

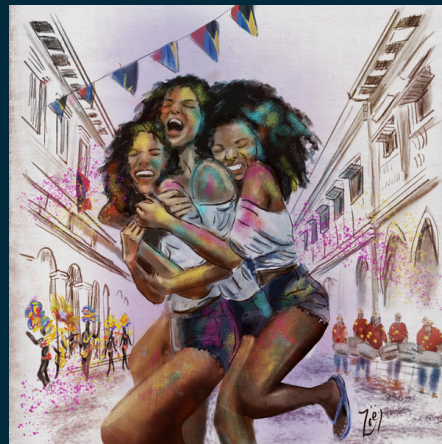
ANTIGUA ECHO

THE LIGHTER
SIDE OF LIFE

ISSUE 2026:13

CARNIVAAAAAL !

Rain may have won the battle on Sunday, but Carnival is far from beaten. Persistent showers forced the postponement of the ever-popular Junior Carnival, with the young masqueraders now set to take to the streets on Wednesday instead. Even so, Antigua Carnival 2026 has already lived up to its reputation as the Caribbean's Greatest Summer Festival, with colourful pageantry, pulsating soca, steelpan, calypso and packed crowds creating an electric atmosphere. With the biggest events still to come, the island is once again proving it knows how to throw a celebration like no other.



BARBUDA



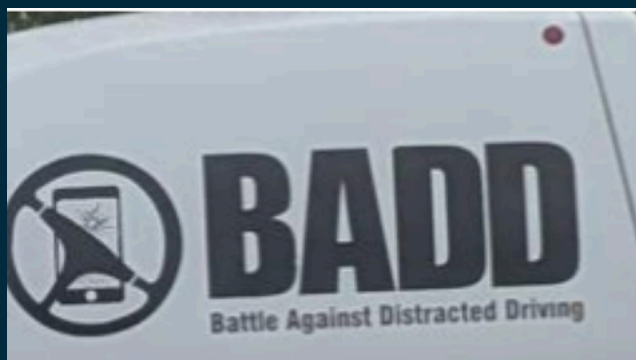
The Government has described the issuing of the first freehold land certificates in Barbuda as a landmark milestone, marking the beginning of a new era in land ownership on the island. Cabinet has ratified the first certificates under the "EC\$1 an Acre for Barbudans" programme, allowing recipients to hold legal freehold title to their land for the first time. Ministers say the initiative will provide greater security of tenure, support homeownership and investment, and lay the foundation for the Barbuda Land Registry.

ON THE ROADS



The Government says work will soon gather pace on one of the country's largest road rehabilitation programmes in recent years, backed by an EC\$100 million bond raised from local banks and a US\$33 million Caribbean Development Bank loan. Preparatory work is already underway, with the long-awaited CDB funds expected to be released within days. Projects will include roads across Antigua and Barbuda, with work on Barbuda's Two Mile Road from the airport to River Dock expected to begin shortly. Ministers say the investment will improve connectivity, strengthen resilience and support the country's continued development.

ANTIGUA?



BACKPAGE GOSSIP

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RUMOUR HAS IT



1969



2026

FROM THIS...

That Antigua Yacht Club may finally be getting a clubhouse as impressive as the yachts outside it. Members gave the plans a resounding vote of confidence after being shown an exciting concept for a modern waterfront home that looks firmly to the future while respecting the Club's proud heritage. After nearly 60 years of faithful service, the old clubhouse has certainly earned its retirement. The only question now is how many members are already choosing their favourite seat on the new veranda!



TO THIS?

2026?

READ MORE ABOUT AVC [HERE](#)

RUMOUR HAS IT



That the road to a slim figure is paved with Himalayan salt. It's the latest miracle slimming aid, with social media insisting a daily glass of salty water is "nature's Mounjaro." Sadly, the only thing likely to disappear is your faith in internet health gurus. Nutritionists say there's no evidence it burns fat & warn the extra sodium could leave you looking even puffier through water retention. Proof, perhaps, that not everything going viral deserves a place in your kitchen—or your glass.

RUMOUR HAS IT

That Mount Everest isn't really the biggest mountain on Earth. Depending on how you measure it, it loses out to Ecuador's Mount Chimborazo, which sticks farther into space thanks to the Earth's bulging middle, while Hawaii's Mauna Kea towers more than 10 kilometres from its underwater base to its summit. Even the Mariana Trench beats Everest for sheer scale, plunging almost 11 kilometres into the Pacific. It seems being the most famous mountain isn't quite the same as being the biggest.



AD-DED EXTRA

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THE ROAD TO CHOGM



With fewer than 100 days to go, Antigua and Barbuda is counting down to one of the biggest moments in its history as the nation prepares to welcome leaders from 56 Commonwealth countries for CHOGM 2026. Last week offered a glimpse of the excitement to come as two great celebrations came together—Carnival and CHOGM. The colour, music and energy of Carnival were joined by growing anticipation for November, giving residents and visitors a taste of the warm Antiguan welcome that will soon be on display to the world.

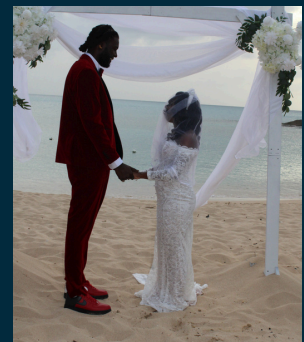


SAVE A LIFE

Antigua & Barbuda Search and Rescue (ABSAR) is inviting members of the public to enrol in its certified American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR and First Aid course. The one-day training provides the knowledge and practical skills needed to respond confidently in life-threatening emergencies. Courses will be held at the Antigua Yacht Club Event Centre on Saturday 15 August and Saturday 29 August, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is EC\$300 per person and places are limited, so early registration is encouraged.



CONGRATULATIONS



MR & MRS BHAGWANDIN

SUMMER'S HERE



Summer has arrived, the pace has slowed and many favourite spots have closed for their annual break. But if you're in English Harbour, don't worry—Barbie's and Seabreeze are open throughout the summer, serving coffee, breakfast and lunch in their usual relaxed surroundings. Whether you're meeting friends, taking a break from work or simply enjoying the quieter season, both are ready with a warm welcome, good food and a chance to unwind while the rest of the harbour takes life a little more slowly.

