

# Prime Minister Browne Announces Indefinite Suspension of CET

Story on page 2



*Caption: (left to right) Ireland's Ambassador to A&B, John Concannon, GG Sir Rodney Williams, Curator Dr. Catherine Healy, High Commissioner, Karen-Mae Hill, Head of Ireland's Caribbean Office, Shane Ryan and Mrs. Concannon took part in the ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the exhibition*

## Prime Minister Browne Announces Indefinite Suspension of CET



Prime Minister Gaston Browne has announced that a future ABLP administration will maintain the suspension of the Common External Tariff on selected basic goods indefinitely, reinforcing the Government's continued commitment to reducing the cost of living and protecting households across Antigua and Barbuda.

The announcement was made during the Know Your Candidates interview, where it was revealed that the Government intends to continue the suspension of the CET, a measure which represents approximately a 40 percent reduction on the price of certain basic goods.

Prime Minister Browne made it clear that his administration's priority remains the welfare of the people, stating that the measure will continue "with or without the permission of CARICOM,

our people's interest comes first and foremost."

The Government had previously approved a one-year suspension of the Common External Tariff on essential food items, following the decision of the 60th Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development. That measure allowed for a zero rate of duty on selected staples from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, as part of a regional response to rising prices and inflationary pressures across the Caribbean. Prime Minister Browne's announcement now confirms that Antigua and Barbuda will not allow this important relief measure to simply expire while families continue to face the impact of high global food prices.

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party welcomes the announcement as another clear demonstration of the

Browne administration's people-first approach to governance.

"This is decisive leadership at work," the ABLP stated. "At a time when families continue to manage rising prices, the Prime Minister has made it clear that his Government will continue to place the needs of the people above all else." The ABLP noted that the policy reflects the administration's wider record of using practical, targeted measures to protect citizens, strengthen household purchasing power, and preserve economic stability.

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party remains confident that this measure will bring continued relief to households and support the broader national effort to maintain stability, affordability, and progress.

## Antigua and Barbuda Hosts Advance Visit on the Road to CHOGM



A group of diplomatic representatives from Commonwealth nations commenced a two-day Advance Visit to Antigua and Barbuda on Tuesday ahead of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in November.

The visit, which includes officials from the Commonwealth Secretariat, forms part of the government's overall efforts to forge stronger technical, operational and protocol cooperation — elements that are crucial to the successful hosting of the global gathering from 1st to 4th November, 2026.

High Commissioner to the UK, Karen-Mae Hill, in underscoring the importance of the advance visit, described it as “perhaps one of the most

important staging points of CHOGM”, which allows the representatives of member states to witness first-hand the preparations being made by the host country.

“Member states get a chance to see all of the buildings, all of the venues that will be used for CHOGM, and they take this back to their capitals to say Antigua and Barbuda has its act together, and is ready to host CHOGM, and is well underway in the preparations,” High Commissioner Hill said.

Already, the Antiguan and Barbudan diplomat is pleased with the reaction from members of the visiting delegation.

“We want to see positivity from the

people who are here. You can see from the smiles and the questions being asked that people are pleased,” High Commissioner Hill added. “I feel very positive that Antigua and Barbuda is making a good show, and a great start to this advance visit.”

Tuesday's activities commenced with a welcome and briefing ceremony at the American University of Antigua (AUA) Conference Centre, which was followed by a tour of the campus.

While welcoming the visiting delegation, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs, Ann-Marie Layne, said a coordinated effort is necessary in the coordination and execution of CHOGM

# Local News



2026, and that Antigua and Barbuda is delighted to accommodate all stakeholders.

“As a small island developing state, Antigua and Barbuda is deeply honoured to host CHOGM. We see this not only as a responsibility, but as an opportunity - to showcase the strength, resilience, and unity of the Commonwealth, and to advance meaningful dialogue under our theme: “Accelerating Partnerships and Investment for a Prosperous Commonwealth.”

“We are committed to working closely with each of you to ensure that all operational, technical, and protocol requirements are met to the highest standard. Your presence here today reflects the spirit of cooperation that defines our Commonwealth, and we value your partnership in this process,” Director General Layne stated.

Tuesday’s activities also included tours of V.C. Bird International Airport, Sticky Wicket, and Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Ground.

On Wednesday, the advance visit will continue to other historical sites and locations, including Government House, the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, and SJPC House of Restoration Ministries.

Australia, Samoa, Malaysia, Mozambique, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ghana are among the countries represented in the first advance visit.

Another delegation is expected to arrive in early May. This is in addition to virtual tours of venues and historical sites.



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## Greene Challenges Ireland To Remain Committed To SIDS

Antigua and Barbuda wants Ireland to remain a champion of the interests of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as it prepares to assume the Presidency of the European Union (EU).

Speaking at an event at Government House on Tuesday where the new museum hosted its first exhibition celebrating Irish/Caribbean shared history entitled: Entangled Islands, Foreign Minister E.P Chet Greene observed that Ireland will assume the US Presidency in a little more than two months.

Greene noted that Ireland was assuming the leadership of the EU at a time of rising geopolitical uncertainty adding that the exhibition and other events over the past few days speak of Ireland and Antigua and Barbuda forging stronger ties and building stronger relationships.

“It is very easy for our interests for access to financing, advocacy to protect our key sectors to include the Cit-



Foreign Minister E.P Chet Greene

izenship by Investment Programme, the operationalization of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS, to be overlooked against the backdrop of a dynamic global landscape,” he suggested.

The foreign minister placed on record Antigua and Barbuda best wishes to Ireland ahead of its ascension to the presidency of the EU. “Indeed, the Irish SIDS Partnership Strategy commits Ireland to using its place in the EU to ensure the EU’s institutions, policies and support are delivering for SIDS,” he stated.

Referencing the Ireland and Latin American and Caribbean Trade summit, Greene, who attended the 2023 gathering, is inviting Ireland not only to hold a follow-up meeting, but he is advising the Irish government to mount a trade mission to the Caribbean with stops at Antigua and Barbuda.

“As we look to the future, I know that our ambassadors will continue to advance these relations. I hereby extend an invitation for an Irish trade mission to visit Antigua and Barbuda and the wider Caribbean as we advance opportunities for collaboration and for the Prime Minister Taoiseach, to visit us in St. John’s,” Green declared.

# Ballot Box

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
to Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

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## The Governor General Opens Exhibition Celebrating Irish/Caribbean Shared History



Scored of people gathered at Government House on Tuesday evening for the official opening of the first exhibition to be mounted at the new Government House Museum, established as part of the rehabilitation of the historic building and grounds.

Sir Rodney Williams, Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, welcomed the guests to the exhibition entitled: *Entangled Islands: Ireland*

*and the Caribbean*. The exhibition celebrates Ireland's and the Caribbean shared history dating back to the 1600's.

Sir Rodney was joined in welcoming the guests by the Ambassador of Ireland to Antigua and Barbuda, John Concannon. The guest list included members of the diplomatic corps, members of the Irish diaspora here in Antigua and Barbuda alongside sever-

al government officials and guests.

In his remarks, Sir Rodney noted that the history of Ireland and the Caribbean is not a simple one as it is a story of migration and settlement, of colonialization and resistance, of resilience, struggle and transformation.

“It is also a story of ideas; how Ireland's own journey toward Independence resonated deep within the Ca-



ribbean, helping to shape political thought and aspirations for self-determination across our region,” he remarked.

The Governor General noted that what makes the exhibition particularly compelling is that it brings these connections to life through the stories of individuals, figures who crossed the Atlantic and left their mark on both societies.

Also addressing the launch was High Commissioner of Antigua and Barbuda, Karen-Mae Hill, described as a ‘driving force’ behind the staging of the exhibition in St. John’s, who noted that the more she read about Irish history in the Caribbean and moreso

Antigua and Barbuda, the more she feels this is an area that needs to be explored and understood more deeply by everyone.

“Antigua and Barbuda commends the Irish government for embarking on this deliberate journey to build closer ties with small island developing states. “This exhibition being opened today will be part of this conservation and journey of understanding, healing and building relationship,” she reported.

High Commission Hill commended the Irish SIDS strategy, which, she noted, includes exploring the shared history, as a model of how to engage small states. “Understanding our

shared history provides a solid foundation on which present and future relations can be built,” she declared.

The High Commission also referenced the many Irish names that are still quite common in Antigua and Barbuda and the many former sugar estates that still bear their Irish names.

The Irish Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, John Concannon, spoke of the historical links between his country and the Caribbean adding that Ireland is committed to strengthen those relations in the future.

The exhibition featured pieces curated by historian Dr. Catherine Healy who gave an overview of the exhibition.

## Police Arrest 22-Year Old Male In Connection With Bomb Threat

The police have arrested a 22-year-old male of Old Parham Road in connection with a bomb threat made against Police Headquarters on Monday.

The suspect was taken into custody around 6:15 a.m. on Tuesday, April 28, during an operation conducted by officers attached to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Task Force.

He is currently assisting the police with their ongoing investigations into the matter.

The Police Administration continues to treat all threats to public safety with the utmost seriousness and remains committed to ensuring the safety and security of all citizens and residents.

Further updates will be provided as the investigation progresses.

On Monday, the Police Administration reported that at approximately 9:45 a.m., an anonymous phone call was made to the Police Headquarters indicating that an explosive device had



been planted within the building.

As a precautionary measure, immediate evacuation procedures were activated, and all occupants were safely evacuated from the premises. The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team, assisted by K-9 explosive detection unit, conducted a thorough search of the building and its surrounding areas.

However, no device or any item of an explosive nature was discovered. An “all-clear” was subsequently given, and normal operations have since resumed.

The Police Administration strongly condemns this act, which caused unnecessary alarm and disruption, and is reminding the public that such actions are treated as serious offences.



### Antigua & Barbuda Electoral Commission

#### REPLACEMENT VOTER ID CARD OFFICIAL REPORT



#	COUNSTITUENCY	Balance from 2025 SUB-TOTAL	JAN			FEB			MAR			APRIL 2026					GRAND TOTAL	% Complete
			TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	1st 4th	5th-11th	12th-18th	19th-25th	26th-30th	TOTAL			
1	ST. JOHN'S CITY WEST	758	12	14	234	71	159	119	66	31	446	1464	63%					
2	ST. JOHN'S CITY EAST	486	9	13	162	47	122	125	59	32	385	1055	67%					
3	ST. JOHN'S CITY SOUTH	475	7	10	149	42	100	82	70	17	311	952	65%					
4	ST. JOHN'S RURAL WEST	1451	46	25	363	93	280	327	168	59	927	2812	63%					
5	ST. JOHN'S RURAL SOUTH	961	24	27	248	62	165	172	105	41	545	1805	62%					
6	ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST	1333	41	35	407	92	274	257	124	66	813	2629	63%					
7	ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH	1158	24	12	378	96	225	217	130	56	724	2296	67%					
8	ST. MARY'S NORTH	1271	38	26	320	91	250	326	153	58	878	2533	61%					
9	ST. MARY'S SOUTH	845	14	12	185	59	141	150	73	26	449	1505	71%					
10	ALL SAINTS EAST AND ST. LUKE	1195	31	16	297	63	256	232	122	37	710	2249	67%					
11	ALL SAINTS WEST	1493	35	34	408	113	293	270	150	45	871	2841	72%					
12	ST. GEORGE	1755	22	30	362	103	245	345	165	47	905	3074	68%					
13	ST. PETER	2219	7	6	78	33	86	103	82	37	341	2651	93%					
14	ST. PHILIP NORTH	695	22	218	197	6	26	26	14	3	75	1207	76%					
15	ST. PHILIP SOUTH	417	9	13	134	40	93	51	18	13	215	788	75%					
16	ST. PAUL	1088	13	15	231	59	162	159	88	31	499	1846	68%					
17	BARBUDA	720	1	2	15	7	17	20	19	16	79	817	80%					
<b>Total Weekly Application Count</b>						1077	2894	2981	1606	615								
<b>MONTHLY TOTAL</b>		<b>18320</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>4168</b>						<b>9173</b>	<b>32524</b>						

## ESFN Hosts Water Conservation Workshop For Youths at Mill Academy



The EcoShores Sustainable Futures Network (ESFN) visited the Mill Academy in April to host a Water Conservation Creative Workshop. The session encouraged participants to explore how everyday actions can help protect one of our most crucial resources.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement and curiosity as youth eagerly shared ideas for saving water, suggesting simple habits such as turning off taps while brushing their teeth, collecting rainwater, and avoiding unnecessary waste. Their thoughtful responses reflected the sincerity of young voices and served as a reminder that conservation begins with early education and small practical choices.

The workshop blended learning with creativity. Participants completed a water conservation worksheet highlighting the many ways communities




depend on water while colouring and drawing to illustrate their ideas. The vivid colour combinations sparked meaningful discussions about protecting clean water while celebrating diversity and inclusion through artistic expression in recognition of World Water Day.

The participants further contributed by adding their voices to ESFN's World Water Day board, an initiative launched during the Creative Expression Workshop held earlier. Their drawings and messages became new



threads in an ongoing story of innovation and stewardship, showing how young perspectives can inspire greater awareness and action.

The workshop underscored the importance of water conservation and the role of education in empowering future generations and communities. By engaging youths through discussion and hands-on activities, ESFN continues to nurture responsibility and imagination among young people, ensuring that the call to protect water is carried forward with energy and hope.



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## ECAB Rallies Behind Staff Member Competing on Regional Stage

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) is offering its support to a staff member Kayla Joseph in her athletic pursuits as she prepares to represent Antigua and Barbuda on the regional bodybuilding stage.

ECAB Chief Executive Officer Michael Spencer presented a token of support on Monday to Joseph, who will travel to Barbados next month to compete in the Roger Boyce Classic.

Joseph will be among a group of Antiguan athletes competing at the professional-level event. In offering his encouragement, Spencer stated, "We wish you well in your endeavours and hope that you are successful."

Joseph expressed her gratitude to ECAB for its support, noting the importance of having the backing of her workplace as she pursues excellence in bodybuilding.

The presentation, held at the Bank's Coolidge branch, was supported by ECAB's Marketing team and underscored the organisation's collective pride in Joseph's accomplishments, as well as its commitment to empowering team members to excel both professionally and personally.

ECAB extends its best wishes to Joseph as she represents with distinction at the upcoming competition which takes place in mid- May.



**ELECTION DAY  
Thursday,  
30 April**

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

**RENAISSANCE**  
A New Era of Progress and Development

## The Nation Mourns The Passing of Philbert Mason

Philbert Mason, whose voice became a familiar and commanding presence especially during the dreaded hurricane season, has passed away.

Reports are that he died in the United States on Tuesday morning.

From many years, his voice and delivery of the weather report held the attention of households across Antigua and Barbuda and the sub region, while detailing the track of an impending storm. He did so with such authority that it prompted many into lifesaving action.

Ears perked and households fell quiet at the very sound of his voice. His was a steady defining presence in meteorology for many years, particularly during some of our most tragic events including Hurricane Hugo and later Hurricane Luis.



A former Director of the Antigua and Barbuda Met Services, Mason was honoured by his nation for his exceptional work as a Meteorologist during

the 1995 Independence celebrations.

Mason has served as a role model for many Antiguan and Barbuda several of whom have followed his lead to become meteorologists. He was also a very successful businessman as a main shareholder in the M&M Business Complex on the Old Parham Road.

Mason, was also a calypso aficionado of the highest order and was always a familiar presence at Calypso tents and competitions every Carnival season.

For many years, he awarded a deserving calypsonian with the Best Social Commentary Award at the annual Calypso Monarch competition.

There's a call for all to join in expressing deepest condolences to his family and friends and his colleagues at the Met Office.

## ABLP Mourns the Passing of Comrade Philbert Mason

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party expresses sincere condolences to the family, friends, colleagues, and loved ones of Comrade Philbert Mason.

Comrade Mason was a national treasure, widely respected as one of Antigua and Barbuda's most iconic and prolific meteorologists. His outstanding contribution to nation-building was recognised at the 1995 National Awards Ceremony, where he was honoured for his role in helping to shape the modern Antigua and Barbuda.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Comrade Mason was a loyal and steadfast Labour Party stalwart. He served with distinction as Second Vice Chair-



man of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party over several terms and remained deeply committed to the advancement of the Party and the development of the nation.

He was a strategist, mentor,

entrepreneur, and patriot who gave generously of his time, wisdom, and talent. Over the years, he guided and encouraged many candidates, offering counsel rooted in experience, loyalty, and an unwavering belief in strong governance and national progress.

The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party feels a deep sense of sorrow at the loss of such a distinguished comrade. His memory will forever be etched in the annals of Labour history, and his legacy of service, dedication, and nation-building will continue to inspire generations to come.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



# CPL FIXTURES 2026

## HOME

 **AUG 9 SUN**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ST. VINCENT**

 **AUG 20 THU**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ANTIGUA**

 **AUG 22 SAT**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ANTIGUA**

 **AUG 23 SUN**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ANTIGUA**

 **AUG 25 TUE**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ANTIGUA**

## AWAY

 **AUG 7 FRI**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ST. VINCENT**

 **AUG 14 FRI**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ST. LUCIA**

 **AUG 30 SUN**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**ST. KITTS**

 **SEP 2 WED**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**TRINIDAD**

 **SEP 8 TUE**  
7:00 PM EGT / 4:30 AM IST (-1)  
**GUYANA**



**UPP IS FIGHTING  
EACH OTHER  
FOR POWER**

# VACANCY

## IT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

The Systems Administrator is responsible for maintaining APUA's IT infrastructure, ensuring the reliable operation of network systems, and providing technical support across the organisation. This role includes monitoring and maintaining computer systems, installing and configuring hardware and software, and resolving technical issues to support efficient day-to-day operations.

### 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.

## INVENTORY CONTROLLER

The Inventory Controller will have responsibility for all stores sites and stores functions throughout the Authority. The Controller will be responsible for safeguarding the inventory and ensuring strict adherence to internal control processes. The Controller will also report formally on all aspects of the operations on a monthly basis.

### Key duties include:

- Forecasting supply and demand to prevent overstocking and running out-of-stock;
- Placing orders to replenish merchandise as needed;
- Tracking shipments and resolving challenges including delays;
- Ensuring adequate and appropriate storage and security of products;
- Keeping updated inventory records and maintaining documentation on Purchases;
- Liaising with Stores staff and other internal teams to test product quality (status upon delivery and storage conditions);
- Ensuring storerooms are maintained in accordance with health and safety standards;
- Ensuring that employee performance management policies are adhered to in all areas including, but not limited to, employee training and development, performance appraisals and recommends disciplinary action where appropriate.

### The successful candidate MUST possess the following:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related field from a reputable tertiary institution.
- Stores/ Warehouse and Stock Management experience would be an asset.
- Good analytical, problem solving and organizational skills.
- Proven excellent customer service and management skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively within a team environment.
- Demonstrated ability to motivate others to meet Department objectives.
- Good knowledge & understanding of supply chain procedures and a working knowledge of Great Plains Software.
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**Deadline for application is Friday, 8th May, 2026**

\*\* Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged \*\*

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# BARBUDA Caribana 2026

## MAY 2026

### THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>

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

### FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>

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

### SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup>

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

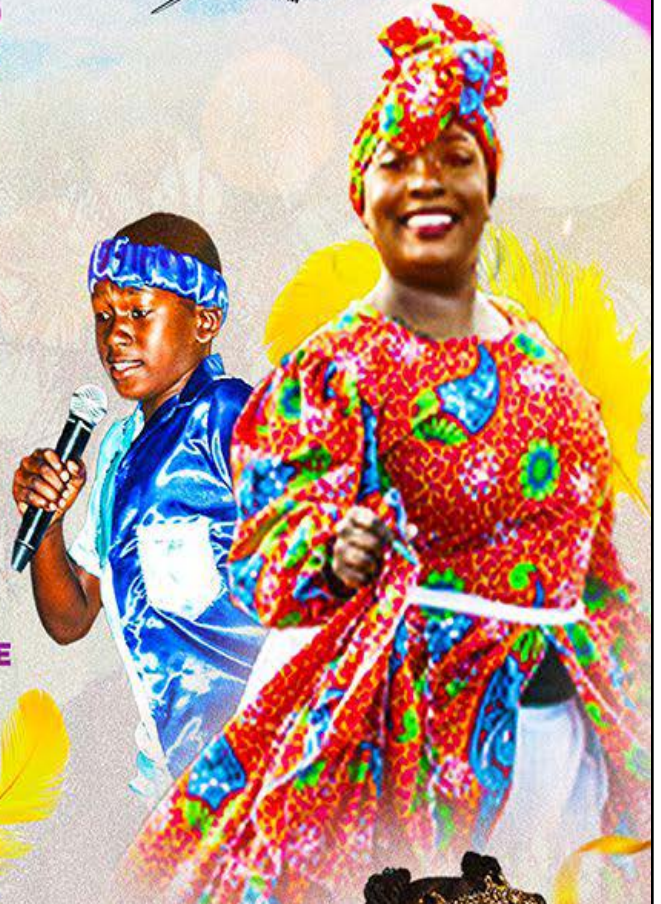
### SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup>

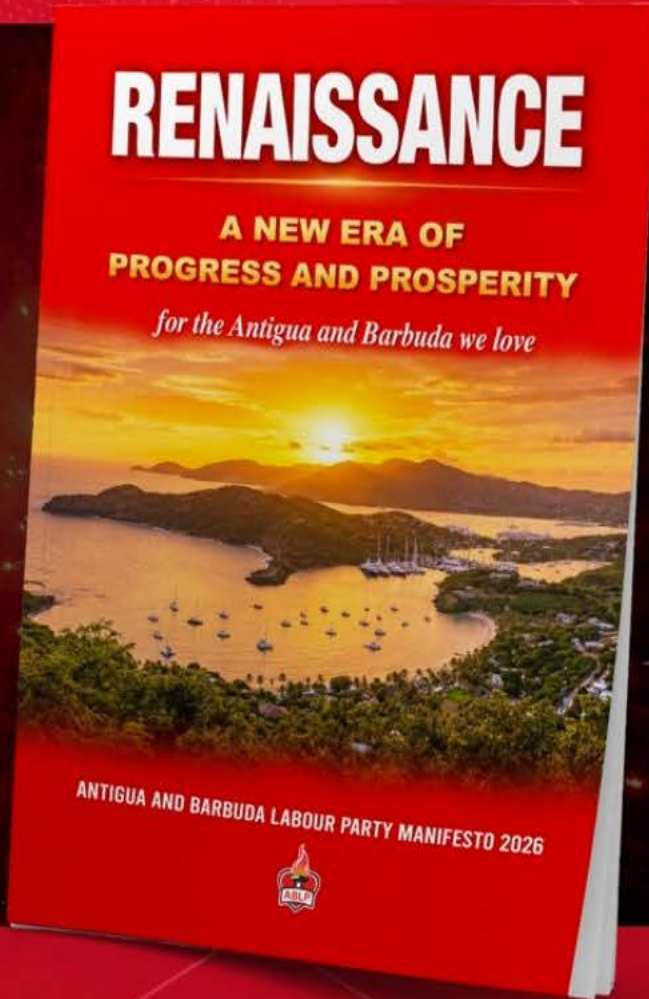
- 1PM | CARIBANA CLASSIC  
HORSE RACING

### MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup>

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

EVENT SCHEDULE





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**READ THE MANIFESTO**

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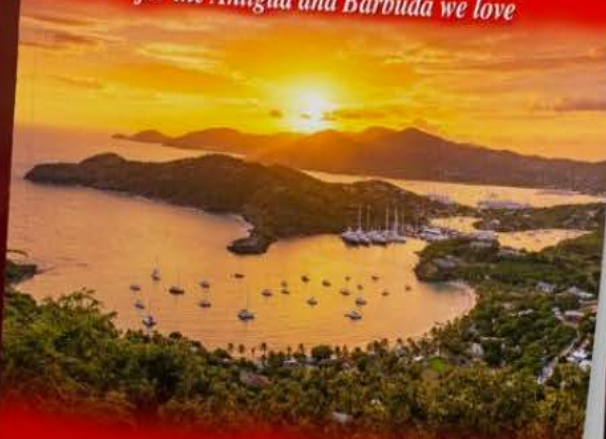
**A VOTE FOR  
ANY UPP  
CANDIDATE**

**IS A VOTE  
TO MAKE  
JAMALE PRINGLE  
PRIME MINISTER**

# RENAISSANCE

A NEW ERA OF  
PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

*for the Antigua and Barbuda we love*



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA LABOUR PARTY MANIFESTO 2026



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- Expand Land Empowerment Programme

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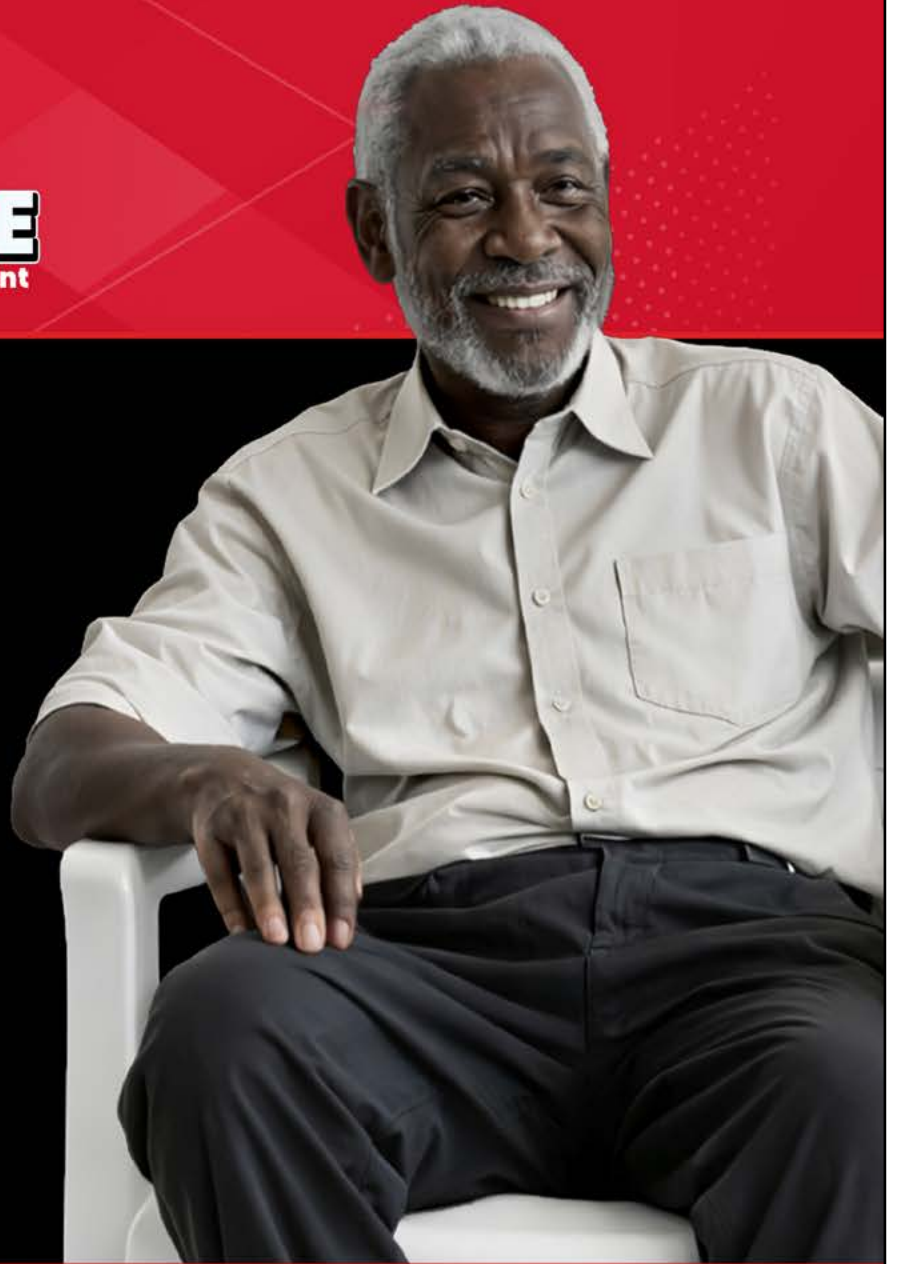


**RENAISSANCE**  
A New Era of Progress and Development





**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.”*





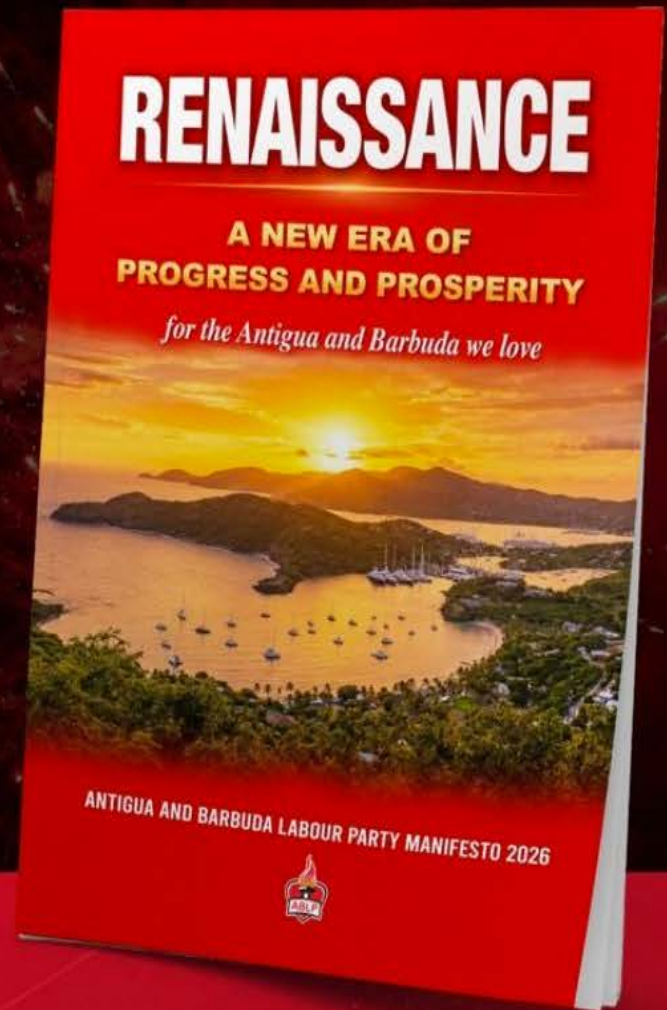
# IT'S THE LAW

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CONSECUTIVE HOURS AS PAID TIME  
OFF TO CAST YOUR BALLOT ON**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30**



# MORE PROGRESS ON ROADS



- Implement \$100M Investment in Roads Across Country
- Major Improvement to All Saints Road
- Improve Drainage to Preserve Roads

**READ THE MANIFESTO**

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**RENAISSANCE**  
A New Era of Progress and Development



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

FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 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: 1<sup>ST</sup> \$1000.00  
2<sup>ND</sup> \$750.00 - 3<sup>RD</sup> \$500.00



AT&LU HEADQUARTERS  
46 NORTH STREET

BINGO WILL BE PLAYED  
BETWEEN THE ROUNDS

**COMING SOON**



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FOR PEOPLE WHO  
DON'T QUALIFY FOR A BANK LOAN**

**INTEREST RATES 2-3%  
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# SENIORS ARE FOR LABOUR!





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BARBUDA  
**Caribana**  
2026



# Classic HORSE RACING

**SUN 24H MAY**

**1PM | CORONATION PARK**

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

FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 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: 1<sup>ST</sup> \$1000.00  
2<sup>ND</sup> \$750.00 - 3<sup>RD</sup> \$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

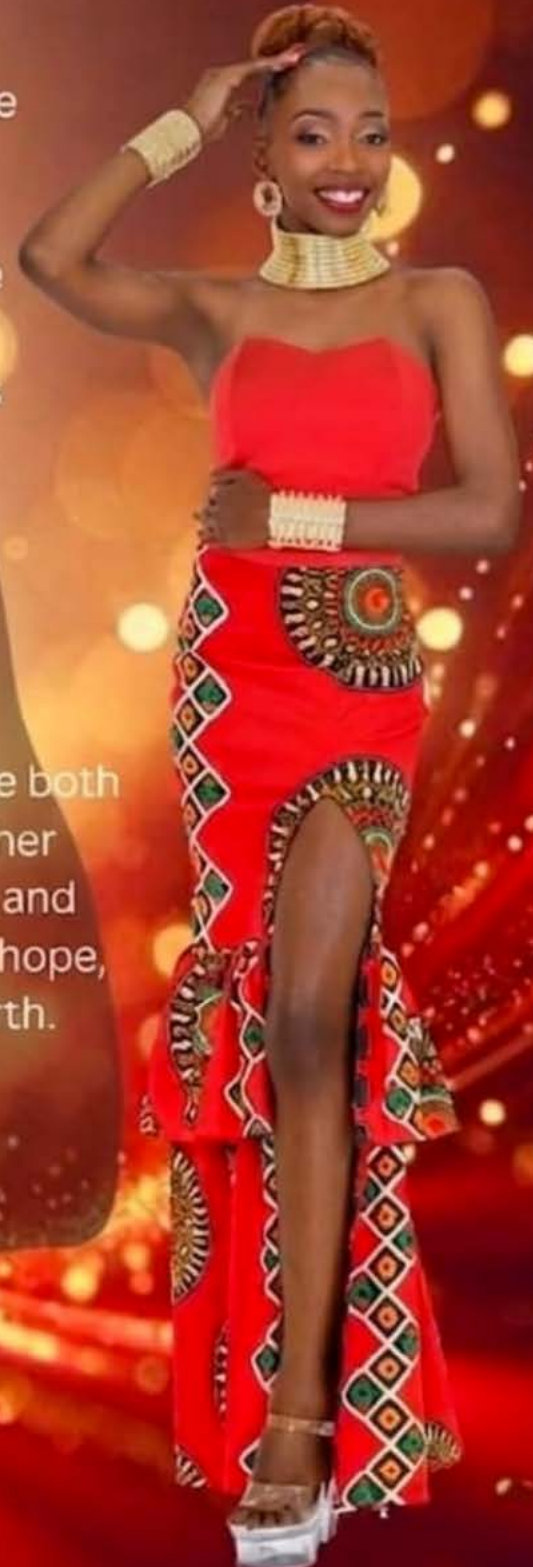


Iszarea Lloyd proudly represents St. Phillip's North as a young woman of purpose, resilience, and quiet strength.

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**



## Billions needed to rebuild MoBay's 'ground zero'

Restoring communities devastated by Hurricane Melissa could cost billions of dollars, with Montego Bay's mayor warning that the country lacks the financial capacity for full mitigation and must instead focus on adaptation.

Mayor Richard Vernon said the scale of destruction across Westgreen and Catherine Hall in the St James capital has forced a shift in how authorities approach disaster recovery and future risk.

Vernon said the October 2025 hurricane, which impacted an estimated 4,000 residents, left behind extensive damage to homes, infrastructure, and personal property, pushing recovery costs far beyond what local authorities can absorb.

"When you look at how much it is costing people to replace furniture, appliances, vehicles and infrastructure, we are talking about billions," he told *The Gleaner* yesterday.

While emergency interventions restored basic access, including the removal of more than 2,000 truckloads of mud and debris, the mayor acknowledged that underlying vulnerabilities remain, particularly within the drainage network.

He pointed to silted waterways, slow runoff, and the need for a comprehensive reassessment of drainage systems as key contributors to ongoing flooding concerns.

However, Vernon made it clear that addressing those issues at the level required will not be easy.

"We do not have the financial



bandwidth to deal with mitigation on the level it needs," he said.

Instead, he said the municipality is now being forced to prioritise adaptation strategies, focusing on how residents respond to disasters rather than attempting to eliminate the risk entirely.

Central to that approach is the development of an early warning system, which could give residents critical time to act before flooding occurs.

The proposed system, estimated to cost about \$60 million, would provide advance alerts, potentially allowing residents to move vehicles, evacuate, or secure property.

"If the people in Catherine Hall and Westgreen had even 30 minutes' notice [before the deluge], they could have responded differently," Vernon said.

He said efforts are under way to secure funding for the system

through international partnerships.

The mayor also addressed calls for relocation of residents from flood-prone areas, describing it as a complex and costly undertaking.

Relocating thousands of people, he noted, would require significant land, infrastructure, and financial resources, as well as overcoming deep emotional ties to communities.

"Relocating 4,000 people is not an easy thing," Vernon said.

Vernon warned that changing climate patterns are increasing the frequency and intensity of weather events, placing Jamaica in a more vulnerable position.

"We are experiencing climate change as never before," he said.

Against that backdrop, he said the focus must now be on preparedness and resilience, even as long-term solutions are pursued. (Jamaica Gleaner)

## STATEMENT: Government of Dominica update following impact of trough system



The Government of Dominica has moved decisively to implement a coordinated national response following the passage of a trough system on Sunday, April 26, 2026, which brought heavy rainfall, flooding and landslides, particularly in the East and Northeast of the island.

At an emergency meeting on Sunday evening Cabinet reviewed the evolving situation and approved a series of immediate interventions aimed at securing lives, restoring access and supporting affected households and productive sectors.

### Key Decisions of Cabinet:

**Activation of National Emergency Response Protocols**

The National Emergency Planning Organization (NEPO) is fully activated, with all relevant agencies engaged. The emergency shelter in Atkinson is operational, and additional shelters in Castle Bruce and the Kalinago Territory will be opened if necessary.

**Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment**

Teams from all relevant ministries, including the Office of the Prime Minister, Office of Disaster Management, Ministry of Public Works, Local Gov-

ernment Department and the Ministry of Health, will be deployed early on Monday morning (April 27) to conduct rapid assessments of infrastructure, homes and agricultural losses. Cabinet will be reconvened on Monday evening to review updates.

**Temporary School Closures Where Necessary**

In the interest of student and staff safety, the following schools will remain closed pending safety clearance.

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

**Road Clearance and Infrastructure Restoration**

Priority has been given to the clearance of landslides and restoration of access along the road network. The Ministry of Public Works has mobilized heavy equipment to affected areas, and work is ongoing to reopen the routes as quickly and safely as possible. The Douglas-Charles Airport remains accessible.

**Utility Restoration and Monitoring**

The Ministry of Public Works will continue to coordinate with utility providers to restore electricity and water services in affected areas.

**Agricultural Support Measures**

The Ministry of Agriculture has initiated assessments of damage to crops and livestock. This will continue on Monday, April 28, with a report to Cabinet to inform assistance measures.

**Health and Social Impact Assessment**

No casualties or major injuries have been reported to date. Medical teams remain fully mobilized and on standby, with continuous monitoring in place due to the risk of further rainfall and landslides. The San Sauveur Health Centre is designated as the primary emergency care centre for that area.

Preliminary assessments in Atkinson indicate that seven households, comprising approximately fifteen individuals, have been affected. Some are currently accommodated in shelters, while others are staying with relatives or neighbours. These households have been prioritized for further assessment and targeted social support.

Over the next 24 hours, multisectoral teams will be deployed to conduct detailed on-the-ground assessments to guide response measures, resource allocation and further Cabinet decisions. (Dominica News Online)

## SIX MONTHS IN THE DARK

Six months after the devastation of Hurricane Melissa, residents of the small coastal community of Parottee in St Elizabeth say their most urgent needs are the restoration of electricity and access to water, as recovery continues at a slow pace.

“We have a big issue here with water and light, but water is our main issue, and water is life,” said Sandra Linton-Jones, a 62-year-old fish vendor who sells at the Black River Fish Market.

“We need somebody to help us. Maybe once a week, just go from house to house and give us a little water,” she pleaded, calling on the authorities to truck potable water into the community. “Most of us have gotten used to living life the old-fashioned ways; we can live without the light a little longer, but not the water.”

Before Hurricane Melissa struck last October, Linton-Jones said Parottee had reliable access to potable water. Today, many residents say the supply remains inconsistent, forcing them to struggle daily to meet basic household needs.

When contacted about the water crisis, Richard Solomon, mayor of Black River and chairman of the St Elizabeth Municipal Corporation, said the council would explore how best it can assist residents, including the possibility of trucking water into the community.

“I will see what we can do as a council to get some water to these citizens,” Solomon told *The Gleaner*.

St Elizabeth was among the hardest-hit parishes when Hurricane Melissa battered



sections of Jamaica’s south coast.

Post-disaster assessments indicate that the parish recorded more than US\$2.2 billion in physical damage, including nearly US\$1 billion in residential losses alone. Infrastructure damage exceeded US\$760 million, while the agriculture sector – a major pillar of the parish’s economy – suffered losses estimated at more than US\$135 million.

Satellite damage assessments also showed that nearly 65 per cent of buildings in affected sections of St Elizabeth sustained some level of damage, highlighting the scale of destruction across communities such as Parottee and nearby Black River.

Nationally, total damage and losses associated with the passage of Hurricane Melissa are estimated at \$1.952 trillion (US\$12.2 billion), according to the Planning Institute of Jamaica. This figure is equivalent to 56.7 per cent of Jamaica’s 2024 gross domestic product.

“I am 62 years old and was born and grew up here in Parottee. All the hurricanes that passed, I never moved out,” Linton-Jones said.

“But if somebody calls me now and says another hurricane is coming, I will run away from here. No more not catching me here.”

She recalled the terrifying moment when seawater surged into her home.

“The seawater caught me in my house way up here,” she said, pointing to her upper body.

The storm destroyed nearly everything she owned. Her house was badly damaged, her solar panels were ripped away, and five freezers filled with fish, the backbone of her livelihood, were lost.

“I am a fish vendor; I sell at the Black River Fish Market. All are gone,” Linton-Jones said.

Despite her losses, she now manages a solar-powered container donated by the United Nations Development Programme, which provides freezer storage for fisherfolk in the community.

“We have three freezers in there,” she explained of the container, which is powered by eight solar panels and supported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Mining. “When fishermen go to sea and catch fish, we put them down [and] set up ice. We also allow people

to charge their phones here, free of cost.”

The system relies on small-scale solar power and weekly ice deliveries supported by fisheries and other donors. “We are so grateful,” she said, in reference to the temporary cold storage.

For fisherman Michael Kelly, who has spent more than 20 years at sea, life has also been far from normal since the storm.

“It was really rough,” he recalled. “The roof went off. Everything is gone.”

But beyond the destruction of homes and livelihoods, Kelly said the hurricane’s fury also disturbed the resting places of the dead.

He explained that four graves once stood behind the house he now oversees, but the floodwaters uprooted two of them.

“Outside of those two, many other graves in the community were washed away,” he said solemnly.

But even now, basic services remain unreliable.

“Six months later, it’s not normal. No electricity, no water,” Kelly said.

With the Atlantic hurricane season set to begin on June 1, residents say anxiety is once again building across the fragile coastal settlement.

“I am fretting right now,” Linton-Jones admitted. “My mind is wondering what’s going to be the next step if another hurricane comes.”

Yet amid the uncertainty, she said faith has helped her endure the difficult months since the storm. “Two weeks after Melissa, I said, ‘Why worry when you can pray?’” (*Jamaica Gleaner*)

## CARICOM and Germany formalise cooperation framework to advance Community priorities

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on Friday, 23 April, signed six Implementation Agreements to support the delivery of a major new programme of Germany-funded technical cooperation valued at €31.9 million, in the Community.

The signing ceremony, which took place at the Georgetown, Guyana Headquarters of the CARICOM Secretariat, marks a key step in the operationalisation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Technical Cooperation between CARICOM and the Federal Republic of Germany, signed in February 2025.

CARICOM Secretary-General, Dr. Carla Barnett, who signed the Agreements on behalf of the Community, welcomed Germany's continued partnership and underscored the strategic importance of the programme to CARICOM's development objectives.

GIZ's Regional Director for the Caribbean, Ms. Jasmin Ellis-Jones, who signed on behalf of Germany, reaffirmed GIZ's commitment to working closely with CARICOM, and regional and national partners, to ensure the successful and timely implementation of the projects and the delivery of tangible results for the people of the Caribbean.

The six regional projects will be implemented over the period 2025–2029 by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat,



regional institutions and national partners.

The projects include: Promoting Regionally Harmonised Approaches to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in CARICOM Member States (CARIBIO); Supporting the Conditions for a Climate Compatible Circular Economy in the Caribbean Region; Unlocking Blue Economy Potential of Marine Managed and Protected Areas in Caribbean Small Island Developing States; Material and Energetic Utilisation of Organic Waste and Sargassum (BioWaste); Climate Resilient and Sustainable Energy Supply in the Caribbean II (CliRES II); and the Fight Against Climate Change with a Specific Focus on Qualifying in the Caribbean States (Green and Blue Skills Project).

The projects will be implemented in targeted CARICOM Member States through interventions aimed at strengthening institution-

al capacities, policy development, pilot initiatives, skills training, regional coordination mechanisms, and inclusive, gender-responsive approaches to sustainable development.

Germany's technical cooperation with the Caribbean has had a long-standing focus on sustainable energy, climate adaptation and environmental management. Since 2008, Germany has provided technical assistance to the Region through GIZ-implemented programmes, and the signing of these Implementation Agreements represents the expansion and consolidation of that partnership.

The signing of the six Implementation Agreements establishes the formal framework for project execution and reflects the shared commitment of CARICOM, Germany and GIZ to advancing sustainable, resilient and inclusive development across the Caribbean Community. (Dominica News Online)

## United Arab Emirates says it will leave OPEC effective May 1

The United Arab Emirates announced Tuesday that it will leave the oil cartel OPEC and its wider OPEC+ group effective May 1, a move rumoured for some time as the Emirates chafed under production restrictions and had increasingly frosty relations with neighbouring Saudi Arabia.

The UAE had been a longtime member of OPEC, first through its emirate of Abu Dhabi in 1967 and later when the UAE became its own country in 1971.

But the UAE has been increasingly trying to leverage its own foreign policy in the Middle East that has contradicted some positions of Riyadh over time — particularly as Saudi Arabia began to directly challenge the Emirates in trying to draw foreign investments as the kingdom opened up under

assertive Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

The UAE made the announcement via its state-run WAM news agency.

“This decision reflects the UAE’s long-term strategic and economic vision and evolving energy profile, including accelerated investment in domestic energy production, and reinforces its commitment to a responsible, reliable, and forward-looking role in global energy markets,” the UAE said.

“Following its exit, the UAE will continue to act responsibly, bringing additional production to market in a gradual and measured manner, aligned with demand and market conditions,” the country added.

Saudi Arabia long has been considered a heavyweight of OPEC, an oil

cartel based in Vienna that has seen some of its market power wane as the United States increased its production of crude oil in recent years.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE increasingly have competed over economic issues and regional politics, particularly in the Red Sea area. The two countries had joined in together in a coalition to fight against Yemen’s Iran-backed Houthi rebels in 2015. However, that coalition broke down into recriminations in late December, when Saudi Arabia bombed what it described as a weapons shipment bound for Yemeni separatists backed by the UAE.

Saudi broadcasters long based in Dubai, the economic hub of the UAE, have pulled back to the kingdom in recent months as well as the tensions rose. (AP)



## Japan Airlines trials humanoid robots as ground handlers

Japan Airlines (JAL) will start using humanoid robots in ground handling tasks at Tokyo's Haneda airport from May, in a two-year trial it said is aimed at easing employees' workload.

For a start, the Chinese-made robots will be deployed to load and unload cargo containers, JAL and GMO AI & Robotics, its partner in the project, said in a demonstration to the media on Monday.

Japan's aviation industry is wrestling with a labour crunch brought on by an increase in inbound tourism and a declining working-age population, said JAL, which employs some 4,000 ground handling staff.

The carrier hopes that these robots can also be used to clean cabins and operate ground support equipment in future.

Robots are already being used in some airports across Japan, including for security patrol and retail.

Japan welcomed more than seven



million foreign visitors in the first two months of this year, according to statistics from JTB Group, which runs Japan's largest travel agency.

"While airports appear highly automated and standardised, their back-end operations still rely heavily on human labour and face serious labour shortages," GMO AI & Robotics' president Tomohiro Uchida told reporters.

Using robots for physically demanding tasks will "provide significant benefits to employees", Kyodo news agency quoted Yoshiteru Suzuk, the president of JAL's Ground Service, saying.

But he noted that some duties, including safety management, can only be handled by humans. (BBC)

**PDV Caribe**  
Antigua and Barbuda Ltd.

**THE PDV HOUR**

**MONDAYS**  
**11AM - 12NOON**

**MRS. JELLETTE RALPH**  
**(JELLY BEANS)**

## King Charles to reaffirm U.K.-U.S. relationship in rare address to Congress

King Charles III plans to reaffirm the United Kingdom and the United States' long "special relationship" and common values of democracy and freedom in a rare speech to Congress on Tuesday.

The king will express "the highest regard and friendship of the British people to the people of the United States in this landmark anniversary year," 250 years since America declared its independence from Britain, according to a Buckingham Palace official who previewed the address.

Charles' remarks come as the transatlantic alliance has been strained by President Donald Trump's war against Iran. Trump has lashed out at British Prime Minister Keir Starmer for not joining the U.S. in the initial attack on Iran, disparaging him as "no Winston Churchill." The president has a closer

personal relationship with the king and Queen Camilla, who hosted Trump at a state dinner at Windsor Castle in September.

Despite the challenging times, the king will say in his roughly 20-minute speech on Tuesday that the U.S. and U.K. can defend and reaffirm their longstanding shared democratic values to create security and prosperity for themselves and the world, the official said.

The story of the U.S. and U.K. over the last 250 years is one of "reconciliation and renewal" and "one of the greatest alliances in human history," Charles will say.

At the outset Tuesday, the king will refer to the assassination attempt at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner on Saturday night. Charles

and Camilla called the Trumps to express their concern and sympathies after the shooting, a source familiar with the matter told NBC News earlier this week.

The king will deliver his remarks from the dais of the House of Representatives, where President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed Congress in a speech after the Pearl Harbor attack as America entered World War II. Weeks later, Winston Churchill, would also address Congress to express the unity of the U.S. and United Kingdom in the war effort, but from the Senate chamber.

The only other British monarch to address a joint session of Congress was the king's mother, Queen Elizabeth II, who came to the Capitol in 1991. (NBC)





Republic Bank  
**CPL**  
CARIBBEAN PREMIER LEAGUE

# 2026 MATCH SCHEDULE

FRI 7 AUG	JKM	v	ABF	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
SAT 8 AUG	SKNP	v	TKR	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
SUN 9 AUG	ABF	v	SLK	7:00 PM	ST VINCENT
TUE 11 AUG	JKM	v	BR	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
WED 12 AUG	SLK	v	SKNP	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
THU 13 AUG	JKM	v	GAW	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
FRI 14 AUG	SLK	v	ABF	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
SAT 15 AUG	JKM	v	TKR	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
SUN 16 AUG	SLK	v	BR	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
TUE 18 AUG	JKM	v	SKNP	7:00 PM	JAMAICA
WED 19 AUG	SLK	v	GAW	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
THU 20 AUG	ABF	v	SKNP	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
FRI 21 AUG	SLK	v	JKM	7:00 PM	ST LUCIA
SAT 22 AUG	ABF	v	TKR	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
SUN 23 AUG	ABF	v	GAW	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
TUE 25 AUG	ABF	v	BR	7:00 PM	ANTIGUA
WED 26 AUG	TKR	v	SLK	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
THU 27 AUG	SKNP	v	JKM	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
FRI 28 AUG	TKR	v	BR	8:00 PM	TRINIDAD
SAT 29 AUG	TKR	v	GAW	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
SUN 30 AUG	SKNP	v	ABF	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
MON 31 AUG	TKR	v	JKM	5:00 PM	TRINIDAD
TUE 1 SEP	SKNP	v	BR	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
WED 2 SEP	TKR	v	ABF	7:00 PM	TRINIDAD
THU 3 SEP	SKNP	v	SLK	7:00 PM	ST KITTS
FRI 4 SEP	GAW	v	JKM	7:00 PM	GUYANA
SAT 5 SEP	BR	v	TKR	8:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 6 SEP	GAW	v	SKNP	10:00 AM	GUYANA
SUN 6 SEP	BR	v	SLK	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
TUE 8 SEP	GAW	v	ABF	7:00 PM	GUYANA
WED 9 SEP	GAW	v	SLK	7:00 PM	GUYANA
THU 10 SEP	BR	v	SKNP	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
FRI 11 SEP	GAW	v	TKR	7:00 PM	GUYANA
SAT 12 SEP	BR	v	JKM	8:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 13 SEP	BR	v	GAW	7:00 PM	BARBADOS
WED 16 SEP	ELIMINATOR - 3 <sup>RD</sup> v 4 <sup>TH</sup>			7:00 PM	BARBADOS
THU 17 SEP	QUALIFIER - 1 <sup>ST</sup> v 2 <sup>ND</sup>			8:00 PM	BARBADOS
FRI 18 SEP	QUALIFIER 2 - WINNER ELIMINATOR v LOSER QUALIFIER 1			7:00 PM	BARBADOS
SUN 20 SEP	FINAL			7:00 PM	BARBADOS

# Sports News



## ABAVA names teams for 2026 ECVA Senior Beach Volleyball Championships

The Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) has announced the teams that will represent the nation at the 2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Beach Volleyball Championship in St. Lucia from May 1 to 3.

The teams feature a blend of fresh talent and new partnerships, all eager to compete and showcase their skills on the regional stage.

Returning to the court are Mali Nyota Peters and Rosemarie Simon, who have teamed up before and are looking forward to bringing their competitive spirit to the women's championship. Their determination and enthusiasm will be key as they face strong regional opponents in St. Lucia.

Joining them are Josanne Lewis and Rayana Regis, a fresh female pairing that is excited to compete at this level for the first time. Both athletes are looking forward to building their synergy and making their mark as a new team in the competition.

On the men's side, Cairon Davis and George Freeland will be teaming up for the first time at this championship. Although new as a duo, both athletes have shown potential in their individu-



**Josanne Lewis, left and Rayana Regis**

al performances, and they are eager to see how their combined skills can take them forward in the tournament.

Rounding out the men's teams is the pairing of Dwight Bonnie and Raenor Sharpe. While they are well-established indoor volleyball teammates, this is their first time competing together on the beach. Both athletes bring a strong indoor game and are excited to transfer their skills to the



**Cairon Davis, left and George Freeland**

beach volleyball format, where they hope to make a strong impact.

The ABAVA said it is proud to support these talented athletes as they represent Antigua and Barbuda in the 2026 ECVA Senior Beach Volleyball Championship. Their passion for the sport and commitment to the competition promise an exciting and memorable tournament ahead.

**ELECTION DAY**  
**Thursday,**  
**30 April**

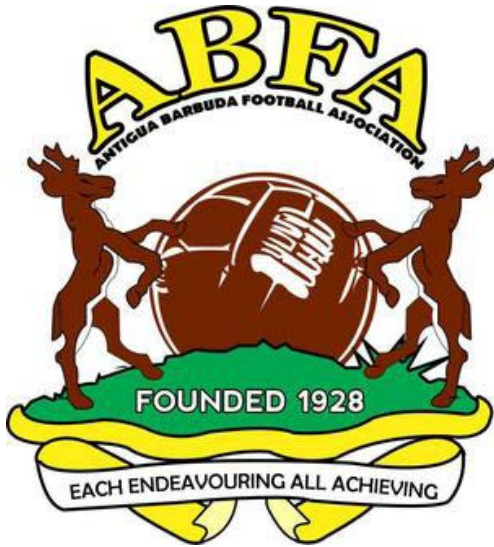
"In times like these, let us keep strong, steady leadership."





**RENAISSANCE**  
 A New Era of Progress and Development

## Point West Ham finish in top-half of Second Division League



Point West Ham won two of their final three matches to finish in the top-half of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) 20-team Second Division League.

Point West Ham trounced Bethesda 6-0 at Radio Range, notched up a 2-1 victory against Glanvilles, and lost 2-1 to Police at the same venue to complete their Second Division campaign.

It means Point West Ham can finish their campaign in fifth place, having recorded a total of 34 points from their quota of 19 matches.

However, Point West Ham can be overtaken by Fort Road, who are currently in eighth place with 32 points from 18 matches.

Fort Road FC, who have one game remaining, battled to a 3-3 draw with Glanvilles FC in their penultimate match of the season at Fort Road on Monday.

Fort Road can clinch fifth place with a victory in their final match against the Young Warriors at Fort Road on Friday.

North Coast Academy Juniors are currently in sixth place on goal difference ahead of seventh-place Blackburn Palace after both teams finished their Second Division campaign with 33 points apiece.

The result allows Glanvilles FC to finish their campaign in 13th place with 23 points from their quota of 19 matches.

But Glanvilles FC can be overtaken by the Liberta Blackhawks, who advanced to 22 points after being awarded a 3-0 victory via default over the Young Warriors, who failed to show up for their penultimate match at the ABFA Technical Center on Monday.

The Blackhawks can clinch 13th place with a victory in their final match against Herberts United at Radio Range on Friday.

Their 6-0 loss to Point West Ham in their final outing allows Bethesda FC to finish their campaign in 12th place with 26 points from their quota of 19 matches.

In another encounter, Herberts United was awarded a 3-0 victory via default over the Young Warriors, who failed to show up for their encounter at the St.

Johnstone Village Stadium.

It means the Young Warriors remain second from the bottom of the standings with six points from 18 matches.

Herberts United are currently in 16th place in the 20-team standings with 13 points after recording their fourth win in 18 matches.

Meanwhile, English Harbour FC has consolidated their 10th-place position in the ABFA's First Division.

English Harbour recorded a 4-1 victory against Bolans FC in their latest encounter at English Harbour on Monday.

The result allows English Harbour to remain in 10th place by advancing to 27 points from 24 matches.

Bolans FC remains in 12th place and third from the bottom of the 14-team standings with 17 points after suffering their 13th defeat in 24 matches. Both teams have two matches remaining.

# Sports News



## Da Project claim sixth-place finish in ABBA's Division 2 League



Da Project 2 secured a sixth-place finish in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division League on Monday evening.

Da Project 2 wrapped up their league campaign with an 86-79 victory over EZ Fit Flyers 2 in their final encounter in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Nathan Matthew shot a game-high 25 points; Donte Trimmingham recorded a triple-double with 23 points, 21 rebounds, and 10 assists; Erije Joseph sank 19 points and claimed five steals; and Kevin Pimentel scored 10 points for Da Project 2, who finished their campaign in the nine-team round-robin league with a record of 10 wins and four losses during their quota of 16 games.

Hansel Piper sank 19 points and snatched five rebounds; Gabrielle De-Suza converted 17 points, Elijah Charles scored 14 points and provided six assists; and Tyrese White chipped in with eight points, 10 rebounds, and six assists for EZ Fit Flyers 2, who crashed to their 12th defeat in 15 games.

The Ramco Pharmacy Fearless Crew secured their position in fifth place with a 65-51 victory over the Navigators 2 in their penultimate game of the round-robin league in Monday's open-

ing encounter.

Tyler Jacobs sank 21 points and claimed six steals; Jesus Lopez produced 13 points, six rebounds, six assists, and five steals; Julian Henry converted 11 points and snatched six rebounds; and Emeka Emujuru-Oupe provided 10 points, 15 rebounds, and five steals for the Fearless Crew, who claimed their eighth win in 15 games.

Raheem Sawyer shot a game-high 24 points and claimed five rebounds; Ricky Willock converted 12 points and snatched six rebounds; and Abdul Wadud scored six points and grabbed 15 rebounds for the Navigators 2, who ended their campaign second from the bottom of the standings with a record of three wins and 13 losses from their quota of 16 games.

POP QUIZ!

WHO IS REALLY IN CHARGE OF THE UPP?

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<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 5px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">C</div>  <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">PRINGLE</p>	<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 5px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">D</div>  <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">MALAKA</p>

UPP: WEAK LEADERS FIGHTING FOR POWER

## Winnings start for Buckley's 3Js in ABSCA men's 30-over contest



**Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3J's softball cricket team**

Reigning champions Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js have made a successful start in defense of their title in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association (ABSCA) Men's 30-Over contest.

The Buckley's 3Js launched their campaign with an 18-run victory over PMS at the Swetes playing field. The Buckley's 3Js made 178 for three off 23 overs.

Denley Thomas hammered 53, Randino Turner hit 51, and player of the match Steve Martin struck 36. Visal Gobin took two for 20.

In reply, PMS was dismissed for 160 in 21 overs. Clarence Francis slammed an unbeaten 64, and Charles James scored 40. Charanlall Ramjohn grabbed five wickets for nine runs, and Steve Martin claimed three for 48. It was the first loss in two games for PMS.

Goody's Advent 300 claimed their first win in three games by snatching

a two-wicket victory against Dredgers at the Dredgers playing field.

The Dredgers were restricted to 162 for five off 24 overs. Rae Charles smashed 49, including five sixes. Mervin Higgins cracked 26, Ricky Buckley hit 23, and Vaughn Charles scored 12. Jared Roberts captured three for 31.

The 300 secured victory by scoring 168 for eight in 21 overs. Player of the match Bryan Burton hammered 46 not out, Jared Roberts struck 30, and Jamoy Jarvis made 15.

Robin Bascus bagged two for 24, Kurt Douglas claimed two for 29, and Mervin Higgins picked up two for 35 for the Dredgers, who lost for the first time in two matches.

Rackaman Construction Strictly Business recorded their second win in as many games, securing victory via default against Mix Up Stars, who were unable to field a team for their encounter in All Saints Village.

The Mix Up Stars also defaulted to the Dredgers in their opening game.

Meanwhile, defending champions Alzarri and Sharon Joseph North Sails Antigua Female Flyers claimed their first win in defense of their title in the ABSCA St. John's Cooperative Credit Union Women's 15-over contest.

The Female Flyers got rebounded from a 10-wicket loss to Wayne's Electrical Services Survivors in their opening match to snatch an 18-run victory over Bravos Wholesale and Distributors Jennings Rockets at the Swetes playing field.

The Female Flyers made 91 for eight off their allotted 15 overs. Mauveuhl Simpson struck 24 not out, player of the match Makada Hector scored 23, and Terez Parker cracked 20. Valarie Isaac bagged three for 13, and Patara Francis picked up three for 16.

In reply, the Rockets were restricted to 73 for nine off their 15 overs. Kushana David hit 30, and Chemique Benjamin made 13. Akida Francis claimed three for 15, and Gaynel Oggarro took two wickets for eight runs.

The Survivors made it two wins in as many games by surging to an eight-wicket victory over the Potters Uprising Cricket Team at Dredgers.

Potters were limited to 69 for five off their 15 overs. Nolia Elvin cracked 30, and Carla Weatherhead scored 11. Cerie Richards and Sacha Michael each picked up two wickets for 10 runs.

The Survivors coasted to victory by scoring 70 for two in 10.3 overs. Player of the match Kimberly Anthony hit 25, Stacy Bright struck 20 not out, and Grace Persaud scored 18. Carla Weatherhead took two for 16.

## Four home matches for Falcons as 2026 CPL fixtures confirmed



Players of the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons in the 2025 CPL.

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons will play four matches at home at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium (SVRS) in North Sound during the 2026 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) this summer.

On Tuesday, the CPL officially unveiled the fixtures for the 2026 season, with 39 matches set to take place from August 7 to September 20.

For the first time, the competition will feature seven teams, as Antigua and Barbuda Falcons, Barbados Royals, Jamaica Kingsmen, Guyana Amazon Warriors, St. Lucia Kings, and St. Kitts & Nevis Patriots are joined by reigning champions the Trinbago Knight Riders in the battle for CPL glory.

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons will play their first home match against the St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots at the SVRS on Thursday, August 20, at 7 pm.

The Falcons will take on the Trinbago Knight Riders on Saturday, August 22, at 7 pm, and will clash with the Guyana Amazon Warriors on Sunday, August 23, at 7 pm.

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons' last home match will be against the Barbados Royals on Tuesday, August 25, at 7 pm.

The 2026 edition will also mark several historic milestones for the tournament. St. Vincent & the Grenadines will host CPL matches for the first time.

The Antigua and Barbuda Falcons will once again feature in the open-

ing match of this year's tournament in St. Vincent on Friday, August 7.

The Falcons will clash with the Jamaica Kingsmen in the opening encounter at the scenic Arnos Vale Stadium, bringing the excitement of CPL cricket to a new audience.

At the other end of the tournament, Barbados will host the CPL finals for the first time, setting the stage for a landmark conclusion to the competition with the

championship decider at the Kensington Oval on Sunday, September 20.

Pete Russell, CEO of the Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League, said, "With an expanded tournament in 2026, we are delighted to be bringing CPL cricket to St. Vincent & the Grenadines for the first time.

"We are equally excited about hosting finals week in Barbados, where we have ambitious plans to deliver the biggest and most memorable finale in the tournament's 14-year history. Each year, our goal is to raise the bar, and I am more confident than ever that CPL 2026 will be our best season yet."