

TCI's NACAC Age Group Squad Reduced to One Athlete Due to Travel Document Complications



NEWSLINE

Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage



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FINES AND CHARGES

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Up to \$1,000 in Penalties or Six Months in Prison for Violators

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ROCKHOUSE

TURKS & CAICOS

GRACE BAY RESORTS

OPEN JOB POSITION

SECURITY MANAGER

Responsible oversee asset protection for the resort, from the protection of people and staff to the pre-vention of theft and inventory loss. The security Manager will be responsible for developing and im-plementing security standards and ensuring that they are fol-lowed by all resort staff. The security Manager will also be responsible for managing a budget for security operations.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Develop and implement of security policies, procedures and protocols.
- Conducting regular security assessment and audits to identify potential vulnerabilities and recommend appropriate solutions.
- Monitoring and analysing security systems, such as CCTV cameras, access control systems.
- Coordinating with other departments to ensure compliance with security protocols and proce-dures.
- Collaborating with law enforcement and emergency services in case of emergencies or security breaches.
- Maintaining accurate records of security incidents, equipment inventory, and training activities.
- Develop and implement emergency response plans and procedures.
- Maintaining accurate records of security incidents, equipment inventory and training activities

REQUIREMENTS/SKILLS

- 5 years of experience in property management and/or a comparable position in hotel opera-tions.
- Any certifications such as Certified Security Manager or training would be considered.
- Experience using relevant technology and equipment (e.g. CCTV)
- Experience in reporting and emergency response planning
- Excellent knowledge of security protocols and procedures
- Solid understanding of budgeting and statistical data analysis
- Working knowledge of MS Office
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Outstanding organizational and leadership skills
- Committed and reliable

MUST HAVE EXCELLENT

- Communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Computer literacy
- Ability to train staff

Qualified candidates should submit their Resumes to Mrs. Celianise Forbes, Director of Hu-man Resources at Email: humanresources@rockhouseressort.com. #1 International Drive, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, TCKA1ZZ. Qualified Belongers need only to apply Positions marked with an * are currently being held by a work permit holder. Candidates are also encouraged to submit resumes to the Labour Department. Deadline for submission: July 1, 2025

South Caicos MP Demands Clarity on Proposed City Water Project

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Member of Parliament for South Caicos, Hon. Tamell Seymour, is calling for full disclosure and public consultation regarding a proposed city water project for the island, stating that although he has heard discussions about the initiative, he has not been formally briefed on the details.

In an interview with NewslineTCI, Seymour welcomed the idea of upgrading South Caicos’s water infrastructure but cautioned that any new system must be affordable for residents. He expressed concern that the project, while potentially beneficial, could impose financial burdens on an already strained community.

“I support any effort that brings reliable and improved utilities to the people of South Caicos,” Seymour said. “But we cannot allow development to come at the expense of our people’s livelihoods. If a city water system is going to be introduced, we must ensure it’s done in a way that our citizens can sustain.”

Seymour highlighted the economic challenges that South Caicos residents already face. With one of the smallest populations in the Turks and Caicos Islands, the constit-

uency often bears higher utility rates, as service providers seek to recover costs over a limited customer base.

“In terms of electricity, South Caicos residents pay the highest rate per kilowatt hour compared to any other island in the country,” he said. “That’s already a heavy load. We cannot afford to see the same pattern with water services.”

The issue of water access in South Caicos was reportedly discussed during a Cabinet meeting on May 14. According to official minutes, the executive received updates on measures to improve water delivery on the island. However, no specific outcomes or decisions from that discussion have been made public, and local stakeholders, including Seymour, remain in the dark about the direction of the project.

Rumors have circulated that a private investor or consortium may be involved in implementing a city water system on the island. But Seymour said key questions remain unanswered: Who are the investors? What would be the total cost of the project? And how would it affect residents in both the short and long term?

“Before anything is signed or started, we need to have those discussions openly,”



Hon. Tamell Seymour, Member of Parliament for South Caicos

Seymour said. “We need transparency—not just for me as the elected representative, but for the people who will be paying for this water.”

Seymour made it clear that South Caicos is not facing a water scarcity crisis, but rather a capacity challenge. The island’s current water needs are supplied by a Reverse Osmosis (RO) system, which feeds into a public tank. Residents collect water from the tank for a small fee, and the system has served the community well for years.

However, pressures on the system have increased in recent times—particularly since

the opening of the Saltera Resort. According to Seymour, the resort’s own RO facility is often offline, forcing the resort to rely on the public water supply.

“That puts added demand on a system that wasn’t designed for that scale,” Seymour explained. “The result is that water sometimes has to be rationed to meet the increased load.”

Seymour reiterated his call for open communication and thoughtful planning to ensure that any new infrastructure genuinely benefits the people of South Caicos without leaving them worse off financially.



Available Positions



FRONT OFFICE SUPERVISOR

Job Specification:

As the Front Office Supervisor, you will lead and support the front desk team in delivering seamless guest experiences from arrival to departure, ensuring service excellence, operational efficiency, and adherence to IHG’s “True Hospitality” standards.

- Greet guests warmly and ensure smooth check-in/check-out processes.
- Handle guest inquiries, complaints, and special requests with professionalism and empathy.
- Monitor lobby activity to ensure a welcoming and secure environment.
- Ensure VIP and loyalty program guests receive personalized service.
- Ensure front desk operations comply with IHG brand standards and local regulations.
- Monitor room availability, rate changes, and reservation accuracy.
- Coordinate with Housekeeping and Engineering to ensure room readiness.
- Oversee cash handling, billing accuracy, and shift reports.
- Liaise with Sales, Housekeeping, Security, and Food & Beverage to ensure guest satisfaction.
- Participate in interdepartmental meetings and contribute to service improvement initiatives.
- Supervise and support front desk agents, bell staff, and concierge (where applicable).

Job Requirements:

- Must have 2- 3 years experience in related field, preferably with Hospitality and or IHG hotels.
- Certification in hospitality management or equivalent experience.
- Familiarity with hotel management systems and reservation software. (Opera, Concerto)

Salary expectation - \$33,000 - \$37,000 per annum



BAR SUPERVISOR

Job Specification:

As the Bar Supervisor, you will lead the bar team in delivering exceptional beverage service, maintaining high standards of product quality and guest engagement, and supporting operational efficiency in line with IHG’s “True Hospitality” values:

- Supervise daily bar operations, ensuring smooth service during all shifts.
- Maintain cleanliness, organization, and compliance with health and safety standards.
- Ensure consistent beverage preparation, presentation, and quality.
- Monitor inventory levels and assist with ordering and stock rotation.
- Assist in preparing shift reports, sales summaries, and inventory logs.
- Monitor cash handling procedures and ensure POS accuracy.
- Coordinate with kitchen, banquet, and front-of-house teams for seamless service.
- Support special events, promotions, and seasonal beverage offerings.
- Train, schedule, and supervise bartenders and barbacks.
- Conduct pre-shift briefings and ensure team readiness.
- Provide coaching and feedback to maintain high performance and morale.

Job Requirements:

- 2-3 years in a Supervisory position. Strong knowledge of spirits, cocktails, wine, and beer. (Sommelier trained preferred)
- Excellent communication, leadership, and multitasking skills
- Ability to work flexible hours, including nights, weekends, and holiday.
- Must be able to move over sloping, uneven, or slippery surfaces. Reach overhead and below the knees, including bending, twisting, pulling, and stooping.

Salary expectation - \$29,000- \$33,000 per annum

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- Send a copy of your resume to the local Labour Department



NIGHT MANAGER

Job Specification:

As the Night Manager, you will oversee hotel operations during the evening and overnight shift, ensuring guest satisfaction, safety, and smooth functioning of all departments. You will act as the Manager on Duty and represents hotel leadership in the absence of senior management.

- Supervise all hotel departments during the night shift to ensure service standards are upheld.
- Conduct property walkthroughs to monitor cleanliness, security, and maintenance.
- Ensure all public areas and guest facilities are presentable and operational.
- Monitor hotel security systems and coordinate with security personnel.
- Respond to emergencies, including fire alarms, medical incidents, and guest disturbances.
- Ensure all overnight staff are aware of safety protocols and emergency procedures
- Oversee the night audit process, ensuring accurate balancing of daily financial transactions.
- Review and approve daily reports, including occupancy, revenue, and incident logs
- Greet late-arriving guests and oversee check-in/check-out procedures.
- Handle guest complaints, special requests, and emergencies with professionalism and empathy

Job Requirements:

- 3-5 years of hotel front office experience, with at least 1 year in a supervisory or night audit role
- Proficiency in hotel systems (e.g., Opera, IHG Concerto, POS)
- Strong leadership, problem-solving, and communication skills
- Ability to remain calm and decisive under pressure

Salary expectation - \$53,000- \$63,000 per annum



Hon. Kyle Knowledge, Minister of Health and Human Services

The Ministry of Health and Human Services says it has no plans to suspend overtime for Emergency Medical Services workers, following the

circulation of a memo suggesting otherwise. In a statement issued this week, the Ministry clarified that the document

Government Denies Suspending EMS Overtime

does not reflect any current policy or approved operational direction. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the Turks and Caicos Islands operate on a 24/7 shift system, ensuring continuous coverage and the availability of multiple ambulances across the islands. The Ministry reaffirmed its commitment to supporting and enhancing EMS operations. As part of these efforts, the Government recently invested in eight (8) new ambulances to be deployed nationwide, aiming to improve response times and ensure timely care for those in urgent need. While there are no plans to suspend overtime, the Ministry noted that it

is exploring better scheduling practices to improve alignment and operational efficiency. The Ministry expressed its gratitude to EMS personnel for their hard work and dedication and assured the public that service quality and safety remain top priorities. Staff and the general public are urged to rely only on official Ministry communications for accurate information. An internal review into the matter is currently underway. The Ministry of Health and Human Services remains focused on strengthening healthcare delivery and ensuring the preparedness of emergency services across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Wymara Setting a New Standard for Caribbean Wellness Retreats

Wymara is redefining the wellness resort experience in the Caribbean. With a bold focus on movement, mindfulness, nutrition, and nature, the resort pairs luxurious amenities with purposeful programming designed to reset body and mind. This season, a new daily wellness schedule deepens Wymara’s commitment, offering guests unlimited complimentary classes that encourage reconnection, restoration, and real results. Designed around the resort’s natural rhythm, the new schedule transitions effortlessly from dynamic activity to intentional stillness. Guests can take part in Stand-Up Paddleboard Yoga in the Caribbean’s only in-ocean pool, Revitalizing Sunset Yoga, Sound Bath Meditation, HIIT Workouts, and Mat Pilates, all grounded in a philosophy of space, setting, and connection. “We see wellness not as an amenity, but as a defining part of the Wymara experience,” says Sarinah Sari, Spa Director. “We aim to create experiences that restore, rebalance, and stay with you, long after you leave the island.” Classes are led by a team of experienced practitioners like Deep Singh, whose background spans therapeutic yoga, Ayurvedic bodywork, and

energy-based healing. His experience includes time at acclaimed wellness retreats across the Maldives and India, reinforcing Wymara’s commitment to cultivating one of the most compelling in-house wellness teams in the Caribbean. Private sessions are also available by request, allowing guests to personalize their wellness journey with one-on-one instruction in yoga, meditation, breathwork, and energy healing. For a more immersive approach, curated itineraries are available to align movement, nutrition, and mindfulness into a stay designed for lasting impact. Wymara approaches wellness as a 360° experience, aligning expert-led programming, best-in-class spa treatments, and curated experiences across land and sea. The resort continues to set the pace for integrative wellbeing in Turks and Caicos through: At the heart of Wymara’s spa experience are results-driven treatments by 111SKIN, the science-led luxury skincare brand. This fall, two exclusive 111SKIN treatment rooms will launch at the Villas, elevating the partnership even further. Sunset Cove Beach Club, an expansive wellness destination featuring a

25-metre lap pool, full fitness centre, sauna and steam room, Jacuzzi, and courts for tennis, pickleball, basketball, and bocce. Wymara’s recent Green Globe Certification signals its ongoing commitment to sustainability as an essential pillar of the resort’s integrative wellness ethos. A plant-forward culinary program, praised for its creativity and balance. Specialized vegan and vegetarian

menus are integrated across restaurants, in-villa dining, and custom menus. Complimentary ocean experiences, including reef snorkelling, stand-up paddleboarding, and clear-bottom kayaking, just steps from the sand. A newly launched Wymara Experience Book, featuring curated recommendations across wellness, adventure, cuisine, and culture to help guests shape their ideal stay.



Wymara invites guests to reconnect through a holistic schedule grounded in, among other things, movement and mindfulness.



Photo show an uncovered hauling truck laden with construction refuse along the Leeward Highway in Providenciales.



Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development Hon. Arlington Musgrove.

Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development Issues Warning of Fines and Charges for Concrete, Other Debris on Roadways

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands is putting construction operators and suppliers on notice: those who allow concrete, gravel, or similar materials to spill onto public roadways face immediate penalties—including fines of up to \$1,000 or six months' imprisonment under existing law.

The warning comes from the Ministry of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development, Hon. Arlington Musgrove, which has observed a sharp rise in incidents involving concrete debris on roads across several communities. These violations, officials say, are linked mainly to the careless or improper transportation of wet concrete and aggregate materials to construction sites. According to the Public and Environmental Health Act (Cap. 8:04), Section 31(b), any person who damages public infrastructure or allows material to obstruct or deface public roads is subject to prosecution.

"We are invoking this legal provision without hesitation," a Ministry spokesperson confirmed. "It is unacceptable that our roads—funded by public money—are being degraded due to reckless conduct."

The Ministry has identified several heavily impacted areas, including the Five Cays roundabout, Industrial Drive near the FCIBC Bank roundabout, the corridor from FCIBC Bank to Missick & Stanbrook Attorneys-at-Law, and the Suzie Turn roundabout. Additional locations are currently under review following complaints and field assessments. "These sites represent just the tip of the iceberg," the Ministry noted. "In many

of these areas, road surfaces are now partially covered in hardened concrete, loose stone, and building residue. This not only diminishes the appearance of our communities—it threatens lives." It has become hazardous for motorists traveling on major roadways across Providenciales, as gravel that falls from concrete mixers is often strewn across lanes, creating dangerous driving conditions. At times, concrete chunks fall directly from these trucks and strike or obstruct vehicles traveling behind. These sudden incidents place drivers at immediate risk of damage or accidents.

Concrete and pebbles, however, are not the only culprits. Debris from garbage trucks and vehicles transporting construction materials from jobsites to the dump site in Blue Hills are also contributing significantly to the problem. These materials can obstruct traffic, create road hazards, and damage both public and private property.

A Growing Safety Hazard

The issue goes beyond aesthetics. Loose debris can puncture tires, create uneven driving surfaces, and cause vehicles to lose traction. Motorcyclists and cyclists are especially vulnerable to accidents caused by unexpected road debris. For pedestrians, the presence of gravel and hardened concrete on sidewalks or near curbs can present trip hazards, particularly for the elderly or persons with disabilities. Road crews responsible for cleaning and maintaining these areas are also put at risk.

"Our workers often have to manually remove hardened concrete from intersections and curbs—sometimes us-

ing tools designed for demolition, not maintenance," a public works supervisor told NewslineTCI last week, as his crew removed fallen debris from the roadway. "This is a misuse of public resources and a risk to staff safety."

Protecting a \$50 Million Investment
The Government said it is currently undertaking one of its most ambitious infrastructure improvement programmes to date. More than \$50 million has been allocated over the next three years for new road construction, major resurfacing projects, and drainage system upgrades throughout the islands. Ministry officials say that repeated instances of spillage are accelerating wear and tear on roads, undermining the effectiveness of these upgrades and diverting maintenance funding away from more pressing public needs. Tougher Enforcement Measures
In response, the Ministry is directing all concrete suppliers and contractors to implement proper handling protocols with immediate effect. All trucks carrying concrete, gravel, or other construction materials must be fully sealed and secured before leaving supply yards or entering public roads.

Operators are further required to conduct regular inspections and clean any accidental spillages along their route—immediately and at their own expense. Failing to do so will trigger a suite of penalties, ranging from on-the-spot tickets and fines to the recovery of clean-up costs, suspension of operations, and formal prosecution.

The Ministry has also introduced a new layer of enforcement through CCTV surveillance. Cameras positioned at

key junctions and along frequently used construction corridors are already monitoring truck activity. Repeat offenders captured on video may face escalating sanctions, including temporary suspension of business licenses.

"This is no longer a matter of warning—it's enforcement," the Ministry said. "If you are found spilling concrete and failing to clean it up, we will take action." Community Cooperation Encouraged
While the Ministry ramps up enforcement, officials are also encouraging the public to play a proactive role. Residents who witness construction debris being dumped or spilled are urged to report it immediately by calling the Ministry at 941-8724.

Anonymous tips are welcomed, and photographic or video evidence can assist enforcement teams in tracking down offenders.

"The public's eyes and voices are among our most powerful tools," the Ministry noted. "We're asking every resident to help protect our communities."

A Shared Responsibility

The Ministry concluded its statement with a broader call to civic duty.

"Our roads belong to all of us. They represent not only economic investment but also community pride. It is our collective responsibility to maintain them."

Officials reiterated their commitment to keeping the Turks and Caicos Islands clean, safe, and functional—and ensuring that the "Beautiful by Nature" brand is reflected not just in the beaches and resorts, but in the streets and neighborhoods where citizens live and work every day.



Benjamin Durham's Compelling Address at the BWIC Graduation Part 2

On Saturday, March 2, the British West Indies Collegiate in Providenciales staged its annual graduation exercise. Past student Benjamin Durham was the guest speaker. He offered what he referred to as '7 Gems', which he urged the graduates to live by, as they enter college and later the world of work.

We carried the first part of his delivery in our last issue. Here is the second part of his speech.

Gem 4 - Go the extra mile in whatever you do.

The law of increasing returns states that additional efforts attract greater rewards. Success is attracted to those who go beyond expectations. Don't be amongst those who have attained their idea of success through taking advantage of others. There's nothing cool about that. It never ends well. Instead, let me share with you an undisputed truth. Every great fortune has been built on a foundation of service. The size of your reward in life will always be in direct proportion to the amount and quality of service you render to others. Henry Ford, the founder of Ford Motors became one the wealthiest men to ever live not by exploiting others, but by serving them. His obsession was not with profit but with providing affordable transportation. In turn, he made a pretty good profit.

So, if you can provide a service or solve a problem, your success is guaranteed. Always remember that. And this leads me to gem number 5:

Gem 5 - Your character is worth more than any amount of money, never forget this truth.

Your character will create opportunities for you, introduce you to the most interesting people and open doors you can't possibly imagine. You can pretty much purchase anything in this world, but you cannot buy character. Along with your reputation, it's your most valuable asset. But you must protect it at all costs. In a world of click bait and clout chasing, don't compromise who you are for financial gain. Money will come and go, but once you have decided to do, act or go along with something just for money, that's a stain on your character you will have to live with.

Instead, be guided by what you know is right, this will help you build character. When you give more than is expected, you will receive more than you gave. This isn't me just telling you this. This is the universal law that governs us. Try it and tell me what your experience is and whether I'm wrong. It's proven. You don't need to compromise who you are to get ahead but rather, develop your character as someone who is trustworthy, dependable and can be counted on to deliver more than what is expected.

Gem 6 - Patience and persistence are

two key ingredients in the recipe of success

I don't know who wants to hear about being patient and persistent, it sounds so boring but without it you'll never develop the resilience to realise your goals. Yes, the world today is all about instant gratification and tells us that everything can be attained at the click of a button. Quick internet, Quick service, quick response. And anything that is incredibly slow or not fast is ineffective.

This is true to an extent, just look at our public service. It is what it is, but it will improve in the future, I'm speaking it into existence. The point I'm trying to make is that your success does not follow these guidelines. It's not instant but rather a process. There are no shortcuts, it's built gradually, methodically and consistently over time. Nothing can take the place of persistence and determination, it doesn't matter how educated you are, it doesn't matter how talented you are.

The one who succeeds is the one who is most persistent, patient and determined in what they set out to achieve.

Gem 7 - Practice overcoming your fears

It is fear that stops most people from becoming who they want to be. They fear making the wrong choice, they fear what others may think, and they fear uncertainty. The truth is anyone who has achieved anything worthwhile has felt fear. It's a normal human emotion. But the key difference is that those individuals acted anyway because they exercised their courage.

Courage is not the absence of fear; it is action in the presence of fear. Courage is like a muscle, the more you use it the stronger it becomes. Every choice you make with courage makes the next one easier. With courage you join the ranks of the doers, rather than the talkers, the ones that are proactive rather than reactive, the decisive rather than doubtful.

You align yourself with the force that has and will continue to move this world forward: fearlessness. If you want to do anything, be anything, achieve anything, you are going to have to develop courage. And there you have it, 7 gems that will guide you on your journey.

To recap

Change is a good thing, to grow you must be willing to change. You are the result of the 5 people you spend most of your time with. On your road to suc-

cess, you will fail, pick yourself up, dust yourself off and keep moving. Go the extra mile in whatever you do, you will always be rewarded for it in one way or another.

Do not jeopardise your character for money. Money doesn't define you, but your character will. You'll need to practice patience and persistence as part of the formula for your success. There's no way around it. And of course, dominate your fear with courage, the more you practice courage the easier it will be to act upon.

And if there is any country that requires courageous, decisive individuals it is here. Which is where I would like to conclude. Whether you realise it or not, TCI is one of the most unique places on earth. You guys are part of a special group of probably a couple hundred thousand people, if that, that grew up or lived in this country.

In country terms, the TCI is very similar to yourselves a 15-, 16- or 17-year-old. Its young, it's growing and has yet to decide what's next. We've had some experiences, but we haven't even started our journey and growth as a country. And a cool fact, we are the seventh largest Caribbean country by land mass, so we have the space to grow.

Furthermore, any country you go to in the world, you'll be a statistic, part of an existing, established system in which you won't have an impact in influencing. But with Turks, it's the complete opposite. You, yourself, yes you as one person can literally change the country by introducing something here that may already exist in other places, but we currently don't have.

So, as you guys embark on life, I want you to remember the country. Take advantage of how much there is to create here. Every place you visit, experience you have, ask yourself the simple question: "Wouldn't it be cool if Turks had that?" From infrastructure, businesses to global events, it's a blank slate for you guys, and you can choose to design it however you feel because this is your country.

We can do so much from motorways to bridges, world class airports, award

shows, sports leagues and stadiums, TV channels, podcasts, well designed neighbourhoods, shopping malls, even solar powered data centres that can house critical IT infrastructure owned by the likes of Amazon, Google and Meta. The list is endless.

We have empty islands that you can breathe life into. For me, I believe we will be the first country in the Caribbean to host Formula 1. A racetrack incorporated into a well-designed modern town with a supporting economy around it. I can see that in Middle Caicos.

I know you guys have cool ideas as well, much bigger than what I can think of, and I know you agree with me. So, I'm here to tell you that it can be done. It's been done everywhere else in the world so why can't we do it here as well? Why not build our own version of paradise and be the ones to benefit from it?

TCI is and will always be your blank canvas to carry out your dreams. As long as you believe in those dreams and you see it, life will introduce you to the right people and circumstances who will be willing to bring it to fruition. Congratulations once again, we are proud of you, we support you and always remember that we are all rooting for you. Thank you.

NEWSLINE TCI
Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

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Crown Land Unit to Host Special Assistance Days for Leaseholders and Offer Letter Recipients

Turks and Caicos Islands Crown Land Unit (CLU) is pleased to announce two upcoming Crown Land Assistance Days on Providenciales, designed to provide targeted support to individuals who hold a residential crown land lease or offer letter and require guidance on their next steps. The outreach events are scheduled for:

- Thursday, July 10th at Sunny Food Supermarket, Blue Hills
 - Friday, July 11th at the Felix Morley Community Centre, Five Cays
- Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on both days Members of the public are encouraged to attend and bring their crown land documents with them. CLU officers will be available on-site to provide one-on-one consultations, helping attendees better understand their lease agreements, offer letters, and the procedures involved in securing crown land ownership. “These Assistance Days are about making the process more accessible and transparent for the communities we serve,” said Keisha Holder-Lopez,

Director of Crown Land. “We are committed to bringing our services directly to the people and offering clear guidance and practical support.”

Crown Land Amnesty Programme - A Pathway to Resolution

A key feature of the Assistance Days is the opportunity for attendees to learn more about the Crown Land Amnesty Programme, a special initiative developed to assist qualified individuals who have fallen behind on their financial obligations related to residential Crown Land. Eligibility for the Amnesty Programme includes:

- Residential leaseholders with outstanding arrears
- Individuals whose offer letters have expired due to non-payment
- Applicants who have partially fulfilled their financial obligations.

Approved participants may benefit from partial or full write-offs of outstanding arrears, subject to specific eligibility criteria and a formal review process. “This is a rare and time-sensitive opportunity for individuals to resolve long-standing account issues and move forward,” Holder-Lopez said. “We encourage all potentially eligible applicants to take advantage of the Amnesty Programme while it is available.”

Whether individuals are in the early stages of the application process or working to finalize legal ownership, the Crown Land Assistance Days present an opportunity to receive accurate information, resolve concerns, and take the next step toward land security. The public is encouraged to stay informed by following official government communication channels and to contact the Crown Land Unit with any inquiries related to the Amnesty Programme or other crown land matters. For additional information or to begin the application process, individuals may call 946-1145 or 338-2645, visit www.gov.tc/crownland/rcplamnesty, or follow the Unit on social media at @tcicrownlandunit. The Crown Land Unit said it remains

committed to empowering residents through land access and ownership, and to helping make the dream of land security a reality for all Turks and Caicos Islanders.



Justice Carlos Simons, Executive Director of the Crown Land Unit.



Available Positions



SOUS CHEF

Job Specification:

As the Sous Chef, you will assist in leading the culinary team in delivering exceptional food quality, consistency, and presentation across all outlets. You will support the Executive Chef in managing kitchen operations, mentoring staff, and ensuring compliance with IHG's culinary standards and safety protocols.

- Ensure food preparation and presentation meet IHG brand standards and guest expectations.
- Maintain consistency in taste, portioning, and visual appeal of all dishes.
- Monitor kitchen cleanliness, equipment maintenance, and food storage practices.
- Train, mentor, and supervise line cooks, prep cooks, and kitchen stewards.
- Conduct pre-shift briefings and ensure team readiness.
- Foster a positive, collaborative, and high-performance kitchen culture.
- Support recruitment and onboarding of new culinary team members.
- Monitor inventory levels and assist with ordering and receiving supplies.
- Ensure proper portion control and minimize food waste.
- Support the Executive Chef in managing food cost targets and vendor relationships
- Stand, sit, or walk for an extended period of time or for an entire work shift. Move, lift, carry, push, pull, and place objects weighing less than or equal to 25 pounds without assistance.

Job Requirements:

- 3-5 years of progressive kitchen experience, with at least 1 year in a supervisory role.
- Strong knowledge of international cuisines, food preparation techniques, and plating styles
- Proficiency in kitchen operations, inventory systems, and food safety standards
- Excellent leadership, communication, and organizational skills
- Ability to work flexible hours, including weekends and holiday

Salary expectation - \$58,000 - \$71,000 per annum



MIXOLOGIST

Job Specification:

As the Mixologist within our restaurant and bars, you will craft exceptional cocktails and beverage experiences that reflect creativity, precision, and IHG's commitment to “True Hospitality.” You will be responsible for curating drink menus, engaging guests, and maintaining a vibrant, well-organized bar environment within our hotel.

- Prepare classic and signature cocktails with consistency and flair.
- Design seasonal and event-specific drink menus in collaboration with the Bar Manager.
- Ensure proper garnishing, glassware selection, and presentation of all beverages.
- Maintain knowledge of current mixology trends and incorporate them into offering.
- Interact with guests to understand preferences and make personalized recommendations.
- Provide storytelling and education around ingredients, spirits, and cocktail origins.
- Ensure a welcoming and entertaining bar atmosphere that enhances the guest experience.
- Set up and break down the bar for each shift, ensuring cleanliness and readiness.
- Monitor inventory levels and assist with ordering and stock rotation.
- Ensure compliance with local alcohol laws and responsible service practices.
- Maintain bar equipment and report maintenance needs promptly.

Job Requirements:

- Must have 2-3 years experience in a hotel fine dining establishment.
- Beverage sales and upselling performance.
- Inventory accuracy and waste control.

Salary expectation - \$29,000- \$33,000 per annum

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- Email your resume to recruit@lighthousehotelmanagement.com
- Send a copy of your resume to the local Labour Department



ASSIST. HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

Job Specification:

As the Assist HR Manager, you will support the Human Resources function during the pre-opening and operational phases of the hotel. This role ensures effective recruitment, onboarding, employee engagement, and compliance with IHG standards and local labor laws, while fostering a culture of “True Hospitality.”

- Assist in building the HR infrastructure for the new hotel, including systems, policies, and procedures.
- Coordinate mass recruitment campaigns and job fairs in collaboration with local partners.
- Support onboarding and orientation programs for all new hires.
- Ensure compliance with local labor laws and IHG brand standards during setup.
- Manage job postings, candidate screening, and interview scheduling.
- Liaise with department heads to understand staffing needs and timelines.
- Maintain a talent pipeline for operational readiness and future growth.
- Maintain accurate employee records and HRIS data.
- Ensure timely processing of contracts, benefits, and payroll inputs.
- Support audits and ensure compliance with labor regulations and IHG policies.
- Support audits and ensure compliance with labor regulations and IHG policies.

Job Requirements:

- HR Certification or Bachelors Degree in HR/Business related field.
- 3-5 years of HR experience in hospitality, with at least 1 year in a supervisory or assistant manager role.
- Strong knowledge of local labor laws in Turks & Caicos.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills.
- Proficiency in HR systems and Microsoft Office Suit

Salary expectation - \$47,000- \$54,000 per annum

Caribbean Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies Chart Bold Path Forward

The 11th Annual Conference of the Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies (CCAICACB), concluded Friday 6th June at The Landings Resort & Spa, after rallying attendees under the theme “Recommitting to Fighting Corruption Effectively and Sustainably in the Caribbean.”

Over five impactful days, delegates tackled corruption’s entrenched challenges with renewed commitment to unity, innovation, and leadership.

Artificial Intelligence

An impactful demonstration was provided by His Excellency, Professor Luis Franceschi Assistant Secretary General of the Commonwealth, on the benefits and drawbacks of the use of Artificial Intelligence. Anti-Corruption Bodies were encouraged to start getting familiar with the technology to better understand how it can be leveraged in the fight against corruption.

Country Updates Reflect Shared Progress and Challenges

Reports from member organisations highlighted major strides in public

education, asset declaration, and investigative framework. Yet, countries also reported ongoing constraints, including human resource limitations, political resistance, and inadequate statutory framework.

SWOT & Synergy: Regional Blueprint for Collective Action

Dr. Roger Koranteng of the Commonwealth Secretariat led a comprehensive SWOT analysis session, providing a candid assessment of operational realities. He concluded with strong calls for enhanced synergy among member bodies and for adopting a unified voice in policy advocacy, resource mobilisation, and legal reform. The Ghanaian experience offers a valuable comparative model.

Leadership: Courage, Vision & Transformation Needed

With corruption becoming more normalised globally, presenters—including leaders from the Turks and Caicos Islands, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, and Trinidad and Tobago—challenged the attending institutions to embrace

transformational leadership. Recommendations included institutional resilience training, succession planning, and performance benchmarking.

United Front: Call to the Wider Caribbean and Beyond

The conference recognised the benefits of extending the membership of the Association beyond the original constituents of English-Speaking Commonwealth Caribbean Countries and signified its willingness to accept and encourage membership of Integrity Commissions and anti-corruption bodies of the wider Caribbean countries. “Corruption knows no language barriers—our fight must be collective,” stated Lady Anande Trotman-Joseph, Chairperson of the CCAICACB.

Digital Transformation: VLEX Software Considered

The conference marked a major step forward with the agreement to further investigate the benefits of the VLEX Legal Database-driven AI system, designed to strengthen legal research, asset recovery, and case management

initiatives. The Commonwealth Secretariat, CARICOM IMPACS, and UNODC, received the presentation well, however the rest of the association would communicate their interest to the Turks and Caicos Islands Commission, which was taking the lead in investigating the possibilities.

Key Recommendations Going Forward to consider:

1. Region-wide adoption of technology integration
 2. Legislative reforms to streamline access to declarant information
 3. Youth-centred anti-corruption education campaigns
 4. Institutional collaboration and peer reviews across commissions
 5. To explore extending invitations of membership to CCAICACB to other Caribbean countries
 6. An introduction to the idea of an International Corruption Court
- The conference closed with a stirring call to recommit—not just in words, but in action—to building a future rooted in transparency, justice, and ethical leadership across the Commonwealth Caribbean and beyond.



Available Positions



RESERVATIONS MANAGER

Job Specification:

Molo Hotel group and Lighthouse Hotel Management is excited to hire a Reservations Manager with great organisational and planning skills and a strong desire to develop the team, to join us in the pre opening of our new IHG branded hotel, due to open in Turks & Caicos!

- You will be responsible for creating all rates and packages within PMS.
- Update accommodation OTA's regularly and provide daily, weekly and monthly reporting including pace, str, distribution monitoring and company tracking.
- Oversee booking processes, room allocations, and ensure accurate guest records.
- Review daily arrivals, cancellations, and no-shows; process charges per hotel policy
- Collaborate with the Revenue Manager to optimize room inventory and pricing strategies.
- Monitor room availability and implement overbooking strategies when necessary
- Conduct site visits, inspections as needed.
- Stand, sit, or walk for an extended period of time or for an entire work shift. Move, lift, carry, push, pull, and place objects weighing less than or equal to 25 pounds without assistance.

Job Requirements:

- The ideal candidate will have proven brand experience with 2 years experience in a reservations role and 1 year managerial experience. Working knowledge of Concerto or NP2 pricing, HCM and Opera is also essential.
- Must have 2- 3 years experience in related field, preferably within Hospitality and or IHG hotels.
- Certification in hospitality management or equivalent experience.

Salary expectation - \$69,000 - \$79,000 per annum



RESTAURANT SUPERVISOR

Job Specification:

As the Restaurant Supervisor, you will oversee the daily operations of the restaurant, ensuring exceptional guest service, maintaining high standards of food and beverage quality, and supporting the team to deliver IHG's "True Hospitality" promise.

- Supervise front-of-house and back-of-house restaurant operations during assigned shifts.
- Ensure compliance with health, safety, and sanitation standards.
- Monitor food presentation, portion control, and service timing.
- Conduct pre-shift briefings and ensure readiness for service
- Greet and interact with guests to ensure satisfaction and resolve complaints promptly.
- Monitor dining areas to ensure a welcoming and efficient environment.
- Handle special requests, dietary needs, and VIP guest preferences.
- Assist with inventory control, ordering supplies, and managing vendor relationships.
- Train, mentor, and schedule restaurant staff including servers, hosts, and bussers.
- Ensure accurate cash handling, billing, and POS system usage.
- Support in preparing shift reports and operational summaries
- Manage budgets, control costs, and optimize revenue through s

Job Requirements:

- High school diploma or equivalent (hospitality degree preferred)
- 2-4 years of experience in restaurant or food & beverage operations, with at least 1 year in a supervisory role
- Strong leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work flexible hours, including nights, weekends, and holiday
- Must be able to move over sloping, uneven, or slippery surfaces. Reach overhead and below the knees, including bending, twisting, pulling, and stooping.

Salary expectation - \$29,000- \$33,000 per annum

APPLY NOW!

- Email your resume to recruit@lighthousehotelmanagment.com
- Send a copy of your resume to the local Labour Department



HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR

Job Specification:

:A the Housekeeping Supervisor, you will supervise and coordinate the daily activities of the housekeeping team, ensuring guest rooms and public areas meet IHG's cleanliness and presentation standards, while fostering a culture of "True Hospitality."

- Assign daily room and public area cleaning tasks to housekeeping staff.
- Inspect guest rooms, corridors, and public areas for cleanliness, maintenance, and presentation.
- Ensure compliance with health, safety, and sanitation standards.
- Monitor inventory of cleaning supplies and linen; submit requisitions as needed.
- Respond promptly to guest requests and complaints related to housekeeping.
- Coordinate with Front Office and Maintenance to address room readiness and repair issues.
- Ensure VIP and special request rooms are prepared to standard.
- Liaise with other departments (e.g., Front Office, Engineering, Laundry) to ensure seamless operations.
- Participate in departmental meetings and contribute to continuous improvement initiatives.
- Maintain accurate records of room inspections, staff attendance, and supply usage.
- Complete maintenance requests and housekeeping reports.
- Train, coach, and support housekeeping team members.

Job Requirements:

- High school diploma or equivalent (hospitality certification preferred)
- 2-3 years of housekeeping experience, with at least 1 year in a supervisory role
- Knowledge of cleaning techniques, equipment, and safety protocols
- Strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills
- Ability to work flexible hours, including weekends and holiday.

Salary expectation - \$29,000- \$33,000 per annum



SCENES FROM THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The Turks and Caicos Islands Youth Parliament was convened in June, at the NJS

Francis Building, home of the Turks and Caicos Parliament in Grand Turk. The Youth Par-

liament was held under the observation of elected parliamentarians and representa-

tives of the UK Government. The following are photo highlights of the event.



By Monica Uttamchandani
Holistic Health Coach - Turks and Caicos

We've all heard that walking is good for us, but did you know that the timing of your walk could have surprising health benefits? New research shows that **taking a short walk after meals** - even just 10 to 15 minutes - can significantly improve blood sugar regulation, digestion, and even help reduce the risk of chronic disease.

Post-meal walks, especially after lunch or dinner, help your body process glucose more effectively by using your muscles to absorb sugar from the bloodstream. This can reduce blood sugar spikes and crashes that leave many people feeling sluggish or craving sweets an hour later. "Walking after meals is one of the easiest, most accessible tools we have to support metabolic health," says health coach Monica Uttamchandani, based in Turks and Caicos. "It doesn't have to be intense. Just light movement can support digestion, reduce bloating, and make you feel more energized."

Why It Works

When we eat, our bodies break down carbohydrates into glucose. That glucose enters the blood-stream to provide energy. But when we're sedentary after a meal, the glucose isn't used efficiently, leading to higher blood sugar levels. Over time, repeated blood sugar

spikes can contribute to insulin resistance, weight gain, and fatigue.

A 2022 review published in Sports Medicine found that light walking for just 2 to 5 minutes after meals significantly reduced post-meal blood sugar levels compared to sitting. The results were

WHY WALKING AFTER MEALS IS A SECRET HEALTH WEAPON

New studies show that a short stroll after eating may improve digestion, stabilize blood sugar, and support heart health.

even more beneficial for people managing diabetes or pre-diabetes.

How to Make It a Habit

You don't need to change your whole routine. Start small:

- Walk around your house or yard after dinner
- Take a loop around the block after lunch
- Pace while talking on the phone

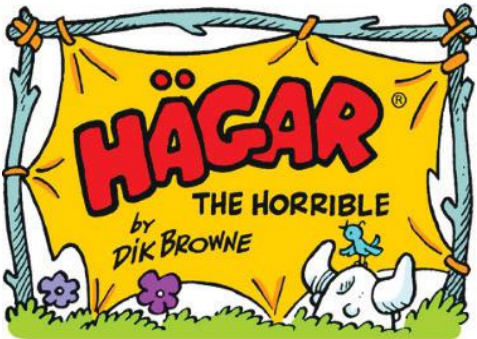
Older adults, in particular, can benefit from this simple habit, as it's low impact and requires no equipment. Walking af-

ter meals may also improve sleep quality, reduce nighttime indigestion, and help regulate blood pressure.

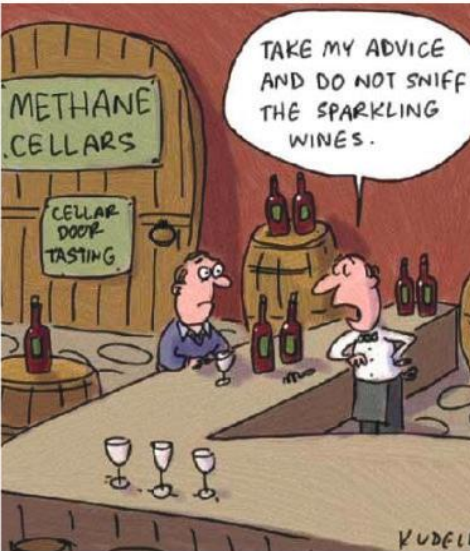
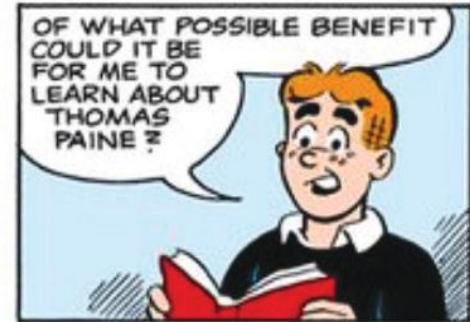
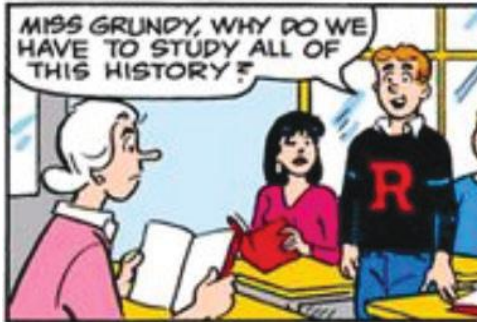
"Think of it as part of the meal - like brushing your teeth afterward," Monica says. "You don't have to break a sweat, just move!"

For more holistic tips on balanced eating and healthy habits, follow @balancedbymonica on Instagram. Monica Uttamchandani is a Holistic Health Coach based in Turks and Caicos.





NEWSLINE
COMICS





NEWSLINE
Heritage

The John Glenn *Splash Down*

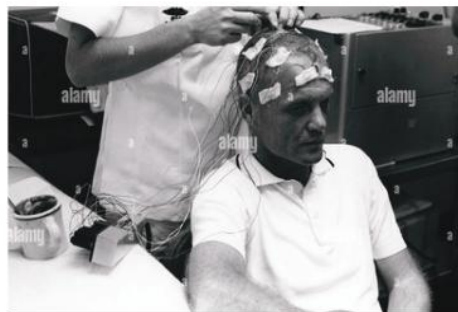
On February 20, 1962, history was made when American astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth aboard Friendship 7. After three orbits and nearly five hours in space, Glenn's spacecraft splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean, about 800 miles southeast of Cape Canaveral.

But what many don't realize is that this global moment in history has a direct and unique connection to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Following his safe retrieval from the ocean by the USS Noa, Glenn was flown to Grand Turk—our very own island—where he became the first American astronaut to set foot on land after completing an orbital flight. Grand Turk served as the primary medical evaluation and debriefing site for Project Mercury, NASA's first human spaceflight program.



John Glenn greets Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson



John Glenn receiving his physical evaluation post-landing in Grand Turk

NASA had constructed a temporary facility on Grand Turk to support the recovery of Mercury astronauts, complete with medical, technical, and communications equipment. It was here that Glenn underwent initial medical checks and made his first terrestrial steps post-spaceflight, effectively making Grand Turk the first human outpost after orbit.

Today, this pivotal moment is commemorated at the John Glenn Exhibit at the Turks and Caicos National Museum in Grand Turk, which preserves artefacts, photos, and accounts from that extraordinary day. Glenn's brief but iconic visit connects this quiet island to the intensity of the space race and the awe of cosmic exploration.

The splashdown site and Glenn's arrival on Grand Turk remain a proud chapter in Turks and Caicos heritage—a reminder that even the most remote shores can leave footprints on the stars.

JATAVIA HOWELL APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

The Office of the Deputy Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands proudly announces the appointment of Ms. Jatavia Howell as the Director of Youth Affairs within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, and Culture.

Ms. Howell completed her A-Levels at the British West Indies Collegiate, where she excelled as the Top Biology Student. She furthered her studies at Newcastle University in the UK, earning a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology and a Master's degree in Ecological Consultancy.

Her professional career began with the Turks and Caicos National Trust and continued with volunteering for the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) between 2015 and 2018, during which she developed key skills in environmental monitoring, conservation, and community education.

In 2019, Ms. Howell became an Environment Officer at the DECR in Grand Turk. She refined her skills in scuba diving, environmental monitoring, policy development, and leadership. She organised environmental clean-up campaigns, delivered educational talks to local youth, and created innovative programs to engage young people in environmental conservation.

Ms. Howell's exemplary performance led to her promotion in 2022 to the role of Assistant Director of Protected Areas and Revenue. Her responsibilities extended to supervising Beach and Coastal Vending activities, managing eight cultural markets, overseeing numerous community parks, and regulating coastal development, mineral exploration and exploitation.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Ms. Howell's unwavering passion for youth development has been a consistent driving force throughout her career. She has actively created opportunities for young people to engage with the environment, including supporting the Junior Park Warden Program, free swimming initiatives, and other youth-centred programs.

Her dedication to youth empowerment extended to her involvement with the Rotaract Club of Providenciales, which she joined in 2022. As Treasurer (2023-2024) and Community Service Director (2024-2025), she led numerous community service projects, including environmental clean-ups, climate change education initiatives, recycling programs in schools, and youth empowerment events such as the Girl Empowerment Weekend.

In 2022, Ms. Howell further demonstrated her commitment to youth leadership by joining the Turks and Caicos Islands Youth Parliament.

Reflecting on her new role, Ms. Howell said, "As a dedicated professional and an active member of the Turks and Caicos Islands community, I deeply understand the aspirations, challenges, and opportunities that young people face.

"Through God's help, I am committed to implementing initiatives that provide young people with the resources, opportunities, and mentorship they need to excel. Ecclesiastes 11:9: 'You who are young, be happy while you are young, and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth.

"Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see, but know that for all these

things God will bring you into judgment'. I am thankful for the opportunity to grow and use the skills acquired in my previous roles to do extraordinary things in this new role.

"I am thankful for my family, the best support system, my mentors, and the entire team at the DECR, whose work, late hours, and dedication to the Turks and Caicos Islands often go unnoticed or are often criticised. Thank you for trusting my leadership and know that while the work doesn't get easier, you get sharper, tougher, and more prepared."

In congratulatory remarks, Deputy Governor and Head of the Public Service H.E. Anya Williams said, "It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations to Ms. Jatavia Howell on her appointment as the new Director of Youth Affairs within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture. In her previous role with the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources, Ms. Howell consistently demonstrated a high level of technical expertise and professionalism.

In discussing her interest in the Director of Youth Affairs role, she shared that youth affairs is her true passion, a passion she has clearly exhibited through her longstanding dedication to youth development initiatives here in the Turks and Caicos Islands, including her service as a Member of the Rotaract and the Turks and Caicos Islands Youth Parliament.

This appointment is a well-deserved recognition of her hard work, leadership and commitment and I am confident that Ms. Howell's innovative approach and unwavering dedication will significantly contribute

to the advancement and empowerment of the young people of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Congratulations on this remarkable achievement and well-deserved promotion Ms. Howell"



Sheba Wilson

73 Degrees HVAC Ltd.

We Are Hiring!

HVAC Technician

- As an HVAC technician you will install, maintain, and repair heating, cooling, and refrigeration systems.

Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers work on heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) systems that control the temperature and air quality in buildings.

Salary - \$10.00-\$15.00 per hour

Interested applicants can email their resume to: freshstarttci@gmail.com or submit a copy to the Labour Department.

Sheba Wilson Appointed to Financial Services Commission Board

Sheba Wilson has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Turks and Caicos Islands Financial Services Commission (FSC), following a public call for expressions of interest and in accordance with Section 5(1) of the Financial Services Commission Ordinance 2007.

The announcement was made by Her Excellency the Governor, Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, who welcomed Wilson's appointment as a non-executive Commissioner on the FSC Board.

Wilson is a seasoned Strategic Human Resources Executive with more than 14 years of experience leading organizational change, culture transformation, workforce planning, and strategic HR policy development. She currently serves as Vice President of Human Resources at Grace Bay Resorts, and has previously held roles at Belize Bank TCI Ltd and the International Banking Group.

In a statement, Governor Daniel-Selvaratnam said:

"I am pleased to appoint Ms. Sheba Wilson as a Commissioner on the Board of the Turks and Caicos Islands Financial Services Commission. Ms. Wilson brings a strong track record in workforce transformation, organisational development and strategic

leadership.

"Her appointment comes at a pivotal time, as the Commission undertakes organisational reforms to strengthen its governance and better meet the growing expectations of the financial services sector. I am confident that Ms. Wilson's expertise will contribute meaningfully to the Commission's efforts to build institutional capacity, enhance regulatory effectiveness and support the sustainable growth of the financial services industry in the Turks and Caicos Islands."

The announcement comes on the eve of the FSC's annual Industry Stakeholders Day, an important forum for discussion and collaboration on the future of the sector.



Sheba Wilson

Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH

This week we feature one of the Turks and Caicos Islands’ longest serving churches – the Paradise Baptist Church located in Five Cays, Providenciales. The Paradise Baptist Church has been serving that community and its environs for decades. Pastored by Rev. Goldstone Williams, the Paradise Baptist Church, a few years ago underwent a major redevelopment exercise, to better serve the community. It is now one of the largest halls in the Turks and Caicos, thus making it a magnet for large church-related events, such as valedictory service and graduations. In addition to its regular Sunday service, Paradise Baptist Church conducts Prayer meeting and bible study on Wednesday; Every 2nd and 4th Friday of each month Daughters of The King meetings; Thursday & Saturday at 7pm Praise team practice; and Friday evening at 7pm Youth Fellowship. Its contact number is 941-4349.



Life line Church Directory

Looking for a worshipping house to praise God and fellowship with members of the body of Christ, here is a list of some of the available sanctuaries you can attend throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

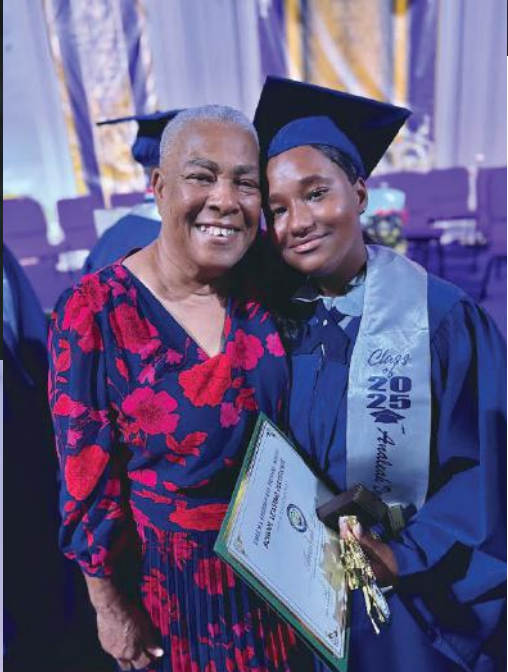
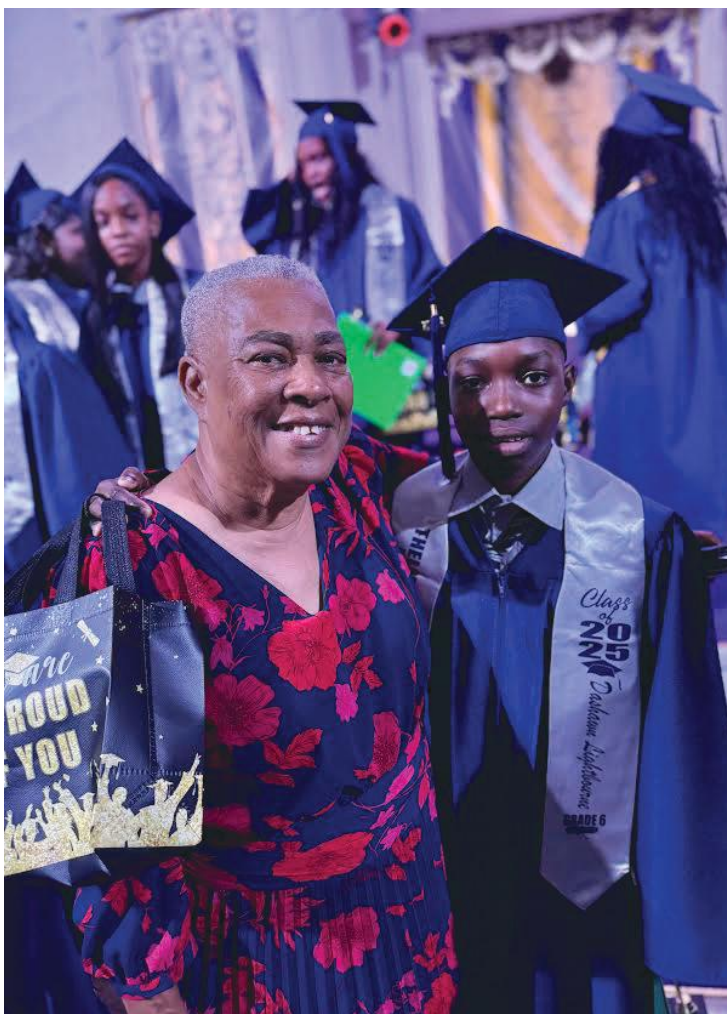
<div>Firm Foundation Ministries International Lee Street, South Caicos. Telephone: 649-348-3581</div> <div>Christ is the Answer Ministry, George Alley Off Aviation Drive, Providenciales Tel: 241-8030</div> <div>One Nation Empowerment Center Church Ministry, Suite #12 Alliance Business Center, Princess Drive, Grace Bay, Providenciales. Tel: (649) 244-6194. Email: apostleyoung1952@yahoo.com.</div> <div>Touch of Love Ministries International Center Industrial Park, Five Cays, Providenciales Tel: 941-4903 Fax: 941-7731</div> <div>Abundant Life Ministries International P.O. Box 696 Christian City, Leeward Highway, Providenciales Tel:941-941-4750 Fax: 941-4755</div> <div>Anglican Church Rectory Grant Turk, Front Street, Grand Turk. Tel:946-2289</div> <div>Bethany Baptist Church, Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel:941-4803 / 941-5632 / 941-5118</div> <div>Church of God of Prophecy, Lower Bight, Providenciales Tel: 941-8854</div> <div>Bible Study Ministries, Grand Turk Tel:946-1866</div> <div>Calvary Baptist Church, South Caicos. Tel:946-3212</div> <div>Harvest Bible Chapel TCI, Leeward Highway, Long Bay, Providenciales. Tel: 1649 333-2009 Email: hbctciinfo@gmail.com. https://www.harvesttci.tc.</div>	<div>Firm Foundation Ministries International 19 Honour Lane, Behind Smart Supermarket , Providenciales. Telephone: 649-332-6240</div> <div>Church of God of Prophecy, Providenciales Tel:941-3438</div> <div>Roman Catholic Church, Providenciales, Tel: 941-5136</div> <div>Faith Tabernacle Church of God, Providenciales, Tel:946-4073</div> <div>New Testament Church of God, Orea Alley, Grand Turk Tel:946-2175</div> <div>New Testament Church of God, South Caicos Tel:946-3631</div> <div>Methodist Church, Grand Turk Tel:946-2352</div> <div>Healing Waters Ministries, Blue Hills Providenciales Tel: 941-5867</div> <div>House of Prayer Church of God, Long Bay Road Providenciales Tel: 941-8309</div> <div>Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Darrell Road, Grand Turk Tel:946-2727</div> <div>Mount Mariah Baptist Church, Conch Bar Middle Caicos Tel:946-6205</div> <div>New Beginning Harvest Ministry, Pond Street, Grand Turk Tel:946-1759</div> <div>New Testament Church of God Orea Alley P.O. Box 495 Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel: 946-1255 Airport Road, South Caicos Tel:231-2402</div>	<div>Firm Foundation Ministries International Waterloo Road, Grand Turk. Telephone: 649-332-624</div> <div>Paradise Baptist Church, Five Cays, Providenciale Tel:941-4349</div> <div>Revival Faith Center, North Backsalina, Grand Turk Tel:946-2349</div> <div>Salem Baptist Church, Mission Folly, Grand Turk Tel:946-2565</div> <div>Solid Rock Apostolic Ministries International, Discovery Bay Providenciales Tel: 946-5181</div> <div>St. Monica’s Anglican Church P.O. Box 866 Cheshire Hall Providenciales Tel: 946-4046 Fax:946-4046;941-8499</div> <div>Turks and Caicos Mission of Seventh Day Adventists, P.O. Box 803, Providenciales</div> <div>United Pentecostal Church, Brown’s Plaza, Leeward Highway, Providenciales Tel: 956-5852</div> <div>Wesleyan Methodist Church, Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel: 946-4075; 941-4223; 941-3596</div> <div><i>Editor’s Note: If your Ministry is not listed and/or you would like for it to be part of the NEWSLINETCI Church Diary, contact us at:contact@newslinetci.com</i></div>
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Highlights of ‘Yes I can Read’ Enid Capron, Thelma Lightbourne Graduation Ceremony

Many Primary school children that have been part of the United Way Turks’ “Yes I Can Read” programme, graduated with creditable reading abilities. The students are from the Thelma Lightbourne Primary and the Enid Capron Primary. Mark Fulford, Chairman of United Way Turks and Caicos was elated at the achievements of the students, lauding the staff and volunteers of the programme for their dedication and patience with children. The following are photo highlights of some of the students receiving their primary school-leavers certificates at the graduation ceremonies of both schools.







(L-R) Permanent Secretary, Tamera Howell-Robinson; Minister, Hon. E. Jay Saunders; Head of Secretariat, Lareesa Robinson.



(L-R) Hon. E. Jay Saunders, Minister of Innovation, Technology and Energy; Dr. Curtis Charles, Director of Academic Affairs, UWI Five Islands Campus, Antigua and Barbuda; Hon. Jose Vanterpool, Minister of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing, Information Technology and E-Government Services, Anguilla.

Technology Minister Attends Prestigious UWI Artificial Intelligence Conference

The newly formed Ministry of Innovation, Technology and Energy (M.I.T.E.) of the Turks and Caicos Islands, with a core mission to accelerate e-governance initiatives, is proud to announce the participation of Honourable E. Jay Saunders, Minister of Innovation, Technology and Energy at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Second Annual Artificial Intelligence Research Conference.

Held at the UWI Five Islands Campus, Antigua from 23rd – 24th June 2025, the conference, themed “Bridging Digital Frontiers: AI For Caribbean Sustainability,” served as a pivotal platform for high-level discussions on the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the region.

The conference’s agenda, which included critical discussions on AI policy and governance, digital innovation in the public sector, and improved government service delivery, directly aligns with the Ministry’s strategic objectives.

Hon. Saunders’ attendance underscores his commitment to engaging in critical thought leadership and leveraging cutting-edge AI research to advance digital governance within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Joining Hon. Saunders at the prestigious AI Conference were M.I.T.E. Permanent Secretary, Ms. Tamera Howell-Robinson, and Head of Sec-

retariat, Miss Lareesa Robinson. The M.I.T.E. is committed to utilising cutting-edge technology for national development, specifically advancing the initiatives of 24/7 Government and establishing a secure e-government platform.

“Our participation in the UWI Five Islands AI Research Conference was instrumental in deepening our understanding of how AI can be ethically and effectively integrated into public services,” stated Hon. Saunders. “The insights gained, particularly around AI for justice and governance, digital innovation, and citizen engagement, will directly inform our efforts to create a truly 24/7 Government and build an even more robust and secure e-government platform for all citizens,” he further stated.

Key takeaways from the conference highlighted the importance of shaping AI policy to support economic growth, ethical governance, and digital innovation in the public sector, while emphasizing regional cooperation, workforce development, and responsible AI adoption.

These discussions are crucial as the M.I.T.E. continues to explore how AI can enhance efficiency, transparency, and accessibility of government services, ensuring they are available around the clock to meet the evolving needs of the populace.

The M.I.T.E. is committed to lead-

ing the charge in responsible AI adoption, ensuring that technological advancements translate into tangible benefits for all Turks and Caicos Islanders. By actively engaging in international and regional

dialogues such as the UWI Five Islands AI Research Conference, the M.I.T.E. aims to position Turks and Caicos Islands at the forefront of digital transformation in the Caribbean.



Hon. E. Jay Saunders and Mr. George Pilgrim, Principal Consultant, Governance and Public Policy Inc.



British Airways Holidays Call Centre training with Salterra and the Hartling Group in Newcastle

Experience Turks and Caicos Strengthens Reach in UK Luxury Travel Market

Over the last 12 months, Experience Turks and Caicos has significantly strengthened its position in the United Kingdom's luxury travel market through focused trade engagement, strategic partnerships, and innovative marketing initiatives.

Experience Turks and Caicos, through UK marketing representative Paradise Promotions, has provided in-person training to over 1,200 luxury travel advisors in the UK, with an additional 7,000 trade professionals reached through newsletters and digital communications. Training travel advisors is a critical component of Experience Turks and Caicos' strategy, equipping them with the knowledge to design bespoke experiences for their clients and ensuring that the Turks and Caicos Islands is always top-of-mind when advising high-value travellers. This direct engagement builds long-term relationships and empowers advisors to confidently present the destination's unique offerings to discerning audiences.

"As we continue to grow our presence in the UK, working with luxury travel advisors helps us to position the Turks and Caicos Islands as a preferred destination for luxury travellers," said Paul Pennicook, Interim CEO Consultant of Experience Turks and Caicos. "The partnerships we've developed and the advisors we've trained are vital to ensuring sustained growth and long-term success

in this important source market.

Key accomplishments to date include deepening collaborations with top luxury tour operators such as Elegant Resorts, ITC, Carrier, and Caribtours—now among the destination's leading partners after a comprehensive team visit to the Turks and Caicos Islands last year.

New partnerships with Dnata Travel and Hummingbird Travel have also yielded significant results, with both operators emerging as strong sales performers since their introduction to the destination. There are ongoing discussions with CV Villas and Kuoni as these operators consider adding the Turks and Caicos Islands to their offerings.

Landmark events have further bolstered the Turks and Caicos Islands' presence in the UK market. The Aspire Retreat, held in the Turks and Caicos Islands for the first time (November 2024), hosted 25 luxury travel advisors, 12 buyers, and four media representatives across Providenciales and South Caicos, generating targeted exposure. A destination feature on the Turks and Caicos Islands was subsequently published in the Aspire Magazine and online.

Additionally, Experience Turks and Caicos' first UK Trade Roadshow held from July 29th to August 2nd, 2024, engaged 62 luxury travel agents and reservation staff, 125 high-net-worth consumers, and three luxury tour operators, raising awareness and generating new business

opportunities. A partnership with British Airways has strengthened the UK-Provo route, ensuring vital connectivity between the two regions and providing a foundation for sustained growth.

To further elevate the destination within the ultra-luxury segment, Experience Turks and Caicos is launching a series of exclusive, experiential events designed to deepen relationships with concierge

travel advisors and cultivate new leads among high-value clientele.

The flagship event in July 2025 will feature an intimate sailing experience with round-the-world sailor Gareth Williams, offering a unique platform to showcase Turks and Caicos to a select group of top-tier travel advisors, ultra-high-net-worth clients, and luxury brand partners.



Luxury Roadshow in Bournemouth, Brighton and Kent



Javain Campbell and Anne Francis



Guest Speaker Sabrina Green

From Service to Significance: Beaches Turks and Caicos Graduates LEAP into Excellence

At Beaches Turks and Caicos, exceptional service isn't left to chance—it's cultivated, crafted and continuously refined. This commitment to excellence was on full display as over fifty passionate team members graduated from a dynamic six-week Customer Service Excellence training, designed and delivered through the Sandals Corporate University (SCU).

The immersive training programme focused on building essential soft skills for hospitality professionals in an increasingly competitive industry. From communication strategies to emotional intelligence and resourcefulness, graduates were empowered to sharpen their personal brand and elevate the guest experience across every touchpoint.

Held at the resort's Caribbean Village conference room, the graduation ceremony was charged with energy, optimism and purpose. Guest speaker Sabrina Green, former director of the Turks and Caicos Human Rights Commission and best-selling author, delivered an inspiring keynote under the theme: "Level Up and Lead: Elevating Service Standards."

"You are now change agents," Green told the graduates. "Your success depends not only on what you say but how you say it—through empathy, clarity and emotional intelligence. At Beaches Turks and Caicos, excellence is not optional; it's your way of life." She further emphasized that being resourceful and adaptable is key. "Guests may call on you for anything—sometimes beyond your job description. This course has equipped you to listen, empathise, apologise and provide a solution. That's the Beaches way."

Assistant Learning and Development Manager Jodian Scott-Banton celebrated the group's transformation and encouraged them to LEAP—Listen, Empathize, Act, Perform—in their roles moving forward.

"Through the Sandals Corporate University, you've been given tools to elevate your service standards," said Scott-Banton. "You've grown in confidence and skill and I'm confident you'll now serve as ambassadors of excellence, raising the bar in every interaction."

The training was a creative blend of theory, practice and performance. Participants

showcased their learning through presentations and dramatized scenarios—sparking both engagement and insight. The standout group, Personal Branding, was hailed as the most effective, thanks to their unique blend of youth, experience and dynamic communication.

Kimberley Mowatt, representing the winning team and a proud member of the Food and Beverage department, reflected on the collaborative spirit. "Our group mastered the art of synergy. We brought energy, cre-

ativity and clarity—traits we'll continue to harness in shaping guest experiences." Managing Director James McNally offered congratulations and grounded the celebration in the broader mission of the brand.

"This course was so much more than completing a programme—it was about igniting transformation. Our goal is to train, certify and empower our team members to consistently deliver world-class service. When our team thrives, our guests feel the difference." McNally further affirmed that the SCU Cus-

tomers Service Excellence course is an academic achievement and even more so, it's a cultural commitment. "The true value lies in how each team member now thinks, acts and serves—with greater awareness, accountability and care."

As Beaches Turks and Caicos continues to set benchmarks for Caribbean hospitality, this latest cohort of graduates serves as a shining example of the resort's deep investment in its people—and the enduring power of service with heart.



Jodian Scott-Banton presents a token to Sabrina Green



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**Thursday,
July 10, 2025**

*Sunny Food Supermarket,
Blue Hills*

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



**Friday,
July 11, 2025**

*Felix Morley Community
Center, Five Cays*

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



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Music as therapy

MUSIC THERAPY is used to address a wide range of emotional, cognitive, and physical challenges due to its ability to stimulate the brain and evoke various responses.

It leverages the power of music to help individuals explore their emotions, improve communication, and enhance overall wellbeing.

Researchers are exploring how music therapy can improve health outcomes among a variety of patient populations, including premature infants and people with depression and Parkinson's disease.

Dr Dahlia Blake, clinical affiliate assistant, Professor of Medicine at FAU Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, said music as therapy has a wide range of proven benefits for patients of all ages, offering emotional, social, psychological, and physical health improvements.

"Music causes our brains to release chemicals that make us feel good. Therefore, it is a powerful tool for health and wellbeing. I have witnessed the power

of music in reducing anxiety, relieving stress, lifting mood in depression, treating PTSD, alleviating pain and even improving communication and social interactions reducing feelings of isolation," Dr Blake said.

Music as therapy she said, also enhances and support language and motor development, especially in children, memory recall, and has been shown to aid in the treatment of various disorders.

"Whether it is used alone or alongside traditional treatment, it is a valuable tool for healing and recovery. Most people are not aware that all genres of music can be used for therapy. Discussing music as therapy with your doctor can be a beneficial step in your care plan," Dr Blake said.

Music, she said, is a vital part of her life and her medical practice. "It serves as my personal therapy; helping me manage stress, elevate my mood, provide burst of energy, and improves clarity to maintain focus, while evoking powerful, joyful memories, especially of my child-

hood in Jamaica. It sets a positive tone for the day ahead and uplifts my spirit during the day. It is essential to my wellbeing as the air I breathe," Dr Blake said. Dr Blake is a 2024 Governor General's Award for Excellence and Community Hero – Frontline Worker Award recipient, and a distinguished quadruple board-certified physician with over 20 years of experience in internal medicine, pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. She currently practises critical care medicine, serves as a teaching attending for the Internal Medicine Residency Programme, and holds a part-time role as medical director of case management/utilisation review at Memorial Health System in South Florida. In her medical practice, particularly in the ICU, she utilises music as an adjunct therapeutic tool for healing. "I ask patients and/or their families what music they enjoy and encourage them to play the favourite genres they love — whether it's rock, R&B, reggae, reggaeton, gospel, or even country music. The simple act has a remarkable effect on their mood, often reducing anxiety and pain and even decreasing the need for sedation or pain medication based on my direct observations," Dr Blake said.

"When no family is present, I will put on a soothing music TV channel which help to improve the patient's overall comfort and promote healing. Music also creates meaningful connections and bonds between patients, families, and health-care staff. One of music's most important roles is in end-of-life care, when all other treatments have been exhausted. Music provides solace and healing for both patients and grieving family, mak-

ing it an invaluable part of the care process," Dr Blake added.

Dr Blake's love for music, especially for opera, began early in her childhood. Her mother, she said, introduced her, and her siblings to opera which she said has left a lasting impression. I treasure the early experiences and the great memories.

"In addition to opera, reggae music has always been a significant part of my life. My father often played reggae at home, at the beach or while driving through the parishes in Jamaica, fostering in me a deep connection to both music genres and my cultures," she said.

She soon became a member of The Opera Society, an affiliate of the Florida Grand Opera Fort Lauderdale, Florida; she is currently the president of The Opera Society, working to promote and share opera to her local community and beyond.

"I wanted to do more than just practise medicine; I wanted to create an experience that would uplift both local and global communities; Opera Meets Reggae (OMR), and I pitched the idea to the Florida Grand Opera, Miami, Florida and they were immediately on board and the collaboration began. I am excited to expand OMR, aiming to bring this unique cultural fusion to even more communities, starting with South Florida and the Jamaican community," Dr Blake said.

OMR, she said, is about creating a cultural experience that unites people, opera and reggae lovers alike, transcend boundaries while using music as therapy to inspire hope, love, passion and joy in honour of Bob Marley's timeless message of ONE LOVE.

Can vaccines protect against dementia?

I had grown fond of an elderly patient who was living with dementia. Her family took such good care of her. Her hair was always nicely done, the grey strands glistening like silverware because of the copious petroleum jelly.

Her neck, white as chalk, always seemed freshly dusted with a soothing scented powder. If I ever develop dementia, I hope this is how my loved ones will be there for me, with all the trials that will come at moments when I am nothing like my usual self, restless, unable to sleep, confused, and even hostile. Other days, I will be pleasant and lucid, greeting everyone politely.

WHAT IS DEMENTIA?

The World Health Organisation (WHO) describes dementia as a collection of signs and symptoms caused by different diseases that destroy the brain over time. There are about 10 million new cases of dementia annually worldwide. The effects include a breakdown in the ability to process one's thoughts. Features of dementia include changes in mood, ability to control emotions and behaviour. The most common cause of dementia is Alzheimer's disease, which results from a build-up of plaques or 'coating' on

brain cells. Although there is no cure for dementia, a number of medications can help slow disease progression and improve quality of life.

Persons are at increased risk for dementia when they are age 65 years or older, smoking, drinking too much alcohol, lacking regular exercise, overweight, or socially isolated. Vaccine against shingles and its positive 'side effect' against dementia

A vaccine against shingles has been shown to decrease the risk of dementia by 20 per cent over a seven-year period.

Researchers from Stanford University, USA, alongside collaborators from Germany and Austria suggest that "the Zoster vaccine will be both far more effective as well as cost-effective in preventing or delaying dementia than existing pharmaceutical interventions."

A vaccine is usually designed to protect us from an infectious disease. Potential side effects of vaccines include pain, redness, and fever, or a more serious allergic reaction. Rare side effects include Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), an excessive immune reaction that damages nerves and occurs at a rate of about one case per million persons vaccinated against flu, for example. GBS occurs more commonly after natural infection from

viruses and bacteria than from vaccination. The Stanford University researchers looked at electronic health records of over 280,000 persons in Wales to compare persons who received the vaccine against shingles and those who did not.

The researchers were careful to demonstrate in their analyses that the protective effects seen were not because of better health-seeking behaviours in people who tend to get vaccinated, as health-seeking behaviours were similar between those who got the shingles vaccine and those who did not.

Outside of shingles, the protection was specific to dementia, as no protective effect was demonstrated for the other ten leading causes of death in Wales.

EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SHINGLES VACCINE

'Shingles' or herpes zoster, caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox (the Varicella zoster virus), is common among the elderly, or persons with a weakened immune system. Shingles occurs as an itchy, burning or painful rash in a localised area of the body, and results from reactivation of the virus that stays dormant or quiet in the nerves. One in three persons who get chick-

enpox later develops shingles.

The shingles vaccine in this study is made from weakened live virus. The vaccine against chickenpox should not be given to someone to prevent shingles. Although the weakened virus used to make up both vaccines is the same, the amount of virus in the two vaccines is different.

The 15-times higher amount of virus in the zoster vaccine makes it more effective in persons over age 50 years who have an ageing immune system. A newer shingles vaccine does not have the weakened live virus and is made of proteins resembling parts of the virus. This year the shingles vaccine became available in the private sector in Jamaica.

The older shingles vaccine is about 50 per cent effective against shingles, compared to the newer vaccine that is over 90 per cent effective. The shingles vaccine can be given whether the person has had shingles before or not.

Dr Yohann White is a medical director at Para Caribe Consulting. Send feedback to columns@gleanerjm.com, yohann.white@caribewellness.com and @Caribe-Wellness on social media.



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Executive Sous Chef
Department: Culinary
Reports to: Executive Chef
Compensation: \$ 70,000.00- 75,000.00 per annum
Housing: 10% max discretionary Performance Bonus

Job Summary

The Executive Sous Chef reports directly to the Executive Chef and will quickly amass an in-depth familiarity with the kitchen’s operations so that they may fill in for the Executive Chef when needed and assist them in resolving any problems that may arise on the job. An Executive Sous Chef must possess the ability to quickly and authoritatively delegate job tasks to a large staff. They must also be able to draw upon their considerable experience as a culinary chef who has worked in many different roles and settings in order to effectively coach and mentor junior chefs. The Executive Sous Chef needs to be able to assist the Executive Chef in required projects.

Essential Functions

- Assist with the coordinating and directing of all food preparation, from prep through service.
- Monitoring the quality of all food and beverages.
- Track, record, and maintain inventory stock including foods, beverages, and kitchen supplies.
- Delegate daily tasks to sous chef and other kitchen staff; manage their progress throughout the day.
- Assist with the overseeing of the entire kitchen staff activity and ensure efficient work.
- Assisting with ordering and arranging pickup or delivery of foods for the week.
- Oversee repairs of kitchen appliances.
- Assist with the hiring and training of new kitchen staff.
- Work efficiently to resolve any problems that arise in the kitchen.
- Research and implement new culinary trends.
- Maintain a clean kitchen and abide by all state food safety and sanitation laws; and
- Any other duties that may be assigned to you.

Requirements

- 3-year Culinary Arts degree and/or other culinary certification.
- Bachelor’s degree preferred.
- 5+ years’ experience in a Executive Sous Chef or managerial kitchen position in a resort of similar standing.
- Server Safe certification.
- Vast knowledge in culinary arts, including any new up and coming food trends.
- Knowledgeable and dexterous using all manner of complex kitchen equipment.
- Effective and clear communicator.
- Expert skills and experience planning, designing, and preparing meals.
- Proficiency using Microsoft Suite to monitor and track inventory and maintain recipe records.
- Excellent time management and organizational skills.
- Proven leadership and creative abilities inside the kitchen.
- Expert problem solver who thrives under pressure.
- Top of the line customer services skills.

Must Have Excellent

- Communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Advanced mathematical and accounting concepts
- Computer literacy
- Ability to analyze and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals and governmental regulations
- Ability to train staff

Note: The Resort operates 7 days a week, the needs for coverage will vary greatly depending upon occupancy, available resources and expected demands. As such business work schedules will be tailored to insure the best possible coverage to meet the most crucial business needs and insure high service levels while maintaining fairness. We will endeavor to grant special requests for specific shifts and or days off, however these cannot be guaranteed. I have read and understand the Position Description as outlined above.

Signature: _____
Date: _____



months behind bars and whose public reputation has taken a massive hit in the wake of the charges.

He was convicted of flying people around the country, including his girlfriends and paid male sex workers, to engage in sexual encounters, a felony violation of the federal Mann Act. Combs' star-powered defense team successfully argued that prosecutors had failed to prove the serious charges.

Over the course of the trial, which began in May, prosecutors called 34 witnesses over the course of 29 days of testimony. Among them was Cassandra “Cassie” Ventura, Combs’ ex, with whom he was in a relationship for 11 years.

Prosecutors sought to prove that she had been coerced into participating in “Freak Offs,” which were elaborate sex performances with male sex workers.

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coverage? Sign up for PEOPLE's free True Crime newsletter for breaking crime news, ongoing trial coverage and details of intriguing unsolved cases.

Ventura, who testified while eight and a half months pregnant, gave several days of testimony describing abuse and detailing the “Freak Offs.” Combs’ attorneys argued throughout the trial that the sexual encounters had been consensual and introduced several exhibits, including text messages, into evidence intended to reinforce that argument.

Though Combs was acquitted on the most serious counts, he still faces several dozen lawsuits accusing him of sexual misconduct, meaning his legal battles will continue. Still, being found not guilty in federal court is a massive victory for Combs, who now sports gray hair, having spent the months leading up to his highly anticipated trial behind bars.

Sean “Diddy” Combs was acquitted of sex trafficking and racketeering after a closely followed high-profile federal trial in New York City. He was convicted on two lesser prostitution charges.

The split verdict was read on Wednesday, July 2.

The mixed result came on the third day of deliberations. It could still send Combs, 55, to prison for as long as a decade, and is likely to end his career as a hitmaking music execu-

tive, fashion entrepreneur, brand ambassador and reality TV star.

Combs was convicted on two counts of transportation to engage in prostitution, and could face up to 20 years in prison if he is sentenced to consecutive maximum prison terms.

Had Combs been convicted on the charges of sex trafficking or racketeering, he could have spent the rest of his life in prison. Instead, it's relatively good news for the music mogul, who has spent the past several

THE

STRAND

TURKS & CAICOS

Join our team

<p>◆ Reservations Agent</p> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Opera software as our booking tool. Up-sell and assist in booking future stays and experiences prior to arrival. Build rapport and trust with all guests through direct communication via phone and email Manage and navigate various calendars using Microsoft Outlook and Inter-company tools Protect the privacy and confidentiality of all guests Input new bookings into systems in a timely manner and share reports of guest stays with relevant departments as needed. Guest experience enhancement Collaborate with other hotel departments, including front office, sales, and marketing, to ensure a seamless and personalized guest experience from booking to check-out, implementing initiatives to enhance guest satisfaction and loyalty. Generate reports and analytics related to reservation performance, revenue metrics, and market trends, providing insights and recommendations to senior management for strategic planning and decision-making. Other work that may be assigned by management <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak English Must have 2+ years experience as a Reservations Agent Positive attitude and willingness to learn Must have a good experience in sales and revenue management. Must be articulate, professional and able to meet targets set for revenue generation. <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Salary expectation - \$10.00 - \$13.00 per hour</p>	<p>◆ Bellman</p> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet guests arriving at the hotel and assist with their luggage, transporting it to and from their rooms efficiently and carefully. Assist guests with checking in and out, managing their luggage appropriately. Transport luggage between guest rooms and other areas of the hotel as requested (e.g., to the valet, to a meeting room). Ensure the safety and security of guest luggage at all times. Provide information to guests about the hotel and its amenities. Maintain a clean and organized luggage storage area. Handle guest requests and inquiries courteously and promptly. <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak English Must have 2+ years experience in related field Must be able to work in customer service, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure. Physical stamina and ability to lift heavy luggage (typically up to 50 pounds). Ability to follow instructions and procedures Positive attitude and willingness to learn <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Salary expectations - \$9.00 - \$10.00 per hour</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">APPLY NOW!</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">Send your resume to: careers@thestrandtci.com</p>	<p>◆ Houseman</p> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting with housekeeping and deep cleaning carpets and upholstery, polishing brass, mirrors, glass, light fixtures, and chandeliers. Waxing all floors or hard cleaning of floors. Cleaning and laying fireplaces, restocking wood, emptying bins. Changing light bulbs, fuses, checking boiler pressure, bleeding radiators, checking security and alarm systems and performing minor household repairs. Assisting with laundry and ironing, cooking, laying tables, caring for children and pets. Maintaining gardens, mowing, watering plants, cleaning windows, paths and steps. Raking gravel and leaves, jet spraying exterior walls, sills and outdoor furniture. Valeting cars, driving to meetings, shopping, running errands, airport and school runs. Assisting to serve at dinners, looking after swimming pools, saunas, gyms and hot tubs. <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak English Must have 2+ years experience in related field Must be able to work in a restaurant environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure. Prior experience in housekeeping or related field preferred Knowledge of cleaning chemicals, proper storage, and disposal methods Ability to follow instructions and procedures Positive attitude and willingness to learn <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Salary expectation - \$9.00 - \$10.00 per hour</p>
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CDB Joins Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

In a historic step to combat hunger and reduce poverty globally, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB, the Bank) has officially joined the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty. This partnership aligns with CDB's mission to foster sustainable development and improve the lives

of people in the Caribbean by working collectively and collaboratively with international partners.

CDB's formal commitment to the Global Alliance was outlined in its Statements of Commitment, demonstrating its dedication to addressing structural poverty and in-

equality as part of the broader initiatives connected to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Bank has pledged to support the Alliance's objectives through knowledge sharing, ethical engagement, and the development of solutions tailored to the needs of vulnerable communities, including Indigenous populations and tribal groups.

Dr. Isaac Solomon, CDB's Vice President of Operations, highlighted the Bank's recognition of the increasing challenges posed by food insecurity and poverty, especially in light of the world's failure to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger). He stressed that "CDB is committed to fostering collaboration and driving collective action to ensure

a holistic approach to tackling hunger and poverty that embraces climate-resilient agricultural practices, strengthened adaptive capacity to impacts of climate change, and building sustainable food systems. These, and wider inclusive development efforts, are crucial to deliver measurable change for communities across the region."

The Alliance represents a unified effort to coordinate resources, share strategies, and implement practical solutions to improve food stability and economic resilience. The Bank, through this partnership, further commits to exploring opportunities for collaboration with other Alliance members to elevate its impact and contribute meaningfully to this global fight.

CARPHA, OECS Commit to Closing the Empathy Gap, Empowering Men to Prioritize Wellness and Longevity

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) in collaboration with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, are steadily committed to addressing the pressing health challenges faced by men throughout the OECS and the broader Caribbean region.

In recognition of Men's Health Month this June, both agencies are dedicated to promoting awareness and encourage men to prioritize their overall well-being for a healthier OECS.

The statistics regarding health-seeking behaviours among men in the Region are profoundly concerning. Afro-Caribbean men face an elevated risk of developing more aggressive forms of diseases, underscoring the necessity for earlier and more frequent screening.

This highlights the urgent need to address these disparities in health outcomes, ensuring that this population receives the appropriate medical attention and preventive measures. The implications of such findings are critical for healthcare providers, policymakers, and communities alike as they navigate the complexities of health equity and access to care. Therefore, strategies to mitigate these risks must be prioritized to improve overall health outcomes for men, whose health status

remains undefined in many contexts. According to the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) STEPS survey (2022), a mere 32% of men aged 25-64 reported having undergone preventive check-ups, in stark contrast to 58% of women. The survey revealed significant disparities in health outcomes related to cardiovascular disease (CVD) and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) across the OECS Member States. In Saint Lucia, men are 40% more likely to succumb to cardiovascular disease (CVD) than their female counterparts. Similarly, in St. Kitts & Nevis, NCDs account for a staggering 83% of all deaths, with men exhibiting a 30% higher rate of premature mortality compared to women.

The PAHO's NCDs profile for the Eastern Caribbean published in 2020, further illustrates these trends, indicating that stroke mortality rates in Antigua and Barbuda are 50% higher among men than among women. Additionally, the Saint Lucia Ministry of Health's Annual Health Statistics Report (2021) disclosed a concerning trend in healthcare-seeking behaviour: 45% of men only pursued medical attention when faced with severe symptoms, in contrast to a mere 28% of women who delayed treatment until reaching such an advanced stage.

Additionally, a study by the CARICOM Secretariat in 2021, titled "Mental Health in the Caribbean: A Gender Analysis," highlighted that in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, men were 3.2 times less likely than women to access psychotherapy services. This finding aligns with the PAHO 2022 Health and Masculinity study, which indicated that 70% of surveyed men across six OECS countries associated seeking mental health support with a perceived 'failure to fulfil masculine roles.'

These findings underscore the urgent need for targeted public health initiatives aimed at addressing these alarming health disparities and improving health-seeking behaviours among men in the Region. As such, the theme for Men's Health Month, Closing the Empathy Gap, calls for a shift in culture and mindset through awareness, advocacy, and action.

In support of this campaign, the Director General of the OECS Commission stated, "Too often, our Caribbean men delay seeking care until it is too late. Men's Health Month is a critical reminder that prevention saves lives, so note to self: regular check-ups, healthy habits, and early screenings are not just acts of self-care; they are acts of strength. Let's break the silence, prioritise our health, and lead by example for the

next generation."

In empowering men to actively seek healthcare and address their medical needs, Dr. Lisa Indar, Executive Director, CARPHA stated that "It is imperative to cultivate an enabling environment that is both safe and supportive. We need to collectively advocate for increased efforts towards preventive care and early intervention strategies, which are essential in countering the tendency of men to postpone seeking help."

Dr. Indar added, "This delay often exacerbates health issues, as men frequently wait until symptoms escalate to an acute stage before pursuing medical attention. By fostering a culture of support and understanding, we can significantly enhance men's health outcomes and ensure that their healthcare needs are met promptly and effectively."

CARPHA and the OECS are urging families, communities, and healthcare providers to create empathetic environments that not only encourage men to prioritize their health but also challenge the detrimental socio-cultural norms that may hinder health-seeking behaviours. Both Agencies will continue to unite in our efforts to promote awareness, enhance health outcomes, and create a supportive environment for all individuals.



Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart

Jimmy Swaggart, Televangelist and Preacher, Dies at 90 After Suffering Cardiac Arrest

Jimmy Swaggart, the famed Pentecostal televangelist and preacher, has died. He was 90. His family announced his death in a statement on Tuesday, July 1, on his Facebook page. “Today, our hearts are heavy as we share that Brother Swaggart has finished his earthly race and entered into the presence of His Savior, Jesus Christ,” his family wrote. “Today was the day he has sung about for decades. He met his beloved Savior and entered the portals of glory. At

the same time, we rejoice knowing that we will see him again one day.” Weeks before his death, Swaggart went into cardiac arrest at his Baton Rouge, La. home on June 15, according to WWLTV. PEOPLE previously reported that Swaggart was in critical condition following the medical episode. A statement previously posted to his official Facebook page on June 17 shared that there had been “no change” in his condition. “We continue to trust the Lord and

give Him time to work, knowing that His ways are perfect,” the statement read in part. “We do ask that you keep Sister Swaggart in your prayers—these past two days have been especially difficult for her. Please also pray for the entire Swaggart family during this time. The family is grateful for your prayers, your support, and the love you’ve shown.” Speaking during a prayer service on June 15, Swaggart’s son Donnie, who now runs his ministry, shared the news of his cardiac arrest and said, “Without a miracle, his time will be short,” WWLTV reported. Jimmy shares Donnie with his wife Frances Swaggart, whom he married over 70 years ago. According to the Jimmy Swaggart Ministries website, the pair wed on Oct. 10, 1952, when Jimmy was just 17 years old. “Other than my Salvation, she is the greatest thing that’s ever happened to me, and I think the greatest thing that’s ever happened to the Work of God,” the website reads. “Throughout all of these years, we’ve seen some great days, and we’ve seen some hard days; however, not one single time have I ever seen her lose Faith. And if a person will not lose their Faith, there is very little they cannot do.” Swaggart is also survived by three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Born in Ferriday, Louisiana, on

March 15, 1935, Jimmy launched a full-time ministry in 1955, according to his website. Three years later, he released his first album, Some Golden Daybreak, and he went on to sell over 17 million records before founding the Family Worship Center in Baton Rouge in 1971. His television career began in 1973 with the production of a weekly program titled The Jimmy Swaggart Evangelistic Association Presents Jimmy Swaggart, also known as the Jimmy Swaggart telecast, and he went on to build the empire known as Jimmy Swaggart Ministries, which also consists of the SonLife Broadcasting Network, which he launched in 2010. According to the website, Jimmy has “preached the gospel of Jesus Christ on television longer than any other American evangelist in history.” His ministry was rocked by a 1988 scandal when he was caught on camera with a New Orleans sex worker as the two entered a motel. “Yes, he got knocked down, yes, we had a rather large bump in the road,” Jimmy Swaggart Ministries spokesperson Megan Kelly told WWLTV on June 16. “But he has come back and the comeback story has been far greater than anything else. The lives saved. The lives that have been touched through his ministry are endless.” Kelly added that Jimmy’s health had been in decline for several years before his death.

Father jumps overboard to save 5-y-o who fell from cruise ship railing

A father jumped overboard to rescue his five-year-old daughter who fell from the fourth deck of a Disney cruise ship travelling from the Bahamas to the United States (US) on Sunday. They were then rescued by crew members. “We watched it, you could see two little things... It was crazy, it was horrific,” Disney Cruise Line passenger Gar Frantz told NBC News. In the report, Frantz goes on to describe how he was on the fourth floor of a Disney Dream cruise ship and saw the child, a five-year-old girl, placed on the railing, then watched her tip

over the edge into the water below. Others on board described the tiny yellow boat with the ship’s crew that had gone out to find the father and daughter, and indicated the larger vessel had then turned around once they were rescued. Disney Cruises confirmed that the two had been rescued on Sunday. The sheriff’s office in Broward County, Florida, also indicated they were investigating the tumble, indicating in a statement that there didn’t “appear to be anything suspicious”, but detectives were “investigating the circumstances that led up to the child falling overboard”.





Guns and ammunition seized by the police in the Bahamas.

Police in Bahamas seize over 5,000 rounds of ammunition and 25 guns hidden in appliances

rounds of ammunition. She said the appliances were imported and the Bahamas police are working with their counterparts from the United States to trace the guns found without serial numbers.

"We can't give you the number of people we're looking for as this investigation is still rather in the early stages, but we do have some ideas as to who we may be looking for," Knowles said, adding that officers were happy to intercept the contraband, and warned individuals involved in such operations.

"We know that they came into our country illegally. We know that all of them are illegal items, and anything could have happened. They could have been sold, they could have been shared on the streets with those people who want to create

fear and conduct unlawful activities.

"We just need for the public to see and for those who we may not have in custody to see that we got your guns, we have your marijuana, we have your ammunition, and my team will now be coming to look for you." Knowles urged the members of the public to continue sharing information with the police, saying, "We are working with every bit of information that the public shares with us."

"This is what happens when we have partnership with the public. The Royal Bahamas Police Force and all its officers will continue to work to protect the good people in our country."

"Those people who want to create fear, commit crimes, we will be out on the streets to get you, and we will put you before the courts whenever we get you," she added.

Police in the Bahamas say one person is assisting their investigation after cops and customs officers seized 25 illegal firearms, 5,216 rounds of ammunition, and 49.6 pounds of marijuana concealed in appliances in a vehicle in western New Providence over the last weekend.

Commissioner of Police, Shanta Knowles, told a news conference that officers, acting on a tip from a credible source, stopped and searched the vehicle, which was carrying household appliances.

She said that during the search, the illegal weapons and drugs were found.

The top cop said that there were 24 packages of marijuana valued at US\$198,400 and that two of the guns are revolvers, 11 are pistols, and 12 are rifles.

There were 29 magazines and 24 packages that contained the ammunition.

She said there were 240 rounds of .40 ammunition, 3,081 rounds of .9mm ammunition, 837 rounds of 7.62 ammunition, 50 rounds of .38 ammunition, and 143 rounds of .300 ammunition.

Knowles added that two of the magazines seized were drum magazines, which are able to hold multiple

St Vincent national wins 2025 Commonwealth Short Story Prize

A St Vincent and the Grenadines national has won the 2025 Commonwealth Short Story Prize, one of the world's most prestigious literary honours.

The Commonwealth Short Story Prize is awarded annually for the best unpublished short fiction from across the Commonwealth's five regions: Africa, Asia, Canada and Europe, the Caribbean, and the Pacific.

Canada-based Chantel Sutherland won the £5,000 prize with her story *Descend*, which she described as "a story of resistance, memory and voice".

She was declared the overall winner from a field of nearly 8,000 entries with her narrative, which, set aboard a sinking slave ship, centres on enslaved Africans who, in their final moments, reclaim their histories through storytelling.

Chair of judges, Vilsoni Hereniko, praised the piece as "deep and profound". The playwright, film director and academic went on to call Sutherland's story "an allegory that affirms the unrivalled power of storytelling



Chantel Sutherland

to set our spirits free and find hope where none exists".

Sutherland, in reflecting on the honour, said: "To be a writer from a small island and have my story seen and held in this way, it's more than I ever imagined. I carry St Vincent with me in every word I write."

"As a girl, I used to scribble stories

into the dirt in front of our house in Georgetown. I didn't know it then, but even those erased stories mattered. They shaped me."

The Commonwealth Foundation announced her win during a virtual awards ceremony hosted by Rwandan performing artist and storyteller Malaika Uwamahoro.

Sutherland, along with the four other regional winners, shared reflections on their writing journeys and read powerful excerpts from their stories.

"This award isn't just mine. It belongs to every Vincentian child who ever dreamed big from a small place," Sutherland said as she dedicated her victory to Vincentians everywhere.

The win comes as Sutherland prepares to launch a collection of short stories, *Child*, which will be published by House of Anansi in 2026.

The collection, which fictionalises aspects of Sutherland's own experience as a "layaway child" left in the care of family while parents emigrated, explores themes of girlhood, migration, shame, and the Caribbean diaspora with striking lyricism.

Sutherland hopes the win encourages more writers from small islands to share their stories.

"We come from a place of deep beauty and complexity. Our stories are worthy. They're necessary. And they deserve space on the world stage," she said.

TCIFA GETS TALENT COACH



**FIFA appointed Talent Coach Eilidh Mackay takes
up position in TCI**

See Story on Page 32



Wydad AC's Cassius Mailula (right) and teammate Mohamed Moufid try to cool off during the Club World Cup Group G match against Al Ain FC in Washington on Thursday, June 26.

EXTREME HEAT faced by football players at the Club World Cup (CWC) in the United States will likely be an even bigger problem at the next two men's World Cups, their global union FIFPRO warned yesterday. The month-long club event is being played in a heatwave in 11 American cities and union officials praised FIFA for helping to better protect players with cooling measures at games.

Still, FIFA did not take FIFPRO's pre-tournament advice to look at postponing kick-off times by several hours on the hottest days — a move that would be even more compli-

cated at a World Cup with more commercial pressures in play and more games scheduled each day.

Six of the 16 World Cup host cities next year in the US, Canada and Mexico are judged by FIFPRO as "extremely high risk" for heat stress injury to players among the 48 teams. The highest risk cities are Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, Kansas, Miami, and Monterrey, though some have indoor, air-conditioned stadiums.

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"We are anticipating that this problem is

World Cup warning after US heatwave hits CWC

going to be even more crucial for the coming years," FIFPRO Medical Director Vincent Goutteborge told reporters in a briefing call. The 2030 World Cup will be co-hosted in June and July by Spain, Portugal and Morocco, where fewer stadiums are enclosed and cooled, and temperatures in some cities yesterday were at or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38° C).

By 2030, the hot-weather prospects for the tournament there "is even perhaps worse than what we have been facing so far", Goutteborge cautioned.

FIFPRO said extra heat mitigation measures could include 20-minute half-time breaks instead of 15 to help lower players' core temperatures, and cooling breaks in play every 15 minutes. Currently, breaks are taken in the 30th minute of each half.

FIFA was approached for comment.

FIFA has reacted during the Club World Cup to lower the threshold for insisting on cooling or water breaks, plus placing more water and towels around the edge of the field. "We are partially happy because FIFA have been quite responsive once the tournament was under way," FIFPRO CEO-like Gen-

eral Secretary Alex Phillips said.

Better shading benches for the substitutes and more hydration breaks are also preferred by the union, which has national affiliates representing players in about 70 countries.

"All these practical things is something that we must do better," said Alexander Bielefeld, FIFPRO strategy director, though adding, "at some point that probably won't be enough".

The union gave its research to FIFA ahead of the Club World Cup opening on June 14, based on weather trends in the host cities since 2014. Seven of the 11 were judged high risk with Philadelphia and Washington, DC, at the top end.

"The past few weeks was also a confirmation of our worry," Goutteborge said, "that the heat condition would play a negative role for the performance and health of the players."

Six Club World Cup games were also stopped because of forecast electric storms nearby. The delay was nearly two hours in Charlotte during Chelsea's win in the round of 16 against Benfica.

US college bans transgender athletes following swimming furor

The University of Pennsylvania has agreed to ban transgender athletes from its women's sports teams, settling a federal civil rights case stemming from the furor around swimmer Lia Thomas, the US government said Tuesday.

The US Department of Education said in a statement that UPenn had entered into a resolution agreement vowing to comply with Title IX, the federal law which prohibits sex-based discrimination in any educational program.

It follows an investigation by the department's Office for Civil Rights which found the university had violated Title IX by allowing transgender swimmer Thomas to compete in women's competitions in 2021-2022.

US President Donald Trump, who campaigned on the issue of trans athletes, has worked to prohibit them from competing in girls and women's sports since returning to office.

Trump issued an executive order in February aimed at banning transgender athletes, allowing federal agencies to halt funding to any institution that does not consider birth-assigned genders in determining sex. US Secretary of Education Linda McMahon said in a statement on Tuesday the resolution of the UPenn case marked a "great victory for women and girls ... across our nation."

"The Department commends UPenn for rectifying its past harms against women and

girls, and we will continue to fight relentlessly to restore Title IX's proper application and enforce it to the fullest extent of the law."

Under the terms of the settlement, UPenn will restore all individual swimming records and titles to female athletes affected by Thomas's participation.

The university will also send a "personalized letter of apology" to each swimmer impacted by the case.

The college will also be required to issue a public statement specifying it will "not allow males to compete in female athletic programs" or use Penn Athletics facilities for women, such as locker rooms.

Thomas became a lightning rod around the debate of transgender athletes in women's sport after competing in female collegiate competitions in 2022.

She had earlier swam on UPenn's men's team while undergoing hormone replacement therapy.

Her participation in women's events sparked widespread outrage, with critics and some fellow swimmers saying she should not have been allowed to compete due to an unfair physiological advantage. Her supporters argued she should be allowed to compete as a woman.

One of Thomas's competitors, Riley Gaines, welcomed Tuesday's announcement.

Gaines has been a long-time critic of Thomas's participation in women's collegiate swimming, and tied for fifth place with her

in the 200-yard freestyle at a national collegiate meeting in 2022.

"It is my hope that today demonstrates to educational institutions that they will no longer be allowed to trample upon women's

civil rights, and renews hope in every female athlete that their country's highest leadership will not relent until they have the dignity, safety, and fairness they deserve," Gaines said in a statement.



Lia Thomas, a transgender woman, swims for the University of Pennsylvania at an Ivy League swim meet against Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on January 22, 2022. The University of Pennsylvania has agreed to ban transgender athletes from its women's sports teams, settling a federal civil rights case stemming from the furor around swimmer Lia Thomas, the US government said on July 1, 2025. The US Department of Education said in a statement that UPenn had entered into a resolution agreement vowing to comply with Title IX, the federal law which prohibits sex-based discrimination in any educational program.



Tournament MVP Leroy Hyman

Blazer Elite Sports Academy of Grand Bahama finished undefeated and were crowned champions of the 2025 JAGS McCartney Basketball Tournament, hosted by the Turks & Caicos Islands Basketball Federation from June 28–30. The two-time defending champions proved their dominance once again, going 4–0 across three days of high-level competition featuring seven strong teams: National Champions Wesley Methodist, perennial contenders Clement Howell, GK Hornets, Maranatha High, British West

Collegiate, the National Under-17 Team, and Blazer Elite. The championship game on Monday night delivered fireworks in a thrilling rematch between Blazer Elite and the GK Hornets. After trailing by as many as 20 points in the third quarter and still down by 14 with just under four minutes left, Blazer Elite launched a ferocious comeback. Behind a 22–2 closing run, they stormed to a 103–97 victory in one of the most exciting finishes in tournament history. Blazer’s Isais Sejour led all scorers

Blazer Elite Crowned 2025 JAGS McCartney Tournament Champs

with 32 points and 6 steals, but it was teammate Leroy “Drippy” Hyman who claimed Finals MVP honors after an outstanding all-around performance: 26 points, 5 assists, 4 steals, 4 rebounds, and 2 blocks. Federation President Trevor Cooke

commended all participating teams for their high level of play and expressed optimism about the continued growth of basketball in the Turks & Caicos Islands—especially noting the impressive strides made by the National Under-17 Team.



The Blazer Elite Sports Academy players and coach celebrate their JAGS McCartney Tournament win.

Turks and Caicos Becomes Official Member of Goodwill Swimming Championship

The Turks and Caicos Islands is set to compete as an official member of the Goodwill Swimming Championship for the very first time. The 29th edition of the regional meet will take place in Barbados from August 15–17, 2025. This historic milestone follows a two-year effort by localswimming

advocates. In 2023, Turks and Caicos delegates Roydoya Alleyne and Bennett Williams formally submitted the country’s application for membership during the Goodwill Championship Congress. The push continued in 2024 with support from delegates Lincoln Martin and Shanwell Gardiner. Earlier this year,

Turks and Caicos was officially accepted as a full member federation. The country’s inclusion is proudly displayed in the 2025 championship materials—the Turks and Caicos Islands flag now appears on the official cover page, symbolizing recognition and unity within the regional swimming fraternity.

The Turks and Caicos Islands Swim Federation has expressed its gratitude to all who helped make this achievement possible. “This is a proud moment for our country,” the Federation said in a statement. “Let’s continue to move swimming forward in the Turks and Caicos Islands.”



Makai Forbes, (left) the lone competition from the Turks and Caicos Islands who will take part in the NACAC Age Group Championship in Nicaragua, is photographed with Edith Skippings (centre), President of the Turks and Caicos Amateur Athletics Association (TCAAA) and coach Courtney Missick.

DISAPPOINTMENT

TCI's NACAC Age Group Squad Reduced to One Athlete Due to Travel Document Complications

By Vivian Tyson – NEWSLINE Editor-in-Chief

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Salt Rakers Aquatic Club Launches Summer Camp for Young Swimmers, Water Polo Enthusiasts

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Club is making a splash this July with its highly anticipated Summer Camp, offering a dynamic blend of water polo, open water training, and swimming instruction for children and teens across the Turks and Caicos Islands. Running from July 8 to July 23, the camp welcomes participants ages 6 to 17, providing structured aquatic activities each day from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Sunset Beach in Lee-ward. Open to both members and

non-members, the camp is priced at \$25.00 per day for Salt Rakers members and \$30.00 for non-members.

"This camp is about more than just swimming," said Coach Devon, lead instructor at the Salt Rakers Aquatic Club. "It's about building water confidence, learning valuable team skills through water polo, and connecting young people to the ocean environment in a fun and meaningful way." Campers will receive hands-on instruction from certified coaches in

a safe and engaging open water setting. Each day includes water polo drills, guided swim sessions, and interactive ocean safety education, designed to suit all skill levels—from beginners to advanced swimmers.

Parents are already expressing enthusiasm for the initiative. "It's a wonderful opportunity for kids to stay active, make friends, and learn essential life skills in the water," said Janice Forbes, whose 10-year-old daughter Maya will be attending for

the first time.

With limited spaces available, the Salt Rakers team encourages early registration. Interested families can call (649) 241-1272 or email saltrak-ers@gmail.com for more details and to secure a spot.

As the islands head into the heart of summer, the Salt Rakers Summer Camp promises to be one of the season's highlights—fostering strong swimmers, confident kids, and a deeper appreciation for the sea.



FIFA appointed Talent Coach Eilidh Mackay giving instructions to her charges.

FIFA Appoints Talent Coach to TCIFA

The Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) has announced its participation in FIFA's prestigious global Talent Development Scheme (TDS), an initiative dedicated to nurturing young athletes with exceptional potential.

According to the TCIFA, this program is set to revolutionize youth football in Turks and Caicos by establishing sustainable systems focused on:

- Identifying Talent
- Training Talent
- Showcasing Talent
- Creating Developmental Environments

It has been established that the most successful nations are characterized by robust quality education programs. However, many countries currently lack adequate opportunities for young players to develop their skills. FIFA is poised to act as a catalyst for nurturing young talent in regions where such opportunities are limited, particularly through the Talent Development Scheme.

To address these challenges, nations are establishing national academies and recruiting skilled coaches to enhance their infrastructure and promote football development. The collaboration between FIFA and its member associations is vital in this endeavor. FIFA provides both technical and financial support, while member associations demonstrate their commitment to creating the necessary frameworks for success.

The overarching mission is to foster a robust culture of individual player development, ensuring every young talent is given the opportunity to excel. This ini-

tiative transcends traditional coaching; it is about unlocking potential, crafting long-term player pathways, and empowering youth to succeed both on and off the field.

In response to the recent developments, FIFA has appointed Eilidh Mackay, AFC/FA A Licensed Coach, to the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) for a two-year term. Eilidh will be stationed in Providenciales. Hailing from Scotland, she previously contributed to a FIFA Talent Development Scheme in Bhutan, South Asia.

Coach Mackay, in collaboration with the TCIFA Technical Team, will spearhead the development of the TCIFA Talent Development Pathway. Under the expert direction of both Coach Mackay and TCIFA Talent Development Leader Lenford Singh, the initial phase focuses on scouting boys born in 2013 and 2014 on the island of Providenciales.

This phase will culminate in the formation of the first training cohort, which will consist of selected U12 boys and U14 girls. This comprehensive pathway will soon extend across all four islands- i.e. Providenciales, North/ Middle Caicos, South Caicos, and Grand Turk.

By leveraging the expertise of Coach Mackay, the TCIFA aims to build a resilient ecosystem that supports young athletes through its structured training sessions and competitive opportunities.

TCIFA Technical Director, Dane Ritchie, explained "The Talent Development Scheme (TDS) is indeed of great benefit to us here in Turks and Caicos Islands as it allows us

to create opportunities for the best talents across the country to train and play together. The TDS environment will foster development of the best players as they will challenge each other to get better.

"Having Coach Eilidh Mackay here as our FIFA Talent Coach will help us tremendously to shape the future of our TDS program. She will focus on providing support for a structured and sustainable program that will identify, train and play talent players with focus on the players individual development. We are excited to have Eilidh on board with us and looking forward to he support to further develop our TDS program over the next two years" Coach Mackay commented, "I'm excited to work with TCIFA to help shape a player development environment that puts the individual at the heart of the journey. This program is built around the principle of player first, then team focusing on long term development. We will be striving to connect the islands through best with best opportunities."

The program will incorporate FIFA training methodology that supports the individual development of players creating an environment that better prepares young footballers of Turks and Caicos for the demands of modern football.

The TCIFA Talent Development Pathway is designed for young individuals who not only exhibit exceptional talent but also possess the ambition and mindset essential for continuous growth and improvement. This pathway embraces a holistic approach, encompassing football skills, monitoring academic competencies and

various other elements to ensure comprehensive consideration of all aspects of the child's development.

Participants in the program are expected to demonstrate commitment and discipline by actively engaging both on-pitch and off-pitch. In this dynamic setting, every participant is inspired to reach their full potential, both as an athlete and as an individual, paving the way for future successes.

The TCIFA Technical Team recognises that player development is inherently non-linear. To support and nurture each player's unique journey, TCIFA remains committed to providing opportunities for growth. Consequently, players who are not initially selected during the early stages of the scouting process may still have the opportunity to be considered later on.

The TCIFA Technical Team will continuously monitor player development across the grassroots program, Fortis League, school competitions, and various other developmental events throughout the year.

"Coach Mackay's appointment marks a significant milestone in our journey to elevate youth football in our nation. We are confident that her expertise and dedication will greatly enhance our TDS Program, providing our young athletes with unparalleled opportunities to grow and excel.

"Together, we are committed to creating a dynamic and supportive environment that nurtures the potential of every player, ensuring a bright future for football in the Turks and Caicos Islands," said TCIFA General Secretary, Tamara Hall-Worme.