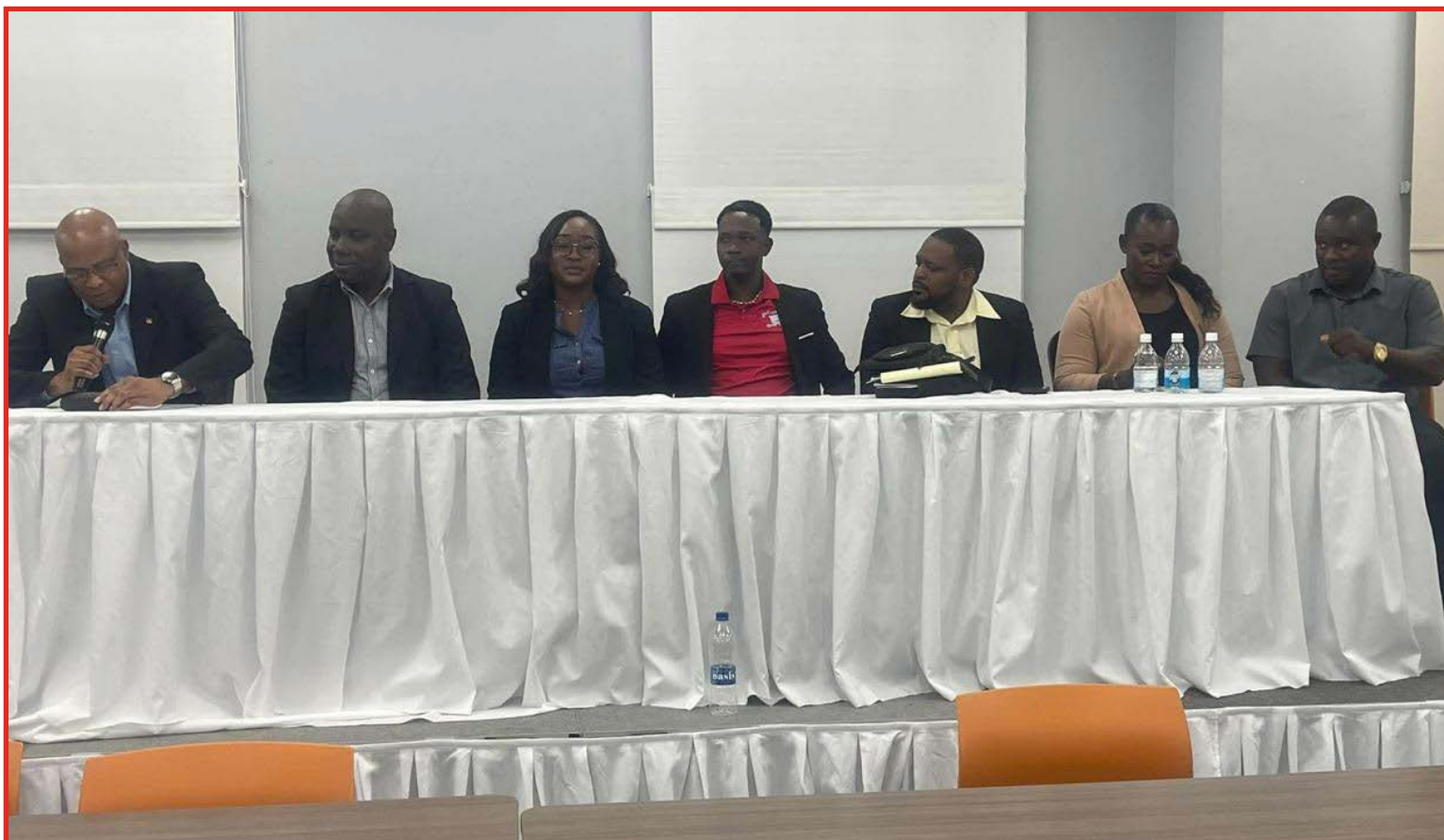


New Health Screenings At Nation's Ports Of Entry

Story on page 2



Ickford Roberts Is The New President Of The Football Association

Story on page 13

New Health Screenings At Nation's Ports Of Entry

Expanded health screening procedures will soon be introduced at ports of entry as the government moves to strengthen the country's preparedness against emerging global health threats, including outbreaks of Hantavirus, Ebola and Malaria in several parts of the world.

The measures were approved by Cabinet on Wednesday following recommendations presented by Health Minister Michael Joseph, who reported that the Ministry of Health has been closely monitoring international public health developments and is taking precautionary steps to protect the country.

Under the enhanced measures, incoming travelers will face expanded health screening protocols, including temperature testing, increased surveillance procedures and mandatory disclosure of travel history covering the previous 21 days.

Officials say the travel disclosure requirement will assist health authorities in determining whether travelers may have recently visited or passed through countries experiencing outbreaks of infectious diseases, allowing precautionary measures to be implemented quickly if necessary.

Director General of Communications Maurice Merchant said the changes are expected to become visible from this weekend at air and seaports, adding officials will be drawing from their experiences in managing the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The government's heightened alert



Director of Communications in the Office of the Prime Minister, Maurice Merchant

comes amid growing international concern over several outbreaks globally, namely the Hantavirus outbreak linked to a cruise ship, Ebola cases reported in parts of Africa and ongoing malaria concerns in various regions.

"As you would have seen and heard in the news, this is of concern to all countries around the world," Merchant said, noting that the World Health Organization has classified the Ebola situation as a serious international concern.

Authorities are also taking the additional step of preparing the country's Infectious Disease Centre to ensure it can be activated immediately if needed.

According to Merchant, the facility remains in a state of readiness but requires some level of restoration after portions of the building were being utilised for storage.

"It would need specialised treatment to ready it, cleaning, etcetera," he explained. "There was some storage that was being done there, so storage of medical equipment and medical supplies — they will be removed and [the facility] ready to carry out the functions that it was intended for."

Health officials say the centre could be used to house or monitor travelers deemed to pose a potential public health concern, particularly individuals who may have traveled through affected countries before arriving in Antigua and Barbuda.

Merchant stressed that the measures are strictly precautionary and form part of broader efforts to strengthen national surveillance systems amid increasing international travel and interconnectedness.

The enhanced monitoring also coincides with the planned launch of twice-monthly commercial service to Antigua and Barbuda by Nigerian-based airline Air Peace, scheduled to commence on Monday 25th May, 2026.

Merchant noted that while the service had been scheduled months in advance, the evolving health situation in parts of Africa reinforced the need for increased vigilance at the nation's ports of entry.

The Cabinet has endorsed the Ministry of Health's recommendations and reaffirmed the government's commitment to protecting the health and safety of citizens and residents through proactive planning and preparedness.



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Health Minister Advances Strategic Healthcare Review Through Engagement with Hospital Leadership

The newly appointed Minister of Health, Michael Joseph, continues his high-level engagements with senior personnel within the ministry as he seeks to create a collaborative approach to proving an improved national health care system.

On Thursday, Minister Joseph met with the executive management team of the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre as part of his ongoing assessment of the nation’s healthcare system and operations.

The meeting brought together key officials including the Permanent Secretary Stacey Gregg-Paige, Medical Director Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis, Director of Administration, Danley Phillip, Director of Operations, Marlon Jones, Financial Controller, Aldin Crump, Qual-



ity Assurance Manager, Kathleen Brathwaite, Human Resources Man-

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Local News



ager (Ag), Olson Browne and Head of Nursing, Jacqueline Jno Baptiste, to discuss the current state of the hospital, its immediate and long-term needs, operational challenges, and opportunities for improvement.

Minister Joseph indicated that the engagement forms part of a broader effort to gain a comprehensive understanding of the healthcare sector as the Ministry moves toward strategic planning and the implementation of initiatives aimed at strengthening healthcare delivery, improving efficiency, and enhancing patient care across the institution.

Discussions were frank and solution-oriented, with emphasis being placed on areas requiring immediate attention as well as long-term improvements to the hospital's operations and overall service delivery. Key strategies and timelines were



also identified for further review and implementation as part of ongoing efforts to improve efficiency, strengthen internal systems, and enhance the quality and timeliness of care provided to patients.

The Minister reaffirmed the Minis-

try's commitment to working closely with the hospital's leadership and staff to ensure that meaningful improvements are made in the delivery of healthcare services for the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

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2026**

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Calypso Monarch | Monday Wear |
| Cheerleaders | Mr. & Miss Teenage Pageant |
| Individual Mas | Party Monarch |
| J'ouvert Tropes Band | Prince & Princess |
| Junior Calypso Monarch | Queen of Carnival |
| Junior Carnival Private Mas | Road March |
| Junior Carnival School Mas | T-Shirt Mas |
| Junior Party Monarch | Vendors |

Where to Collect Forms:

National Festivals Office, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Corn Alley & Redcliffe Street
Ministry of Creative Industries, Old Parham Road (Upstairs KFC/INET Building)

Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Request forms via email at info.nof@ab.gov.ag or WhatsApp at (268) 727-9201. For inquiries, call (268) 462-4707.



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Minister Greene Updates CARICOM Colleagues On CHOGM Preparations

Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P Chet Greene, who is leading the country's delegation at this week's meeting of CARICOM Foreign Ministers, used the opportunity to update his colleagues on this country's preparations to host the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in November this year.

Antigua and Barbuda will host the 28th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) from 1st to 4th November 2026, under the theme: "Accelerating Partnerships and Investment for a Prosperous Commonwealth."

On the issue of Structure and Participation, Minister Greene revealed that CHOGM 2026 will bring together 56 Commonwealth countries. Foreign Ministers will meet on 1st–2nd November for the Commonwealth Small States Meeting and the Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting. Heads of Government will hold an executive session and a full-day retreat on 3rd–4th November.

"We have secured high-level participation from the World Bank, AfDB, Afreximbank, CAF and the CDB. We have also invited the leaders of Brazil, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain to join executive sessions, demonstrating our intent to bridge Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth partnerships," he disclosed.

On reparatory justice, Greene indicat-



Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P Chet Greene

ed that the draft text recalls the Apia (Samoa) CHOGM decision encouraging respectful, structured conversation. Separately, Antigua and Barbuda has convened an informal working group, including Ghana, South Africa, Zambia, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies and Sir Hilary Beckles to advance a proposal for a symposium at UWI Five Islands during CHOGM.

An important part of CHOGM 2026, are the Forums and Side Events, according to the foreign affairs minister. He identified the Official Forums are; the youth, women, business and people, while the side events include the

Commonwealth Games, eye health, the blue economy and parliamentary democracy. Pre and post CHOGM events will address human rights and the rights of persons with disabilities.

Antigua and Barbuda's hosting of CHOGM 26 will coincide with its 45 anniversary of political independence and Minister Greene has extended an invitation to his CARICOM colleagues to attend the celebrations. "We invite you to join us on 1st November for the 45th anniversary of Antigua and Barbuda's independence: interfaith service, ceremonial parade and cricket match. CHOGM will also feature a Global Citizen concert," he explained.

In encouraging region-wide participation, Minister Greene wants his colleagues to embrace CHOGM 26 as a Caribbean moment. "In this context, I encourage and invite your active engagement in the communiqué negotiations, reparatory justice discussions and our anniversary celebrations. Let us show the Commonwealth what Caribbean partnership and resilience truly mean," he remarked.

The Antigua and Barbuda delegation consists of the E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration, Dr. Clarence Henry, Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to CARICOM and Kurt M. Williams, Senior Foreign Service Officer.



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Barbuda Land Registry Set for Launch as Land Adjudication Nears Completion

The Land Adjudication process in Barbuda is nearing completion, with preparations underway for the official launch of the Barbuda Land Registry on or about 31st August, 2026.

Cabinet this week approved a proposal from the Registrar of Lands for the centralised management of Barbuda land registers through the existing Land Registry structure in Antigua during the initial phase of operations.

Under the arrangement, Barbuda land records will be created, maintained and serviced through the current Antigua-based Land Registry system to ensure continuity, efficiency and administrative stability while the transition process unfolds.

Officials explained that the approach would reduce operational risks associated with establishing a fully independent office in Barbuda within a short timeframe, particularly challenges linked to staffing, infrastructure, procurement and training.

Cabinet also approved continued assessments regarding the future establishment of a satellite Land Registry office in Barbuda as operational demands evolve.

The government further authorised staffing, recruitment and training preparations to support the reg-



istry's operations. Interim arrangements, including temporary facilities and remote learning platforms, may also be utilized during the onboarding and training process.

Officials say the creation of the Barbuda Land Registry is expected to significantly improve transparency, public access to registry services and confidence in land ownership records and transactions on the island.

The initiative also runs parallel with the government's policy to sell land to Barbudans for one dollar per parcel as part of efforts to expand ownership opportunities.

Maurice Merchant, Director General of Communications said the government remains committed to fulfilling that promise and stressed that the policy is rooted in legal guidance from the courts regarding the status of lands in Antigua and Barbuda.

Crown lands in the first instance," Merchant stated.

"And so government has a responsibility to ensure that lands are equitably distributed to individuals."

He said the programme is intended to allow Barbudans to formally own land and improve their economic prospects through home and business development.

"It will be opening up the sale of lands for Barbudans to own a piece of the rock, have a paper in their hands to demonstrate that they are the true owners of a piece of land on Barbuda," Merchant said.

"The government has definitively been advised by the highest courts that the lands on Antigua and the lands on Barbuda are



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The poster features a vibrant, colorful background with a rainbow-like gradient. In the foreground, there is a glass of yellow cocktail with a lime wedge, a plate of fried shrimp, a bowl of green soup, and a corn on the cob. A pineapple is visible on the left side.



THANK YOU

West Indies Oil Company Ltd is pleased to report the successful completion of yesterday's emergency response exercise held at our facility. The exercise demonstrated strong coordination, professionalism, and preparedness among all participating agencies and personnel.

We extend a sincere thank you to the Antigua & Barbuda Fire Department, The Police, Emergency Medical Services, National Office of Disaster Services, all volunteers, and the surrounding community for their cooperation and support throughout the exercise. Your participation and patience contributed greatly to the success of this important activity.

These exercises help strengthen our collective ability to respond effectively during real emergencies and help ensure the safety and resilience of our company and community.



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Freeland Backs New Development Model: ‘Government Cannot Do It All’



Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism Michael Freeland says the future of community and development projects will increasingly depend on stronger collaboration between governments and the private sector.

He shared these sentiments following his participation in discussions on local leadership and public-private partnerships at the Global Partnerships Conference in London.

Freeland was among participants attending sessions linked to TRANSFORM, a long-running public-private partnership involving Unilever, the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and EY, which explored how development programmes can be driven by those closest to the issues they are trying to solve.

The discussions focused on a growing shift in thinking — moving decision-making away from centralized global structures and placing greater authority into regional and local hands. The approach aims to create solutions that are more practical, responsive and rooted in lived experience.

Examples shared during the conference highlighted measurable success. Under TRANSFORM’s regional deci-

sion-making model, 88 percent of enterprises selected had at least one local founder — a significant increase over more centralized selection methods.

Freeland said the discussions reinforced an important lesson for countries such as Antigua and Barbuda as they seek innovative approaches to development and community upliftment.

“One of the biggest takeaways for me is that government cannot do it all. Public-private partnerships are becoming the new way of thinking when it comes to executing meaningful community projects,” Freeland said.

“We have brilliant people in our communities, strong corporate partners and international organisations willing to collaborate. The role of leadership now is creating systems where everyone has a seat at the table and where communities help shape the

solutions that affect them.”

He said the conference exposed participants to practical examples of partnerships delivering real outcomes by building trust, sharing responsibility and allowing greater flexibility in implementation.

“My participation showed me that development is no longer about top-down decision-making. The strongest projects are often the ones designed closest to the people. Governments must become facilitators and partners rather than carrying every responsibility alone,” Freeland added.

The minister noted that many of the ideas discussed could have relevance for Antigua and Barbuda, particularly as the country continues to pursue sustainable development goals and expand collaboration with private and international partners.



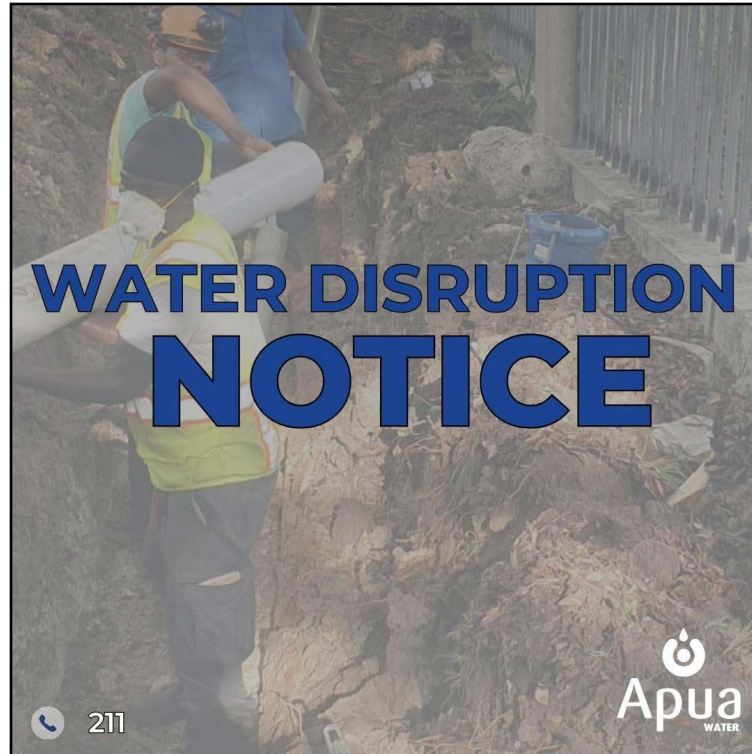
APUA Working to Restore Water Service to Affected ABEC Registration Centres

The APUA Water Business Unit has apologized to the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC), staff members, and members of the public affected by Thursday's disruption in water supply at the affected registration units.

In a statement, APUA said it fully recognizes the inconvenience caused, particularly to persons attempting to access important public services.

"The Water Business Unit continues to manage daily distribution challenges across the network while working to improve service delivery to customers throughout Antigua and Barbuda. As part of these efforts, our teams are currently reviewing and refining operational distribution arrangements to support a more balanced and equitable flow of water across communities and service areas.

"Our teams will work to restore and improve water supply within the areas where the affected centers are located so that normal operations can resume as soon as possible," the release reassured.



APUA said it understands that many customers have been experiencing frustration due to repeated service interruptions, and it genuinely acknowledges the impact these challenges are having on homes, businesses, and daily activities. "Our teams remain committed to making the necessary operational improvements and adjustments aimed at strengthening the reliability and consistency of the water network," it indicated.



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Tyreke Thomas-Horsford Wins Historic Election to Toastmasters District Leadership

The Toastmasters community across Antigua and Barbuda and the wider Caribbean proudly congratulates Tyreke G. Thomas-Horsford, DL5, PM5, LD5, on his historic election as the Incoming Club Growth Director-Elect for District 223, making him the second Antiguan to ascend to one of the prestigious Trio leadership positions within Toastmasters at the district level.

Toastmaster Thomas-Horsford was officially elected during the district elections, marking a significant milestone not only in his personal leadership journey but also for Antigua and Barbuda's representation within regional Toastmasters leadership.

His election comes at a transformative moment in Caribbean Toastmasters history as Toastmasters International District 81 prepares to transition and split into two newly established districts: District 222 and District 223. As Club Growth Director-Elect for District 223, Toastmaster Thomas-Horsford will play a pivotal role in strengthening clubs, increasing membership, supporting club retention, and expanding the Toastmasters mission throughout the district.

Alongside Toastmaster Thomas-Horsford, Delon Fraser, DTM, a Guyanese native, was also elected as the Incoming Club Growth Director-Elect for District 222. Their simultaneous elections symbolize a new era of leadership and growth as both emerging districts prepare for their official launch.




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Ickford Roberts Is The New President Of The Football Association



The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association has elected Ickford ‘Nyah’ Roberts as its new president.

Roberts was elected Thursday night as the ABFA held meeting at the Sir John E. St. Luce Conference Centre to elect a new executive committee to administer its affairs over the next four years.

Roberts emerged winner after two rounds of voting. He was one of four candidates contesting the elections. The others were Barbara Coates, Gary Gonsalves and Fernando Abraham.

In the first round of voting Gonsalves attained 5 votes, Abraham 14, Roberts 17 and Coates 11. Gonsalves was eliminated in the first round and in the second round Roberts secured 20 votes, Abraham 15 and Coates 13.

Roberts was therefore declared the winner of the elections.



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Babies should always be kept in a smoke-free environment. Breathing in smoke from others (second-hand smoke) can harm your baby's lungs and overall health. Even if you don't smoke near your baby, harmful chemicals can stay on your clothes, skin, and hair. This is called third-hand smoke, and it can still affect your baby.

Do not hold or care for your baby right after smoking. Wash your hands well. Bathe and change into clean clothes before touching your baby. Cover your hair. Ask family members and visitors to follow the same steps. Avoid smoking in your home and car even when your baby is not present.

Consumers: Be Aware

Eighty percent of cigarette smoke is invisible, just because you cannot see it does not mean it is not there. Smoke stays in the air for up to two and a half hours after the cigarette has been put out, so it takes a long time for the room to be smoke free again. (Source: healthforunder5s)

Local News



Police Investigate Origins Of Social Media Post



The Police Administration said it is aware of a social media post allegedly made by one of its officers following a recent court matter involving a sexual offence.

The public is assured that the matter is being treated seriously and is currently



under active investigation.

The Police Administration also ex-

tends sincere apologies to the victim and anyone who may have been affected or offended by the post.

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RCA Hosts Mental Health Workshop at Irene B Williams Secondary School



The Rotary Club of Antigua hosted a Mental Health Workshop for students of Irene B. Williams Secondary School this week as part of the Club's ongoing commitment to youth empowerment, emotional wellness and holistic development.

The workshop, facilitated by the Rotary Club of Antigua in partnership with Mental Health Advocate, Chaneil Imhoff, provided students with a safe and supportive environment to discuss mental health challenges, coping mechanisms, self-awareness and the importance of seeking help when needed. Through open dialogue and practical guidance, the initiative aimed to equip students with tools to better manage stress, anxiety, peer pressure and other issues impacting today's youth.

President of the Rotary Club of Antigua, Elisa Graham emphasized the importance of the exercise and

Rotary's role in supporting the nation's young people.

"Rotary believes that healthy communities begin with healthy minds. Our young people face numerous pressures in today's society, and it is important that we create opportunities for meaningful conversations around mental health. This workshop is not only about awareness, but also about empowering students to understand that seeking support is a sign of strength and not weakness," President Graham stated.

Guidance Counsellor at the Irene B. Williams Secondary School, Gretchen Christopher welcomed the initiative and highlighted the value of collaborative support systems within schools.

"Mental health remains a critical issue affecting students academically, socially and emotionally. Initiatives such as this workshop provide students with reassurance that they are not alone



and that there are persons and organizations willing to support them through difficult periods. We are grateful to the Rotary Club of Antigua and Ms Imhoff for recognizing the importance of student wellness," Christopher said.

Principal of the Irene B. Williams Secondary School, Ursula Willock also praised the initiative and encouraged students to actively participate in the session.

"We want our students to know that their voices mat-

ter and that their wellbeing is a priority. Workshops like this help to break the stigma surrounding mental health and foster a culture of openness, understanding and compassion within the school community," Principal Willock stated.

The feature presentation and interactive discussions led by presenter Chaneil Imhoff, encouraged students to prioritize their emotional wellbeing and openly address mental health concerns.

10 Years Running: Run in Paradise Set to Deliver Its Biggest Celebration Yet

Excitement is building across Antigua and Barbuda and beyond as the highly anticipated 10th Anniversary edition of *Run in Paradise* prepares to take place on Sunday, May 24th, 2026. Marking a decade of one of the Caribbean's most scenic and spirited road races, this milestone event is expected to attract an impressive mix of seasoned athletes, casual runners, walkers, fitness enthusiasts, and international race groups from across the region and around the world.

Over the past ten years, *Run in Paradise* has steadily grown into a premier destination race, welcoming participants from the Caribbean, North America, Europe, and Africa, while showcasing the beauty, hospitality, and vibrant culture of Antigua and Barbuda.

This year's anniversary staging promises to be among the largest and most exciting yet, with participants taking part in the Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K events. The Half Marathon will begin at 5:00 a.m. below Charlie's Service Station, followed by the 10K at 5:15 a.m. from Ocean Point Hotel, and the 5K at 5:30 a.m. from Royal Palm Place. All races will culminate at the picturesque Fort James Beach, where runners will cross the finish line against the backdrop of Antigua's stunning coastline.

Known for its relatively flat terrain and spectacular ocean views, the *Run in Paradise* course offers an enjoyable challenge for both competitive runners and first-time participants alike. Organizers have also confirmed that the course will remain open for four hours, allowing runners and walkers ample time to complete their races and proudly earn their finisher's medals.

Adding to the excitement this year is the strong international participation anticipated for the event. Several overseas running groups are expected to travel to Antigua and Barbuda specifically for the race, including "Lati-



The graphic features a map of Antigua and Barbuda with race routes and start/finish locations. It includes the following information:

- Event:** Run in Paradise 2026 (10th Anniversary)
- Date:** MAY 24TH
- Half Marathon (21K):** START TIME: 5:00 AM, START LINE: BELOW CHARLIE'S SERVICE STATION, FINISH: FORT JAMES
- 10K:** START TIME: 5:15 AM, START LINE: OCEAN POINT HOTEL, FINISH: FORT JAMES
- 5K:** START TIME: 5:30 AM, START LINE: ROYAL PALM PLACE, FINISH: FORT JAMES

nas in Motion," the largest visiting contingent, bringing approximately 50 participants from various cities across the United States.

Safety and runner support remain key priorities for the organizing team. Water and aid stations stocked with water and rehydration drinks will be positioned every mile along the route, while clearly marked race spotters and medical personnel will be stationed throughout the course to provide assistance where necessary and ensure the well-being of all participants.

Race Director, Mr. Stanley Humphreys stated that the continued success and growth of *Run in Paradise* over the last decade would not have been possible without the unwavering support of sponsors, volunteers, community partners, and the wider public. Sponsors for this year's event include FLOW, Kenneth A. Gomez Insurance Agency Ltd., CPM – Caribbean Pre-

mium Motors Ltd., Oasis water, Island Provision Group, Best Cellars, Gourmet Basket, Siboney Beach Club, Total Imports, Cool & Smooth, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, and Signs and Impressions.

"As we celebrate ten years of *Run in Paradise*, we are incredibly proud of what this event has become," organizers shared. "It is more than just a race. It is a celebration of wellness, resilience, tourism, community spirit, and the natural beauty of Antigua and Barbuda. This milestone anniversary belongs to every runner, volunteer, sponsor, and supporter who has been part of this journey."

With anticipation continuing to build ahead of race day, members of the public are being encouraged to come out early, support the runners, and be part of what promises to be an unforgettable celebration of sport and community.

More Than Periods: Scrub Life Cares Returns with Its 5th Annual Women & Girls Health Expo

ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA — In a society where conversations about periods, reproductive health, and women's bodies have often been silenced or overlooked, Scrub Life Cares has spent the last five years working to change that narrative, one conversation, one community, and one life at a time.

This Saturday, the organization will host its highly anticipated 5th Annual Grow With the Flo Women & Girls Health Expo, bringing together women, girls, families, health professionals, community organizations, and advocates for a full day focused on education, empowerment, wellness, connection, and access.

The event takes place on Saturday, May 23, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Cana Moravian Church Grounds in Swetes Village, and Tanya Ambrose says this year's expo will continue building on the impact, growth, and community support the initiative has received over the past five years.

What began as a grassroots initiative focused on addressing period poverty and menstrual stigma has evolved into one of Antigua & Barbuda's leading community health movements; one centered on whole-person wellness, health equity, dignity, and breaking generational silence surrounding women's health.

"But Grow With the Flo has always been about more than periods," said Ambrose, Founder and Executive Director of Scrub Life Cares. "Yes, we talk about menstrual health because menstrual health matters. But this event is also about confidence, body literacy, mental wellness, maternal health, education, community support, and ensuring women and girls have the tools and information they need to thrive throughout every stage of life."

Over the last five years, Grow With the Flo has become much more than a community event. It has grown into a



5TH ANNUAL
 WOMEN & GIRLS
 health expo

SCRUB LIFE CARES

Saturday
 May
 23RD
 2026

GROW
 with the flo
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 Neurodiversity & Disability-Inclusive Health Station | Mental Health Hub
 Reproductive & Sexual Health Education | Children's Corner
NEW: Maternal & Perinatal Health Station

CANA MORAVIAN CHURCH
 SWETES VILLAGE

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GOODIE BAGS UPON ENTRY | FOOD ON SALE

🌐 www.scrublifecares.org 📷

platform for advocacy, education, and meaningful public health conversations in Antigua & Barbuda — tackling issues many people once felt uncomfortable discussing publicly.

Through school visits, workshops, outreach campaigns, and community engagement initiatives, Scrub Life Cares has worked to educate young people and families about puberty, menstrual health, reproductive health, hygiene, consent, mental wellness, and self-confidence while promoting safe spaces where individuals can ask

questions, learn about their bodies, and access support without shame.

Across Antigua & Barbuda and the wider Caribbean, many women and girls continue to face barriers related to menstrual and reproductive health, including limited access to menstrual products, inadequate reproductive health education, stigma, and silence surrounding natural bodily changes. Ambrose says these realities can impact confidence, school attendance, mental well-being, and overall quality of life.



“Menstrual health affects so many aspects of life, yet it’s still not treated with the urgency or openness it deserves,” Ambrose added. “When women and girls lack access to information, products, or supportive environments, the effects go far beyond periods. That’s why this work matters.”

This year’s expo reflects the organization’s growing commitment to holistic and inclusive wellness. While menstrual health remains a core focus, attendees can also expect expanded conversations and activities centered on maternal and child health, nutrition, mental wellness, reproductive and sexual health education, neurodiversity and disability inclusion, and overall community care.

Designed to be family-centered and welcoming to all ages, the expo will feature educational sessions, wellness booths, health resources, interactive activities, community organizations, giveaways, menstrual and hygiene products, raffles, youth-friendly learning spaces, and experiences intended to encourage families and community members to learn, connect, and engage together.

Attendees can also look forward to several engaging features throughout the day, including the return of the Nutrition Station and the launch of the new Open Closet initiative — a community-centered space designed to provide free clothing and support in a way that promotes dignity, care, and accessibility.

The milestone fifth-year celebration

has also attracted strong community and corporate support, highlighting the growing recognition of menstrual and women’s health as essential public health issues in Antigua & Barbuda.

Ambrose says the event’s continued expansion has been made possible through the support of sponsors, partners, healthcare professionals, volunteers, and community organizations who believe in the mission of creating healthier, more informed, and more empowered communities.

“This event is proof of what can happen when communities come together around a shared purpose,” Ambrose said. “The support we’ve received over the years shows that people are ready for these conversations and understand the importance of investing in women, girls, and families.”

According to Ambrose, one of the most impactful aspects of the event over the years has been witnessing the transformation that happens when women and girls feel empowered to speak openly about their health and experiences.

“We’ve had young girls tell us they no longer feel ashamed of their periods. Parents have shared that our sessions helped them start important conversations at home. We’ve seen women feel more confident advocating for their health,” Ambrose said. “That’s the real impact. This work is about dignity, empowerment, education, and creating healthier communities.”

The expo also forms part of Scrub Life Cares’ broader Menstrual Health Awareness Month campaign and ongoing “Period-Friendly Antigua & Barbuda” initiative, which advocates for more supportive schools, workplaces, healthcare spaces, and public environments where menstrual health is recognized as both a public health and human dignity issue.

As anticipation builds for Saturday’s milestone event, Scrub Life Cares is encouraging members of the public to attend, bring their families, and experience a day rooted in education, wellness, compassion, empowerment, and community connection.

“This is more than an expo,” Ambrose said. “It’s about creating a healthier, more informed, and more supportive Antigua & Barbuda — one where women, girls, and families feel empowered to care for their bodies, prioritize their well-being, and access the education, resources, and support they deserve. At Scrub Life Cares, we believe in supporting the whole person, because health is about so much more than one issue — it’s about dignity, confidence, wellness, and community.”

The 5th Annual Grow With the Flo Women & Girls Health Expo is free and open to the public.

EVENT DETAILS

Event: 5th Annual Grow With the Flo Women & Girls Health Expo

Date: Saturday, May 23, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Cana Moravian Church Grounds, Swetes Village, Antigua

Admission: Free and open to the public

Scrub Life Cares also extends sincere thanks to its sponsors, partners, volunteers, donors, healthcare professionals, and supporters whose continued contributions have helped make the Grow With the Flo Women & Girls Health Expo possible over the past five years.

For media inquiries, partnerships, or additional information, contact:

Scrub Life Cares

email: info@scrublifecares.org

Instagram/Facebook: [@scrublifecares](https://www.instagram.com/scrublifecares)

About Scrub Life Cares

Scrub Life Cares is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing menstrual equity, reproductive and sexual health education, maternal and child health, and community wellness through education, advocacy, research, and access initiatives in Antigua & Barbuda and beyond. The organization works to create informed, empowered, and healthier communities while addressing stigma, inequities, and barriers impacting women, girls, youth, and families.



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8:00PM @ CARNIVAL CITY

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ROOM

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OECS 13th Council of Ministers to meet in Dominica for regional climate and resilience talks

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States Commission will host the 13th Council of Ministers: Environmental Sustainability Meeting (COM:ES 13) in Dominica from May 27–28, 2026, under the theme, “The OECS Collective Resolve: Innovative Pathways in a High-Risk Global Landscape.”

The high-level meeting is expected to bring together Ministers responsible for environmental sustainability from across OECS Member States and Associate Members, along with regional and international development partners, technical agencies, researchers, and environmental professionals, as per an OECS press release.

The event will be chaired by Cozier Frederick, Dominica’s Minister for Environment, Rural Modernisation, Kalinago Upliftment and Constituency Empowerment.

Organizers say the meeting comes at a critical time for Small Island Developing States, which continue to face growing climate threats and environmental challenges. The discussions will focus on how OECS countries can work more closely together while developing practical and innovative solutions to improve sustainability and resilience across the region.

The meeting also builds on major decisions taken during COM:ES 10, when Ministers endorsed the OECS Environmental Sustainability Roadmap to 2030. That roadmap is aligned with the St. George’s Declaration for Environmental Sustainability (SGD 2040) and the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS).

Reportedly, over the two days, ministers and technical experts will discuss several key priority areas, including ocean governance and fisheries, biodiversity and ecosystems, climate and disaster resilience, land and water management, sustainable energy, and pollution and waste management.



The agenda will also address issues that continue to impact the region, such as climate financing, ecosystem restoration, marine pollution, renewable energy, biodiversity conservation, sustainable fisheries, integrated land and water management, disaster preparedness, and the growing challenge posed by sargassum seaweed.

The programme will feature ministerial panels, technical presentations, partner contributions, and strategic discussions aimed at driving stronger environmental action throughout the OECS.

The release indicated that several regional and international organisations are expected to participate, including the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the World Bank, the European Union, Expertise France, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature, among other development partners.

Alongside the ministerial meeting, the OECS Commission and the Government of Dominica will host an Environmental Sustainability Exhibition from May 25–28, 2026, at the Goodwill Parish Hall in Roseau under the sub-theme, “From Aspiration to Focused Action.”

The exhibition will highlight environmental projects, climate solutions, and innovative technologies from around the OECS, with a particular focus on renewable energy, mangrove restoration and conservation, and sargassum management.

Visitors and students attending the exhibition will be able to explore interactive displays, educational exhibits, virtual reality experiences, videos, and project showcases demonstrating how countries in the region are responding to climate and environmental issues.

Featured initiatives will include the European Union-funded BioSPACE and Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) programmes, the Resilient Ecosystems Through Mangrove Restoration (REMAR) Project, Sargassum Regional Strategies for Ecosystem-Based Actions (SARSEA), as well as programmes linked to climate resilience, sustainable energy, ocean governance, and fisheries.

The OECS Commission said COM:ES 13 will serve as an important platform for strengthening regional collaboration and reinforcing the organisation’s commitment to sustainable, resilient, and inclusive development in an increasingly uncertain global environment. (Dominica News Online)

924 containerised housing units in the island

Approximately 924 containerised housing units are in the island as the Government presses ahead with its temporary housing relief programme aimed at assisting families displaced by Hurricane Melissa.

The units are being stored at locations including Spanish Town, St Catherine; Luana in St Elizabeth, and Montpelier, St James under the supervision of the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF), said Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development, Robert Montague.

An additional 500 units are expected within the next three weeks as part of a larger order of 2,500 units.

Montague gave the update during an inspection of model container homes at the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) storage facility in Twickenham Park, St Catherine, on Tuesday.

The Minister, who has responsibility for Land Titling and Settlements, said that the housing relief programme is intended to provide “some level of comfort” to Jamaicans whose homes were destroyed by the hurricane.

He noted that several housing solutions are being pursued, including containerised units purchased by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development, units donated by the Government of Chi-



na, and 300 wooden housing units to be supplied by the Red Cross.

He explained that initial assessments suggested that some 12,000 families had been severely affected by Hurricane Melissa, but after reviews conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and municipal authorities, the figure has been reduced significantly.

“We are now down to approximately 2,500 families that are adversely affected, totally destroyed or built in areas that are not safe,” Montague said.

He noted that the revised figure reflects the fact that many families have already rebuilt through insurance settlements, support from relatives, community assistance, and the government roofing programmes.

Municipal authorities also

identified duplicate reports from households, which the Minister stressed were not necessarily fraudulent but resulted from multiple persons within the same household filing separate damage reports.

He noted that the relocation was being guided by strict instructions from Prime Minister, Dr Andrew Holness, that displaced residents should not be relocated to environmentally vulnerable or unsafe areas.

He informed that the units acquired by the Government are being equipped with water tanks and solar generators to improve living conditions for families.

He informed that beneficiaries will receive grants to construct bases for the units with assistance from community members, while municipal authorities will inspect and certify the struc-

tures before installation.

He also noted that the National Housing Trust (NHT) has agreed to acquire two tractor heads with lift arms to assist with unloading and installing the collapsible units, which were specially designed to reduce shipping costs.

Montague said that the Government intends to retain some units for future disasters, while any excess units may eventually be redirected to the New Social Housing Programme (NSHP) or infirmaries to house social cases currently occupying hospital beds unnecessarily.

The Minister expressed gratitude to the Government and people of China, the Red Cross, the JDF, and Jamaicans who assisted neighbours and relatives following the hurricane. (JIS News)

OECS and EU support water protection efforts in St. Kitts through new arboretum project



As climate change continues to place increasing pressure on natural resources worldwide, protecting water systems and fragile ecosystems has become an urgent priority.

Recognising the growing risks linked to environmental degradation, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States has been strengthening conservation efforts across the region through its Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) Project, a five-year programme funded by the European Union.

On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, the OECS Commission, alongside the Euro-

pean Union and the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, formally handed over the Royal Basseterre Valley National Park Arboretum during an official ceremony held under the OECS ILM Project, shared an OECS release.

Supported through grant funding from the European Union, the release said that the initiative was designed to strengthen sustainable land management practices through the installation of perimeter fencing and the creation and afforestation of an arboretum within the Royal Basseterre Valley National Park. The protected area sits within a vital aquifer

zone that provides fresh water to nearly 40 percent of the population of St. Kitts. The OECS says, in addition to safeguarding water resources, the project aims to improve the site's ecological, recreational, educational, and cultural significance through the careful planting of fruit-bearing and ornamental trees.

The event reportedly drew participation from government representatives, OECS officials, a representative of the European Union, students, community members, development partners, and environmental stakeholders, all gathering to mark

the project's completion and reaffirm their commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection.

Addressing the ceremony, Senator and Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment in St. Kitts and Nevis, Joyelle Clarke, highlighted the project's importance to the country's broader sustainability agenda, which incorporates environmental protection alongside health and wellness initiatives and the safeguarding of national water supplies.

"This arboretum is a tes-

tament to the possibility that exists through partnership and our regional systems,” Minister Clarke stated. “We are able to benefit from an initiative that actively takes into consideration our local realities and caters to the unique needs of this protected space, all while strengthening our environmental resilience.”

Director of the Department of Environment, Derionne Edmeade, described the initiative as a meaningful investment in both environmental resilience and public wellbeing. He said the project reflects the Federation’s collective commitment to biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, envi-

ronmental stewardship, and sustainable development for current and future generations.

Speaking on behalf of the OECS Commission, Mrs Delamine Andrew-Williams said: “The Royal Basseterre Valley National Park Arboretum stands as a practical example of this vision in action, where environmental stewardship, community benefit, and national development come together harmoniously.” She added, “The successful establishment of the arboretum, including its fencing and afforestation, is a testament to sustained collaboration and technical excellence.”

Also addressing attendees was Quentin Peig-

naux, who reaffirmed the European Union’s continued support for biodiversity conservation, soil and water protection, and sustainable development initiatives throughout the Caribbean.

“It is very important for the European Union to participate in initiatives such as the ILM Programme because water resources and soil conservation are inseparable and are both essential to protecting the natural resources that sustain our living environment,” Mr Peignaux stated.

He further pointed to the European Union’s ongoing backing of biodiversity conservation programmes, protected area

management, blue carbon projects, and nature-based solutions throughout the OECS region.

According to the release, the ceremony concluded with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and a symbolic tree-planting activity held in recognition of national day tree planting initiatives. Government officials, OECS representatives, students, Ministry of Environment staff, community members, and development partners all participated in the exercise, underscoring a collective commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable landscape management in Saint Kitts and Nevis. (Dominica News Online)

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IOM NEWS: Saint Lucia launches draft National Migration Policy grounded in data and diaspora engagement

The Government of Saint Lucia, with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), has launched its draft National Migration Policy, positioning the country as a regional leader in evidence-based, inclusive migration governance.

The policy, launched with an Official Media Briefing and Panel Discussion on Monday 18 May, reflects a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, grounded in data, stakeholder consultations, and a forward-looking vision that recognizes migration as a driver of sustainable development.

At its core, the draft National Migration Policy seeks to ensure that migration in Saint Lucia is effectively measured, monitored, and managed through a gender-sensitive, rights-based, and development-oriented framework. It prioritizes key areas such as labour migration, diaspora engagement, data systems, protection of vulnerable groups, and migration governance in times of crisis, while promoting national resilience and inclusive growth.

Speaking at the official media briefing, Patrice Quesada, IOM Caribbean Coordinator, emphasized that migration is a cross-cutting issue that “does not belong to one sector” but “cuts across different aspects” of society, requiring coordinated action from government, civil society, and the private sector.

He noted that the policy is built on extensive data and consultation, en-



suring it reflects the realities of Saint Lucia’s migration landscape.

Highlighting the broader regional context, Mr. Quesada pointed to demographic decline and labour shortages as critical challenges facing Caribbean countries. He explained that Saint Lucia’s proactive approach demonstrates how migration can be leveraged as part of the solution, helping address workforce gaps, strengthen resilience, and support long-term development. He further underscored that the country is “showing what developing a migration policy that is fit for purpose and forward-looking” can achieve for the region.

Ambassador for Diaspora Affairs, Julian Dubois, highlighted the transformative role of the diaspora, calling for a shift from “brain drain” to “brain gain” and “brain circulation.” He stressed that migration should not be seen as a loss, but rather as a stra-

tegic asset, noting that “migration is not just a statistic, it is a living, breathing bridge” connecting Saint Lucia to global expertise, innovation, and investment.

“The island of Saint Lucia,” he said, “may be bounded by 238 square miles of beautiful Caribbean island, but the nation of Saint Lucia is global. Effective migration management is the key that unlocks this global potential.”

The Ambassador urged stakeholders to strengthen diaspora engagement through structured and modern mechanisms, including knowledge exchange and investment opportunities, to unlock the full development potential of Saint Lucians abroad. He emphasized that remittances, which play a critical role in supporting households, must be complemented by policies that encourage long-term investment and economic transformation. (Dominica News Online)



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SpaceX files for stock market debut that could make Elon Musk a trillionaire

Elon Musk's SpaceX has revealed its plans to go public in the US, allowing people to trade shares in the firm on the stock market.

SpaceX makes rockets, offers a satellite internet service called Starlink, and also owns Musk's controversial artificial intelligence (AI) firm xAI.

The initial public offering (IPO) on the US stock market is set to be the largest in Wall Street history and could start next month under the ticker symbol SPCX.

Because of the shares he will own in SpaceX, the IPO could make billionaire Musk, who is already the world's richest person, a trillionaire.

SpaceX values itself at \$1.25tn, and Musk's majority ownership of the company means his share could be worth more than \$600bn.

Last year, Musk, who is also the boss of electric vehicle maker Tesla, became the first person to achieve a net worth that topped \$500bn.

This means the SpaceX listing could take his total net worth to over \$1tn.

The filing offers a long-anticipated look at the financial state of SpaceX.

Last year, Space Exploration Technologies - as it's officially known - brought in \$18.6bn (£13.8bn) in revenue but had a net loss \$4.9bn.

In the first three months of this year, it achieved \$4.7bn in sales but made a net loss of \$4.3bn.

Meanwhile, its balance sheet shows it has \$102bn in assets, such as rockets and other equipment, but also carries \$60.5bn of debt.

Ruth Foxe-Blader, managing partner at US venture capital firm Citrine Venture Partners, told the BBC "it's not shocking for a project like this to be loss making, even at the point of IPO".

She said the planned flotation had been expected but was "extremely exciting".

"SpaceX is just an absolutely sprawl-



ing, enormous project with so many different selling points, and so many points that really point to the future."

SpaceX flagged more than half a billion dollars in expected legal costs stemming from a long list of claims.

Some of these come from "multiple lawsuits" alleging that Grok, the chatbot made by xAI, is being used to create sexualized deepfakes of real women and girls.

Musk has said he intends to dissolve xAI and pursue his AI ambitions under SpaceX.

SpaceX also owns X, the social media app previously known as Twitter which Musk purchased in 2022.

Other ongoing cases against SpaceX listed in the IPO include patent infringement claims, claims of noncompliance with EU content moderation, music copyright infringement claims, and data breach claims.

Also revealed in the filing on Wednesday were the financial terms of the deal that SpaceX recently struck with an AI competitor, Anthropic, the developer of Claude.

Anthropic will pay \$15bn a year to access data centres in the American South for Musk's xAI which was recently acquired by SpaceX.

While Musk's AI ambitions have

struggled amid a spate of controversies, SpaceX's rocket business and Starlink are considered leaders in the industry - both possess a comfortable lead over the competition.

The IPO filing comes just days after Musk lost a high-profile legal battle against rival AI company OpenAI and its boss, Sam Altman.

Musk had accused Altman of breaching a non-profit contract by shifting the ChatGPT-maker to a for-profits after Musk had donated millions of dollars.

The jury voted unanimously to throw out the case, finding that the timeframe to bring his claims expired because Musk had waited too long to file his 2024 lawsuit.

At trial, Musk told jurors that his AI start up xAI was small relative to OpenAI which is also expected to sell shares to the public imminently.

SpaceX's Starship megarocket is set to launch this week but the company has also come under scrutiny for endangering workers at its facilities.

Musk himself has also been criticised for his right-wing politics and alignment with US President Donald Trump, with whom he travelled to China last week. (BBC)

Air France and Airbus found guilty of manslaughter over 2009 plane crash

Air France and Airbus have been found guilty of manslaughter over a 2009 plane crash which killed 228 people.

The Paris Appeals Court found the airline and aircraft manufacturer guilty of corporate manslaughter over the incident, in which flight AF447 between Rio de Janeiro and Paris crashed into the Atlantic Ocean.

The passenger jet stalled during a storm and plunged into the water, killing all on board.

A court had previously cleared the companies in April 2023 but they were found guilty after this appeal.

The Airbus A330 vanished from radars during a storm on 1 June 2009, with its wreckage found after a long search of 10,000 sq km (3,860 sq miles) of sea floor.

The black box was found after months of deep-sea searches in 2011.

All 12 crew members and 216 passengers on board the flight were killed when the plane crashed into the sea from a height of 38,000ft (11,580m), making it the deadliest incident in French aviation history.

Relatives of some of the passengers, which included mainly French, Brazilian and German nationals, gathered to hear the verdict on Thursday.

The companies have been



asked to pay the maximum fine, €225,000 (\$261,720; £194,500) each - but some of the victims' families have criticised the amount as a token penalty.

However, the ruling may be seen as causing damage to the companies' reputations.

During their closing arguments in November, the deputy prosecutors said the companies' behaviour had been "unacceptable", accusing them of "spouting nonsense and pulling arguments out of thin air".

Both Airbus and Air France had repeatedly denied the charges, and French lawyers believe they are likely to launch further appeals.

The BBC has contacted Airbus and Air France for comment.

The crash led to a complex recovery operation in a remote part of the Atlantic Ocean, more than 700 miles (1127km) from the coast of South America.

During the initial searches, the French government had been responsible for inves-

tigating the crash and Brazilian forces took charge of retrieving the bodies.

In the first 26 days of

searches, 51 bodies were recovered, many still buckled into their seats.

One family member who spoke to BBC News Brasil in 2019 said he had only been able to bury his son's remains over two years after the incident.

His son, 40-year-old engineer Nelson Marinho Filho, nearly missed the flight out of Rio de Janeiro's Galeão International Airport and was the last person to board, according to Air France staff. (BBC)

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APR 07 2026
Antigua and Barbuda

LAND REGISTRY
Antigua & Barbuda

TAKE NOTICE that an application was filed in the Land Registry on 7th day of April 2026 by CARLA E. WILLIAMS, formerly of Sutherland, in the Parish of St. John, in the Island of Antigua, Antigua and Barbuda but now residing at 12 Westchester Ave, #3F White Plains, NY, USA and ANDREW A. WILLIAMS formerly of Sutherland, in the aforesaid Parish, in the Island of Antigua, Antigua and Barbuda but now residing at 506 Sherleen Lane, Mine Hill, NJ Zip 07803, USA for the replacement of a Land Certificate No. 4066/1983 dated the 10th day of November, 1983 and issued to the said CARLA E. WILLIAMS and ANDREW A. WILLIAMS the applicants herein and being the registered Proprietors of the above-mentioned piece or parcel of Land, which Land Certificate has been lost or destroyed.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that anyone who objects to the issue of a new Land Certificate or who has knowledge of the original Land Certificate must within the period of one (1) month from the second Publication of this notice in the newspaper inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

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Dated this 12th day of May 2026

Registrar of Lands

US-bound plane diverts to Canada after person from Ebola-hit region boards 'in error'



A plane from Paris to Detroit was forced to divert to Canada after a passenger from the Ebola-hit Democratic Republic of Congo boarded the plane "in error", officials have said.

US entry restrictions aimed at limiting the spread of the deadly virus meant the passenger should not have boarded the Air France plane, the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency told the BBC.

Almost 140 people are believed to have died from Ebola in the outbreak in central Africa, with more than 600 suspected cases identified.

Officials did not specify if the passenger was showing symptoms of the virus or when the person was last in DR Congo.

Cabin crew put on masks after the captain announced the diversion, a passenger on the flight told the BBC's

US partner CBS News.

Deborah Mistor said passengers were informed of the change four hours before they were due to land: "I think enough people must have been questioning what was going on because 30 minutes later, [the captain] came back on and said that he wanted to confirm that there was nothing wrong with the plane, there were no technical difficulties, that it was strictly because of US authorities not allowing us to land in the US."

She added that people were subsequently flown to Detroit on the same aircraft.

Air France confirmed to US media that "at the request of US authorities, [the flight] was diverted to Montreal Airport after a Congolese passenger on board was denied entry into the United States".

The US border agency CBP said: "Air France boarded a passenger from the Democratic Republic of Congo in error on a flight to the United States."

The agency said it took "decisive action" to stop the flight landing at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport. It was diverted by about 500 miles (800km) to Montreal, Canada.

The US is restricting entry for people without US passports who were in DR Congo, South Sudan or Uganda in the last three weeks.

US passport holders and permanent residents who have been in those countries can only enter through Washington-Dulles International Airport in Virginia for enhanced screening.

The current Ebola outbreak has been declared a public health emergency of international concern by the World Health Organization.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the risk to the US was relatively low, but it would introduce measures to prevent the disease from entering the country.

One American has tested positive - a doctor who was working with a medical missionary group in DR Congo. He is being treated in a special isolation ward at a hospital in Germany.

The Bundibugyo species of the virus does not yet have a vaccine, and it could take up to nine months before a vaccine against it is ready, the World Health Organization said on Wednesday. (BBC)



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MAY 2026

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- 3PM | KIDS FEST
- 8PM | JUNIOR CALYPSO MONARCH

FRIDAY 22ND

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

SATURDAY 23RD

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

SUNDAY 24TH

- 1PM | CARIBANA CLASSIC
HORSE RACING

MONDAY 25TH

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

EVENT SCHEDULE





FEEL THE RHYTHM

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRI 24TH JULY FACE OFF CARNIVAL CITY	SAT 25TH JULY OPENING OF CARNIVAL CITY & T-SHIRT MAS CARNIVAL CITY & ST. JOHN'S	SUN 26TH JULY JUNIOR CARNIVAL (PARADE, PRINCE & PRINCESS) ST. JOHN'S & CARNIVAL CITY GOOD MORNING D'INCLUSIVE
MON 27TH JULY RHYTHM COURT CARNIVAL CITY BAND-MEET-BAND (JUNIOR) CARNIVAL CITY	TUE 28TH JULY PATRICE ROBERTS I AM WOMAN ALWAYS US CARNIVAL CITY	THU 30TH JULY MELTING POT CARNIVAL CITY DRINK TILL YA WEAK
FRI 31ST JULY CALYPSO MONARCH CARNIVAL CITY WATCH NIGHT	SAT 1ST AUG PANORAMA CARNIVAL CITY RISE CARNIVAL DREAMZ	SUN 2ND AUG PARTY MONARCH CARNIVAL CITY D BREAKFAST FETE WHY NOT ESCAPE
MON 3RD AUG J'OUVERT ST. JOHN'S MONDAY MAS ST. JOHN'S	TUE 4TH AUG PARADE OF BANDS ST. JOHN'S & CARNIVAL CITY LAST LAP ST. JOHN'S	



Sports News

Battle intensify for Primary School Cup football championship



Players of the St. Peter's Academy School football team which won the Primary School Cup title on Friday, June 20, 2025. (File photo)

The battle is heating up for places in the knockout stage of this year's Ministry of Sports Cool & Smooth/JOMA Caribbean Primary School Football Cup Championship.

The final set of matches in the round-robin group and preliminary stage of the competition will take place on Friday.

The top two teams in each of the three groups as well as the two best overall third-

place finishers will qualify for the knockout phase, starting with the quarter finals on Friday, May 29.

Defending champions St. Peter's Academy are currently one of the two best third-placed teams in the group stage ahead of Friday's last round of preliminary round matches.

St. Peter's Academy, which won the title for the first time last year by beating New Winthorpes Primary

1-0 in the final, is currently occupying third place in Group C.

St. Peter's Academy has 11 points from six matches in the eight-team group. Parham Primary is in second place with 12 points.

Unbeaten J.T Ambrose Primary, which has already qualified for the quarter-finals, is leading Group C with a perfect 18 points by virtue of winning all six matches.

Last year's losing finalists, New Winthorpes Primary, have already confirmed their spot in the quarter-finals. New Winthorpes Primary is so far unbeaten and is leading Group B with 16 points, having drawn one and won their other five matches.


Villa Primary and T.N. Kirnon Primary are also well placed to advance to their quarter-finals by finishing second or as one of the best third-place finishers from Group B.

Villa Primary currently occupies second place in Group B with 14 points, one ahead of T.N. Kirnon Primary in third place.

Unbeaten Group A leaders, former champions Five Islands Primary, have already secured their spot in the quarter-finals.



Five Islands Primary has an unassailable 16 points as leader of Group A, having drawn one and won their other five matches.

Old Road Primary currently occupies second place in Group A with 10 points, one more than Bendals Primary in third place.



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Sinner opens French Open against wild card in bid for career Grand Slam

PARIS (AP) — Jannik Sinner won't have the crowd on his side when he starts his quest for a career Grand Slam at the French Open.

Sinner was on Thursday drawn a French opponent in the first round — Clement Tabur, ranked a career-high 165th. Tabur received the wild card vacated by former champion Stan Wawrinka, who gained a late automatic entry.

With two-time reigning champion Carlos Alcaraz out injured, Sinner is the overwhelming men's favorite on the red clay of Roland Garros, where play starts on Sunday.

The Italian is unbeaten in three months. He's won 29 straight matches and dropped just three sets. The French Open is the only major Sinner hasn't won. Sinner had three match points in last year's final but Alcaraz prevailed in an epic match.

In the women's draw, Coco Gauff is trying to become just the third woman to successfully defend the Roland Garros title this century after Justine Henin and Iga Świątek. Gauff will start her campaign against fellow American Taylor Townsend, a doubles specialist.

Gauff said at the draw she was "as ready as you can be." "I feel I had a good tournament in Rome, similar to the preparation I had last year, so I feel really ready."

In the absence of Alcaraz, who will also miss Wimbledon, Sinner has claimed all three clay Masters trophies in Monte Carlo, Madrid, and Rome. Sinner has the fifth longest winning run in the ATP Tour era (since 1990). Novak Djokovic has the record of 43 straight wins in 2010-11.

With his historic Rome title — first homegrown men's champion in 50 years — Sinner became the second man after Djokovic to win all nine Masters, the biggest tournaments outside the Grand Slams.



Jannik Sinner, of Italy, celebrates winning a point against Casper Ruud, of Norway, during the final match at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Sunday, May 17, 2026. (AP)

Djokovic continues to chase an unprecedented 25th major title. But the Roland Garros champion from 2016, 2021, and 2023 is in Paris with only one match on clay this season and only three tournaments all year because of a shoulder injury. The 38-year-old will take on Frenchman Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard in the first round. Djokovic couldn't meet Sinner until the final.

No. 2 seed Alexander Zverev, still looking for his first major crown after making it to the 2024 final in Paris, will be up against another local player, Benjamin Bonzi.

Gauff's first Roland Garros title came with a victory over top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka in the final a year ago. Just like last year, Gauff was the runner-up at the Italian Open, losing in the final to Elina Svitolina. She is No. 4 and seeded to meet No. 1 Sabalenka in the semifinals.

While Sabalenka remains unbeatable at times on hard courts, she is still perfecting her game on clay. She was upset by American Hailey Baptiste in the Madrid Open quarterfinals and lost in

the third round at the Italian Open to 36-year-old Sorana Cirstea.

Sabalenka appeared visibly bothered by lower back pain in Rome. Her first-round opponent is Jessica Bouzas Maneiro, a Spaniard ranked 51st.

Elena Rybakina, ranked No. 2 and this year's Australian Open champion, is in the same half of the draw as No. 3 Świątek.

Rybakina has mixed results on clay. She has reached the French quarterfinals twice. She starts against Veronika Erjavec of Slovenia.

Świątek, the four-time French Open champion, lost to Svitolina in the Rome semifinals and is still reshaping her game under new coach Francisco Roig, who used to work with Rafael Nadal.

Świątek's 26-match winning streak at Roland Garros ended in the semifinals last year with a loss to Sabalenka. She opens against Emerson Jones of Australia, a wild card.

English Premier League reaches finale

The Premier League will say goodbye to West Ham or Tottenham on Sunday. And Mohamed Salah and Bernardo Silva, too. Likely Pep Guardiola as well. Emotions are sure to run high in the final round of a season that has already delivered a relatively new champion — Arsenal hadn't won the title since 2004 before clinching it on Tuesday — but still has plenty of stories to tell when all 10 games are played concurrently. Like which of two recent winners of European competitions — 2023 Conference League champion West Ham or 2025 Europa League champion Tottenham — will be the final team to drop into the Championship, joining Wolverhampton and Burnley in getting relegated. West Ham has it all to do to maintain their 14-year top-flight status. The team that plays in the 68,000-capacity Olympic Stadium in east London occupies third-to-last place — the final relegation spot — and is two points be-

hind Tottenham with an inferior goal difference of 12.

West Ham must, therefore, beat Leeds at home and also needs Tottenham to lose at home to Everton in north London.

Everton has collected more points away than at home this season and Spurs have won only once at home in the league since the opening weekend, so all is not lost for West Ham.

Tottenham being relegated would be a huge development for English soccer. Spurs have been an ever-present in the Premier League since the competition was rebranded in 1992 and last played in the second tier in the 1977-78 season. It's not quite been the farewell that Salah might have hoped for at Liverpool. The Egypt winger is leaving after nine years as one of the club's greatest ever players but not on the best terms with his manager, having taken an indirect swing at Arne Slot in a social media post last

weekend when he said Liverpool needed to recover its identity and “go back to being the heavy metal attacking team that opponents fear.”

This latest public swipe came five months after he spoke of his relationship with Slot breaking down and complaining that “someone wanted me to get all of the blame” for Liverpool's shocking run of results at the time.

How Slot deals with this will be interesting. Salah will want a big send-off in his final game, which is against Brentford at Anfield, but might it be seen as a sign of weakness from Slot if he doesn't drop Salah for his latest outburst?

It's still a significant game for fifth-placed Liverpool, which needs a point to guarantee Champions League qualification. Bournemouth, which visits Nottingham Forest, is three points back in sixth place and has an inferior goal difference of six compared to Liverpool.



From left: West Ham United's Konstantinos Mavropanos, Jarrod Bowen and Valentin Castellanos applauds the fans following their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United in Newcastle upon Tyne, England, Sunday, May 17, 2026. (AP)

Thunder top Spurs in Game 2 to level West finals in NBA

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The MVP looked like the MVP again, and the Western Conference finals are knotted up.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander bounced back from a subpar series opener to score 30 points, Alex Caruso added 17 off the bench and the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the San Antonio Spurs 122-113 on Wednesday night in Game 2.

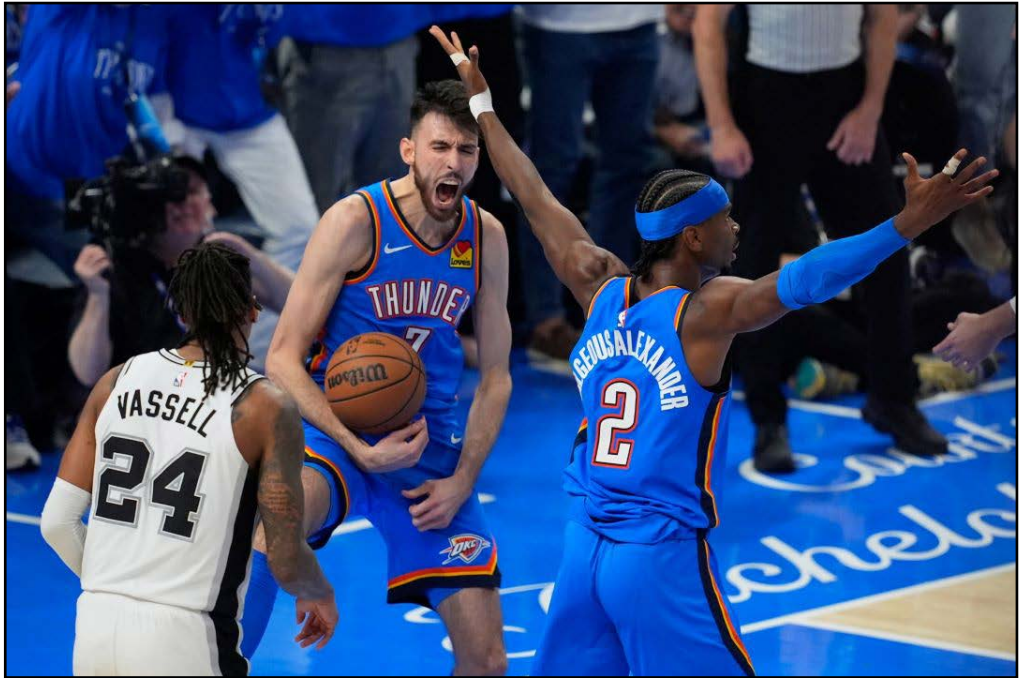
Chet Holmgren scored 13 points and reserves Jared McCain and Cason Wallace each had 12 for Oklahoma City. The Thunder finished with a 57-25 edge in bench scoring, plus a 27-10 advantage in points off turnovers.

“I thought we all played better,” Thunder coach Mark Daigneault said. “I had a quiet confidence about that. I didn’t know if we’d win or lose the game, but I was pretty sure after watching Game 1 and knowing our team that we were going to come out and play better tonight.

Stephon Castle scored 25 points for the Spurs, who got 22 points from Devin Vassell and a 21-point, 17-rebound, six-assist, four-block night from Victor Wembanyama. Game 3 is Friday in San Antonio.

Isaiah Hartenstein — who barely played in Game 1 — had 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Thunder, who improved to 14-5 after a loss this season — and beat the Spurs for just the second time in seven meetings.

The win was not without cost for



Oklahoma City Thunder center Chet Holmgren (7) celebrates with guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (2) after a dunk during the second half of Game 2 in the Western Conference finals NBA basketball playoffs series against the Oklahoma City Thunder Wednesday, May 20, 2026, in Oklahoma City. (AP)

the Thunder, who lost guard Jalen Williams — who had already missed six games in these playoffs with a left hamstring strain — in the first half with a recurrence of the hamstring issue. The Thunder said it was tightness, but even that would figure to put his availability for Friday into doubt.

And the Spurs got banged up as well. Already without All-Star guard De’Aaron Fox because of ankle soreness, San Antonio lost his replacement in the starting lineup — Dylan Harper — to a right leg injury after he took a couple of awkward falls in the third quarter.

Spurs coach Mitch Johnson had no update on Harper after the game, though he noted that it puts “a ton” of pressure on others when his team is down two guards.

San Antonio was down by 11 at the half and trailed by eight going into the fourth quarter, then got within 99-97 off a corner 3-pointer by Harrison Barnes with 9:06 left.

The next 2 1/2 minutes saved the Thunder. An 11-0 run by the defending champions — including a banked-in 3-pointer by McCain midway through the burst — pushed OKC’s lead to 13.

But the Spurs — on another night when turnovers plagued them and the stretch run was played without Fox and Harper — were far from done. Wembanyama scored down low to make it 118-113 with 1:25 remaining, but Gilgeous-Alexander got one last basket to settle things down and send the series to San Antonio tied.

Jets go second in Women's D-1 League



The Jets women's volleyball team

The Jets have returned to second place in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABA-VA) Women's Division 1 League.

The Jets jumped from third to second place by recording their fifth win in six matches with a 3-1 victory over Hidow Caribbean Starz in their latest outing at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Wednesday evening.

The Jets prevailed 25-15, 25-19, 22-25, and 25-20 against the Starz, who remain second from the bottom of the seven-team standings in the round-robin league after plummeting

to their fifth defeat in six matches.

Reigning four-peat defending champions Cool and Smooth/JOMA Da Squad remain at the top of the women's Division 1 league with a record of five wins and one loss in six matches.

Former perennial champions Theatric Lighting and JOMA Stoneville moved from sixth to third place in the men's Division 1 league.

The Stoneville men moved up the standings by securing their fourth win in seven games with a 3-0 victory over the Renegades in their latest outing.

The Stoneville men prevailed 25-15,

26-24, and 25-12 against the Renegades, who remain second from the bottom of the eight-team standings after suffering their sixth loss in seven games.

Defending champions Zamine Shipping and ABI Insurance Pytonz are currently leading the men's Division 1 league with six wins in seven games.

The ASCSC Stingers leaptfrogged GWAVA/N18 Construction Invaders 2 into second place in

the five-team Men's Division 2 Development League.

The Stingers claimed their third win in four games by snatching a 2-1 victory over Invaders 2 in their latest encounter.

The Stinger prevailed 21-25, 25-14, and 16-14 over Invaders 2, who dropped from second to third place after losing for the second time in four matches.

Unbeaten Chargers Momentum currently leads the five-team men's Division 2 League with a record of four wins in as many games.