

Chet Greene Defends His Record In St. Paul

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Prime Minister Gaston Browne (fifth from left) standing next to the Chinese Ambassador Jaing Wei pose with the workers and Chinese embassy officials following a tour of the Booby Alley Housing Project

Chet Greene Defends His Record In St. Paul

Antigua Barbuda Labour Party incumbent candidate E.P. Chet Greene is discrediting his challengers in the general election race while strongly defending his record of performance at the constituency level.

Appearing on yesterday morning's 'Know Your Candidate' programme on state television, Greene took aim at both independent candidate Alan Weston and the United Progressive Party (UPP) contender Franz DeFreitas, arguing that neither presents a serious alternative to his leadership in the constituency.

According to the ABLP candidate, Weston's entry into the electoral race is rooted in dissatisfaction over not being reappointed to a diplomatic post. He said that under the administration of Prime Minister Gaston Browne, performance remains the guiding principle for appointments.

"You do not renew people who don't work. The mantra of this government is performance," Greene stated, adding that the former ambassador failed to demonstrate effectiveness during his tenure in the United Kingdom.

He further alleged that Alan Weston did not adequately engage with the High Commission in London and could not point to any significant achievements. Mr. Greene specifically rejected claims that the independent candidate played a role in securing COVID-19 vaccines for Antigua and Barbuda.

"Absolutely false," Greene declared. "There is no involvement on that part where vaccines are concerned. Anybody can write a letter, but that does not mean anything came from it."

The senior minister suggested that external interests were backing Weston's independent bid, adding that such support may be tied to at-



Candidate E.P. Chet Greene

tempts to influence control over national assets.

"English Harbour is not for sale," Greene declared, referencing ongoing sensitivities surrounding development in the historic area. "If your mission is to take over the Sailing Academy, it will not happen."

Addressing the UPP's selection, E.P. Chet criticised Franz DeFreitas, arguing that the opposition has once again introduced an individual with little to no connection to the constituency of St. Paul's.

"You don't come into a community a month or two before an election and expect people to support you," Greene said. "Even persons who traditionally support the UPP are offended by this approach."

He claimed that several individuals were approached by the opposition to contest the seat but declined, citing what he described as widespread recognition of his work over the past 12 years.

The Foreign Affairs Minister acknowledged that St. Paul's is not without its challenges, but maintained that his leadership has ensured stability and cohesion. He pointed to

disputes involving taxi operators, unlicensed business activities, and maritime use as examples of issues requiring careful management.

"The tensions are real," he said. "As a leader, I have to balance and manage those dynamics. If I were to say everything that comes to me, it could become explosive."

Greene credited his approach with maintaining harmony in the constituency, noting that there have been no racial or major social conflicts under his watch.

"We continue to have one community," he added. "That is because of the way these matters have been handled."

He also underscored his commitment to serving all constituents, regardless of political affiliation, highlighting his involvement with churches, schools, and community initiatives as evidence of his inclusive approach to representation.

"If I were only serving supporters of my party, I would not be working with the entire community," he said. "Between elections, I serve everyone. When elections come, people vote their conscience."

Expressing confidence ahead of Thursday's poll, the ABLP St. Paul's candidate referenced internal polling that he said shows him with a significant lead, while acknowledging that a core base of opposition support remains.

However, he argued that even that base is eroding due to dissatisfaction with the opposition's candidate selection and his continued engagement with constituents.

"I remain confident of victory," Greene said. "The work that I have done speaks for itself."

Labour Minister Rules Out Four-Day Work Week

Labour Minister and Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin has rejected calls for the introduction of a four-day work week in Antigua and Barbuda, arguing that such a model is incompatible with the country's economic realities.

The proposal is part of the main opposition United Progressive Party's plans it intends to examine should it form the new government.

But Sir Steadroy has dismissed the proposal as impractical, warning against adopting policies from developed nations without considering the unique characteristics of small, developing economies.

"They talk of a four-day work week," Benjamin said. "That system works in countries which are developed, with economies very different from ours. Those arrangements do not work in a society like ours."

His comments mark the first clear and unequivocal stance from a senior government official against the concept, which has gained traction internationally as some countries and companies experiment with reduced workweeks aimed at improving productivity and work-life balance.

The Labour Minister described the proposal as a "fanciful" and overly theoretical idea that cannot simply be transplanted into the local context.

"These are theoretical notions that may have merit elsewhere, but you



Labour Minister and Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin

cannot just import them into Antigua and Barbuda," he argued. "We have our own special idiosyncrasies as a developing country."

Sir Steadroy Benjamin stressed that policymaking must be grounded in local realities, particularly in economies that are less diversified and more vulnerable to external shocks. He cautioned that blindly adopting foreign models could have unintended consequences for productivity, business operations, and overall economic stability.

"We must cut the cloth to fit our bodies," Benjamin stated, invoking a common expression to underscore the need for tailored solutions. "You cannot take a system from a highly diversified, developed economy and expect

it to function the same way here."

The debate over a four-day work week has intensified globally in recent years, with pilot programmes in parts of Europe and North America reporting mixed but often positive results. Proponents argue that shorter workweeks can boost employee morale, reduce burnout, and even enhance productivity.

In contrast, critics contend that such models may not be feasible in all sectors, particularly in smaller or developing economies where workforce flexibility, infrastructure, and economic diversification are more limited.

In 2024, The People's Union broached the idea of a four-day work week, and signaled its intention to engage government officials on the proposal. But almost immediately, the Minister of Labour publicly stated that the government had taken no position on such an idea, and expressed skepticism about its practicality.

In 2025, Sir Steadroy Benjamin announced that a comprehensive study will be undertaken to determine the benefits that can be derived from Antigua and Barbuda implementing a four-day work week. However, an assessment is yet to commence.

The Labour Minister did not outline any alternative labour reforms but reiterated that any policy direction must reflect the country's developmental stage and economic structure.

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PM Browne Pens Letter Of Concern To US President Donald Trump

His Excellency Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
The White House Washington, D.C.

April 27, 2026

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, and on my own behalf, I extend to you, to Mrs Trump, and to all who were present at the White House

Correspondents' Association Dinner, our deep relief that you were unharmed in the disturbing armed incident of Saturday evening.

We strongly condemn this act of violence. No grievance or political difference can ever justify the use of arms against democratic institutions, elected leaders, members of the press, or citizens gathered in the exercise of free expression.

My Government stands with the United States in affirming that democracy must be defended by law, reasoned debate, respect for institutions, and peaceful civic conduct. Violence has no place in public life.

We also commend the courage and swift action of the United States law enforcement officers whose professionalism prevented a far greater tragedy. Please convey our best wishes for the full and speedy recovery of the injured officer.

Antigua and Barbuda expresses its solidarity with you, with the Government of the United States, and with the American people.


Please accept, Mr President, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Gaston Browne
Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda




Prime Minister Gaston Browne




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Statement by the Secretary to the Cabinet, Mr Konata Lee

Cabinet Office Rejects Politically Timed “ALFA NERO” Claims As Desperate and Misleading

The Office of the Cabinet has taken note of a post now being circulated by elements aligned with the United Progressive Party (UPP), purporting to rely on a filing made on April 25, 2026 in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida in relation to the Alfa Nero matter.

This latest effort, appearing just days before the general elections, is a transparent and desperate attempt to mislead the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

The public must understand a simple and important fact: a court filing is not evidence; it is a self-serving statement of allegations that must be tested and proven. This one has not been.

The filing in Florida has not been tested, not been accepted, and not been adjudicated by the Court. It is merely a document in which one party advances claims for its own purposes.

Indeed, the filing is no different in substance from allegations that have already been pursued elsewhere and have not succeeded.

The individual advancing these claims, Ms Yulia Guryeva-Motlokhov, is the daughter of Andrey Guryev, a Russian oligarch who has been sanctioned by the United States. She has pursued these allegations in multiple jurisdictions, including the United States, without success, and is now attempting to revive them through fresh proceedings in another forum. This background is material because the Alfa Nero was itself caught up in the international sanctions regime arising



Cabinet Secretary Mr. Konata Lee

from Russia’s war against Ukraine.

It is also a matter of record that this Florida proceeding is not a case against the Government of Antigua and Barbuda or its officials. It is a discovery application involving private parties, including yacht brokers. Any attempt to portray it otherwise is deliberately misleading.

Further, senior officials of the Ministry of Finance have already provided a full and detailed accounting of the proceeds of the sale of the Alfa Nero. That accounting was submitted to the courts in the United States and forms part of the official record. These facts stand in direct contradiction to the unfounded allegations now being recycled.

The Prime Minister has also initiated legal proceedings against the principal attorney advancing these claims for false and defamatory statements. This latest filing

therefore bears all the hallmarks of a desperate fishing expedition aimed at manufacturing material in response to those proceedings.

The timing of this filing, on April 25, just days before the April 30 general election, raises serious concerns about an attempt to interfere in the democratic process of Antigua and Barbuda. Those concerns are reinforced by the fact that these allegations are now being circulated through channels associated with the political opposition.

Any party can say anything in a pleading. That does not make it true.

What is now evident is a troubling alignment between political actors in Antigua and Barbuda and external interests seeking to advance unproven and previously rejected claims. This conduct is reckless and contrary to the national interest.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda rejects these allegations entirely. It will continue to defend the integrity of its actions, the reputation of its officials, and the interests of the people of this country.

The people of Antigua and Barbuda should see the Guryeva court filing, and the UPP’s promotion of it, for what it is: a last-minute attempt to mislead the public, spread falsehoods, and influence the outcome of a democratic election.

Mr Konata Lee

Secretary to the Cabinet

Government of Antigua and Barbuda

Antigua and Barbuda anticipates long-term benefits from hosting Caribbean Travel Marketplace

Chief Executive Officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, Colin C. James, has expressed confidence that the country's hosting of the 44th Caribbean Hotels and Tourism Association's (CHTA) Caribbean Travel Marketplace will generate lasting economic and promotional benefits for local businesses.

The event, scheduled for May 12–15, 2026, at the American University of Antigua Conference Centre, is expected to attract more than 500 delegates from across the global tourism industry. James emphasized that the presence of over 40 international media representatives will significantly enhance Antigua and Barbuda's visibility in key overseas markets.

“Having a crew of 40-odd international press from the hospitality sector in Antigua and Barbuda can only be good news for us because they do help us to tell our story and to really help to raise the profile of the destination,” James stated.

In addition to media coverage, organizers are incorporating locally produced goods into delegate gift packages, including jams and hot sauces, to provide direct exposure for small businesses. James noted that such initiatives will ensure that the benefits of hosting extend beyond the conference itself, supporting local entrepreneurs and service providers.

Reflecting on last years' experience, James expressed confidence in Antigua and Barbuda's logistical capacity to accommodate delegates across multiple hotels and to facilitate efficient transport between the airport, accommodations, and the conference venue. He highlighted the role of local transportation providers in ensuring smooth operations.

During the staging of Caribbean Travel Marketplace, Antigua and Barbuda aims to position itself as a leading destination in the region, lever-

aging international exposure, product promotion, and efficient infrastructure to future-proof its tourism economy.



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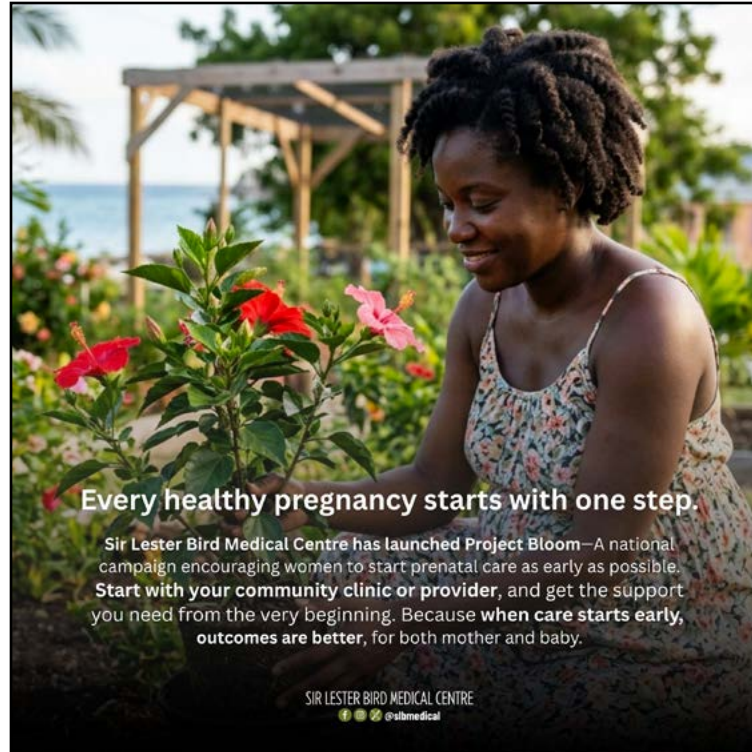
Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre Launches “Project Bloom” to Strengthen Prenatal Care

Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre (SLBMC) has officially launched Project Bloom, a public education and engagement campaign aimed at encouraging early prenatal care, improving access to services, and supporting healthier outcomes for mothers and babies across Antigua and Barbuda.

The initiative comes in response to a growing concern: too many women are either starting prenatal care late in their pregnancies or not accessing care at all until delivery. Project Bloom seeks to address this by providing clear, supportive messaging and practical guidance to help expectant mothers take that first step, early.

At its core, the campaign promotes a simple but important message: start care early, utilize community clinics and providers for routine check-ups, and transition to hospital services for high-risk support and delivery. Crucially, the campaign emphasizes that it is never too late to start care, aiming to remove stigma and support women at any stage of pregnancy.

“Early prenatal care is one of the most important things we can do to protect the health of both mother and baby,” said **Dr. Raymond Mansoor, Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at SLBMC**. “We are seeing cases where wom-



en present late with conditions like hypertension and even infections such as syphilis—issues that can be identified early, managed effectively, and in many cases prevented from causing serious complications. Through Project Bloom, we want women to understand that starting care early gives us the opportunity to act early, ensuring safer pregnancies and better outcomes for both mother and child.”

Project Bloom will roll out over one year through a mix of social media content, public service announcements, media interviews, and enhanced antenatal classes. Each phase of the campaign will address common barriers to care, from uncertainty about where to go, to fear

of the first visit, to misconceptions around high-risk pregnancies.

For many women, access to care is not just about availability, but about feeling supported and understood.

“We see every day how much of a difference early care makes for both mother and baby,” said **Ann-Marie Browne-Isaac, SLBMC Departmental Nurse Manager for Maternity and Outpatient Clinic** (which includes the antenatal clinic). “Our message is simple: start early with your community clinic or healthcare provider. This is one of those moments where most families come in happy, and we want them to leave happy. Starting care early helps us keep it that way—ensuring safer

pregnancies, smoother deliveries, and the best possible outcomes.”

From a social support perspective, Project Bloom also seeks to address the real-life challenges many women face when navigating pregnancy.

“Sometimes the barriers aren’t just medical, they’re emotional, financial, or simply not knowing where to start,” said **Chanier Moore, Social Worker at SLBMC**. “Our message is simple: you are not alone in this. There is support available, and taking that first step, no matter how small, can make a real difference for you and your baby.”

By combining education, community outreach, and patient-centered messaging, Project Bloom aims to increase early engagement in prenatal care, improve outcomes, and ensure that more mothers and babies receive the care they need, when it matters most.

SLBMC is encouraging all expectant mothers and their families to connect with their community clinics or healthcare providers and begin their prenatal journey as early as possible.

For more information about Project Bloom, antenatal services, or upcoming classes, please contact the SLBMC Outpatient Clinic 484-2727.

Ministry of Works Invites Contractors for UWI Five Islands Campus Expansion Project



The Ministry of Works, through its Project Implementation Unit (PIU), has issued a call for qualified contractors to express interest in undertaking civil and electro-mechanical works under Phase One of the expansion of The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus.

The invitation forms part of ongoing efforts to advance infrastructure development at the Five Islands campus, a key educational hub in Antigua and Barbuda. Interested contractors are being asked to demonstrate their technical capacity, experience, and financial strength to execute the project in accordance with established international standards.

According to the notice, eligible contractors must provide detailed information confirming their qualifications and relevant experience in civil or related works. Among the core requirements is the submission of an organisational structure outlining key departments capable of managing and executing the scope of works.

Additionally, firms must show evidence of having successfully completed at least three projects within small island developing states over

the past five years, each with a minimum value of US\$5 million. This criterion is intended to ensure that applicants possess both the experience and familiarity with similar operating environments.

The Ministry has also stipulated that interested contractors must employ at least ten permanent staff members in areas such as project supervision, management of works, procurement, or related disciplines. Financial capacity is another key consideration, with bidders required to demonstrate an average annual turnover of no less than US\$50 million over the last three years.

To further ensure the seriousness of bids, contractors will be required to submit bid security—either in the form of a bank guarantee, insurer guarantee, or cash deposit—ranging from two to five percent of the estimated contract value. Unsuccessful bidders will have their bid securities returned following the award of the contract.

The Ministry noted that contractors may form joint ventures or enter into subcontracting arrangements to strengthen their qualifications. However, all expressions of interest must clearly state the nature of

the association and identify the lead firm.

Selection will be conducted using the Quality and Cost-Based Selection method, in accordance with guidelines established under financing from the Saudi Fund for Development. The process will evaluate both the technical competence and financial proposals of applicants.

While the call is open to all eligible companies, a margin of preference of 10 percent will be granted to Saudi Arabian firms and local joint ventures, reflecting the funding partnership and the government's support for local participation.

Interested contractors can obtain additional information during standard business hours, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., by contacting the Project Implementation Unit at the Ministry of Works on Friars Hill Road. Submissions must be made in English and include one original and three copies, delivered in a sealed envelope clearly marked for the project.

Proposals may be hand-delivered or submitted electronically and must be received no later than July 29, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. local time.

Sir Mowyn Presents A Wheelchair As One Of His Final Acts In Office



Despite his planned retirement and the imminent swearing-in of a new parliamentarian for St. Mary's North, outgoing Minister of Health, Sir Molwyn Joseph, continues to carry out his duties with dedication up to the final days of his term.

In a gesture underscoring his longstanding commitment to community care, Sir Molwyn recently facilitated the presentation of a state-of-the-art, high-end wheelchair to a recipient with physical limitations. The wheelchair was received by the recipient's mother, Gwendolyn King.

The wheelchair, equipped with specialized footrest attachments, is intended to significantly improve mobility and daily comfort.

The donation reflects the Ministry's broader focus on supporting vulnerable individuals and enhancing quality of life through targeted assistance.

King expressed gratitude for the timely intervention, noting that the equipment will make a meaningful



difference to her son.

Sir Molwyn's continued engagement, even as he prepares to demit office, highlights a career defined by public service and attention to the needs of the most vulnerable. As the transition approaches in St. Mary's North, his final acts in office serve as a testament to his enduring commitment to healthcare and community support in Antigua and Barbuda.



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Key duties include:

- Conducts hardware repair & maintenance functions.
- Provides technical support for APUA's server system.
- Performs network operating system installation and upkeep, software installation.
- Provides technical support and operating system installation for workstations, laptops and computer peripheral equipment to include printers, facsimile machines, photocopiers, small UPS equipment and handheld meter readers.
- Performs productivity & utility software installation and upkeep on workstations, to include MS Office products, CRM products, anti-virus and anti-spyware software.
- Develops and maintains software, performs computer systems gap analysis, defines new product specifications and conduct product procurement.
- Sets up accounts for new users and test new technology.

The successful candidate MUST possess the following:

- A Computer Science, Network, Computing or Engineering Degree;
- At least 4 years of experience working in IT or related field;
- Strong leadership qualities, project management, problem solving, network trouble shooting, debugging, and written and verbal communication skills;
- Proficiency in programming languages (Java, C++, C#, CSS, HTML);
- Sound knowledge of proxy servers, LAN, software and application development life-cycle, Frameworks and Libraries, Algorithm design, SQL Server, Python, and Database Administration;
- A high degree of flexibility, team oriented and a willingness to learn.

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The successful candidate MUST possess the following:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related field from a reputable tertiary institution.
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- 8PM | JUNIOR CALYPSO MONARCH

FRIDAY 22ND

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- 8:30PM | CALYPSO / SOCA MONARCH

SATURDAY 23RD

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JOHNNY DESOUZA FISHING TOURNAMENT
- 10PM-4AM | CARIBANA COLORS FETE

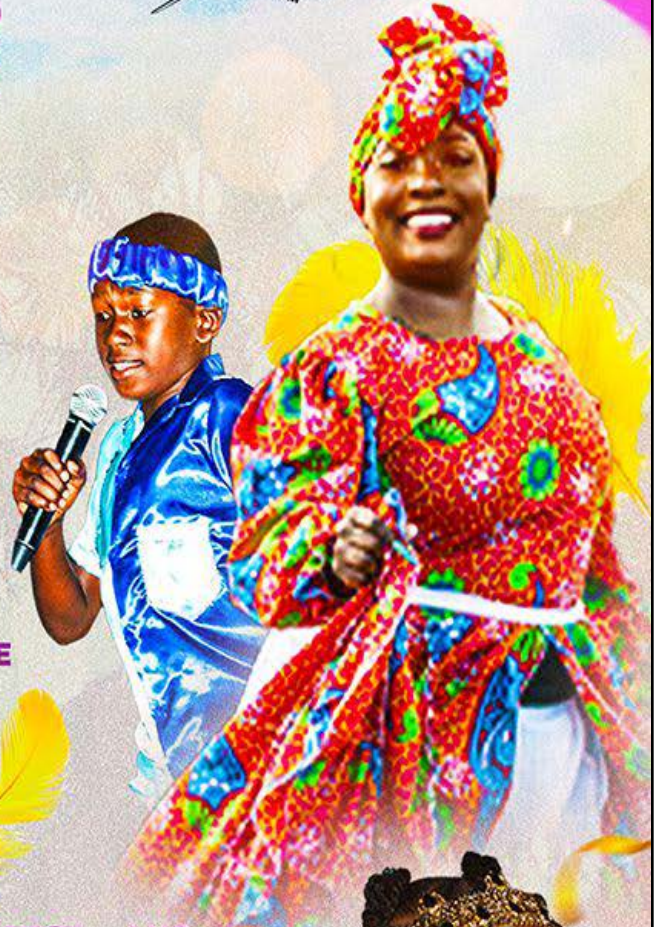
SUNDAY 24TH

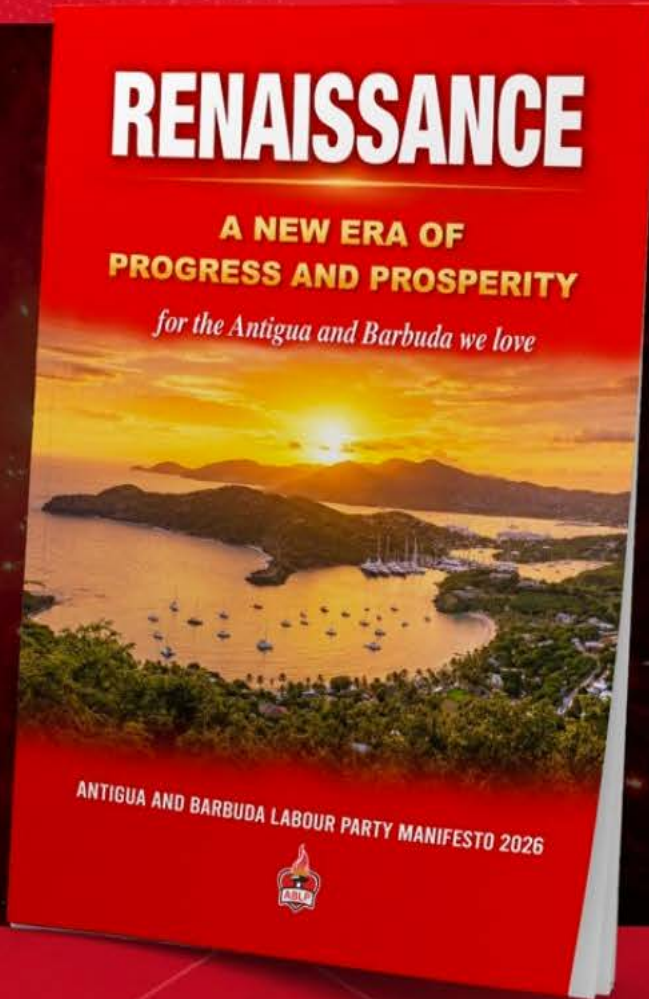
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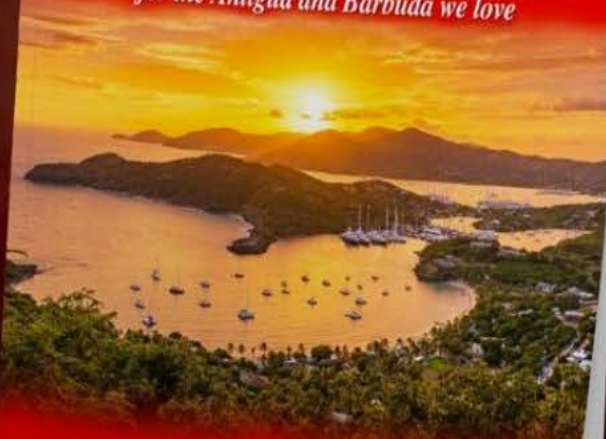
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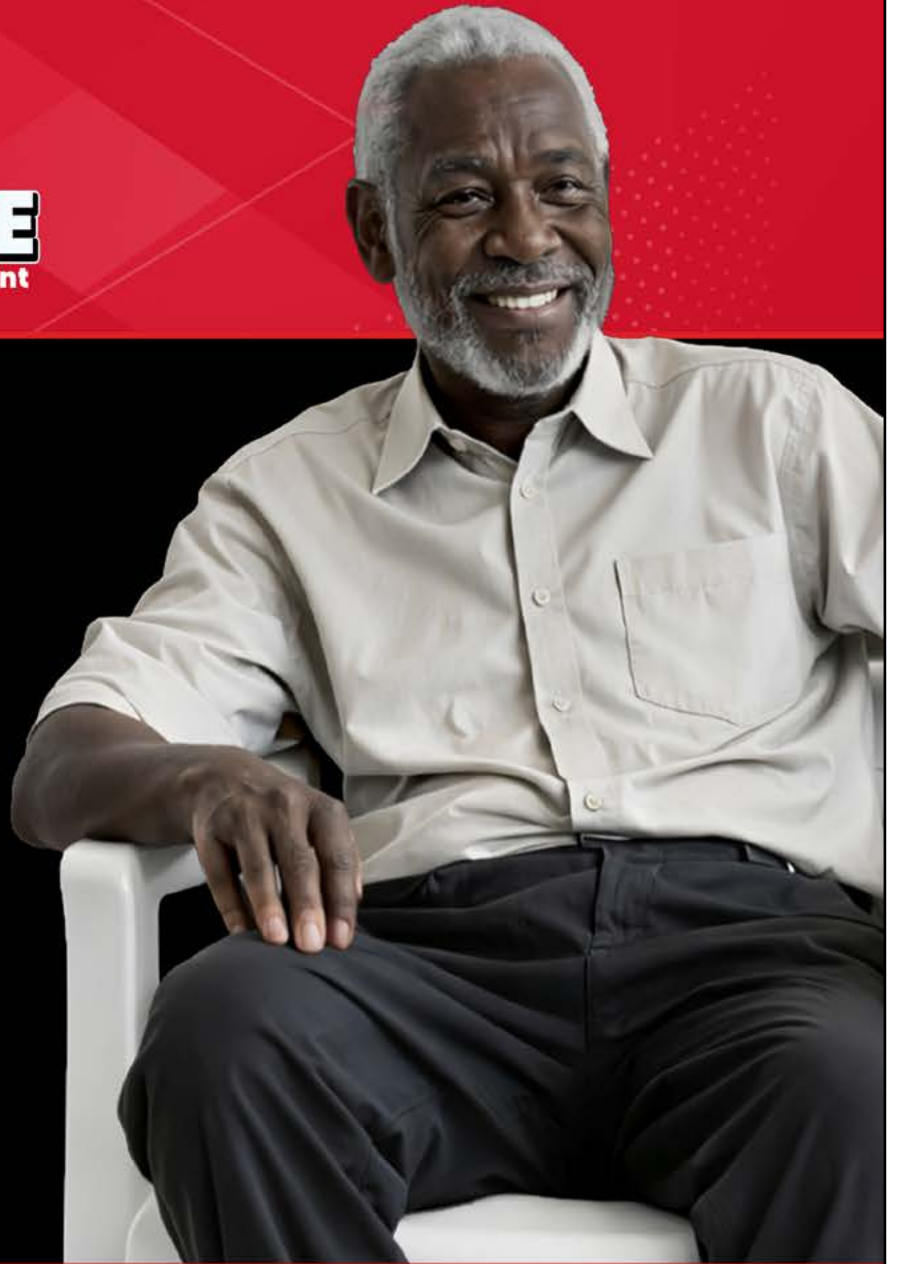


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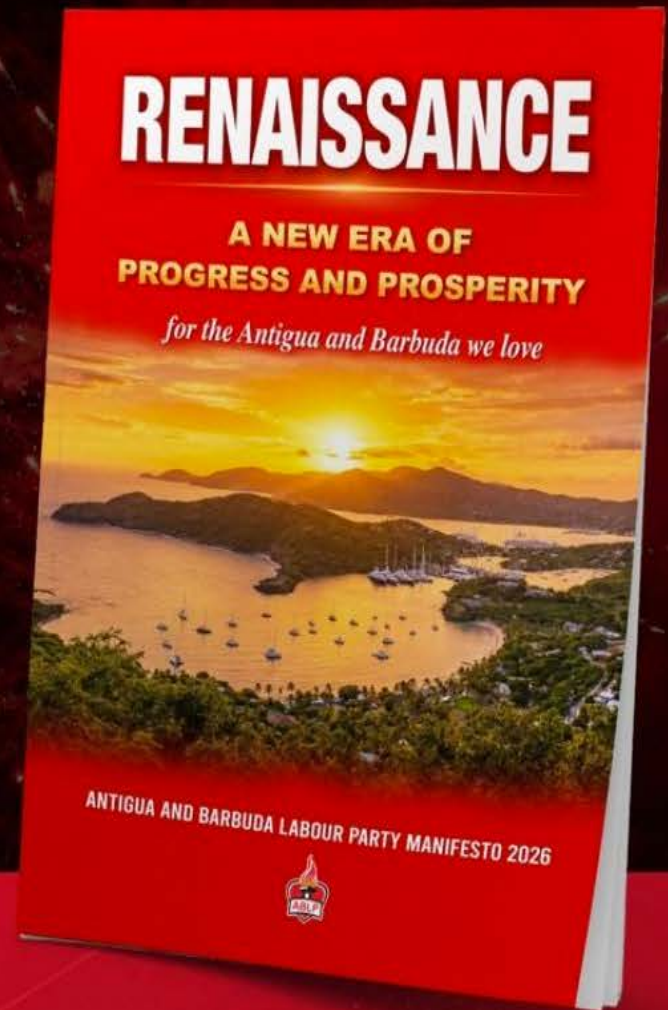
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FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026



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
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(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

DJ ACE

7

5

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
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AT&LU HEADQUARTERS
46 NORTH STREET

BINGO WILL BE PLAYED
BETWEEN THE ROUNDS




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 **Time: 7:00 PM**

 **Venue: St Anthony's Secondary School, Langfords**

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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

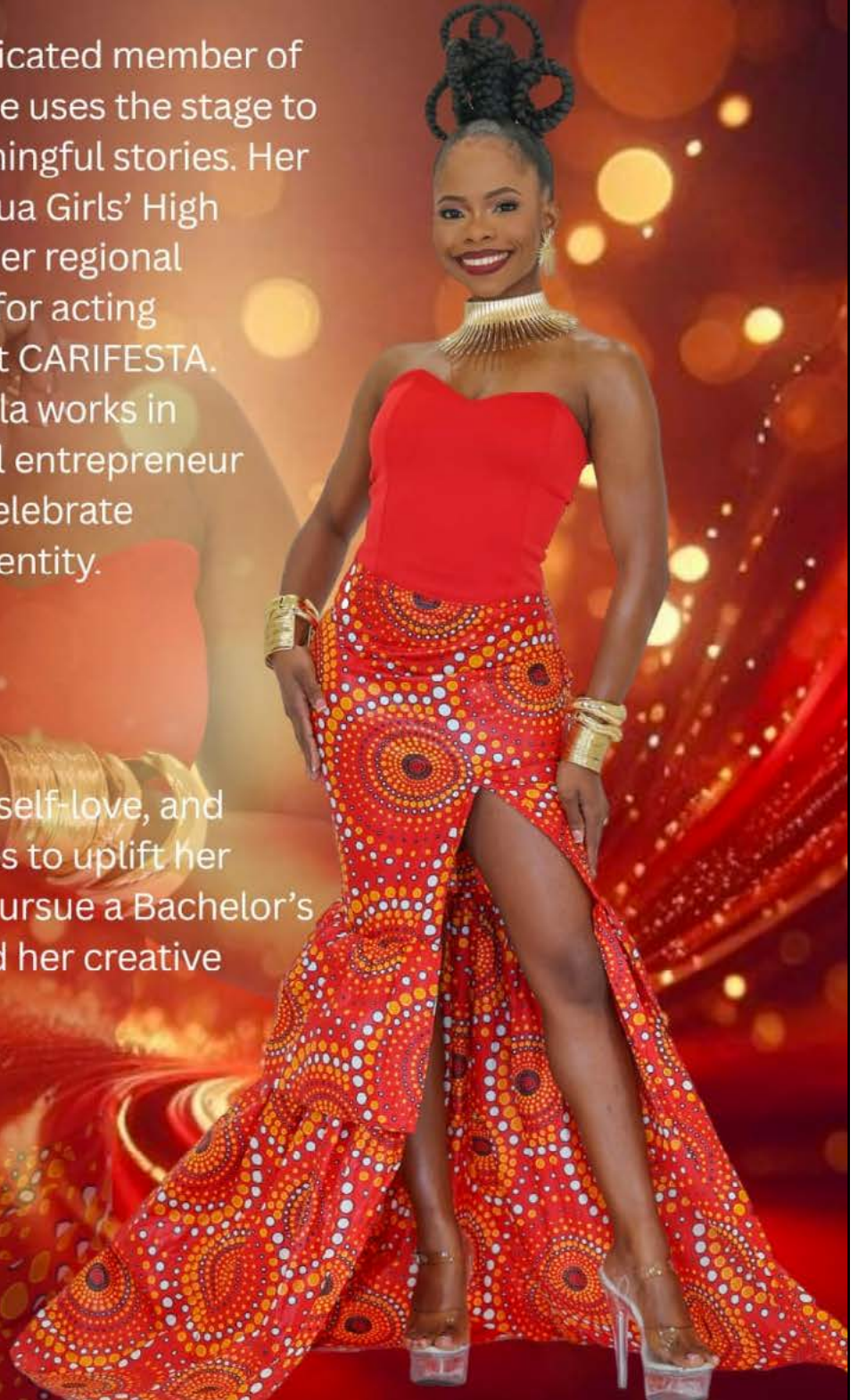


Queenela Williams proudly represents St. Mary's South with creativity, confidence, and cultural pride.

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

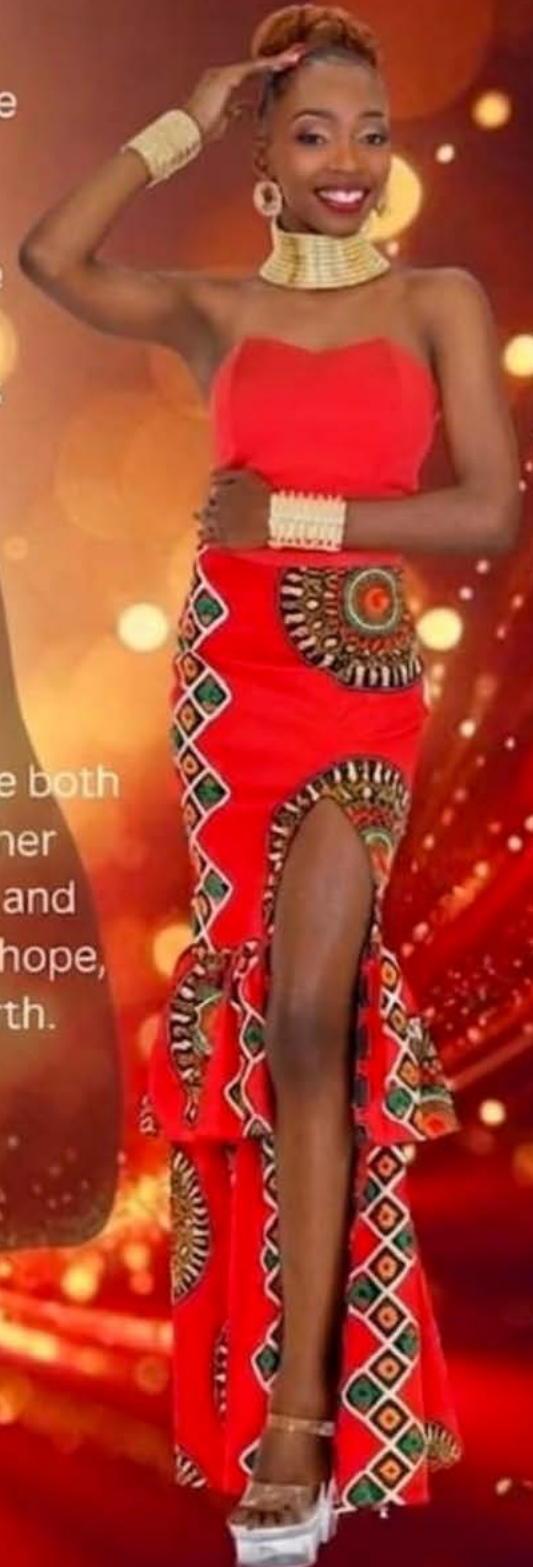


Iszarea Lloyd proudly represents St. Phillip's North as a young woman of purpose, resilience, and quiet strength.

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



UWI recognizes Gonsalves' six decades of Caribbean service

In a November 2025 reflection, UWI Emeritus Professor and Jamaica Chapter Principal Director of Transparency International, Trevor Munroe, praised Dr the Hon Ralph Gonsalves as a transformational statesman, saying, “geniuses like Gonsalves come only once in a lifetime.”

Munroe highlighted Gonsalves' visionary support for higher education and its impact on national development, noting that he pulled St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) from being the third-poorest CARICOM country to 76 on the human development index. With SVG now only 0.11 points from top-tier developing countries, and positioned just behind Iran, the country is on a trajectory toward first-world status by 2040, with a goal of one university graduate per household by 2030. Munroe credited Gonsalves for remarkable developmental progress and for asserting sovereignty through measured advancement.

The University of the West Indies (The UWI) announces a historic honour in celebration of this respected Caribbean leader, scholar, and alumnus. This decision was confirmed at a special meeting of the University Council on April 17, 2026, and commends Dr Gonsalves' six decades of service, scholarship, and leadership across the region.

To appreciate the significance of this honour, it helps to look back at Dr Gonsalves' journey with The UWI, which began as an undergraduate student leader. Serving as President of the Guild of Students, he played a key role in historic campaigns, including the call to reverse the regional governments' stance on



scholar Walter Rodney. He graduated with distinction in Economics in 1969, then pursued advanced studies in East Africa and Manchester, earning his PhD before returning to The UWI as a lecturer in Political Science. He taught at both Mona and Cave Hill campuses, shaping generations of Caribbean thinkers. His most enduring impact, however, has been in politics. As Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, he served five consecutive terms—the longest in Caribbean history—before continuing as Opposition Leader after 2025.

This latest recognition continues a tradition by the regional university of honouring alumni who have shaped Caribbean development. Tributes to past honourees, including PJ Patterson, Owen Arthur, Edward Seaga, Michael Manley, Bruce Golding, Portia Simpson-Miller, and Sir Erskine Sandiford, all reflect the university's belief in higher education as a foundation for leadership and nation-building.

The honour for Dr Gonsalves,

however, is unprecedented in both symbolism and practicality. When approached about the University's intention, he humbly requested that no building or centre be named after him. So instead, The UWI has chosen to dedicate a research scope specifically to development, sovereignty and education in his honour.

Building on this unique tribute, a Centre for Public Policy and Governance at Cave Hill Campus will conduct research in the areas of Dr Gonsalves' long academic interest, such as regional integration, decolonisation and sovereignty.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Hilary Beckles praised Dr Gonsalves' fearless leadership, commitment to Caribbean sovereignty, and life-long support for higher education. “It is only appropriate that we honour him in this way, befitting him, and having this defined intellectual discourse in development and sovereignty aligned with Dr Gonsalves at The UWI.” (St Vincent Times)

Several schools closed in wake of heavy rainfall over the weekend

The Ministry of Education issued an alert to principals, teachers, students, parents and the general public that the following schools were closed in the wake of the severe trough system that impacted Dominica on April 26, 2026.


The alert stated that heavy rainfall and widespread flooding had caused significant disruption across several districts, particularly in the Eastern and North-eastern Districts.

Assessments conducted by the Ministry and the Office of Disaster Management had confirmed that access to several schools was either compromised or entirely impassable.


The Ministry of Education closed the following schools on 27, April as a result:

- Concord Primary
- Atkinson Primary
- Salybia Primary
- Sineku Primary
- Castle Bruce Primary
- San Sauveur Primary
- Wesley Primary
- Wills Strathmore Stevens (WS Stevens) Primary
- Temple Seventh Day Adventist Primary
- Castle Bruce Secondary
- North East Comprehensive

The decision was taken following an emergency meeting of Cabinet, convened in response to




GOVERNMENT OF DOMINICA



NO SCHOOL NOTICE

The Ministry of Education informs that there will be no school for students of the following schools on Monday April 27th, 2026:

Concord Primary
 Atkinson Primary
 Salybia Primary
 Sineku Primary
 Castle Bruce Primary
 San Sauveur Primary
 Wesley Primary
 Wills Strathmore Stevens (WS Stevens) Primary
 Temple Seventh Day Adventist Primary
 Castle Bruce Secondary
 North East Comprehensive



<https://education.gov.dm>

the weather system.

Residents of these areas are urged to continue exercising caution, remain vigilant and follow all official updates.

The ministry promised further updates will be provided as the situation evolves. (Dominica News Online)

Jamaican man, three Haitians accused of breaching Bahamian immigration laws



Four CARICOM nationals, including a Jamaican, are accused of running afoul of The Bahamas' immigration laws.

Jamaican Bryan Omar Brooks was denied bail after he pleaded not guilty to obtaining a Bahamian passport by fraud. He has been charged with being in possession of a forged document, uttering a forged document, and fraud by false pretences.

When he appeared before Senior Magistrate Kendra Kelly-Burrows, the prosecution alleged that Brooks submitted a forged immigration certificate of registration to the Passport Office on May 4, 2024.

The prosecution said that one week later Brooks obtained the passport and presented the false passport to Bahamian Immigration officers on August 8, September 6, September 9, October 29, and November 11 of 2024.

Brooks denied the allegations and was granted US\$8,000 cash bail and is required to sign in at the Carmichael Road Police Station until the conclusion of his trial, which is set to begin on July 11.

Meanwhile, three Haitian nationals, were arrested over the weekend after they were found in possession of forged National Insurance Board (NIB) cards.

Police said that during a routine check of passengers arriving domestically from New Providence on Saturday, three individuals presented National Insurance identification cards that raised suspicion.

Police said officers had been alerted to the situation by an official from the Bahamas Immigration Department and in collaboration with a representative from the NIB, examined the cards and the documents which were confirmed to be fraudulent.

Three Haitian men, ages 29, 30 and 36, were taken into custody and cautioned on suspicion of possessing forged documents. (CMC)

Oil rises, stocks steady as US-Iran peace talk hopes wobble



Oil prices rose and stock markets were steady on Monday as peace talks between the US and Iran stalled, ahead of a week full of central bank decisions and corporate earnings.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi's visit to Islamabad had fanned hopes for fresh negotiations with Washington at the weekend until US President Donald Trump scrapped a planned trip by envoys on Saturday.

Trump told Fox News after calling off his emissaries' trip that, if Iran wanted talks, "they can come to us, or they can call us."

The international oil benchmark Brent crude stayed above US\$100 a barrel on Monday as the crucial Strait of Hormuz waterway remained largely

closed.

Both main oil contracts were up around one percent, though lingering hopes that a deal can eventually be reached tempered gains.

Stock markets in London, Paris and Frankfurt all advanced despite elevated oil prices and a lack of progress in negotiations.

"It may be that hopes of a diplomatic breakthrough were pretty faint to start with, and markets are now in wait-and-see territory ahead of a heavy week of earnings and economic touchpoints," said Derren Nathan, head of equity research at Hargreaves Lansdown.

With energy prices remaining high, the US Federal Reserve is expected

to keep interest rates unchanged on Wednesday, followed by similar decisions from the European Central Bank and Bank of England.

Asian stock markets were mixed on Monday, as Tokyo and Seoul were buoyed by a tech rally, while Hong Kong slipped.

Investors were also looking ahead to earnings this week from US tech titans Alphabet, Meta, Microsoft, Amazon and Apple.

"Investors have been encouraged by corporate news flow over the past few weeks, leading to higher equity prices," said Russ Mould, investment director at AJ Bell.

He added, however, that "higher oil for longer spells trouble for inflation, which in turn could act as a headwind for the economy."

Tehran's top diplomat blamed Washington on Monday for the failure of talks in Pakistan this month — the first and only round of negotiations in a bid to strike a deal to end the conflict.

Araghchi blamed the United States for its "excessive demands", adding that "safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz is an important global issue".

US media outlet Axios — citing a US official and two other sources with knowledge of the matter — reported on Sunday that Iran had sent a new proposal to end the war centred on reopening the Strait of Hormuz and ending a US naval blockade there, with nuclear negotiations postponed for a later stage. (AFP)



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



↑ Thursdays, 7:30pm - Karaoke

🎵 Saturdays, 8pm - Live Band

🍳 Breakfast served from 7:30am

🎮 Games Night - COMING SOON!



King Charles III heads to Washington on a delicate mission to restore the UK-US relationship

Two and a half centuries after the American colonies declared independence from Britain under King George III, his descendant King Charles III lands in Washington on Monday with trans-Atlantic ties under strain and security in the spotlight.

A shooting at a Washington dinner attended by President Donald Trump on Saturday sparked a last-minute security review of the four-day state visit, intended to celebrate the United States' 250th anniversary, and the US-UK "special relationship."

Buckingham Palace said the king "is greatly relieved to hear that the president, first lady and all guests have been unharmed." After a security review, the palace said the trip "will proceed as planned."

A rift between the UK government and Trump over issues including the Iran war had already raised the political stakes for the British monarch's visit.

In recent weeks, Trump has lambasted Prime Minister Keir Starmer over his unwillingness to join US military attacks on Iran, dismissing Britain's leader as "not Winston Churchill," the World War II prime minister who coined the phrase "special relationship" for the UK-US bond.

It's part of a wider rift between Trump and the United States' NATO allies, whom he has called "cowards" and "useless" for not joining action against Iran. A leaked Pentagon email suggested the US could reassess support for the UK's sovereignty over the Falkland Islands in the south Atlantic. Britain and Argentina fought a 1982 war over the islands, also known as the Islas Malvinas.



The president insists the political chill won't affect the royal visit. Charles "has nothing to do with that," Trump said in March, meaning NATO.

The president has spoken in glowing terms about Charles, repeatedly referring to the monarch as his "friend" and a "great guy."

He also continues to mention his "amazing" trip to the U.K. in September with first lady Melania Trump for an unprecedented second state visit. Starmer hand-delivered the invitation from the king in the Oval Office five weeks after Trump returned to office, in a very public attempt to woo the Republican president.

The UK royal family laid on pomp and pageantry for the Trumps, with scarlet-clad guardsmen, brass bands and a sumptuous banquet at Windsor Castle.

"President Trump has always had great respect for King Charles, and their relationship was further strengthened by the president's historic visit to the United Kingdom last year," White House spokesperson Anna Kelly told The Associated Press. "The president looks forward to a special visit by Their Majesties, which will include a beautiful state dinner and multiple events throughout the week." Trump, meanwhile, told the

BBC that the king's visit could "absolutely" help repair the trans-Atlantic relationship.

"He's fantastic. He's a fantastic man. Absolutely the answer is yes," the president said.

Kristofer Allerfeldt, a University of Exeter professor specialising in American history, said the two governments have very different objectives for the trip.

He said that for Charles, the trip is about "reinforcing long-term ties, showcasing the monarchy's soft power and reminding the world that Britain still carries diplomatic weight."

For Trump, it's more about "a media event," with emphasis on the optics of a visit that resembles a meeting of "two gilded monarchs."

Some UK politicians worry that the trip is fraught with opportunities for embarrassment. Trump's recent broadsides at Pope Leo XIV have heightened those concerns.

Ed Davey, leader of the UK centrist opposition Liberal Democrats party, earlier this month called Trump "a dangerous and corrupt gangster" and implored the government to cancel the trip.

"I really fear for what Trump might say or do while our king is forced to stand by his side," Davey said in the House of

Commons. "We cannot put His Majesty in that position." Starmer defended the visit, saying "the monarchy, through the bonds that it builds, is often able to reach through the decades" and bolster important relationships.

Raising the stakes is the shadow of the king's younger brother Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor, who has been stripped of his royal title of Prince Andrew, exiled from public life and put under police investigation over his friendship with Jeffrey Epstein. He has denied committing any crimes.

Epstein victims have urged the king to meet with them and other sexual abuse survivors. It's unlikely he will do so.

Charles has visited the US 19 times, but this is his first state visit to the country since becoming king in 2022. His mother, Queen Elizabeth II, made four state visits to the US.

The king, who is 77 and was diagnosed in early 2024 with an undisclosed form of cancer, will spend four days in the US accompanied by Queen Camilla.

In Washington, the king and queen will have a private tea with the Trumps and attend a garden party and a formal White House state dinner. The president and the king will also have a one-on-one meeting.

The royal couple will also visit the September 11 memorial in New York and attend a 250th birthday block party in Virginia, where Charles will also meet Indigenous leaders involved in nature conservation — a favourite cause of the environmentalist king. (AP)

Suspect in shooting at Trump press dinner to appear in court

A California man accused of storming a gala dinner attended by President Donald Trump was to appear in court Monday over a shooting that marks the latest spasm of political violence in deeply divided America.

Administration officials said the suspect in Saturday night's shocking attack apparently aimed to kill Trump and senior officials at the press dinner in a Washington hotel, in what would be the third attempt on the president's life in two years.

Trump, who was rushed out of the ballroom in Washington by Secret Service agents, posted surveillance footage of the gunman attempting to sprint past a checkpoint one floor above the room where the dinner was held.

After a brief exchange of gunfire with agents, the suspect was detained at the scene.

Trump shared photos of the suspect handcuffed on the carpeted hotel floor, lying shirtless and face down.

In an interview aired Sunday night on the CBS program "60 Minutes" Trump was asked if he feared there would be casualties as the chaotic scene unfolded before him: Washington's government and media elite in formal attire ducking for cover at a fancy dinner.

"I wasn't worried. I understand life. We live in a crazy world," Trump said.

"He's not actively cooperating. I expect that he will be formally charged tomorrow morning in federal court in Washington," acting US Attorney General Todd Blanche



told CBS's "Face The Nation" earlier in the day.

"We do believe, based upon just a very preliminary start to understanding what happened, that he was targeting members of the administration."

Blanche added that no further motive was known for the attack, and confirmed the suspect — who officials said was armed with a shotgun, handgun and knives — was staying at the Washington Hilton hotel where the black-tie White House Correspondents' Dinner was held.

Trump, without providing details, said the gunman had written an "anti-Christian" manifesto.

"The guy is a sick guy," Trump told Fox News. "His sister or his brother actually was complaining about it. They were even complaining to law enforcement."

The New York Post said the suspect, widely named as Cole Allen, 31, had written in a message shared with his family shortly before the attack that his targets would be "prioritized from high-

est-ranking to lowest."

In the seconds after the shooting a floor above, Secret Service agents swarmed into the ballroom, prompting chaotic scenes as attendees dove under tables.

Crowded into the ballroom were Trump, First Lady Melania Trump, Vice President JD Vance, several cabinet members and top lawmakers, and hundreds of guests in black tie.

Trump said at a hastily arranged late-night news conference at the White House that he first thought the noise was a tray being dropped, before realizing it was gunfire.

He said he hoped the annual gala, hosted by the White House Correspondents Association, would be rescheduled within a month.

"They seem to think he was a lone wolf, and I feel that too," the president said. One officer was shot at close range in his safety vest and appeared to be not seriously harmed.

Trump added that the hotel venue was "not a particularly

secure" facility, as questions swirled about the president's safety protocols.

Trump was the target of an assassination attempt during a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania in 2024. A gunman fired several shots, killing an audience member and lightly wounding the president in the ear.

A few months later, another man was arrested after a Secret Service agent saw the barrel of a rifle poking from the bushes on the perimeter of the West Palm Beach golf course where Trump was playing a round.

The Washington Hilton, where Saturday's gala was taking place, is the site where Republican President Ronald Reagan was shot by a would-be assassin in 1981.

Trump on Sunday said the shooting underlined the security reasons that he has cited for planning a huge new ballroom next to the White House, a project that has faced legal challenges.

The White House Correspondents' Association invited Trump to its gala this year despite his repeated attacks on the media.

Before this year and unlike all other presidents from the past 100 years, Trump had never attended while in office.

The dinner brings together journalists and the who's who of Washington to raise funds for scholarships and awards.

The incident came less than 48 hours before King Charles III and Queen Camilla begin a four-day state visit to Washington. (AFP)

Sea View Farm claim fourth-place finish in Second Division League



The Sea View Farm FC team

Sea View Farm FC has clinched fourth place in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League.

Sea View Farm achieved the feat by snatching a 2-1 victory over Second Division champions, the Guydadli Jets, in their final league match at Sea View Farm.

Caron Lewis scored in the 26th minute to give Sea View Farm FC a one-nil lead at halftime. Imani Joyce secured an equalizer for the Guydadli Jets with a 55th-minute conversion. Leon O'Garro snatched the winner for Sea View Farm with a strike in the 73rd minute.

It was the first defeat of the season for the Guydadli Jets, who clinched the Second Division title on goal difference with 48 points from their quota of 19 league matches.

The Young Lions of Old Road cap-

tered the runners-up spot with 48 points from their 19 matches. Both Guydadli Jets and the Young Lions have earned automatic promotion to compete in the First Division next season by virtue of finishing as the top two teams in this season's Second Division league.

The result allows Sea View Farm to clinch fourth place on goal difference ahead of fifth-placed Police, with both teams finishing 42 points apiece from their quota of 19 matches.

It means Sea View Farm FC and Keltion Dalso Real Blizzard, who finished in third place with 47 points from their quota of 19 matches, will advance to a three-team round-robin playoffs with the 10th-place finisher in the First Division. The winner of that playoff will compete in the First Division next season.

Police ended their Second Division league campaign by pulling off a 2-1

victory over Point West Ham in their final outing at Radio Range.

Goals by Jamarly Galloway in the 44th minute and Terrel Richards in the 57th minute gave the Police a two-nil lead. Stephan Whyte converted a penalty kick in the second minute of added time for Point West Ham to reduce the deficit.

In other results, the Urlings Golden Stars wrapped up their Second Division campaign on a winning note. The Golden Stars were awarded a 3-0 victory via default against JSC Progressors, who failed to show up for their final match of the season.

The Urlings Golden Stars ended their campaign in ninth place with 31 points from their quota of 19 matches, while the JSC Progressors finished their season with 10 points from the same number of games.

Swetes Vipers glide to the top of the First Division League



The Swetes Vipers have moved to the top of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League.

The Swetes Vipers advanced from third place to take over the lead by securing their 15th win in 25 matches with a 4-0 victory over Golden Grove FC at Golden Grove on Sunday.

Shalon Knight struck a hat trick with conversions in the 10th, 69th, and 72nd minutes. The other goal was scored by Kimoi Alexander with a strike in the 85th minute.

The result allows the Swetes Vipers FC to advance to 51 points with one game remaining. It means Golden Grove FC will stay in eighth place with 31 points and have two matches remaining.

The Greenbay Hoppers are currently occupying second place on goal difference and are one point adrift of the Swetes Vipers.

The Greenbay Hoppers claimed their 16th win in 23 matches after being awarded a 3-0 victory via default over FC Masterballers, who failed to show up for their encounter at Radio Range

in Ottos.

It also allows the Greenbay Hoppers to advance to 50 points, the same as the third-placed, the Freemans Village Scorpions, who have also played 23 matches.

FC Masterballers remain in the cellar of the 14-team standings with nine points after losing for the 19th time in 24 matches.

Sunday's encounter at Freemans Village between Parham FC and the Freemans Village Scorpions was not played due to the shortage of match officials.

Parham FC is currently occupying seventh place with 37 points and has three matches remaining.

The top two teams at the end of the First Division will gain automatic promotion to compete in the Premier Division next season. The third and fourth-place finishers will compete in a three-team round-robin playoff with the 10th-place finisher in the Premier Division league.

The winner of the playoffs will compete in the Premier Division next season.

ELECTION DAY
Thursday,
30 April

"In times like these, let us keep strong, steady leadership."

RENAISSANCE
A New Era of Progress and Development

Da Squad continue to dominate ABAVA Women's D-1 League

Defending champions Cool and Smooth/Joma Da Squad have continued their title defense in dominant fashion in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Women's Division 1 League.

Da Squad, who are the reigning four-peat champions, claimed their fourth win in as many games with a 3-0 victory against Hidow Caribbean Starz 1 at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Da Squad took an hour and 20 minutes to prevail 25-11, 25-12, and 25-15 against Starz 1, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

Jets continued their successful run by claiming their fourth win in five games with a 3-0 victory over TOA Media and MKUU Tours Chargers Eagles 1.

The Jets soared to victory, winning 25-23, 25-18, and 26-24 against the Chargers Eagles 1, who suffered their third loss in five games.

Theatric Lighting and JOMA Stoneville stayed in touch with the front-runners in the women's Division 1 league by securing their fourth win in five games with a 3-1 victory over the University of the West Indies (UWI).

After losing the opening set 23-25, the Stoneville women surged to victory by winning the next three sets, 25-18, 25-19, and 25-11, over the UWI Women, who remain at the bottom of the seven-team standings after losing for the fourth time in as many games.

Defending champions Zamine Shipping and ABI Insurance Pytonz also maintained their dominance in the Men's Division 1 League.

The Pytonz extended their unbeat-



The Da Squad women's volleyball team

en run as leaders of the division by securing their fifth win in as many games with a 3-0 straight-set victory against Vernon G. Edwards Limited High Flyerz.

The Pytonz took an hour and 16 minutes to prevail 25-16, 26-24, and 26-24 over the High Flyerz, who crashed to their third defeat in five games.

Cool and Smooth/Joma Da Storming Lions also secured a 3-0 victory over the Chargers Velocity.

It took Da Storming Lions an hour and 12 minutes to secure their third win in four games with a 25-23, 25-13, and 25-15 victory over the Chargers Velocity, who remain at the bottom of the eight-team standings after suffering their fourth loss in the same number of games.

Former perennial men's champion Theatric Lighting and JOMA Stoneville's unbeaten start was ended in a 3-1 loss to the UWI men.

It took the UWI men an hour and nine minutes to secure their second win in four games. The UWI men prevailed 25-22, 19-25, 27-25, and 25-22 as the Stoneville men slumped to their first defeat after winning their previous three games.

The ASCSC Stingers continued their successful run in the Men's Division 2 League. The Stingers claimed their second win in as many games by claiming a 2-1 victory over Schools.

The Stingers prevailed 18-25, 25-23, and 15-6 over Schools, who suffered their second loss in as many games.

The Chargers Eagles 2 also kept their unbeaten run intact by recording their second win in as many games in the Women's Division 2 league.

The Chargers Eagles 2 pulled off a 23-25, 25-14, 15-9 victory over Schools, who lost for the second time in as many games.

CWI congratulates Chris Taylor on ICC Umpire Panel appointment



Christopher Taylor

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has offered congratulation to Jamaican umpire Christopher Mark Taylor on his appointment to the International Cricket Council (ICC) CWI International Panel of Umpires, effective April 1, 2026.

Taylor earned his promotion by being the most recent CWI official to successfully complete the ICC umpire accreditation process.

Earlier this year, the 45-year-old benefitted from valuable international exposure through the ICC Umpire Exchange Programme, officiating in Pakistan's President's Trophy Grade 1 competition, where his performance was rated as outstanding.

Speaking on his promotion, Taylor

expressed both gratitude and pride in the journey that has brought him to this point.

"I'm humbled and honoured. I've been an official now for 20 years, because in 2006 is when I did my initial local examination alongside Jacqueline Williams, who is now an established and respected International Women's Umpire.

"I remember starting when I was still in the corporate world and being introduced to the role by former first-class umpire Maurice Chung, and from there it has grown into something I truly love."

He added that the road to this achievement required persistence and sacrifice.

"I've been on the regional second-tier panel from 2011, so it's been a long and tough journey, but those tough times prepare you for what's to come. So, I'm excited about it and looking forward to experiencing new things and putting all the work into practice."

Taylor also used the moment to highlight the often-overlooked path of officiating and to encourage aspiring umpires across the region.

"Umpiring might not be seen as a glorious position because when persons are exposed to a sport it's usually in the capacity of a player and not an official. In any sport officiating is always tough... but that builds character," he said.

"There is opportunity in umpiring. It's now a full career that you can dedicate yourself to, and I'd love to see younger persons getting into it, not only when they get into their 30s and 40s but even thinking of it as an option when they're 18 or 20 years old or coming out of university."

CWI CEO, Chris Dehring, commended Taylor's achievement, noting that his promotion is a proud moment for the region.

"Chris' appointment reflects not only his personal commitment and professionalism, but also the strength of our officiating pathway. His recent international exposure and consistent performances have prepared him well for this step, and we are confident he will represent West Indies cricket with distinction."

Taylor will commence the next phase of his officiating career by making his first appearance as an international umpire during the upcoming West Indies international home season.

United open up three-point lead atop of Premier Division



A starting XI of the All Saints United football team

Defending back-to-back champions All Saints United have increased their lead at the top of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League.

All Saints United moved three points clear of Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades at the top of the Premier League by recording their 17th win in 20 matches with an 8-1 drubbing of John Hughes FC in the opening game of a double-header at the ABFA Technical Center on Sunday.

Raheem Deterville achieved a hat trick with conversions in the 25th, 57th, and 62nd minutes. Dorien Cole scored twice with strikes in the 81st and 90th minutes.

The other goals for All Saints United were scored by Jahzino Ogarro in the 19th minute, Kenduka Challenger in the 27th minute, and D'Andre Bishop in the 45th minute. Terrence Thomas scored a consolation goal for John

Hughes FC with a strike in the 87th minute.

The result allows All Saints United to remain at the top of the 12-team standings by advancing to 53 points. It means the Jennings Grenades, who have a game in hand, will remain in second place with 50 points from 19 matches.

John Hughes FC has been relegated to compete in the First Division next season after finishing their Premier League campaign in 10th place in the 12-team standings with 16 points from their quota of 22 matches.

The Aston Villa Lions FC captured third place after battling to a 2-2 draw with Green City FC in their final match in Sunday's second encounter.

Eroy Gonsalves put the Villa Lions ahead with a 15th-minute conversion. The Villa Lions were reduced to

10 players with the expulsion of Janil Thomas, who received a red card in the 30th minute.

Elijah Whyte equalized for Green City FC with a 38th-minute conversion. Kharique Joseph scored in the 40th minute to give the

Villa Lions a 2-1 lead at halftime.

But Green City equalized for the second time in the match via a 52nd-minute conversion by Carlton Warner to salvage the draw.

The result allows the Villa Lions to finish their campaign in third place with 44 points from their quota of 22 matches.

It means Green City FC has been relegated to compete in the First Division next season. Green City FC finished in ninth place on goal difference with 23 points, the same as eighth-placed Attacking Saints, from their quota of 22 matches.

The Attacking Saints will compete in a three-team round-robin playoff with the third and fourth-place finishers in this year's first division, with the winners qualifying to compete in the Premier League next season.