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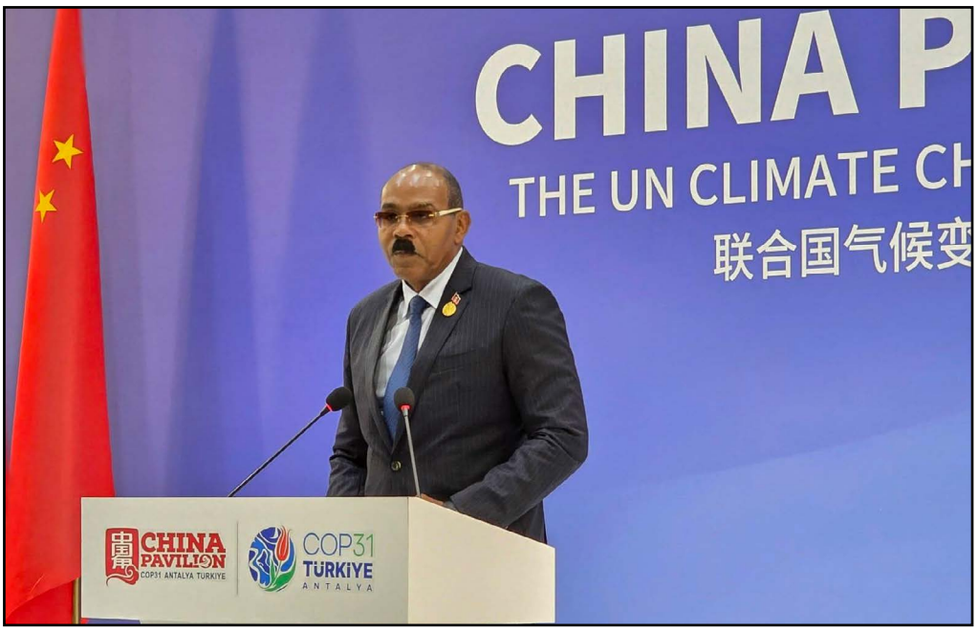
Prime Minister Browne Reaffirms Antigua and Barbuda's Strong Partnership with China

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PM Gaston Browne speaking at a China-sponsored event held at the margins of COP 31

Prime Minister Browne Reaffirms Antigua and Barbuda's Strong Partnership with China



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, has reaffirmed the country's longstanding friendship and development partnership with the People's Republic of China during a high-level engagement at COP31 in Türkiye.

The Prime Minister delivered remarks at the High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, held under the theme "Taking Action Together: Building a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Global South." During the engagement, Prime Minister Browne also met with His Excellency Han Zheng, Vice President of the People's Republic of China, reaffirming the importance of continued cooperation between the two countries.

In his remarks, Prime Minister Browne highlighted more than four decades of diplomatic relations between Antigua and Barbuda and China, grounded in mutual respect, trust, solidarity and a shared commitment to sustainable development.

He described China's partnership as an exemplary demonstration of South-South cooperation, noting its contributions to national infrastructure, climate resilience, renewable energy, technology, education, healthcare and social development.

The Prime Minister specifically highlighted China's support for street lighting and solar photovoltaic backup systems, climate-resilient agriculture, food security and technical capacity-building initiatives, all of which have contributed to strengthening Antigua and Barbuda's development aspirations.

He also pointed to the recently opened Pelican Court Housing Development at Booby Alley, comprising 150 climate-resilient homes made possible through China's support, as a tangible example of the benefits of international cooperation.

"Pelican Court demonstrates adaptation in action, showing how South-South cooperation translates national priorities into practical investments that protect lives and strengthen communities," the Prime Minister stated.

Addressing the growing climate challenges confronting Small Island Developing States (SIDS), PM Browne emphasised the importance of deepening cooperation in renewable energy, resilient infrastructure, sustainable agriculture and technology transfer.

He noted that South-South cooperation is critical to accelerating climate action through shared knowledge, investment and practical solutions, while emphasising that such cooperation must complement the climate finance obligations of developed countries under the Paris Agreement.

As climate change continues to threaten infrastructure, livelihoods and economic security across vulnerable island nations, the Prime Minister called for stronger partnerships that translate international commitments into meaningful action.

He reaffirmed Antigua and Barbuda's appreciation for its longstanding relationship with China and expressed the country's commitment to advancing shared objectives in sustainable development and climate resilience.

"The success of international cooperation must ultimately be measured by the improvements we deliver in the lives of our people," he declared.

The engagement reinforces Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to strengthening international partnerships and advocating for practical, inclusive and equitable approaches to climate action, particularly for developing countries that are disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change.

PM Browne Joins Caribbean and International Leaders at COP 31 in Turkiye



Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, has arrived at the COP31 conference venue in Antalya, Türkiye, to participate in the World Leaders Summit, joining Heads of State and Government and other international dignitaries for high-level discussions on the global climate crisis.

Prime Minister Browne is accompanied by His Excellency Theon Ali, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Antigua and Barbuda to the State of Qatar, and Climate Ambassador and Director of the Department of Environment(At.), Her Excellency Ruleta Camacho Thomas.

During his arrival at the venue, Prime Minister Browne met with several Caribbean leaders who are also attending the international climate conference. These included Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, Philip J. Pierre; Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Amor Mottley; Prime Minister





of The Bahamas, Philip E. Davis and Deputy Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis, Dr. Geoffrey Hanley.

The Prime Minister also met with Ambassador Z. Levent Gümrükçü, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, as well as former United States Secretary of State and former Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry.

The engagements provided an opportunity for exchanges among regional and international figures as leaders and climate stakeholders gathered for the high-level discussions.

The World Leaders Summit, being held on November 11 and 12, forms part of COP31 and brings together Heads of State and Government to discuss global climate priorities, strengthen international cooperation and advance climate action.

For Antigua and Barbuda and the wider Caribbean, the Summit represents an important opportunity to advance the concerns of Small Island Developing States, particularly the need for accessible climate financing, increased investment in resilience-building and tangible action to address the impacts of climate change.

Prime Minister Browne's participation forms part of Antigua and Barbuda's continued advocacy for stronger international partnerships and a global response that recognises the particular vulnerabilities of small island nations.



MINISTRY OF
HEALTH, WELLNESS, ENVIRONMENT AND CIVIL SERVICE AFFAIRS
Government of Antigua and Barbuda

EACH ENDEAVOURING ALL ACHIEVING

Diabetes Association Plans Several Activities to Focus Attention on the Disease

The Antigua and Barbuda Diabetes Association has planned a series of activities as part of the observance of World Diabetes Day and Diabetes Awareness Month starting on Friday.

Under this year's theme "***Early Action on Diabetes"*** the association is encouraging members of the public to join it in raising awareness, promoting early detection, supporting persons living with diabetes, and strengthening collective action towards better diabetes prevention and management.

The association is making a special appeal to members and non-members alike, including family and friends to participate in its scheduled activities and help make this year's observance a success.

Programme of Activities

- **13th November:** Go Blue Day - *Wear blue to show support for people living with diabetes*
- **13th November:** Diabetes School Quiz
- **14th November:** Awareness Walk - **Register Here**
- **18th November:** Public Lecture - **Register Here**
- **22nd November:** Family Fun Day - *Free event*
- **25th November:** Health Fair - *Free event*
- **28th November:** 40th Anniversary Fundraising Gala

World Diabetes Day will be observed on November 14, 2026.



PS Rosa Greenaway's Team Wins Governance Innovation Hackathon in Azerbaijan



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation Rosa Greenaway represented Antigua and Barbuda at the UN Governance Innovation Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, where her team won the event's closing hackathon with a proposal to improve how citizens access government services.

The proposal, titled "Omni Channel Services Delivery," placed first in a peer vote among eight entries. Participants selected it as the most innovative, practical and impactful proposal presented.

The hackathon brought together 100 international participants, who worked in multidisciplinary teams to develop solutions in areas including climate resilience, citizen engagement and public service delivery. Each team outlined the problem it sought to address, its proposed solution, what made the approach innovative and the impact it could have.

The wider summit drew about 200 participants, including ministers, senior government officials, representatives of international and regional organisations, and experts. Discussions focused on modernising public administration, using artificial intelligence and digital tools to make services more inclusive, and strengthening government accountability and citizen engagement.



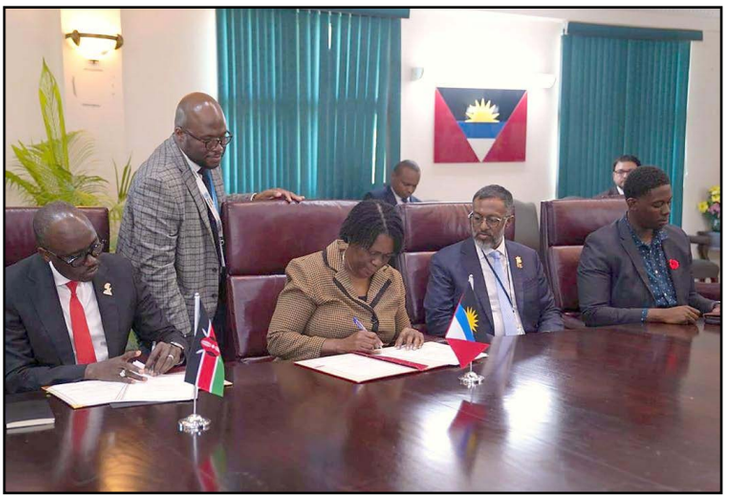


Delegates also toured an ASAN Service Centre, part of Azerbaijan's one-stop model for public services. The network operates 28 centres offering nearly 400 services. A guide reported a citizen satisfaction rate of 99.8 per cent. A memorandum of understanding to promote the ASAN model internationally was signed during the summit.

"I witnessed innovation in motion," Greenaway said of the visit. She thanked Minister of Social and Urban Transformation Rawdon Turner for the opportunity to represent Antigua and Barbuda.

Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Kenya Sign MOU





Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Kenya have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Diplomatic and Political Consultations, further strengthening relations between the two Commonwealth nations. The signing took place during a high-level bilateral engagement on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2026.

The MoU was signed by Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sharon Stevens and Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, Prof. Kithure Kindiki.

The Antigua and Barbuda delegation comprised Permanent Secretary Stevens and H.E. Theon Ali, Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the State of Qatar, non-resident Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic and Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Arab Emirates.

The Kenyan delegation included Lady Justice Njoki Ndung'u, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya; Mustapha Ibrahim, Deputy Director General for Political and Diplomatic Affairs; Nyagaka Onkoba, Director of the Americas and Caribbean Directorate; Yussuf Mohammed, First Secretary, Americas and Caribbean Directorate; Charles Nyaga, Second Secretary at the Kenya High Commission; and Irene Jebet, Legal Officer at the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs of Kenya.

The agreement establishes a structured framework for regular consultations between the two foreign ministries, with meetings held alternately in each country. The consultations will cover bilateral, regional and global matters of mutual interest, including issues before international organisations of which both countries are members. The MoU also provides scope for cooperation in economic affairs, culture, education, science and sports. It will remain in force for an initial period of five years, renewable for a further five years.

"This Memorandum gives Antigua and Barbuda and Kenya a permanent channel for dialogue, not just an occasional handshake," said Permanent Secretary Stevens. "Africa and the Caribbean share history, family and a common stake in a fairer international system. Regular consultation means we can coordinate our positions, support each other in multilateral forums, and turn goodwill into practical cooperation for our people."

Deputy President Kindiki welcomed the agreement and expressed appreciation for the constructive engagement and the opportunities the new framework presents.

During the bilateral discussions, both



sides reaffirmed the importance of South-South cooperation and committed to closer coordination on matters of shared regional and international interest, building on the historical and cultural ties between Africa and the Caribbean.

Ambassador Ali, who serves as a focal point for Antigua and Barbuda's cooperation with Kenya, facilitated the agreement, coordinating closely with Ministry headquarters and Kenyan counterparts in the lead-up to the signing.

The agreement reflects Antigua and Barbuda's continued commitment to expanding its diplomatic engagement with African nations and to building meaningful partnerships across the Commonwealth.


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ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
9TH JAN 2027
8:00PM
NIGHT ONE
POPCAAN - KES THE BAND - ANTHONY B
TIAN WINTER - CLAUDETTE PETERS
BURNING FLAMES
YOUNG LYRICS - YOUNG VICE - KID FRESH - EMPRESS
BALLO - SOCA VILLAN - ISLAND PRINCE - BLESS EYE
GEN $100
ROOTS ROCK REGGAE LOUNGE
$350
EARLY BIRD
ANTIGUA RECREATION GROUND
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TICKET LOCATIONS:
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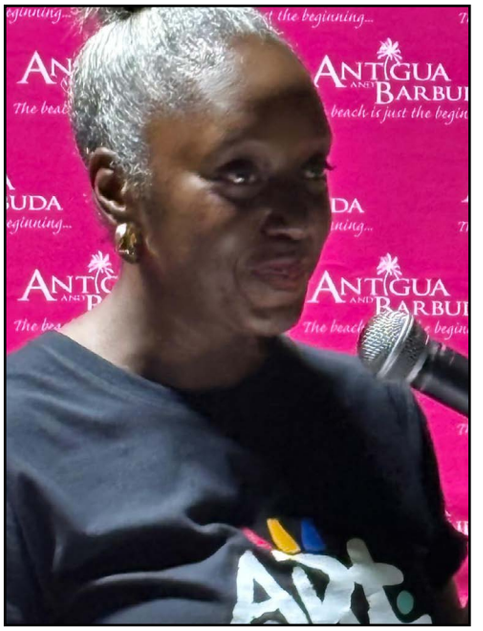
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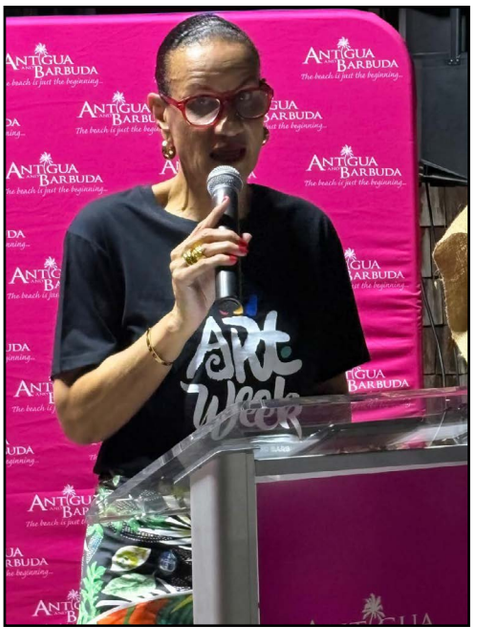
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FLOW

Cultural Performances, Artistic Creations and More Mark The Start of Art Week, 2026





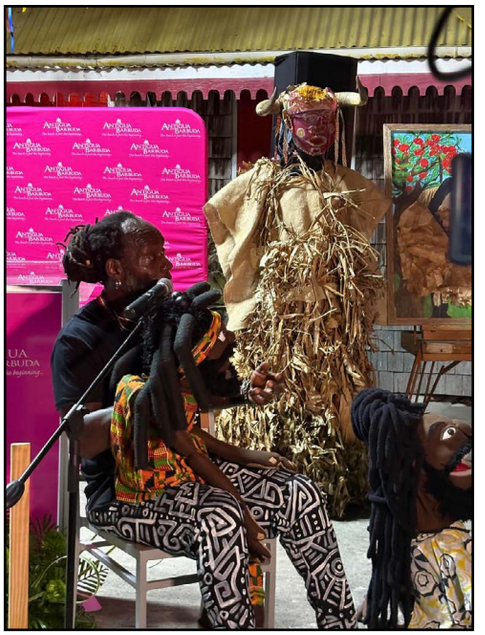


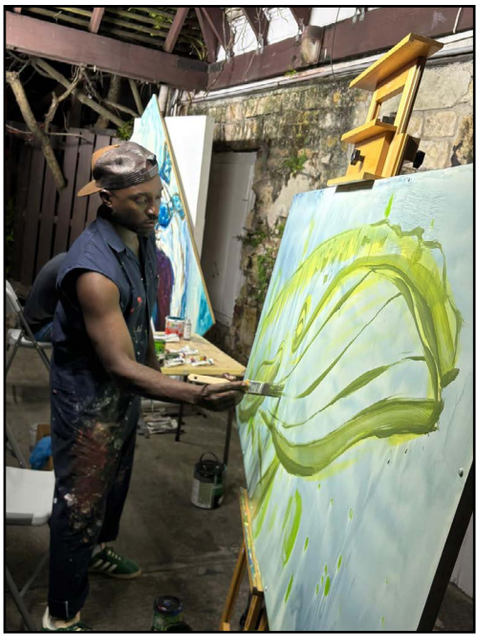
The intimate, yet rustic setting of the historic Redcliffe Quay provided the setting for Wednesday evening's official launch of Art Week 2026. It is the fourth instalment of the event that seeks to promote local art and culture and in doing so, promote Antigua and Barbuda as a tourist destination that is more than its 365 beaches.

Chief Marketing Manager for the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, Charmaine Spencer, noted that the theme of Art Week 2026; Symphony of Colours beautifully captures what was being celebrated at the opening exercise.

She noted that Art Week arrives at a particular meaningful moment in the national journey coming on the heels of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and the 45th anniversary of Independence and the global spotlight that they both brought to Antigua and Barbuda.

"The world has had another opportunity to see our capacity as a nation – to experience our hospitality, out leadership, our beauty and our confidence. Art Week now invites us to extend our story by presenting the creativity, heritage and cultural expression of our people.





"The is our opportunity to show that Antigua and Barbuda is not only a beautiful place to visit, but a nation with a powerful creative voice and a story worthy of the world's attention," Spencer stated.

Marketing and Communication Manager at the ABTA, Maria Blackman, recalled that the idea of Art Week stated with a photograph of Heather Doram, beautifully adorned with butterflies.

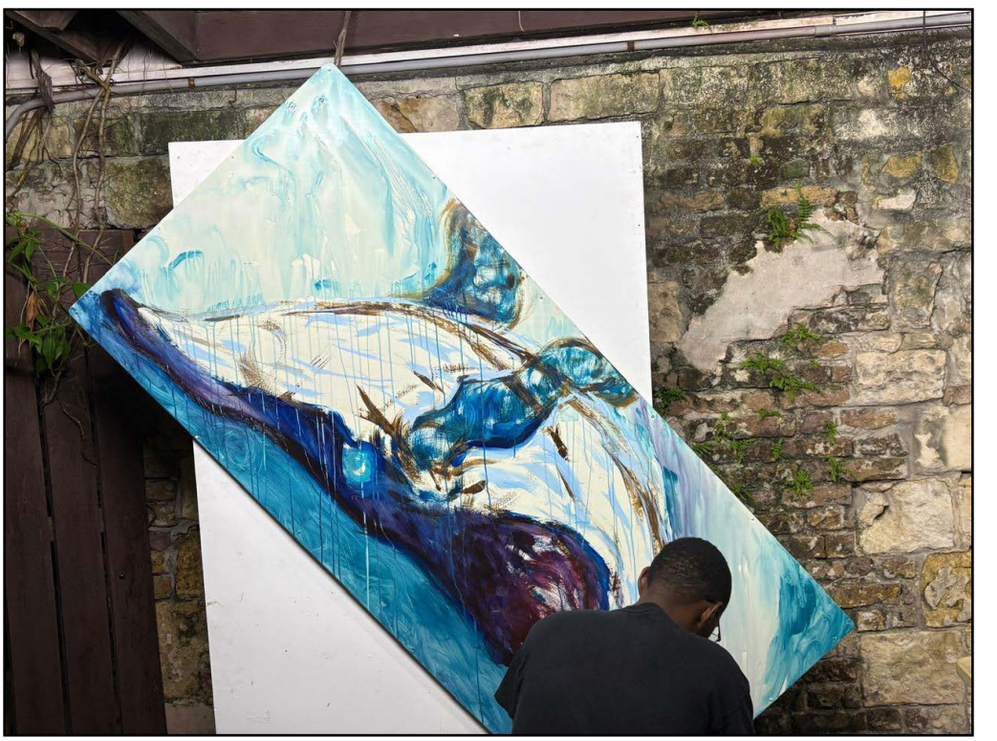
From discussions surrounding the photograph came the idea of an Art Week that has been growing exponentially since that time four years ago,

"Along the way, what has meant the most is seeing people make this idea their own. Artists opening their studios, sharing their ideas, bringing other creatives into the conversation, and helping us shape what Art Week could become.









"That is how a community builds something together. And that is why, standing here tonight, I feel we have something we can continue to grow," she explained.

Danielle Bird-Browne, who chaired the opening exercises, underscored the importance of art and creativity to a destination such as Antigua and Barbuda.

"A destination is so much more than the beautiful places we see. It is the people, the heritage, the traditions, the landscapes, the communities and the experiences that stay with us.

Art gives us another way to tell those stories. Through paintings, photography, music, performance, poetry and so many other forms of creative expression, our artists help us see Antigua and Barbuda through their eyes. And that is what tonight is really about: celebrating the creativity, talent and imagination that make our destination unique," she remarked.

The evening entertainment featured Dub Poetry by Odane Doyley, spoken words by Jeremiah Toussaint, an African cultural dance by Roots Krokus Art Collective, and a Puppet Village Preview by Iyaba Mandingo among others.

ABHTA and Jumby Bay Island Named Finalists in Two Prestigious Regional Hospitality Award Categories

The Antigua & Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA) is excited to share that we have been named a finalist for the Social Responsibility Award at the CHIEF Awards 2026, in recognition of our Taste of Wadadli Junior Chef Academy!

Adding to this exciting news, Jumby Bay Island has also been selected as a finalist in the People Development & Support Award category for it's Team Member Empowerment Initiative, marking a proud moment for Antigua and Barbuda as two organisations receive recognition on the regional stage.

Hosted by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA), the Caribbean Hospitality Industry Exchange Forum (CHIEF) brings together hospitality professionals and industry leaders from across the region to exchange ideas, share best practices and explore opportunities to strengthen the Caribbean's tourism industry. The CHIEF Awards recognise outstanding initiatives making a meaningful impact within the hospitality sector.

For ABHTA, this recognition is particularly meaningful as it highlights the continued impact of the Taste of Wadadli Junior Chef Academy in nurturing the next generation of culinary professionals.



Taste of Wadadli 2026 Academy Jr Chefs with their Chef Mentors at Award's Ceremony



Jumby Bay Island Staff

Through the programme, aspiring young chefs are provided with opportunities to develop their culinary skills, gain hands-on experience at participating hotels and learn directly from experienced industry chefs and mentors.

Beyond culinary training, the Academy focuses on building confidence,





encouraging professional development and creating pathways for young people interested in pursuing careers within Antigua and Barbuda's hospitality industry.

This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of the programme partners, participating hotels, chef mentors and supporters. The ABHTA extends sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to the programme's success and continues to invest in the development of young people.

The ABHTA is equally delighted to congratulate its member property, Jumby Bay Island, on being selected as a finalist in the People Development & Support Award category for its Team Member Empowerment Initiative.

At Jumby Bay Island, team members are at the heart of everything they do. Through the Team Member Empowerment Initiative, the property has introduced programmes focused on financial literacy, mental health and wellness, and team member engagement, demonstrating its commitment to supporting the personal and professional well-being of its employees.

This regional recognition highlights Jumby Bay Island's dedication to fostering a supportive workplace environment where team members feel valued, empowered and encouraged to thrive.

With two organisations from Antigua and Barbuda recognised among the region's finalists, these nominations reflect the continued efforts of the hospitality industry to invest in people, develop talent and create meaningful opportunities

The CHIEF Awards ceremony will take place on Monday, November 16, 2026, in Barbados, as part of CHIEF 2026, scheduled for November 16–18.

Members of the public and industry stakeholders are encouraged to follow the Antigua & Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (@antiguahotels) on Facebook and Instagram for updates on the awards ceremony and the achievements of both finalists.



Freeland in Turks and Caicos as Caribbean Meteorological Council Opens Thursday

Minister Michael Freeland is in the Turks and Caicos Islands for the 70th session of the Caribbean Meteorological Council, which opens Thursday, November 12, in Grace Bay.



The two-day meeting will examine how Caribbean countries share forecasts and severe weather warnings, including arrangements for countries with forecasting offices to provide services to those without them. The council is also expected to receive updates on tropical cyclone monitoring and the United Nations' Early Warnings for All initiative.

The discussions have direct relevance for Antigua and Barbuda. At a previous session, the country reported on technical assistance from the United Kingdom, in collaboration with the Caribbean Meteorological Organization, to support the Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Service's provision of aviation weather services to Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat.

The provisional agenda also includes a review of the regional radar network, which helps forecasters track severe weather, and an update on the second phase of the Caribbean Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative.



Two Suspects in Police Custody Following Robbery at Lyon Hill Service Station



Commissioner of Police Everton Jeffers

Two people are in police custody following an alleged armed robbery at Lyons Hill Service Station on Tuesday, November 10.

Reports indicate that at approximately 1:38 p.m., a masked male entered the business and robbed the owner of an undisclosed sum of money. The suspect reportedly fled on foot in an easterly direction. Shots were also reportedly fired during the incident; however, no injuries were reported.

Further investigations into the incident led police officers to Old Road, where they intercepted a white Suzuki Swift motor car with two suspects.

A 30-year-old man of Nut Grove and a 19-year-old woman of Bolans were arrested on suspicion of robbery and taken into police custody. The vehicle was also seized and taken to the police station.

Meanwhile, Commissioner of Police Everton Jeffers commended the officers for their swift response.

"I must commend the officers whose prompt response and follow-up inquiries led to the arrests in this matter. Our investigations are ongoing, and we encourage anyone with information that may assist the police to come forward."

REUBEN FORDE REMANDED TO PRISON ON FIREARM-RELATED CHARGES

Reuben Forde has been remanded to His Majesty's Prison after pleading guilty to firearm and ammunition offences before the All Saints Magistrate's Court.

Forde appeared before Chief Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel on Monday, November 9, charged with the unlawful possession of one Taurus G3 9mm pistol and ten 9mm rounds of ammunition. He pleaded guilty to both charges. The prosecution accepted the pleas and he was remanded to prison until November 17, 2026.



The charges arose from a police operation conducted in the Ottos area on Friday, November 6. At approximately 9:00 a.m.

Officers attached to the Criminal Investigations Department Task Force stopped and searched a white Lexus motor vehicle driven by Forde and seized a 9mm Taurus pistol with a matching magazine containing ten rounds of ammunition.

He was arrested on suspicion of unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition and taken to the St. John's Police Station.




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Why Some Organizations Thrive While Others Struggle: Five Leadership Disciplines That Make the Difference



By Garfield Joseph, MBA

Why do two organizations facing similar challenges produce dramatically different results?

Every year, businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations begin with ambitious plans and high expectations. There is excitement around new initiatives, targets, and opportunities for growth. Yet by mid-year, many leaders discover that the gap between strategy and results remains frustratingly wide.

The problem is rarely a lack of ideas.

In fact, most organizations have more ideas than they know what to do with.

The real challenge is execution.

Why do some organizations consistently grow while others remain stuck? Why do some navigate adversity and emerge stronger while others lose momentum?

Researchers and practitioners alike have observed that long-term success is usually built on a handful of leadership disciplines. They are neither complicated nor revolutionary. But they are remarkably powerful when practiced consistently.

First, Put the Customer at the Center of Every Decision

The most successful organizations understand a simple truth: customers determine whether a business survives.

Too often, leaders become consumed by internal concerns, budgets, procedures, meetings, and operational challenges. While these issues matter, customers care about something much simpler.

They want value.

They want reliability.

They want a positive experience.

Organizations that consistently ask, "What would make this easier, better, or more valuable for the customer?" tend to outperform those that focus primarily on themselves.

Whether you operate a retail business, a restaurant, a consultancy, or a government service, the same principle applies.

When customers win, organizations win.

Second, Simplify Before You Scale

Many organizations mistake activity for progress.

They launch multiple projects, pursue numerous initiatives, and attempt to solve every problem at once. Eventually, complexity overwhelms execution.

Successful leaders take a different approach.

They identify the few priorities that matter most and focus relentlessly on those priorities.

Clarity creates momentum.

When employees understand exactly what is important, decision-making improves. Resources are used more effectively. Results become easier to achieve.

Complexity often feels sophisticated.

In reality, simplicity is usually more powerful.

Third, Treat Technology as an Investment, Not an Expense

Technology is changing every industry, including those in Antigua and Barbuda.

The question is no longer whether businesses should embrace technology. The question is whether they can remain competitive without it.

Technology today can help organizations automate routine tasks, improve customer service, gather valuable data, increase productivity, and expand into new markets.

Small businesses can now access capabilities that were once available only to large corporations.

Artificial intelligence, digital marketing platforms, customer relationship management systems, and online payment solutions have dramatically lowered the barriers to growth.

The leaders who view technology as a strategic tool rather than a cost to be minimized will have a significant advantage in the years ahead.

Fourth, Create a Culture of Accountability

Many organizations have talented people but inconsistent results.

The difference is often accountability.

Accountability is not about blame.

It is about ownership.

People perform at their best when expectations are clear, responsibilities are understood, and performance is measured consistently.

High-performing organizations establish clear goals and regularly track progress against those goals.

Everyone knows what success looks like.

Everyone understands their role in achieving it.

When accountability becomes part of the culture, performance improves

naturally because responsibility is shared rather than avoided.

Fifth, Innovate with Discipline

Innovation is essential.

But innovation without discipline can become a costly distraction.

Every business encounters attractive opportunities, new ideas, and emerging trends. Not every opportunity deserves attention.

The most effective leaders evaluate ideas through a strategic lens.

Does this improve the customer experience?

Does it increase efficiency?

Does it strengthen our competitiveness?

Does it contribute to long-term growth?

If the answer is yes, pursue it.

If not, move on.

The goal is not to chase every new idea. The goal is to pursue the right ideas.

The Real Difference Between Success and Struggle

When we observe successful organizations, we often focus on the visible outcomes: growth, profitability, market share, awards, or public recognition.

What we do not always see are the disciplines operating beneath the surface.

A commitment to customers.

Relentless focus.

Strategic use of technology.

Personal accountability.

Disciplined innovation.

Consider Antigua and Barbuda's tourism sector. The growth of the industry did not emerge from a single decision, investment, or marketing campaign. It has been the result of years of strategic planning, infrastructure development, public-private collaboration, and a consistent focus on improving the visitor experience. The visible success is merely the outcome of disciplines that have been practiced consistently over time.

The same principle applies to organizations of every size.

Whether leading a small business, a government department, a nonprofit organization, or a multinational company, sustainable success is rarely created by one breakthrough moment. It is usually built through hundreds of disciplined decisions made day after day, month after month, and year after year.

As Antigua and Barbuda seeks to strengthen entrepreneurship, improve competitiveness, attract investment, and expand economic opportunity, these five disciplines offer valuable guidance not only for business owners but also for managers, public servants, and community leaders.

The organizations that will thrive in the years ahead will not necessarily be those with the biggest budgets, the most employees, or even the best ideas. They will be the organizations that execute consistently, adapt intelligently, and remain focused on what matters most.

Success is seldom spectacular at the beginning. More often, it is built quietly through disciplined execution, sustained focus, and the willingness to do a few important things exceptionally well long after the initial excitement has faded.

That, ultimately, is the difference between organizations that struggle and organizations that thrive.

Garfield Joseph is the Executive Director of a public sector organization in Antigua and Barbuda, where he is responsible for translating government policy and national objectives into operational action. His work spans strategic execution, financial oversight, and stakeholder engagement. He has also served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, teaching Business Strategy and Policy and Business, Government and Society. He writes regularly on investment, entrepreneurship, and long-term decision-making. The views expressed are his own.





After CHOGM: Will Our Promises Bloom?

The final planes have flown away,
We greet another working day.
The guests have left our island shore,
But we are asking something more.

We cleared the stages, swept the floor,
And closed another meeting door.
But when the banners leave the lane,
What lasting changes will remain?

We gave our hours, strength and care,
With willing hands found everywhere.
Now we must turn that energy
Towards the change we hope to see.

Four forums opened room to speak,
Of stronger futures we could seek.
But will those words now find their feet,
Along each village road and street?

COMMONWEALTH BUSINESS FORUM

The Business Forum brought its plans,
But will they reach our working hands?
Will small shops find the room to grow,
Beyond the names we already know?

Will local ventures get their chance,
With fair support and sound finance?
Will workers share in progress made,
Through decent jobs and wages paid?

COMMONWEALTH PEOPLE'S FORUM

The People's Forum raised our voice,
But will we help determine choice?
When meeting rooms grow still again,
Will open doors stay open then?

We know the gaps in daily care,
The broken systems needing repair.
Will those who heard us now respond,
And carry those discussions beyond?

COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S FORUM

The Women's Forum asked us all
To hear the weight behind each call.
Will mothers find support each day,
When work and care pull either way?

Will women find a safer street,
And fairer chances when they compete?
Will praise become the help we share,
With childcare, justice, wages fair?

COMMONWEALTH YOUTH FORUM

The Youth Forum brought fresh ideas,
And hopes extending through the years.
Will we provide the funds to start,
And let young people play their part?

Will we invite them in to lead,
With guidance suited to their need?
Or will their bright proposals stay
Inside the folders packed away?



And many side events took place,
With other needs given time and space.
The Disability Symposium made clear
Why access matters throughout the year.

Will buses help us move around?
Will safer pathways now be found?
Will workplaces unlock their doors,
With access built through all their floors?

The Human Rights Conference came,
With human dignity to name.
Will rights reach those who seek redress,
And help them face injustice less?

We passed the flags beside the road,
Remembering every cap we sewed.
Our children helped transform that waste,
Through patient work, not hurried haste.

Will lessons travel home from school,
And make recycling our shared rule?
Will bottles find a useful place,
Beyond a drain or empty space?

At Good Humans, we must grow,
And clearly show where bottles go.



With schools and homes, we must stay near,
And keep collection details clear.

We must arrange for young eyes
To see their finished flags with pride.
Their work deserves a chance to show
How little acts help bigger things grow.

Our teams need funding, time and care,
With clear responsibilities to share.
Which plans worked well? Which went astray?
What will we change along the way?

Let public updates show the ground
Where progress can already be found.
Who leads each task? When will it start?
How can communities play their part?

Three months from now, what will we see?
More doors unlocked for you and me?
We know what hosting asked us for;
Now daily life deserves much more.

When children ask what CHOGM gave,
Beyond the photographs we save,
May we show changes, clear and plain,
And work we chose to sustain.




Antigua Barbuda
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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
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6:00PM
NIGHT TWO
ONE NATION CARIBBEAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
ISRAEL & NEW BREED
GEN $100
GLORY LOUNGE $250
EARLY BIRD
ANTIGUA RECREATION GROUND
CLICCASH
TICKET LOCATIONS:
EXOTIC ANTIGUA | ROTI KING | COOL & SMOOTH
MENS WORLD, TOWN HOUSE PLAZA
CLICCASH OFFICE, ROYAL PALM, FRIARS HILL RD
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ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
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2027
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Dominican president says he backs Bukele and Salvadoran troops in Haiti

The president of the Dominican Republic said on Tuesday that his government is collaborating with El Salvador's president and providing him with logistics and intelligence as some 2,500 troops from the Central American country battle violent gangs in Haiti.

Dominican President Luis Abinader spoke as the operations of the recently deployed Salvadoran troops to Haiti draw scrutiny because they are largely operating outside the framework of a UN-backed, multinational gang suppression force.

Abinader called on the UN-backed force to coordinate its actions with El Salvador's troops to "decisively support the Salvadoran military and the attitude of President Bukele."

Igor Rugwiza, spokesperson for the gang suppression force, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that it is coordinating closely with Haitian authorities and relevant international partners "in support of shared security objectives".

"The (force) considers effective coordination and deconfliction among all security actors operating in Haiti to be essential to achieving sustainable security outcomes," he said in a statement.

Rugwiza added that any activity undertaken by the force "is conducted in accordance with its mandate, established command and control arrangements, the rules of engagement, and applicable human rights law obligations."

Haitian Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aimé thanked Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele on Tuesday for his support and commitment in repelling gangs, saying that the collaboration would continue.



"I salute the commitment of the Salvadoran forces in the fight against gangs," he wrote on X, adding that the contributions of the gang suppression force, Haiti's police and soldiers and international partners "allow us to strengthen operations on the ground, regain control of the territory and restore state authority."

Bukele recently celebrated an attack carried out by Haitian police and Salvadoran troops that destroyed the home of Wilson Joseph, best known as Lanmò San Jou and leader of the 400 Mawozo gang. He was not killed in Sunday's attack.

"We kept our promise," Bukele wrote on X on Tuesday, referring to the attack on the home and the gang's headquarters. "Most of them ran away without even trying to fight. What cowards!"

Abinader pledged to keep helping Bukele and noted that El Salvador's defense minister speaks almost daily with his counterpart in the Dominican Republic.

Meanwhile, Fils-Aimé is scheduled to meet with El Salvador's government next week in a visit to the Central American nation to discuss the future

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of Salvadoran troops in Haiti.

A spokesperson for Abinader declined to provide details on the type of assistance that the Dominican Republic has provided to El Salvador.

Amnesty International has called on Bukele and Haiti's prime minister to ensure that all operations conducted by Salvadoran troops comply with international human rights law.

"Both governments must make public the agreement governing the deployment and explain how they oversee the deployed forces, what rules govern the use of force, to whom they are accountable, and how people can report possible violations without fear of reprisals," Ana Piquer, Amnesty International's Americas director, said Monday.

The Dominican Republic shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, and Abinader has pledged to keep monitoring the shared border via drones, soldiers and armored vehicles and respond to any actions that might threaten the stability of his country.

El Salvador deployed the troops after four aviation technicians were attacked October 18 deep in gang-controlled territory. They remain missing.

Sophie Rutenbar, senior expert at the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, said on Tuesday during a virtual conference that Haiti is "extremely crowded" with security forces.

"We don't know very much about the coordination mechanisms right now," she said. "It's not a great situation."

Haitian police and soldiers are fighting gangs alongside the gang suppression force and the private security firm founded by former US Navy SEAL and Blackwater founder Erik Prince. The Salvadoran troops are now on the ground as well.

"These security forces are coming from such different points of view," she said. "It's extremely complex."

She said that Haitian sentiment is "largely positive" toward Salvadoran troops in Haiti.

"It's very appealing to have someone come in and save you after things have been bad for so long," she said.

But experts note that civilians have been killed in attacks targeting gangs and question how long El Salvador can keep up its current pace.

"What they're doing is a very expensive proposition," she said, noting that if El Salvador's troops were to work with the gang suppression force, they would benefit from additional resources.

"Bukele is being hailed as a savior right now," she said. "Reality will probably hit at some point. It's a challenging thing what they're doing."

Wolf Pamphile, founder and CEO of Haiti Policy House, a US-based think tank, said during Tuesday's conference that 400 Mawozo remains the biggest challenge to Haiti's government and the gang suppression force.

He said that as promising as El Salvador's actions in Haiti seem to be, he believes the Central American troops may have to work with the UN-backed force in the long term.

"It would have been better if the Haitian government steered Salvadoran soldiers within a structure that already exists," he said. "It's hard to pull that back." (AP)

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The property is in residential development with a gentle slope from its southern boundary toward the northern end of the property. It is covered with a grass lawn.

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Privy Council rules gay sex not a crime in Trinidad and Tobago

A final court of appeal in England struck down a centuries-old gay sex ban in Trinidad and Tobago in a ruling on Tuesday that activists around the world celebrated.

The ruling ended a nearly 10-year battle for gay rights in the twin-island nation and cannot be appealed.

"Those laws cannot be regarded as reasonably justifiable in a society that has a proper respect for the rights and freedom of the individual," said Judge Philip James Sales of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

In February 2017, Jason Jones filed the case, arguing that so-called "buggery" laws dating from when Trinidad and Tobago was a British colony are unconstitutional. The laws that call for up to five years in prison have not been enforced in recent history, but critics say they still send a message.

In an interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday, Jones said he was celebrating what he called a "stunning victory".

He described himself as "a very angry gay man" and said he used that anger to power himself through the case as it made its way through the courts for almost a decade.

"Society has treated me worse than a criminal," he said. "There is a real sense of vindication with this judgment. Finally, the courts are seeing that they need to step up because our politicians are so toothless."

Jones, who has been openly gay since age 16, left Trinidad and Tobago in 1996 because of what he described as homophobic violence and discrimination. He said he was a singer in church as well as an actor and a dancer.

"Anybody along those lines who was not following the macho rules was treated as a pariah," he recalled.

He told the AP that he was inspired to speak out after losing friends to HIV/AIDS and after meeting Nina Simone, the American singer, songwriter, composer and civil rights activist, who had travelled to the twin-island nation in 1984 for Carnival. He said he was 19 and spent three weeks with her.



"Nina was the one who said, 'Jason, get off this rock and go see the world'," he recalled, calling it a defining, life-changing experience.

Tuesday's ruling was live-streamed, with Sales reading part of the unanimous decision.

"The current understanding of the fundamental individual right to respect for private and family life is that it protects such a core part of human identity, as one's sexual orientation and the sexual activities carried on in private between consenting adults to give expression to that identity," Sales said. "Laws which seek to criminalise such activities cannot be justified."

Jones said he loves his country and is not angry with its people, but rather its laws.

"To discriminate against somebody simply because of who they choose to love is simply ridiculous," he said by phone, adding that the ruling is a stepping stone in the fight for equality. "Why do people feel they have the right to pass judgment on anybody else?"

Those who opposed Jones include Trinidad and Tobago's government, the country's Council of Evangelical Churches and its largest Hindu organisation, Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha.

Trinidad's attorney general did not immediately return messages seeking comment. Meanwhile, the Council of Evangelical Churches said it did not have immediate comment.

In April 2018, Trinidad's High Court found the laws unconstitutional, but a local appeals court partially reversed that ruling in March 2025. Trinidad's Court of Appeals later allowed Jones to seek a ruling from the Privy Council in England. Trinidad and Tobago is a sovereign republic within the British Commonwealth and still uses London's Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as its highest court of final appeal. However, the country has pushed for the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice to replace the Privy Council.

Trinidad and Tobago's government sought a ruling that would uphold the March 2025 ruling. A majority of justices in 2025 found that the High Court erred by allowing judges to change a law. A provision in some Caribbean constitutions protects colonial laws from legal challenges, including in Trinidad and Tobago.

Caribbean nations with so-called buggery laws still on the books include Grenada, Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Meanwhile, the Bahamas decriminalised homosexuality in 1991, and the UK government repealed such laws in 2001 in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Elsewhere in the Caribbean, judges have recently struck down similar laws in Barbados, Dominica, St Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda. (AP)

Hylton demands PM answer questions on UN vote, return of censure motion

St Andrew Western Member of Parliament Anthony Hylton has called for the censure motion he moved against the Government on November 3 to be returned to Parliament's Order Paper, giving members of the Lower House an opportunity to participate in the debate.

After Hylton introduced the motion, Leader of Government Business Floyd Green responded and then called for the debate to be closed under Standing Order 38, which speaks to the closure of debates. The Speaker put the question to lawmakers, and the 'ayes' prevailed even as the parliamentary Opposition protested strongly against the decision.

Hylton is also urging Prime Minister Dr Andrew Holness to respond to questions in Parliament on Jamaica's abstention during the United Nations vote to lift the United States embargo against Cuba.

"The questions require the prime minister to explain the decision in his own words on the record. We expect full and candid answers," Hylton said during a press conference called by the opposition People's National Party on Tuesday.

He said the decision to abstain was made by the Cabinet, and Parliament was kept in the dark.

"Why censure the Government and not just the foreign minister? Because the administration itself has said whose decision it was."

Hylton said on October 28, when Jamaica abstained at the UN, the minister of foreign affairs acknowledged that Cabinet had contemplated the change for some time.

"That makes it a Cabinet decision, and under Section 69(2) of the Constitution, it is a decision for which Cabinet answers to Parliament collectively."



He argued that on October 27, the Government asked the House to pass a Cuba resolution, and the House did so, believing that Jamaica's position was unchanged. However, he said the next day, Jamaica abstained during the UN vote.

He acknowledged that a government was entitled to change its foreign policy. However, Hylton said what the administration is not entitled to do is to ask Parliament to pass a resolution on a subject while keeping from Parliament the decision it has already contemplated on that very subject.

Hylton said the Opposition has reason to believe that the decision to abstain at the UN had already been communicated to Jamaica's UN mission in New York before or during the debate in the House.

"That is not one minister's lapse. It is a failure of the Cabinet's collective duty of candour to the House."

Hylton reasoned that if the Opposition knew that the Government had changed its policy in relation to the US embargo against Cuba, the motion debated in the Lower House would have been vigorously opposed.

He said an honest debate could have taken place before the Jamaican people and there would be no need for a censure motion.

PNP General Secretary Dr Dayton Campbell noted that Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne has admitted that his country abstained from the vote following a warning from the US about the possible effect on ongoing negotiations regarding visas for nationals wanting to visit the North American country.

Campbell said when the Jamaican Government was asked if it was pressured into making a decision to abstain at the UN, it said no. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Denbigh players released from hospital after lightning incident



Denbigh High School footballers Lashawn Barnaby and Omarion Wright have been discharged from the Cornwall Regional Hospital after collapsing during a lightning incident in their daCosta Cup quarter-final match against Cornwall College in Montego Bay on Tuesday.

Observer Online understands that the players underwent several medical tests before being released late Tuesday night.

The two are also reportedly scheduled to undergo follow-up medical assessments with their doctor in a week's time.

The match, which started just over an hour late due to heavy rain and lightning in the area, was disrupted again approximately 40 minutes into the first half when two flashes of lightning struck in close proximity to the venue.

Both players collapsed on the field shortly after the flashes, prompting immediate assistance from match officials and other personnel.

Barnaby was helped off the field by referee Obrian Warren and members of the Cornwall College staff, while Wright was transported on a stretcher to a waiting ambulance.

The players were subsequently taken to the Cornwall Regional Hospital, accompanied by Denbigh High School Principal Annette Daley.

Cornwall College led 1-0 at the time of the stoppage.

READ: Denbigh players alert at medical facility after lightning incident. (Jamaica Observer)



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Dozens injured in South Korea after bus crashes into 32 vehicles



A commuter bus struck more than 30 vehicles stopped at a traffic light during the morning rush hour Wednesday in Seongnam, just south of Seoul, injuring dozens of people, fire officials in South Korea said.

At least 57 people were being treated for injuries, including nine who were seriously hurt, although none were in life-threatening condition, according to the fire department of Gyeonggi Province, which governs Seongnam.

The bus collided with 32 vehicles before slamming into a median strip, fire officials said.

Photos from the scene showed the bus perched on a median strip with a shattered windshield and other damaged cars.

Police were questioning the bus driver, who tested negative in a breathalyzer test and told investigators that the brakes had failed, according to Park Chang-gon, an official from Seongnam's Bundang district police station. (AP)

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Four grizzly bears killed in Canada after fatal attack on mother and daughter



Four grizzly bears have been killed in connection with a fatal attack on a mother and daughter in the Canadian province of British Columbia.

Jennifer Balcarras, 48, and her daughter Selah Reed, 20, died earlier this month after going on an afternoon walk in a trail area in Bella Coola.

The British Columbia Conservation Office Service (BCCOS) launched an investigation into their deaths and forensic testing has since confirmed a sow and her three cubs were responsible for the attack.

All four were destroyed "in accordance with provincial human-wildlife conflict response guidelines" to protect the public, BCCOS Inspector Jeff Tyre said in an update on Tuesday.

Mother and daughter die after suspected grizzly bear attack in Canada

"Evidence from the investigation as well as animal DNA was analysed and conclusively linked to a sow and its three offspring," he added.

The attack "likely involved predatory behaviour", which Tyre said was "very rare".

He added that more than a dozen conservation officers took part in the investigation over the past week, amid "difficult terrain and weather".

Balcarras and Reed were "two peas in a pod" who "got along really, really well" and shared many hobbies, Balcarras' brother, Josh, told CBC.

"When Jenny hiked, Selah was right there beside her," he said.

Tyre said DNA testing also confirmed the four bears were not involved in a 2025 attack on a school group also in the Bella Coola area.

The incident in November of last year saw 11 people injured, two of them critically, while the bear responsible was never found.

"Today, we have learned from the BC Conservation Officer Service members that they have captured and euthanized the bears involved in the recent fatal attack," said Samuel Schooner, Elected Chief of the Nuxalk Nation, in a statement.

"We would like to thank the BC Conservation Officer Service for their dedication and hard work to resolve this incident. This attack has been deeply re-triggering for our community members as we continue to recover from last year's attack. Our thoughts remain with the victims' families." (BBC)



Hundreds of Italian schools hit by threats in suspected bomb hoax

Some 300 schools across Italy have received bomb threats, according to Education Minister Giuseppe Valditara, who described the incidents as probably a "cyber-attack, not a genuine risk".

Valditara told Italian TV that there was a clear strategy behind the rash of threats in Italy and elsewhere in Europe which had targeted flights, supermarkets and even hospitals.

The emails were sent to schools in Rome, Naples, Vicenza, Florence, Pisa, Trieste and many other Italian cities, and a number of buildings were evacuated as a precaution.

Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has called a meeting of top ministers and intelligence chiefs.

Meloni said the government was monitoring closely the "numerous reports of bomb threats at educational institutions" although checks so far had not indicated any evidence of "concrete danger".

"These reports appear rather linked to a strategy intended to cause alarm and concern," she said on Facebook.

Italian airports along with airlines elsewhere in Europe were hit by a series of bomb hoaxes last week that prompted a series of scares, evacuations and widespread disruption. Although a number of threats were claimed by an extremist misogynistic group, it later denied any link to the false warnings.

Italian reports said 280 school head teachers had received threats in recent days.

Although many schools were initially evacuated on Wednesday, the alarm was quickly lifted, according to reports from a number of regions, and pupils were allowed to return to class.

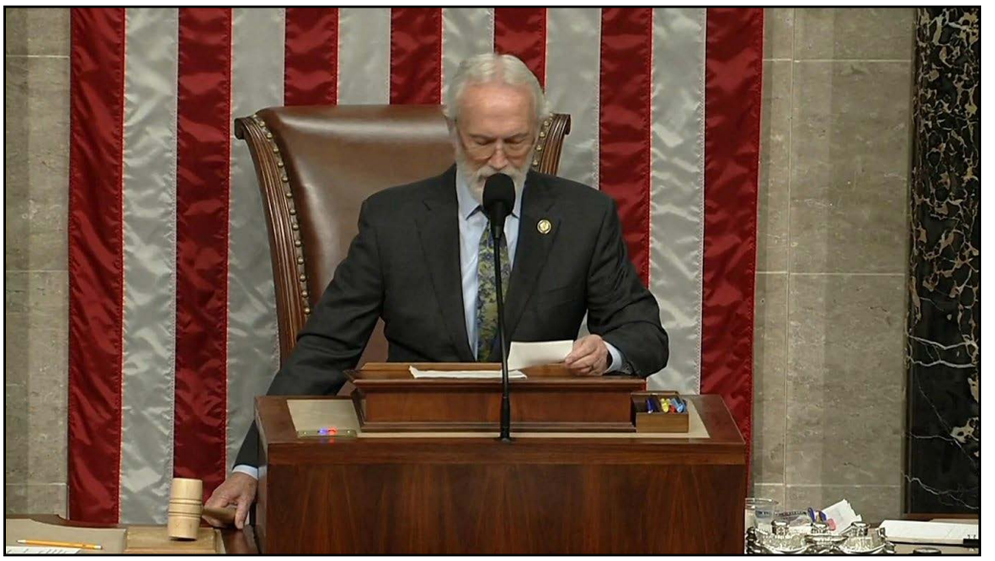
In a statement, the head of the central Umbria region Stefania Proietti said "checks conducted so far in Umbrian schools have proved negative, and law enforcement is working rapidly and carefully to verify each report".



In a separate incident, more than 300 schools in Northern Ireland were sent emails which police said they were treating as a hoax. Messages sent to number of schools in Scotland were also being treated by police as a hoax. It is unclear whether any of the incidents are connected. (BBC)



US House blocks bid to impeach Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, for now



An effort to impeach US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, accusing him of waging war on Iran without congressional authorisation, has failed on Capitol Hill.

A majority of the House of Representatives voted to refer impeachment articles to a committee - essentially killing the effort introduced by dissident Republican congressman Thomas Massie of Kentucky, for now.

In his first news briefing from the Pentagon in six months, Hegseth called the impeachment effort a "farce" and "sabotage".

The bid to find the cabinet secretary guilty of misconduct and ultimately remove him from office was seen as a long shot as it could have required a number of other Republicans to defy President Donald Trump.

However, that calculation could change in January when the Democratic Party assumes control of both chambers of Congress, following its successes in the US midterm elections. For now, Trump's Republican Party remains in control.

After Tuesday's vote, the most senior Democrat in the House, Hakeem Jeffries, said: "This is not the end of it. It's just the beginning."

The question on which lawmakers were voting on Tuesday was whether or not to refer the resolution to the House Judiciary Committee, which is led by Republicans. The alternative would have been to allow the resolution to proceed in the House itself.

All Republicans other than Massie voted to refer the resolution to the committee, meaning that the congressman's effort failed in a 211-204 vote.

The move to send the measure to the panel effectively kills the effort, as there is only a short period of time left in this Congress.

More than a dozen members missed the ballot. They included 11 Democrats, several of whom blamed traffic issues for their absences.

Several members of the party criticised their fellow lawmakers for missing the vote.

"You should show up and do your job," said Democratic Senator-elect Abdul El-Sayed during an interview with CNN, making a direct address to those who did not vote. The Michigan lawmaker recently won a US Senate race in Michigan, having criticised US ties to Israel and the war in Iran on the campaign trail.

Meanwhile Trump celebrated Tuesday's outcome in a post on Truth Social, saying the effort "has miserably FAILED".

"Again, Victories in Venezuela and Iran, the Best Recruitment Numbers in the History of the Military (Long waiting lists to get in!), and Spirit like rarely seen before, led to the EXONERATION of a Great American Patriot," Trump said, referring to Hegseth.

After the vote, Massie said he "wasn't surprised" but "was disappointed", according to BBC's US media partner CBS.

"My diagnosis of Congress is these people know what to do," he added. "They just can't bring themselves to do it, even when it would benefit them politically."

Massie had previously acknowledged his impeachment bid may not succeed immediately, but argued it could help push Trump to replace Hegseth before Democrats can launch their own impeachment process.

The Kentucky congressman also said

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that removing Hegseth now would give the Senate time to approve a replacement while Republicans were still in power.

Impeachment resolutions can be carried past the end of a congressional term, meaning Democrats would be able to take it up next year.

The Democrats will take control of both chambers of Congress in January following a successful midterm election that allowed them control of both chambers.

House Speaker Mike Johnson, a Republican, had predicted earlier in the day that the impeachment bid would fail.

In the eight articles of impeachment formally introduced in the House on Monday, Massie said Hegseth was "breaking the law and must be held accountable" for fighting a war in Iran for more than 90 days without lawmakers' approval.

The impeachment articles also accused Hegseth of overseeing "extrajudicial killings" in the US campaign against boats alleged to be carrying drugs in the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea.

At a news conference on Tuesday, Hegseth called efforts to impeach him a political stunt by a Trump administration opponent who was "disgruntled and defeated".

Hegseth also argued Massie's resolution endangered national security, because it communicated to US adversaries "that the United States will actually punish its own warriors and its own civilian leadership for successfully executing lawful military operations".

"This is not patriotism. This is sabotage," he said.

He echoed some statements Trump had made during a surprise appearance at the White House briefing room on Monday, including touting a rise in military recruitment levels.

But Hegseth said Massie was motivated by policy differences and "not high crimes, not misdemeanours, not treason, not bribery, not the kinds of offences the founders intended when they wrote the impeachment clause".

Massie, who lost re-election earlier this year to a Trump-backed opponent, has been critical of Trump and the war in Iran since it began in February.

He had already incurred the president's ire for demanding the Trump administration release files on deceased sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

While Hegseth has survived politically for now, many lawmakers - including some Republicans - have questioned how long he can last in the administration.

Texas Senator Ted Cruz, a Republican, said on Tuesday he expected Hegseth to resign or be fired by Trump. (BBC)



Empire and Rangers drop points in ABFA's First Division League



Players of the Empire football team

Leaders Empire FC and Ottos Rangers have dropped points for the first time this season but maintained their unbeaten starts to their campaigns in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League.

After winning their three previous matches, Empire FC was held to a goalless draw by John Hughes FC at the Sea View Farm playing field in one of four First Division matches on Tuesday.

The result allows John Hughes FC to advance to four points after salvaging their first draw in three matches.

The Ottos Rangers and SAP FC fought to a 1-1 draw at the ABFA Technical on Monday. Junior Benjamin scored a late equalizer for Rangers with a strike in the 87th minute after Tyrique Tonge put SAP FC ahead with a 59th-minute conversion.

Like Empire FC, the result allows the Ottos Rangers to advance to 10 points from four matches, while SAP FC moves on to two points after securing their second draw in three encounters.

But two promoted teams, the Jets Football Academy and the Young Lions of Old Road, also maintained their unbeaten starts during their debut season in the First Division League.

Jets Football Academy claimed their second win in as many games by snatching a 1-0 victory against Parham FC at the St. Johnstone's Village Stadium on Tuesday.

Michael Peters scored the only goal of the match by converting a penalty kick in the 52nd minute.

Parham FC remains on four points after suffering their first defeat in three matches.

The Young Lions advanced to seven points after picking up their second win in three matches by pulling off a 4-2 victory against struggling Five Islands FC at the Old Road playing field on Tuesday.

Goals by Geraldo Browne in the ninth minute and Shaquan Simon in the 13th minute gave the Young Lions a two-nil lead.

Brandon Emanuel scored in the 34th minute to reduce the deficit for Five Islands, but Zavier Joseph restored his team's two-goal advantage with a goal in the fifth minute of added time to give the Young Lions a 3-1 lead at halftime.

Jahiem Hazelwood increased the Young Lions' lead with a strike in the 62nd minute. Daniel Williams reduced the deficit by scoring the second goal for Five Islands FC in the 85th minute.

Five Islands FC remains winless, without any points, and in the cellar of the 13-team round-robin league after suffering their fourth defeat in as many matches.

After losing all previous three matches, Willikies FC picked up their first point by salvaging a 1-1 draw with English Harbour FC at the ABFA Technical Center on Tuesday.

Akeem Weekes scored in the eighth minute to give English Harbour a one-nil lead at halftime. Juran Graham equalized for Willikies FC with a 51st-minute conversion.

The result allows English Harbour FC to advance to two points after claiming their second draw in three matches.



OCS maintain perfect start in school boys under-16 division league

The Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) maintained their successful start to their campaign in the Boys Under-16 Division in the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth JOMA Caribbean Schools Football League on Tuesday.

The Ottos Comprehensive School made it four wins in a row by securing a 2-0 victory over Irene B. Williams Secondary at the Keithley Sheppard Recreational Park.

The goals were scored by Kaleel Lawrence in the 18th minute and Lijthaddeus Christian in the 48th minute. Irene B. Williams Secondary (IBWS) remains on four points after suffering their first loss in three matches.

Reigning three-peat champions, Princess Margaret School (PMS), extended their unbeaten run in defense of their title, recording their third win in four matches by snatching a 1-0 victory over Clare Hall Secondary School (CHSS) at the Antigua Grammar School's playing field.

Jaheedi Charles scored the only goal of the match in the 21st minute to secure victory for PMS as Clare Hall Secondary School remains on four points after slumping to their second defeat in four matches.

After losing their season opener to St. Joseph's Academy, the Sir Novelle Richards Academy (SNRA) claimed their third successive win by pulling off a 3-1 victory against Pares Secondary School at the Freemans Village playing field.

The goals for Sir Novelle Richards Academy were scored by Kalique Martin in the 32nd minute, D'Nic Hadaway in the 44th minute, and Kadeem Tonge in the 49th minute.

Isreal John scored the first goal of the match with a seventh-minute conversion for Pares Secondary School. It was the second successive loss for Pares Secondary School after playing to a 1-1 draw with St. Mary's Secondary School in their opening encounter.

The Jennings Secondary School advanced to four points after picking up their first win in four matches by snatching a 1-0 victory against last year's losing finalists, Antigua Grammar School, at Antigua Grammar School's playing field.

Dahlane Batchelor struck the winner by scoring the only goal of the match in the 39th minute as Antigua Grammar School remains on four points after crashing to their second defeat in four matches.



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA POINT EXPRESS
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

Carter reflects on CWI's High-Performance Batting Tour



Coach Bob Carter engages with players and officials during an interactive session with the Leeward Islands in Antigua last month. (CWI Media)

Cricket West Indies (CWI) Batting Consultant Bob Carter has praised the talent, skill and appetite to learn among the region's emerging batters following the conclusion of CWI's High-Performance Batting Tour.

The tour, which began on September 24 and ended with the Leeward Islands leg in Antigua from October 23–26, took Carter and CWI High-Performance Coach Rohan Nurse to six territories – the Windward Islands, Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and the Leeward Islands – reaching 67 emerging batters and 64 territorial coaches.

Explaining his role within the wider West Indies High-Performance set-up, Carter said, "The senior team is well run and organised. My job is to come in and see what's underneath, to be able to supply players to feed into that team and at all senior levels."

Reflecting on the tour overall, he stated, "It's a bit of a cliché, but it's been a great journey. What I have found is that there are a lot of talented and skilled players to work with on the batting front."

He noted that the strengths he observed across the territories were in line with what he has seen around the world but singled out the players' desire to improve.

"The common strengths are no different from what I've seen around the world. I think my biggest takeaway from the tour has been the players' buy-in and their desire to learn. So, from my perspective as a batting coach, it's been really welcoming to see how everyone has bought into what we're trying to do."

Carter also commended the territorial coaches who worked alongside him at each camp.

"I couldn't speak highly enough of the coaches. They all came along with an open mind and were all very keen to get involved and get hands-on throughout the programme. They would've heard everything I've spoken about many times before, but the key is for them to use this opportunity to add something to their coaching repertoire."

His advice to those coaches is to build strong relationships with their players and ensure training sessions remain challenging.

"The key is to make sure you have that relationship with your player. Make sure you can meet to have regular sessions with them and really test them out. It's not about having nice, easy sessions; it's all about testing the player, getting them out of their comfort zones and getting them working on their technique."

The consultant made the point that while there are several key performance indicators that will be evaluated over time to gauge the success of the approach and the programme, the proof will really be seen in the number of quality players progressing through the system and putting themselves in contention for selection at the senior level.

Justin Greaves leads the way as CWI lauds West Indies team

Justin Greaves was rewarded for an outstanding year in Test cricket after being named the West Indies Test Player of the Year following the team's successful campaign in the longest format.

Head coach Daren Sammy, in a team meeting after the second Test against host Bangladesh ended in a draw on Monday in Sylhet, announced Greaves as the recipient after the West Indies secured a 1-0 series victory.

Greaves enjoyed an impressive all-round year, scoring 400 runs at an average of 44 while claiming 12 wickets at an average of 13.9.

The Barbadian's performances with both bat and ball made him a key contributor to the West Indies' progress in Test cricket and earned him the top individual award.

There was also recognition for Trinidad and Tobago's Amir Jangoo, who was named Impact Batter of the Year by batting coach Floyd Reifer.

Jangoo finished with 478 runs in 2026 and made a significant impression with two outstanding centuries, including a double hundred on his way to establishing himself in the Test side.

Reifer highlighted the left-hander's ability to deliver under pressure, pointing to his innings in the second Test against Bangladesh.

The West Indies were in trouble at just over 27 for three when Jangoo came to the crease, but he responded with a commanding 133.

The innings followed his maiden Test century against Sri Lanka in June, which he converted into a double hundred, 233, further underlining his growing importance to the regional batting line-up.



Justin Greaves

Left-arm spinner Jomel Warrican was named Impact Bowler of the Year by bowling coach Ravi Rampaul after another productive year with the ball.

Warrican claimed 22 wickets in four matches, including 16 in the two-Test series against Bangladesh, where he was also named Player of the Series.

Rampaul praised the spinner's ability to take advantage of conditions that suited his bowling. He noted that whenever conditions favoured Warrican, the Barbadian spinner made full use of the opportunity, consistently delivering important performances for the team.

Jamaica's Brandon King completed the list of individual award winners after being named Elite Fielder of the Year by fielding coach Rayon Griffith.

King finished with seven catches and a plus-12 rating in the field, earning recognition for his contribution to the West Indies' defensive efforts.

The dressing room awards came as Cricket West Indies (CWI) congratulated the senior men's team on completing a calendar year without losing a Test series for the first time since 1994.

The 1-0 triumph in Bangladesh followed a series victory at home against Sri Lanka and a drawn series against Pakistan, marking a year of progress for the "Men in Maroon."

CWI president Dr. Kishore Shallow congratulated Sammy, captain Roston Chase, the players, coaches and support staff on the achievement.

He said going through an entire calendar year without losing a Test series, and ending it with a series victory in challenging subcontinental conditions, was a tremendous achievement.

Shallow said the accomplishment reflected the character, discipline and unity within the group and should serve as an inspiration to West Indians.

He described the unbeaten series record as an important step forward for West Indies cricket, while reminding the team that it must remain focused and ambitious and continue building on its success.

CWI also thanked fans across the Caribbean and the diaspora for their continued support of the team throughout the year.

Sports
THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2026
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TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

George targets improvements to facilities and community sports development



Minister of Sports and Creative Industries Dwayne George, third right (front row), is flanked by Director of Sports Heather Samuel Daley and Chairman of the Athletes Development Assistance Review Panel (ADARP) Aldo McCoy during a recent meeting with sports coordinators. Cordinators from left to right: Rohan 'Porridge' Benjamin (football), Otis Thomas (golf), Larry Michael (tennis), Mitchell Browne (track and fields), Heather Samuel Daley, Candace Jones (netball), Dwayne George, Carl "Bowlie" Knight (basketball), Aldo McCoy, Irvin Lewis (volleyball), and Ridley Rasburg Jacobs (cricket). (Photo courtesy of the Ministry of Sports and Creative Industries)

Minister of Sports and Creative Industries, the honourable Dwayne George, has welcomed the decision of the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda to invest EC$17 million in upgrading community sporting complexes across the twin-island state.

Last week's Cabinet notes outlined that the decision is "in recognition of the importance of accessible sporting facilities to national sports development and community advancement."

According to Minister Dwayne George, each constituency will be allocated one million EC dollars to make necessary improvements to existing sports complexes.

He added that the announcement comes at a time when his ministry is conducting a comprehensive review of the government's sporting programmes, with the aim of improving what currently exists.

"Recently, I met with caretakers to hear directly from them the challenges they are experiencing and what materials they require to adequately execute their duties and provide proper maintenance of the sporting facilities within our various communities," George said.

"I have given them an undertaking that I will do all in my power to ensure they receive the support that is necessary for them to perform at their optimum. The disbursement of the funds contained in the decision of the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda will certainly go a long way in assisting with our plans," he noted.

George has also impressed upon sports coordinators within the Ministry of Sports and Creative Industries to place greater emphasis on community sports, mandating them to produce a comprehensive plan for the way forward.

"It is my firm belief that sports play an integral role in the development of our young people, some of whom are being caught up in deviant and anti-social behaviour, finding themselves on the wrong side of the law," George stated.

"While sports are thriving in schools, attention must now be placed on making the various disciplines available to young people in the areas that they reside. We will take it to them. I have tasked the Director of Sports (Heather Samuel-Daley) and coordinators to make it happen."

He pointed out that the Government of Antigua and Barbuda will continue to support sports at every level and maintained that the EC$17 million will go a long way in sustaining that commitment.

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