

Official Funeral for Sir Aziz Hadeed

Story on page 2



Sir Aziz Hadeed and his wife, Dr. Mahasen Hadeed in London with the Insignia marking the attainment of Knighthood in October last year

Official Funeral for Sir Aziz Hadeed

The sudden passing of Sir Aziz Hadeed, who died suddenly while on a trip to Chicago in the United States on Saturday, sent shock waves throughout Antigua and Barbuda as many remembered him as an astute businessman who displayed a level of generosity that touched many lives across the nation.

Sir Aziz was highly respected for his remarkable achievements in business as one of the driving forces behind the success of the Hadeed Group of Companies, the nation's largest business conglomerate.

Sir Aziz was the fourth child of the patriarch of the Hadeed Enterprise, the late Fares Hadeed and his wife, Ramza, and arrived in Antigua in the early 1960's. His education in Antigua started at the St. Joseph's Academy where he often con-



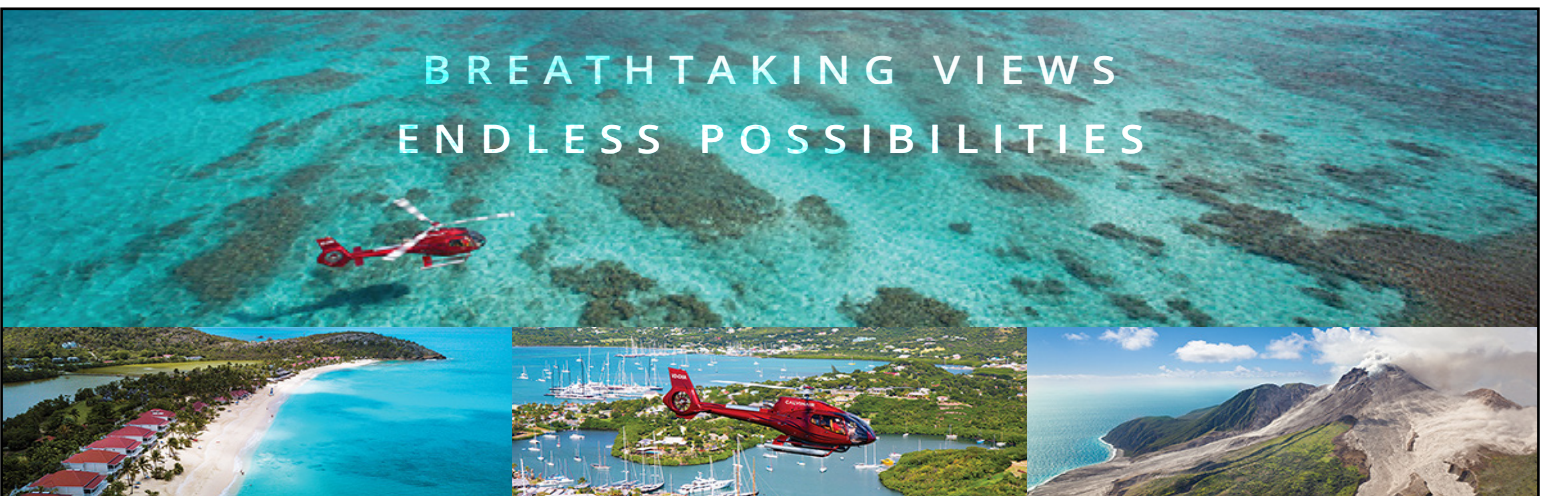
fessed that he didn't speak one word of English when he started his schooling. However, he demonstrat-

ed remarkable aptitude for mathematics and this was the pathway for his full assimilation into the school.

After leaving school, he joined the family business, F.E Hadeed and Sons, a general goods store located on Market and St. Mary's Street. His early years in the business, he understudied his older brother Ramez (later to be named Sir Ramez), the first chairman of the Group of Companies and who laid much of the foundation upon which Aziz used to expand the group's reach even further.

Notably, he was the initiator of one of the crowning successes of the Hadeed group, the coming into being of the Antigua Power Company Ltd. Through a power-purchase agreement with the state-owned APUA, APC currently provides approximately 90 percent of the power generated in Antigua. Recently, the company entered into a partnership with a US firm to establish a hybrid diesel/LNG pow-

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er-plant, the first of its kind in the Eastern Caribbean.

Beyond business, Sir Aziz served in the Upper House of Parliament as an Independent Senator as well as served as a member of the Cabinet in the Baldwin Spencer Administration. That relationship was short-lived.

Sir Aziz was appointed as Chairman of the UWI FIC Council in 2019, a role in which brought him much joy and satisfaction. He used his vast business connections to raise funds for the university and he himself was very generous as he personally financed the education of scores of students at the university. It was a proud moment when the agreement was signed with the Saudi Sovereign Fund to finance the expansion of the University to the tune of US\$80 million.

He also helped perhaps hundreds of persons in Antigua and Barbuda establish businesses, further their education, take care of health care costs or finance the construction or repairs to their homes.

His support for the arts extended to a donation of an acre of land to the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) where it will erect its headquarters building.

Last February 28, Sir Aziz used the occasion of his 79th birthday to celebrate what perhaps was the crowning achievement of his life, the award of KCMG by Prince William in London last October. It was a grand occasion attracting hundreds of persons to join in the celebrations.

Sir Aziz had traveled to Chicago last week where his wife, Dr. Mahasen Hadeed, a medical doctor, previously had her medical practice. He was due to return to Antigua over the weekend... when he collapsed and died suddenly.

Last Saturday, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, during the Browne and Browne show, expressed condolences to the Hadeed Family for their loss...referring to Sir Aziz as 'Comrade Aziz'.

He will be accorded an official funeral at a date to be announced.



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For Immediate Release

Statement on the Passing of Sir Aziz Hadeed KCMG,CBE

The UWI Five Islands Campus, Antigua and Barbuda, Saturday, May 23, 2026 — The following statement is issued by The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, on the passing of Sir Aziz Hadeed, CBE, Chairman of the Five Islands Campus Council.

The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus joins the people of Antigua and Barbuda and the wider Caribbean in mourning the passing of Sir Aziz Hadeed, CBE, Chairman of the Five Islands Campus Council. A distinguished businessman, former Independent Senator, former Cabinet Minister, and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Sir Aziz brought to The UWI the same vision and steady judgment that had defined a lifetime of national service.

Sir Aziz was appointed inaugural Chair of the Campus Council in August 2019, at the very founding of the campus, and was reappointed in 2024 to serve a second term. Over nearly seven years, he guided the Campus through its earliest and most demanding chapters: the launch in 2019, the disruption by the COVID-19 pandemic, the historic US\$80 million Saudi Fund for Development partnership in 2023, and the institution's growth from 173 students in its first year to over 1,400 today. He presided over the Council meetings with quiet authority, including most recently the March 2026 sitting held under the theme "Building Beyond Borders."

Sir Aziz believed deeply in education as the foundation of Caribbean development, and his commitment to access was expressed in the most tangible way possible. Through the personal provision of scholarships, he ensured that well-deserving students who lacked the financial means to pursue a university education were not denied that opportunity. The lives shaped by his quiet generosity stand as part of his most enduring legacy.

"Sir Aziz was far more than a Chairman. He was a true partner in our mission. His close working relationship with the Campus was rooted in a genuine belief that access to higher education is the foundation upon which a just and thriving society is built. He gave not only his name and his resources, but his time, his wisdom, and his heart to the endeavour of bringing The UWI to the people of Antigua and Barbuda and the wider OECS." noted Professor C. Justin Robinson, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal, The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus.

His stewardship leaves Five Islands stronger, more confident, and more firmly rooted than he found it. On behalf of the Campus Executive, faculty, staff, and students, the Campus extends its heartfelt condolences to Lady Hadeed, the Hadeed family, and all who mourn his loss.

May his soul rest in peace.

Inaugural Air Peace Flight To By-pass Antigua and Barbuda



The much anticipated inaugural flight of Air Peace Airline linking West Africa with destinations in the Caribbean, will not stop at the VC Bird International Airport as was earlier planned.

That's because of concerns over the recent outbreak of the Ebola virus in at least two African countries in recent weeks and growing fears internationally about the need to contain the spread of the deadly disease have caused the government to move more cautiously regarding the flight.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne said the government took a decision to delay the inclusion of Antigua and Barbuda on the inaugural flight plan and may opt to have the airline service Antigua and Barbuda directly from Lagos, Nigeria, at a later date.

For now, the flight that was intended to land first at the VCBIA before stopping at the Sir Grantley Adams Airport in Barbados, will make only one stop on this maiden flight, Barbados.

"We are very concerned about the heightened situation regarding Ebola and additionally, we were to have issued transit visa waiver for those passengers who desired to transit Antigua and Barbuda to other ports and we are reluctant to do so at this time," PM Browne explained on the Browne and Browne show on Saturday.

According the prime minister while Antigua and Barbuda remains committed to the principle of creating an air-bridge between Africa and the Caribbean, it has decided to take a 'more conservative approach' regarding the Air Peace flight over local and other concerns regarding the current Ebola outbreak in East and Central Africa.

He explained that those passengers that are destined to arrive in St. John's will likely take Liat Air from Bridgetown to the VCBIA.

The nation's leader indicated that at some point in the future, when the Ebola situation stabilizes, the coun-

try will review the decision regarding the flight and will then put in place the necessary protocols, including the transit visa waiver, to facilitate the smooth operation of the flight.

PM Browne expressed a belief that the systems that Air Peace has in place have significantly reduced the risk of persons from affected areas arriving in the Caribbean. These are based on the manner in which flights from Africa under Antigua Airways were used by many Cameroonians who were seeking a pathway to the United States.

The government's experiences with the Cameroonians have been identified as among the factors that have influenced the current decision. "If we push the envelope and something happens, then many in the society will blame us for acting reckless; therefore, we are erring on the side of being cautious," the prime minister added.

Meanwhile, Health Minister, Michael Joseph, said the government will institute a temporary ban on persons arriving in the country from Ebola affected areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

He also announced the institution of COVID-19-era health protocols at the airport where incoming passengers will undergo health screenings to include a test of their temperatures.

Additionally, the infectious disease unit in the healthcare system has also been reactivated as a precautionary measure.


 An advertisement for ACB Caribbean, Home Advantage, and LOTS. The background is blue with a yellow and white geometric pattern on the right. On the left, the ACB Caribbean logo is shown. In the center, the text reads "Claim Your Keys. Secure Your Land." Below this, the Home Advantage logo (a house icon) and the LOTS logo (a colorful circle) are displayed. On the right, a family of four (a man, a woman, and two children) is smiling. Below the family, the text "Apply today." is written in yellow. At the bottom right, there are social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

Ministry of Health Addresses Issues Related To Malaria, Hantavirus Etc.

Issued Friday May 22, 2026

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs wishes to advise the public that two confirmed imported cases of malaria have recently been identified in Antigua and Barbuda. At this time, there is no evidence of local transmission.

The first case involved an adult male traveller who resides in a malaria-endemic region. The individual reportedly sought medical attention shortly after arrival and was subsequently hospitalized, where treatment for malaria was initiated. His condition improved following treatment, and he later departed the country after approximately five days in Antigua and Barbuda.

The second case involved an adult male traveller with recent travel history to a malaria-endemic region prior to arriving in Antigua and Barbuda. He was observed to be unwell shortly after arrival and later presented to the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre in a severely ill condition, where medical treatment and supportive care were initiated. He remained in Antigua and Barbuda for approximately five days before succumbing to the illness.

Relevant national public health authorities were notified promptly following identification of the suspected cases, and established surveillance and response protocols were activated in keeping with national public health procedures. These measures included epidemiological investigations, contact tracing where indicated, vector surveillance activities, and ongoing monitoring to mitigate any potential public health risk.


Investigations further determined that both individuals were either symptom-



atic on arrival or developed symptoms shortly thereafter. Based on the travel histories and timing of illness onset, both cases were classified as imported cases.

Malaria is a mosquito-borne disease


caused by Plasmodium parasites and transmitted primarily through the bite of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. Common symptoms include fever, chills, headache, body aches, weakness, nausea, and vomiting.



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DARYL SPENCER
CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR (AG.)

eral public remains very low.

As part of the national public health response, the Ministry, through the Central Board of Health, has intensified vector surveillance and mosquito control activities in areas associated with the identified cases. These measures include environmental inspections, species identification, source reduction activities, larviciding, targeted fogging where adult Anopheles mosquitoes are found, and continued monitoring of mosquito populations. Public health teams have also intensified risk assessments and surveillance activities in accordance with established vector management protocols.

The Ministry advises that while the Anopheles mosquito vector has been identified in Antigua and Barbuda, entomological (mosquito) surveillance indicates that its presence locally remains limited and in very small quantities. Accordingly, the risk to the gen-

The Ministry of Health, Wellness the Environment and Civil Service Affairs encourages members of the public to continue supporting mosquito control efforts by:

Eliminating standing water around homes and workplaces;

Properly covering drums, tanks, and other water storage containers;

Cleaning drains and gutters regularly;

Using mosquito repellents where appropriate;

Ensuring window and door screens are in good condition;

and seeking prompt medical attention if experiencing fever or flu-like symptoms, particularly following international travel.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs understands that reports of imported infectious diseases may cause concern and wishes to reassure the public that the Ministry's surveillance and response systems remain active and fully engaged. The situation continues to be actively monitored, and all appropriate public health measures remain in place to protect the health and safety of the population.

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Festivals Commission Launches Free 5-Day Music Development Masterclass

The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission continues its commitment to strengthening the nation's creative industries with the launch of its **FREE Music Development Masterclass**, a five-day immersive training experience designed to equip emerging and established music professionals with practical tools, industry knowledge, and strategies for long-term success in entertainment.

This Masterclass will run **June 8 – 12, 2026**, from **4:00 PM – 8:00 PM daily** at the **Eustace Hill Campus (formerly ABIIT), Coolidge**, designed for artistes, visual creatives, producers, DJs, songwriters, managers, dancers, writers and other music professionals who are serious about elevating their craft and careers. The Masterclass will focus on four key pillars:

Participants will receive focused training in:

- Songwriting, Mixing and Mastering
- Music Distribution
- Copyright and Intellectual Property
- Marketing and Visual Branding

Participants will benefit from in-depth sessions led by regional and international industry professionals:

Daryll Gervais – Gervais Music: As a songwriter, manager, and producer, Daryll Gervais will bring seasoned industry insight to his session on songwriting, music placement, and the business of building songs that transcend borders.

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REGISTRATION FORMS:

Antigua & Barbuda National Festivals Office

1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building,
Corner of Redcliffe Street & Corn Alley,
St. John's | Antigua and Barbuda
Tel: 1 (268) 462-0194



genres, television, and film, Daryll will share practical insights into creating music with purpose, longevity, and global potential, helping participants craft records that resonate far beyond Antigua and Barbuda.

Int'l Stephen – DSM Music Group: - Int'l Stephen, an international DJ, soca music ambassador, A&R, producer, festival curator, and event promoter, brings close to 25 years of experience in the Caribbean music and

global Carnival ecosystem.

His session will explore how music, culture, and market development connect, offering a valuable perspective on:

- ▶ Building a sustainable career in entertainment
- ▶ Breaking into new markets
- ▶ Developing hit records
- ▶ Understanding the business of music from a global vantage point

Titan VCD – NXUS Collective Agency: - As a specialist in visual branding and marketing, Titan VCD will guide artistes, DJs, producers, creatives, and brands through the process of building a stronger, more professional presence. His session will focus on:

- ▶ Aligning visual identity, social media presence, performance persona, and brand message
- ▶ Creating impactful content that stands out in a crowded marketplace
- ▶ Ensuring clarity, consistency, and intention across all brand touchpoints

Together, these facilitators will equip participants with the tools to transform creativity into opportunity and talent into sustainable business.

Hon. Dwayne George, Minister of Sports and Creative Industries, emphasized the Government's commitment to investing in Antigua and Barbuda's creative talent: *"This Masterclass represents another important step in our mission to professionalize and empower the creative community. By bringing experienced industry leaders to share practical, real-world*

knowledge—free of cost—we are investing directly in our artistes, producers, writers and music entrepreneurs. Our goal is not only to create great music for Carnival but also to build careers and businesses that can thrive year-round and compete on the global stage. I strongly encourage every serious music professional to seize this opportunity FREE.

Ambassador Elizabeth Makhoul, Chairperson of the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission, said, *"This Masterclass is a continuation of our commitment to investing directly in our music and our creative professionals. By providing access to world-class knowledge and training, we are equipping our engineers,*

producers, writers, artistes, and creatives with the tools to expand their work beyond Carnival and ensure that Antigua and Barbuda's Creative Industry is heard, seen, and felt on the global stage."

Registration forms can be obtained physically from the **National Festivals Office**, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Corn Alley and Redcliffe Street, St. John's.

Interested participants may also register by sending their:

- Full Name
- Email Address
- Contact Number
- Professional Area of Focus related to the workshop



Antigua and Barbuda Native Shines In Legal Circles In Maryland, USA

Valda Ricks, a native of Antigua and Barbuda who was born in Jennings and grew up in Greenbay, last Thursday administered the Oath to a group of lawyers who were being called to the Maryland, USA, Bar to practice law.

Ricks came from humble beginnings as her mother picked cotton on the Hall's Estate in Jennings before moving to Greenbay where she first lived on Baker Street and later settling on St. George Street.

She attended the Greenbay Primary School and then the TOR High School but traveled to Canada to live with an older sister at age 15 before completing her secondary education in Antigua.

Ricks reported that her early years in Canada were 'difficult times' as among other things, she dropped out of high school, was homeless for a period but somehow she was able to prove to be quite resilient as she returned to school to complete high school education and went to the University of Buffalo, USA, to study on a scholarship where she earned dual degrees in Political Science and Sociology.

After earning her Juris Doctor degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law, Ricks worked at the Maryland Office of the Public Defender as an Intern. She later became a Law Clerk and upon passing the Maryland Bar, she was appointed as an Assistant Public Defender where she managed a variety of cases ranging from Children in Need of Assistance to serious felonies. Upon demonstrating her legal expertise in criminal law and leadership, Ricks was promoted to the rank of supervisor and Chief Attorney. As Chief Attorney, Ricks was responsible for the training and supervision of Attorneys and professional administrative staff, serve as lead counsel or second chair in bench and jury trials and develop strategic plans for train-



ing, investigation, and mentoring.

Upon leaving the Public Defender's office, Ricks continued her commitment to public service in joining the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office as Deputy of Operations. In that role, she was responsible for the operations of several divisions, to include three District Courts, Juvenile, Central Booking and Intake Facility, Misdemeanor Jury Trial, the Specialty Courts, and Training.

Upon leaving the State's Attorney's Office, Ricks continued her commitment to Public Service. Ricks was a volunteer attorney with the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland where she represented tenants in Baltimore City District court. Ricks continued her commitment to public service when she became a staff attorney at the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, effective January 2023, where she represents tenants in Baltimore City and Baltimore County district courts. Ricks is a member of several Bar Associations dedicated to community outreach, mentoring and leadership. She has tutored students at Coppin State University and mentored law students and attorneys newly admitted to the Maryland Bar.

Ricks is the recipient of several awards based on her dedication to community service, leadership and mentorship. The list includes the Margaret Brent/Juanita Jackson Mitchell Award, which recognizes female lawyers who have surmounted substantial



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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)



barriers to succeed in their profession; the Bar Association of Baltimore City Government & Public Interest Award; the Maryland Daily Record Top 100 Women Award; the Maryland Daily Record Law in Leadership Award; and the Maryland Daily Record Lifetime Achievement Award.

With a life of remarkable achievements in public service in the field of law, Ricks has a word of advice for young people in Antigua and Barbuda. After overcoming the many hurdles that life threw at her, and to have persevered and to become a successful advocate for public service and the le-

gal system, her advice is simple this: *“we can reach the pinnacle of our careers despite our difficult circumstances through discipline and focus and in the process reach to heights that we never thought were possible”.*

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Kaylyn Fontaine Makes Antigua and Barbuda Proud!

Restaurant manager at Carlisle Bay Resort, Kaylyn Fontaine, recently achieved a personal milestone for her outstanding performance in her role within the hospitality sector.

Fontaine was selected among ten thousand persons worldwide who provide outstanding service to guests at luxury resorts across the globe. She explained that luxury hotels internationally adhere to what is referred to in the industry as LQA, Leading Quality Assurance, which are a set of standards, procedures and hospitality experience that these hotels are expected to provide to their guests.

Fontaine further explained that she was among the top one hundred from the ten thousand who were invited to Lisbon Portugal for a further competition. She made it into the Top 10 and was selected in eighth place overall.

At last Saturday's Food and Beverage Festival (FAB FEST) organized by the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism



Authority, Fontaine was presented with a prize and a bouquet of flowers by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism, Michael Freeland for her remarkable achievements.

"I am very happy to not only represent Antigua and Barbuda at this prestigious competition among luxury hotels, but I also represented the Caribbean region and for that I feel very proud," she stated.



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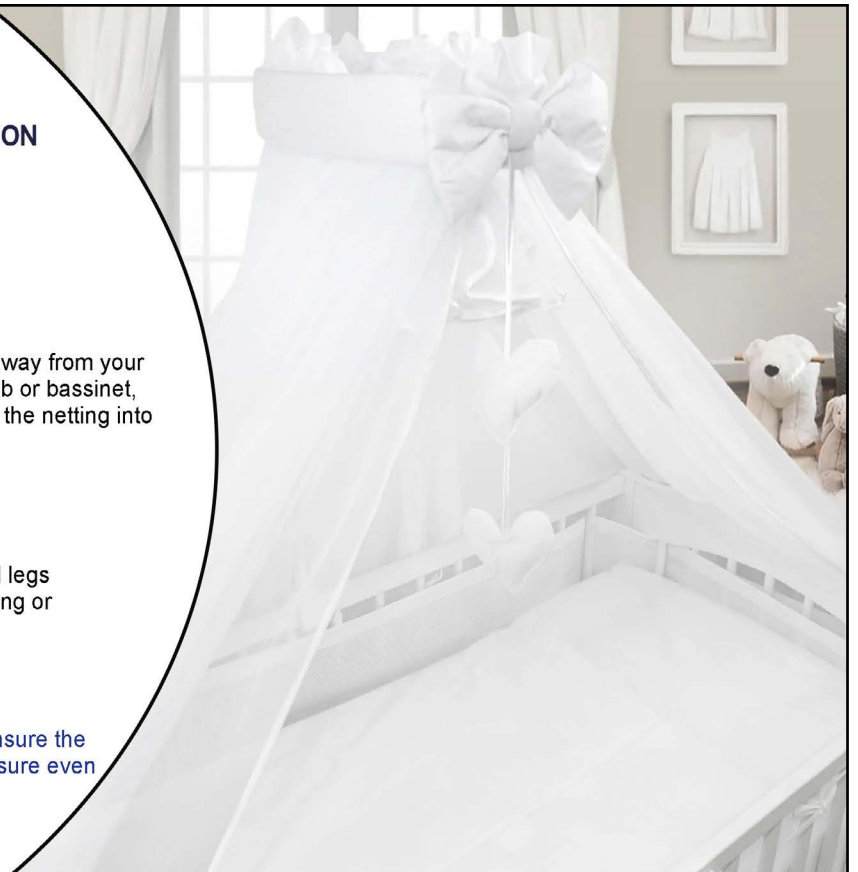
If using a mosquito net, ensure it is securely fitted and kept well away from your baby's face at all times. Avoid loose or hanging nets inside the crib or bassinet, especially once your baby begins to roll or grab, as they may pull the netting into their sleep space.

Safe alternatives

- Installing window or door screens
- Using air conditioning or fans to help keep mosquitoes away
- Dressing babies in lightweight clothing that covers the arms and legs
- Using mosquito repellents approved for the baby's age on clothing or surrounding areas — never directly in the sleep space

CONSUMERS BE AWARE

Choose breathable, non-toxic material like polyester or cotton. Ensure the net is flame-resistant with holes of 1.2 mm - 1.5 mm or less to ensure even tiny insects cannot pass through. The World Health Organization recommends at least 156 holes per square inch.



10th Annual Run in Paradise Draws International Field and Record Performances in Antigua and Barbuda



Antigua and Barbuda once again solidified its reputation as a premier sports tourism destination as more than 380 registered runners from across the Caribbean, North America and beyond participated in the highly anticipated 10th Annual Run in Paradise Race on Sunday, May 24, 2026.

The milestone event attracted an impressive international field of competitors, with runners traveling from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guadeloupe and several other Caribbean islands to take part in what has become one of the region’s most scenic and celebrated road races. Participants competed in the Half Marathon, 10K and 5K categories, with all races culminating along the picturesque shores of Fort James Beach.

Race Director Stanley Humphreys described this year’s staging as one of the most successful in the event’s history, expressing gratitude for the overwhelming support and international turnout.

“We are truly overwhelmed and grateful for the response this year,” Humphreys stated. “To see so many runners travelling to Antigua specif-

ically for this event speaks volumes about how much Run in Paradise has grown over the last decade.”

Humphreys noted that the largest contingent of overseas participants came from the United States, with nearly 100 runners, including a special group of over 40 runners named Latinasin-Motion, as well as more than a dozen runners from Guadeloupe, making the journey to Antigua and Barbuda for the event

Participants repeatedly described the race experience as “beautiful,” “amazing,” and unlike any other destination race in the region. For many returning runners, the combination of challenging terrain, breathtaking scenery and

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warm Antiguan hospitality continues to make Run in Paradise a standout event on the international running calendar.

This year's Half Marathon delivered one of the most memorable moments in the race's history with a new course record being established. Alex Beach of Miami stormed to victory in the 21K event with a blazing time of 1:17:57, setting a new benchmark for the course. Antigua and Barbuda's own Kamar Thomas delivered an impressive performance to secure second place in 1:20:22.

Meanwhile, the 5K Overall title was captured by Christina Laurent of Guadeloupe, while fellow Guadeloupean Jordan Parraire emerged victorious in the 10K category.

Alex Beach, competing in Antigua and Barbuda for the first time, praised the race as a "super unique experience"

and highlighted the island's natural beauty and welcoming atmosphere as major highlights of the event.

"The course was beautiful the entire race," Beach shared. "The hills and wind definitely made it challenging, but the early start helped keep the temperatures manageable. By the final 5K, the wind shifted behind us which really helped with the finish. Reaching the beach at the end was an incredible reward after such a tough run."

Alex also noted that completing the race by 6:20 a.m. allowed participants to fully enjoy the remainder of the day exploring Antigua and Barbuda, describing the event as the perfect blend of athletics and tourism.

The newly crowned champion further expressed his intention to return for future editions of the race and plans to encourage more runners from the United States to travel to Antigua and

Barbuda for what he described as an ideal "destination race."

The event also featured inspiring personal stories from participants, including one runner, Mr. Joseph Emas completing his 165th half marathon and another achieving a personal best after embracing the affirmation, "I will persist until I succeed."

As Run in Paradise celebrates a decade of growth and achievement, organizers say the event continues to exceed expectations while showcasing Antigua and Barbuda as a world-class destination for sports tourism, wellness and outdoor adventure.

The successful staging of the 10th edition further reinforces the event's growing international appeal and its contribution to the island's tourism product, community engagement and active lifestyle culture.



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RHYTHM
ROOM

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Jamaica among 8 countries joining UK-led global coalition to end violence against women, girls

Jamaica is among eight countries from across the globe joining a new United Kingdom (UK)-led International Coalition to End Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), reinforcing global efforts to ensure women and girls can live free from violence, abuse and fear.

The coalition, launched by UK Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper at the recent Global Partnerships Conference in London, brings together founding member countries including the UK, Jamaica, South Africa, Brazil, Morocco, Spain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Australia to strengthen practical action to prevent violence against women and girls.

The coalition aims to tackle domestic abuse, sexual violence and online abuse, while strengthening global efforts to prevent sexual violence in conflict and humanitarian crises.

Through the partnership, countries will share expertise, strengthen prevention efforts, scale up survivor-centred responses and develop national action plans to better protect women and girls and hold perpetrators to account. This as violence against women and girls remains a global emergency, affecting an estimated one in three women worldwide during their lifetime.

Launching the initiative, Cooper said: “Violence against women and girls is a global emergency not just a



national emergency. We are determined to work across borders to ensure women’s safety is a worldwide priority.”

She added: “I visited the Sudanese border in February, and I heard girls speak of rape, abduction and abhorrent sexual violence. I will make sure their voices are heard and fight to end violence for every single one of them, and for the one in three women globally who will experience sexual or physical abuse in their lifetime.

“I’m delighted to launch this Coalition with countries around the world that share our ambition. Because from the UK, to Brazil, to South Africa and beyond, women deserve to live free from fear of violence. And because there can be no peace, security, or prosperity for any of us until they do.”

Meanwhile, Jamaica’s Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport Olivia Grange welcomed the initiative and reaffirmed

Jamaica’s commitment to addressing gender-based violence.

Said Grange: “Violence against women and girls requires not only strong laws and policies, but coordinated, survivor-centred systems that protect, respond to and prevent violence. Jamaica remains committed to strengthening our gender architecture, expanding support services for survivors, addressing harmful masculinities, and advancing collective global action to end all forms of gender-based violence. I commend the United Kingdom for its leadership in advancing this important global campaign on violence against women and girls.”

British High Commissioner to Jamaica Alicia Herbert welcomed the island’s participation as a founding member of the coalition.

Said Herbert: “The United Kingdom is proud to partner with Jamaica as one of the founding members of this new International Coalition

to End Violence Against Women and Girls. This partnership reflects our shared commitment to prevention, survivor-centred support, stronger systems of protection, and holding perpetrators to account.

“By working together and learning from one another, we can help build safer communities and create a future where women and girls are safe, empowered and able to thrive.”

For her part, Senator Kamina Johnson Smith, Jamaica’s minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade, has lauded the initiative, saying: “We welcome continued collaboration with partners such as the United Kingdom as we build on our progress, strengthen protections, expand support and ensure women and girls can live free from violence and realise their full potential.”

The new coalition mirrors the UK government’s domestic ambition to halve violence against women and girls within a decade and forms part of broader international efforts to place women and girls at the centre of peace, security and development policy.

It will continue to advance practical cooperation among member states, with the UK set to convene a major international summit next year where countries will outline further commitments and report on progress. (Jamaica Gleaner)

St Vincent pushing for true food sovereignty



St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) is actively confronting a critical national vulnerability: its heavy reliance on imported foods.

Agriculture Minister Israel Bruce recently highlighted the precarious reality of depending on foreign supply chains for everyday staples, noting that relying on ships from the USA for lettuce and tomatoes, or hucksters traveling to Trinidad for potatoes and onions, is fundamentally “not a secure situation to be in”.

Compounded by climate change and geopolitical tensions driving up global fertilizer and fuel costs, Bruce issued a stark warning that SVG is currently “too dependent” on foreign imports.

To break this cycle, the nation is charting a course toward “food sovereignty” a concept Bruce defines as producing food that is inherently special to the Vincentian state, going a step further than basic food security.

The government’s strategy prioritizes growing high-nutrition crops and core staples for domestic consumption, empowering the nation to feed its own people without looking outward.

This push for sovereignty is already

yielding innovative local alternatives. Students at the local community college are transforming native crops into value-added consumer goods, such as barbecue-flavored dasheen chips and breadfruit tacos. By encouraging citizens to choose these homegrown creations over imported Mexican tacos, SVG is fostering a culturally authentic food ecosystem and signaling its readiness to compete with international markets.

The engine behind this agricultural transformation is the newly launched

USD 3.1 million Agricultural productivity recovery and young farmers training project.

Recognizing that true sovereignty requires a modernized workforce, the initiative is equipping 75 young farmers with the tools of a “future-facing industry”. Instead of asking youth to “step back in time,” the program trains them in climate-smart practices, digital farm tools, sensors, and drone technology. (St Vincent Times)

NOTICE

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**TO: THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
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I, Jeason Voan Bailey, of VJL with registered business situated at Cassada Gardens, St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that it is my intention to apply to the next siting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate Court, High Street, St. John’s, Antigua on Monday 6th July, 2026, next ensuing for a Bottle License pursuant to section (11) (1) (b) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap.249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition in respect of premises known as “VJL” situated at Cassada Gardens in the parish of St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated this 27th day of April, 2026

Tel: 268-781-1105

.....
Jeason Voan Bailey

China sends emergency food to Cuba amid deepening crisis

China has delivered the first 15,000 tonnes of rice to Cuba as part of a larger 60,000-tonne humanitarian assistance programme, offering relief to the Caribbean nation as it struggles with worsening food shortages and repeated power outages linked to the tightening United States economic blockade.

According to a report by Greater Belize Media, the shipment arrived in Havana over the weekend.

The write-up said that Chinese Ambassador Hua Xin described the delivery as the biggest single food assistance package China has sent to Cuba in recent years, adding that “it reflects the solidarity and mutual support between the two countries.”

The report noted that Cuba’s energy situation has become increasingly severe.

“Cuban Minister of Domestic Trade Betsy Díaz said, despite ongoing fuel constraints, authorities are working to distribute the rice as quickly as possible to the population,” stated the article.

Spanish newspaper El País reported that the country’s national electricity grid has failed seven times over the last 18 months, including two collapses in March, with some blackouts lasting as long as 24 hours.

Although a Russian oil tanker carrying more than 700,000 barrels of fuel arrived in Cuba in late March with approval from the United States, easing shortages temporarily, supplies were depleted within weeks. By May, conditions had worsened again, said the article.

It also added that the economic and energy difficulties are unfolding amid renewed political tensions.

Reportedly, thousands of Cubans gathered outside the US Embassy in Havana this week to show support for former president Raúl Castro after US authorities brought criminal charges



against him over his alleged involvement in the 1996 shooting down of two civilian aircraft operated by a Cuban-American exile organisation.

Meanwhile, on Sunday morning, current President Miguel Diaz-Canel took to X (formerly Twitter) and expressed “profound gratitude” for this act of

solidarity from China.

U.S. President Donald Trump recently intensified the blockade on Cuba, which has been in place since January, when the US utilized armed forces to extract and imprison Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. (Dominica News Online)



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Women inmates transferred from Venezuelan prison after uprising

More than 100 female prisoners have been transferred from a Venezuelan detention centre after inmates took over the facility in a prison uprising, an independent observer group said Monday.

A prison official informed family members of “the complete evacuation of the 112 women” though she did not specify where they were being taken, according to Venezuelan Prison Observatory (OVP).

The official also said that “men would be transferred voluntarily and that judges and prosecutors would arrive at the prison to set up a technical committee” for a review of cases, OVP said in a post on X.

Dozens of families waited anxiously Monday outside the prison in the western city of Barinas, where hundreds of prisoners burned mattresses and sheets on Monday and gathered on the roof, unfurling banners that read “No more torture.”

A group of inmates remained on the prison towers at daybreak Monday, the NGO said.

On Sunday, OVP said that 1,200 men and more than 100 women incarcerated in the facility, some 500 kilometres from Caracas had “gone on strike” at



the prison.

The inmates “claim to have been victims of beatings and torture,” the group stated.

Authorities have yet to comment on the riot.

For years, activists have criticised overcrowding, violence, limited food and a lack of medical care inside Venezuelan prisons. In April, the government confirmed the deaths of five people during a riot at the high-security Yare III prison near Caracas.

Venezuela has released hundreds of political detainees since US forces captured autocratic leader Nicolas Maduro in a stunning raid on the capital Caracas on January 3.

The landmark amnesty law, which was adopted in February, is one of the most significant reforms passed by Maduro’s successor Delcy Rodriguez, under pressure from Washington.

Some Venezuelans have expressed frustration at the pace of the releases. (AFP)

POINTE ON DE STREETZ

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Three killed in Uganda after crashing into elephant



At least three people have died after a vehicle collided with an elephant in a national park in Uganda, officials have said.

Police said four other people were injured in the inci-

dent in Murchison Falls National Park in the northwest of the country on Sunday evening.

The vehicle was carrying seven officials from the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), it added.

Car accidents are common in Uganda and incidents involving wildlife and humans are also on the rise, as expanding communities encroach on protected wildlife areas.

The car had been travelling from Arua city back to the capital, Kampala, when the collision took place, the Uganda Police Force said on X.

The injured were rushed to a local hospital and later to Kampala for treatment, it said. Officials did not provide information on the elephant's condition.

The Ugandan Wildlife Authority urged drivers to watch out for animals crossing the roads.

“Motorists travelling through Protected Areas are strongly advised to drive cautiously, as wild animals frequently cross the roads,” it said. (BBC)

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Police fire shots in air to disperse angry crowds at DR Congo Ebola treatment centre

Police in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo fired shots in the air after angry crowds attempted to reclaim the bodies of loved ones who had died at an Ebola treatment centre in Mongwalu, two local journalists told the BBC.

Sunday's unrest continued throughout the day, the reporters said.

The treatment centre, in a hospital compound, was the same place that was targeted overnight on Friday into Saturday, when an isolation tent was set ablaze

The body of a dead Ebola victim is highly infectious and can lead to the virus spreading further when prepared for burial.

There have been more than 900 suspected Ebola cases in the current outbreak and 220 suspected deaths, officials say.

According to Mongwalu General Hospital's medical director Dr Richard Lokudu, Sunday's attackers demanded the bodies of two people be given to their families.

He told the Associated Press news agency that the hospital was on "general alert".

One of the dead was a Catholic shepherd, who was a "well-known local figure - a religious leader", a hospital official told AFP news agency.

Suspicion of the authorities and scepticism about the cause of death has led to deep distrust among some in the communities currently affected by Ebola.

On Thursday, crowds set fire to isolation tents in hospital in Rwampara - a town 85km south-east of Mongwalu where cases are also concentrated - after they were prevented from taking the body of a man thought to have died from Ebola, away for burial.

Red Cross volunteers are carrying out safe burials under police protection to




stop the virus spreading.

Three volunteers have also died from suspected Ebola likely caught while managing dead bodies, according to the organisation.

This comes as health ministers from DR Congo and neighbouring Uganda and South Sudan over the weekend finalised their cross-border co-ordination in response to the outbreak, alongside the head of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).

On Monday, Uganda confirmed two new cases, both health workers, bringing its total infections to seven, with one death being recorded. The patients are receiving treatment and people they have been in contact with are being traced, the health ministry said.

Africa CDC warned that other countries on the continent - namely Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Zambia - are at risk from an outbreak.

The agency's director-general Dr Jean Kaseya said he is holding a meeting on Monday for "all African leaders" to share guidance.

Speaking to BBC World Service's Newsday, he said their plan looks at how to avoid waste, how to isolate and manage cases, and how to ensure people have "dignified funerals".

Kaseya also said DR Congo, Uganda and South Sudan, agreed on a \$319m (£236m) budget to stop the outbreak from spreading.

On where the money will come from, Kaseya said, so far, 10% had been secured by the affected countries.

On Monday, South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa pledged an initial \$5m as an act of solidarity.

"This contribution is a demonstration of our confidence in Africa CDC as the public health agency of our continent," he said during a briefing on the outbreak, as he encouraged other African states to join efforts.

"Africa is no longer waiting passive-

ly for others to act and to come to its assistance, waiting helplessly," he explained.

Calling on the international community to also support the plan, Ramaphosa said: "The world is safer when Africa is safer. Delayed response and support today will result in much higher human social and economic costs tomorrow."

Kaseya said that African businessmen would be meeting in Lagos on 29 May to "raise additional funds", while international partners such as the US, UK, European Union and World Bank are also "committing funds".

Ten days into the declaration of an outbreak, World Health Organization (WHO) chief Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said responders are "playing catch-up" after the initial delay in detecting cases.

Africa CDC declared an Ebola outbreak in DR Congo's Ituri province on 15 May. It is the country's 17th Ebola outbreak.

"We are urgently scaling up operations, but at the moment the epidemic is outpacing us," Tedros said on Monday, adding that he will be travelling to DR Congo the following day.

The WHO declared the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern.

The outbreak is caused by the rare Bundibugyo species of Ebola, which had not been seen for over a decade.

There are currently no vaccines or medications that target Bundibugyo, which makes it harder to treat.

Last week, the WHO said it could take up to nine months for a vaccine to be ready.

Along with Ituri, cases have been detected in DR Congo's North and South Kivu provinces, which border Rwanda.

Parts of the two eastern areas are under the control of rebel group M23, whose clashes with government forces have brought additional difficulties in dealing with the virus. (BBC)



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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	



New Winthorpes Lions retain ABCA Super40 Championship



The New Winthorpes Lions team celebrate with the trophy after winning the ABCA Super40 Cup title at the Antigua Recreation Grounds on Saturday, May 23, 2026.

Caribbean Motor Works (CMW) New Winthorpes Lions have retained the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Super40 Championship.

In a repeat of last season's final, the New Winthorpes Lions claimed back-to-back titles by surging to a commanding 113-run victory over Empire Nation in the championship decider at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) on Saturday, May 23.

Player of the match Demari Benta and opener Tyrone Williams Jr. pro-

duced half-centuries to guide the New Winthorpes Lions to 293 all out in 39.1 overs after being sent in to bat.

Benta cracked 83 off 70 balls, including eight fours and three sixes. He shared a 63-run third-wicket stand with Tyrone Williams Jr., who struck 68 off 72 balls, with seven fours and two sixes.

Williams Jr. was also involved in a 61-run opening stand with Jermaine Otto, who made 28 off 29 balls, including six boundaries. He was also involved in a 48-run second-wicket partnership

with Ian Eusebe, who struck 21 off 22 balls, with four boundaries.

Captain Nino Henry held the New Winthorpes Lions' lower order together by smashing a quick-fire 40 off 22 balls, including three sixes and three fours.

Their eventual total also benefitted from a contribution of 30 extras, including 23 wides.

Ajharie Joseph bagged four for 55, Damian Lowenfield claimed two for 33, skipper and off-spinner Justin Athanaze captured two for 36, and Dhari Francis picked up two for 75.

In reply, the Empire Nation tumbled to 181 all out in 26.5 overs. Opener Tanez Francis hit a top score of 67 off 52 balls, including nine fours and a six.

Only three other Empire Nation batsmen managed to reach double figures. Lowenfield struck 38 off 44 balls, Garry Dubbery scored 13, and George Elvin made 12.

There was also a contribution of 25 extras, including 12 leg-byes and 10 wides. West Indies fast bowler Alzarri Joseph grabbed four for 26, and Cameron Pennyfeather captured up two for 27.

Ian Eusebe took one for 17, and Shavon Moore picked up one for 29.



Roberts wins tense race to become new president of the ABFA



The newly elected ABFA executive: From left, Zita Edwards, Salim Browne, VP Edson 'Bedi' Joseph, President-elect Ickford 'Nya' Roberts, VP Tausha Millet, Gershum Philip, and Jerome 'Goggles' Crump.

Former national striker Ickford "Nya" Roberts has been elected as the new president of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA).

Roberts and his seven-member slate were elected to form the new ABFA executive for a four-year term at the Elective Congress of the local governing body, which took place at the John E. St. Luce Finance and Conference Center in St. John's on Thursday evening.

Roberts beat another former national player, Fernando "Nando" Abraham, 27-21 in the final round of voting in which all 48 eligible clubs took part.

It took three rounds of balloting to choose the body's new leader after Garfield "Garry" Gonsalves and Barbara Coates were eliminated after picking up the least number of votes in the two previous rounds.

Gonsalves was the first to be eliminated after receiving 11 votes in the opening round of voting, while Coates was knocked out in the second round with a total of 13 votes.

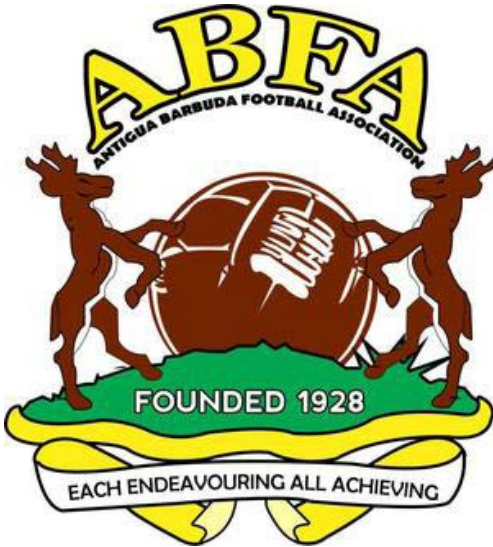
Roberts will lead the new ABFA executive that will comprise First Vice-President Edson "Bedy" Joseph, Second Vice-President Taursha Millette, and members Jerome "Goggles" Crump, Gershum Phillip, Salim Browne, and Zita Edwards.

The ABFA executive will also be responsible for selecting a general secretary,

which is a paid fulltime position, to manage its secretariat.

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Swetes Vipers and Police win opening games in ABFA Playoffs Series



The Swetes Vipers FC and Police FC have won the opening matches in the two Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) three-team round-robin playoff series.

The Swetes Vipers kicked off their campaign in the Premier/First Division Playoff Series by snatching a 3-2 victory against SAP FC in the opening encounter at the ABFA Technical Center on Saturday.

Tnoy Andrew converted a penalty kick in the 40th minute to give the Swetes Vipers a one-nil lead at half-time. SAP FC was also reduced to 10 men with the expulsion of Collin Grigg, who received a red card in the first minute of added time in the first half.

Goals by Shalon Knight in the 47th minute and Kaijah Matthew in the 49th minute gave the Swetes Vipers a

three-nil advantage. SAP FC managed to reduce the deficit via two late goals by Adrian Lyne in the 65th minute and Emerson Henry in the fourth minute of added time.

Both teams advanced to the playoffs after Swetes Vipers clinched third place and SAP FC secured fourth place in this season's First Division, which was won by the Greenbay Hoppers ahead of the Freemans Village Scorpions, who clinched the runners-up position.

The Greenbay Hoppers and the Freemans Village Scorpions gained automatic promotion to compete in the Premier Division next season. The third and fourth-place finishers are contesting the playoff with Green City FC, who ended in eighth place in this season's Premier Division.

The winner of the Premier-First Division playoffs will earn the right to compete in the Premier Division next season.

Police launched their campaign in the First/Second Division playoff series with a 2-1 victory over Kelton Dalso Real Blizzard in the opening match at the ABFA Technical Center on Saturday.

Following a goalless first half, Tian Samuel broke the deadlock with a 56th-minute conversion to put Real Blizzard ahead. But Terrel Richards converted a penalty kick in the 59th minute to equalize for Police.

His teammate Jamary Galloway snatched the winner for Police with a conversion in the second minute of added time.

Both teams advanced to the playoffs after Real Blizzard clinched third place and Police FC secured fourth place in this season's Second Division, which was won by the Guydadli Jets ahead of the Young Lions of Old Road, who clinched the runners-up position.

The Guydadli Jets and the Young Lions gained automatic promotion to compete in the First Division next season. The third and fourth-place finishers are contesting the playoff with English Harbour FC, who ended in 10th place in this season's First Division.

The winner of the First/Second Division playoffs will earn the right to compete in the First Division next season.

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association playoff series will continue with the second round of matches at the ABFA Technical Center on Wednesday.

Kelton Dalso Real Blizzard will meet English Harbour at 5 pm, and SAP FC will take on Green City FC at 7 pm.

Both playoff series will conclude with the third round of matches at the same venue on Sunday, May 31.

English Harbour will tackle Police at 5 pm, and Green City FC will clash with Swetes Vipers FC at 7 pm.



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Da Project and CG Gunners take leads in ABBA's playoffs finals



The Cedar Grove Gunners

Da Project and Cedar Grove Gunners claimed two-nil leads during their respective division series openers in the finals of the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) playoff championships.

The second-seeded Da Project snatched an 84-72 victory over reigning three-peat champions and top seed EZ Fit Flyers in Game 2 of their best-of-five First Division playoff finals at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday evening.

Terry Dawkins shot a game-high 23 points and grabbed 11 rebounds; T-Shawn Lewis sank 17 points and snatched nine rebounds; Cornell Greenwood narrowly missed out on a triple-double with 15 points, 11 rebounds, and nine steals; and Malik Moore chipped in 15 points and 5 rebounds for Da Project.

Nick Moore sank 17 points and

grabbed 11 rebounds; Kwame Brathwaite converted 12 points and claimed seven rebounds; Lennox McCoy scored 10 points; Daniel Perez had 8 points; and Adonis Humphrey provided six points and snatched 13 rebounds for the Flyers.

Da Project snatched an 86-79 victory over the Flyers in Game 1 at the same venue. Cornell Greenwood shot a game-high 27 points and grabbed 10 rebounds; Terry Dawkins sank 24 points; Malik Moore produced 15 points, 11 assists, and seven rebounds; T-Shawn Lewis scored 12 points and claimed five rebounds for Da Project.

Xavier Meade sank 23 points and snatched five rebounds; Adonis Humphreys converted 20 points and grabbed 14 rebounds; and Nick Moore scored 11 points and secured 18 rebounds for the Flyers.

League champions and top seed Ce-

dar Grove Gunners prevailed 80-66 over second-seed Cuties Ovals Ojays 2 in Game 2 of their best-of-five Second Division playoff finals.

Sergio Symister sank 23 points and claimed five rebounds; Shawn Thomas scored 11 points and grabbed 18 rebounds; Keady Martin and Iornie Joseph each scored 10 points; Tyras Grayman produced eight points, 16 rebounds, six steals, and five assists; and John Rolland Jr. had six points and 11 rebounds for the Gunners.

Tajahron Davis shot a game-high 25 points and provided five assists; Orion Seraphine sank 12 points and snatched nine rebounds; Dajon George converted nine points; and Yohhan Nicholas chipped in with eight points and nine rebounds for the Ovals Ojays 2.

The Cedar Grove Gunners prevailed 70-66 against the Ovals Ojays 2 in Game 1 at the same venue.

Tyras Grayman produced 15 points, 19 rebounds, and five assists; Shawn Thomas sank 14 points and grabbed 21 rebounds; Keady Martin converted 12 points and claimed eight rebounds; Iornie Joseph had seven points and 15 rebounds; and John Rolland Jr. chipped in with six points and 12 rebounds for the Gunners.

Yohhan Nicholas shot a game-high 26 points and grabbed 11 rebounds; Tajahron Davis produced 19 points and nine assists; and Jaleyle Joseph chipped in with six points and 11 rebounds for Ovals Ojays 2.



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Antigua Masters retain LI T20 title

The Antigua Masters are back-to-back champions of the Leeward Islands Masters Cricket Association T20 Tournament.

The Antiguan retained the title by pulling off a six-wicket victory over the St. Kitts Masters in the final at the Elquemedo T. Willett (ETW) Park in Charlestown, Nevis, on Sunday.

The Kittitians were dismissed for 96 in 19.3 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat. Opener Greg Stanley top-scored with 30 off 39 balls, including four boundaries.

Leg-spinner Anthony "I Roots" Martin grabbed four wickets for eight runs to claim the man of the match award. Kerry Mentore claimed two for 19, while James Cornelius and Derek Mourillon each picked up a wicket.

Mourillon then slammed an unbeaten half-century to lead the Antigua Masters to victory at 99 for four in 14.3 overs. Mourillon hammered 51 not out off 38 balls, including six fours and a six. Calvin Isles captured two for 12.

Both teams booked their spots in the final by securing victories in the semi-finals, which took place at the same venue on Sunday. The Antiguan crushed St. Thomas by 99 runs.

Kerry Mentore slammed an unbeaten century to propel the Antigua Masters to 223 for two off their 20 overs. Mentore hammered 132 not out off 69 balls, with 17 fours and five sixes.

He shared a 164-run opening partnership with Rolston Phillip, who smashed 68 off 50 balls, with six boundaries.

In reply, St. Thomas Masters were restricted to 124 for seven off their 20 overs. Andrew hit 52 off 17 balls, with



Antigua Masters won the 2026 Leeward Islands Masters Cricket Tournament at the Elquemedo T. Willett Park in Charlestown, Nevis, on Sunday, May 24.

seven fours and three sixes. James Cornelius bagged three for 19, and Anthony Martin took two for 19.

St. Kitts Masters recorded a six-wicket victory over Nevis Masters in their semi-final. Nevis Masters were restricted to 134 for four, and St. Kitts Masters achieved victory by scoring 135 for four in 18.3 overs.

On their way to the final, the Antigua Masters also prevailed against St. Croix and St. Kitts.

The Antiguan crushed St. Croix by 87 runs. The Antigua Masters made 144 for eight off their 20 overs after being sent in to bat. Kerry Mentore struck 51 off 46 balls, including five fours.

Ian Gore cracked 30 not out off 20 balls, with two fours and two sixes, and opener Rolston "Triss" Phillip hammered 29 off 18 balls, including five boundaries. Mark Vitalis captured four for 31.

In reply, St. Croix Masters were bun-

dled out for 57 in 15.4 overs. Stephan Matthew grabbed three for 12, off-spinner James Cornelius snapped up two wickets for three runs, and Frankling "Frankie" Francis claimed two for 21.

The Antigua Masters snatched a six-run victory against the St. Kitts Masters. The Antiguan made 122 for four off their 20 overs after being sent in to bat.

Opener Kerry Mentore smashed 49 off 52 balls, with eight boundaries, and Ian Gore slammed 33 not out off 35 balls, including three fours. Shane Jeffers bagged two for 22, and Leon Clarke took two for 36.

In reply, the St. Kitts Masters were restricted to 116 for eight off their 20 overs. Shane Jeffers hit 38 off 34 balls, with five fours, and Lee Maynard cracked 25 off 27 balls, including three fours.

Anthony Martin snapped up four wickets for six runs, and Kerry Mentore picked up three for 18.