of December 2023, more than two years ago. That basic error alone demonstrates that the authors were dealing not in fact, but in fiction.

The website on which this falsehood has been published is equally suspect. It bears the name mariabirdbrownne.com, yet carries material attacking Maria Bird Browne, her husband Prime Minister Gaston Browne, and others. No reasonable person could believe that Mrs Browne would create or host defamatory attacks upon herself and her family. The use of her name in this way is plainly intended to mislead the public and to manufacture a false appearance of authenticity.

The so-called letter is a political smear claiming to be an official communication. It strings together a litany of allegations that the UPP and its spokespersons have repeated for years without proof. Many of these claims have already been ventilated publicly and tested in courts in Antigua and Barbuda and in the United States, where they have been dismissed as without merit.

Official inquiries to the Office of the United States Attorney General confirm that no such letter has been received. In any event, that Office does not act on submissions from persons or organisations that are not verifiable.

This is therefore not simply false. It is a calculated lie from beginning to end.

It is now evident that this fabrication forms part of a deliberate attempt to deceive the people of Antigua and Barbuda during the general election campaign. Unable to defeat the ABLP on record, performance, policy, and leadership, the opposition has resorted to anonymous propaganda, invented organisations, and fabricated credibility.

The people of Antigua and Barbuda are entitled to ask a simple question: if a political party is prepared to lie in order to gain office, how can it be trusted to govern truthfully, honestly, or responsibly?


The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party remains focused on the future of this country, on its record of achievement, and on its continuing plans for national progress. We will not be distracted by cowardly falsehoods circulated from behind a mask.

We urge the public to reject this fabrication completely and to treat it with the contempt it deserves.

Chet Greene

Chairman



Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party



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ABEC responds to allegations regarding the Voter's ID Card Replacement Process



The Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC) has taken note of statements made in a recent media broadcast suggesting the existence of irregularities within the ongoing Voter Identification Card Replacement Programme. The statements, which appear to be based on unverified sources, express concerns that some individuals may have obtained their Voter Identification Cards through procedures not aligned with legal requirements.

ABEC considers it necessary to address these claims clearly and firmly.

Firstly, the Commission firmly restates that the Card Replacement Programme is carried out strictly according to electoral laws and administrative guidelines. Specific procedures ensure every voter must appear in person for renewal, with appropriate identification and verification measures in place.

Secondly, while the Commission has no verifiable evidence at this time of systemic breaches or institutional failure, it acknowledges

the gravity of any allegations concerning unlawful conduct. Given the significance of this national process, even singular confirmed deviations would represent a serious violation of electoral law and administrative integrity.

Accordingly, ABEC issues the following directives and assurances:

- ▶ Any person with credible information or evidence of irregularities, including instances where procedures may have been circumvented, is strongly urged to report such matters immediately to the Commission.
- ▶ All reports will be formally received, documented, and subjected to prompt and impartial investigation.
- ▶ Where evidence substantiates wrongdoing, appropriate administrative and legal action will be pursued without hesitation against any individual found to be in breach of the Representation of The People Act.

The Commission underscores the importance of ensuring that only verified information is circulated within the public sphere, as unsubstantiated claims and speculation may erode confidence in the electoral process. Accordingly, ABEC urges all involved parties to act responsibly and differentiate clearly between complaints supported by evidence and unverified rumors or hearsay.

At the same time, the Commis-

sion reiterates its earlier and urgent appeal to the electorate:

All eligible voters must take immediate steps to complete the Voter ID Card Replacement process ahead of General Elections on April 30 and to collect the card from the respective Registration Units as directed by the Commission.

ABEC has extended operational hours, increased staffing capacity, and deployed its officers at maximum effort to facilitate public access. For sure, the Commission has mobilized all available institutional resources to ensure that every eligible elector is afforded a full and fair opportunity to participate in the card replacement process ahead of the General Elections.

Despite these measures, participation levels have somewhat declined. The Commission cannot overstate that timely compliance by electors is essential to ensuring their ability to vote and to preserving the integrity of the electoral process.

Finally, ABEC reaffirms its commitment to transparency, legality, and accountability. The Commission will not be influenced by conjecture or politically motivated narratives, but will respond decisively to any credible evidence, wherever it may lead.

The integrity of Antigua and Barbuda's democracy depends on institutional diligence at ABEC and public responsibility.

Local News



Daryll Matthew Predicts Bigger Election Victory Based on Rural South Track Record

St. John's Rural South incumbent and Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP) candidate Daryll Matthew is expressing strong confidence of a wider margin of victory at next week's polls than in his previous outing.

Matthew, who secured 1,424 votes in the last general election—defeating his nearest rival by roughly 350 votes in a four-way race—says he expects increased support from constituents based on his record of delivery.

"I'm very confident we're going to increase that margin," he said, pointing to what he described as tangible improvements across the constituency. "My constituents have seen the work. They've seen the delivery... and they're satisfied with the plans and programmes that we have going forward."

Speaking on state television's 'Know



Your Candidates' programme', the Education, Sports and Creative Industries Minister acknowledged that some residents had expressed concerns about infrastructure but noted that these issues are currently being

addressed. He also highlighted ongoing efforts to tackle crime, including plans to expand surveillance through the installation of CCTV systems in targeted areas.

Matthew used the opportunity to urge voters to ensure they are properly registered ahead of election day, encouraging residents to renew and collect their voter identification cards and to turn out early at the polls.

"I'm asking the constituents of St. John's Rural South to go out in your numbers... and I'm asking you for your continued support," he said, referencing the backing he has received over two consecutive terms.

Reflecting on his tenure since first being elected in 2018, Matthew said his central mission has been to improve the quality of life for residents in the constituency. He outlined a range of initiatives aimed at expanding access to education, enhancing

Midweek Deals

TUESDAYS / WEDNESDAYS

-Burger
-Medium Drink
\$19.99



-Leg and Thigh
-Biscuit
-Medium Drink
\$17.99

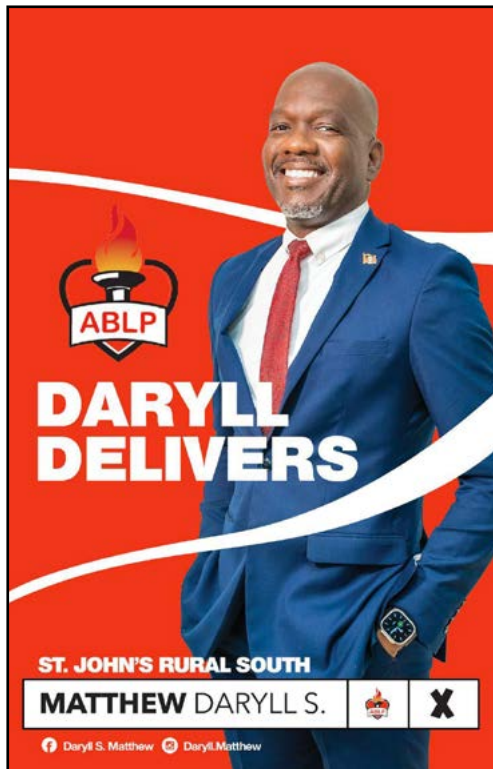


community safety, and providing opportunities for youth development.

Among the key accomplishments he cited was the expansion of the Golden Grove Primary School, which he said was once the most overcrowded institution in the country. According to him, securing additional land for the school has contributed to improved learning conditions and better academic outcomes.

He also pointed to community-based education initiatives developed in collaboration with The University of the West Indies Global Campus, which took short courses directly into neighbourhoods to increase accessibility. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he said, additional support was provided through the distribution of devices and the creation of supervised spaces for students to complete schoolwork.

On the issue of public safety, Saint John's Rural South candidate revealed that he personally financed



the establishment of a police outpost within the constituency, which is now staffed by the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda. The initiative, he noted, was aimed at address-

ing community concerns about rising crime and improving residents' sense of security.

Youth engagement has also been a focus, with Matthew highlighting his investment in the Pandemonium Steel Orchestra as a creative outlet for young people. He argued that participation in music not only keeps youth positively engaged but also contributes to improved academic performance.

"I've been able to put programmes and initiatives in place that ultimately aim to improve the quality of life for persons residing in St. John's Rural South," he said.

As the election approaches, the incumbent is banking on that record to secure another mandate, insisting that his work in education, community development, and public safety has laid a strong foundation for continued progress in the constituency.

Antigua and Barbuda To Host Its Second Caribbean Travel Marketplace In A Row

Antigua and Barbuda is ready to welcome five hundred tourism industry partners from across the globe for the 44th annual Caribbean Hotels and Tourism Association (CHTA) Caribbean Travel Marketplace, scheduled to take place at the American University of Antigua conference venue from May 12 – 15, 2026.

This is the second consecutive year Antigua and Barbuda will host the event, underscoring the destination's leadership in the tourism landscape in the Caribbean and its growing positioning within the Meetings Incentives Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) market.

Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment, The Honourable. Charles Fernandez, said, "The return of Caribbean Travel Marketplace to Antigua and Barbuda reflects the confidence that CHTA has in our ability to deliver at the highest level. It further strengthens our position as a leading destination for conferences and major tourism events."

The timeliness of the event is not lost on the CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, Colin C. James, who underscored the strategic significance of the major international gathering for Antigua and Barbuda.

"Caribbean Travel Marketplace places Antigua and Barbuda at the centre of regional tourism business at a pivotal time for global travel. With the industry's key players in our destination, we are well positioned to showcase the strength of our product, deepen key partnerships, and nurture opportunities that will drive growth in visitor arrivals", noted the ABTA CEO.

Caribbean Travel Marketplace is the premier business to business forum for the Caribbean Hotels and Tourism Association. It is typically used to bring together major suppliers of tourism related services and potential buyers to negotiate new opportunities for in-



Antigua and Barbuda set to host Caribbean Travel Marketplace for the second year (photos courtesy, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority)



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creasing travel to the Caribbean.

“It is an honour to once again bring Caribbean Travel Marketplace to Antigua and Barbuda, a destination that truly embodies the spirit of regional collaboration,” said CHTA President Sanovnik Destang. “Marketplace is ultimately about results, creating real opportunities for participants to grow business, forge lasting partnerships, and build the foundation for sustained travel across the Caribbean.”

As host country, Antigua and Barbuda is leading a coordinated effort with key players across all sectors to recreate last year’s exceptional Marketplace experience. At the heart of this initiative are the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, and the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA).

In addition to the business sessions, CTM will also feature Responsible Tourism Day, to be held on Thursday May 14, where conference participants will be afforded the opportunity to witness up close initiatives that support sustainable tourism and environmental conservation activities in Antigua and Barbuda.

Also returning to Marketplace this year is the Direct Booking Summit, scheduled for May 15. It will bring together major industry leaders to share their insights on emerging trends and the cutting-edge innovation driving in-

dustry growth with key players in the tourism sector in Antigua and Barbuda

and across the Caribbean.

Caribbean Travel Marketplace is attracting a strong media presence from across all of Antigua and Barbuda’s source markets, further amplifying the destination’s visibility before a global audience.

The event also coincides with Antigua and Barbuda’s annual Culinary Month, offering delegates an opportunity to experience the destination’s vibrant food culture alongside doing business.

For more information on the event and to register go to: [Caribbean Travel Marketplace 2026 - CHTA Event Home](#)



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Early Closure

Please be advised that our

Registration Department

will close at **2:00pm** on

Wednesday, 29th April 2026,

to facilitate an important

staff training session.

Regular service resumes at 8:00am on

Thursday, 30th April 2026.

WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED.

CBH Issues 14-Day Deadline for Families to Claim Deceased



The Central Board of Health is appealing to the relatives of three deceased individuals whose bodies remain unclaimed to begin the process

for burial.

In a statement issued through the Office of the Chief Health Inspector, officials disclosed that the bodies are currently being held at Barnes Funeral Home.

The deceased have been identified as Mr. La-Shaune Tunsha Charles, who passed away on 19th October, 2025; Mr. Jeffery Coenelius, who died on 8th March, 2026; and Mr. Rupert Martin, whose date of death is recorded as 1st April, 2026.

Authorities are urging family members or anyone with relevant information to come forward and make contact with the funeral home to facilitate

private burial arrangements. Relatives are asked to reach out to Managing Director Jessica Barnes at 462-1037.

Health officials are cautioning that failure to claim the bodies within 14 days of the publication of the notice will result in government intervention. In such cases, the deceased will be interred at a public cemetery without further notice.

The statement further warned that no legal action will be entertained after burial has taken place.

The Central Board of Health is calling for the cooperation of affected families to ensure that the deceased are given appropriate and timely burials.



Liberty Caribbean Champions Women and Girls in Building Caribbean's AI Future

Leading telecoms provider Liberty Caribbean is calling for accelerated efforts to help close the gaps in artificial intelligence (AI) adoption and capabilities across Caribbean societies, as it marks this year's International Girls in ICT Day under the theme "AI for Development: Girls Shaping the Digital Future."

Led by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), this year's theme issues a global call to inspire and empower more women and girls to pursue careers in ICT, particularly in emerging fields enabled by AI, to drive inclusive socio-economic development.

Inge Smidts, Chief Executive Officer, Liberty Caribbean emphasized the urgency of prioritizing AI across the Caribbean.

"AI must become a regional development priority to unlock new possibilities across our economies. This cannot be something we observe from the sidelines," she said.

"It requires deliberate and coordinated action to move from curiosity to practical adoption. Countries that apply AI responsibly and ensure inclusive participation in their transformation efforts will be best positioned to grow and create opportunity."

Liberty Caribbean are the operators of Flow, Liberty Business and BTC.

Smidts noted that as technology in-



Inge Smidts,

creasingly shapes decision-making, future growth will depend on how effectively digital access is translated into productivity.

"We must move beyond simply providing access and focus on enabling real, measurable outcomes. That means equipping people with the skills, tools, and opportunities to fully participate in a digital economy that is evolving rapidly," she said.

"We must build this future intentionally, with full representation of our societies at the centre, ensuring that women, girls, and underserved communities are not only included,

but empowered to lead, innovate, and shape the direction of that growth."

Liberty Caribbean continues to prepare for this shift through sustained investment in resilient, future-ready networks and digital platforms. The company is also advancing initiatives to strengthen digital skills and promote responsible innovation, ensuring that AI adoption delivers measurable value for customers, communities, and economies.

Across the organization, internal efforts are underway to integrate AI-driven automation to enhance operational efficiency and elevate the customer experience.

Technology is no longer something that belongs to a distant future, it's part of how we live, work and connect every day in Antigua and Barbuda," said Sashagay Middleton

Account Executive, B2B Sales. "As we mark International Girls in ICT Day, we are reminded of how important it is to encourage girls to see themselves as creators of technology, including AI, not just consumers. When girls are empowered digitally, the entire country benefits."

By continuing to invest in connectivity, skills development, and inclusive talent pathways, Liberty Caribbean is helping to ensure that Caribbean innovation is driven by homegrown talent, including women.

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Toyota Recalls 73,528 vehicles Due to Defects

The Prices and Consumer Affairs Division is advising the public that Toyota is recalling 73,528 Corolla Cross Hybrid vehicles from the 2023-2025 model years because the backup pedestrian warning sound may be too quiet, violating federal safety standards. The vehicles may not emit a sufficiently loud pedestrian warning sound when operating in reverse.

This deficiency violates Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 141, which sets minimum sound requirements for hybrid and electric vehicles.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) assigned recall numbers 26TB08 and 26TA08 to the campaign.

Dealers will provide a free software update to fix the issue, and owners will receive notification letters by late May 2026.

Toyota dealership will install a software update at no cost to correct the pedestrian warning sound.

The division reminds the public that under the Consumer Protection Act, consumers are not required to pay for repairs related to a manufacturer's safety recall.

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



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OFF TO CAST YOUR BALLOT ON**

THURSDAY, APRIL 30



BARBUDA Caribana 2026

MAY 2026

THURSDAY 21ST

- 2PM | OPENING PARADE
- 3PM | KIDS FEST
- 8PM | JUNIOR CALYPSO MONARCH

FRIDAY 22ND

- 11AM | WHEELS UNITED - PARK & LIME
- 8:30PM | CALYPSO / SOCA MONARCH

SATURDAY 23RD

- 10AM-5PM | SPRITZ & SUN - SEAFOOD FEST - AND-
JOHNNY DESOUZA FISHING TOURNAMENT
- 10PM-4AM | CARIBANA COLORS FETE

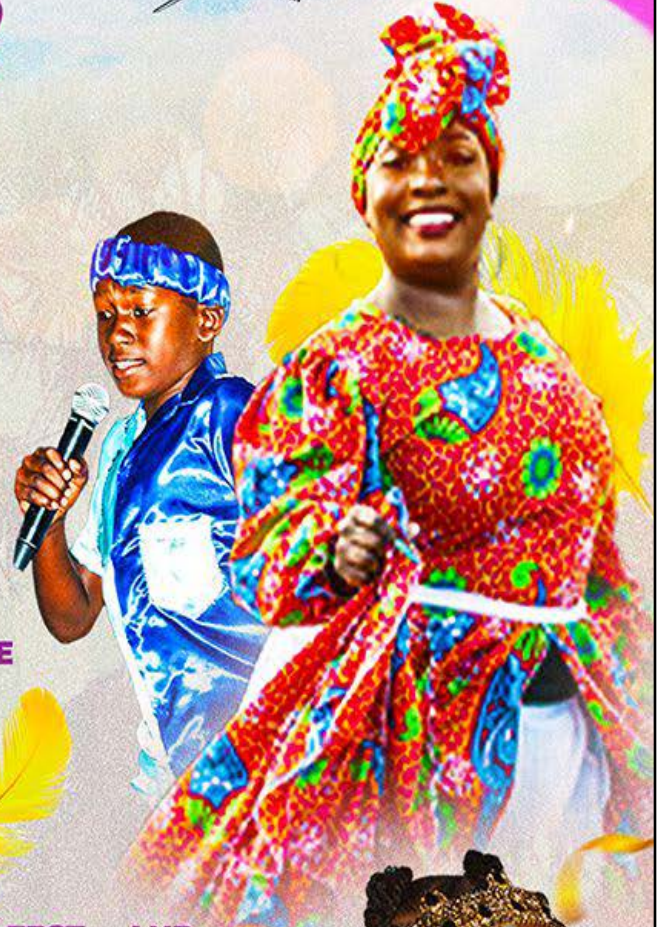
SUNDAY 24TH

- 1PM | CARIBANA CLASSIC
HORSE RACING

MONDAY 25TH

- 4AM-10AM | J'OUVERT
- 6PM-10PM | LAST LAP

EVENT SCHEDULE





OAS To Send An Electoral Observation Mission to Antigua and Barbuda for 2026 General Elections



Organization of American States
More rights for more people

The Organization of American States (OAS) is preparing to deploy its Electoral Observation Mission (EOM) for the 2026 General Elections in Antigua and Barbuda.

Led by former OAS Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity, Maricarmen Plata, the Mission comprises 17 experts and observers from eleven countries. The team will focus its observation on electoral organization, electoral technology, electoral justice, political-electoral finance and the political participation of women.

Before voters cast their ballots, Chief of Mission Plata and the OAS team will meet with a range of stakeholders, including government officials, electoral authorities, political parties and candidates, and civil society representatives to gather diverse perspectives on the electoral process. On Election Day, April 30, observers will monitor

polling stations from the opening of the polls through the voting process and the tabulation and transmission of results.

Following the election, the OAS/EOM will release a First Report detailing its observations and offering recommendations to strengthen

the nation's democratic framework.

Financial contributions from Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Peru, Korea, and the United States fund this deployment, which constitutes the fifth OAS electoral Mission to Antigua and Barbuda.

ABLP DELIVERS

ON THE COST OF LIVING



**UPP IS FIGHTING
EACH OTHER
FOR POWER**

A LIVEABLE WAGE – NO LONGER A MINIMUM WAGE

by *President of the AT&LU: Bernard de Nully*

Early History

The Antigua and Barbuda Trades and Labour Union (AT&LU) has been in existence since 1939, or for 87 years. The Union was first established to negotiate higher wages and improved conditions of employment with the largest employers in Antigua and Barbuda, at the time of its founding. However, those who were the largest employers also controlled the law-making machinery. They used the parliament (known then as the *Legislative Council*) as a weapon; they suppressed the ambitions of the majority population, arranged the laws to extract every ounce of wealth produced from the hands of the poorest workers, and made life extremely difficult for the poorest people living in the Presidency of Antigua in the Colony of the Leeward Islands—as the country was then called.

Within five years of its founding, in 1944, a youthful and more ambitious leadership group emerged from the ranks of the AT&LU, prepared to challenge the colony's political leaders and ready to take the institution to a higher level. The youthful AT&LU leaders created the Political Committee of the Union and proceeded to try to secure seats in the Legislative Council, where the laws governing the colony were enacted.

To achieve its ends, the AT&LU created the *Workers Voice Newspaper* in July 1944, published its first manifesto—one page long—as an addendum to the 18th of May 1946 edition of the newspaper, and conducted a campaign lasting two consecutive years to register new voters. In the July 1946 general elections, the AT&LU candidates won all 5 electable seats, overwhelmingly, to the eleven-person Legislative Council. The British Governor hand-picked the majority six members of the Legislative Council available under the 1936 Constitution; this personage also had veto power, requiring his assent to all laws passed by the Legislative Council. This



AT&LU President Bernard de Nully

was colonialism at its worst.

This primal victory of the AT&LU in 1946 signalled the commencement of party politics in Antigua and Barbuda, and ended the short era of independent candidates successfully contesting elections to the Parliament. In 80 years, or from 1946 to 2026, party politics has dominated; and, *the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP)*, spawned by the AT&LU, has won 14 of 17 general elections held in Antigua and Barbuda during those eight decades. The AT&LU brought democracy to Antigua and Barbuda.

The AT&LU/ABLP Years of Development

While the primary purpose of the AT&LU remained bargaining for wages and improved conditions of work, the ABLP set out to change the conditions of work that made life miserable for workers. Sugarcane dominated the economic landscape for 300 years, and the two major employers were the Antigua Sugar Factory and the Antigua Syndicates Estates. Every other business was peripheral to these two economic actors in the first half of the 20th century. **On 27th of February 1967**, a third new constitution was adopted by the Parliament, providing the elected

government with the authority to make domestic decisions, ending the control from London. Colonialism was on the retreat. The United Nations Resolution 1514/XV compelled the disgorging of colonies in 1960.

In his massive publication of 1968 entitled: *The Growth of the Modern West Indies*, Professor Gordon K. Lewis recalled the kind of stranglehold which the sugar producers and landowners held on the mono-crop economy and the labour force of Antigua. When therefore these actors failed to save their firms from default and receivership in 1967, the government, led by the President of the AT&LU, stepped-in and, for less than six million BWI dollars, purchased all 33,000 acres of arable land, machinery and works of the two entities. *“The Antiguan became owners of their country and of themselves,”* the Workers Voice Newspaper proclaimed following this purchase on 7th of April 1967.

In the four years following that 1967 purchase, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda invested in tourism, causing several luxury hotels to be built, a new deepwater harbour to be constructed, a longer airport runway and a new air terminal to be erected, a Hospitality



Training Institute to be organized, thousands of new jobs to be created by an oil refinery and other manufacturing businesses, and the economy of the former colony to experience annual growth rates that moved it forward ahead of many developing countries.

The International Bank for Re-Construction and Development (the World Bank) began to classify Antigua and Barbuda as a middle-income developing nation. Suddenly, the small island-nation was no longer eligible for concessionary financing since its *per capita* income exceeded many of the States whose independence came as a consequence of the 1960 United Nations ordered decolonization. **The Gross Domestic Product in 1977 stood at USD66.1400 million;** by the year 2002, twenty-five years later, the **GDP had climbed to USD822.2033,** or 12 times its 1977 size.

Workers' Improved Wages/Salaries and Conditions of Work

In 1974, the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code was adopted by the not-yet independent Antigua and Barbuda Parliament. It provided protections for workers including paid sick days per year, minimum holidays with pay, standard health and safety standards, daily-maximum hours of work and accruing overtime payment, maternity leave, the outlawing of discrimination based on colour, national origin, gender, religion and other characteristics. It was an all-encompassing beautiful symbol of advancement in law that placed Antigua

and Barbuda among the most advanced civilizations and countries for workers. Trade Unions did not have to negotiate these minimums because they were set in law; that floor served as a take-off point. Democracy was alive and well following the defeat of colonialism.

The AT&LU takes great pride in knowing that it first negotiated paternity leave for workers, allowing new fathers to receive fourteen days at home with their spouses/common-law wives during an important bonding period with their new infant. The AT&LU also organized a new section that caters to "Domestic Workers". The women who clean households for better-off strangers; take care of infants while their mothers go to work; prepare meals and even go shopping for households that pay them for their services; launder clothes, bed linens, and other items in exchange for a weekly wage, are domestic workers. The AT&LU recognized that this class of workers is the most exploited and the most in need of representation. *"The AT&LU sees itself as a change agent, not merely a wages-and-benefits or dispute settlement outfit,"* it declares on page 33 of its 75th Anniversary magazine of 2014.

As the newest President of the AT&LU, the 7th in the Union's long history, I have several times called upon the Government, led by the Honourable Gaston Browne, to move Antigua and Barbuda forward by establishing **"a Liveable Wage" and not "a Minimum Wage."** The power of the concept lies not so much in the exchange of words but in the different measurements assigned to the idea. I have advanced the same at the **Bi-partite Consultation of Caribbean Workers' and Employers' Organizations on the development of a regional migration policy framework and action programme for CARICOM and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Caribbean Congress on Labour (CCL)** when attending the triennial gatherings. Social Security recipients in Antigua and Barbuda are to be assessed for a liveable pension, not a minimum pension. The calculations differ enormously and are to be assessed on the basis of according those who receive the least to be moved

to a position of acceptability. The AT&LU has thrived on the representation of the lowliest, as its base support, and to ensure that every generation exceeds the previous group on whose shoulders it stands.

A new phenomenon that has affected workers' health and wellness has been mould-infested buildings. The wind and the rain bring all kinds of micro-organisms into contact with vegetation, buildings and people. There are those who suffer from allergies caused by the pollen from trees; others who break-out with hives and other externalities that signal environmental maladies. Molds have become lodged in the ducts of air-conditioning systems, and migrate to hidden places that can cause illnesses. Several government-operated buildings have been so affected. While the exterminators who have worked to reduce their harm, the sick buildings remain problematic. In a tropical setting, this challenge is widespread and inevitably impacts productivity. The AT&LU is collaborating with the authorities to ensure that mold in buildings will not pose a health risk, and that workers are not harmed by a condition that imperils good health.

The AT&LU and the ABLP are inextricably joined, not only by history but by the aims and objectives of both institutions. The leadership of both entities remain aligned to good governance, the elimination of poverty, the creation of full employment, providing a liveable wage and pension, the equality of opportunity and justice for all. The democratic principles which the institutions hold high continue to be the bedrock upon which this Caribbean civilization is built, and the escape from yesterday is assured. We love freedom. We embrace the creation and equitable distribution of wealth. We will never surrender to undemocratic procedures and hold high the great strides which our ancestors and forebears have made, enabling this and future generations to stand on their shoulders. We intend to live in peace and unity, defending our country's liberty and her sovereignty. Long live peace! Long live freedom! Long live Antigua and Barbuda!



THIS
SATURDAY
25
APRIL

Red & REDDY THE CONCERT

**MASICKA | SIZZLA | BURNING FLAMES | DESTRA
ASA BANTAN | CLAUDETTE PETERS | TIAN WINTER**

**MENACE | SOCA VILLAN | YOUNG VICE | KID FRESH
ISLAND PRINCE | YOUNG LYRICS | EMPRESS**

 **7:00PM**

FREE

 **RISING SUN
GROUNDS**



SENIORS ARE FOR LABOUR!



THE ANTIGUA &
BARBUDA TRADES
AND LABOUR UNION
(AT&LU) PRESENTS

FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026



THE ULTIMATE DJ COMPETITION DE-LABOUR MIX

8 PM - 12 AM



HOSTED BY: JESSE FYAH & DJ KAVITY

PARTICIPANTS (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- DJ ACE (BARNES HILL & NEW WINTHROPES SECTION) | DJ SHADY (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
- DJ KYLE (CMC) | DJ TREBLEBEATZ (APUA) | DJ STRANGER (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
- DJ SPARK (CLARE HALL & CASSADA GARDENS SECTION) | DJ STUEY (LIBERTA SECTION)

PRIZES: 1ST \$1000.00
2ND \$750.00 - 3RD \$500.00



AT&LU HEADQUARTERS
46 NORTH STREET

BINGO WILL BE PLAYED
BETWEEN THE ROUNDS



COMING SOON



ANNOUNCING A NEW HOUSING RENEWAL LOAN PROGRAMME

**\$150 MILLION TO BE ALLOCATED
FOR PEOPLE WHO
DON'T QUALIFY FOR A BANK LOAN**

**INTEREST RATES 2-3%
UP TO 30 YEARS TO REPAY**





THIS SATURDAY
25
APRIL

Red & Reddy

THE CONCERT

BURNING FLAMES

 7:00PM

FREE

 RISING SUN GROUNDS



STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED

BARBUDA
Caribana
2026



Classic HORSE RACING

SUN 24H MAY

1PM | CORONATION PARK

THE ANTIGUA &
BARBUDA TRADES
AND LABOUR UNION
(AT&LU) PRESENTS

FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026



THE ULTIMATE DJ COMPETITION DE-LABOUR MIX

8 PM - 12 AM



REPRESENTING:
BARNES HILL AND
NEW WINTHROPES
SECTION



HOSTED BY: JESSE FYAH & DJ KAVITY

PARTICIPANTS

DJ ACE (BARNES HILL & NEW WINTHROPES SECTION) | DJ SHADY (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
DJ KYLE (CMC) | DJ TREBLEBEATZ (APUA) | DJ STRANGER (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
DJ SPARK (CLARE HALL & CASSADA GARDENS SECTION) | DJ STUEY (LIBERTA SECTION)

PRIZES: 1ST \$1000.00
2ND \$750.00 - 3RD \$500.00



AT&LU HEADQUARTERS
46 NORTH STREET

BINGO WILL BE PLAYED
BETWEEN THE ROUNDS



PARENTS ARE FOR LABOUR!



WE'RE BACK... STILL DANCING THE LINE

*The rhythm never stopped.
The passion never faded.
And now... we're back.*

Join us for an unforgettable evening of **movement, music, and magic** as we return to the stage – stronger, sharper, and still dancing the line between grace and power.



Date: Saturday 16th May 2026



Time: 7:00 PM



Venue: St Anthony's Secondary School, Langfords



Admission: \$50

**Come celebrate the comeback.
Feel the energy. Witness the return.**

Secure your tickets now from any LDC Antigua member—
and let's dance the line together! ✨



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT



Jessica Serena Tracey proudly represents St. John's Rural North, carrying with her the vibrant spirit of McKinnons Village and the resilience that defines her journey.

A dynamic entrepreneur, dancer, and youth advocate, Jessica has used every chapter of her life to grow in purpose, leadership, and service. From excelling as a student leader to building businesses and mentoring through dance, she embodies determination, creativity, and faith.

Her passion for youth development, entrepreneurship, and community upliftment continues to inspire those around her. Grounded in service and guided by purpose, Jessica stands as a confident, compassionate, and empowered ambassador for the proud people of St. John's Rural North.



Jessica Tracey
ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH

Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT



Julissa Stoute proudly represents St. Paul as a vibrant 20-year-old university student whose poise, passion, and purpose set her apart.

She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business Management at The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, specializing in Tourism and Hospitality Management. A past student of Old Road Primary School and Antigua Girls' High School, Julissa built a strong foundation in leadership, discipline, and creativity.

Her love for the performing arts earned her a Grade One in dramatic presentation. Ambitious and driven, she aspires to make a meaningful impact in tourism and hospitality while proudly showcasing Caribbean culture on the global stage.

Julissa Stoute
ST. PAUL



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM ◦ SOUL ◦ SPIRIT



Aliyah Andrew, a proud resident of St. John's Rural East and first-year Law student at the University of London, is driven by a passion for justice and national development.

As a Junior Paralegal and active member of JCI Antigua, she is committed to advocacy, youth empowerment, and nation-building. Representing her constituency and the Honourable Maria Browne in the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Queen Pageant 2026, Aliyah returns to the stage with confidence and purpose.

Her platform addresses absentee fatherhood and its impact on child development, as she champions stronger families and brighter futures for every child.

✦ A voice for change. A vision for impact.

Aliyah Andrew
ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM ◦ SOUL ◦ SPIRIT

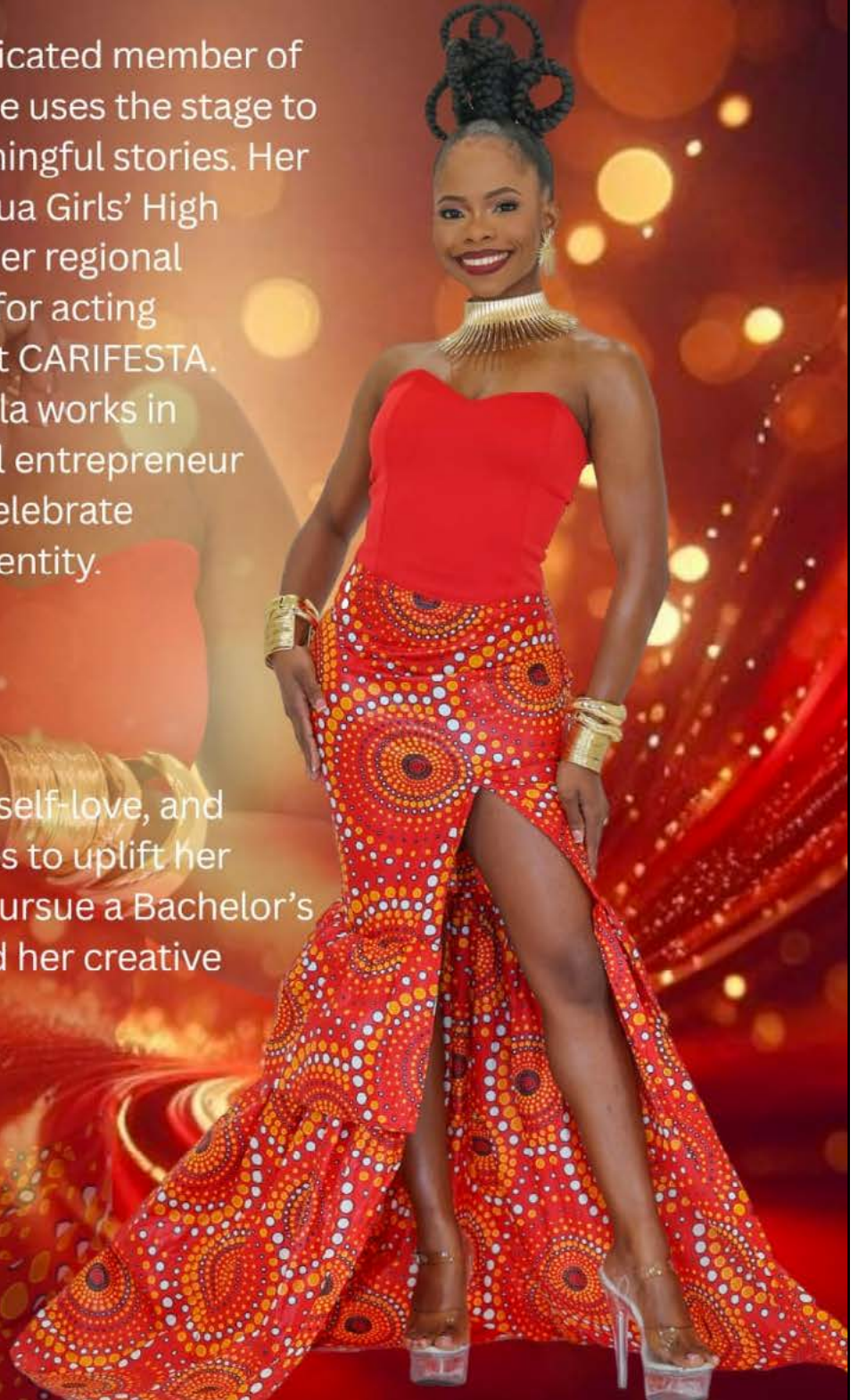


Queenela Williams proudly represents St. Mary's South with creativity, confidence, and cultural pride.

A dynamic performer and dedicated member of the National Youth Theatre, she uses the stage to connect, inspire, and tell meaningful stories. Her artistic journey began at Antigua Girls' High School and has since earned her regional recognition, including awards for acting excellence and appearances at CARIFESTA. Beyond performance, Queenela works in customer service and is a local entrepreneur whose handcrafted earrings celebrate individuality and Caribbean identity.

Deeply committed to service, self-love, and personal growth, she continues to uplift her community while aspiring to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and expand her creative impact.

Queenela Williams
ST. MARY'S SOUTH



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT

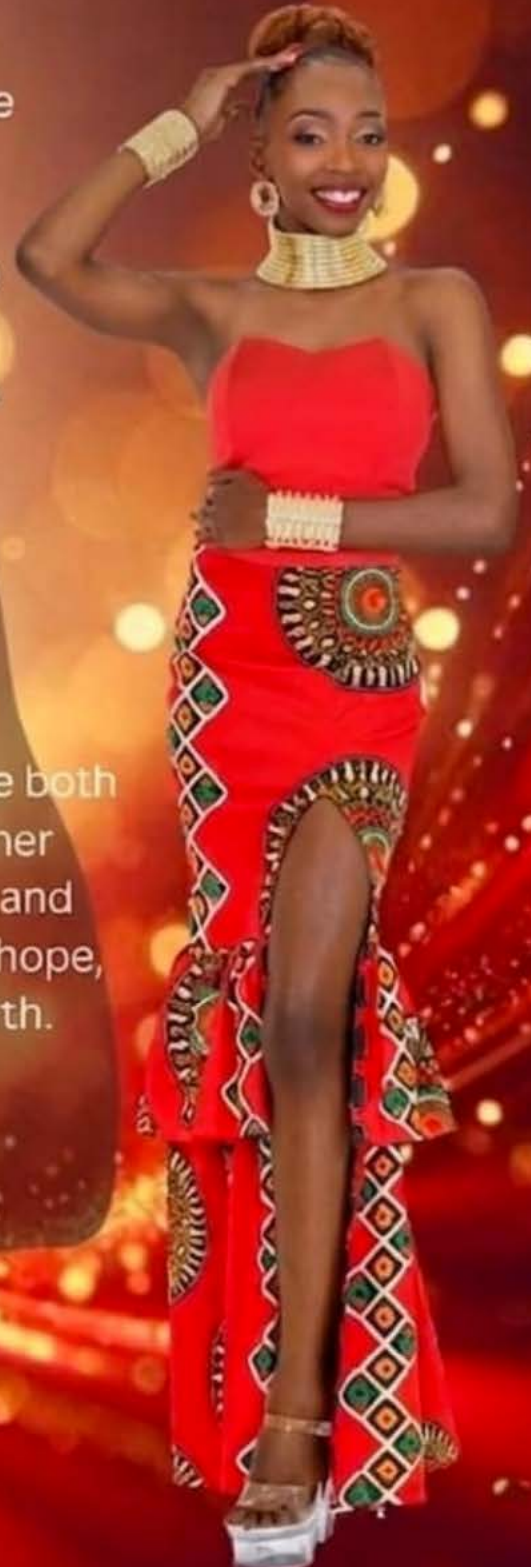


Iszarea Lloyd proudly represents St. Phillip's North as a young woman of purpose, resilience, and quiet strength.

Born on August 30, 2005, she is a proud graduate of Glanvilles Secondary School, where she emerged as Valedictorian, and is currently pursuing Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus. Though naturally quiet and observant, Iszarea possesses a vibrant spirit and a heart deeply committed to service.

Passionate about cooking, singing, sports, photography, and reading, she aspires to become both an interior designer and photographer. Through her platform, she advocates for youth development and mental health awareness, determined to inspire hope, healing, and a stronger future for St. Phillip's North.

Iszarea Lloyd
ST. PHILLIPS NORTH





MEN ARE FOR LABOUR!



RENAISSANCE
A New Era of Progress and Development





**FRIDAY
APRIL
24**

7 PM

**ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST
YOUTH SOCIAL**

**LINKIN'
LIME**



**COMMUNITY CENTER
ST JOHNSON'S VILLAGE**

BROWNE, MARIA  

**POP
QUIZ!**

**WHO IS REALLY IN
CHARGE OF THE UPP?**

A



LOVELL

B



GISELLE

C



PRINGLE

D



MALAKA

**UPP: WEAK LEADERS
FIGHTING FOR POWER**



Red & REDDY

MEGACADE



BUS PICKUP SCHEDULE



ST JOHN'S RURAL EAST

PICK UP LOCATION	PICK UP TIME
 PUMPKIN SCHOOL / COMMUNITY CENTER	10:00AM
 CLARE HALL SECONDARY SCHOOL	10:00AM
 CLARE HALL TRIANGLE	10:00AM



**SUNDAY
26
APRIL**

MEGACADE

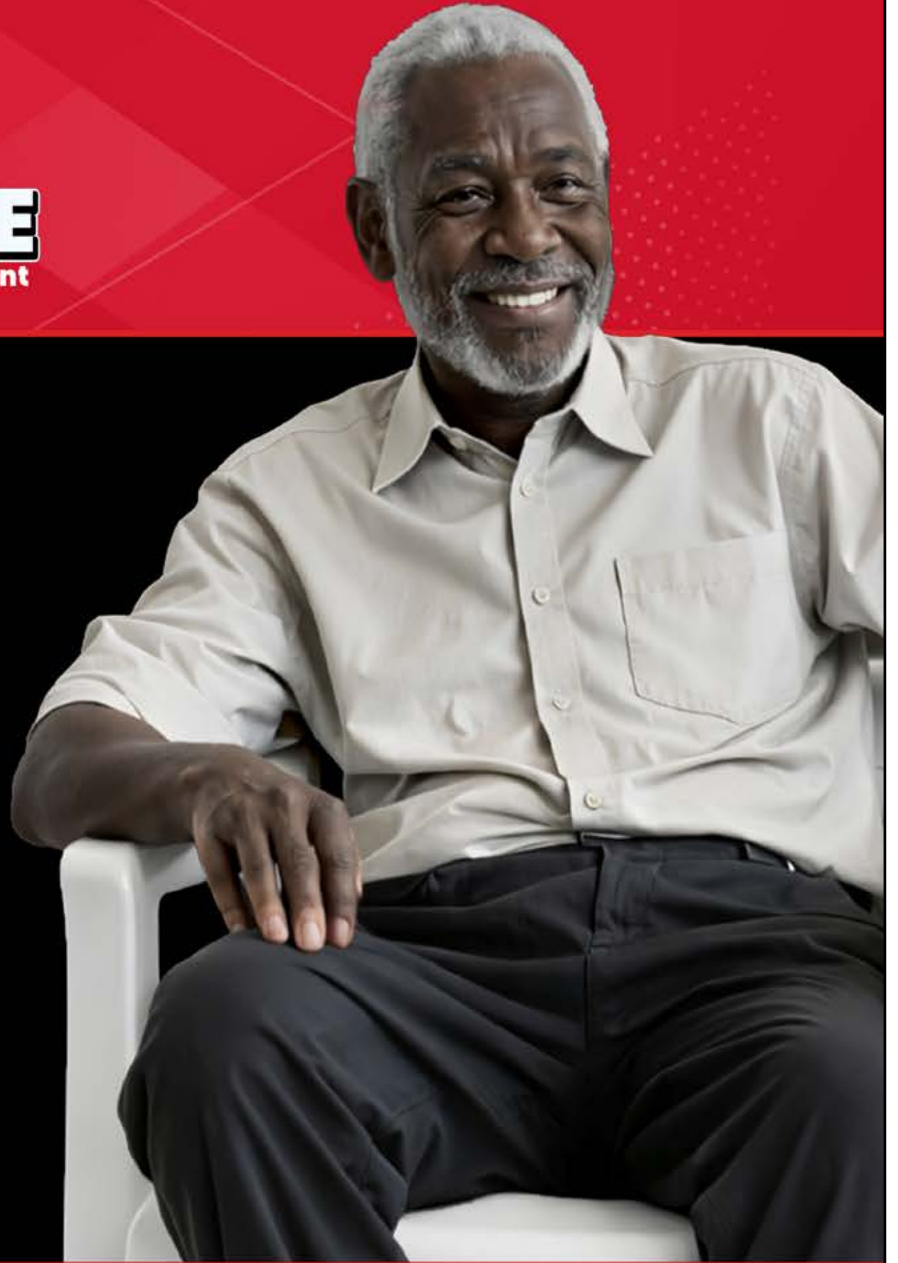
RIISING SUN GROUNDS ISLAND WIDE

THIS SUNDAY

(START TIME 11:00AM)



RENAISSANCE
A New Era of Progress and Development



**“After a
lifetime
of work,
seniors
deserve
respect.**

That’s why we

INCREASED PENSIONS |

for our seniors.”





Red & REDDY



SUNDAY
26
APRIL

MEGACADE

📍 RISING SUN GROUNDS

ISLAND WIDE

THIS SUNDAY

START TIME **11:00AM**

TG Welding crowned three-peat champs in Mandy Premier League

TG Welding captured the Cool and smooth Sherma Jackson, DJ Enterprise, Glendon and Arlene Air BNB Business Mandy Premier League (MPL) title for the third consecutive time on Wednesday evening.

TG Welding retained their title by pulling off a seven-wicket victory over Buck and Sons Landscaping Services in New Winthorpes in the final, which was rescheduled in January.

Buck and Sons were restricted to 86 for six off their allotted 10 overs. Steve Martin hit 28, and Kenrick Scott and Charanlall Ramjohn each scored 16 runs.

Dorian Grant captured two for 14; female player of the match Debra George claimed two for 18, and Essan Warner took one for 10.

TG Welding achieved victory by scoring 88 for three in 7.4 overs. Male player of the match Essan Warner slammed an unbeaten 54, including six sixes, and Demari Benta struck 23.

Steve Martin picked up one wicket for three runs, Owen Graham claimed one wicket for four runs, and Kimberly Anthony captured one for 22.

Essan Warner of TG Welding claimed the men's Most Valuable Player (MVP) award, while Kimberly Anthony of Buck and Sons Landscaping Services captured the female MVP award.

Warner also secured the awards for the most runs and highest in-



Female MVP Kimberly Anthony

dividual score, while Anthony claimed the award for the most wickets with 20 scalps.

Demari Benta of TG Welding also claimed an award for the best catch during the competition, which commenced in November last year.

The preliminary stage of the Mandy Premier League was won by Buck and Sons Landscaping Services, with the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force finishing second, and TG Welding in third place.

The Mandy Premier League has



Male MVP Essan Warner

expressed its gratitude to several contributors for supporting the competition.

Among them are Cool and Smooth, Rising Suns Club, New Winthorpes Club, DJ Enterprise, Arlene Josiah, Rackaman Construction, Christine Mills, umpires and scorers, James Mackie of Jumby Bay, Rachael Greaves, and Kemoy Weatherhead.

Wins for AGS, PSS, and SNRA in Under-15 schools' cricket contest

The Antigua Grammar School (AGS), Pares Secondary School (PSS), and Sir Novelle Richards Academy (SNRA) recorded wins in the Cool and Smooth, Joma Caribbean Inter-Schools Under-15 Cricket Championship on Wednesday.

The Antigua Grammar School secured an eight-wicket victory over Jennings Secondary at Antigua Grammar School. Jennings Secondary School batted first and was bowled out for 67 runs, with Estan Hill top scoring with 10.

Marc Crawford grabbed three wickets for eight runs, Tiandre Charles claimed three wickets for nine runs, and Shakier Thomas picked up two wickets for eight runs.

Antigua Grammar School achieved victory by scoring 68 for two. Isaiah Harris struck a brilliant 51. Tyler Martin claimed one wicket for seven runs, and Estan Hill took one for 14.

Pares Secondary School delivered a dominant performance to secure a convincing 10-wicket win over Irene B. Williams Secondary (IBWS) at the Swetes playing field.

The Irene B. Williams Secondary crashed to 15 all out. Deno Jarvis snapped up three wickets without conceding any runs, Zadien Hector grabbed three wickets for five runs, and Malachi Tonge bagged three wickets for eight runs.

Pares Secondary School wrapped up victory by achieving the required victory target of 16 runs without losing any wickets. Malachi Tonge hit an unbeaten 13.

The Sir Novelle Richards Academy secured a seven-wicket victory over All Saints Secondary at the

Factory Grounds.

All Saints Secondary School was restricted to 49 for seven in 11.1 overs. Terence Brown hit 26 off 28 balls, including four fours.

Ayden Bazil snatched three wickets for eight runs, Kevon Charles bagged two wickets for five runs, and Clayton Joseph claimed two wickets for seven runs.

The Sir Novelle Richards Academy secured victory by scoring 50 for three in 7.1 overs. Sherwin Martin hit 16 not out, and there was also a contribution of 16 extras, including 12 wides.

Itajay Weaver captured two wickets for six runs for All Saints Secondary School.



ABLP DELIVERS

Tourism in Barbuda

- PLH / Barbuda Ocean Club
- Nobu Resort

Tourism Office Opened in Toronto

- One-stop base for trade, media and marketing

Luxury & Branded Tourism

- MurBee Resorts
- Marriott Development
- Moon Gate
- Nikki Beach Resort & Spa

Restoration of Nelson's Dockyard Seawall



Gunners return to winning ways in Division 2 basketball



Leaders Cedar Grove Gunners returned to winning form in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division League on Wednesday.

After their unbeaten run was ended by second-placed Cuties Ovals Ojays 2 in their previous outing, the Gunners rebounded to claim their 14th win in 15 games with a 72-56 victory over Michael Joseph Phoenix in the opening encounter during a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Keaddy Martin produced 16 points, seven rebounds, and six steals; Sergio Symister sank 12 points and claimed six rebounds; Olivee Morris converted 12 points; Tyras Grayman had nine points and seven rebounds; and John Rolland Jr. scored eight points and grabbed 15 rebounds for the Gunners.

Adrian Carnegie shot a game-high 18 points; Roshane Hewlette sank 13 points and grabbed 14 rebounds; Shamar Joseph converted 13 points and pro-



vided seven assists; and Elias Ebraj scored nine points for the Phoenix, who lost for the fifth time in 14 games.

The Old Road Daggers notched up their 12th win in 15 matches by snatching a narrow 72-69 victory against the EZ Fit Flyers 2 in Wednesday's second encounter.

Wester Batista Perez converted 21 points; Gary Harrison sank 10 points and grabbed 13 rebounds; Devea Aaron produced 10 points, 11 rebounds, seven

assists, and six steals; and Rafiki Harris provided 10 points, six rebounds, and six steals for the Daggers.

Hansel Piper produced 21 points, 11 rebounds, and five steals; Elijah Charles sank 15 points and snatched six rebounds; Zende Dorsett converted 10 points and claimed eight rebounds; and Noah Massiah scored eight points and grabbed seven rebounds for the EZ Fit Flyers 2, who lost for the 11th time in 14 games.

Human rights groups issue US travel advisory ahead of World Cup

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Advocacy groups issued a travel advisory on Thursday, warning that visitors traveling to the United States of America (USA) for the 2026 World Cup may face arbitrary detention or deportation, among other human rights abuses.

The warning, which came less than two months before the sporting event kicks off in Mexico, was signed by dozens of groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union and the NAACP.

The event will take place against a backdrop of widespread immigration crackdown by the Trump administration and the erosion of federal protections for racial minorities and members of the LGBTQ community.

Fans, players, journalists and other visitors may face racial profiling, searches of electronic devices, or risk of cruel or inhuman treatment if they end up in immigration detention facilities, according to the advisory.

The groups added that people from immigrant communities, racial and ethnic minority groups, and LGBTQ individuals are “most vulnerable to serious harm” when traveling to the USA.

For this reason, they said, visitors should exercise caution and have an emergency contingency plan.

“FIFA has unique leverage right now to pressure the US government to respect the fundamental human rights of every person visiting and attending the games, as well as those working and living in the 11 US host cities,” the ACLU said in a statement referring to the sport’s global governing body.

“That’s why the ACLU and other members of the Dignity 2026 Coalition have been urging FIFA to act. But FIFA has yet to offer meaningful assurances.”

The US State Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In a statement, the world soccer organization said: “As per article 3 of the FIFA Statutes, FIFA is committed to respecting all internationally recognized human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.”

It cited several actions and a special rights advisory group as “evidence of FIFA’s commitment to human rights across all key activities and actors connected to the tournament.”

Thursday’s warnings follow a March statement from Amnesty International that the tournament is drifting far from the “safe, free and inclusive” event originally promised by FIFA.

The World Cup is set to hold 104 matches across the United States, Mexico and Canada, starting in June. Eleven US cities will host matches for the sporting event, including East Rutherford, New Jersey, just outside New York, where the championship match will be held.



The New York/New Jersey’s FIFA World Cup 2026 logo is revealed during the kickoff event in Times Square in New York City, USA, May 18, 2023. (Reuters)

PMS captures schools' cricket T20 championship



Players of the Princess Margaret School team pose with their trophy after winning the Ministry of Sports Inter-School Under-19 T20 Championship at the Antigua Recreation Grounds on Thursday, April 23, 2026.

The Princess Margaret School (PMS) has captured the Ministry of Sports Inter-School Under-19 T20 Championship.

Princess Margaret School claimed the title by pulling off a 17-run victory over the Antigua Grammar School in a keenly contested final at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) on Thursday.

Captain JQuan Athanaze slammed an unbeaten half-century to guide Princess Margaret School to 167 for two off their allotted 20 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat.

Athanaze hammered 69 not out off 36 balls, including five fours and five sixes. Athanaze shared an unbeaten 108 third-wicket partnership with Kerique Mentore, who cracked 42 not out off 25 balls, with three sixes and two fours.

Ondre Peters struck 26 off 29 balls and shared a 45-run opening stand with Tyran Francis, who scored 14 off 35 balls. Isaiah Harris captured one for 30.

Chasing 168 to win, Antigua Grammar School made a good effort but fell short after being restricted to 150 for two off their 20 overs.

Captain Hosea Roberts and Leonardo Ducreay both hit half centuries and shared an opening stand of 134 runs.

Roberts hammered 68 off 59 balls, including nine fours and a six, while Ducreay struck 51 off 49 balls, with seven boundaries. Ondre Peters captured one for 23.

Both teams advanced to the final by recording commanding wins in the semi-finals.

The Antigua Grammar School crushed All Saints Secondary School by 183 runs at the Antigua Grammar School.

Opener Leonardo Ducreay slammed a half-century to help propel Antigua Grammar School to 215 for two off their allotted 20 overs after being sent in to bat.

Ducreay slammed 51 off 46 balls, including five fours and two sixes. He

shared an 86-run opening stand with captain Hosea Roberts, who struck 43 off 22 balls, including six fours and two sixes.

Ducreay was also involved in a 64-run second-wicket partnership with Shane Walsh, who cracked an unbeaten 38 off 42 balls, which included five fours.

Walsh shared an unbroken 65-run third-wicket partnership with Isaiah Harris, who hammered 32 off 17 balls, with six fours. In reply, All Saints Secondary School was bundled out for just 32 in 11.1 overs. Captain Nasri Brooks was the only batsman to reach double figures, with a knock of 18 off 17 balls.

Mark Crawford grabbed five for 12, while Dante Odlum took two wickets for three runs, and Dejaunte Spencer claimed two wickets for nine runs.

The Princess Margaret School recorded a seven-wicket victory over Pares Secondary School in their semi-final affair at the Factory Grounds.

Pares Secondary School was dismissed for 79 in 18.5 overs after being sent in to bat. Kadeem George was the only batsman to reach double figures, hitting a topscore of 30 off 39 balls.

Elijah Miller grabbed two wickets for five runs, **Janiel Henry** claimed two for 10, and **Tyran Francis** captured two for 15.

Princess Margaret School achieved victory by scoring 81 for three in 9.1 overs. JQuan Athanaze slammed 33 off 19 balls, including six fours and a six.

Athanaze shared a 48-run second-wicket partnership with Tyran Francis, who scored 13. Kerique Mentore also hit 13 not out for PMS.

Kyan Goodwin, Tyari Tonge, and captain William Pitman each picked up a wicket for Pares Secondary School.