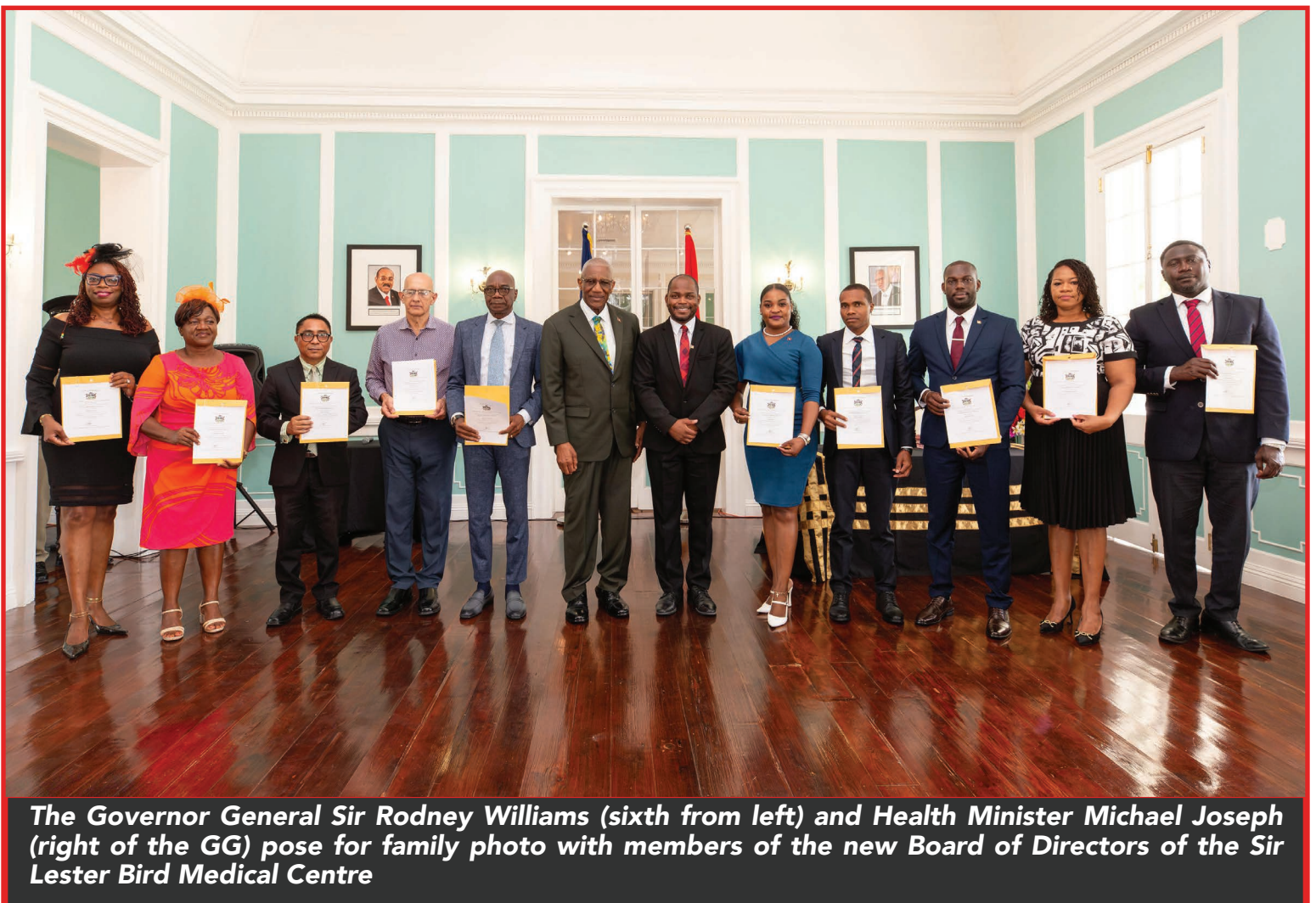


# UPP Partisanship Distorts a National Question

Story on page 2



The Governor General Sir Rodney Williams (sixth from left) and Health Minister Michael Joseph (right of the GG) pose for family photo with members of the new Board of Directors of the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre

# UPP Partisanship Distorts a National Question

► **A Government response to the twisted distortions of the Observer concerning the White Paper on U.S. proposals on Third Country Nationals –**

The Opinion of the owners of and operators of The Observer online on the Government's White Paper, (posted on July 3, 2026) concerning proposals from the United States on third-country nationals is presented as sober warning. In truth, it is a politically partisan exercise in distortion and mistruths.

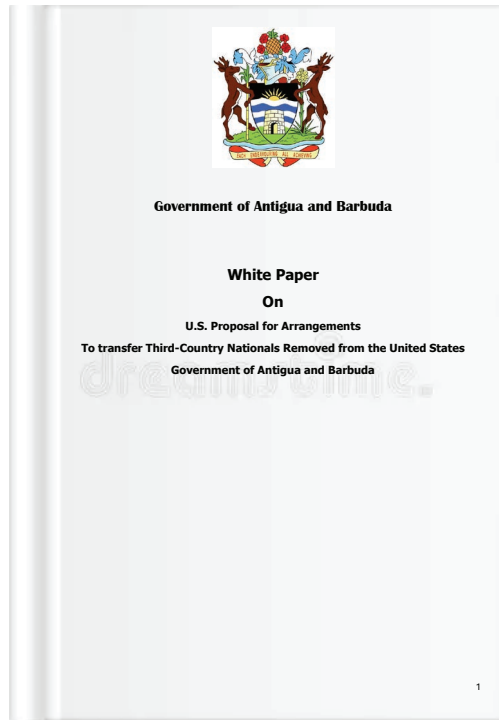
Its purpose is not to help Antigua and Barbuda think clearly about a serious national issue. Its purpose is to create suspicion, inflame public anxiety, and convert responsible diplomacy into political scandal.

Let us begin with the central deception in the article. It treats the Government's willingness to engage the United States in discussion on the U.S. proposals, regarding Third Country Nationals, as though that were itself a surrender of principle. It is nothing of the kind.

Small states do not protect themselves by refusing even to examine requests from important partners. They protect themselves by engaging carefully, stating their limits plainly, and insisting on terms that preserve sovereignty, law, and national interest. That is what the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has done.

The White Paper does not reveal a secret bargain. It reveals the opposite. It shows that the Memorandum of Understanding signed in December 2025 was expressly non-binding, that it did not create any automatic or continuing arrangement for the reception of third-country nationals by Antigua and Barbuda, and that Antigua and Barbuda retained complete discretion to consider or refuse any proposed case. That is not capitulation. That is the preservation of sovereign choice.

The Observer tries to turn that fact



into a scandal by suggesting that the Government somehow misled the public because it did not publicly announce every stage of a sensitive diplomatic exchange while it was still unfolding. But diplomacy is not theatre, and negotiation is not surrender. Governments are expected to engage, to test proposals, to reject unacceptable terms, and to refine their own position before placing matters formally before Parliament and the people. That is exactly what has now been done through the White Paper.

Indeed, the White Paper is itself proof of transparency. It sets out the background, the risks, the defects in the United States drafts, the Government's own concerns, and the conditions under which any cooperation could even be contemplated. A Government intent on concealment does not publish a White Paper and table it in Parliament. A Government acting responsibly does. It should be noted that no other country that has signed an agreement to accept third country nationals has taken the matter to their parliaments.

The Observer also strains to manufacture "hypocrisy" by claiming that

the Government publicly projected firmness while privately negotiating. But there is no contradiction between firmness and negotiation. On the contrary, firmness without negotiation is posturing; negotiation without firmness is weakness. The White Paper shows that Antigua and Barbuda neither accepted the original U.S. proposals nor walked away in a fit of gesture politics. It engaged them, identified their defects, rejected what was inadequate, and made a counter-proposal grounded in the country's own laws, size, and capacity.

That is not weakness. It is statecraft.

The article is equally misleading in its treatment of the number ten. It invites the public to focus on the figure as though the issue were simply arithmetic. It is not. The Government's position is that there will be no standing programme, no automatic pipeline, and no open-ended obligation. The figure of ten for 2026 is not a concession to pressure. It is part of a tightly limited counter-proposal, subject to strict conditions, full prior documentation, full prior funding, a right of refusal in every case, and a review in 2027. To present that as though the Government had thrown open the gates is not analysis. It is propaganda.

The same is true of the article's treatment of legal risk. It repeats concerns about non-refoulement, asylum, statelessness, legal limbo, and indefinite support obligations as though these were revelations against the Government. In fact, they are concerns identified by the Government itself in the White Paper. The Government has not hidden these risks. It has placed them before Parliament and the public. It is precisely because these risks are real that the Government has refused any standing programme and insisted that no arrangement could responsibly proceed without strict eligibility conditions, clear legal status, full funding, and full return responsibility.

The Observer asks many dramatic

questions: where would people live, would they work, who would monitor them, what ministry would be responsible, and what would happen if things went wrong? Those are not unreasonable questions. But they are not arguments against the Government. They are arguments for the Government's caution. They are precisely why the Government has approached this matter as it has.

The article also feigns indignation at the White Paper's discussion of reciprocal benefit. It says the public will now have to ask whether Antigua and Barbuda is being asked to trade immigration risk for diplomatic favour. But any sensible government must ask a simpler and more responsible question: why should Antigua and Barbuda assume burdens, risks, and political costs arising from another country's domestic migration policy without clear and commensurate national benefit? Full funding, full vetting, clear legal status, and return responsibility are minimum protections. They are not benefits. To ask what reciprocal advantage exists is not transactional cynicism. It is good government.

Perhaps the most politically revealing part of the Observer piece is its complaint that Parliament must not become a "rubber stamp". But Parliament is exactly where the matter belongs. The Government is not trying to avoid parliamentary scrutiny. It is inviting it. It is placing before the House the White Paper, the principles, the risks, and the terms on which any cooperation could be considered. That is how constitutional government works. One may disagree with the Government's position, but one cannot honestly portray the decision to take the matter to Parliament as evidence of bad faith.

Nor is it credible to argue that the issue should have gone first to town hall meetings rather than to Parliament. Public discussion is important, and the publication of the White Paper ensures that such discussion can now take place on the basis of fact rather than rumour. But Parliament is the nation's highest representative forum. When a

matter engages sovereignty, immigration policy, public finance, national security, and international obligations, parliamentary consideration is not avoidance of the people. It is respect for the institutions through which the people govern themselves.

The deeper problem with the Observer's article is that it never really confronts the central issue. The Government has not said Antigua and Barbuda should become a destination for other states' deportees. The Government has said exactly the reverse. It has said that Antigua and Barbuda is a small country with limited land, limited resources, and limited absorptive capacity; that it already accepts the return of its own nationals from the United States; and that the organised reception of deportees who are not its nationals cannot become a standing expectation unless arrangements are devised that do not impose unbearable

weight on already overburdened small countries.

That is not a partisan position. It is a national one.

The White Paper does not surrender sovereignty. It exercises it. It does not conceal risk. It identifies it. It does not evade scrutiny. It invites it. It does not say yes. It says that if Antigua and Barbuda is to contemplate any cooperation at all, it must be lawful, limited, fully funded, carefully controlled, and consistent with the national interest.

What the Observer has produced is not a defence of the nation. It is a partisan attempt to turn prudence into panic and diplomacy into deceit. On matters such as this, the country deserves better.

It deserves seriousness. It deserves honesty. And it deserves a debate grounded in the facts that the Government has now placed, fully and openly, before Parliament and the public.



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## ABCAS Celebrates Inaugural Graduation Ceremony



**The Honourable Daryll S. Matthew, Minister for Education**

The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) celebrated a defining moment in the nation's educational landscape on Thursday, July 2, as it hosted its inaugural Commencement Ceremony, honouring more than 200 graduates who made history as the inaugural graduating class of ABCAS. The ceremony, held at the SJPC House of Restoration, brought together graduates, faculty, staff, government officials, industry partners and invited guests in celebration of a new chapter in tertiary education in Antigua and Barbuda.

The commencement ceremony marked the culmination of a significant transition in public tertiary education. The inaugural graduating class comprised students whose programmes began at the former Antigua State College (ASC), Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT), and the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute (ABHTI) before they were unified under the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies. The ceremony also recognized participants who successfully completed professional short courses offered through the School of



**Dr. Ezra Jonah Greene, President of ABCAS**

Agriculture, reflecting the College's commitment to expanding opportunities for skills development and life-long learning.

Graduates received associate degrees,



**Resa Nelson, 2026 Rhodes Scholar and Commencement Speaker.**

diplomas and certificates across disciplines including business, culinary arts, education, engineering, health services, hospitality, information technology, the liberal arts, the creative in-



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**Inaugural ABCAS GraduatIn Class**

dustries and science.

Addressing the graduates, Minister of Education, Daryll S. Matthew, described the ceremony as the realization of a bold vision for public tertiary education. He congratulated the inaugural graduating class on their achievement, encouraged them to use their knowledge and skills in service of national development, and commended the continued progress of the School of Agriculture as an example of ABCAS' expanding impact in preparing graduates and strengthening workforce development in Antigua and Barbuda.

The ceremony also featured an address by ABCAS President Dr. Ezra Jonah Greene, the commencement address delivered by 2026 Rhodes Scholar Resa Nelson, the presentation of associate degrees and other qualifications, the valedictory address delivered by Valedictorian Fiona Benjamin, graduate of the Associate of Arts in Secondary Education (TVET) programme at the Dr. Alister Francis Campus, and the symbolic turning of the tassels.

The inaugural commencement ceremony was marked by several memorable moments, including the recognition of national cyclist Tahjé Browne, whose determination and resilience inspired those in attendance as he celebrated his graduation. The College also paid tribute to the late Culinary Arts student Brianna Clarke by reserving a seat in her honour and presenting her posthumous graduation canister to

her family, ensuring her place among the historic inaugural graduating class was forever remembered.

Salutatorian Micaiah Graham, a graduate of the Associate in Science and Mathematics (Natural Sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics) programme at the Dr. Alister Francis Campus, was also recognized for outstanding academic achievement.

As the Class of 2026 celebrated this landmark achievement, graduates left with a distinction that no future class will share: the honour of being the inaugural graduating class of the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies. Their accomplishments marked not only the successful completion of their studies but also the beginning of a lasting legacy for ABCAS and for tertiary education in Antigua and Barbuda.

**Brew**  
CAFE · BAR · LOUNGE

## CARNIVAL CORNER

*The Count Down to Carnival Is On at the Brew*

ANGOSTURA Chill  
Jack Daniel's  
Hennessy  
ABSOLUT VODKA  
ANGOSTURA

**Live DJ's**  
Every Friday from  
July 3rd – August 7, 2026  
6:00 PM until

**\$75**  
Unlimited drinks  
on select brands

**ENJOY UNLIMITED SELECTIONS FROM:**

- Jack Daniel's
- Hennessy
- Rude Boy \*Bucket of 10
- Absolut Vodka
- Angostura 7 Year

ANGOSTURA Chill ABSOLUT. Hennessy JACK DANIEL'S  
Premier Beverages

**Brew**  
CAFE · BAR · LOUNGE

*Every Friday, No Excuses*

## Ecclesiastical Commission and UWI Five Islands Campus Sign MOU to Launch Lifelong Learning Series for Church Leaders



The Ecclesiastical Commission of Antigua and Barbuda and the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Thursday, launching the Caribbean Theology, Ministry, and Public Life Lifelong Learning Series through UWI's Lifelong Learning Unit.

The series will offer clergy, lay leaders, and church members a set of accessible, Caribbean-focused courses spanning theology, biblical studies, pastoral care, and public leadership.

The first course will be a 10-week programme in governmental and public protocol, taught by educator Kurt Williams and will prepare church leaders to represent Antigua and Barbuda at official state functions, including this year's Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

The ceremony was attended by UWI Five Islands Campus Principal Professor Justin Robinson, Ecclesiastical Commission Chairman Reverend Dr. Emmanuel Elizée, and Permanent Secre-





tary in the Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation Rosa Greenaway, along with clergy and representatives from both institutions.

“Later this year, Antigua and Barbuda will host the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. This will bring global attention to our shores and will involve our state, our institutions, and inevitably our churches,” said Dr. Elizée. “If we are to represent our nation and our faith well in that setting, we need to understand the language of protocol, precedence, forms of address, national symbols, dress and decorum, hosting and hospitality.”

“A nation is built not by infrastructure alone, but by the character, the values, and the capacity of its people,” said Permanent Secretary Greenaway “This is precisely the kind of nation-building investment that the ministry and the government supports.”

The Ministry continues to work alongside Antigua and Barbuda’s faith communities as partners in the country’s social development.

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PROMOTION PRESENTS **FIFA STREETS**

5-A-SIDE UNLIMITED SUBS!

CASH PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS!

**SAT & SUN 18<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**

BLACKBURN BASKETBALL COURT

5:00 PM UNTIL LATE

DEADLINE JULY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2026

CALL JP TO REGISTER 721-3559

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE \$1500

2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE \$500

1 GOALKEEPER  
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PLAYERS PER SQUAD:  
MAX 10 PLAYERS

REGISTRATION:  
\$10 PER PLAYER

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# TICKET OUTLETS

**ROTI KING ST. MARY'S STREET & CORN ALLEY**

**COOL & SMOOTH LOWER ALL SAINTS ROAD**

**APUA INET OLD PARHAM ROAD**

**EXOTIC ANTIGUA REDCLIFFE STREET**

**SIPS & TIPS CEDAR GROVE MAIN ROAD**



**CASHLESS PAYMENTS AVAILABLE CARNIVAL CITY**





ANTIGUA  
Carnival  
2026

# MACHEL MONTANO

#ENCOREPERFORMANCE



JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>

8:00PM @ CARNIVAL CITY

EARLY BIRD  
GENERAL

\$100

RHYTHM  
ROOM

\$350



# Local News



## Antigua and Barbuda Classified as High-Income Economy by World Bank

Antigua and Barbuda has been officially classified as a high-income economy by the World Bank, placing the twin-island nation among a select group of countries recognized for having relatively high levels of national income.

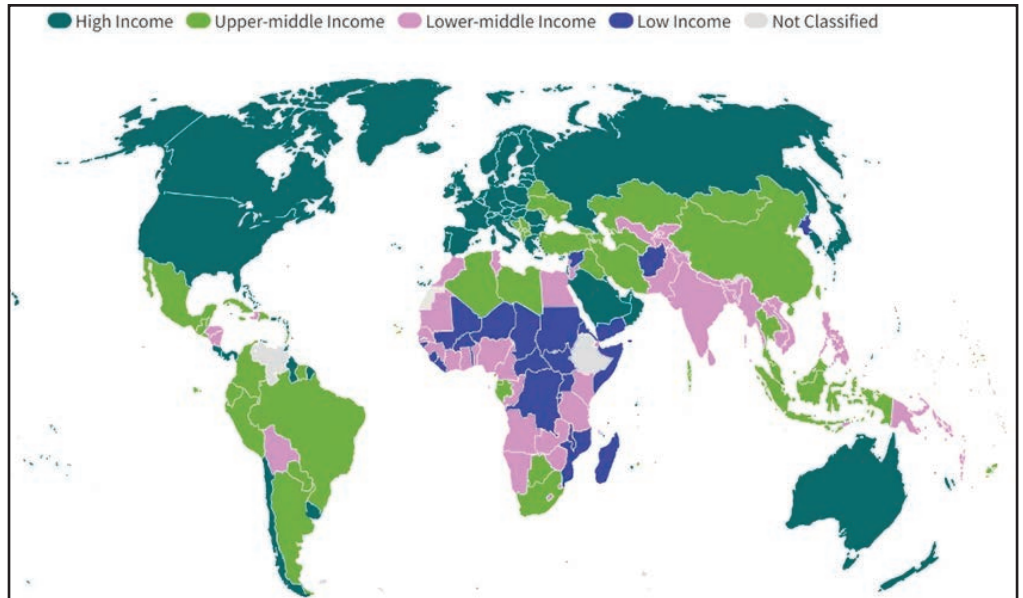
The designation appears in the World Bank's latest Country Income Classification, released on July 1, and is based on each country's Gross National Income (GNI) per capita for 2024, calculated using the World Bank's Atlas Method.

To qualify as a high-income economy for the current classification, a country had to record a GNI per capita above US\$14,375. Antigua and Barbuda exceeded that threshold with a GNI per capita of approximately US\$21,380, according to World Bank data.

The achievement places Antigua and Barbuda among 87 high-income economies worldwide, alongside Caribbean nations including Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago and The Bahamas.

The World Bank updates its income classifications annually on July 1, dividing economies into four categories: low, lower-middle, upper-middle and high income.

The classifications are intended primarily for analytical and statistical purposes and are based solely on GNI



per capita rather than broader measures of economic development or quality of life.

Gross National Income measures the total income earned by a country's residents and businesses, including income received from abroad, divided by the population to determine average income per person. The World Bank's Atlas Method is used to reduce the effects of exchange-rate fluctuations and improve comparisons across countries.

The latest classification reflects Antigua and Barbuda's continued economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic, supported by growth in tourism, construction, investment and

related sectors.

Economists caution, however, that the high-income designation does not necessarily mean all citizens experience a high standard of living. The classification measures average national income and does not account for income inequality, poverty or differences in the cost of living.

Even so, the designation represents a significant international benchmark, recognizing Antigua and Barbuda's economic performance and placing it among the world's highest-income economies under the World Bank's latest global assessment.

The advertisement features a blue background with a family photo of a woman, a man, and a child. On the left, the ACB Caribbean logo is displayed. The main text reads 'Claim Your Keys. Secure Your Land.' in white and yellow. Below this, the 'Home Advantage' logo (a house icon) and the 'LOTS' logo (a colorful circle) are shown. On the right, the text 'Apply today.' is written in yellow, with social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn below it.

## APUA Marks 53 Years of Service to Antigua and Barbuda



St. John's, Antigua, 3 July 2026 – The Antigua Public Utilities Authority will mark its 53rd anniversary on Saturday, July 4, 2026.

In recognition of this milestone, a church service was held on Thursday, July 2, 2026, at the Ottos Wesleyan Holiness Church under the theme, "Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future."

For more than five decades, APUA has remained a pivotal organisation in the social and national development of Antigua and Barbuda, providing essential services that support households, businesses, communities, and the wider economy.

Minister of Information, Communication Technologies, Utilities and Energy, the Honourable Melford Nicholas, extended congratulations to the Authority on its 53rd anniversary and reaffirmed the Government of Antigua and Barbuda's support for the continued advancement and improvement of APUA's services for the collective benefit of citizens and residents.

"The Government remains committed to supporting the transformation of



APUA, so that the Authority can deliver a more sustainable water supply, reduce energy costs through the adoption of renewable energy, and provide affordable broadband and mobile services to the people of Antigua and Barbuda," Minister Nicholas said.

During the anniversary service, APUA Chief Executive Officer, John Bradshaw, reflected on the Authority's historical journey from its formation in 1973 to its present role as a multi-utility provider. He reminded staff of the special place APUA holds, noting that the Authority is possibly one of the only utility companies worldwide pro-

viding electricity, water, and telecommunications services under one organisation.

Mr. Bradshaw also spoke to the future of the organisation, highlighting plans to strengthen sustainability, improve service delivery, and embrace technology and innovation, despite current fiscal challenges.

"While the challenges are real, APUA remains committed to its purpose and to serving the people of Antigua and Barbuda. By embracing technology, innovation, and sustainable planning, we believe brighter days are ahead for the Authority and the customers we serve," Mr. Bradshaw said.

As the Authority reflects on its journey, APUA extends sincere appreciation to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, its customers, past and present employees, and all stakeholders for their unwavering support and valuable contributions over the years.

APUA remains committed to building on its legacy, embracing the future, and providing the best possible service to the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

**TUES - FRIDAY  
11AM - 2PM**



**HOSTED BY  
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YEAR

## Celebration

# EBENEZER



"Thus far the LORD has helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12

**JULY 19<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

A WEEK OF CELEBRATION, PRAISE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

Celebrating how far God has brought us and the legacy that continues to impact our community for His glory!

**SUNDAY**  
JULY 19<sup>TH</sup>



**OPENING MARCH**  
FROM SYNE TO  
THE CHURCH GROUNDS  
**OUTDOOR SERVICE**  
ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS

**MONDAY**  
JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>



**CRUSADE SERVICE**  
ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS

**TUESDAY**  
JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>



**CRUSADE SERVICE**  
ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS

**WEDNESDAY**  
JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>



**HOUSE TO HOUSE**  
WITNESSING

**THURSDAY**  
JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>



**CONCERT/  
TESTIMONY NIGHT**

**FRIDAY**  
JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>



**BANQUET**

**SATURDAY**  
JULY 25<sup>TH</sup>

*Willikies Day*

9:30AM – 2:30PM



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HEALTH  
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**SUNDAY**  
JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>



**CLOSING SERVICE**  
CHURCH GROUNDS

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS, FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS**  
*to join us in our week of celebration!*



REMEMBER  
OUR PAST



CELEBRATE  
OUR PRESENT



EMBRACE  
OUR MISSION



EXPECT  
OUR FUTURE

**ONE CHURCH. ONE FAITH. ONE LEGACY.**  
**ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE.**



**SOCA VILLAN - YOUNG VICE - KID FRESH - EMPRESS - MENACE - ZAMONI  
ISLAND PRINCE - YOUNG LYRICS - VICIOUS - ARLEN SEATON - NIKKI NOOKS - DMITRIB  
DJ QUEST - DJ ALTITUDE**

**HOST : IBIS AND SUPA DYMOND**

**JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

8:00PM @ CARNIVAL CITY

EARLY BIRD  
GENERAL

**\$100**

RHYTHM  
ROOM

**\$350**



# I AM WOMAN 2026 always U.S. Antigua

*PATRICE ROBERTS*



**GENERAL**

**\$125**

**VIP ALL INCLUSIVE**

**\$400**

**GENERAL GROUP PACKAGE  
10 TICKETS FOR \$900**

## TICKET OUTLETS

- APUA INET MARKET STREET, ST. JOHN'S
- ROTI KING ST. MARY'S STREET & CORN ALLEY, ST. JOHN'S
- COOL & SMOOTH ALL SAINTS ROAD, ST. JOHN'S
- SIPS & TIPS NORTH WALK COMMERCIAL CENTER, CEDAR GROVE MAIN RD
- EXOTIC ANTIGUA REDCLIFFE QUAY, ST. JOHN'S
- UPPER DECK BAR OLD PARHAM RD
- ONLINE TICKETS @ TICKETING

*Tuesday*  
**JULY  
28**

**RIDDIM  
STREAM**

**ANTIGUA RECREATION  
GROUND, ST. JOHN'S**

## Statement from the Cuban Embassy in Antigua and Barbuda

In recent days, an article published by the American newspaper, *The Nation* has circulated widely on social media and in the press. It reveals how the U.S. State Department, under the direction of Secretary Marco Rubio, sent precise instructions to its embassies ordering them to pressure governments worldwide to prevent the United Nations General Assembly from debating the inhumane effects of the U.S. government’s policy of total economic strangulation against the Cuban population.

The publication of this document confirms once again what Cuba has denounced in multiple forums: Washington not only maintains a criminal blockade, a total energy embargo and the most draconian financial sanctions against the largest of the Antilles, but also does everything possible to silence the debate and international condemnation of its devastating humanitarian consequences.

According to the article, Marco Rubio has ordered all US embassies to pressure the governments of host countries to oppose the debate requested by Cuba at the UN General Assembly on July 7 regarding the inhumane consequences of Washington’s aggressive policies on the lives of more than 10 million Cubans. If the debate proceeds, the United States is asking its allies to attack Cuba in their speeches, accusing it of incompetence, corruption, and economic failure, and to avoid blaming the blocked for the extreme difficult situation the country faces as a direct result of the measures adopted by the Trump Administration.

Even more serious: Washington is issuing direct threats to the countries that have traditionally supported Cuba at the United Nations. It demands that they be “extremely careful” in their interventions and warns them that comments favorable to Cuba could generate “friction” in their bilateral relations with the United States, with the “neg-



### NOTICE

**TO: LICENSING MAGISTRATE**  
Magistrate’s Court  
Highstreet  
St. John’s,  
Antigua

**TO: COMMISSIONER OF POLICE**  
Police Headquarters  
American Road  
St. John’s, Antigua

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAVERN LICENSE REGISTERED AS**

**“5610 RESTAURANT AND MOBILE FOOD SERVICE AND BEVERAGE AND SERVICES**

I, Ed Ordwell Barrington Carty of Willkie’s Village, with registered business situate at Devil’s Bridge in the Parish of St. Phillip’s Antigua and Barbuda DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate’s Court, High Street, St. John’s, Antigua on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2026 next ensuing for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing ( intoxication Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition, in respect of premises known as “5610\_RESTAURANT\_AND\_MOBILE FOOD\_SERVICE\_AND\_BEVERAGE\_AND\_SERVICES” situated at Devil’s Bridge, Parish of St. Phillip’s, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 1st day of July 2026

.....  
ED CARTY

ative consequences that this would supposedly have for these countries.” This means that the United States is attempting to impose a global gag order: it is pressuring governments not to speak out, not to denounce the blockade, not to mention it, and not to acknowledge the suffering that this policy inflicts on the Cuban people. Marco Rubio is now trying to prevent even the issue from being debated, because he knows that the majority of the world rejects this illegal, cruel, and extraterritorial policy, as demonstrated by the fact that the UN General Assembly has overwhelmingly condemned the blockade against Cuba for 31 consecutive years.

Washington’s genocidal policy of economic strangulation against the Cuban people prevents even recognized international institutions of the United Nations system from delivering food, medicine, and other essential goods to the Cuban population. After recently suffering a crushing defeat in its attempt to prevent the World Food Programme (WFP) from approving a donation of 2,900 tons of food for distribution in Cuba, the US government, through an unprecedented campaign of threats and pressure against logistics companies, shipping lines, insurance companies, and others, has obstructed the transport of this food to Cuba. The same has happened with a shipment valued at US\$630,000 approved by UNICEF, which includes emergency medical kits, supplies for newborns, and nutritional supplements for pregnant women. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk recently warned that such severe sanctions, directed against entire sectors of an economy and with indiscriminate effects on the population, are incompatible with international law and with human rights treaties and principles.

As Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla recently pointed out, Cuba does not represent any threat to the United States. Cuba is not a military or nuclear power. The real threat is the blockade: a policy of collective punishment that affects food, medi-

cine, fuel, hospitals, transportation, electricity, and the daily lives of millions of Cubans. It is a crime against humanity that is happening right now.

The United States, through blackmail, threats, and pressure of all kinds, seeks to impose a new international order based on the total subjugation of the rest of the world to its hegemon-

ic interests. It will be up to the will of the international community and the dignity of their governments, to oppose these designs and prevent crimes against humanity, such as the genocidal blockade against Cuba, from going without the most, clear and unequivocal condemnation.




**Ministry of Health**

## UPDATE:


# EXTENDED OPERATIONAL HOURS

— FOR SELECTED COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES —



**CLINICS**


- Grays Farm Health Centre
- Clare Hall Health Centre



**HOURS OF OPERATION**


**8:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.**

Effective April 13, 2026



**SERVICES OFFERED**


✓ General medical consultations	✓ Acute asthma exacerbations
✓ Acute wound care and minor emergency care	✓ Dehydration
✓ Lacerations	✓ Gastroenteritis
	✓ Uncontrolled chronic illnesses including hypertension and diabetes



**COMING SOON**

The extension of operating hours for the Brownes Avenue Health Center and the Villa Polyclinic will be implemented at a later date.

*Details on the revised timeline will be provided at a later date.*



The Ministry of Health remains committed to improving access to quality healthcare services across Antigua and Barbuda.

## New Board of Directors for the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre Sworn In at Government House



**New Board of Directors for the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre Sworn In at Government House**

ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA – His Excellency the Governor-General, The Rt. Hon. Sir Rodney Williams, today presided over the Swearing-in Ceremony for the newly appointed Board of Directors of the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre at Government House.

The appointments were approved by Cabinet at its meeting held on 4 June 2026, and the ceremony marked the formal assumption of office by the Board members, who took the Oaths (or Affirmations) of Allegiance, Office and Secrecy before His Excellency. Following the administration of the oaths, each member signed the official instruments and received his or her Instrument of Appointment.

Also in attendance was the Hon. Michael Joseph, Minister of Health, Wellness, The Environment and Civil Service Affairs, who joined Their Excellencies in welcoming the newly appointed Board.

### ***The Board comprises:***

- ▶ Chairman – the Hon. Dr. Philmore Benjamin
- ▶ Deputy Chairman – Dr. Edmond Mansoor
- ▶ Board Secretary – Martin Camacho
- ▶ Board Member – Dr. Karen Josiah
- ▶ Board Member – Randy Agrippa
- ▶ Board Member – Casmin Greene
- ▶ Board Member – Akeem Edwards
- ▶ Board Member – Keva Dean
- ▶ Ex-Officio Member (Medical Benefits Scheme) – Kevin Silston
- ▶ Ex-Officio Member (Chief Medical Officer) – Dr. Kamaria DeCastro

In his remarks, His Excellency congratulated the Chairman and members on their appointments and acknowledged the critical responsibility entrusted to them in providing strategic leadership and sound governance for Antigua and Barbuda's premier public healthcare institution.

He encouraged the Board to approach its duties with integrity, diligence

and a steadfast commitment to excellence, noting that the decisions made by the Board would directly influence the quality of healthcare services delivered to the people of Antigua and Barbuda. His Excellency also emphasized the importance of collaboration, accountability and innovation as the Board works alongside the executive management, medical professionals and staff of the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre to strengthen the nation's healthcare system.

On behalf of the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, His Excellency wished the Chairman and members every success as they undertake their important national responsibilities in service to the country.

The Office of the Governor-General extends its congratulations to the newly appointed Board of Directors and looks forward to its contribution towards the continued advancement of healthcare delivery at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.



# inet

PARTY MONARCH

AUGUST 2ND

CARNIVAL CITY @ 8PM

Ticket \$40

ticketing  
TICKETS AVAILABLE



FEEL THE RHYTHM OF SOCA



Antigua Carnival



@antiguafestivalofficial



# MACHEL MONTANO

SKINNY FABULOUS - TIAN WINTER- VOICE - MUDDY  
TRIPLE-K - TIZZY

JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>

8:00PM @ CARNIVAL CITY

EARLY BIRD  
GENERAL

\$100

RHYTHM  
ROOM

\$350



**SUNDAYS  
10AM - 1PM**

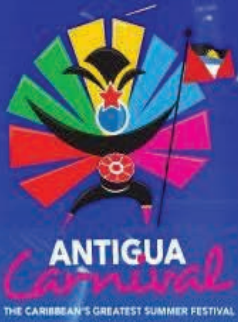


**HOSTED BY  
BEN WEN**

# **COUNTRY ROAD TRIP**

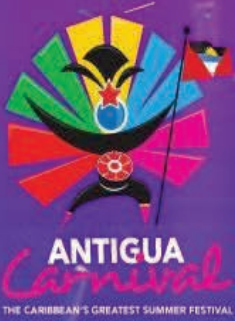
**CALL: 562-3989 OR 562-2991 | US: 718 285 7889  
FACEBOOK LIVE @ POINTE FM99.1**

**WE ARE GETTING STRONGER**



# PARTY MONARCH GROOVY QUARTER-FINALIST RESULTS

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>1. CHIN</b>          | <b>9. BLESS EYE</b>      |
| <b>2. DIOR</b>          | <b>10. YOUNG LYRICS</b>  |
| <b>3. RAIINE</b>        | <b>11. QUEEN THALIA</b>  |
| <b>4. VICIOUS</b>       | <b>12. ISLAND PRINCE</b> |
| <b>5. DADDY FERGUS</b>  | <b>13. EMPRESS</b>       |
| <b>6. NAYCHA KID</b>    | <b>14. MENACE XL</b>     |
| <b>7. EZZY RATTIGAN</b> | <b>15. KID FRESH</b>     |
| <b>8. ZAN</b>           |                          |



# PARTY MONARCH JUMPY QUARTER-FINALIST RESULTS

**1. CHAPO-GAD**

**2. ROMEL**

**3. DA WIZZ**

**4. DAN KNOWLEDGE**

**5. KING YOUNG VICE**

**6. VICIOUS**

**7. DIOR**

**8. PEETRON**

**9. KID FRESH**

**10. MENACE XL**

**11. LYRICAL REDS**

**12. ZAMONI**

**13. ISLAND PRINCE**

**14. BALLO**

**15. YOUNG LYRICS**



COME FOR THE  
**FETE**  
STAY FOR THE  
**MATCH**

# PARTY STAND



VS

20  
AUG



22  
AUG



23  
AUG



25  
AUG



NIGHTLY ENTERTAINMENT

**TICKET OUTLETS**  
SRVS TICKET OUTLET  
RUBIS SERVICE STATIONS  
THE STREET TEAM



**\$65**

INCL. \$25 IN  
DRINK CHITS

**7 PM**

SIR VIVIAN RICHARDS  
CRICKET STADIUM

