ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
POINTE EXPRESS
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2026 | VOLUME 10 ISSUE 80 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

ABCAS Clarifies Free Tuition Policy and Student Fees

Story on page 2



(left to right): Orlanda Small (ABPS Secretary), Kester Gibbs (ABPS Treasurer), Victoria Rutter (CPA CEO), the Honourable Michael Joseph (Minister of Health), Leah Benjamin (ABPS President), Aleyce Bennett (ABPS Assistant Secretary/Treasurer), Yvelle Charles-Jenkins (ABPS Vice-President) and Raymond Anderson (CPA Vice-Chair of Trustees). Photo credit: Toure Forde

Story on page 12

ABCAS Clarifies Free Tuition Policy and Student Fees

Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies
OUR LEGACY. OUR MISSION. OUR FUTURE.

The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) is providing further clarification on the Government's free tuition policy and the fees associated with programmes offered at the institution.

The policy, announced during the presentation of the 2026 National Budget, covers tuition costs for new and continuing students at ABCAS. However, certain institutional and programme-related fees remain payable.

Minister of Education, Daryll Matthew, emphasised the financial relief provided to students and families through the implementation of the policy.

"The Government's Free Tuition Policy at ABCAS has removed the cost of tuition from students and their families, making tertiary education more accessible to the people of Antigua and Barbuda. It is important, however, to understand the distinction between tuition and other fees associated with attending the institution. The policy provides for Government-funded tuition, not the elimination of all institutional and programme-related charges," Minister Matthew stated.

He said students must therefore understand what the policy covers and what remains their responsibility. He explained that the removal of tuition fees represents a considerable financial benefit, and it is equally important that students recognise the value of this provision while being properly informed of the costs that remain associated with their programmes.

The College explained that fees vary across programmes because of differences in their requirements, including



Minister of Education, Daryll Matthew

practical training, specialised materials and other resources necessary for programme delivery.

President of ABCAS, Dr. E. Jonah Greene, further explained that the fees associated with individual programmes reflect the resources and practical training requirements involved in their delivery.

"The programmes offered at ABCAS are designed to provide students with both the knowledge and practical skills required in their respective fields. Whether it is equipment for technical and vocational training, ingredients and supplies for Culinary Arts, or laboratory materials for science-based programmes, these are necessary components of the learning experience," Dr. Greene stated.

She noted that ABCAS' responsibility is to ensure that students have access to the resources and training required to develop their competencies and meet the standards expected within their chosen professions. Ultimately, the value of an education at ABCAS must be reflected in the knowledge, skills and qualifications the students take with them for the rest of their lives, she noted.

ABCAS further clarified that its recently circulated payment information was intended to outline the applicable fees and approved methods of payment. The circulation of this information does not necessarily indicate that every student who received the notice has an outstanding balance.

Students are encouraged to review their individual accounts and make the necessary arrangements to settle any outstanding fees in a timely manner. Those requiring clarification on their balances or applicable charges may contact the College's Accounts Department for assistance.



Minister Joseph Champions Antigua and Barbuda's Climate Priorities at Cop31

Minister of the Environment, Michael Joseph, has arrived in Antalya, Türkiye, to participate in the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31), where he is advancing Antigua and Barbuda's national climate priorities while undertaking significant responsibilities on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

This marks Minister Joseph's first participation in the global climate conference since assuming responsibility for the environment, at a time when countries are working towards decisions that will shape international climate action and support for vulnerable developing nations.

Minister Joseph has been requested to serve as one of the Ministerial Leads for AOSIS on the COP31 Cover Decision, which is expected to establish the overarching political direction of the conference. His role will involve high-level consultations aimed at ensuring that the concerns of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including Antigua and Barbuda, are reflected in the final outcome.

In addition, Minister Joseph has been assigned as CARICOM's Ministerial Lead on Climate Science and Co-Lead on Climate Finance, alongside the Minister from Barbados. These assignments provide an opportunity to advance Antigua and Barbuda's national interests while supporting a coordinated Caribbean approach.

For Antigua and Barbuda, a central concern is the increasing likelihood of global temperatures overshooting the 1.5°C threshold and the implications for coastal communities, water security, infrastructure and economic development. Minister Joseph is advocating for greater recognition of the best available scientific evidence, including the importance of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Seventh Assessment Report (AR7), in guiding international decisions.





On climate finance, Antigua and Barbuda is advocating for predictable, accessible and grant-based resources to strengthen national resilience, implement climate commitments and address loss and damage. Particular emphasis is being placed on removing the financial and administrative barriers that limit access to international climate funding for SIDS.

Since arriving in Antalya, Minister Joseph has participated in consultations with AOSIS and the Group of 77 and China (G77 and China), contributing to discussions on the conference's expected outcomes.

Minister Joseph has also held high-level bilateral engagements with representatives of the People's Republic of China and Murat Kurum, Minister of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye and President of COP31.

Joseph Benjamin of Swetes Is the Nation's Newest Centenarian

Swetes resident Joseph Benjamin celebrated his 100th birthday on Monday with a special service at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church with family and friends gathered to honour a century of life.

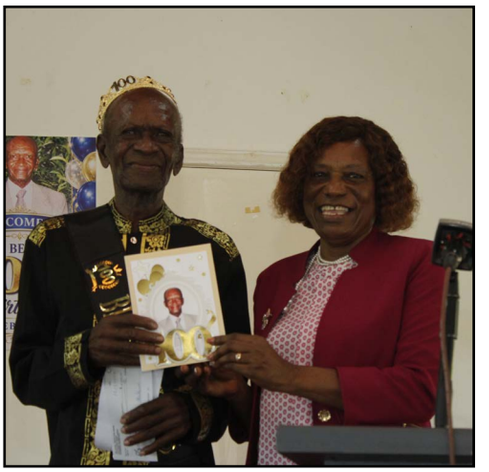
As has become customary on these occasions, the Community Development and Citizens Engagement Division of the Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation celebrated joined the Swetes community, family and friends in celebration this remarkable achievement; the 100th birthday.

Tributes from various family members who travelled from overseas, a poem and a song of thanksgiving, the Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Rodney Williams, the Hon. Jamale Pringle, Parliamentary Representative for All Saints East and St. Luke, and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation, Rosa Greenaway were present at the celebration.

Benjamin was raised in Swetes by his grandmother. At 39, he left for England, where he worked in street maintenance and security, and he returned home to Antigua and Barbuda in 1995. His family says he is still a regular at the domino table, a keen cultivator of fruits and vegetables, and a devoted member of the Roman Catholic church. The family spoke of the hills around Swetes, where he once walked to tend cattle.

Director of the Community Development and Citizens Engagement Division, Dale O'Brien, said: "There is something truly remarkable about reaching 100 years of age. It is a milestone that speaks not only to longevity, but also to the many experiences, challenges, accomplishments, and changes witnessed over a lifetime."







Permanent Secretary Rosa Greenaway said the Ministry recognises older persons as keepers of the nation's history and foundations for the generations that follow. "Their experiences deserve our respect, their voices deserve to be heard, and their dignity must always be protected," she said.

On behalf of Prime Minister, Gaston Browne and Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda, a cheque for $10,000 was presented to Benjamin under the Government's award for centenarians.

Benjamin, who thanked everyone for coming, kept his own message simple. "Hard work don't kill anybody," he said.

The Ministry of Social and Urban Transformation remains committed to honouring and protecting the dignity of Antigua and Barbuda's older persons.

Keith Williams Invested with Governor-General's Faithful and Meritorious Service Cross

Governor-General, Sir Rodney Williams, on Monday invested Keith Williams with the Governor-General's Faithful and Meritorious Service Cross at a ceremony in Government House. The award recognizes his faithful and meritorious service to cricket development in Antigua and Barbuda, particularly his contribution to youth cricket.

Williams was accompanied by his wife, Chloe Williams, with whom he co-founded the Antigua–United Kingdom Cricket Exchange Programme in 2018. The programme has provided young Antiguan and Barbudan cricketers with opportunities to play competitive club cricket in the United Kingdom, develop their skills and gain international experience.

To date, 35 players, including two young women, have participated. The programme has also supported under-21 tours to the United Kingdom, created opportunities for UK players to play in Antigua and Barbuda, and built lasting connections among the communities involved.

Williams has further supported young cricketers by welcoming players into his home, engaging them in the annual Windrush Cricket Tournament and donating cricket equipment to clubs and schools across Antigua and Barbuda.

In his remarks, the Governor-General congratulated Williams and recognized the support that has helped sustain the programme. He acknowledged Mrs Williams and the Williams family, Daryll Matthew, Antigua and Barbuda's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Karen-Mae Hill, the Minister responsible for Sport, Cricket Coach Winston Benjamin, and the many others who have contributed to the programme.

The Governor-General noted that High Commissioner Hill had witnessed the work over the years and had highly commended the contribution Williams and his wife have made to young people.





"Today we honour your leadership and faithful service, while recognizing the support and partnership that have strengthened this work," Sir Rodney said. "Your contribution is seen, valued and deeply appreciated."

The ceremony included the reading of the citation by Phil George, Redonda Pursuivant, followed by the presentation of the Cross by the Governor-General.

Williams expressed his heartfelt appreciation and surprise at receiving the award, explaining that his and Chloe's love of cricket and commitment to youth development inspired them to launch the initiative and continue supporting it for as long as they are able.

Dame Sandra Delivers Speech and Applauds Successful 'Fostering Caribbean Summit'



President of the HALO Foundation and the Governor General's Goodwill Ambassador, Dame Sandra Williams, has congratulated First Lady of St Kitts and Nevis, Ms. Diani Prince-Drew and her team on the successful hosting of the Fostering the Future Together (FTFT) Caribbean Summit, which was held from November 13 - 14, 2026, at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort under the theme ***"Empowering Caribbean Children for the Digital Age."***

The milestone event brought together policy makers, government representatives, educators, technology experts, youth leaders and several strategic development partners to explore opportunities for better preparing Caribbean children to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Building on the inaugural global summit that was held in Washington D.C. earlier this year from March 24 - 25, 2026, the Caribbean gathering advanced the international dialogue championed by U.S. First Lady Melania Trump through her "***Be Best"*** platform, which focuses on the responsible use of technology to benefit vulnerable children, especially those in foster care and future generations.



Among the distinguished participants were Dame Marcella Liburd, Governor General of the Federation St Kitts and Nevis, Sir Rodney Williams, Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, Charity Wallace, U.S. Special Envoy for Best Future Generations, and Certified Sampson, popular youth content creator from Trinidad and Tobago. U.S. First Lady Melania Trump also delivered a special video message congratulating Ms. Prince-Drew on her leadership in convening the Caribbean gathering.

Dame Sandra, who was asked to deliver the keynote speech during the meetings, was accompanied by Corporal Shane Williams, Personal Aide and Elijah James, CEO of The LocaL App and TechByte Academy, which has partnered with the HALO Foundation to deliver its Hope, Opportunity and Well-Being through STEM (H.O.W. with HALO) programme. This undertaking is designed to introduce thousands of vulnerable young people across Antigua and Barbuda to robotics, coding, esports, entrepreneurship and essential LIFE skills through STEM education.

Flow's "You Get More This Christmas" Brings New Plans and Rewards



Flow customers in Antigua and Barbuda can enjoy more value from their mobile and home internet services this Christmas, with new postpaid plans, prepaid bonus data, home internet offers and opportunities to win weekly prizes and a grand prize package.

The "You Get More This Christmas" campaign runs until December 31, 2026, giving new and existing customers opportunities to benefit from seasonal offers and qualify for rewards through eligible top-ups, bill payments, service activations and new sign-ups.

More value for customers

Flow delivers greater value across postpaid, prepaid, and home internet.

The new Single Plus Plan includes 80GB for $150 per month, while the Family Plus Plan offers 200GB of shared data, four SIM cards and international calling benefits for $76.25 per line. Enhanced Always On Prepaid Plans also provide up to 60GB of social data, bonus auto-renew data and entertainment benefits.

For the home, Flow now offers 500GB of internet for $160 per month or Unlimited Home Internet for $300 per month. As a Christmas bonus, qualifying postpaid or home internet sign-ups will receive a $100 gas voucher, while supplies last.

More chances to win

Customers can qualify for weekly prize draws and the campaign's grand prize through eligible prepaid, postpaid and broadband activities, bill payments and new service sign-ups.

The grand prize package includes an iPhone 18, iPad, Apple Watch, 55-inch Smart TV, home security system, one year of home internet service and one year of mobile service.

"Christmas is a time when staying connected matters most," said Wayne Hull, Country Manager, Flow Antigua and Barbuda. "We recognize that customers are looking for value during the holiday season, and this campaign reflects our commitment to delivering more for the people and communities we serve. From enhanced mobile plans to exciting rewards, we're making it easier for customers to stay connected and enjoy even more this Christmas."

Shand Merchant, Marketing Manager, Flow Antigua and Barbuda, added: "We've created more ways for customers to benefit this Christmas, whether they're topping up, choosing a new postpaid plan or signing up for home internet. The offers give customers value they can enjoy now, while the weekly prizes and grand prize add even more to look forward to."

Flow will also bring the campaign into communities across Antigua and Barbuda through roadshows, in-store promotions and customer reward activities throughout the Christmas season.

Customers can visit any Flow retail store, access Flow's official digital platforms or follow Flow on social media for full offer details, eligibility requirements and prize draw rules.

The campaign runs until December 31, 2026. Terms and conditions apply.

New plans. More data. More Christmas.

Family Plus | 200GB | 4 lines | $76.25 per line

$100 gas voucher.

Claim when you sign up for a NEW postpaid plan today.



The gift of more.

Terms and conditions apply.

FLOW


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
ADMISSION
FREE
ANTIGUA
Carnival
THE CARIBBEAN'S GREATEST SUMMER FESTIVAL
LAUNCH
Legendary 10
CARNIVAL CITY | 05 JAN 2027 | 6PM
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
ANTIGUA CARNIVAL

Antigua and Barbuda Art Week 2026 'Rising Stars of Art' Revealed



The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) has announced the 2026 'Rising Stars of Art' - winners of the student Art Competition held to celebrate young artistic talent as part of Antigua and Barbuda Art Week.

Under this year's competition theme, 'The Rhythm of the Islands,' students were invited to explore the sights, sounds, traditions and cultural expressions that capture the spirit and identity of Antigua and Barbuda through art.

The winners were announced and recognised on November 12, 2026, at the V.C. Bird International Airport. The winning artwork now forms part of the Antigua and Barbuda Art Week display in the airport's arrivals hall, providing an opportunity for visitors arriving in Antigua and Barbuda to experience the creativity of the nation's young people from the moment they enter the destination.



The 2026 Antigua and Barbuda Art Week student art competition winners and the 'Rising Stars of Art' are as follows:

Age Group: 7– 9

- First Place: Meagan Goodman – Mill Academy
- Second Place: Asher Wright – Mill Academy
- Third Place**:** Kaylei Monroe – Mill Academy

Age Group: 10–12

- First Place: Savanah Holborough – Saint Anthony's Secondary School
- Second Place: Genesis Clarke – St. John's Catholic Primary





School

- Third Place: Haylee Warner – Post Millennial Academy

Age Group: 13 - 17

- First Place: Zoey Carter – Sir Novelle Richards Academy
- Second Place: Zendaya Joseph – Saint Anthony's Secondary School
- Third Place: Joshua Alexander – Irene B. Williams Secondary School

Mauricia Frith, Lead of the Student Art Competition and Marketing Officer at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, congratulated the winners and highlighted how the competition connects young creatives to tourism.

"As we welcome visitors from around the world, we want them to experience the authentic spirit of Antigua and Barbuda, and our young people have an important role to play in telling that story. Through the Antigua and Barbuda Art Week student art competition, we are creating opportunities for our students to showcase their creativity and see themselves as ambassadors of our culture, while allowing residents and visitors the opportunity to appreciate the destination through their eyes", said Frith.

" We also want our students to see how their artistic talents can open pathways for them to participate in and benefit from tourism," she added.

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority and the judges extend congratulations to all nine winners and express sincere appreciation to the participating schools, teachers, parents and guardians who supported the students throughout the competition.

This year's competition attracted entries from eleven schools, including first-time participants Irene B. Williams Secondary School and Buckleys Primary School.

The Tourism Authority also acknowledges and thanks its valued partners and sponsors for their support of the 2026 Student Art Competition, to include the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority, FLOW that returns for the fourth year, and Community First Cooperative Credit Union.

"At FLOW, we believe in creating opportunities for young people to discover and showcase their talents. The creativity and passion displayed through this year's Student Art Competition have been truly inspiring. We are proud to support the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority and Antigua and Barbuda Art Week in celebrating our young artists and encouraging them to pursue their creative potential", said Wayne Hull Country Manager at FLOW.

The Antigua and Barbuda Art Week exhibition at the V.C. Bird International Airport runs until November 18, 2026, and also includes doors within the public art installation 'Dual Thresholds' project.

Antigua and Barbuda Pharmaceutical Society and Commonwealth Pharmacists Association Host Successful Accredited Antimicrobial Resistance Workshop for Pharmacy Professionals



(left to right): Orlanda Small (ABPS Secretary), Kester Gibbs (ABPS Treasurer), Victoria Rutter (CPA CEO), the Honourable Michael Joseph (Minister of Health), Leah Benjamin (ABPS President), Aleyce Bennett (ABPS Assistant Secretary/Treasurer), Yvelle Charles-Jenkins (ABPS Vice-President) and Raymond Anderson (CPA Vice-Chair of Trustees). Photo credit: Toure Forde

The Antigua and Barbuda Pharmaceutical Society (ABPS), in collaboration with the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA), successfully hosted an Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Workshop for pharmacy professionals on Thursday, November 5, 2026, at Villa Polyclinic, Antigua.

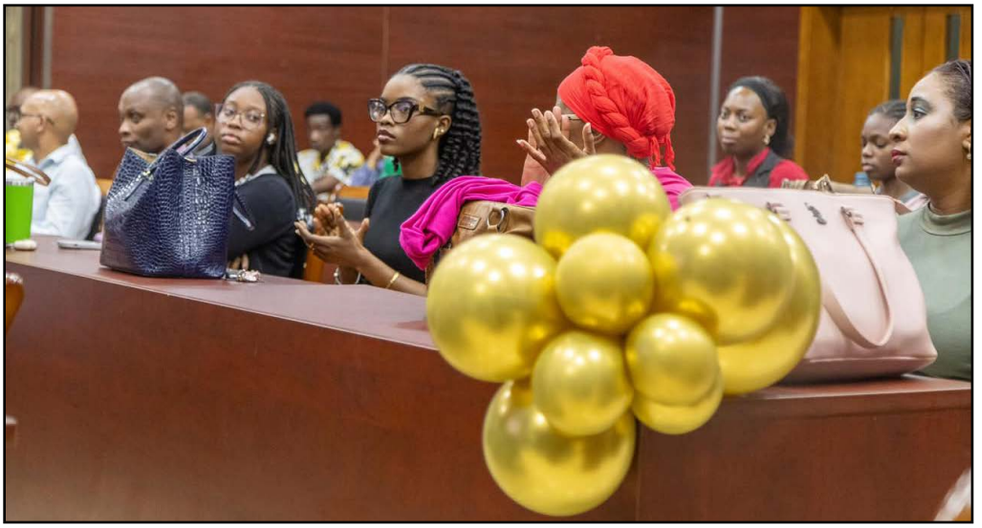
The workshop brought together pharmacy professionals and key healthcare stakeholders for an important discussion on antimicrobial resistance, one of the most pressing public health challenges facing healthcare systems globally.

The session featured insightful presentations from Commonwealth Pharmacists Association Chief Executive Officer, Victoria Rutter; Vice-Chair of Trustees, Raymond Anderson; and Dr. Edwin Panford-Quainoo, Senior AMR Technical Advisor who joined in virtually. Their presentations highlighted the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance and emphasized the important role pharmacists and other pharmacy professionals play in promoting responsible antimicrobial use, strengthening antimicrobial stewardship and safeguarding the effectiveness of existing treatments.

The event was also attended by the Honourable Michael Joseph, Minister of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs, who delivered remarks underscoring the importance of addressing antimicrobial resistance through collaboration, awareness, responsible healthcare practices and coordinated national action.

A significant highlight of the workshop was the official launch of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association's online Continuing Professional Development (CPD) platform.





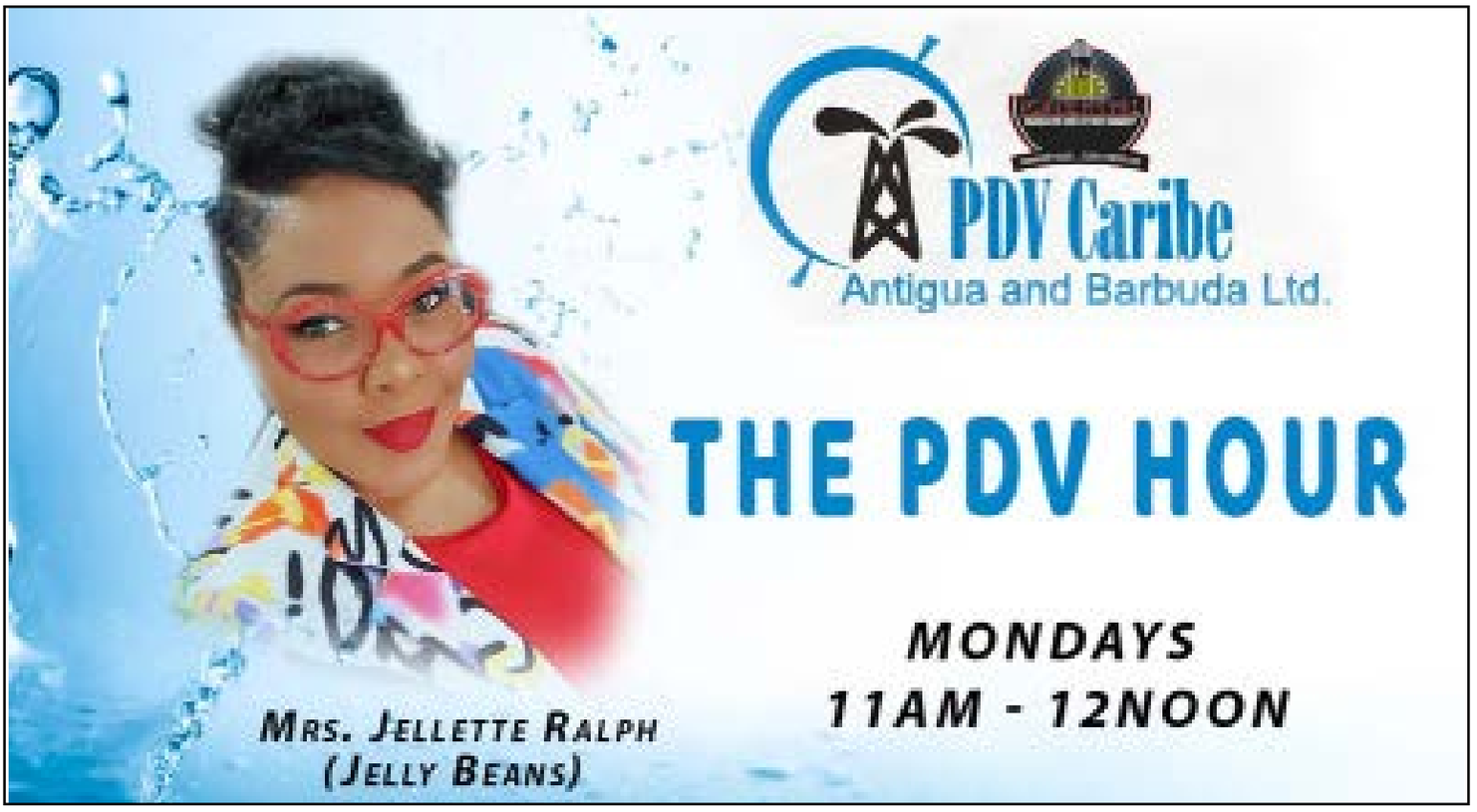
Through this initiative, ABPS members will have access to online continuing education opportunities at no cost, providing an important resource for ongoing professional development, knowledge enhancement and the advancement of pharmacy practice.

The launch represents a meaningful step towards strengthening access to continuing professional education for pharmacists in Antigua and Barbuda and supporting the Society's commitment to promoting lifelong learning and professional excellence.

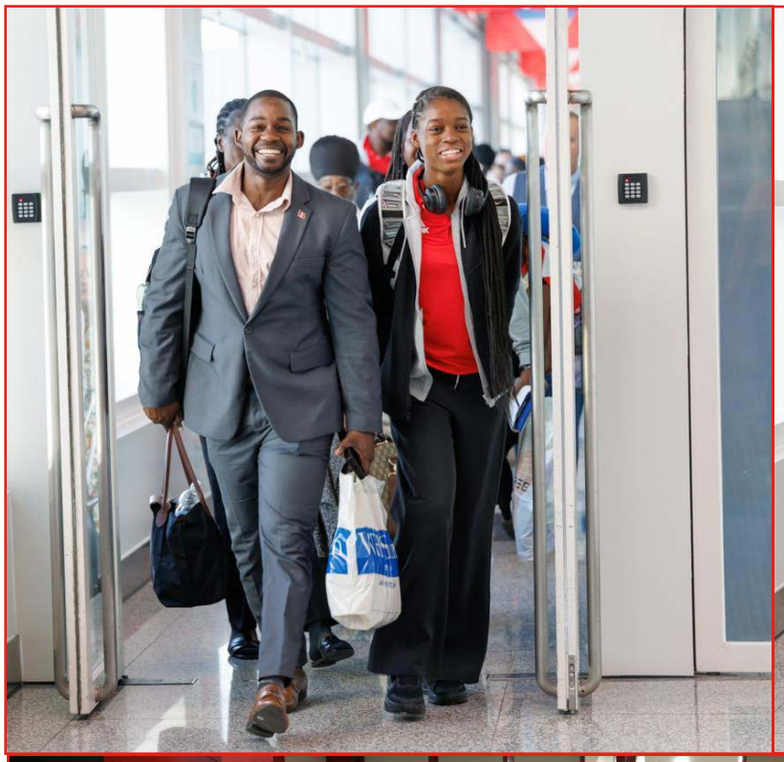
The Antigua and Barbuda Pharmaceutical Society extends its sincere appreciation to the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association, its presenters, the Honourable Minister of Health, all participating pharmacy professionals and everyone who contributed to the success of the workshop.

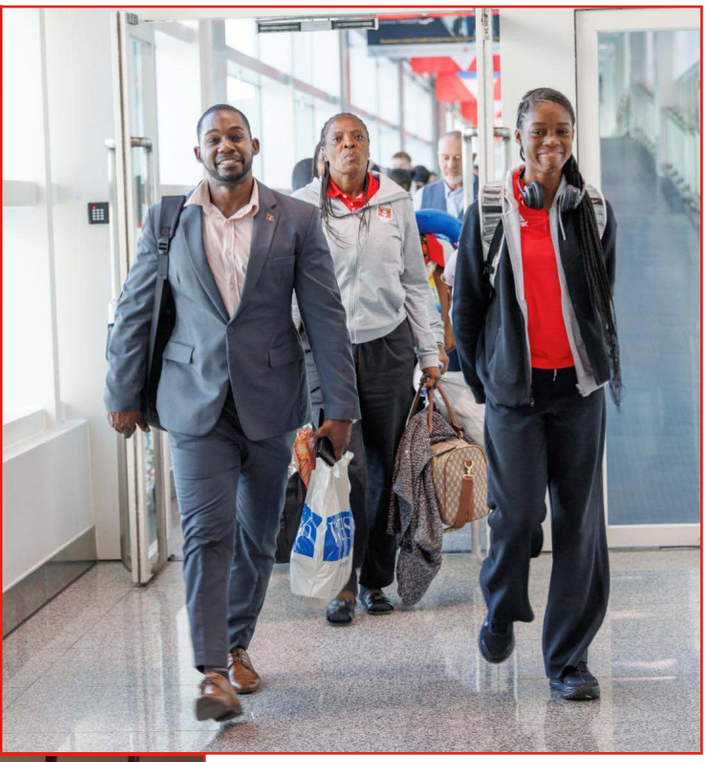
This collaboration reflects the importance of professional partnerships in advancing pharmacy practice and strengthening the contribution of pharmacists to national and global health priorities.

As the Society continues its work to strengthen the pharmacy profession in Antigua and Barbuda, it remains committed to advocacy, professional development, meaningful stakeholder engagement and initiatives that contribute to improved health outcomes for the people of Antigua and Barbuda.



Sports Minister Hon. Dwayne George Welcomes Home Fenton and Charles







Minister of Sports and Creative Industries Dwayne George welcomed home Tyra Fenton, Zonique Charles and the rest of the Antigua and Barbuda delegation that participated in the 2026 Youth Olympics last week in the Senegalese capital Dakar.

Tyra Fenton secured silver in the Women's 200 Metres, while Zonique Charles placed fifth in Javelin, setting a new personal best throw of 47.19 metres.

Joining Minister George at a ceremony in the VIP Lounge at V.C. Bird International Airport on Monday afternoon was Governor General His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Rodney Williams, officials from the National Olympic Committee, the Athletics Association, and the Ministry of Sports and Creative Industries, along with relatives of the two athletes.

The Honourable Dwayne George congratulated Fenton and Charles on their achievements and pledged the government's continued support for the development of athletes and sports in Antigua and Barbuda.










ACB
CARIBBEAN
MORTGAGES
DESIGNED
JUST FOR YOU
Home Advantage
50% off
legal fees
100%
Financing
Apply
today.

17th November

Happy Birthday



ANEKA LEE

Wishing you an amazing day and a fantastic year ahead. You deserve every bit of happiness.


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
9TH JAN
2027
8:00PM
NIGHT ONE
1NE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
BURNING FLAMES
GEN $100
ROOTS
ROCK
REGGAE
LOUNGE
$350
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
10TH JAN
2027
6:00PM
NIGHT TWO
1NE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
KEVIN DOWNSWELL
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
1 NATION CARIBBEAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
10TH JAN 2027
6:00PM
NIGHT TWO
ISLAND TRIBE COLLECTIVE
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL

Team Antigua and Barbuda Arrives in Barbados for Taste of the Caribbean 2026

Team Antigua and Barbuda has officially arrived in Barbados to participate in Taste of the Caribbean 2026, the Caribbean's premier culinary competition, taking place from November 16–19, 2026.

Representing the twin-island nation's vibrant culinary and hospitality industry, the four-member team is prepared to compete against some of the Caribbean's finest chefs and bartenders, showcasing their creativity, technical expertise and passion for Antiguan and Barbudan cuisine with a Contemporary twist.

The team, coordinated by the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA), brings together talented professionals from some of the country's leading hospitality establishments and the food and beverage sector.



Meet Team Antigua and Barbuda 2026

Chef Jean-Pierre Tuitt – Senior Chef

Chef de Cuisine at Jumby Bay Island, Chef Jean-Pierre Tuitt will represent Antigua and Barbuda in the prestigious Caribbean Chef of the Year Competition, one of the event's most highly anticipated categories. He will also compete in the Individual Seafood Competition, demonstrating his culinary creativity, technical skills and ability to transform Caribbean seafood into exceptional dishes.

Adrian Browne – Junior Chef

A Cook II at Jumby Bay Island, Adrian Browne will compete for the coveted title of Caribbean Young Chef of the Year. Representing the next generation of culinary talent, Browne will showcase his developing expertise, innovation and passion for the culinary arts as he takes on emerging chefs from across the region.

Britanya McLaren – Pastry Chef

Representing Hermitage Bay, Pastry Chef Britanya McLaren will compete for the title of Caribbean Pastry Chef of the Year. Her participation will highlight the artistry, precision and creativity required in pastry preparation, bringing her unique interpretation of Caribbean flavours and ingredients to the competition.

Altino Spencer – Bartender

Trade Specialist and Mixologist at Anjo Wholesale, Altino Spencer will represent Antigua and Barbuda in the Caribbean Bartender of the Year Competition. Spencer will demonstrate his mixology expertise across four challenging categories: Non-Alcoholic, Rum, Vodka and Mystery Basket, showcasing his creativity, technical knowledge and ability to craft innovative Antiguan & Barbudan-inspired beverages.

Olvanah Richardson – Team Manager

With over 26 years of industry experience, Chef Olvanah Richardson has served as a judge, organiser and mentor for local culinary competitions. Currently the Executive Sous Chef at Blue Waters Hotel, she brings her expertise, leadership and passion to guiding and supporting the team as they represent Antigua and Barbuda in Barbados.

Jesse Thomas - Logistics and Procurement Manager

As Director of Agri-Tourism Antigua at the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Invest-



ment, Jesse Thomas plays a key role in strengthening the connection between agriculture and tourism. With his extensive knowledge of local ingredients, sourcing and sustainable practices, Jesse provides essential logistical support and guidance, ensuring the team has the resources needed to showcase the rich flavours of Antigua and Barbuda on the regional stage.

About Taste of the Caribbean

Organised by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA), Taste of the Caribbean is the region's leading culinary competition and professional development platform for chefs, pastry chefs and bartenders. The event brings together culinary professionals from across the Caribbean to compete, exchange knowledge, develop new skills and celebrate the region's rich and diverse culinary heritage. More than a competition, Taste of the Caribbean provides an important opportunity for professional growth, networking and exposure to international culinary standards. Through a series of individual and team challenges, participants are evaluated on creativity, presentation, technical execution, flavour and their ability to showcase the distinctive ingredients and culinary traditions of the Caribbean.

The event also reinforces the important relationship between gastronomy and tourism, highlighting Caribbean cuisine as a vital component of the region's tourism product and visitor experience.

Celebrating Antigua and Barbuda's Culinary Talent

The Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association is proud to support the National Culinary Team's participation, recognising the importance of developing local talent and creating opportunities for hospitality professionals to compete and excel at the regional level. The Association notes that participation in Taste of the Caribbean is not only an opportunity to pursue regional honours but also a valuable investment in the continued development of Antigua and Barbuda's culinary industry.

The competition provides a platform for the nation's culinary professionals to demonstrate the high standards of excellence found within Antigua and Barbuda's hospitality sector while gaining valuable experience that can be shared with their colleagues and the wider industry. As the competition gets underway, Team Antigua and Barbuda carries with it the pride and support of the nation's tourism and hospitality community.

Appreciation to Our Sponsors

The ABHTA extends sincere appreciation to the sponsors and partners whose generous contributions have made Team Antigua and Barbuda's participation in Taste of the Caribbean 2026 possible.

Diamond Sponsors:

- Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA)
- State Insurance Company Limited

Gold Sponsors:

- Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority
- Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU)
- Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment
- Blue Waters Resort & Spa
- Hermitage Bay
- Jumby Bay Island
- Anjo Wholesale
- Curtain Bluff
- LIAT Air
- Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS), Muriel O'Mard Campus

The Association acknowledges the important role these organisations play in investing in culinary talent, supporting professional development and strengthening Antigua and Barbuda's position as a leading Caribbean tourism destination.

The ABHTA extends its best wishes to Chef Jean-Pierre Tuitt, Adrian Browne, Britanya McLaren and Mixologist Altino Spencer as they proudly represent Antigua and Barbuda at Taste of the Caribbean 2026.

Members of the public are encouraged to **follow the Antigua & Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (@antiguahotels) on Facebook and Instagram** for the latest updates, behind-the-scenes highlights and coverage of the Antigua and Barbuda National Culinary Team as they compete at Taste of the Caribbean 2026 in Barbados.

Where the Atlantic Ends



SSL Gold Cup © Martina Orsini

By Zoe Carlton

As Antigua and Barbuda's Rum Runners take on some of the world's best sailors in Brazil, Zoë Carlton looks to the waters where it all begins. What is it about two neighbouring harbours that draws people across an ocean and sends local sailors out to race the world?

Four boats on the start line in Rio de Janeiro. One place left in the Star Sailors League Gold Cup Finals. Shannon Falcone's Rum Runners had finished third in Sunday's double-points race and had one last shot at qualifying. So did Bermuda, Mexico and Puerto Rico. The organisers called it the Last Chance Race. Antigua and Barbuda crossed the finish line first.

Shannon, a two-time America's Cup winner, captains the team. His brother Rocco calls the tactics. Alongside them are Junella King, Shanoy Malone, Rhone Kirby, Louis Bavay, Ozani Lafond, Jalese Gordon, Vincent Anfi, and Jules Mitchell. A who's who of young Antiguan sailing heroes. In English Harbour, we're used to standing on the dock to welcome crews from all over the world. There's a particular pleasure in watching our own team win on somebody else's waters.

Junella King learned to sail at the National Sailing Academy in Falmouth and went on to teach there. In 2024 she rounded Cape Horn with the all-women crew of Maiden, which won the round the-world Ocean Globe Race overall on corrected time. Rocco Falcone started out in Optimists and Lasers. That same year, he was trimming the sails on Luna Rossa's foiling AC40 when the team won the Youth America's Cup in Barcelona.

It's a long way from Cape Horn or Barcelona to a dinghy in Falmouth Harbour, where the first thing you learn is that looking where you want to go and going there are two quite separate achievements. You push the tiller the wrong way. The sail flaps. Somebody on shore, who until this moment has shown no interest in your progress, suddenly has an excellent view as it all goes wrong.

Just round the headland from Falmouth Harbour, the Pillars of Hercules mark the entrance to English Harbour. These pale columns in the cliff are a landmark at the end of an At-



SSL Gold Cup © Martina Orsini

lantic crossing, whether you've come under sail in the RORC Transatlantic Race or under your own steam in the World's Toughest Row. The rowers have come some 3,000 miles from La Gomera in the Canaries. There are still a few strokes to go before the welcome at Nelson's Dockyard.

Antigua's Minister of Tourism has described the island as a "sailing Mecca". You can see what he means when people are prepared to cross an ocean to get here. It's a more interesting claim when you're sitting in a dinghy in Falmouth, trying to work out which way to push a stick.

Part of the explanation is in the shape of the coast. English Harbour is deep, with a narrow entrance and hills that give it shelter. Those were qualities the British Royal Navy could put to use. The naval dockyard it established depended on the labour and skills of enslaved Africans to build and operate it. The harbour still does what made it valuable in the first place. It gives boats somewhere to come in out of the weather.

Outside the harbour, the wind is part of the attraction. The RORC Caribbean 600 starts and finishes in Antigua, taking crews around eleven islands. The trade winds make for demanding sailing. How much sail can you carry into the night? When is it worth changing course to find more wind?

The Antigua 360 takes crews on a lap of the island. In 2024 and 2026 the yachts had a head start. Tiger Tyson, Antigua and Barbuda's Olympic kiteboarder, set off last and was first back. He had a kite, a board and a foil. There was very little of him in the water. Antigua Sailing Week and the Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta bring different fleets into these same waters, and there's regular club racing between the big events.

Back in Falmouth Harbour, the questions are smaller. What does that dark patch of ripples mean, and how long before it gets here? A dinghy is a good boat in which to find out. Ease the sail or move your weight and the boat tells you fairly quickly whether you've done it at the right moment. The National Sailing Academy offers lessons for adults and children and gets local schoolchildren and sailors with disabilities onto the water. Round in English Harbour, Ondeck teaches beginners and trains sailors working towards RYA Yachtmaster qualifications. There's a fair distance between pushing the tiller the wrong way and being paid to take a boat to sea. In Antigua, you can make a start on both in neighbouring harbours.

For the Atlantic rowers, the Pillars of Hercules mean they'll soon be stepping ashore. A diver comes out to much the same stretch of coast expressly to get into the water. Below the cliffs, it pays to look into the gaps in the reef. A pair of antennae can give away a lobster. An octopus is quite capable of letting you look straight at it and go away none the wiser.

Antigua and Barbuda earned 12 honours in Scuba Diving magazine's 2027 Readers' Choice Awards, in categories ranging from beginner diving to wreck diving and underwater photography. "Two dives in Antigua can feel like entirely different experiences," said Charmaine Spencer, chief marketing officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority. She pointed to the difference between watching shoals of fish move across the coral at Cades Reef and exploring the rock formations off English Harbour.

With a snorkel you can spend an unreasonable amount of time following one fish, which is among the better uses of a morning. Visitors have a fortnight, if they're lucky. People who live here have 365 days a year and allegedly 365 beaches. Go back to the same one next Sunday to see what was under that ledge and nobody's likely to keep count.

The Rum Runners have another start line to think about. The first round of the SSL Gold Cup Finals begins in Rio on 19 November. Four boats will race in each group and only two will go through. One win got Antigua and Barbuda into the Finals. Now they have a whole series to sail.

Somewhere in Falmouth Harbour, a child is getting a dinghy to go where it was meant to for the first time. That was Junella King and the others once. This week, that child can watch her race for Antigua and Barbuda in Rio.


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
10TH JAN 2027
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
10TH JAN
2027
6:00PM
NIGHT TWO
1NE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
SHERWIN GARDNER
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL

US missionary charged with child exploitation crimes in Haiti

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) says a federal grand jury in the Southern District of Florida has indicted an American missionary on charges of child exploitation in Haiti.

The DOJ said Thomas Osbeck, 70, of Fort Myers, Florida, is accused of engaging in, and attempting to engage in, illicit sexual conduct with minors in the French-speaking Caribbean nation.

According to court documents, Osbeck routinely travelled from the United States to Haiti over the past three decades, during which he allegedly sexually abused minors.

Osbeck founded Jesus in Haiti Ministries and later Ignite Your Faith Ministries, organisations through which he took in vulnerable children across Haiti, the DOJ said.

The indictment stems from allegations that Osbeck sexually abused a Haitian boy between 2004 and 2008, when the child was approximately eight to 12 years old.

He is also accused of attempting to engage in a commercial sex act with another Haitian boy between 2019 and 2020.

The DOJ said Osbeck was taken into custody in Haiti in late September 2026 following an investigation by Haitian authorities.

He was returned to the United States on October 14 and arrested by US law enforcement officers upon arrival at Miami International Airport.

Osbeck has remained in custody since his arrest.

"Investigators believe Osbeck has victimised additional children," the DOJ said. (CMC)



FOR SALE

One 30KVA open set Generator with 200amp Automatic Transfer Switch. $40.000.00ec.

THE ELECTRIC CONNECTION.
PAYNTERS.
Telephone: 462-6615 Or 727-0300

FOR SALE

One 30KVA open set Generator with 200amp Automatic Transfer Switch. $40.000.00ec.

THE ELECTRIC CONNECTION.
PAYNTERS.
Telephone: 462-6615 Or 727-0300

GENERATOR RENTALS

GENERATORS FOR RENT

150KVA 3Phase 3wire.120/240v.
50KVA 3Phase 3wire 120/240v.

CONTACT:
THE ELECTRIC CONNECTION.
PAYNTERS.
Telephone: 462-6615 Or 727-0300

POINT EXPRESS
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

Regional News

PAGE 27

Holness announces island-wide clean-up campaign, pushes for more garbage trucks



Prime Minister Dr Andrew Holness has announced plans for an island-wide campaign to clean up and maintain cities, towns and public spaces, while urging the finance minister to consider doubling a request for 30 new garbage trucks.

Addressing the Jamaica Labour Party's special delegates' conference at the Montego Bay Convention Centre in St James on Sunday, Holness said the initiative would be launched in the next Budget.

He identified the cleanliness and orderliness of public spaces as a major concern in St James and across the country.

"One of the greatest complaints that we have here in St James, and indeed in all our towns and our cities, is that the public space is not clean, the public space is not orderly," he said.

Holness said the campaign would go beyond an initial clean-up, with a focus on maintaining public spaces at an acceptable standard.

He noted that the finance minister already had a request for 30 new trucks and urged her to explore increasing that number to 60 to improve garbage collection.

"I'm going to say to the Minister of Finance, see how best you can double that amount so that we can have more effective garbage collection throughout the country," he said.

The prime minister also signalled that he would meet with mayors, stressing that responsibility for clean communities rests with both central and local government.

He said mayors and councillors must take a more active role, including engaging homeowners about how they dispose of their garbage.

"This is not just a central government problem, it is also a local government problem," Holness said.

He argued that parish councils must look beyond collection and give greater attention to residents' waste-disposal practices as part of efforts to make the country more beautiful and appealing. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Travel data exposed in cyberattack affecting Caribbean Airline

Caribbean Airlines has disclosed that some of its customers' booking and reservation information may have been accessed by an unauthorised party following a security breach at its reservations service provider, Amadeus IT Group, S.A.

In a statement Sunday, the airline said it was informed by Amadeus that an unauthorised party had exploited a vulnerability in its system to gain access to booking and reservation information.

The incident has also affected several other international airlines that use the same service provider. These include Japan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Finnair, Thai Airways, Korean Air and Qantas.

Caribbean Airlines said preliminary information provided by Amadeus suggests that no payment card information was accessed and that the breach was limited to passengers' booking and travel data.

The airline said its immediate priority is to notify customers whose information may have been affected, adding that the notification process is ongoing.

Amadeus has since fixed the vulnerability and strengthened its monitoring and detection systems to prevent similar incidents.

Caribbean Airlines said it takes the protection of customers' personal information seriously and remains committed to maintaining high standards of data security and privacy.

The airline apologised to customers for the concern and inconvenience caused by the incident. (Kaieteur News)





POINT EXPRESS
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

Regional News

PAGE 29

Wife of assassinated ex-Haitian leader registers for presidential election



The widow of assassinated former Haitian president Jovenel Moise has registered as a presidential candidate for next year's elections in the Caribbean nation.

Martine Moise was injured in the gun attack that killed her husband at their home in the capital, Port-au-Prince, in 2021.

Haiti, which last held an election in 2016, has been plagued with chronic instability and gang violence.

Elections were scheduled to be held in December but were postponed last month until July due to the country's insecurity.

Moise has to comment on her candidacy but the electoral council website showed registration on Sunday.

Last week she said on X: "Haiti will rise again on its own two feet, because politics needs to be done differently."

A total of 33 candidates have registered for the elections, including former presidents Michel Martelly and Jocelerme Privert, former prime minister Claude Joseph and former foreign minister Dominique Dupuy.

Jovenel Moise, who led Haiti from 2017 until his death, was shot dead at his home in Port-au-Prince in July 2021, allegedly by a group of mainly Colombian mercenaries.

Martine Moise suffered serious gunshot wounds during the attack and was flown to a hospital in Florida.

She was charged in connection with the assassination in 2024, but the indictment was overturned last year.

The assassination shook the Caribbean nation to its core, with many Haitians shocked that the 53-year-old was killed with such apparent ease.

Thirty suspects have been indicted over the killing so far and in September 18 people were flown from Haiti to Florida to stand trial for their alleged involvement in the assassination.

Haiti has been engulfed in a wave of gang violence since the assassination of Moise.

At least 1,408 people were killed and 656 injured from April through to June this year, according to the UN Integrated Office in Haiti. (MSN)

Trump breaks silence on nationwide ground stop, demands more money from Congress



President Donald Trump on Sunday broke his silence on the nationwide ground stop that snarled airline travel this weekend, using the incident to press Congress for more funding to fully upgrade America's air traffic control system.

The Republican president had been conspicuously quiet about the ground stop since it began Friday afternoon, instead issuing statements on social media about unrelated topics while frustrated passengers were left stranded at airports and his administration worked with airlines to restore normal travel.

Trump said in a post on his social media platform that his administration had begun upgrading the system, but argued the work should not be done in "drips and drabs". The Republican-controlled Congress approved US$12.5 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as part of the party's sweeping tax-cut package last year, but Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy has repeatedly described that funding as a down payment on a broader overhaul of the aging system.

"If Congress approves the desperately needed money for Air Traffic Control, we can get it built quickly and efficiently," Trump wrote on social media Sunday. "It will be the BEST SYSTEM anywhere in the World. Much of our current air control system is 50 years old – RIDICULOUS!"

In another post, Trump criticised his Democratic predecessor's management of the FAA and the air traffic control system, accusing former President Joe Biden's administration of making "an old and broken system worse than when they began".

Biden signed a massive infrastructure bill into law during his first year in office. The legislation allocated US$25 billion to the FAA to improve airports and air traffic control towers, redevelop airport terminals, and "upgrade the foundation" of the air traffic control system, according to the agency.

Duffy served as the administration's chief spokesperson on the issue during appearances on Sunday news programmes, pressing Congress for billions of dollars in additional upgrades to air traffic control infrastructure.

In a post on X, Duffy said contractor L3Harris Technologies Inc had secured two routers from FAA facilities in Texas and Arkansas and was conducting "deep diagnostics" on the equipment. He said the problem began when L3Harris was replacing a section of old copper wire with new fibre-optic cable, somehow causing the system to overload.

After the wire was replaced at a site in El Dorado, Arkansas, and the router was turned on, a problem emerged at a facility in Amarillo, Texas, triggering a chain reaction that led to the ground stop.

"We didn't think that should or would happen," he told ABC's This Week.

As for the travelling public, Duffy told CBS's Face the Nation that "we have some delays in the airspace right now", but added that, by the end of the day and into Monday, "we should be running at full capacity".

In a ground stop, airplanes and crews are taken out of position, he said, "so it takes a little bit of time for the airliners to get back at full capacity and operation. But we're well on our way." (AP)

Five EU countries expected to announce migrant deportation centre in Rwanda

Five EU countries are expected to announce the creation of a migrant deportation centre in the landlocked African country Rwanda, according to diplomatic sources, part of a broader push to boost deportations and curb irregular migration.

Germany, Denmark, Austria, Greece and the Netherlands said in September they were working towards a deal with a non-EU country to host "return hubs".

In August, Rwanda said it had begun "preliminary discussions" with several European states.

It is understood the scheme would only apply to asylum seekers who had exhausted legal avenues to remain in the EU, unlike a scrapped British deal that envisaged sending people to Rwanda to have their claims processed.

Legal challenges meant the UK deal never took off, and it was eventually scrapped by the incoming Labour government in 2024.

The five EU countries say the plan to send migrants abroad is in line with EU and international law, but human rights bodies say it could violate migrant rights.

The deal follows a recent EU reform that allowed for the creation of hubs outside of the bloc.

Details are expected to be announced on Monday in Vienna. Diplomatic sources told the AFP news agency the hub in the east-central African nation is expected to initially run as a pilot, hosting about 100 people, with each of the five nations possibly sending about 20 migrants.

The EU countries reportedly expressed hope that a centre would be running in 2027. The United Nations' International Organisation for Migration (IOM) could play an ancillary role.



"IOM has a long history of providing assistance to migrants in situations of transit, including in complex contexts," an IOM spokesperson said, adding the agency was in discussions with some EU countries "on plans for the establishment of return hubs or similar mechanisms".

With elections approaching in several EU nations, administrations have been under pressure to show they can control migration.

Concerns around security, struggling economies and disillusionment with governing parties have all had a major role in shaping attitudes towards people leaving their home countries.

Human Rights Watch's senior Africa researcher Clementine de Montjoye said the choice of Rwanda would be a cause of concern as it had a "well-established record of repression of dissent, arbitrary detention, ill-treatment in detention" and support for armed rebels in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

"Paying Kigali to host a deportation programme would not only cause suffering and harm to those deported, it would finance and provide political leverage to a government responsible for serious human rights abuses at home and abroad."

The independent EU Agency for Fundamental Rights argued any third country hosting a return hub should "respect fundamental rights", including that people should not be sent to a country where they face serious risk of persecution.

Unaccompanied children should not be sent to a return hub, the agency said.

According to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, there were almost 110,000 irregular border crossings into the EU in the first 10 months of 2026, which represents a 29% decrease compared to the previous year.

In October, about 18,100 crossings were detected, which is about 6% less than October 2025 but 22% more than in September "largely because of a sharp rise in arrivals on the Western African route to the Canary Islands". (BBC)

Ebola outbreak remains out of control six months into response



Six months after an Ebola outbreak was declared in Congo, the disease remains out of control and efforts to contain it are faltering.

More than 11,000 cases have been recorded, and nearly half of those infected have died, according to government data. It is the deadliest of Congo's 17 outbreaks and is on track to surpass the death toll from the West African outbreak that killed 11,000 people between 2014 and 2016.

Basic containment measures, including contact tracing and isolation, remain inadequate, raising doubts about authorities' ability to halt the outbreak. Experts say there is little chance of bringing it under control within the next year.

By the time the outbreak was announced in mid-May, 43 deaths had already been recorded, suggesting the virus had circulated undetected for an extended period. It has since spread to eight of the country's 26 provinces, moving at a pace aid groups have likened to wildfire.

New hotspots continue to emerge, stretching an already strained health care system.

Community transmission remains high. According to the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 80 per cent of new cases are being detected outside health surveillance, meaning most infections have not been tracked by authorities.

One-third of deaths occur at home or elsewhere in the community, where burials and other procedures are often conducted without specialist supervision, increasing the risk of transmission.

Health workers have repeatedly gone on strike over pay that is months overdue, sometimes leaving patients with confirmed infections without treatment.

Aid groups have also questioned how the response is being managed. Last month, the Africa CDC raised concerns about more than $700 million in ebola aid that remains unaccounted for.

"A troubling disconnect between the considerable resources mobilised for the response and what is actually reaching patients, frontline workers, and communities continues," said the humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders, known by its French acronym MSF.

Children are particularly vulnerable to ebola, especially those with pre-existing conditions such as malnutrition, experts say.

Most children affected by the disease have not received specialised care, contributing to high death rates.

According to UNICEF, children accounted for 35 per cent of deaths recorded through November 4. Children under 5 accounted for 21% of all deaths, and nearly 72% of infected children in that age group have died.

Health workers face difficult conditions as Ebola prevention and containment measures clash with social and cultural practices.

Since the outbreak began, health workers have been attacked, some fatally, adding to the dangers of working in an already volatile region. Health facilities have also come under attack.

The outbreak has been concentrated in eastern Congo, particularly Ituri and North Kivu, where communities face both the epidemic and armed conflict.

Fighting between government forces and hundreds of rebel groups, including the Rwanda-backed M23, had already helped create one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises. The Allied Democratic Forces, an Islamic State-affiliated rebel group, also attacks civilians.

The virus's rapid spread has raised fears of wider transmission across Africa. Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda have confirmed cases, making this the most geographically widespread Ebola outbreak on record. (AP)


Antigua Barbuda
FESTIVALS COMMISSION
CIU
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...
9TH JAN
2027
8:00PM
NIGHT ONE
ONE
NATION
CARIBBEAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
876
GUD
ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE
POPCAAN
GEN $100
ROOTS
ROCK
REGGAE
LOUNGE
$350
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
ANTIGUACARNIVAL
ANTIGUAFESTIVALSOFFICIAL
1NATIONMUSICFESTIVAL

Potters Tigers stay unbeaten in premier division league



Players of the Potters Tigers starting XI

The Potters Tigers dropped points but extended their unbeaten start in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League resumes on Sunday.

After winning their previous two matches, the Potters Tigers were held to a 1-1 draw by Green City FC in their third encounter at the Antigua Recreation Ground (ARG).

Following a goalless first half, Abraham Barry broke the deadlock to put the Potters Tigers ahead with a 68th-minute conversion. Omarion Barrett snatched the equalizer in the 89th minute to salvage the draw for Green City FC.

The Potters Tigers advance to seven points from three matches, while Green City FC moves to two points after securing their second draw in as many matches.

Meanwhile, the Swetes Vipers have maintained their perfect start to their campaign in the ABFA's First Division League.

The Swetes Vipers recorded their third successive win by snatching a 5-4 victory against SAP FC in their encounter at the ARG on Sunday.

Juwan Roberts put the Swetes Vipers ahead by converting a penalty kick in the eighth minute. Emerson Henry scored his first of two goals by converting a penalty kick in the 28th minute to draw SAP FC level at 1-1.

Jean-Pierre Williams scored in the 31st minute to give SAP FC a 2-1 lead at halftime. The Swetes Vipers were reduced to 10 men on the stroke of halftime when Juwan Roberts received a red card and was expelled in the second minute of added time in the first half.

Sedique Adams equalized for Swetes with a 46th-minute conversion before Emerson Henry scored his second goal of the match in the 63rd minute to give SAP FC a 3-2 lead.

Shalon Knight scored an equalizer in the 65th minute for the Swetes Vipers, and Tyrique Tonge converted a penalty kick in the 72nd minute to give SAP FC a 4-3 lead.

But the Swetes Vipers scored two late goals to snatch victory. Kaijah Matthew struck the winner in the third minute of added time after teammate Makhai Browne snatched the equalizer with a 90th-minute conversion.

The Swetes Vipers advance to nine points from three matches, while SAP FC remains on two points after slumping to their second defeat in four encounters.

Success for St. John's Lutheran in Inter-Private Primary School Tourney



The St. John's Lutheran basketball team

The St. John's Lutheran won their first two matches during the opening week of the Second Annual Inter-Private Primary School Basketball Tournament, which is currently in progress at the JSC Sports Complex.

St. John's Lutheran proved too strong for Island Academy's second team, cruising to their second win with a 43-14 victory on Saturday.

Solomon Kehl shot a game-high 16 points, while Abe Kehl and Mateo Dantosa each contributed six points for St. John's Lutheran.

Charbel Belar and Morgan each scored six and four points, respectively, for Island Academy's second team.

St. John's Lutheran launched their campaign in the five-team round-robin tournament by surging to a 30-7 victory over Grace Christian Academy.

Abe Kehl converted eight points, while Abe Kehl and Jace Modeste each scored six points. Teammate Terrece Roberts finished with three steals and two rebounds for St. John's Lutheran.

Brandon Jonas produced four points, two rebounds, and two steals for the Grace Christian Academy.

Grace Christian Academy rebounded to record their first win by pulling off a 35-19 victory against St. John's Catholic Primary on Sunday.

Grace Christian Academy was able to overcome a slow start before taking a 14-12 lead at halftime. Grace Christian Academy capitalized on a short-handed St. John's Catholic Primary, who had only five players, to press home their halftime advantage and coast to victory.

Kyrie Nicholas dominated with 18 points, three steals, and three rebounds, while teammates Brandon Jonas and Teagan Telemaque each contributed six points for Grace Christian Academy.

Eli Douglas sank 12 points, while Youssef Dweob scored five points, and Collin Francis snatched three steals for St. John's Catholic Primary.

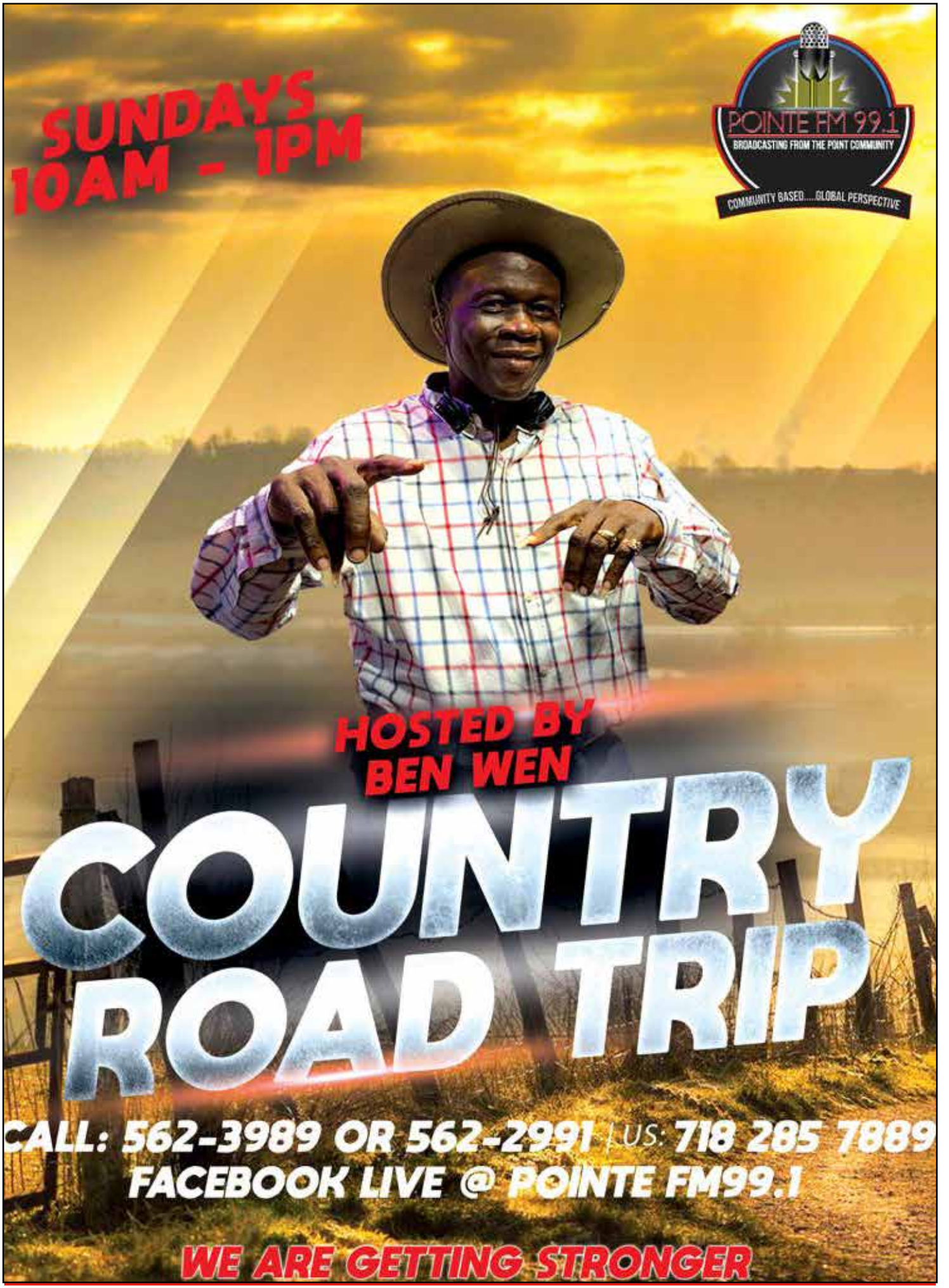
Island Academy's first team prevailed 26-19 against St. John's Catholic Primary in the opening game of the tournament.

Caleb Holder produced eight points, five rebounds, and two steals; Elysian Richardson sank five points; and Elijah Dover contributed four points and four steals for Island Academy's first team.

Eli Douglas was the main contributor for St. John's Catholic with eight points, while Dylan Selwood and Collin Francis each contributed two points and two steals for St. John's Catholic Primary.

The second Annual Inter-Private Primary Schools Basketball Tournament will resume at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday, November 21.

Grace Christian Academy will take on Island Academy at 10:30 am. On Sunday, November 22, Island Academy's second team will play St. John's Catholic Primary at 3:30 pm.


SUNDAYS
10AM - 1PM
POINTE FM 99.1
BROADCASTING FROM THE POINT COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY BASED.....GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
HOSTED BY
BEN WEN
COUNTRY
ROAD TRIP
CALL: 562-3989 OR 562-2991 | US: 718 285 7889
FACEBOOK LIVE @ POINTE FM99.1
WE ARE GETTING STRONGER



PMS continues to lead school boys under-14 league

Defending champions Princess Margaret School (PMS) remain as leaders in the Boys Under-14 Division of the Ministry of Sports Cool and Smooth JOMA Caribbean Schools Football League.

The Princess Margaret School maintained their unbeaten run in defense of their title to remain at the top of the standings with 17 points by securing their fifth win in seven outings during the latest round of matches at the Bolans playing field on Saturday.

Princess Margaret School was awarded a 3-0 victory by default against Pares Secondary School, which failed to show up for their encounter.

Pares Secondary School remain winless and without any points in the cellar of the 11-team standings after slumping to their fifth loss in as many matches.

Last season's second-place finishers, Antigua Grammar School (AGS), remain in the runners-up position in the Boys Under-14 Division with 13 points from six matches.

The Antigua Grammar School's match against Clare Hall Secondary School was postponed on Saturday. The players of Clare Hall Secondary arrived late due to an error in transporting the players to the Bolans playing field.

Unbeaten Clare Hall Secondary School currently occupies sixth place in the standings with eight points from four matches.

St. Joseph's Academy claimed their third win in six matches by snatching a 1-0 victory against Jennings Secondary School. Zuriel Archibald scored the only goal of the match in the 31st minute.

The result allows St. Joseph's Academy to move into fifth place with nine points, the same as fourth-place Jennings Secondary School, which has played seven matches.

Ottos Comprehensive School and St. Mary's Secondary School played to a 4-4 draw in their latest outing. Omarie Samuel scored all four goals for Ottos Comprehensive School with conversions in the 17th, 23rd, 47th, and 50th minutes.

The goals for St. Mary's Secondary School were scored by Ashaun Davis in the fourth minute, Zeiane'dre Brian in the 20th, Seymarkie Benjamin in the 31st, and Shamarie Joseph in the 49th minute.

The result allows St. Mary's Secondary School to remain in eighth place with five points after securing their second draw in seven matches.

The Ottos Comprehensive School remains second from the bottom of the standings with three points after salvaging their third draw in five matches.

Saturday's match between Irene B. Williams Secondary and All Saints Secondary School was postponed.

All Saints Secondary currently occupy seventh place with seven points from five matches, while Irene B. Williams Secondary remains in ninth place with three points from five encounters.

Sports
TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2026
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA POINT EXPRESS
TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

VIP captures IBSC Tape Ball Classic title



The VIP team celebrate with their championship trophy after winning the LL Supply IBSC Tape Ball Classic at the Powells playing field on Sunday, November 15, 2026. (Photo courtesy of IBSC)

The VIP captured this year's LL Supply IBSC Tape Ball Classic on Sunday. The VIP became the new champions of the T20 competition after surging to an eight-wicket victory over Hanse on Security at the Powells playing field.

Hanse on Security tumbled to 96 all out in 19 overs after losing the toss and being sent in to bat.

Kerry Mentore struck 22. Kadeem Josiah grabbed four for 18, and Elroy Francis Jr. picked up two for 21.

VIP wrapped up victory by scoring 99 for two in just 3.5 overs. Elroy Francis Jr. slammed 65, including 10 sixes and one four.

Francis Jr. captured the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the final award. He also won the overall MVP of the tournament.

During the T20 competition, Francis Jr. scored 242 runs at an average of 48.4 and a strike rate of 239.6. He also captured eight wickets at an average of 19 and an economy rate of 8.14.

His VIP teammate Kofi James won the award for the most runs with a total of 274.

Tanez Francis of Dredgers claimed the accolade for the highest individual score of 126 not out.

Kimani George of 2025 champions Bryson's Bullets and Javear Otto of Grill Box shared the award for the most wickets with 13 scalps apiece.

Gorge also took home the award for the best bowling figures of seven wickets for eight runs in four overs.

Editor: Everton Barnes. Published by Pointville Communications, Lower North Street, St. John's, Antigua
Tel: (268) 562-4989 Editorials and Reporting: evertonbarnes@gmail.com; advertising: Sales@pointville.ag.