

Pelican Court Housing Development Formally Handed over

Story on page 2



Pelican Court Housing Development Formally Handed over to the Government of Antigua



Thursday marked a significant milestone in Antigua and Barbuda's housing efforts, as 150 condominium homes at Pelican Court, formerly Booby Alley, were officially handed over to the Government by the People's Republic of China.

The handover ceremony brought together government officials, Chinese representatives and project stakeholders to celebrate the completion of a development that provides new living opportunities for families.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne thanked China for its contribution, describing Pelican Court as a major investment in improving the lives of vulnerable citizens.

He said the project reflects the Government's commitment to ensuring that more families have access to decent housing, even as rising construction costs make homeownership increasingly difficult.

"When we provide these new homes, we're touching lives. We are improving lives. And ultimately, we're building better societies," PM Browne said.

While celebrating the handover, he reminded prospective homeowners that maintaining the properties and respecting community rules would be essential to preserving the development for future generations.

Chinese ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda Jiang Wei Li in her address during the handing over ceremony of

the Pelican Court to the government, reaffirmed China's commitment to aiding in Antigua and Barbuda's continued push for sustainable development and social transformation.

Ambassador Jiang noted that despite the evident distance between the two countries, there is an enduring friendship that has consistently yielded tangible results, and with the Pelican Court Development, the results have entered into communities.

With nine three storey buildings and 150 units, Pelican Court marks a new chapter for an area long associated with difficult living conditions, as the focus now turns to the families who will make these homes their own.

The prime minister added however



that notwithstanding the virtue of delivering the units to the former residents of Booby Alley, all recipients will be subject to an established code of conduct. Among the rules to be established, Prime Minister Browne not-

ed that there will be no tolerance gambling, narco-trafficking, and littering.

These rules, he said, are intended to “ensure that the homes are properly maintained, and are able to be passed down through generations.” He says

that the Pelican Court is a Governmental effort to empower the people of the community, providing families with assets to begin generating intergenerational wealth.

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Local News

Statement by Hon. E P Chet Green, Foreign Minister of Antigua and Barbuda

At US-Caribbean Dialogue - 15 October 2026, Washington, DC



Deputy Secretary Landau,

Thank you for hosting this gathering.

Antigua and Barbuda would like this dialogue to advance four specific areas: port security, tourism investment, access to financing and business travel.

The figures in our regional briefing show that, in 2025, the United States exported US\$17.2 billion in goods to CARICOM and imported US\$11.7 billion, earning a surplus of US\$5.5 billion.

There is room to expand this business further.

For Antigua and Barbuda, secure and efficient ports are essential to both trade and tourism.

We propose cooperation on cargo

screening, advance cargo information, maritime surveillance and training for customs and port personnel.

This should include detecting illegal firearms before shipment and protecting the digital systems on which port operations depend.

Better security should also shorten clearance times for legitimate cargo.

In tourism, we invite American investment in hotels, marinas and related services, including partnerships with Antiguan and Barbudan enterprises.

We propose a joint investment programme that identifies projects, brings developers together with financiers, and establishes clear approval requirements and timelines.

Investment should also create opportunities for local suppliers and training

for our people.

Renewable energy can be part of that programme.

Solar generation, battery storage and more efficient cooling systems can lower operating costs for hotels and other businesses, while creating markets for American equipment and expertise.

Financing will determine whether these opportunities proceed.

We ask the United States agencies to identify the project preparation support, loan guarantees and financing they can make available, with terms and minimum project sizes that accommodate small island economies.

Finally, business requires people to meet.

We ask that blanket visa restrictions affecting Caribbean nationals be removed and legitimate business travellers assessed individually against clear security criteria. Eligible businesspeople from every Caribbean country should have timely access to appointments and multiple-entry visas to meet suppliers, attend exhibitions and negotiate contracts.

We are ready to deepen cooperation on identity verification and risk assessment.

Let us use that cooperation to facilitate legitimate travel.

We propose designated officials and a ninety-day timetable to develop these measures.

Thank you.



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Minister Freeland Explores Antigua Charter Operations with Sunsail and The Moorings for 2027/2028

Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism, Michael Freeland, is exploring the possibility of bringing Sunsail and The Moorings charter fleets to Antigua and Barbuda for the 2027/2028 season, potentially expanding the country's sailing tourism business.

Freeland held discussions with Ian Pedersen, Head of Brand and Go-to-Market during the Annapolis Sailboat Show, where he is promoting Antigua and Barbuda's sailing events and opportunities for increased charter activity.

Accompanying the minister is Devin Joseph, the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority's Yachting Business Development Manager for Antigua, the United States and the United Kingdom.

According to Freeland, the representative welcomed the prospect of bringing fleets to Antigua to offer charters, particularly during Antigua Sailing Week. The discussions remain exploratory, and no fleet deployment has been confirmed.

Freeland said the two brands operate out of the British Virgin Islands and St Maarten and have more than 400 sailing boats and catamarans across their operations.

He indicated that attracting both brands could help Antigua and Barbuda reach customers in key tourism markets, with The Moorings primarily appealing to the United States market and Sunsail having a stronger European focus.

A presence in Antigua could provide more opportunities for visiting sailors to charter vessels locally, participate in sailing events and explore the country's waters.

Additional charter activity could also generate business for marinas, provisioning companies, restaurants, trans-



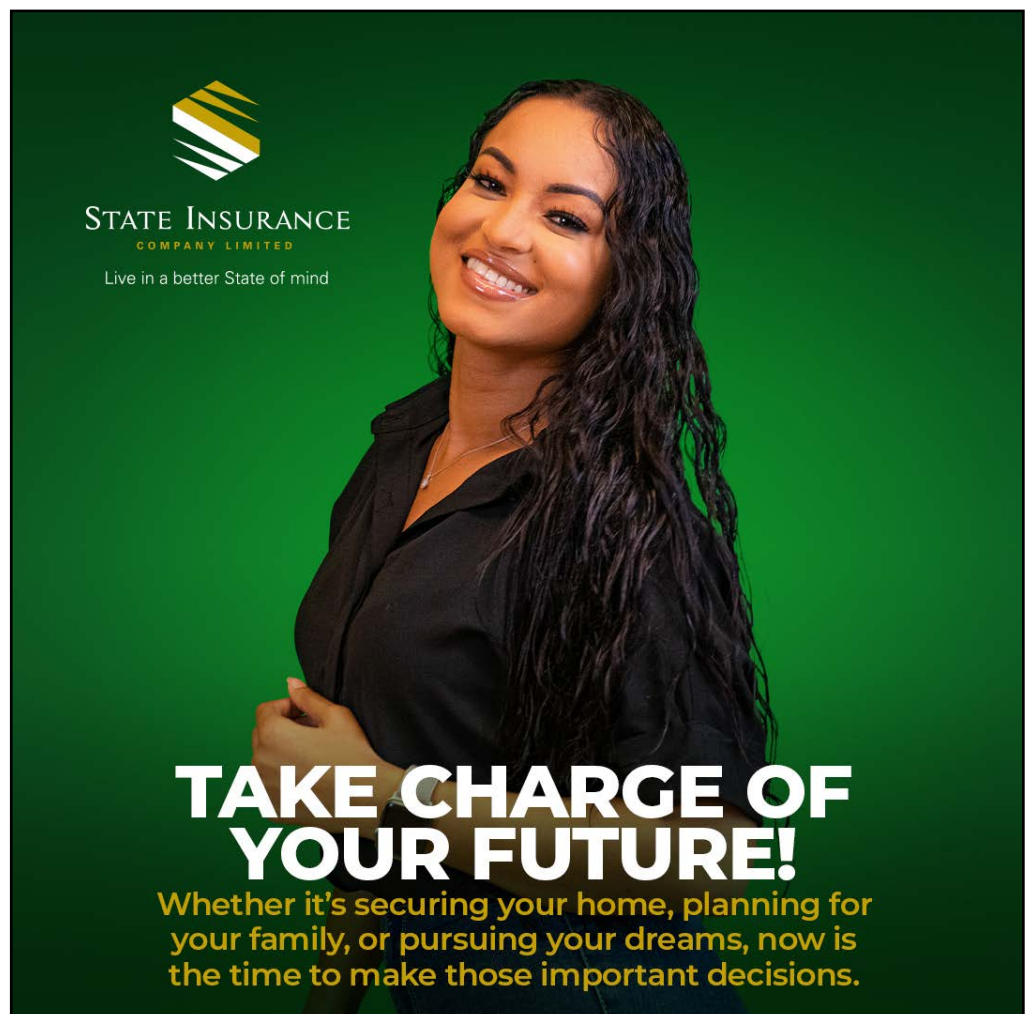
portation providers and other businesses serving the yachting sector.

Freeland's engagements at the show

also involve Rana Lewis, Marketing and Event Manager for Antigua Sailing Week and Antigua Racing Cup, who is part of the travelling delegation. He has also connected with Brian Duff of BVI Yacht Sales, who charters in Antigua and participates in the country's racing events.

The Annapolis Sailboat Show brings together sailors, charter operators, boat manufacturers and marine businesses, providing an opportunity to strengthen industry relationships and promote Antigua and Barbuda's sailing calendar.

The proposed 2027/2028 operations remain a subject for further discussion, with Antigua Sailing Week identified as a particular opportunity for collaboration.



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ABCAS Celebrates First Short Course Graduates



The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) celebrated its first cohort of short course graduates on Wednesday, during a ceremony at the John E. St. Luce Finance and Conference Centre, recognising the successful completion of training across 11 professional and technical programmes.

With more than 100 course completions recorded, the graduation marked an important occasion for the College, bringing together individuals from a wide cross-section of Antigua and Barbuda's workforce.

Among the graduating class were board members, farmers, janitorial and security personnel, established professionals, and people from various other occupational backgrounds. The diversity of the graduating class reflected the accessibility of the College's short course offerings and its ability to meet the training needs of people at different stages of their careers.

The ceremony was attended by the Minister of Education, Daryll S. Matthew; Director of Education, Clare Browne; Chairman of the ABCAS Board of Trustees, Dr. Vernon Solomon; Deputy Chair of the Board of

Trustees, Desrie Markham; President of ABCAS, Dr. E. Jonah Greene; Vice-President, Dr. Na-Ajele Williams-Buffonge; other members of the Board of Trustees; members of the College's executive leadership and management teams; faculty and staff; graduates and their families; and invited guests.

The short course programme drew on the areas of specialisation represented across the College's five campuses: the Eustace Hill Campus (Business, Innovation and Information Technology), Glanvilles Campus (School of Agriculture), Harrison Centre (Technical and Vocational Education), Muriel O'Mard Campus (Tourism and Hospitality), and Dr. Alister Francis Campus (Education, Arts, Science and Industry).

The courses offered included Broiler Production, Basic Household Plumbing Repairs, Crop Production, Electrical Fundamentals, Hospitality Service Excellence – Front Desk, HVACR for Technicians, Governance and Insurance for Board Directors, Professional Bartending and Mixology, Professional Desserts and Presentation, Professional Eyelash Application, and Pro-

fessional Food and Beverage Service.

Delivering the welcome remarks, President of ABCAS, Dr. E. Jonah Greene, shared her vision for the College to become the institution that individuals and organisations turn to whenever they seek to improve their knowledge and skills.

She encouraged graduates to use what they had learnt to create opportunities for themselves and others, reminding them that the value of their training extends beyond the certificates they received. She concluded her remarks with the words, "I

am ABCAS. We are ABCAS."

Delivering congratulatory remarks, Chairman of the ABCAS Board of Trustees, Dr. Vernon Solomon, emphasised the importance of personal choice and lifelong learning.

"Today, one word comes to mind: choices. You made the choice to develop a new skill when it would have been easy to remain comfortable. Lifelong learning is an important part of life, particularly as technology continues to evolve. We all have an obligation to continue growing."

Dr. Solomon further expressed the Board of Trustees' commitment to ensuring that individuals who enter ABCAS are given the opportunity and support to succeed.

Minister of Education, Science and Technology, the Honourable Daryll S. Matthew, emphasised the importance of education and skills training in Antigua and Barbuda's national development.

"Now more than ever, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has expanded access to education, ensuring that more citizens have opportunities



to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to contribute to national development. If we are going to be serious about food security, we have to support the School of Agriculture. I also want to appeal to corporate Antigua and Barbuda to support these graduates by providing opportunities through internships and employment, allowing them to put the skills they have acquired into practice. We must continue to expand our short course offerings so that more Antiguan and Barbudans can benefit from training that prepares them for the workforce and contributes to the development of our country.”

Vice-President of ABCAS, Dr. Na-Ajele Williams-Buffonge, who oversees academic affairs, including the

College’s short course programmes, was among the officials who presented certificates to the graduates, alongside Minister Matthew and Dr. Solomon.

A major feature of the ceremony was the recognition of the Most Outstanding Students across the 11 short course programmes, acknowledging graduates who distinguished themselves through their performance during the training period.

Delivering the graduate response, Ms. Joe Anna Stevens of the School of Agriculture reflected on the experiences and challenges that brought graduates to the ceremony.

“Today represents hope, achievement and success. Behind these gowns are journeys filled with long days, demanding responsibilities and, for some

of us, the fear of trying something new. ABCAS gave us an opportunity to take that step. To my fellow graduates, take what you have learnt and put it to good use. Continue to learn, apply what you know, advance and, most importantly, give yourself a chance.”

Stevens also expressed special appreciation to the School of Agriculture and the course facilitators for their guidance and support throughout the programmes.

The graduation marked the completion of ABCAS’s first short course programmes under its unified structure. The College intends to build on these offerings, providing further opportunities for individuals to acquire skills that can be applied in their workplaces, businesses and communities.

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An Organisation Associated with King Charles Partners with Antigua and Barbuda to Support CHOGM 2026

The Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI), founded by His Majesty King Charles III in 2020 when he was Prince of Wales, is partnering with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda in support of the 28th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2026, taking place in Antigua and Barbuda in November.

As part of the partnership, the SMI will serve as the Exclusive Sustainability Partner of the Commonwealth Business Forum 2026, one of the Official Forums of CHOGM, and will support the Government in delivering elements of the wider CHOGM programme.

The partnership will also extend to a number of key CHOGM moments, with the SMI being the partner for **One Commonwealth Night**, the flagship *live* cultural experience of CHOGM 2026; the **CHOGM Leaders Cricket Match** bringing together leaders and young people through the shared language of sport; and the **Joint Forums and Side Events Official Launch**, opening the programme of dialogue, collaboration and engagement surrounding CHOGM.

The partnership reflects the growing importance of sustainability, investment and private-sector action to the Commonwealth's future. Through its global network of CEOs and its work across industries, finance and countries, the SMI will bring its expertise and convening power to support the Commonwealth's ambition to accelerate partnerships, unlock investment and deliver practical action for sustainable growth.

Jennifer Jordan-Saifi, CEO of the Sustainable Markets Initiative, said: "We are delighted to partner with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda in support of CHOGM 2026, and to serve as the Exclusive Sustainability Partner of the Commonwealth Business Forum. This is a chance to



His Majesty King Charles III, founder of the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) when he was The Prince of Wales, during a roundtable organised by the SMI (PRNewsfoto/Sustainable Markets Initiative)

connect global business leadership with governments and communities across the Commonwealth, turning ambition into practical partnerships, investment and action."

The Commonwealth Business Forum 2026, taking place alongside CHOGM, will bring together government and business leaders from across the Commonwealth to explore opportunities for trade, investment, innovation and sustainable economic growth. As the Exclusive Sustainability Partner, the SMI will support the Forum's sustainability agenda and contribute to the wider program of CHOGM-related activity.

The partnership reflects the SMI's wider commitment to demonstrating how business, government and other sectors can work together to create sustainable and resilient markets, while supporting the Commonwealth's ambition to accelerate partnerships and investment for a prosperous future.

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Gaston Browne said: "For Antigua and Barbuda, sustainability and pros-

perity are inseparable. As a Small Island Developing State, we understand that building resilience, protecting our environment and creating sustainable economic opportunities are essential to securing a prosperous future for our people. The theme of CHOGM 2026, 'Accelerating Partnerships and Investment for a Prosperous Commonwealth,' reflects our conviction that no country can meet these challenges alone. Through stronger partnerships between governments, the private sector and our communities, we can mobilise investment, accelerate practical solutions and build a more resilient, sustainable and prosperous Commonwealth."

With CHOGM 2026 taking place under the theme "Accelerating Partnerships and Investment for a Prosperous Commonwealth," the collaboration will provide an opportunity to demonstrate how the Commonwealth can harness the power of business, investment and partnership to support a more sustainable and prosperous future.

NBS Marks Caribbean Statistics Day with School Outreach on the Importance of Census Data



The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), in collaboration with its regional counterparts and National Statistical Offices across the Caribbean, commemorated the 17th anniversary of Caribbean Statistics Day, under the theme “Harmonising Data, Strengthening Resilience.”

Caribbean Statistics Day provided an opportunity to highlight the critical role of official statistics in national and regional development, while recognizing statisticians and other statistical professionals for their hard work, dedication and contribution to evidence-based decision-making.

With the 2025 Population and Housing Census still underway in Antigua and Barbuda, officers from the Census Office used the occasion to visit a few schools across the island to engage students on the importance of the Census and the value of statistics in everyday life.

During the visits, students were encouraged to take the Census message home to their parents and guardians and remind them of the importance of cooperating with Census Enumerators when they visit their households.

Officers explained that information collected through censuses and surveys helps the country to better understand its population and plan effectively for essential services, including schools, healthcare, housing, employ-



ment, infrastructure and other areas of national development.

Students also learned that a census can be considered the “stock-taking” of a country, as it seeks to count everyone living in a country and gather important demographic and socio-economic information.

Census Enumerators visit households to collect information on the number of persons living in each household, their age and other demographic characteristics, employment status and additional information required to provide a comprehensive picture of the population.



Fisheries Division

Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and the Blue Economy

Point Wharf Fisheries Complex
Lower North Street, St. John's, Antigua
Telephones (268) 462-1372 / 462-6106 / 562-4309
Fax: (268) 462-1372
E-mail: fisheriesantigua@gmail.com

Processing Unit, Point Wharf: (268) 562-5737/38
Laboratory, Point Wharf: (268) 562-5735/36
Parham Fisheries Complex: (268) 562-4920/21
Urlings Fisheries Complex: (268) 562-4918/17



13 October 2026

Ref. No.: FD65/1

Press Release: Final Notice regarding Abandoned or Derelict Fishing Vessels, Vehicles and Fishing Gears at the Point Wharf Fisheries Complex

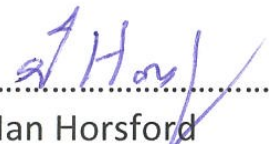
To all persons having abandoned or derelict fishing vessels, vehicles and fishing gears at the Point Wharf Fisheries Complex, **you are kindly asked to remove them on or before the 28th of October 2026**, since the Fisheries Division is on a major drive to clean-up the facility with the assistance of the National Solid Waste Management Authority, the Central Board of Health and the Development Control Authority. Persons are reminded of the numerous letters written and notices posted as far back as 2020, indicating our intent **to remove abandoned or derelict fishing vessels, vehicles and fishing gears at owner's expense.**

To the owners of these vessels, vehicles and fishing gears, the ***Litter Control and Prevention Act, No. 3 of 2019*** defines "waste" to include (but not limited to) "any abandoned or derelict vehicle, boat, fish-pot". Note under **Section 13 of the Act** "any derelict vehicle left in any public place in such circumstances as to cause, contribute to or tend to the defacement of the environment by reason of the presence of such derelict vehicle, the local authority may give notice to the owner or last known owner of the derelict vehicle requiring him to remove the derelict vehicle from the public place within twenty-four hours of such notice". Additionally, under **Section 34 or Section 47 the Physical Planning Act No. 6 of 2003**, the Town and Country Planner can issue an Enforcement Notice or draft an Amenity Order for submission to the Authority for the removal or disposal of these abandoned or derelict fishing vessels, vehicles and fishing gears.

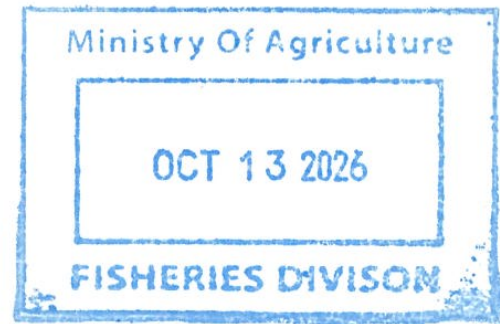
Should you have any questions regarding the clean-up activity, please feel free to call 462-1372 or 462-6106 or visit the Fisheries Division at the Point Wharf Fisheries Complex.

Let us keep our surroundings clean and protect our health and the environment.

Respectfully,



 Ian Horsford
 Chief Fisheries Officer, Antigua and Barbuda Fisheries Division



C.c.: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and the Blue Economy
 Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs
 General Manager, National Solid Waste Management Authority
 Chief Health Inspector, Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs
 Chief Town and Country Planner, Development Control Authority
 Police Commissioner, Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda

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St. Paul's Announces One Day Community Health Screening Event

Residents of St. Paul's are invited to take part in a free Community Health Screening Day on Sunday, October 18, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the deck of the St. Paul's Empowerment Center.

The one-day event forms part of St. Paul's Health Month 2026 and will provide blood pressure testing, blood sugar testing, eye testing, prostate screening and breast examinations. The screenings are free, and all residents are welcome to attend. Healthcare professionals will be available to conduct the screenings and provide practical guidance.

Free dual blood pressure and blood glucose monitors will also be available to the first 100 people who register for a monitor, limited to one monitor per household. Advance registration is encouraged for anyone requesting a monitor or wishing to reserve a spot for a particular screening service.

Registration is now open. Residents may register online at <https://epchetreene.ag/form-h-004/> or in person at the St. Paul's Constituency Office at the St. Paul's Empowerment Center. The registration form allows each participant to select any requested screening service and to indicate whether they are requesting a monitor.

The event is presented by Honorable E.P. Chet Greene as part of the ongoing Health Month campaign, Know Your Numbers. Own Your Health. The initiative en-



ST. PAUL'S HEALTH MONTH 2026
KNOW YOUR NUMBERS. OWN YOUR HEALTH.

ONE DAY ONLY
COMMUNITY HEALTH SCREENING DAY

SUNDAY	TIME	LOCATION
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FREE SCREENINGS • ALL ARE WELCOME

- ✓ Blood pressure testing
- ✓ Blood sugar testing
- ✓ Eye testing
- ✓ Prostate screening
- ✓ Breast examinations

FREE DUAL MONITORS
BLOOD PRESSURE + BLOOD GLUCOSE
FIRST 100 PEOPLE • ONE PER HOUSEHOLD

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Small Steps. Stronger Lives.

KEEPING IT GREENE

courages residents to take small, practical steps toward earlier detection, better health awareness and stronger household wellness.

Event at a glance;

- Sunday, October 18, 2026
- 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- On the Deck, St. Paul's Empowerment Center

- Free blood pressure, blood sugar, eye, prostate and breast screenings; all are welcome
- Advance registration is encouraged to reserve a spot for the requested service
- Free dual monitors for the first 100 registered people, limited to one per household



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Antigua and Barbuda to Host 36th Annual Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association Conference in 2027

St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, October, 15 2026 — Antigua and Barbuda has been announced as the host country for the 36th Annual Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) Conference and Exhibition in 2027, with the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) serving as the local host organisation.

The announcement was made during the annual CWWA Conference and Exhibition currently taking place in Grenada, where the Honourable Melford Nicholas, Minister responsible for Utilities, is leading a delegation comprising APUA's Chief Executive Officer, John Bradshaw, Water Business Unit Manager, Jason Peters, and other representatives of the Authority.

The 2027 conference is expected to welcome approximately 300 delegates, including regional government ministers, policymakers, utility executives, water and wastewater professionals, technical experts, and regional and international providers of products, services and technologies. Speaking on the significance of hosting the conference, Minister Nicholas welcomed the opportunity for Antigua and Barbuda to contribute to regional discussions on water security and sustainable development.

"Across the Caribbean, we face many of the same challenges in securing reliable and sustainable water supplies. This conference provides an important opportunity to share experiences, explore practical solutions and build stronger partnerships. We are pleased to bring this regional gathering to Antigua and Barbuda in 2027, and we look forward to welcoming delegates to our shores while showcasing the very best of what our country has to offer," Minister Nicholas stated.

The conference will feature high-level policy discussions, technical presentations, industry exhibitions and networking opportunities, bringing together decision makers and professionals to explore developments and solutions within the water and wastewater sectors.

For Antigua and Barbuda, hosting the event also presents an opportunity to promote the country's tourism offerings, culture and hospitality to a diverse regional and international audience, while providing APUA with a platform to highlight its ongoing investments in water infrastructure and service delivery.

Further details regarding the conference dates, venue and programme will be announced in due course.

-END -

Commentary

The Caribbean “Too Rich for Help”: When Will the Fiction End?



By Sir Ronald Sanders

On 14 October, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva warned that higher borrowing costs, falling development assistance and other economic pressures threaten to widen the distance between advanced and developing economies. She appealed for additional resources for the Fund's Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust and its Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust, which assist low-income and particularly vulnerable countries.

That appeal deserves support. The poorest countries should not be abandoned.

But the discussion must also include countries whose vulnerability is obscured by their designation as middle-income or even high-income economies. Several Caribbean states fall into these categories. Their income classifications say something about their economies, but far less about their capacity to withstand a major disaster or a prolonged collapse in earnings.

This is hardly a new argument.

As far back as October 2009, I wrote

about Caribbean leaders who attended the IMF and World Bank meetings in Turkey seeking relief and restructuring for the debt of vulnerable, middle-income countries. The late David Thompson, then Barbados Prime Minister, explained that restricted access to World Bank funding had pushed countries towards private borrowing at higher interest rates and with shorter repayment periods.

Seventeen years later, the region is still having to make the case that the terms on which countries borrow can determine whether they develop or spend years struggling to meet payments.

There has been progress, and it should be acknowledged.

The World Bank's International Development Association makes provision for some small economies above its normal income threshold. The IMF's Resilience and Sustainability Trust also provides longer-term financing for eligible vulnerable middle-income countries and small developing states. These arrangements are important departures from a system that relied too heavily on income alone.

However, eligibility for a particular facility does not settle the larger question of whether a country can obtain sufficient financing, on suitable terms, when it needs it. Nor does a new loan remove the burden of existing debt.

For Caribbean people, that burden has practical consequences.

Money committed to debt payments cannot also purchase medical equipment, improve schools or repair water systems. When governments have little room to spend, necessary work is postponed. Roads deteriorate, public services struggle and opportunities for young people diminish.

The consequences extend beyond government budgets. Businesses de-

pend on reliable electricity, functioning ports, good roads and workers with the skills their enterprises require. A government unable to finance these services will find it harder to support the economic activity from which future revenue must come.

Debt can therefore weaken the very capacity needed to repay it.

None of this excuses careless borrowing, wasteful expenditure or poor administration. Caribbean governments owe their people transparent accounts, sound procurement, competent debt management and investments that can withstand scrutiny. Borrowing for projects with doubtful benefits places an unfair obligation on future taxpayers.

The region's case is stronger when governments demonstrate that they are managing public money responsibly.

But even the best-managed small state cannot prevent a hurricane, control international oil prices or stop a recession in the countries from which its visitors arrive. Nor can it spread those risks across the range of industries and markets available to a much larger economy.

Consider a country whose hotels, roads, electricity network and homes suffer extensive damage in a single storm. Its government faces urgent expenditure just as tax receipts decline. It must restore essential services and help people recover their livelihoods while continuing to meet obligations incurred before the disaster.

An income figure calculated before the storm offers little guidance on what that government can now afford.

There is also a distinction between borrowing to create new productive assets and borrowing to replace what has been destroyed. Replacing a bridge may restore an essential connection, but it does not necessarily create the

Commentary

PAGE 17

additional income needed to service another loan. Repeated reconstruction can leave a country owing more simply to recover the standard of living it previously enjoyed.

International financing arrangements must take account of this reality.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) in August 2024. Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, co-chaired the UN High-Level Panel that developed it, alongside Norway's former Prime Minister, Erna Solberg. The index provides a fuller assessment of countries' vulnerability to external shocks and their structural capacity to withstand them. That work should inform actual financing decisions, including access, interest rates and repayment periods. Recognition of vulnerability is of limited use if it leaves the terms of borrowing untouched.

There should also be wider provision for suspending debt payments after major disasters, allowing governments

to direct scarce resources towards immediate recovery. Such arrangements should be agreed before emergencies occur, when there is time to settle the terms properly.

Where repeated disasters have contributed substantially to unsustainable debt, creditors should be prepared to examine restructuring and relief. Grants and deeply concessional finance should carry a greater share of the cost of adaptation and disaster recovery.

Caribbean governments and regional institutions have already done substantial work to advance this case. Barbados' Bridgetown Initiative, the MVI, and the Caribbean Development Bank's collaboration with other development banks on debt and resilience financing demonstrate serious regional effort.

These initiatives require decisions by international governments and institutions with the power to change financing rules and provide resources. Caribbean countries can develop pro-

posals, supply evidence and negotiate persistently. They cannot, by themselves, secure changes that depend on the agreement of major shareholders and creditors.

The forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda offers an opportunity to press influential governments for specific commitments to advance these proposals within international financial institutions.

The people of small Caribbean island-states need financing arrangements that give them a reasonable chance to build, recover and advance. An income classification should help explain a country's circumstances. It should never become an excuse for ignoring them.

(The writer is Antigua and Barbuda Ambassador to the US and the OAS and Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development. The views expressed are his own)



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Liberty Caribbean puts people at centre Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Liberty Caribbean is reinforcing the importance of human judgment in protecting people, information, and digital systems as it observes Cybersecurity Awareness Month under the theme, “In the AI era, human judgment cannot be replaced.”

The campaign, aligned with parent company Liberty Latin America (LLA), encourages employees and customers to adopt three simple cybersecurity practices: Pause. Verify. Report. It focuses on the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI), recognising impersonation and suspicious requests, protecting sensitive information, and safeguarding critical business processes.

Liberty Caribbean are the operators of Flow, Liberty Business and BTC.

A highlight of this year’s calendar was LLA’s company-wide Cybersecurity Awareness Town Hall on October 13 under the theme: In the AI Era, Your Judgement Leads, which brought employees together to examine how AI is transforming the workplace and why human judgment remains essential to digital security.

Hosted by Wendy Madriz, Communications Associate Manager, the session featured three panellists: Felipe Ruiz, Chief Information Security Officer;



Johanna Escobar, General Manager, Liberty Costa Rica; and Luis García, Senior Manager, Information Security. Their discussion focused on the importance of pausing, verifying, and reporting to protect the company’s digital environment and keep employees securely connected.

The panellists noted that while artificial intelligence presents significant opportunities to improve how people work, it also introduces new risks that require greater awareness and accountability.

They emphasised that technology alone cannot provide adequate protection and that every employ-

ee has a responsibility to question unusual requests, verify information and report potential threats. They added that incorporating these practices into daily routines would strengthen the organisation’s collective ability to protect its people, customers, and business.

Across Liberty Caribbean, employees joined the seminar with some markets having watch parties and creating opportunities for teams to engage with the discussion and reinforce cybersecurity awareness within their respective markets.

“Our employees were tuned in since this was an important opportuni-

ty to turn cybersecurity awareness into meaningful conversations. As a telecommunications provider, protecting our customers and their information is fundamental to the trust they place in us,” said Wayne Hull, Country Manager, Flow Antigua and Barbuda.

“We want every team member to recognise that cybersecurity is not solely the responsibility of our technical teams. The decisions we make every day, from handling customer information to responding to suspicious messages, all contribute to a safer digital environment.”

Throughout October, Liberty Caribbean is amplifying LLA’s campaign with employee engagement activities, cybersecurity training reminders and regional digital communications designed to promote responsible technology use.

The company is also encouraging customers to remain vigilant against increasingly sophisticated cyber threats, particularly AI-enabled impersonation, and fraudulent requests.

Through its Cybersecurity Awareness Month activities, Liberty Caribbean continues to reinforce a shared responsibility for digital safety, encouraging everyone to pause before acting, verify before trusting and report anything suspicious.



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



A.E.D.
Agricultural Extension Division



WORLD FOOD DAY 2026

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES | ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 AM–3:00 PM

PLATE OF PURPOSE (POP) SOUP KITCHEN & FOOD DRIVE
Bishop E. Knight Golden Age Home, St. John's

FOCUS: Food security • Intergenerational support • Farm-to-table nutrition education



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 — WORLD FOOD DAY

7:00 AM

OFFICIAL NATIONAL ADDRESS

The Honourable Anthony Smith, Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and the Blue Economy
ABS Television & Radio | Social Media Streaming

9:00 AM–3:00 PM

NATIONAL SEEDLING DISTRIBUTION DRIVE
Agricultural Extension Division Headquarters, Kentish Road, St. John's

PLANT2PLATE CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

FOCUS: Sustainable agriculture • Youth involvement • Food sovereignty



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

12:00 PM–7:00 PM

AGRI NIGHT MARKET & EXPOSITION

Vegetable seedling distribution for backyard gardeners and the general public
Agricultural Extension Division Grounds, Kentish Road, St. John's

FOCUS: Local food • Youth agribusiness • Community engagement



Caribbean
Agricultural
Research and
Development
Institute





ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

45 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Renaissance

ROOTED IN PRIDE, BOUNDED BY PROSPERITY FOR ALL

NATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

SPECIAL DRILLS AND CHEERLEADING COMPETITION



THURSDAY
22
OCTOBER 2026



SIR VIVIAN
RICHARDS
STADIUM



8:30 AM



NATIONAL
EVENTS
DEPARTMENT
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



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ASSOCIATION OF
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ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

*Share Hope...
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OCTOBER 3RD – DECEMBER 19TH

*"Whoever is generous to the poor
lends to the Lord, and He will repay
him for his deed."
— Proverbs 19:17*

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DIFFERENCE!**

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PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITY
in Antigua & Barbuda.**

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-  **BERNARD WARNER
(PRESIDENT)
781-1228**
-  **ABAPD OFFICE
562-9575**

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MINISTRY OF
SPORTS &
CREATIVE
INDUSTRIES

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA 45TH INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY
18
OCTOBER

Independence Church Service

Precision Center

4:00 PM

THURSDAY
22
OCTOBER

National Youth Rally, Special Drills and Cheerleading Competition

Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

8:30 AM

SUNDAY
25
OCTOBER

National Food Fair

Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

10:00 AM

National Schools' Panorama

Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

6:00 PM

MONDAY
26
OCTOBER

National Heroes Day Wreath Laying Ceremony

Heroes Park – Sir Sydney Walling Highway

10:00 AM

National Independence Business Decor Competition

Starts: October 26

Ends: October 29

TUESDAY
27
OCTOBER

Voices in Harmony - Festival of Choirs

St. Anthony's Secondary School

8:00 PM

WEDNESDAY
28
OCTOBER

Schools' Independence Programs

Schools Across the State

Island Treasures Gala - Golden Age

Casa Palmadita

THURSDAY
29
OCTOBER

Barbuda Day Activities

Evening of Theatre

St. Anthony's Secondary School

7:00 PM

FRIDAY
30
OCTOBER

Independence Calypso Competition

Green Lounge – Cedar Valley

8:00 PM

National Dress and Flag Day

SUNDAY
1
NOVEMBER

Independence Flag Ceremony

Barbuda

7:00 AM

Independence Ceremonial Parade

Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

5:45 PM



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

45 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Renaissance

ROOTED IN PRIDE, BOUNDED BY PROSPERITY FOR ALL

SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE
AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Regional News

Search for missing Tobago fishermen covers 1,300 square nautical miles

The Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard has searched more than 1,300 square nautical miles for two missing fishermen and their vessel, Predator, but had received no reported sightings of them up to Tuesday.

The fishermen, Kester Alexander and David McLean, from Tobago, were reported missing on the evening of October 9, and search and rescue operations began the following day.

In a news release issued on October 13, the Coast Guard said coordinated maritime and shoreline searches were continuing, with available resources deployed to maximise coverage.

The United States Coast Guard continues to provide updated Computer-Assisted Search Planning support, while the Grenada Coast Guard and Venezuelan Coast Guard are also assisting.

An Urgent Marine Information Broadcast remains in effect to alert mariners and encourage anyone with information that could help locate the vessel and its occupants to come forward.

The Trinidad and Tobago Regiment has also supported the operation by conducting shoreline patrols along the coast from Matelot to the Toco Lighthouse, extending the search beyond maritime operations.

The Coast Guard acknowledged the concern and distress experienced by the fishermen's families and said efforts to locate the men remained ongoing.

Further updates will be provided as information becomes available, the release stated. (Trinidad Express)



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Secret location...TCNs' residency not up for disclosure, says Chang

THE location of the first batch of 22 third-country nationals (TCNs) that arrived in the island on Monday will remain concealed says National Security Minister Dr Horace Chang.

Responding to questions posed by journalists at a post-Cabinet media briefing at Jamaica House Wednesday, Chang maintained that though he is aware of where the TCNs are being housed, it's not his "privilege" to announce where they are.

"I cannot give you their housing. We handed them over to International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and they made arrangements for them as to where they are to stay. The officers were in Jamaica and they looked at a number of hotels; they now have the responsibility of where they are to stay. In fact, they can move them at anytime," said Chang.

The group, which arrived under an agreement signed between the Jamaican and United States (US) governments in June this year, comprises of 15 males and seven females, representing seven nationalities.

According to the Government, under the agreement, up to 25 asylum seekers who have unresolved migration cases in the US will temporarily transit through Jamaica en route to their home countries every two weeks.

But Chang on Tuesday shared that he is unaware of when the next batch of TCNs will arrive.

"I cannot tell you when others will arrive. We have a 14-day gap. As I've indicated, we can get another trip after 14 days, but there's no guarantee. It's not like these are designated numbers as we have with the involuntary returned migrants that we receive — our own citizens. Every two weeks, we know we get a batch, a flight,



anywhere from 50 to 75 individuals. The TCNs depend on the number which might penetrate the barrier getting into the United States, as well as where they are from and what the State Department will decide or Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will decide where they're sending them and to which country," he said.

According to Chang, no limitations will be placed on the TCNs during their stay in the country.

"They are individuals from different cultures, and what they do is up to them. They are here as visitors and they are working closely with the IOM in terms of conveying relevant information. The IOM will extract the information they require to prepare them for transit to their home country. They are free to do as they wish, like any visitor to Jamaica.

"They are individuals, who just like you in this room are regular working people who have sought to migrate, but done so illegally to the United States. The ones we accept, there are

no criminals in there. They're just families looking for a better life and we are accommodating their transition back home," Chang reiterated.

Responding to concerns about the number of people who may want to seek asylum, Chang told journalists that the issue is not one of the Government but that of the institution which deals with the applications.

"The commissioner that deals with asylum or refugee status is a public body. It's like a court. The documents are available. And I'm not saying we'll not say how many...It's their right to do so. And if they do so, it will be established. The asylum committee will sit, and the public will have access to it," he said adding that the process can be lengthy, but the Government will notify the public as the numbers are available.

"They may ask to stay without going to asylum. It's their freedom to do so. They are here as visitors, and if they have a skill set that is in high demand, they may. Doesn't mean we have to accept it, but they can apply for that as well as apply for refugee status. They have a number of options," he said.

According to Chang, their options will be discussed with them by the IOM.

"The IOM will interrogate and not only make arrangements for their movement, if they seek other alternative arrangements, then the IOM will inform us and we take it from there. But that is an important part of the nature of the IOM. As indicated, the United Nations body, they do this kind of activity globally as a trusted organisation in humanitarian relief activity. And, therefore, we allow them to proceed without any interference," he said. (Jamaica Observer)

Regional News



Mohamed, staff remain in custody



Opposition Leader, Azruddin Mohamed and two members of his staff remain in police custody as forensic investigations intensify following Monday night's shooting incident outside the Kitty residence of a senior police officer.

Authorities have confirmed that Mohamed, along with staff members Eugene Thorne and Mario Mohamed, were swabbed for gun powder residue (GSR) in the wake of the October 12 confrontation. However, laboratory results remain outstanding, and critical questions linger over whether forensic fingerprinting was performed on the firearm recovered by law enforcement.

Mohamed's attorney Siand Dhurjon has said that initial checks of the vehicle along Vlissengen Road immediately following its interception yielded no weapons. However, a firearm was subsequently reported discovered inside the vehicle after it had been transported under police control to the Kitty Police Station.

Defence teams have pressed for transparency regarding chain-of-custody records, demanding to know whether comprehensive forensic procedures, including latent fingerprint analysis, DNA profiling, and ballistic matching, have been conducted on both the recovered weapon and the vehicle interior.

The incident has triggered a war of narratives between the government and the office of the leader of the opposition.

According to official government statements, Senior Superintendent of Police, Prem Narine, Head of the Guyana Police

Force's Special Branch and a key witness in ongoing extradition proceedings against Mohamed, was inside his Barr Street, Kitty home around midnight on Monday when he observed a dark-coloured, heavily tinted vehicle lingering outside. The government asserts that the vehicle's occupants were actively filming the residence and that gunshots were discharged from the car, prompting Narine to retrieve his service weapon and return fire in self-defence.

A high-speed pursuit ensued, ending at the junction of Sandy Babb Street and Vlissengen Road, where the vehicle was intercepted.

Conversely, the office of the leader of the opposition has fiercely condemned the encounter as a "deliberate assassination attempt." Mohamed maintains that he drove past Narine's home solely to document what he termed the misuse of state resources, specifically citing an excessive police security detail assigned to a private property. Mohamed alleges that Narine initiated unprovoked gunfire, discharging five to seven rounds into the vehicle before pursuing and intercepting them, accompanied by physical assaults during the arrest. (Kaieteur News)



VACANCY

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Irish public sector workers strike, leading to school closures and cancelled medical appointments

Hundreds of thousands of teachers, doctors and civil servants walked off the job in Ireland on Wednesday, crippling public services across the country as workers demand higher wages to offset the rising cost of living.

Most schools, colleges and universities are closed and thousands of medical appointments have been canceled because of the one-day strike, which was called to pressure Prime Minister Micheál Martin to intervene in the talks, which have been stalled since June.

Speaking at Mater Hospital in Dublin, the head of the main public employees' union, Forasa, blamed the government for failing to address the pay demands of workers.

"The government needs to respond to our members today, right across the country," said Kevin Callinan, Forasa's general secretary.

"The struggles they're having with the cost of living, the sense of a breach of trust that's happened with the Department of Public Expenditure. They're the issues that need to be faced up to by the government now."

Consumer price inflation accelerated to 4.1% in the 12 months through September, the highest rate since January 2024, Ireland's Central Statistics Office said last week.

Housing costs jumped 9.5% in the period and transportation expenses rose 7.5%.

Conor Carroll was on the picket line Wednesday at St. Michael's Hospital in Dun Laoghaire, a coastal town south of Dublin. The



hospital porter said that the dispute was all about the cost of living.

"Every time you go to the supermarket you feel it," Carroll told The Irish Times.

"Everything's gone up, even the cost of eating. And whatever you're earning doesn't feel like enough these days."

The government had tried to head off the strike by highlighting its commitment to put an additional 1.2 billion euros (\$1.34 billion) into public sector pay.

Martin said Wednesday that he was open to being an "honest broker" to resolve the pay dispute.

The government's budget decisions provided "a very strong foundation" for public service pay talks, he said, adding that he detected "goodwill all round."

"I think the foundations are there for a very substantive engagement between unions and government, and we certainly will be doing everything we possibly can," Martin said. (AP)

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School roof collapse in Pakistan kills at least 35 and injures more than 50

The roof of a private school collapsed in the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar on Thursday, killing at least 34 children and a teacher and injuring more than 50 other people in the deadliest incident of its kind in the country, authorities and a hospital official said.

The children killed or injured at Al-Khair school were between 6 and 12 years old, while the oldest was 14, Lady Reading Hospital spokesman Mohammad Asim said. Some of the injured were in critical condition, he said.

The hospital declared an emergency as medical staff treated the wounded.

Hours after the collapse in Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, emergency services spokesperson Bilal Faizi said that everyone trapped beneath the rubble had been pulled out and crews had cleared debris.

He told The Associated Press that the roofs of two classrooms collapsed when second- and third-grade children were in them with their teachers.

Faizi said ambulances and disaster management personnel arrived from a nearby facility within five minutes of being alerted.

Nearly 100 rescuers eventually joined the operation, he said. Panicked, grieving parents were trying to help when crews arrived, Faizi said.

He credited the rapid evacuation with saving at least 40 lives. More than a dozen children suffered minor injuries, he said.

Building collapses are common in Pakistan, where construction standards are often poorly enforced.

Many structures are built with sub-standard materials, and safety regulations are frequently ignored to reduce costs. (AP)



NOTICE

TO: THE LICENSING MAGISTRATE
Magistrate's Court
High Street
St. John's
Antigua

TO: COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAVERN LICENCE FOR BUSINESS

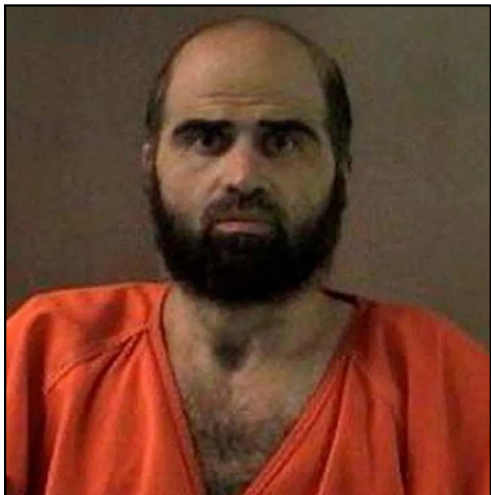
REGISTERED AS

"GOODRICK EXCLUSIVE VACATION COTTAGES"

I, Donna Gordon-Allen, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licence Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, High Street, St. John's Antigua on Tuesday 5th January, 2027 next ensuing for a Tavern licence in respect of premises known as "GOODRICK EXCLUSIVE VACATION COTTAGES" situated at Freemans Village in the Parish of St. Peter's, Antigua pursuant to Section (11) (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.

Dated the 8th day of October, 2026
Donna Gordon-Allen
268-720-9832

Trump calls off livestream for Fort Hood shooter's execution by firing squad



US President Donald Trump has called off plans to livestream the execution of former US army psychiatrist Nidal Hasan by firing squad.

Trump had previously said he approved of showing online the death of the Fort Hood attacker, while Vice-President JD Vance cast doubt on whether it would happen and said he would not watch it.

As criticism over the public display mounted, Trump said on Thursday that “many very good and well meaning people would rather not watch him die”.

“I think streaming the execution for all to see might have been a strong deterrent for the World to witness how America deals with Terrorists and SCUM like Hasan,” Trump said.

“He will die, as scheduled, by firing squad, but this event will not be streamed,” the president added.



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tickle me pink II
fête

CONTRIBUTION | **OCT 17, 2026**
\$100 | **8:00 PM**

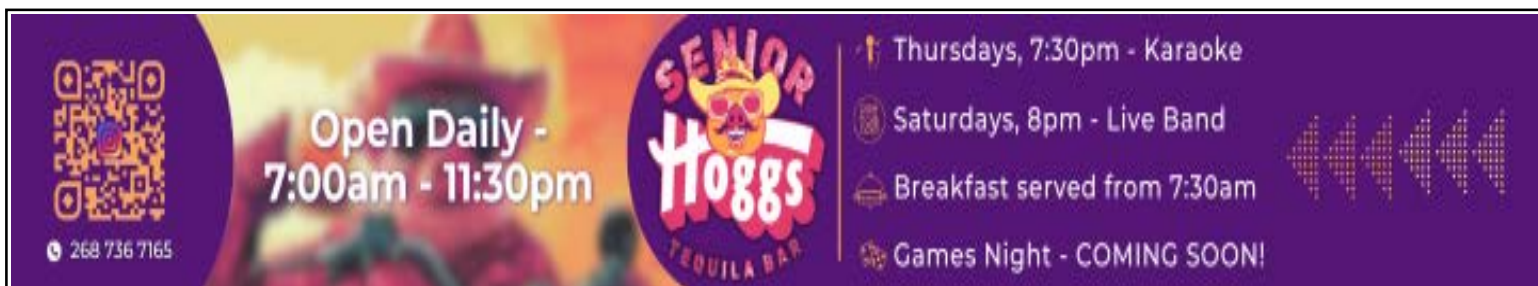
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Hasan fatally shot 13 unarmed US soldiers at a military base in Texas in 2009, injuring another 32. His execution by firing squad would be the first military execution in more than 60 years. (BBC)



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A vibrant poster for the Antigua Carnival 70th Anniversary. The background features a collage of carnival dancers in elaborate feathered costumes, with a large, colorful geometric pattern in shades of purple, pink, and blue. The Antigua Carnival logo, featuring a stylized bird and a flag, is prominently displayed in the center. Below the logo, the text 'ANTIGUA Carnival' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with 'Carnival' in a large, pink, cursive script. Underneath, 'THE CARIBBEAN'S GREATEST SUMMER FESTIVAL' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The '70th Anniversary' is highlighted with 'Legendary' in a pink cursive script and '70' in a large, blue, diamond-encrusted font. The dates 'JULY 20TH - AUGUST 3RD 2027' are displayed in a large, pink, sans-serif font. At the bottom, social media handles for Facebook and Instagram are provided.

ANTIGUA
Carnival
THE CARIBBEAN'S GREATEST SUMMER FESTIVAL

Legendary **70**

JULY 20TH - AUGUST 3RD 2027

 ANTIGUA CARNIVAL  @ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

45 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Renaissance

ROOTED IN PRIDE, BOUNDED BY PROSPERITY FOR ALL



INDEPENDENCE *Church Service*



SUNDAY
18
OCTOBER 2026



PRECISION
CENTER



4:00 PM



NATIONAL
EVENTS
DEPARTMENT
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Sports News



ABNA selects national team for Battle of the Isles netball tourney

The Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association (ABNA) has announced the senior national team, which has been selected to represent Antigua and Barbuda in the 2026 Battle of the Isles Tournament (BOIT) in St. Maarten from October 28 to November 1.

The 13-member squad includes Tan-ya Green, Charmaine Weatherill, Er-verdine Parker-Barnarde, Shozuan George, Kizzy Hughes, Xandea Hobson, and Anayjah Anthony.

The other selected players are Shi-anna Payne, Juvan Richards, Joy Shaw, Jonelly Encarnacion, Tashana Bloomfield, and Krizia Duncan.

The final team was selected from a 22-member national training squad.

The head coach is former national goal shooter Jamila Fitz. Akiel Hazel-

wood is the assistant coach, Sanchez Martin is the team manager, and Durand Meade is the official to provide primary care.

Antigua and Barbuda is returning to the tournament in St. Maarten following a four-year hiatus.

This year's tournament will mark its 10th anniversary, bringing together teams from across the region for a celebration of competition, unity, and netball. Teams from host St. Maarten, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Dominica have so far confirmed their participation in this year's event.

The 2026 Battle of the Isles is being held under the theme "Where Islands Compete, Unity Shines, Legacy Lives," with the event also highlighting the slogan "One Game, Many Is-

lands, One Passion, Stronger Together."

Organizers are also using the tournament to honour the legacy of the competition while looking ahead to its future, as participating islands converge in St. Maarten.

Antigua and Barbuda's participation will provide the selected players with an opportunity to compete against teams from other islands while representing the country on the regional stage.

The tournament is expected to combine high-level netball competition with the celebration of regional sporting connections as Battle of the Isles commemorates a decade of bringing island teams together.

Winning start for Rangers in ABFA's First Division League



Players of the Ottos Rangers football team

The Ottos Rangers made a successful start to their campaign upon their return to the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League on Wednesday.

After being relegated from the Premier Division last season, the Ottos Rangers marked their return to the First Division by recording a 3-1 victory over English Harbour in their opening game at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

Striker Clarence Marsh scored the opening goal of the match with a strike in the first minute of play to give English Harbour the lead.

But the Ottos Rangers responded quickly to draw level, with forward Antoniel "Scuda" Campbell snatch-

ing the equalizer with a third-minute conversion.

Zabuda Mc Coy scored in the 39th minute to give the Rangers a 2-1 lead at halftime. An own goal by Andrew Bowen in the 61st minute extended their lead and sealed the win for the Ottos Rangers.

A winning start as well for the Swetes Vipers, who snatched a 2-1 victory over Willikies FC in the second game of a First Division double-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Shalon Knight scored both goals for the Swetes Vipers with conversions in the 63rd and 88th minutes. Dejzmatch Christian gave the Willikies FC a one-nil halftime lead with a 27th-minute conver-

sion.

Tyrique Tonge scored a late equalizer in extra time to snatch a 2-2 draw for SAP FC against Parham FC in their opening game of Wednesday's double-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Tonge scored in the fourth minute of added time to salvage the draw for SAP FC, which scored the opening goal of the match via a Taysean Merrick conversion in the 13th minute.

After trailing one-nil at half-time, Davrick Lockhart snatched an equalizer with a strike in the 47th minute before teammate Juan Oxley gave Parham FC a 2-1 lead with a conversion in the 50th minute.

Sports News



COOL & SMOOTH SECONDARY SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2026

Winning start for PMS in defense of school girls under-20 title

Princess Margaret School (PMS) made a successful start in defense of their Girls Under-20 Division title in the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth JOMA Caribbean Schools Football League on Wednesday.

Princess Margaret School launched their campaign in this year's competition by recording a 2-0 victory over Jennings Secondary School (JSS) in their opening-round match at the Golden Grove playing field.

Jahkayla Bellot produced a 20th-minute conversion, and Faith Gallay scored an own goal in the 48th minute to seal the win for Princess Margaret School.

The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) launched their campaign with a 7-0 drubbing of Clare Hall Secondary School (CHSS) at the Golden Grove playing field.

Abigail McDonald achieved a hat trick with conversions in the third, seventh, and 17th minutes, while Mia Lake struck twice with goals in the 21st and 23rd minutes.

The other goals for ABCAS were converted by Sanique Levy in the fifth minute and Aliah London in the 26th minute.

St. Anthony's Secondary School (SASS) and All Saints Secondary School (ASSS) also won their opening

matches at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

St. Anthony's Secondary School snatched a 2-1 victory against Pares Secondary School. Malyka Donawa scored the opening goal in the third minute to give Pares Secondary School the lead.

T'Nai Francis secured an equalizer in the ninth minute, and teammate Gabrielle Mansoor snatched the winner for SASS with a 37th-minute conversion.

Zah-kier Gordon scored the only goal of the match in the first minute of play to give All Saints Secondary School a one-nil victory over St. Mary's Secondary School (SMSS).



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Richie's Shooterz close in on winning business basketball league title

Last year's losing finalists, Richie's Shooterz, moved a step closer to capturing the round-robin title in the 2026 Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League on Wednesday evening.

Richie's Shooterz maintained their lead at the top of the 13-team league and remain the only unbeaten team by surging to their 11th win in as many matches with a 58-47 victory over APCMOL in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Cohen Desouza shot a game-high 21 points, and Steven Matthew sank 13 points for Richie's Shooterz in their penultimate match in the round-robin league.

Takeem Martin had nine points, and

Tristan Jacobs and Sergio Symister each converted seven points for APCMOL, who slumped to their fourth defeat in 11 games.

Richie's Shooterz will win their round-robin business league title if cup-holders, the Board of Education (BOE), lose their penultimate game on Saturday evening.

The Board of Education, who are currently in second place with a record of nine wins and one defeat, will face third-placed Sandals in the second game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday.

Victory for the BOE over Sandals will set up a title decider with Richie's Shooterz when both teams meet in the final game of the round-robin league at the same venue at 7 pm on Monday,

October 19.

Meanwhile, Anjo Wholesale notched up their sixth win in 11 matches by pulling off a 71-62 victory over the Sledge O'Ballers in Wednesday's opening game.

Marcus Murphy produced 24 points, and Erije Joseph scored 10 points for Anjo Wholesale, who will play their final round-robin league match against APCMOL on Saturday.

Leroy Percival shot a game-high 26 points, Ariel Quallis sank 14 points, and Deon Jules scored 11 points for the Sledge O'Ballers, who wrapped up their league campaign by slumping to their sixth defeat during their quota of 12 matches.


 An advertisement for Curry House. The background shows a variety of Indian dishes in bowls, including curries, rice, and chutneys. The text 'Curry House' is written in a large, stylized red font on the left. Below it, 'ANTIGUA' is written in a smaller red font. On the right, the text 'Open Daily - 12:00pm - 10:30pm' is written in white. At the bottom, there are social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp, followed by the text 'currytandoorihouseanu', 'curryhouseanu', and the phone number '(268) 736-7165'.

Premier Division matches return to the ABFA Technical Center



Players of the Garden Stars and Pigotts Bullets (blue jersey) compete during the first match of the 2026-27 Premier Division season at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday, October 11, 2026. (ABFA)

Matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division are being relocated from the Antigua Recreation Ground (ARG) in St. John's to the national association's headquarters at its Technical Center at Paynters.

A double-header on Sunday, October 11, marked the return of Premier Division matches at the Antigua Recreation Ground.

Premier Division matches at the ARG in the 2019–20 season were suspended on **March 12, 2020**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The return of Premier League matches to kick-off the 2026-27 ABFA domestic league season was delayed by a day to complete preparations at the ARG.

It forces the postponement of the initial opening-day double-header at the ARG on Saturday, October 10.

However, in a media release, the ABFA is advising the public that Premier League matches will be temporarily relocated from the Antigua Recreation Ground to the ABFA Technical Center, starting this weekend.

"Following a very successful return to the ARG, where fans turned out in impressive numbers for the opening round, we have been advised that the venue will be unavailable until November 7," the ABFA release stated.

The ARG is required for a visiting schools cricket team from the United Kingdom and for activities connected to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), which

will be hosted for the first time in Antigua and Barbuda from November 1 to 4.

"It is our understanding that, from November 7, matches will return to the ARG and continue there without interruption until Christmas," the ABFA release added.

"We thank our clubs, players, and supporters for their patience and continued support, and we look forward to welcoming fans back to the ARG in November."

This weekend's Premier Division matches at the ABFA Technical Center will commence on Friday (today). Green City will

face the Freemans Village Scorpions at 7 pm.

In a double-header on Saturday, Garden Stars FC will face All Saints United at 5 pm, and the Potters Tigers will tackle FC Aston Villa Lions at 7 pm.

On Sunday, the Greenbay Hoppers will take on defending champions Sandals and APUA Inet Jennings Grenades at 5 pm, and Old Road FC will clash with AutoCraze Pigotts Bullets at 7 pm.

The quarter-finals and semi-finals of the ABFA Knockout Cup competition will also be played at the ABFA Technical Center. The quarter-finals will take place on October 24 and 25, and the semi-finals will be played on October 31.