

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

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SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED... TITUS 2:8

Year 69 NO. 15

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER, 2026

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend

Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 09/09/26

DELTA \$16.69/ SOL \$16.93

PARADE PRACTICE

The road to the observance of Independence 43 continues to take shape as participants sharpen their preparations for the 43rd Independence Anniversary Parade under the theme, “One People, One Vision, Endless Possibility: Independence 43.”

This social media image courtesy of the St. Kitts and Nevis Information Services-SKNIS as captured on Wednesday 8th September 2026 spotlights: “Rehearsal for the 43rd Independence Parade has moved to Warner Park. The Anniversary Parade takes place on September 19th at 6 p.m.”



PARENTS PLAY PART



**STORY ON
PAGE 03**

CANDIDATES CALL

**STORY ON
PAGE 04**



THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

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Editorial

RED: Remembering the Struggle, Renewing the Commitment

This week, as we continue our observance of National Colours Day and look ahead to our 43rd Independence Anniversary, we turn our attention to the red in our national flag, the colour which represents the struggle from slavery through colonialism to independence.

Today Friday 11th September 2026, we wear red.

Every colour in our flag carries special meaning and together they tell the story of who we are as a people and as a nation. Yet, truth be told, there is something particularly powerful about the red. It paints a picture of struggle, sacrifice, resilience and determination. It reminds us that the road to nationhood was not smooth nor was independence something that simply happened. It was earned through the sacrifices, courage and perseverance of those who came before us.

As we salute those sacrifices, we must also guard against taking the journey for granted.

Forty-three years later, Independence Day can sometimes appear to be largely ceremonial. We put on our patriotic colours, attend national events, decorate our homes, vehicles and workplaces and proudly display the national flag. These expressions of patriotism are important but the anniversary must mean more than a yearly celebration.

There is a lesson in the red that demands something deeper from us.

The struggles of the past should inspire the willpower, motivation and determination to continue nation building. Independence gave us the opportunity to chart our own course, but it did not relieve us of the responsibility to build, protect and improve the nation we inherited.

The question, therefore, is not simply what did those before us sacrifice for St. Kitts and Nevis? We

Case Number :SKBHPB2026/0087

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST. KITT'S CIRCUIT)

**THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
ST. CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
(PROBATE)
A.D. 2026**

Submitted Date:13/08/2026 10:3
Filed Date:13/08/2026 10:37
Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of **TREVIS RONEL SMITHEN**
Late of Rawlins Extension, St. Pauls, St. Kitts, deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **LEROY THEOPHILUS SMITHEN** of Grove Village, St. Pauls, St. Kitts, and **NORA CECILIA CLARKE** of Main Street, St. Pauls, St. Kitts for the Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant, who is the father and aunt of the deceased, the deceased having died on the 17th day of December, 2025.

Any person having an objection to the Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 10th day of July, 2026


Dr. Dennis Merchant
MERCHANT AND ASSOCIATES
 Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicants

Filed by Dr. Dennis Merchant of Merchant and Associates Law Office, 28 Shear Lane, Basseterre, St. Kitts, Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant.



must also ask: What are we prepared to sacrifice, contribute and commit to ensure that those sacrifices were not in vain?

Nation building requires consistency. It requires people who are prepared to put the national interest before personal convenience and to embrace the enduring principle of "Country Above Self." It requires us to possess the drive to see our country and our people do well-not only when the cameras are rolling or when Independence celebrations are underway but throughout the year.

This is the intangible lesson of the red: the spirit of perseverance must not fade.

As we celebrate under this year's theme, "One People, One Vision, Endless Possibility: Independence 43," let us recommit ourselves to the work

of building a stronger nation. Our possibilities are indeed endless but possibilities only become realities when people are willing to work for them.

Also, today, as we observe National Sneakers Day, there is perhaps an appropriate opportunity to put the symbolism of the week into motion. With a little pun intended, let us lace up and walk the path of nation building. Let us keep moving forward-towards healthier lives, stronger communities and a more united and prosperous St. Kitts and Nevis.

The red reminds us where we came from. Our actions must determine where we go next.

Next up on the National Colours Day schedule are: white on Thursday 17th September; Patriotic Day on Friday 18th September and black on Friday 25th September.



Education Minister Encourages Parents To Play Part

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETERRE, St.Kitts (Tuesday 9th September 2026)-Minister of Education, Acting Prime Minister Dr. Geoffrey Hanley is encouraging parents and guardians to remain actively involved in their children's education as the 2026-2027 academic year gets underway.

He made the appeal during his address- under the theme 'Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow'- in recognition of the start of the school year Address on Monday 7th, September 2026.

"To our parents and guardians, your role is indispensable. Education is strongest when schools and families work hand in hand. I urge you to remain active partners in this journey."

He encouraged parents to "Attend meetings, support your children's learning and lend your voice to the conversations that shape our schools."

"Together, we can ensure that every child feels valued, supported and empowered to succeed," Dr. Hanley added.

The Education Minister highlighted that this year "marks a historic milestone" as he congratulated the newly installed executive of the St. Kitts Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, the first council of PTAs in the Federation.

"This council represents a new era of collaboration where parents and teachers unite as equal stakeholders in education. Your leadership will strengthen our schools, amplify the voices of parents and ensure that partnership remains at the heart of our education system."

As the new school year begins, Dr. Hanley called on all stakeholders to play their part.

"...let us set clear expectations for all stakeholders. Students- commit to excellence, discipline, and respect," he said, while urging teachers to "continue to inspire, innovate and nurture" and to the parents "remain engaged, supportive and vocal."

Dr. Hanley, during his speech, also described teachers as "the architects of our future," while thanking them for their "tireless dedication," creativity in the classroom and resilience in the face of challenges.

"You embody the spirit of learning today, lead tomorrow. Without your guidance, our students could not achieve the heights we celebrate," he said.

Additionally, he called on communities to provide encouragement and resources to help students thrive.

"Education is not the responsibility of one group alone; it is a collective duty of us all," Dr. Hanley said.

"As we embark on this new academic year, let us embrace the call to 'Learn today, lead tomorrow. Let us work hand in hand to build a brighter, stronger and more enlightened future for St. Kitts and Nevis. Welcome back, and may the 2026-2027 school year be filled with growth, achievement, and togetherness," the Education Minister expressed.

Front Page Photo: Minister of Education, Acting Prime Minister Dr. Geoffrey Hanley seen while making his address in recognition of the start of the school year Address on Monday 7th September 2026, spotlighting the theme 'Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow' (Screenshot image via St.Kitts and Nevis Information Service-SKINS)

**The Labour Spokesman
Newspaper**

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Email us: info@sknunion.com



*Happy
Independence*



**ST. KITTS
AND NEVIS**
ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE
1983 - 2026

ONE PEOPLE, ONE VISION, ENDLESS POSSIBILITY: INDEPENDENCE 43

Richards Tells Potential PAM Candidates Not To Be Afraid

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Wednesday 9th September 2026)- Newly-elected People's Action Movement (PAM) Political Leader Dr. Shawn Richards is calling on persons who have considered entering politics not to be afraid to step forward and offer themselves as candidates as the "main opposition party" prepares for the next general election.

He made the call in a national address on Monday 7th September 2026, six days after assuming the position, saying the party would begin its preparations before an election is called.

"The next general election is expected next year, but PAM will not wait until an election is called to begin preparing. We will be ready and the work has begun," Dr. Richards said.

He said that preparations would include inviting members and supporters to offer themselves for service in constituencies where PAM sees opportunities to strengthen its team.

"We will also invite members and supporters to step forward and offer themselves for service as candidates in constituencies where we have opportunities to strengthen our team. I say to all those who have ever considered serving, do not be afraid to step forward. Our country needs people who are prepared to serve as part of this process of renewal," he said.

Richards, who was elected Political Leader after former leader Natasha Grey-Brookes resignation, expressed the party's appreciation for her service.

"I therefore express our party's sincere appreciation to our former political leader, Mrs. Natasha Grey-Brooks for her years of service and commitment to the People's Action Movement," he said.

Describing his new position, Dr. Richards said he understood the responsibility that comes with leading PAM, which he identified as the main opposition party.

"As leader of the main opposition party, as a member of parliament, and as a former deputy prime minister, I understand the weight of this responsibility," he said.

Dr. Richards said his election represented "a moment of renewal for PAM and ultimately for St. Kitts and Nevis," but said that renewal would require action.

"But renewal will mean nothing unless we have the courage and determination

to act," he said.

He outlined the changes he said would be required within PAM.

"Our immediate responsibility within PAM is clear. We must rebuild, strengthen and modernize our organization. We will strengthen our systems. We will improve our structures. We will empower our people. And we will build a disciplined, united, modern political movement that is prepared and ready to govern," Richards said.

He said the renewal process should extend beyond the party itself.

"But let me make this absolutely clear. Renewal cannot simply be about changing a political party. It must be about renewing our country," he said.

Dr. Richards said PAM would seek to open its doors to a wider group of people, including young people, women, professionals, entrepreneurs, workers, farmers and community leaders.

"Under my leadership, our doors will be open to young people, women, professionals, entrepreneurs, workers, farmers, community leaders, and every citizen who believes that St. Kitts and Nevis can do better," he said.

He also appealed to people who had become disillusioned with PAM or had stepped away from the party.

"The door is open to those who have become disillusioned. To those who stepped away, to those who still believe in the ideals upon which PAM was founded, I extend a hand of welcome," Dr. Richards said.

"Let us put aside personal differences. Let us put country before personality. Let us put service before self, and let us rebuild together."

Looking ahead to the election, Richards said PAM would use the coming months to develop its policies and plans.

"In the months ahead, we will present detailed policies, programs, and initiatives. We will listen to our people. We will consult widely, and we will develop a national vision that is not simply about winning an election but about winning a better future for St. Kitts and Nevis," he said.

Dr. Richards pledged to serve with integrity and said trust would be his watchword.

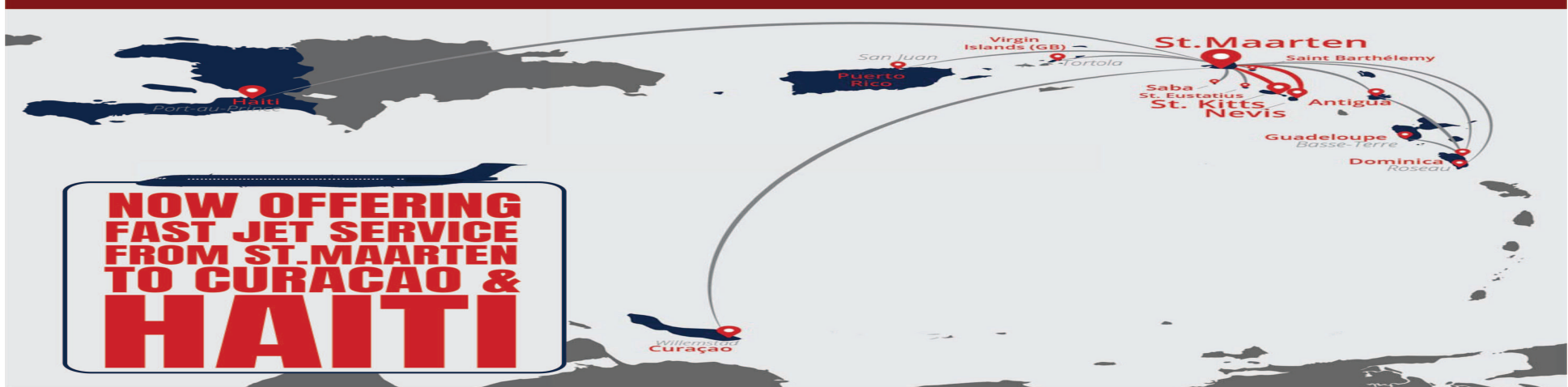
"I will serve with integrity. I will continue to serve with trust as my watchword. I will lead with courage. I will listen with humility. And I will put country before party and people before politics," he said.

Dr. Richards was elected at a Special Caucus convened at PAM Headquarters on Tuesday 1st September 2026, marking his return for a second period in the position.

Front Page Photo: Newly-elected People's Action Movement (PAM) Political Leader Dr. Shawn Richards seen while delivers his national address on Monday 7th September 2026 (Credit: Youtube.com/PAMSKNOFFICIAL)

WINAIR

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San Juan • St. Barth • St. Eustatius • St. Kitts • St. Maarten • Tortola



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SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
 **13**th 2026



National Service of **Gratitude & Gospel** Concert

 **4** P.M.



 **Rivers of Living Water Christian Centre International**
Lime Kiln Commercial & Industrial Development Basseterre

 **LIVE STREAM ON:** 

ZIZ | NTV | SKNIS | FREEDOM FM | WINNFM | VON RADIO | SUGARCITY FM | INDEPENDENCE 43 PLATFORMS

NIA commissions new 500,000-gallon tank to boost Nevis water security

NIA CHARLESTOWN, NEVIS (September 10, 2026)- The Concerned Citizens Movement (CCM)-led Nevis Island Administration (NIA) has commissioned a new 500,000-gallon glass-fused water storage tank at Stoney Hill, marking another significant investment in strengthening water security and resilience on Nevis.

The tank, which was officially commissioned on Thursday, forms part of the NIA's ongoing efforts to expand water storage capacity and ensure a more reliable supply to communities, businesses and essential services across the island.

Minister responsible for Works and Water Services, the Honourable Spencer Brand, said the project represents more than the addition of storage infrastructure, describing it as an investment in the island's resilience and future development.

"Over the past decade, the Nevis Island Administration has made water a major infrastructure priority. During that period, our investment in the water sector – including water production, storage, distribution, wells, pumping infrastructure, pipelines and other improvements- has been well over EC\$50 million," he said.

"That is a substantial commitment for an island of our size, and it demonstrates that this Administration understands a fundamental truth: without a reliable supply of water, sustainable development simply cannot take place."

Minister Brand noted that water is essential across every sector of the island's economy and social infrastructure. He explained that increased storage capacity is particularly important because water production alone is not sufficient to guarantee reliability.

"Homes need water. Our schools and health facilities need water. Agriculture needs water. Hotels and businesses need water. Construction and new housing developments need water. And every family on Nevis deserves access to a safe and reliable supply," he said.

"The commissioning of this 500,000-gallon tank, therefore, represents another important step in strengthening our overall system. Storage is particularly important because producing water is only one part of the equation. We must also have the capacity to store sufficient quantities so that the system has a buffer during periods



Government officials and Water Services representatives attend the Nevis Island Administration's commissioning ceremony for a new 500,00-gallon water storage tank at Stoney Hill, on September 10, 2026

of high demand, maintenance, emergencies or interruptions in production."

The infrastructure work for the project commenced in February 2026, while construction of the 60-foot-diameter by 30-foot-high tank was completed in May. The works were undertaken by contractor and Principal of Precision Construction,

(cont'd on next page)



Minister responsible for Works and Water Services in the Nevis Island Administration, the Honourable Spencer Brand, delivers remarks during the commissioning ceremony for a new 500,00-gallon water storage tank at Stoney Hill, on September 10, 2026



Floyd Robinson, Director of the NIA's Integrated Water Resource Management Unit gives a project overview during the commissioning ceremony for a new 500,00-gallon water storage tank at Stoney Hill, on September 10, 2026

Case Number :SKBHCV2026/0107

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST. KITTS CIRCUIT)

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
ISLAND OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT, CAP. 10.19
A. D. 2026

Submitted Date:31/08/2026 13:16

Filed Date:31/08/2026 13:16

Fees Paid:4.00

IN THE MATTER of Section 12(1)(a) of the Title by Registration Act, Cap 10:19

AND

IN THE MATTER of an Application by CHRISTOPHER RALPH VANIER for the issue of a First Certificate of Title to 1.00 acre of land at "Conaree" and "Muddy Pond" Estates, in the Parish of St. Peter in the Island of Saint Christopher

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS

for Certificate of Title, and noting thereon, and Caveats, for the week ending the 4th day of September 2026.

Date Request	of	Person presenting	Nature of Request, whether for Certificate of Title, or noting thereon, or Caveat.
December 4, 2025		CHRISTOPHER RALPH VANIER formerly of Wigley Avenue, in the Town of Basseterre in the Island of St. Christopher and now residing at 28 rue Antoine Cléry, 77210, Avon, France	ALL THAT lot of land part of the said "Conaree" and "Muddy Point" Estates situate in the Parish of St. Peter, in the Island of Saint Christopher and bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On or towards the North-West by an Estate Road, 150.00 feet; On or towards the North-East by an Estate Road, 290.40 feet; On or towards the South-East by Conaree Estate, 150.00 square feet; and On or towards the South-West by a Public Road, 290.40 feet; and containing by admeasurement 1.00 acre

Dated the 31st day of August 2026



REGISTRAR OF TITLES

NIA commissions new.....

(cont'd from last page)

Ronell Webbe, and his team.

Floyd Robinson, Director of the NIA's Integrated Water Resource Management Unit (IWRM), said the new tank, together with the existing tank at the Stoney Hill site, brings total storage capacity at the location to one million gallons.

He explained that this represents approximately a three-day supply should a disaster or other emergency cause the pumps at the nearby feeder wells to become inoperable. The two tanks can supply communities south of Stoney Hill, as well as areas as far as Charlestown.

Minister Brand said the NIA is also looking beyond traditional groundwater sources as it plans for the island's long-term water needs.

"Climate change, prolonged dry periods, changing rainfall patterns and increasing demand require us to diversify our sources of supply. That is why desalination will form an increasingly important part of our water-security strategy."

"Our plans for expanded desalination capacity, together with additional storage, improved pumping systems, better monitoring and continued efforts to reduce leakage and water losses, are all part of building a more resilient water network."

He said the NIA's approach is focused not only on meeting current demand but also on ensuring that water infrastructure is capable of supporting Nevis' continued growth.

"Our objective must be ambitious but achievable. We are therefore not merely responding to today's demand. We are planning for the Nevis of tomorrow. We are planning for more homes, more hotels, increased agricultural production, expanding commercial activity and a growing economy. The infrastructure we build today must have the capacity to support that future," Minister Brand said.

Also delivering remarks at the commissioning ceremony were Acting Premier, the Honourable Eric Evelyn; Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Water Services, Denzil Stanley; and Juzan Dore, brother of project contractor Ronell Webbe of Precision Construction.

In attendance were Deputy Governor-General for Nevis, Her Honour Mrs. Hyleeta Liburd; members of the NIA Cabinet; officials and staff of the Ministry and Department of Water Resources and the IWRM Unit; and other invited guests.

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Civil Division

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

A. D. 2026

SUIT NO. SKBHCV2017/0245

IN THE MATTER of Section 92 of the Title by
Registration Act, Cap. 10.19

and

IN THE MATTER of the sale of the property
comprised in Certificate of Title dated the 28th day
of August, 2006 and registered in **Book F3 Folio 478**
of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher
Circuit on **COLETTE B. LEWIS** now known as
COLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES

BETWEEN:

REPUBLIC BANK (EC) LIMITED

-Applicant

and

COLETTE B. LEWIS now known as COLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES

-Respondent

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at the Charles Amory Building, Cnr. Wilkin Street and Horsfords Road, Fortlands, St. Kitts, on the 24th day of September, 2026 at 2:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot of land known as Lot No. 15 of Soho Housing Development and bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On the North-West by Lot No. 17, 66.95 feet, On or towards the North- East by Lot No.16, 97.62 feet, On or towards the South-East by a Public Road, 57.87 feet, and On or towards the South-West by a Public Road, 75.82 feet and 15.31 feet and containing by admeasurement 6,087.00 square feet, all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated the 28th day of August, 2006 and registered in **Book F3 Folio 478** of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher Circuit in favour of **COLLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES** formerly known as **COLLETTE B. LEWIS** formerly of The Ghaut, Sandy Point, in the Parish of St. Anne, in the Island of Saint Christopher in the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis as registered proprietor thereof.

UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above property shall be **EC\$202,000.00**.

Dated the 22nd day of June, 2026.

Registrar of the Supreme Court



THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Civil Division

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

A.D. 2026

SUIT NO. SKBHCV2017/0245

IN THE MATTER of Section 92 of the Title by Registration Act,
Cap. 10.19

and

IN THE MATTER of the sale of the property comprised in
Certificate of Title dated the 28th day of August, 2006 and
registered in **Book F3 Folio 478** of the Register of Titles of
the Saint Christopher Circuit on **COLETTE B. LEWIS** now
known as **COLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES**

BETWEEN:

REPUBLIC BANK (EC) LIMITED

-Applicant

and

COLETTE B. LEWIS now known as
COLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES

-Respondent

BEFORE:

Master Yuri Saunders

DATED:

The 29th day of April, 2026

ENTERED:

The 30th day of June, 2026

APPEARANCES:

Johnathan Rattan for the Applicant

PRESENT:

Calder Warner a representative of the Claimant.

ORDER

UPON the Application of the Applicant by Notice of Application filed herein on the 17th day of March, 2026, to fix a new date of sale of the property of the Respondent **COLETTE B. LEWIS** now known as **COLETTE B. LEWIS-MOSES** comprised in a Certificate of Title dated the 28th day of August, 2006 and registered in Book F3 Folio 478 of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher Circuit being ALL THAT lot of land known as Lot No. 15 of Soho Housing Development, in the Parish of St. Anne, in the Island of Saint Christopher at a reduced upset price and to adjust the announcement of the sale and mode of publication thereof; and all other terms of the Articles of Sale settled on the 28th September, 2022 shall remain the same.

AND UPON HEARING Mr. Johnathan Rattan of counsel for the Applicant, and reading the Affidavits filed in support of the said Application;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The new date of sale shall be fixed by the Registrar and shall take place at Charles Amory Building, Cnr. Wilkin Street and Horsfords Road, Fortlands, St. Kitts, by the Registrar of the High Court.
2. The reduced upset price for the said property shall be **EC\$202,000.00**.
3. The notice of sale shall be advertised on two occasions of a local newspaper published in the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, the last to be published at least one week prior to the sale.
4. The applicant shall post the notice of sale and erect sign(s) on the property which states "For Sale" along with any relevant information about the sale in a conspicuous place on the encumbered property.
5. The Applicant is also permitted to advertise the sale by way of electronic media including but not limited to the Applicant's website.
6. Except the reduced upset price and adjustment to the announcement of the sale and mode of publication thereof, all other terms and conditions set out in the Articles of Sale settled on the 28th September, 2022 shall remain the same.

BY THE COURT

REGISTRAR



Crypto Wealth Holds Up in 2026 as Bitcoin Retreats from Record Highs

For Immediate Release: London, Tuesday 8 September 2026

There are 135,694 crypto millionaires worldwide, each holding USD 1 million or more in digital assets — and 92,272 are Bitcoin millionaires — according to the Crypto Wealth Report 2026 released today by leading international residence and citizenship advisory specialists Henley & Partners. The global crypto market is now worth USD 2.6 trillion, of which USD 1.6 trillion is in Bitcoin (as of 31 August 2026). Bitcoin currently trades at roughly 38% below its October 2025 peak, recovering from its mid-year slump when it fell under 50%, and this has been the mildest of its major winters: the declines that followed the 2011, 2013, 2017, and 2021 peaks each cut its price by more than 75%.

Further up the crypto wealth pyramid are 290 centi-millionaires holding USD 100 million or more — 151 in Bitcoin alone — while at the apex are 23 crypto billionaires, 9 of them in Bitcoin. Some 742 million individuals now hold digital assets in some amount, 371 million of them holding Bitcoin, showing that ownership continued to broaden even as the market contracted.

Dominic Volek, Group Head of Private Clients at Henley & Partners, says the portability of digital wealth is making residence and citizenship planning increasingly relevant to crypto investors and their families. “Crypto may be borderless, but the families who own it are not. They still live, pay tax, educate their children, and operate within national legal and regulatory systems. Crypto changes the traditional equation: the asset may no longer need the jurisdiction, but the owner still does. Increasingly, countries are competing not just to host capital, but to attract the people who control it.”

Henley & Partners has seen growing interest from crypto-wealth holders seeking advice on residence and citizenship options as they consider where to base themselves, their families, and their wider financial affairs. The firm advises private clients on the interaction between investment migration, jurisdictional choice, mobility, and long-term wealth planning, including the specific considerations that arise for holders of substantial digital assets.

Dr. Guenther Dobrauz-Saldapenna, Managing Partner at Henley & Partners Switzerland, says digital assets have fundamentally altered the relationship between wealth and geography. “Traditional wealth often crosses borders slowly, through intermediaries, or not at all. A self-custodied digital asset can move with its owner almost instantly. That makes the individual’s choice of residence, citizenship, and regulatory environment far more important. When wealth becomes highly mobile, planning around the person who owns it becomes critical.”

Ownership Widens Through the Downturn

Digital asset ownership skews sharply by age. The crypto-wealthy clients now approaching Henley & Partners are younger and more mobile than the private clients the firm advised a decade ago. This is the first generation to build significant fortunes in an asset that was never tied to a single country.

Jack Bernstein, Head of the International Tax Group at Aird & Berlis, says this younger generation’s priorities are also evolving: “The first generation of crypto wealth creators faces challenges very different from those of traditional family businesses. For many young entrepreneurs, the focus has shifted from building wealth to preserving it.”

The drawdown has also changed how crypto wealth is held and managed. Valeriano Lisanti, Founder at Sestertivm and Investment Manager at Centurionfx Group, argues that the market has changed shape around those holders, and that “active management in crypto markets is no longer a niche pursuit”. Tomas Mico, Group Data Protection Officer at Henley & Partners, notes that the practical freedom depends on how the coins are held: “Bitcoins held directly move with their owner and follow the owner’s tax residence, which wealthy holders increasingly choose through residence and citizenship planning.”

The report weighs what the new infrastructure changed, and what it did not. Jean-Marie Mognetti, Co-Founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer at CoinShares, notes that the focus for advisors has shifted: “The crucial question for wealth managers is therefore no longer simply which token to buy, or even how much digital asset exposure a client should hold, but how many different ways that allocation can earn its return.”

Stablecoins are also changing how digital wealth can move between financial centers. Dr. Guneet Kaur, an independent researcher in financial technologies and AI, points out that the stablecoin payment rails move dollars without the correspondent banking system: “With such rails in place, dollar liquidity can now move between a Dubai custodian, a Singapore family office, and a European bank account inside minutes rather than days, without routing through a US correspondent bank at all.” As demand for stablecoins grows, countries are responding by establishing comprehensive regulations. In 2025, Bahrain became the first Gulf state to introduce a dedicated regulatory framework for stablecoins, adding greater clarity around their issuance and integration into the financial system.

Comparing Crypto-Friendly Countries

The Henley Crypto Adoption Index 2026, a proprietary tool updated annually as part of the Crypto Wealth Report, benchmarks 36 countries offering residence and citizenship pathways, assessing how effectively they embrace and regulate crypto and blockchain. Drawing on more than 900 data points, the index provides a comparative view of the regulatory, tax, infrastructure, innovation, and adoption environments available to internationally mobile digital asset investors.

Singapore leads the index for the fourth consecutive year, holding the highest Innovation and Technology score overall. The UAE takes 2nd place, up from 5th last year, with 10 out of 10 for Tax-Friendliness and no tax on crypto trading, staking, or mining. Hong Kong is 3rd, with the strongest Infrastructure Adoption and Economic Factors scores in the index, and the USA is 4th, the only country to score a perfect 10 for Public Adoption. Switzerland completes the Top Five, scoring highly in Innovation and Technology and Economic Factors.

Malta ranks 6th and holds the highest Regulatory Environment score in the index, with Thailand, the UK, Cyprus, and The Bahamas taking the remaining positions in the Top 10.

Newcomers to the Henley Crypto Adoption Index 2026 in 2026 include The Bahamas (10th), Cayman Islands (12th), Bahrain (13th), Argentina (26th), Maldives (31st), and Paraguay (35th). Bahrain’s strong debut reflects its broader positioning as a destination for international investors and the appeal of countries that combine highly competitive taxation environments with business-friendly fundamentals. H.E. Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development, Chief Executive of Bahrain Economic Development Board, says: “Bahrain’s performance reflects the strengths that continue to attract international investors and professionals to the island nation. Bahrain offers a trusted, agile, and competitive environment supported by forward-looking regulation, an innovative and sophisticated financial services ecosystem, and attractive long-term residency options, reinforcing its position as a leading destination for global wealth and investment.”

The sixth new entrant on the index this year is Naoero (32nd). Edward Clark, Chief Executive Officer at the Naoero Economic and Climate Resilience Citizenship Program, says: “Naoero was the first Pacific country to establish a dedicated digital asset regulator. The country did this because investors need to know the rules before they commit to anything. Alongside its citizenship program, that framework reflects a broader ambition to engage with international investors and participate in the rapidly evolving global digital economy.”

Where Crypto Wealth Is Heading

Investment migration destinations seeking to attract wealthy, globally mobile digital asset investors are increasingly competing on regulatory clarity, with several also offering favorable taxation of digital assets. Dubai established the world’s first standalone regulator for virtual assets in 2022, while Singapore licenses digital asset services through its Monetary Authority and levies no capital gains tax on individual investors. Switzerland, meanwhile, hosts the long-established blockchain cluster in Zug and exempts private capital gains.

The Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCAR) took full effect in December 2024 and created a harmonized regulatory framework for crypto assets across the EU, reducing the scope for member states to differentiate themselves through national crypto rules and placing greater emphasis on factors such as tax and residence policy in attracting mobile digital asset investors. Portugal (ranked 23rd in the Henley Crypto Adoption Index 2026), which offers residence pathways for international investors and entrepreneurs, exempts digital asset gains on holdings of more than a year, while Italy (19th) combines a residence by investment pathway with a flat-tax regime for qualifying new residents, where the annual charge on foreign-source income has risen twice in two years, to EUR 300,000. Dr. Niklas J.R.M. Schmidt, Partner at Wolf Theiss, comments in the report that Europe is now the only major economy with a unified crypto rulebook spanning 30 countries, but asks: “Will this hard-won regulatory certainty act as a magnet for crypto capital, or will it stifle innovation?”

Henley & Partners’ recently published Global Wealth Mobility Framework measures the broader conditions that attract and retain globally mobile wealth,

(cont’d on next page)

Argentina to file criminal case against oil company operating in Falklands

Vanessa Buschschlüter

Latin America online editor



REUTERS/Mariana Nedelcu

Argentine President speaks during a ceremony commemorating the 172nd anniversary of the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange in Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 16, 2026. He is wearing a dark suit with a black tie and a light blue shirt. He stands at a lectern and to his left there is an Argentine flag. REUTERS/Mariana Nedelcu

Argentine President Javier Milei said that oil companies drilling off the Falklands would face sanctions

The Argentine government has said that it will file criminal charges against oil company Navitas Petroleum for operating in seas off the Falkland Islands.

The move came just days after Argentine President Javier Milei said he would sanction oil companies drilling in the British overseas territory in the south-west Atlantic Ocean.

Reacting to the news, Foreign Office Minister Kirsty McNeill insisted that there could be "no doubt" about the British government's commitment to the Falkland Islanders.

Sovereignty of the archipelago remains disputed between the UK and Argentina more than 40 years after a British military task force ejected Argentine forces which had invaded the territory in 1982.

Speaking in the House of Commons on Tuesday, McNeill said that "the decision by the Falkland Islands government to pursue hydrocarbon production is a commercial decision for them to take alongside the commercial companies involved".

She added that "the future of the Falkland Islands is for Falkland Islanders to determine".

The simmering dispute between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands heated up last week, when Milei said in a speech to the nation that the "winds of change" favoured Argentina's claim to the islands.

Milei has, in the past, been criticised by Argentine veterans of the 1982 conflict for being "too soft" on the Falklands, which Argentines call Las Malvinas.

In his speech on Thursday evening local time, Milei restated his government's position on the territory, saying "the Malvinas are Argentine, historically and legally... there's

no debate about that."

The president described drilling for oil in the archipelago as a "clear and urgent danger" to Argentine sovereignty.

He also dismissed the result of a 2013 referendum in which 99.8% of the islands' residents voted in favour of the Falklands remaining a British overseas territory.

Milei argued that they were living on land which had been "usurped" by the British and therefore "have no legitimate right to self-determination".

The British government dismissed Milei's speech and stressed that its position on the Falklands was "unwavering".

Hopes that Milei's primetime speech may have been a blip and that he would return to his previous stance of strengthening diplomatic ties with the UK were crushed on Monday, however, when his office announced it would file criminal charges against Navitas Petroleum, several of its subsidiaries and their executives.

Navitas, which is listed in Tel Aviv, holds a 65% stake in Sea Lion, an offshore oil project set to start production in the North Falkland Basin in 2028.

The Sea Lion oilfield, around 130 miles (209 km) from the Falkland Islands, contains an estimated 1.7 billion barrels of oil.

In Monday's statement, Milei alleged that drilling in the area would violate Argentine law banning resource exploitation without approval from the Argentine authorities.

"The state will continue to pursue actions deemed necessary to counter any act which breaches the sovereign rights of the Argentine Republic," the statement insisted.

Navitas has not yet responded to this latest statement but said last week that Milei's remarks were "not expected to have a material effect on the development activities of the Sea Lion Project, including the timetable for completion of the Project's development".

Rockhopper, which owns a partial stake in the Sea Lion project, has also not yet commented on Milei's statement.

Both companies have in the past stressed that Sea Lion holds valid licences from the Falkland Islands.



Crypto Wealth Holds Up in 2026 as Bitcoin Retreats from Record Highs

(cont'd from last page)

including investor access, quality of life, and rule of law as well as tax competitiveness. Among the framework's wealth mobility leaders, the UAE achieved a Wealth Mobility Competitiveness Score of 85.3 out of 100, with Singapore at 79.5, New Zealand at 75.8, the Cayman Islands at 74.3, and Cyprus at 73.5.

António Henriques, Chief Executive Officer at Bison Bank, says that growing demand for regulatory predictability is also changing how investors approach geographic diversification: "In this new environment, jurisdictions themselves are becoming part of the asset allocation strategy. Just as investors diversify across asset classes, they are increasingly diversifying across

geographies, banking relationships, and legal structures, transforming the very architecture of wealth into a risk management strategy."

In the Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda's Citizenship by Investment Program recognizes documented digital assets when applicants evidence their source of funds, and St. Kitts and Nevis admits digital assets as a partial source of wealth for its program applicants. But when digital wealth reaches the due diligence desk, the wallet alone will not answer the questions asked. Daniel Hartnett, who leads the Enhanced Due Diligence business at LSEG Risk Intelligence, makes the point directly: "A wallet can show that value exists. It cannot tell the whole story of the person behind it."

New Reporting Rules for Crypto Wealth

Seventy-six jurisdictions have signed up to the OECD's reporting framework for crypto assets, with the first exchanges of information between 46 of them due in September 2027. As transparency increases and regulatory frameworks mature, the jurisdiction in which a crypto-wealth holder lives, invests, and structures their affairs is becoming increasingly consequential.

Volek says this is reinforcing the importance of residence and citizenship planning for internationally mobile investors. "Crypto may move across borders with unprecedented ease, but its owners still need to decide which jurisdictions they want to be connected to. As reporting requirements increase and regulatory scrutiny intensifies, the focus shifts to quality: competent regulation, dependable courts, physical safety, global access, and a standard of life a family actually wants. For crypto-wealth holders, a well-structured sovereign portfolio — combining residence, citizenship, and jurisdictional options — can provide greater flexibility, access, and resilience over the long term."

The complete Crypto Wealth Report 2026 is available online.

CFBC Participates In Youth Ambassador Exchange Programme With Taiwan

Basseterre: St. Kitts, Friday, September 04, 2026: Students and representatives of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC) participated in the CBFC Taiwanese International Youth Ambassador Programme under the theme Celebrating Culture and

Collaboration Between St. Kitts -Nevis and Taiwan.

Ambassador Edward Ling-wen Tao, resident Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Saint Kitts and Nevis expressed his gratitude to CFBC for its participation and expounded on the mission of the programme highlighting the importance of strengthening educational cooperation between Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis.

“The core mission of our Ambassador Programme is very straight forward- to promote youth exchange, shared learning, and personal connections. For over four decades Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis have maintained a strong supportive partnership. One of the main pillars of our bilateral cooperation has always been

education and human resource development. Our two countries share the firm belief that the most valuable investment any nation can make, is in its young people, equipping you with technology, technical skills and global perspective needed to drive the change.”

He highlighted the importance of educational cooperation in strengthening the longstanding relationship between Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis and creating greater opportunities for the people of both countries.

“Educational cooperation, however, shouldn't be a one-way street. While we welcome Kittitian and Nevisian students to study in Taiwan, we are equally passionate about bringing Taiwanese youth directly to your campus to learn from you. When young people from different sides of the world sit down together, share ideas, exchange skills, and learn from each other's experience, everyone grows stronger.”

Andy Liu, Head of the Taiwan Youth Delegation, shared his excitement about visiting the Federation and highlighted the benefits of student exchange programmes in fostering cross-cultural understanding and promoting positive generational change. He emphasized that such initiatives provide young people with opportunities to learn from one another, build lasting connections, and strengthen relations between Taiwan and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Ms. Wanda Hughes, Interim Vice President of Academic and Student

(cont'd on next page)



CFBC Participates In Youth Ambassador Exchange Programme With Taiwan

(cont'd from last page)

Affairs and CFBC representative to the Taiwanese delegation, highlighted the value of the exchange programme in providing students with opportunities to broaden their global perspectives, develop meaningful international connections, and acquire valuable skills beyond the classroom. She noted that such experiences contribute to students' personal and professional development while preparing them to engage more confidently in an increasingly interconnected world.

Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Education, the Honourable Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, extended a warm welcome to the Taiwanese Youth Ambassador delegation and highlighted the many benefits of the initiative. He emphasized that programmes of this nature provide young people with valuable opportunities to broaden their perspectives, develop cultural awareness, build meaningful international relationships, and strengthen collaboration between St. Kitts and Nevis and Taiwan.

"In an increasingly interconnected world, it is essential that young people have opportunities to engage with cultures different from their own. These experiences broaden our understanding, challenge our assumptions, and help us appreciate the diversity that enriches our global community. When we learn about another culture, we learn not only about history, traditions, language, music, and customs. We also learn empathy. We develop respect for different perspectives and discover the many values we share as human beings. Such understanding is critical as we prepare young people to become responsible global citizens and future leaders. The friendships formed today have the potential to become the partnerships of tomorrow."

The programme provided an opportunity for young people from both countries to interact, share their cultural traditions, and gain a deeper appreciation for each other's heritage and perspectives. Participants engaged in activities designed to promote dialogue, friendship, collaboration, and cross-cultural understanding.



Cricket Australia opens Big Bash to privatisation



The players of Perth Scorchers celebrate winning the 2026 Big Bash
Image source, Getty Images
Perth Scorchers won the men's Big Bash in 2026 - their sixth title

By Timothy Abraham
BBC Sport Journalist

Cricket Australia has opened the Big Bash to private investment, although individual state associations will retain the power to decide whether and when to sell stakes in their franchises.

The governing body had originally been keen on a league-wide sale of franchises for the Big Bash League (BBL) and the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) but those proposals were opposed by New South Wales and Queensland.

Instead, a "self-determination model" will be adopted by Cricket Australia for the process, which will allow individual states to have the final say.

The decision to sell stakes in Big Bash franchises follows the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) decision to sell stakes in The Hundred's eight teams last year, which generated more than £500m.

The eight franchises were valued collectively at more than £975m.

BBC Sport understands officials from Cricket Australia met with some of the owners of franchises in The Hundred this summer and a number of them have expressed an interest in investing in the Big Bash.

Cricket Australia said the decision was a "landmark step" for the country's T20 tournament, with bids now being invited to purchase 100% of the licence for the Melbourne Renegades.

The aim is for the Renegades to be playing in the 2027-28 Big Bash under new ownership.

"Pending the result of that process, Cricket Australia will consider taking other clubs to market under a self-determination model that gives each state member the ability to assess the optimal pathway for its own club and community," the governing body said in a statement.

"The decision to proceed with this self-determination model was made in the best interests of all aspects of Australian cricket."

The Renegades will be operated by Cricket Australia in a caretaker capacity during the coming season, with their sale not affecting the 2026-27 BBL or WBBL.

Hobart Hurricanes, Melbourne Stars and Perth Scorchers are reportedly keen to bring in private investment but the two Sydney-based sides - Sixers and Thunder - along with Brisbane Heat and Adelaide Strikers are reluctant to commit.

The self-determination model means those states can choose to explore private investment in future.

Cricket Australia plans to retain control over international scheduling, player availability, salary caps and media rights.

It will also hold the power to approve or veto potential investors and set a reserve price for the sale of the Renegades.

Cricket Australia chair Mike Baird said the governing body and state associations were "united in our commitment to investing in and growing the BBL and WBBL" and to "advancing the interests of cricket at every level".

"By opening the door to private investment in the Big Bash Leagues, Cricket Australia is taking a deliberate step to strengthen and secure the long-term future of the game," he said.

Baird added that the investment can "accelerate growth" to ensure Cricket Australia can "keep investing in community cricket and grassroots participation, domestic and international pathways and the elite level".

Cricket Australia also said it was continuing "constructive discussions" with the Australian Cricketers' Association over an ongoing pay dispute.

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More than 20 children feared dead in DR Congo school fire

Emery Makumeno, BBC Africa,
Kinshasa and Robert Greenall

At least 24 schoolchildren are feared dead in a stampede as they tried to flee a fire that engulfed two schools in rebel-held Bukavu in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a senior official there has said.

Adults are also reported to have died in the fire and there are fears that the death toll could rise further in the densely populated Kadutu commune.

Survivors have been taken to nearby hospitals, and footage of the scene shows children lying on hospital floors in pain.

Some 300 houses have also been destroyed in the fire, the cause of which is unknown.

Pictures circulating on social media show young children lying motionless on the ground.

A witness quoted by Reuters news agency said the fire had been put out by afternoon but smoke was still rising from rubble and corrugated metal.

Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu province and one of DR Congo's most crowded hillside cities, was captured by M23 rebels in February last year.

Rebel-appointed authorities say they are assessing the situation and will release a provisional death toll this evening.

Meanwhile the government in Kinshasa released a statement on X, without specifying numbers of casualties.

"The Ministry of National Education and New Citizenship expressed deep sorrow over the

deadly fire," it said.

"With several lives lost and many injured, the toll remains provisional. The minister offered condolences, affirmed solidarity with families, and ordered assessments of

affected schools to ensure learning continuity."

The tragedy follows a similar fire in Kinshasa last weekend, where residents died in a stampede at a wedding banquet hall.

In response, the government has ordered strict safety measures and

deployed teams nationwide to enforce standards at public gathering places.



Reuters Man in yellow t-shirt stands in piles of rubble and corrugated iron while three other people stand on the left of the picture. The rubble seems to go on for some distance and the air is hazy. Reuters

The fire appears to have been put out but smouldering ruins remain



The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis Invites Tenderers to Bid on the following Project:

Saddlers Playing Field Fencing Project Tender Documents can be obtained at the Public Works Department, Wellington Road, Basseterre, St Kitts, as of Monday, 24th August, 2026 for a non-refundable fee of EC\$350.00 each.

A site meeting will be convened on Thursday 27th August 2026.

Completed tender shall be delivered in sealed envelope to the office of:

**Director of Public Works Department
Wellington Road, Basseterre St. Kitts
on or before 1:00pm Wednesday 7th October 2026.**

Tenderers or their representatives are invited to the Tender Opening.

Eligibility

It is mandatory that Tenderers be locally registered in the Federation of St. Kitts & Nevis. Business License MUST be presented before receipt of Tender Document.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS ST KITTS



PRESS RELEASE

Rotary Club of Liamuiga Strengthens Membership with Induction of New Rotarians

Basseterre, St. Kitts — September 2026 — In keeping with Rotary International's observance of August as Membership and New Club Development Month, the Rotary Club of Liamuiga welcomed two new members, Dr. Tishima Browne and Ms. Chavesia Huggins, during a simple and intimate induction ceremony held on Wednesday, 2 September 2026.

Membership and New Club Development Month provides Rotary clubs around the world with an opportunity to focus on attracting, engaging and retaining members, while strengthening clubs through the introduction of individuals who bring diverse professional expertise, interests and a shared commitment to service.

The addition of Dr. Browne and Ms. Huggins reflects this objective and further strengthens the Rotary Club of Liamuiga's capacity to serve the community through a growing and diverse membership.

Dr. Tishima Browne, who was sponsored by Club Membership Director Dr. Marcus L. Natta, is a Medical Doctor and currently serves as a Medical Officer at the Joseph N. France General Hospital. Her professional and volunteer experience extends beyond clinical medicine into community health education and outreach, preventative health initiatives, emergency response and volunteer medical service.

Ms. Chavesia Huggins, who Club President Cosbert Woods sponsored, brings a background in International Relations and Political Science, International Business and Human Resources. She currently works as a Human Resource Representative with Digital Print Plus.

Ms. Huggins has expressed an interest in several areas of community service, particularly initiatives involving children, persons with disabilities, environmental issues, health care, literacy and numeracy, and poverty and hunger.

The Club sees the induction of its newest members as more than an increase in numbers. Effective Rotary membership is built on individuals who are willing to contribute their professional knowledge, experience, time and ideas toward addressing the needs of their communities.

Club President Cosbert Woods welcomed the new members and noted the importance of continued membership development to the sustainability and effectiveness of the organisation.

The Rotary Club of Liamuiga

remains committed to attracting individuals from diverse professional and personal backgrounds who share Rotary's values of service, fellowship, integrity, diversity and leadership.

As the Club reflected on Membership and New Club Development Month, it also encouraged other community-minded professionals and individuals to consider the opportunities Rotary provides to use their skills, build meaningful relationships and contribute to positive and lasting change.

The Rotary Club of Liamuiga proudly welcomes Rotarian Dr. Tishima Browne and Rotarian Chavesia Huggins and looks forward to their journey of fellowship and Service Above Self.



On behalf of the Prime Minister of the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, the Honourable Dr. Terrance M. Drew, it is our privilege to inform you that the Federation will commemorate its **43rd Anniversary of Independence** on **September 19th, 2026**. The Prime Minister extends his warmest compliments and cordially invites you to join the people of Saint Kitts and Nevis in celebrating this historic milestone.

This year's observances will be held under the distinguished theme:
"ONE PEOPLE, ONE VISION, ENDLESS POSSIBILITY: INDEPENDENCE 43"

Tuesday September 8th, 2026

28th Prime Minister's Lecture Series
ECCB Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

Sunday September 13th, 2026

National Service of Gratitude and Gospel Concert
Rivers of Living Water Christian Centre, Lime Kiln
4:00 p.m.

Wednesday September 16th, 2026

National Heroes Day Ceremony
National Heroes Park, Conaree
8:00 a.m.

Wreath Laying Ceremony
The Right Excellent Sir Robert L. Bradshaw Memorial Park, St. Paul's
4:00 p.m.

Saturday September 19th, 2026

Independence Ceremonial Parade
Warner Park Cricket Stadium
6:00 p.m.

Toast to the Nation (following Ceremonial Parade)
Camp Springfield

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Dress Code: **Patriotic Semi-Formal**



2030 Winter Olympics boss departs amid turmoil



A smiling man in a dark suit and tie stands behind a wooden podium adorned with white Olympic rings with a folded white Olympic flag to his right

Image source, Getty Images

Freestyle skier Gropiron is a two-time Olympic medallist and three-time former world champion

Edgar Gropiron has left his position as president of the organising committee for the 2030 French Alps Winter Olympics just 18 months after his appointment.

The departure of Gropiron, the 1992 Olympic moguls champion, was confirmed at a meeting of the committee's executive board on Thursday, marking the latest setback in the event's troubled governance.

In a statement, the organising committee said: "His decision to leave the presidency is part of a deliberate, organised and fully assumed transition, taken in the interests of the project and its governance."

"It reflects a shared desire with stakeholders to enable the organisation to quickly enter this new operational phase."

Confirming his departure via a post on LinkedIn, Gropiron said his decision followed "months of tension".

"I draw the conclusion that the conditions are not met for me to continue this," he wrote.

Gropiron's tenure, which began in February 2025, has been plagued by internal turmoil and logistical challenges.

In February 2026, chief executive officer Cyril Linette left the committee, citing "insurmountable disagreements" with Gropiron.

Linette's departure followed a number of other high-profile resignations, including chief

operating officer Anne Murac and communications director Arthur Richer.

Budget cuts have plagued the planning process, with Gropiron admitting in February they had "little time, little money".

However, he remained confident he could "deliver a Games that will honour our vision and ambition" provided there was "serenity" and "continuity" from the organising committee.

In May, the committee was forced to shelve the Games' 'ice sports hub' in Nice after the city's mayor, Eric Ciotti, refused to allow OGC Nice's Allianz Riviera Stadium to be converted into a temporary ice rink.

The ice events will now be hosted in Lyon, with the exception of speed skating, which will take place in Heerenveen in the Netherlands.

Two months later, following a tense board meeting in July, French Olympic Committee president Amelie Oudea-Castera told La Tribune Dimanche, external that they were "once again facing governance problems".

Despite another departure from the organising committee, French sports minister Marina Ferrari says there is "no concern about what comes next".

"The bid is continuing to move forward," she told reporters. "Our teams are mobilised and working. We are confident about the future of the Alpes project."

The International Olympic Committee praised Gropiron's "crucial work in laying the foundations for the success" of the Games.

"The IOC will continue working in close collaboration with the organising committee to build on the solid foundations that Mr Gropiron has laid," the statement added.



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Dated this
08th day of September, 2026.

Signed: Kenneth A. Bobb



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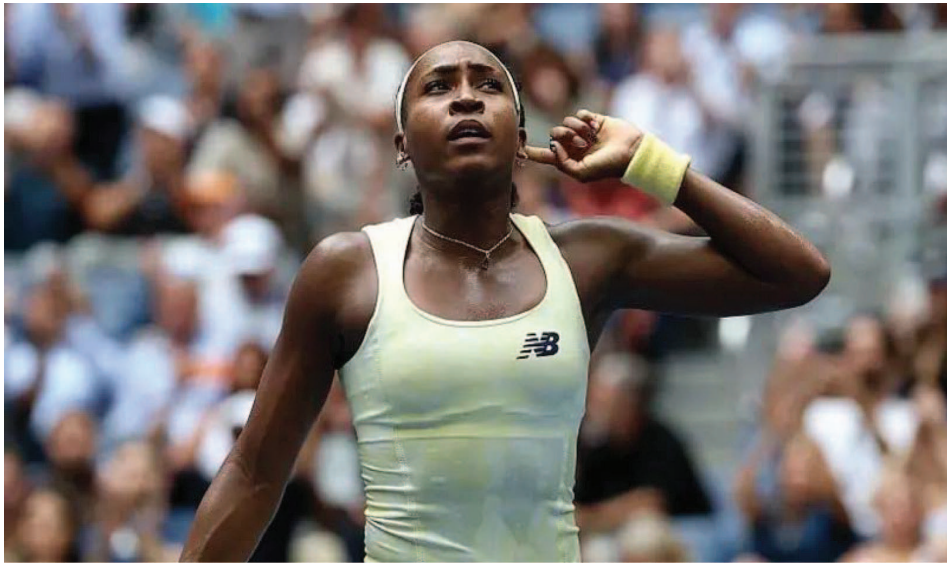
National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that policy numbers 58044 & 67016 on the life of Victoria Phillips has been lost and having made an application to the Directors to grant special policies, notice is hereby given that unless an objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policies asked for will be issued.

Dated: 07/09/2026

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager

Gauff saves match points to set up Rybakina semi-final



Coco Gauff, wearing a pale yellow vest, puts her left index finger behind her ear
Image source, Getty Images

Gauff won the 2023 US Open and 2025 French Open

By Elizabeth Botcherby
BBC Sport journalist

Coco Gauff saved two match points as she fought from a set down to beat Mirra Andreeva and set up a US Open semi-final against incoming world number one Elena Rybakina.

Blown away in a 26-minute opening set, fourth seed Gauff was twice pegged back from a break up in a scrappy second set before coming through a 16-point tie-break to force a decider.

Roared on by a partisan crowd, the American's resilience proved the difference in what became a mental battle as she closed out a 2-6 7-6 (9-7) 6-2 win – a performance she said was inspired by compatriot Frances Tiafoe's comeback victory over Alex Michelsen on Tuesday night.

Progression to the last four marks back-to-back Grand Slam semi-finals for the two-time major champion and her first in New York since winning the title in 2023.

It is the first time the top four seeds have reached the semi-finals of the women's singles at a major since Wimbledon in 2009, after top seed Sabalenka and third seed Jessica Pegula progressed on Tuesday.

"At the end of the first set I was

thinking about Frances and how he came back yesterday," Gauff said.

"We all want to do well in front of this crowd. Honestly, I was just trying to leave the court with no regrets."

Gauff also drew strength from her home crowd, something she has learned to embrace having struggled with the pressure of "disappointing" them with a "bad match" earlier in her career.

"I don't have that fear of disappointing them. I'm just using them and knowing that when I step on this court, they're still going to have my back," she said.

Earlier, second seed Rybakina recovered from losing a set for the first time this tournament - and going break-point down in the decider - to beat Zheng Qinwen 3-6 6-1 6-4.

The 27-year-old arrived at the US Open trailing Aryna Sabalenka by just 434 points and was guaranteed to secure the number one ranking for the first time in her career by reaching the semi-finals.

This was an uncharacteristic performance from Gauff, whose 22 winners were vastly outnumbered by 42 unforced errors, including 12 double faults.

She won just five of the opening 21 points as Andreeva breezed into a one-set lead and later failed to consolidate breaks at 4-2 and 5-3 in the second set.

A double fault at the beginning of the tie-break felt ominous, but the 22-year-old maintained her composure to save two match points - something which proved a turning point as she dominated the clutch moments in the decider.

Her response was in stark contrast to Andreeva, who struck 14 unforced errors to Gauff's two in the final set and flung a racquet in frustration following the first break of serve.



"You have to admire how Coco does this. She's done it so many times in her career," former British number one Annabel Croft said on BBC Radio 5 Live.

"She's unrecognisable from the player at the start of this match. She was subdued and playing defensive tennis. By the end, she was completely controlling the match.

"We've been blessed with the amount of intriguing matches we've had. You're seeing these warriors out on court.

"It's the ability of one of the gladiators to get themselves back in it."

Addressing her outburst, Andreeva said: "I felt like I was holding my emotions for too long, not reacting on a lot of points. At one point I felt like needed to let it out."

What might have been for resurgent Zheng

Zheng Qinwen, wearing a white vest and mint green shorts, looks dejected

Image source, Getty Images

Zheng has a 0-3 losing record in US Open quarter-finals

Rybakina's ascension to the top of the rankings – the first Kazakhstani man or woman to do so – will rightly dominate the headlines.

She has achieved one of her two goals for the tournament and is now just two wins away from a second major title of the season, having won the Australian Open in January.

However, beaten opponent Zheng's achievements should not go unnoticed, offering a welcome reminder of her talent with an entertaining run to the last eight.

Having dropped out of the top 100 following elbow surgery in July 2025, the reigning Olympic champion navigated three qualifying rounds before registering her first Grand Slam main-draw win since last year's French Open.

She later stunned 22nd seed Madison Keys, who she trailed 5-0 in the third set and saved match point, and eighth seed Iga Swiatek to reach her third quarter-final in New York.

Ranked 121st heading into the tournament, she is now up to 52nd in the live rankings and has just 65 points to defend for the remainder of the season.

But for all the positives, there is an unshakable sense of what might have been against Rybakina.

Momentum was with the 23-year-old after she broke late in the first set before staving off five break points to take a 1-0 lead. However, she was completely blown away in the second set, with her second serve coming under considerable pressure.

She earned a break point in the eighth game of the decider but missed a routine backhand pass. In the next game, she brilliantly fought back from 0-40 to deuce but then followed a loose backhand with a double fault as her hopes of a maiden US Open semi-final slipped away.



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