

**Corporate Open
WaterSwim
August 8
PG32**



NEWSLINE

Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage



**Two Haitians Found
Guilty of Multiple
Firearms PG4**



**E. Jay pushes
Smart/Safe
City for TCI PG8**



AMBITIOUS BUDGET

Government projects \$550.8M Revenue

Expects to spend \$485.2M

>>> STORY ON PG5

TCI TOP MODEL

MAINSTREAM MEDIA AWARD

Congratulations to

**DONNELL
WILLIAMS**

Donnell was born in the Dominican Republic and raised in the Turks and Caicos. She blends island elegance with metropolitan edge; a fierce, fashion-forward mother of three, modelling taught her that true beauty is conviction, intention and owning one's narrative. She moves with poise on the volleyball court, creates unique couture and captures life through her camera. Her children are her greatest motivation; poised and impeccably styled, Donnell is a Caribbean-born creative, shaping stories and timeless sophistication that honour heritage while embracing modernity.

Her motto: Be fierce. Be classy. Own your story.

The Mainstream Media Award is presented to the 2026 TCI Top Model contestant who best demonstrates outstanding confidence, charisma and communication, winning over press and media judges. After a dynamic series of interviews on Saturday 18 April 2026 at The Shore Club Resort, Providenciales, one contestant stood apart.

Congratulations to **Donnell Williams**, recipient of the 2026 TCI Top Model Mainstream Media Award. Donnell has earned a coveted full-page feature in this prestigious national newspaper - a powerful platform to amplify her voice, share her story and launch her career as a public figure and fashion talent.



Stayover Arrivals Increase by 5 percent in the First Quarter

The Turks and Caicos Islands recorded a five percent increase in stayover arrivals for the first quarter of 2026, compared to the same period in 2025, continuing a trend of steady growth in visitor demand according to figures from the Ministry of Tourism.

From January to March 2026, the ministry noted, the destination welcomed 203,587 stayover visitors, an increase of 10,557 arrivals over the first quarter of 2025.

March, traditionally the strongest month for stayover arrivals, delivered solid performance, with preliminary figures indicating 79,813 visitors. This represents a three percent increase over March 2025.

“Our first quarter performance reflects the continued strength of the Turks and Caicos Islands as a high-demand, high-value destination. We have been deliberate in strengthening our presence across key markets, deepening our engagement with travel advisors, and maintaining strong international visibility,” said Minister of Tourism, Hon Zhavargo Jolly.

“At the same time, we have taken decisive steps to strengthen the safety and stability of our islands, and we are seeing the results of that work. That matters—not just for our residents, but for every visitor who chooses the Turks and Caicos Islands. Our focus now is on sustaining this momentum, increasing the value we derive from each visitor, and continuing to position the Turks and Caicos Islands as one of the most desirable and well-managed destinations in the region.”

In the cruise sector, the ministry noted, the first quarter of 2026 saw 344,287 passenger arrivals,

representing a 16 percent decline compared to the same period last year. Preliminary figures for March 2026 indicate 116,911 cruise passengers, a seven percent decrease year-on-year, despite an additional ship call during the month.

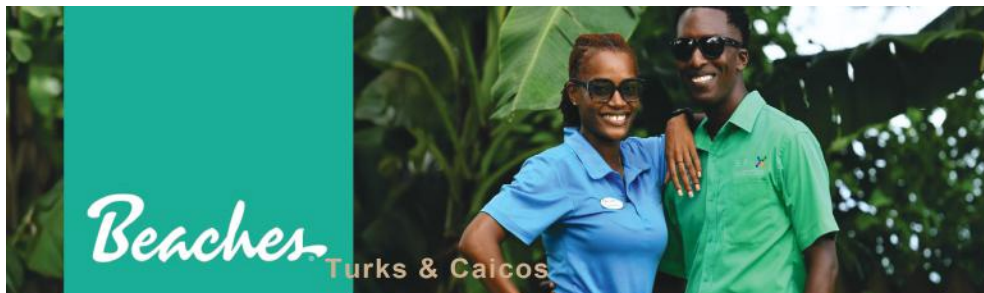
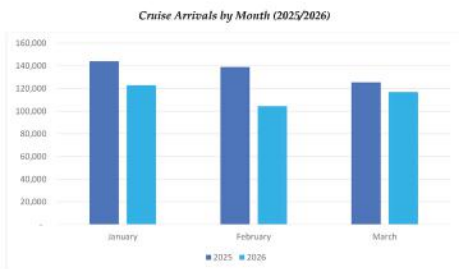


Looking ahead to the second and third quarters, Experience Turks and Caicos remains focused on sustaining both visitor arrivals and on-island spend amid a dynamic global environment. Recent marketing initiatives include a collaboration with TravelView to produce destination-focused videos distributed to more than 80,000 travel advisors in the United States, the destination’s largest source market.

In the United Kingdom, the destination has been actively engaging travel advisors through programmes such as UNITE Caribbean, where participating travel groups have reported increased bookings to the Turks and Caicos Islands. In Canada and Latin America, efforts have been intensified through participation in key trade shows and expanded outreach to the travel trade.



Minister of Tourism, Hon. Zhavargo Jolly



WE ARE HIRING! Full-Time/Part-Time
COME TO OUR JOB FAIR

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 8:00am

Build a Career in Hospitality

Come and be a part of the World’s Best Team! The Caribbean’s Leading Luxury-Included Brand® offers an opportunity for highly motivated, flexible and enthusiastic persons with exceptional skills to join our team.

- **Boat Captains***
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- **Executive Sous Chef***
- **Room Technicians**
- **Stove Technician**
- **Finish Carpenter**
- **Butler Coordinator**
- **Room Attendants**
- **Houseman**
- **Restaurant Servers**
- **Bartender**
- **Bar Porter**
- **Cocktail Server**
- **Watersports Attendant**
- **Junior Concierge**
- **Front Office Agent**
- **Bellmen**
- **Public Relations Coordinator***
- **Housekeeping**
- **Housekeeping Supervisor**
- **Resort Shop Attendant**
- **Laundry Attendants**
- **Stewards**
- **Bar Supervisor**
- **Landscapers**

Note: Positions in Blue are available for Part-time & Full-Time.

REQUIREMENTS: • Updated Resume • Passport/Birth Certificate
 • Local Status Document [Belonger Card, Freelance Permit, Residence Permit, Permanent Resident Certificate, Naturalization Certificate]
 • Qualifications/Experience required*

BENEFITS: • Healthcare • Education and Training • Staff Transportation • Competitive Salary Packages
 Opportunities for Growth & Development

*Bring along your banking details [bank name, branch & account#]

Government Confirms Acquisition of Temple Trust Building Followed Due Process

Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands - Wednesday, 22 April 2026: The Turks and Caicos Islands Government confirms that the acquisition of the Temple Trust Building in Providenciales followed the established procedures to ensure transparency, value for money and full compliance with the law.

The acquisition formed part of a broader proposal, involving four adjacent parcels of land, in line with Government requirements.

In March 2025, the Ministry of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development, in consultation with the Attorney General’s Chambers (AGC) and the Ministry of Finance prepared advice for Cabinet, supported by a Government valuation.

Cabinet considered the matter and granted approval to proceed with the acquisition and retrofitting of the building to provide office accommodation for the Offices of the Premier & Public Policy and the Deputy Premier. Cabinet approved the proposed purchase price of \$6,150,000.00, which was within the Government valuation, noting that the Government would acquire the building “as is” and assume responsibility for any necessary repairs. Following the vendor’s refusal of the initial offer, a counteroffer of

\$6,450,000.00 was received in late March 2025. This revised figure included approximately \$300,000.00 in furniture, fixtures and fittings. The land purchase remained within the upper limit of the Government’s valuation.

The Cabinet gave further consideration to the matter on 31 March 2025, and granted approval for the acquisition at the revised price of \$6,450,000.00.

In line with required procedures, the Cabinet ensured that all potential conflicts were openly declared and addressed, and requested further due diligence regarding ownership of the adjacent parcels. Subsequent verification confirmed the ultimate beneficial ownership of all of the properties.

The Agreement was fully executed in July 2025, with revised terms subsequently agreed to accommodate adjusted timelines.

Completion took place on 1 October 2025. The transfer was formally executed and registered on 7 October 2025.

The Government confirms that the final purchase price was in line with valuation advice provided by the Valuation Department and negotiation range, and that the processes undertaken adhered to all required governance, legal and procedural standards.

Two Haitians Found Guilty of Multiple Firearms

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Two Haitian nationals have been found guilty of multiple firearm and ammunition offences following a Supreme Court trial in Grand Turk, bringing to a close proceedings that began earlier this month.

Roodvens Sinaus, 38, and Wilder Dieuveil, 26, also known as “Baligaz,” were convicted by a jury on Tuesday, 21 April 2026, after several days of testimony presented by the prosecution, including evidence from police officers. The trial had commenced on Monday, 13 April 2026, before the Supreme Court.

Both men were found guilty on two counts of possession of a firearm, two counts of possession of ammunition, and one count of unlawful entry. However, the jury returned not guilty verdicts on an additional count each of possession of a firearm



Roodvens Sinaus



Wilder Dieuveil

and possession of ammunition. The matter has been adjourned for sentencing, which is scheduled to take place on 12 May 2026. Until then, both men have been remanded in custody.

The charges stem from an incident in July 2024. According to authorities, Sinaus and Dieuveil were arrested by officers of the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force during the early morning hours of 8 July 2024. Police had executed an Authority to Search for Firearms

at a residence located in the Dock Yard area of Providenciales, where the two men were taken into custody.

Initially, both accused faced three counts each of possession of a firearm, three counts of possession of ammunition, and one count of unlawful entry. These charges were laid following consultations between investigators and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, which reviewed the evidence and authorized the prosecution.

The case forms part of ongoing law enforcement efforts to combat illegal firearms and related criminal activity across the Turks and Caicos Islands. Authorities have repeatedly underscored the dangers posed by illegal weapons and the importance of community cooperation in addressing crime.

Police are continuing to urge members of the public to report any suspicious or illegal activity. Individuals can contact their nearest police station, call 911, or reach the Serious Crime Unit directly at 231-1842. Anonymous tips can also be submitted through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-8477 or via the CrimeStoppers P3 mobile app, available on both the Google Play and Apple App stores.

Officials maintain that public support remains critical in helping law enforcement detect and prevent crime, particularly in cases involving illegal firearms.

Commissioner Meets with Newly Promoted Officers

Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey, along with members of the Force Executive Deputy Commissioner Rodney Adams, Deputy Commissioner Kendall Grant, Darron Williams, and Dwight Gardiner, met with newly promoted officers over the course of three days, engaging them in discussions focused on leadership, professionalism, and the future direction of the Force.

A total of 46 officers were recognized during the engagement, with six promoted to the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police, fifteen to Inspector, and twenty-five to Sergeant. During the sessions, Commis-

sioner Bailey underscored the significance of leadership rooted in honour, discipline, and integrity. He reminded officers that integrity cannot be bought but must be consistently demonstrated.

He further encouraged the newly promoted leaders to build disciplined teams, foster unity, camaraderie, and fellowship, and create positive and productive work environments where officers are motivated to perform at their best. Officers were also urged to remain grateful, celebrate their achievements, and continue to aspire toward excellence through hard work and commitment.

“Magnify the office you now hold,” Commissioner Bailey stated, emphasizing the responsibility that comes with leadership. Importantly, Commissioner Bailey assured the officers that they will be adequately trained and developed for the roles to which they have been appointed. This includes exposure to contemporary policing priorities such as diversity, inclusion, and modern professional etiquette.

Highlighting the importance of realigning the Force, the Commissioner called on officers to play an active role in strengthening their culture and effectiveness.



AMBITIOUS BUDGET

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands Government has unveiled an ambitious national budget for the 2026–2027 fiscal year, projecting revenues of \$550.8 million while planning expenditures totaling approximately \$485.2 million.

Delivering the budget address in the House of Assembly on April 21, Premier Washington Misick outlined a fiscal plan centered on infrastructure development, public safety, health-care reform, and social advancement, while maintaining disciplined financial management in an increasingly uncertain global environment.

The Premier emphasized that recurrent expenditure will account for the bulk of the spending, covering government operations such as salaries, wages, and essential services. An additional \$3.4 million has been allocated for non-recurrent, one-off expenses, while \$62.2 million is earmarked for capital investments including infrastructure, land acquisition, and technology upgrades.

A significant portion of the budget, \$106.2 million, has been allocated to public order and safety, which he said reinforces the government's commitment to national security. Misick highlighted a 55 percent reduction in serious crime, noting that the country has recorded more than five consecutive months without a single murder in 2026, placing it among only a few Caribbean jurisdictions with such a record.

"This progress has restored confidence in our communities," the Premier stated, pointing to improved public safety as a key factor in strengthening investor confidence and economic stability.

He pointed out that healthcare remains one of the largest areas of expenditure, with \$99.3 million allocated to the sector. The government, he pointed out, is prioritizing reforms aimed at building a more sustainable healthcare system, reducing reliance on costly overseas treatment, and improving local care delivery. Misick revealed that the Treatment Abroad Programme has surged from \$40 million in 2024 to \$61 million in 2025, now accounting for over 10 percent of the national budget.

Education will receive \$66 million, supporting initiatives such as free community college access for Turks and Caicos Islanders, expansion of the National Scholarship Programme, and improvements to school infrastructure. The Premier described education as a "cornerstone of national development," vital to equipping young people with skills for future success.



Premier Hon. Washington Misick

Social protection measures will see \$30.6 million in funding, which he said reflected the government's continued focus on strengthening support systems for vulnerable populations. Housing and community amenities have been allocated \$24.2 million, addressing affordability challenges driven by high land costs, imported materials, and infrastructure expenses.

In a move to tackle housing accessibility, the government is advancing plans for a Mortgage Corporation, capitalized with \$20 million from the National Wealth Fund. Once operational, the initiative is expected to expand access to home financing, stimulate the construction sector, and promote homeownership.

He said infrastructure development remains a central pillar of the budget., pointing out that government has allocated \$30 million for Phase 3 and 4 of the South Dock redevelopment project, aimed at improving port efficiency, reducing shipping delays, and lowering costs for businesses and consumers. Additional investments include \$22 million for a fuel discharge mooring system and \$1.1 million to extend the main port berth. At the country's main gateway, Howard Hamilton International Airport, the government is adopting a phased, fully state-owned redevelopment approach. Up to \$30 million has been set aside for upgrades, including a new arrivals hall and improvements to passenger flow and terminal func-

tionality.

Economic indicators presented during the budget address reflect strong performance. The premier pointed out that the Turks and Caicos Islands economy is projected to grow by 3.5 percent in 2026, following a 5.6 percent expansion in 2025. He said GDP is expected to reach \$1.7 billion, while unemployment remains below 4 percent, which he said is one of the lowest rates in the nation's history.

Tourism continues to drive revenue, with nearly 2 million visitors recorded in 2025. Accommodation tax alone is expected to generate \$131 million, underscoring the sector's strength. Additional revenue streams include import duties exceeding \$175 million, stamp duties at \$63.8 million, and work permit fees totaling \$57.2 million.

Despite the positive outlook, the Premier cautioned that the country remains vulnerable to global economic shocks, including fluctuations in tourism demand, energy prices, and supply chain disruptions. Inflation is projected at approximately 3 percent in 2026, largely influenced by imported goods, as the islands rely on imports for over 90 percent of consumption. To strengthen fiscal resilience, the government is implementing measures to improve revenue collection through initiatives such as "Operation Dagnet," which targets compliance and efficiency in tax administration without increasing rates.

Misick also noted that the government intends to introduce a supplementary appropriation later in the year to adjust for evolving economic conditions, emphasizing the need for flexibility in fiscal planning.

The country's strong financial standing was further reinforced by a recent affirmation of its A-minus stable credit rating by Standard & Poor's, which he said is a reflection of the confidence in its fiscal discipline and tourism-led growth model.

Since taking office in 2021, Misick said the economy has nearly doubled in size, supported by \$1.27 billion in development agreements expected to generate over 1,000 new hotel rooms and more than 2,000 permanent jobs.

Framing the budget under the theme "Strong today, secure tomorrow," Misick said the plan is designed not only to sustain growth but to ensure long-term prosperity for future generations.

"This is not a budget built on speculation," he said. "It is grounded in realism, discipline, and responsible stewardship, ensuring that the success we enjoy today translates into security for tomorrow."

Is It Time for a Workers' Union in the Turks and Caicos Islands?

An Op-Ed by Paladin

Turks and Caicos has spent the last decade racing upward—cranes on skylines, hotels rising from sand, and tourism numbers that would make any regional competitor jealous. But beneath the glitter of growth lies a quieter truth: the people who build, clean, cook, drive, and keep this economy alive have far less power, protection, and predictability than the industries they sustain.

The question is no longer whether TCI needs a workers' union. The question is whether we can afford not to have one.

The Hidden Fragility Behind Our Tourism Boom

Tourism is our lifeblood, but it is also our vulnerability. When hotels multiply, so do the demands on construction workers, housekeepers, servers, bartenders, taxi drivers, landscapers, and maintenance crews. Yet the protections for these workers have not kept pace with the scale or sophistication of the businesses that now dominate our economy. Yes, we have labour laws. Yes, we have a Labour Tribunal. But ask any worker who has tried to challenge an unfair dismissal, unpaid wages, or withheld benefits, and you'll hear the same story: the process is intimidating, slow, and stacked against the individual. And when employers fail to pay NHIP or NIB contributions—something that happens far more often than many realize—the consequences fall squarely on the worker. Imagine discovering

your employer never paid your health insurance only when you're lying in a hospital bed. Imagine being denied a benefit you contributed to for years because someone else pocketed the deductions. This is not a theoretical risk. It is a lived reality.

When Government Decisions Feel Arbitrary

The pandemic-era TAP program was a lifeline for many, but it also revealed something deeper: major decisions affecting workers can be made without structured consultation, without transparency, and without a guaranteed seat at the table for those most affected.

In a small country, "policy by announcement" is not just inefficient—it is destabilizing. Workers deserve predictability. Employers deserve clarity. Government deserves legitimacy. None of these are possible without a formal structure that brings all parties together.

What the Rest of the Caribbean Already Knows

Across the region, tourism economies have learned that growth without worker voice is a recipe for instability.

- **Bahamas** has a powerful hotel and allied workers union that negotiates wages, service charges, and grievance procedures.
- **Jamaica** has a structured industrial relations system with mandatory mediation and arbitration.
- **Barbados** built a world renowned Social Partnership—a formal council of government, employers, and unions that guides national policy, wages,

and crisis response.

These systems don't weaken economies. They stabilize them. They make investment more predictable. They reduce conflict. They give workers dignity and employers certainty.

TCI is one of the few tourism-driven economies in the region without a strong, unified workers' union. That gap is becoming harder to justify.

A Fair Model for TCI: Balanced, Modern, and Built for Our Scale

A union in TCI should not be a blunt instrument. It should be a modern institution—professional, transparent, and integrated into national decision-making.

A workable model could include:

- **A single national workers' union** with sector branches for hotels, taxis, restaurants, construction, and other services.
- **Workplace committees** in every major hotel and business, elected by workers and recognized in law.
- **A Tripartite Social Partnership Council**—Government, Employers, and the Union—responsible for labour policy, crisis response, and benefit programs like TAP.
- **A clear dispute-resolution ladder:** workplace grievance → mediation → binding arbitration → Labour Tribunal.
- **Real enforcement of NHIP and NIB** through automatic worker statements, union-triggered audits, and penalties tied to business licences and concessions.
- **A Social Protection Fund** to protect workers when em-

ployers fail to pay required contributions.

• **Obligations on all sides:** transparency and good-faith bargaining from the union, non-retaliation and information-sharing from employers, and predictable, consultative policymaking from government.

This is not radical. It is responsible.


Why This Matters Now

TCI is at a crossroads. Our economy is growing faster than our institutions. Our workers are more essential than ever, yet more exposed than ever. Our government is more powerful than ever, yet more stretched than ever.

A workers' union—properly structured, legally grounded, and integrated into national governance—is not a threat to business. It is a stabilizer. It is a partner. It is a safeguard for the people who make this country run.

Most importantly, it is a step toward a more mature, more resilient, and more equitable Turks and Caicos Islands.

The time for this conversation is not "someday." It is now.



Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

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Vivian Tyson – Editorial Department



67 Unplanned Structures Demolished in Blue Hills Crackdown

Sixty-seven unplanned structures were demolished during a targeted enforcement operation in the Blue Hills area Behind the African Shop, on April 16–17, 2026, as authorities intensified efforts to address the growing issue of informal settlements across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The exercise, conducted at Block and Parcel 60503/17, was led by the Planning Department under its statutory powers in the Physical Planning Ordinance to remove unauthorized developments. Coordination was carried out by the Informal Settlements Unit (ISU), with support from the Crown Land Unit and the Turks and Caicos Islands Border Force. Officers from the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force were also deployed to maintain security throughout the operation.

The action formed part of a public-private partnership initiative between the Turks and Caicos Islands Government and private landowners, who sought state assistance in clearing illegal structures erected on their property.

Authorities confirmed that all 67 structures identified on the parcel were removed during the two-day exercise.

The Informal Settlements Unit, which was established to rid the Turks and Caicos Islands of unplanned settlements, continues to play a central role in tackling what has become a longstanding national concern. Over the years, dozens of informal settlements have mushroomed across the country, creating persistent challenges for successive administrations. These settlements are often erected on

both private and Crown land, frequently without adherence to building codes or planning regulations.

In many cases, the layout of these communities presents serious safety concerns. Structures are often built in a dense and irregular fashion, making access difficult for emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire services. Additionally, authorities have noted that electricity is often illegally tapped in these areas, raising fire and safety risks, while the sources of water used by residents remain unclear, posing potential public health con-

cerns.

Officials say such conditions not only endanger occupants but also place additional strain on national infrastructure and emergency response systems.

The Government has maintained that enforcement operations like the one in Blue Hills are necessary to uphold the rule of law, protect property rights, and promote safe, orderly development. The ISU re-

iterated that these coordinated actions will continue as part of a broader strategy to restore structure to affected communities and prevent further unauthorized expansion.

Residents and developers are again being reminded that any construction undertaken without the required planning permissions is unlawful and subject to enforcement action, including demolition.





SAUNDERS... The initiative will focus on leveraging technology to deter crime, improve surveillance, strengthen data governance, and enhance emergency response capabilities.

Minister of Innovation, Technology and Energy E. Jay Saunders has outlined an ambitious vision for a Smart/Safe City framework and sweeping digital transformation across government, as he delivered his contribution to the national Budget Debate in the House of Assembly on Wednesday.

Central to the Minister's presentation was the push to modernize governance systems, enhance public safety, and improve access to services through technology-driven initiatives.

National ID Programme a "trusted ecosystem"

A key pillar of the strategy is the proposed National Digital ID Programme, backed by a \$5 million capital allocation. Responding to questions raised during the debate, Saunders emphasized that the initiative is far more than a physical identification card.

"The value of the National ID is not in the card alone," he told the House. "The real value is in the trusted identity ecosystem behind it."

The programme aims to create a secure and verifiable identity framework for all legal residents, allowing individuals to reuse their information across government and private-sector services without repeat

ed submissions. It will integrate with systems such as Digital Borders and contribute to the development of a National Population Register.

Saunders confirmed that governance structures are already in place, with technical teams working on interoperability and system architecture. Legislative efforts, including a National Digital ID law and Data Protection Act, are expected within this financial year, with the first IDs projected to be issued by late 2027.

Parliament to go digital with AI-assisted records

The Minister also announced plans for a new digital platform for Parliament, designed to improve transparency and public access. The system will feature an AI-assisted Hansard, capable of converting audio recordings of debates into searchable transcripts.

This, he said, will allow both lawmakers and the public to easily track legislative discussions, decisions, and commitments.

An upgraded Parliament website is also in development, offering centralized access to Bills, committee work, member profiles, and live-streamed proceedings. The platform is expected to launch in time for the 50th anniversary of Ministerial Gov-

SAUNDERS PITCHES SMART/SAFE CITY, DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN BUDGET DEBATE

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

ernment in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Smart/Safe City strategy to tackle crime

Among the most notable proposals is the development of a National Smart/Safe City Strategy, to be carried out in collaboration with the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force.

The initiative will focus on leveraging technology to deter crime, improve surveillance, strengthen data governance, and enhance emergency response capabilities. Planned measures include smarter street lighting, advanced monitoring systems, and improved coordination among public safety agencies.

Saunders said the strategy is intended to deliver "a serious, practical and properly governed national approach" to public safety.

AI innovation in healthcare delivery

The Ministry has also secured a place in the World Bank's Latin America and Caribbean AI Accelerator programme. The selected project will introduce an AI-assisted case management system to support the Treatment Abroad Programme (TAP). The system is expected to streamline workflows, reduce delays, improve document management, and enhance accountability in handling overseas medical cases.

Digitisation drive to preserve national records

In addition, the government is investing \$500,000 in a Digital Scanning Project under Customer and Government Information Services

(CGIS). The initiative will expand the country's capacity to digitize historical and government records, including archives, maps, photographs, and official documents.

The project will support national archival efforts, cultural preservation, and the creation of a digital sports history archive. It will also enable the digitisation of older editions of the official Gazette.

AI-powered E-Gazettes platform

Complementing this effort is the rollout of an AI-powered E-Gazettes platform, which will allow users to search, analyse, and extract information from official publications more efficiently.

Rather than manually reviewing documents, users will be able to query the system and receive answers based on Gazette records—improving research, transparency, and access to public information.

"Modern, responsible and people-centred Government"

Saunders said the combined initiatives reflect the government's commitment to building a modern, efficient, and citizen-focused public service.

"These are investments in transparency, efficiency, public safety, and national development," he stated. "They represent the kind of modern, responsible and people-centred Government we are working to build."

The proposals form part of the broader 2026/27 budget framework, which continues to emphasize digital transformation and institutional strengthening across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

NEW ATTORNEY MEMBER APPOINTED TO THE INTEGRITY COMMISSION

Her Excellency the Governor, Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, following consultation with the Bar Council, has announced the appointment of Mr. Jonathan M. Katan KC, as the attorney member of the Integrity Commission, in accordance with Section 3(2)(c) of the Integrity Commission Ordinance.

Mr. Katan has a strong background in complex litigation, trusts and estate planning, regulatory compliance and cross-border advisory work. His multidisciplinary expertise and pro-

fessional distinction will add valuable expertise to the Commission's oversight and governance responsibilities.

In his new role, Mr. Katan will contribute to the Commission's mandate to uphold the highest standards of integrity, accountability and transparency across public life.

Her Excellency the Governor welcomed the appointment, stating:

"I would like to express sincere thanks to the outgoing attorney member of the Integrity Commis-

sion, Mr. Stephen Wilson, for his dedicated service. I am pleased to welcome Mr. Jonathan M. Katan KC to this important role. Mr. Katan brings to the Commission a wealth of legal experience, deep expertise in regulatory and compliance matters and a reputation for professional integrity. I am confident that his knowledge and experience will be a valuable asset to the Commission as it continues to carry out its important mandate."



Jonathan M. Katan KC

Donnell and Alecia Triumph in TCI Top Model Cycle 7 Media and Broadcast Challenges

Preliminary rounds for Cycle 7 of TCI Top Model 2026 took place over the weekend, with two contestants claiming honours. Organisers held the Mainstream Media Awards and the Broadcast Presence Challenge at The Shore Club, Long Bay, Providenciales, on Saturday, 18 April 2026.

The Mainstream Media Award recognises the contestant who best connects with the media through confidence, charisma and clear communication. Six contestants took part in a series of rapid-fire, ten-minute interviews with an esteemed panel of judges: Takara Bain, Managing Director, All Eyes on You Communications TCI Ltd; Olivia Rose, Reporter, Turks and Caicos Weekly

News; Zoya Faessler, Broadcast Journalist, Radio Turks and Caicos; Cheryl-Ann Forman, Managing Director, Peak Consulting; Melanie Smith, Managing Director, The Recruitment Group; and Elisha Jennings, Director of Owner Relations, Wymara Resort & Villas.

After six rounds of engaging interviews, Contestant #1, Donnell Williams, was named the winner, earning a full-page feature across the nation's three major publications — The Sun TCI, Turks & Caicos Weekly News and Newsline TCI — a significant platform for any aspiring public figure or model.

Immediately afterwards, contestants competed in the Broadcast Presence Award, sponsored by Radio Turks



Donnell Williams (fourth from left), Mainstream Media Awards winner with judges



Cast of Cycle 7, with judges



Alecia Higgs (third from right), Broadcast Challenge winner with judges

and Caicos. This challenge rewards the competitor who best brings a script to life for radio, judged on tone, delivery, articulation, pacing, confidence and overall presence.

Each contestant performed two short news reads before judges Cheryl Ann Forman, Zoya Faessler and Elisha Jennings. Contestant #5, Alecia Higgs, claimed the award and will receive a commemorative plaque and a \$500 cash prize.

Founder and Executive Producer Courtney Robinson said: "Modelling today demands more than looks; it demands communication,

vision and influence. Donnell and Alecia showed us the rare combination of presence, persuasive communication, and authentic storytelling that brands and media crave. The TCI Top Model platform doesn't just showcase talent; it accelerates careers and shapes the next leaders of our country." The journey continues toward the Grand Finale of Cycle 7 on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at Brayton Hall, Providenciales. Expect an unforgettable evening of fashion, performance and the naming of the Face of the Turks and Caicos, TCI Top Model 2026.

Premier Warns of “Well-Connected” Forces Seeking to Undermine TCI Progress

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Premier Washington Misick has issued a strong warning about foreign and domestic forces allegedly seeking to undermine the Turks and Caicos Islands, as he presented the 2026/2027 Estimates of Expenditure in Parliament on Tuesday, April 21.

Delivering his address in the House of Assembly of the Turks and Caicos Islands in Grand Turk, Misick cautioned that despite the country’s progress, powerful interests remain intent on preserving systems that do not benefit its people.

“Let us not be naive,” Misick said. “Even at this height of achievement, there remain foreign interests well-resourced, well-connected and deeply interested in maintaining a status quo that does not serve our people.”

The Premier argued that such groups are content for Turks and Caicos Islanders to remain on the margins of their own economy, receiving only limited benefits from industries they helped to build. He said these interests continue to resist policies designed to expand local ownership, participation, and opportunity.

He further alleged that some of these actors go beyond economic resistance, seeking to interfere in



Premier Washington Misick

the country’s political environment.

“They go further, seeking to destabilize our political environment, to sow division and to frustrate progress,” he stated.

Misick also warned that such efforts may be aided by internal political figures who, “whether knowingly or otherwise,” place narrow interests above the national good.

Despite the concerns, the Premier called on citizens to remain united and focused.

“Do not fall for it. Do not be de-

ceived,” he urged, stressing that the country has made too many sacrifices and achieved too much progress to allow its future to be undermined. “This land is ours. It is our legacy,” he declared. “We will never stop, never relent until every Turks and Caicos Islander fully benefits from its bounty.”

The remarks came as part of the government’s budget presentation under the theme

“Strong Today, Secure Tomorrow,” which Misick said reflects both cur-

rent achievements and a long-term vision for sustainable development. He explained that “Strong Today” represents a fiscally disciplined and economically stable nation capable of funding essential services and maintaining public safety, while “Secure Tomorrow” focuses on investing in people, infrastructure, institutions, and the environment to ensure lasting prosperity.

Government policy continues to be guided by Vision 2040, a long-term strategy aimed at building a resilient and inclusive economy.

Highlighting achievements, Misick pointed to significant improvements in national security. He reported that major crimes, including murders, have declined by more than 55 percent, while overall crime has dropped by 61 percent so far in 2026.

He also noted that the Turks and Caicos Islands has gone five consecutive months without a homicide, describing the milestone as a major victory for public safety.

As the country advances its development agenda, Misick urged vigilance and unity, warning that both external pressures and internal divisions must be resisted to safeguard the nation’s future and ensure that all citizens benefit from its continued progress.

CIBC Caribbean kicks off second year search for regional unsung heroes

CIBC Caribbean has kicked off the search for unsung heroes across its 10-member regional footprint for a second year as it also announced the doubling of the prize money for this year’s regional winner and runners up. Officially relaunched last year after a 10-year hiatus, the regional bank’s community outreach programme – CIBC Caribbean Unsung Heroes, attracted 39 nominees from diverse areas of community outreach and service.

“Last year’s relaunch of our Unsung Heroes Programme was a resounding success, and we anticipate an even more engaging and fulfilling campaign this year as we seek to find and reward those quietly making a difference in their communities,” said Mark St. Hill, the bank’s Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the bank’s charitable arm, the

CIBC Caribbean ComTrust Foundation, sponsor of the programme.

“In addition to our Regional Unsung Hero for 2025, Lucinda “Mini” Smith, of the British Virgin Islands, a true gem in her own right, as well as first runner up Venetta Zakers of St. Kitts and Nevis and second runner up, Joshuanette Francis of Antigua and Barbuda, the programme also highlighted national unsung heroes working across many areas ranging from care for the environment, working with at-risk youth and vulnerable women, to feeding the homeless and caring for the elderly and vulnerable,” St.Hill said.

The bank head said the “work and worth of the those striving quietly across their communities to make the lives and living spaces of others better was immeasurable” however, the bank

“was keen to offer a tangible reward to our unsung heroes therefore we decided to offer increased prize money this year for our regional award winners”.

The 2026 Regional Unsung Hero will receive USD\$10 000, double last year’s award, the first runner up, USD\$7 000 up from USD\$3 000 last year, and the second runner up, USD\$5 000, up from USD\$1, 500 last year.

CIBC Caribbean Unsung Heroes campaign is open to all persons aged ten and over who have been making a difference in their communities and who have not been highlighted or rewarded in any significant way.

The campaign offers two categories under which persons can be nominated - outstanding work in the community and an act of heroism/bravery/extraordinary act of kindness within the

12 months preceding the start of the year’s campaign.

The nomination period runs from April to the end of July, 2026.

Winners will be selected from among those nominated at the local level and will be announced in August. The winners from each country will then be eligible for the regional awards, the winners of which will be announced at the end of August, 2026.

In September the top three regional winners – the regional Unsung Hero and two runners-up- and a guest each will be brought to Barbados for the presentation of prizes at a special awards event.

A special prize of USD\$1 000 will also be awarded to the person nominating the individual who eventually emerges as the Regional Unsung Hero.

NOT SAVVY ABOUT BASIC ECONOMICS

Global forces are driving rising costs, not local fear narratives

An Op-Ed by Audley A. Astwood

There's a problem with the argument being pushed by Savitri Daniel, and it starts with a basic misunderstanding of economics. It talks about struggle, silence, and fear, but it skips the one thing driving all of it. Economics. People aren't whispering because of politics. They're adjusting. That's because the cost of living is rising across the world. If miss that, and you miss everything.

Right now, the global economy is under pressure. And it's not easing. Organisations have already cut their global growth outlook. Namely, the International Monetary Fund. It stated that the war involving Iran is pushing up energy prices. It warned that the world could tip into recession. That recession will be tied directly to rising oil prices. It will also be tied to disrupted supply chains, and tightening financial conditions worldwide. That's not a talking point. That's a warning from the institution that tracks the global economy.

Now add the reality on the ground. The conflict has placed pressure on global energy markets, especially through risks tied to key oil transit routes. That pressure has already pushed prices upward and created instability across supply chains. When oil moves, everything moves. Fuel goes up. Shipping goes up. Food goes up. Electricity goes up. And in a country that imports almost everything, those increases don't stay abroad. They land

right here. That's why people feel pressure. Not because of a theory. Not because of a mood. Because of a global shock.

Even the Bank of England has acknowledged the impact of energy shocks. They're being driven by conflict, reinforcing that these pressures sit outside the control of monetary policy. Read that carefully. Central banks cannot control a war-driven energy shock. And locally, the reality is even more direct. Pelican Energy TCI reflects the reality that electricity costs are tied to global fuel prices and geopolitical pressures affecting key oil routes. The system is simple. Fuel is imported and prices are global. The company itself makes it clear that the fuel component of your bill rises and falls with international markets and is beyond local control. When those prices rise, your bill rises.

So the idea that this cost pressure is mainly the result of local governance doesn't hold. It ignores the largest drivers because they don't fit the story. And it doesn't stop there. The government itself tracks rising fuel prices through its monthly fuel reports and has already acknowledged that global economic conditions are placing pressure on costs locally. This isn't hidden. It's documented. So the question is no longer whether this is global. The question is why anyone is pretending it isn't.

You cannot explain a global cost surge with a local political argument. That's not analysis. That's misdiagnosis. Then comes the claim

of fear. We're told people are silent because they're afraid. Afraid to speak. Afraid to criticise. Afraid of consequences. Or maybe people are dealing with reality. People are focused on staying afloat. Paying bills. Keeping their businesses alive. In small communities, people have always been measured in how they speak. That's not new. Silence isn't proof of fear. Sometimes it's proof of focus. Anonymous claims don't strengthen an argument. They weaken it.

No names. No cases. No proof. No way to test what's being claimed. If there are real examples of victimisation, bring them forward. Show them. Let them stand on facts. Because once you remove accountability, you don't reveal truth. You remove it.

Now let's talk about responsibility. A government cannot control global oil markets. It cannot stop a war in the Middle East. It cannot dictate shipping costs or international inflation. Those forces are bigger than any small island. What matters is how a government responds within those limits. That's where scrutiny belongs. But instead of having that serious conversation, we get something easier. A suggestion that the country is operating under fear. That's not a small claim. It carries weight. And without evidence, it does damage. It shapes perception. It travels. It sticks. And if it's wrong, it weakens confidence for no reason.

There is pressure in Turks and Caicos. That's obvious. But pressure is not oppression.

Struggle is not fear. And quiet is not proof of silence being enforced. The world is unstable. The global economy is tightening. Costs are rising everywhere. That's the storm. So let's stop pretending this is a local creation. This matter requires a serious discussion rooted in fact. Not feeling. Not assumption. Not anonymous claims. Because the truth is simple. This isn't a story about a government creating fear. It's a story about a global economy driving costs. And when the electricity company, the government, and global financial institutions are all pointing in the same direction, denying it isn't analysis. It's avoidance. If someone still tries to argue otherwise, they're not debating facts anymore. They're ignoring them.



Where Do Broken Hearts Go?

An Op-Ed By Antwon HF Walkin

For many young people, 2016 was a memorable year. Fetty Wap and Drake dominated the rap scene, while Vybz Kartel continued to shape the sound of the Caribbean from behind bars.

It was also a time when many of us believed deeply that we were being invested in, that our futures mattered, and that opportunities would continue to grow alongside our ambitions.

Nearly a decade later, that commitment to education remains. The continued allocation of 3.7 million dollars toward scholarships and youth development has made a meaningful impact, opening doors for many Turks and Caicos Islanders and strengthening the foundation of our nation, but it is not enough.

There is much to appreciate in these efforts. At the same time, as our population grows and the aspirations of our young people expand, so too does the demand for opportunity. More students are working hard, completing their studies, and setting their sights on tertiary education, both locally and abroad.

And this is something to be proud of.

Our young people are striving. They are preparing themselves not just for jobs, but for leadership, innovation, and global engagement.

The question, then, is not whether progress has been made, but how we can thoughtfully build on it.

Across the Caribbean, countries such as Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago have demonstrated the long term value of expanding access to tertiary education. Their experiences show that when more citizens are empowered through higher learning, entire societies benefit, from stronger economies to more stable communities.

For small island states like the Turks and Caicos Islands, this investment is even more critical.

A high school diploma, while essential, is increasingly only the beginning, the barometer. Today's global economy rewards advanced skills, specialized training, and international exposure. To fully participate and compete, our young people must be equipped beyond secondary education.

We are often encouraged to take full advantage of what is available—attend community college, use the resources provided, and stay focused on the right path. And to their credit, many young Turks and Caicos Islanders are doing exactly that. They are working hard, making sacrifices, and striving for more.

However, for some students, the journey does not end there. Many aspire to pursue tertiary education abroad or at institutions that require additional financial support. When scholarships are limited or unavailable, these students are often left at a difficult crossroads. This crossroads is where affections for narcotics, violence and quick money making opportunities are quietly supported.

This is where even a small step forward can make a meaningful difference.

An increase of just 300,000 dollars less that 10%, could potentially create as many as 10 additional fully funded opportunities each year.

Ten more students.

Ten more families uplifted.

Ten more future leaders given the chance to grow, return, and contribute.

It is a modest adjustment, but one with the potential for lasting national impact.

I share this perspective with deep gratitude. I am fortunate to be among those who have benefited from scholarship support. That opportunity has significantly shaped my educational journey and allowed me to study at Howard University, where I have been exposed to new ideas, diverse perspectives, and opportunities that extend far beyond the classroom.

Experiences like these do more than educate, they transform.

They prepare individuals not only to succeed personally, but to contribute meaningfully to their country and to the wider world. And this is what makes the case for continued investment so important.

Every additional opportunity created is not simply an expense, it is an investment in human potential. It is a step toward building a generation of Turks and Caicos Islanders who are equipped to lead, innovate, and represent our nation on a global stage.

This is how countries grow, not only through infrastructure and policy, but through peo-

ple.

So perhaps the question is not simply where broken hearts go, but how we can ensure fewer are created in the first place.

How we can continue to expand opportunity in a way that is sustainable, thoughtful, and impactful.

A modest increase. A meaningful difference.

With continued commitment and careful expansion, we can ensure that more young people are able to pursue their ambitions, fulfill their potential, and ultimately give back to the country we all call home.

Because when we invest in our people, we invest in our future. And if we get this right, we will not just change individual lives.

We will shape a generation.

Antwon HF Walkin, NYP, AIAS, NOMAS, National Youth Parliamentarian, President and Founder of the Turks and Caicos Islands Society of Young Leaders.





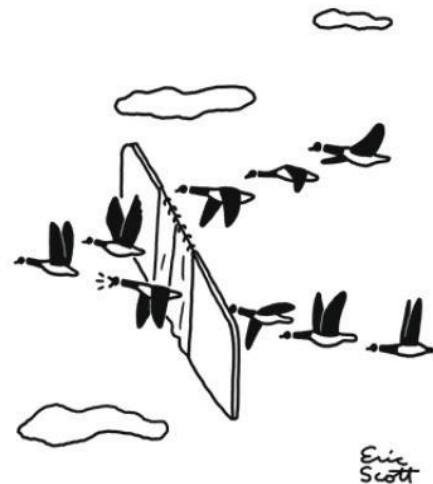
NEWSLINE TCI COMICS

PARENTING HACK:
There are no hacks, everything is hard. These kids don't listen. Welcome to your life now.

This is my least favorite punctuation mark, and I will scrutinize your essays for every unnecessary usage.

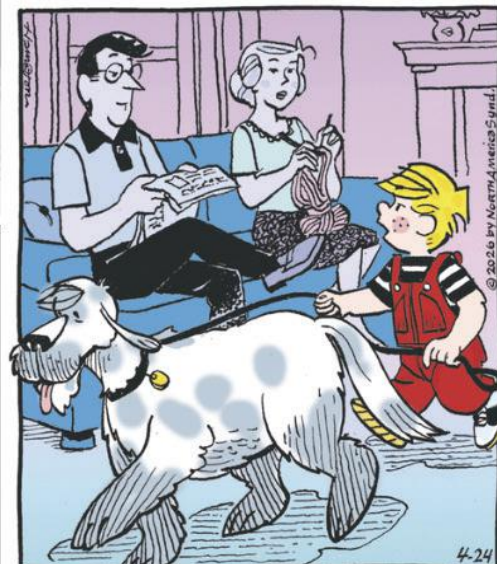
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SEMICOLONOSCOPY



Eric Scott

"Flying first class shouldn't be this much work."



"I'M TAKIN' RUFF OUT BEFORE HE HAS ANOTHER ACCIDENTAL BOW-WOW MOVEMENT IN HERE."

WHITE GOLD

Image courtesy of Times of the Islands

The Salt That Made the Turks and Caicos

For nearly three centuries, the flat salinas of Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and South Caicos forged the foundation of what would become the modern Turks and Caicos Islands.

The salt trade was born more than 300 years ago, when Bermudian mariners recognized the potential of the islands' natural salt ponds and began the arduous work of harvesting what was then known as "white gold".

Salt was not a simple seasoning in the early modern Atlantic world. Before refrigeration, it was essential in preserving fish, meat, and other foods for long sea voyages and distant markets. Colonial populations depended on these salted staples for survival.

But the story of salt in the Turks and Caicos isn't only one of economic importance, it is also a story of the people whose labour and lives were bound up in the salinas. In the islands' earliest years of commercial salt production, enslaved Africans were brought by Bermudians to work the ponds under brutal conditions, standing in brine for hours beneath the blazing sun and facing long-term health consequences from exposure to salt and heat.

Emancipation in 1833 ended the worst abuses of slavery, but it did not immediately transform working or living conditions for many salt workers.

The salt-making process itself was simple in concept but physically demanding in execution. Sea water entered a series of shallow ponds called salinas, where it was concentrated by sun and wind.

After about ninety days, salt crystals would form and workers would rake them into piles, shovel them into wheelbarrows, and carry them to storage. From there, forty-pound sacks were filled and transported by donkey cart or small boats called lighters to waiting ships anchored offshore.

At its height, salt production in the Turks and Caicos was a vital part of the Atlantic economy. So important, in fact, that during the 18th century Britain's North American colonies imported hundreds of thousands of bushels of salt annually from the islands.

Yet this wealth rarely stayed in the hands of the labourers who made it. Large-scale changes in global salt production, competition from mechanized producers elsewhere, and the absence of deep-water ports eventually made traditional salt harvesting difficult to sustain. By the mid-1960s, commercial salt production in the islands had nearly ended, and the last operations closed entirely in the 1970s.

Today, the relics of this era, abandoned salinas, crumbling canals, and windmills silhouetted against the horizon, stand as quiet witnesses to a complex past. Some may see only ruins, but for many Turks Islanders, these landscapes speak to endurance. From the forced labour of the past emerged tight-knit communities whose descendants helped build the islands' modern identity. In the bright white of the salt crust and the strength of the people who worked it, that legacy shines still.

References:

Turks and Caicos National Museum (n.d.) Salt Industry. Av
Sadler, N. (2012) Turks Island Salt, NQ, v.105, n.01. Turks and Caicos National Museum
Dash, M. (2012) White Gold: How Salt Made and Unmade the Turks and Caicos Islands, Smithsonian Magazine, 14 December.
Shaking It Out (2022) Times of the Islands, 24 June.

Grace Bay Resorts Foundation Champions Reef Conservation with \$32,500 Donation

The Grace Bay Resorts Foundation has committed a \$32,500 donation to the Turks & Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF) to support the purchase of a new engine for their research and conservation vessel, Reef saver. The previous engine failure had temporarily halted critical fieldwork, making this upgrade essential to the continuation of TCRF's vital marine conservation efforts.

"Grace Bay Resorts is deeply committed to supporting environmental conservation across the Turks and Caicos Islands," said Jessica Frattolillo. "The work carried out by the Turks & Caicos Reef Fund is critical to preserving our marine ecosystems, and we are proud to support their efforts in a meaningful and impactful way."

We are so grateful for the support

given by Grace Bay Resorts Foundation. Our conservation work which includes maintaining in-water coral nurseries, installing and maintaining dive and snorkel moorings and conducting reef health surveys can not happen without a functional work vessel. We are now back up and running and the Reefsaver is running better than ever!"

With the new engine now in place, TCRF can resume and expand its field operations, from reef monitoring and restoration projects to ongoing research and educational outreach. Guests at Grace Bay Resorts are also invited to engage directly with these conservation efforts through guided visits to the TCRF office, offering a firsthand look at the organization's dedication to protecting the islands' vibrant marine environment.



TCI FSC STRENGTHENS CAPTIVE OVERSIGHT AT CICA 2026

The Turks and Caicos Islands Financial Services Commission (FSC) strengthened its captive insurance supervisory capacity at the CICA 2026 International Conference, held March 8–10 at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa in Palm Desert, California.

Under the theme "Navigating Risk in a Changing Environment," Corine Bolton, Director of the Insurance Department, represented the Commission and engaged with global regulators, actuaries, service providers, and industry stakeholders to enhance regulatory capabilities and support the Turks and Caicos Islands' 2026–2027 legislative review.

Regulator-only training covered Risk Retention Groups, Medical Stop Loss insurance and actuarial feasibility studies, deliv-

ering supervisory approaches, governance expectations, and stress-testing methodologies. A closed regulators' meeting examined emerging captive products, measures to prevent unauthorised regulatory arbitrage, recent American legislative developments, and financial benchmarks for assessing captive solvency—insights the FSC will integrate into supervisory reviews and examination checklists.

Open sessions explored international market trends including shifts in risk financing driven by economic volatility and climate exposure, increased emphasis on enterprise risk management and governance within captives, technology-enabled reporting and supervisory tools, and the application of AI in captive management.

These developments will inform the Commission's benchmarking against international best practice and upcoming policy work.

Stakeholder engagement strengthened professional relationships with state regulators and opened dialogues on memoranda of understanding and information-sharing arrangements. Discussions with licensees touched on regulatory expectations, operational challenges, and growth plans, while delegates expressed interest in TCI as a domicile.

"CICA delivered practical tools and partnerships that will directly improve our supervisory practice and support the sustainable growth of the TCI captive sector," said Kenisha Bacchus, Managing Director (Ag.). Next steps include integrating insights into supervi-

sory guidance, staff development, and legislative discussions and exploring opportunities to promote the jurisdiction at future conferences.



Life Line FEATURED CHURCH

New Birth Agape Fellowship International

In this week's edition of Newsline Featured Church, we turn the spotlight on New Birth Agape Fellowship International.

The church is pastored by Cindy Jarrett, founder, Minister, Teacher, Prophetess, Preacher & Apostle. It is located at 233 Millennium Highway, Providenciales, on the left side of the road, passing the Maranatha High School. The Ministry holds Prayer Meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm & Youth Night on Fridays at 7pm, with Sunday morning service at 11am.

The Ministry started in 2009 in the country's capital, Grand Turk, on the Old Airport, but later transitioned Providenciales in 2015.

Its Pentecost Ministry believes in the Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

For contact, call +1 (649) 245-9807 and leave a message or email at new-birthagapefellowshipintl@gmail.com.



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.

Firm Foundation Ministries International

Lee Street, South Caicos. Telephone: 649-348-3581

Christ is the Answer Ministry,

George Alley Off Aviation Drive, Providenciales
Tel: 241-8030

One Nation Empowerment Center Church Ministry,

Suite #12 Alliance Business Center, Princess Drive,
Grace Bay, Providenciales. Tel: (649) 244-6194.
Email: apostleyoung1952@yahoo.com.

Touch of Love Ministries International Center

Industrial Park, Five Cays, Providenciales
Tel: 941-4903 Fax: 941-7731

Abundant Life Ministries International

P.O. Box 696 Christian City, Leeward
Highway, Providenciales
Tel:941-941-4750 Fax: 941-4755

Anglican Church Rectory Grant Turk,

Front Street, Grand Turk. Tel:946-2289

Bethany Baptist Church,

Blue Hills, Providenciales
Tel:941-4803 / 941-5632 / 941-5118

Church of God of Prophecy,

Lower Bight, Providenciales Tel: 941-8854

Bible Study Ministries, Grand Turk

Tel:946-1866

Calvary Baptist Church,

South Caicos. Tel:946-3212

Harvest Bible Chapel TCI,

Leeward Highway, Long Bay, Providenciales.
Tel: 1649 333-2009 Email: hbctciinfo@gmail.com.
<https://www.harvesttci.com>.

Rock of Jesus Ministry,

15 Five Cays, Safe Haven.
Tel: 649-3317628 of 649-2410087

Firm Foundation Ministries International

19 Honour Lane, Behind Smart Supermarket ,
Providenciales. Telephone: 649-332-6240

Church of God of Prophecy,

Providenciales Tel:941-3438

Roman Catholic Church,

Providenciales, Tel: 941-5136

Faith Tabernacle Church of God,

Providenciales, Tel:946-4073

New Testament Church of God,

Orea Alley, Grand Turk Tel:946-2175

New Testament Church of God,

South Caicos Tel:946-3631

Methodist Church,

Grand Turk Tel:946-2352

Healing Waters Ministries,

Blue Hills Providenciales Tel: 941-5867

House of Prayer Church of God,

Long Bay Road Providenciales Tel: 941-8309

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses,

Darrell Road, Grand Turk Tel:946-2727

Mount Mariah Baptist Church,

Conch Bar Middle Caicos Tel:946-6205

New Beginning Harvest Ministry,

Pond Street, Grand Turk Tel:946-1759

New Testament Church of God

Orea Alley
P.O. Box 495 Blue Hills, Providenciales
Tel: 946-1255
Airport Road, South Caicos
Tel:231-2402

Firm Foundation Ministries International

Waterloo Road, Grand Turk.
Telephone: 649-332-624

Paradise Baptist Church,

Five Cays, Providenciale
Tel:941-4349

Revival Faith Center,

North Backsalina, Grand Turk
Tel:946-2349

Salem Baptist Church,

Mission Folly, Grand Turk
Tel:946-2565

Solid Rock Apostolic Ministries

International,
Discovery Bay Providenciales
Tel: 946-5181

St. Monica's Anglican Church

P.O. Box 866 Cheshire Hall Providenciales
Tel: 946-4046
Fax:946-4046;941-8499

Turks and Caicos Mission of Seventh

Day Adventists,
P.O. Box 803, Providenciales

United Pentecostal Church,

Brown's Plaza, Leeward Highway,
Providenciales Tel: 956-5852

Wesleyan Methodist Church,

Blue Hills, Providenciales
Tel: 946-4075; 941-4223; 941-3596

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@newslnetci.com



A section of the audience



Children in attendance

Edward Gartland Youth Centre EcoFest 2026

The Edward Gartland Youth Centre in Providenciales, on Wednesday, April 22, staged its annual EcoFest – a fun and educational celebration that brings children, families, schools and the wider community together, to learn about protecting the local environment, and living sustainably. The participants explore topics such as recycling, conservation, renewable energy, climate awareness and protecting marine and land ecosystem. The following are photo highlights of the event



Education Director Mark Garland, bringing greetings on behalf of the Ministry of Education



Roxann Wake-Forbes, Director of the Edward Gartland Youth Centre, brings remarks



Students at the Turks and Caicos Reef Fund station learning about marine life



Students at the Jam Session station, learning about the how to make recyclable material into musical instruments



Students engage in the Eco Soap-making process



The Darwin 200 Project was of big interest by the students. Here, Brianna Walcott of the organisation outlines what the project entails



Students learn about 'the shell phone', and how to communicate with each other throw it blowing



Students getting the opportunity to learn about the Turks and Caicos Islands National Trust, and what falls under that entity



Students writing their information in the 'EcoFest Passport'



The Planting Station was a hit with the students



Students are glue to Eco Soap-making process

IS IT REALLY HORMONES OR IS IT BLOOD SUGAR?

How to tell what's actually driving your symptoms

By Monica Uttamchandani
Holistic Health Coach, Turks and Caicos

Many people assume their symptoms are purely hormonal such as mood swings, fatigue, weight gain, PMS, and trouble sleeping. While hormones are involved, blood sugar is often the underlying driver that sets those hormones off balance in the first place.

Blood sugar and hormones are deeply connected. When glucose levels rise and fall rapidly, the body releases cortisol to stabilise energy. Cortisol then interferes with progesterone, estrogen, and thyroid hormones. Over time, this creates a pattern where symptoms feel hormonal, but the root issue is metabolic.

A common example is someone who skips breakfast or eats something very light, then relies on coffee to get through the morning. Blood sugar drops mid-morning, cortisol rises, and by afternoon there is fatigue, irritability, and cravings. By evening, hunger feels intense and uncontrolled. This cycle repeats daily and eventually shows up as hormone-related symptoms.

True Hormonal Healing Starts With Fuel



True hormonal healing rarely starts with supplements.

- Regular meals, to prevent cortisol driven hormone disruption
- Protein at breakfast, such as eggs, yoghurt, or protein rich smoothies, to stabilise morning blood sugar
- Carbohydrates paired with fats and

fibre, instead of eaten alone, to reduce glucose spikes

- Eating before blood sugar crashes, rather than reacting to intense hunger later

When blood sugar stabilises, cortisol comes down. When cortisol comes down, hormones regulate more easily.

Many symptoms soften without aggressive intervention. If hormones feel unpredictable, look first at how consistently you are eating. Often, the simplest shift creates the biggest change. For more practical education on blood sugar and hormone health, follow @balancedbymonica on Instagram.

Monica Uttamchandani is a certified Holistic Health Coach based in the Turks and Caicos Islands. She also consults in person at The Elephant Rooms in Salt Mills, Providenciales.



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2027 NEW YEAR HONOURS IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

The Governor's Office invites members of the public across the Turks and Caicos Islands to submit nominations for the 2027 New Year Honours, now open until Sunday 3 May 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

The Honours system provides an important opportunity to recognise individuals who have made exceptional contributions to life in the Turks and Caicos Islands. From community leaders and volunteers to professionals across public and private sectors, the awards celebrate those whose service, leadership and sustained commitment have positively impacted others and strengthened communities across the Islands.

Her Excellency the Governor, Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, said:

"The Honours system remains one of the most meaningful ways in which we recognise individuals who make exceptional and lasting contributions to our society. Across the Turks

and Caicos Islands, there are people whose dedication, integrity and commitment continue to shape lives and build stronger communities, often without public recognition. I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to nominate those whose service and impact deserve to be acknowledged at the highest level."

Nominations are open to individuals from all walks of life, including those involved in voluntary, charitable, cultural, civic and professional work. Anyone can nominate and members of the public are encouraged to put forward individuals whose contributions may otherwise go unrecognised.

To support the submission of high-quality nominations, members of the public are encouraged to ensure that applications clearly articulate the nominee's contribution, impact and significance to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

- Clearly identify the nominee and their field of contribution including length of service

- Provide detailed evidence of their impact, achievements and persons that have benefitted with supporting data

- Demonstrate how their work goes beyond what is ordinarily expected of their role supported by specific examples undertaken and the transformational change due to their actions

- Highlight the lasting benefit to the community or the Turks and Caicos Islands and the unique challenges overcome

- Include testimonials, organisational references and evidence of community trust or leadership

To submit a nomination, complete the official nomination form available at: <https://www.gov.uk/honours>

Completed forms for consideration by the Turks and Caicos Islands Honours Committee, chaired by Her Ex-

cellency the Governor, can be submitted via:

- Email: governor@gov.tc
- In person: Delivered in a sealed envelope addressed to the "Honours Liaison Officer" at: The Governor's Office, Three Degrees, Old Airport Road, Grand Turk; or

The Governor's Office, Raleigh House, Leeward Highway, Providenciales

- North Caicos, Middle Caicos, Salt Cay and South Caicos: Submit via your respective District Commissioner

Alternatively, nominations may be submitted directly via email to the UK Honours Secretariat at: Honours.Secretariat@fcdo.gov.uk

All nominations must be in hand at the Governor's Office by Sunday 3 May 2026 to be considered.

For further guidance on the Honours system and tips for preparing a strong nomination, visit:

📄 <https://www.gov.uk/honours>



Jonathan Lithgow, Managing Director for Grace Bay Resort addresses the event



A section of the room

Grace Bay Club Honors Top Staff in First Quarter Awards Ceremony

Grace Bay Resort hosted its First Quarter Employee Recognition Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21, celebrating outstanding team members across multiple departments.

The event, held on the resort's grounds, highlighted excellence in service, leadership, and teamwork among staff.

In the Front of House category, awards were presented to Personal Concierge Fitzroy Pendley and Guest Services representative Naisha Jean-Marie for their commitment to guest satisfaction.

Heart of House winners included Julio Castellano from the Engineering department and Bertha Grant of Housekeeping, both recognized for their vital behind-the-scenes contributions.

The Supervisor of the Quarter honors went to Sabrina Forbes of Human Resources and Cariann Clare from Reservations, acknowledging their leadership and support of their respective teams. Top leadership recognition, Leader of the Quarter, was awarded to Rohan Henry and Madelin Hoffmann for their exceptional guidance and impact within the organization.

The ceremony forms part of the resort's ongoing efforts to recognize and reward excellence among its staff, reinforcing a culture of high performance and appreciation.





Dr. Tina Woods (CEO/Founder of Capstone Performance Solutions, Inc), Capstone Representative and TCICC's President and CEO pose for a photo



TCICC Launches Leadership Excellence Institute Through Strategic Partnership with Capstone Performance Solutions

The Turks and Caicos Islands Community College (TCICC) proudly announces the launch of the TCICC Leadership Excellence Institute (LEI), a transformative, 12-month leadership development initiative powered by a strategic partnership with Capstone Performance Solutions.

This bold and forward-thinking initiative represents a defining moment in TCICC's evolution, reinforcing its commitment to investing in its people as the driving force behind institutional excellence, national development, and sustainable impact.

The Leadership Excellence Institute is not simply a training programme. It is a strategic leadership movement, purposefully designed to cultivate a high-performing leadership culture across Executive, Senior, and Middle-Level Leaders at TCICC. Fully customised to the College's unique context, the programme integrates global best practices with local relevance to ensure leaders are equipped to lead with clarity, confidence, and measurable impact.

At its core, the LEI reflects TCICC's unwavering belief that organisational transformation begins with leadership transformation. Through this initiative, participants will engage in a dynamic and immersive learning journey focused on strengthening strategic leadership, enhancing people management capabilities,

driving execution excellence, and fostering innovation and emotional intelligence.

Speaking on the launch, Dr. Candice Williams, President and CEO of TCICC, underscored the strategic importance of the initiative:

"At TCICC, we do not leave leadership to chance. We are intentional about developing leaders who are not only capable of managing today's demands but are equipped to shape the future. The Leadership Excellence Institute represents our commitment to investing in our staff, because we recognise that when our leaders grow, our institution grows, and by extension, our nation advances."

In commending the initiative, Hon. Rachel Taylor, Minister of Education shared: "This initiative reflects the kind of forward-thinking leadership development our country needs at this time. By investing in its people, TCICC is not only strengthening its institutional capacity but is also contributing meaningfully to national development. The Leadership Excellence Institute sets a powerful example of how education and workforce development must evolve to meet the demands of the future."

"This landmark initiative positions TCICC not only as the institution of choice for students, but as an emerging employer of choice, where talent is nurtured,

leadership is developed, and excellence is sustained.

"The partnership with Capstone Performance Solutions brings world-class expertise in leadership development, ensuring that the programme is grounded in proven methodologies, data-driven insights, and practical application. The programme includes pre- and post-assessments, one-on-one coaching, competency-based development, and measurable performance outcomes to ensure a clear return on investment and sustained organisational impact."

CEO and Founder of Capstone Performance Solutions, Dr. Tina Woodard shared: "We are honoured to partner with the Turks and Caicos Islands Community College in delivering a programme of this magnitude and vision. This initiative is a model for how organisations can intentionally build leadership capacity to drive long-term success, innovation, and resilience."

The launch of the Leadership Excellence Institute aligns with TCICC's broader strategic priorities, including strengthening institutional effectiveness, enhancing service excellence, and advancing workforce development across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

As TCICC continues its journey of transformation, the LEI serves as a critical pillar in embedding a culture of quality,

accountability, and continuous improvement across all levels of the organisation.

- This is more than an investment in training.
- This is an investment in the people that lead TCICC.
- This is an investment in the future of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

About TCICC

The Turks and Caicos Islands Community College (TCICC) is the nation's premier institution for tertiary education and training, committed to delivering high-quality, accessible, and innovative programmes that support national development. TCICC continues to lead in quality assurance, institutional effectiveness, and educational excellence.

About Capstone Performance Solutions
Capstone Performance Solutions, Inc. is an integrated systems engineering firm dedicated to Making Daily Excellence Possible in Leadership, Culture, and Strategy. The organisation specialises in delivering customised, data-driven solutions that strengthen leadership capacity, optimise organisational performance, and embed a culture of continuous improvement. Through its innovative frameworks and practical methodologies, Capstone partners with institutions to align people, processes, and strategy, enabling sustained excellence and measurable impact.



Senior Managers and Executive Leadership Team during Orientation



Senior Managers and Executive Leadership Team during Orientation



Training Session



Senior Managers and Executive Leadership Team during Orientation



Dr. Delores Stapleton Harris (VP- Academic, Vocation and Student Affairs), Dr. Tina Woods (CEO/Founder of Capstone Performance Solutions, Inc), Dr. Zenobia Edwards (Chief of Strategy and Technology, Capstone Performance, Inc), Honourable Rachel Marshall Taylor (Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture) and Dr. Candice Williams (President/CEO, TCICC)

Nutrition tips to manage the effects of cancer treatment

Cancer treatments can take a toll on a person's body. Treatment may cause nausea, changes in appetite, taste and smell, diarrhea, or constipation, making it harder to meet his nutritional needs.

Fortunately, there are strategies you can use to cope with these side effects, says Grace Fjeldberg, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, Nutrition/Oncology, Mayo Clinic Health System, Mankato, Minnesota

Weight changes: Weight changes are common. Weight loss without trying can reduce muscle mass, stamina and quality of life. Weight gain can lead to the development of other diseases, like diabetes or heart disease. Try to maintain your weight during treatment, even if it's outside a normal range.

Appetite changes: Cancer and cancer treatment may make you lose your appetite or eat more than usual.

If you lose your appetite:

- Eat smaller snacks that are high in calories, including yogurt, nuts, peanut butter and avocado.
- Eat more when your appetite is better.
- Food may sound unappealing even when you're hungry, making it difficult to eat. Try to find something that's appetizing.
- Keep snacks on hand.

If you eat more when stressed:

- Choose snacks such as fruits, vegetables and popcorn.
- Find ways to manage stress without food, such as going for a walk or calling a friend.

Nausea: Feeling sick or throwing up due to your treatments makes it hard to eat. Small changes to what and how you eat may help you feel better.

Eat foods that are easy on your stomach, such as crackers, toast, broth or broth-based soups, ice pops, hard candies, plain pasta and rice.

Eat five or six small meals a day. Smaller meals are often easier to keep down.

Don't skip meals or snacks. Even when you're not hungry, try to eat; an empty stomach can make nausea worse.

Sip small amounts of fluid during meals and throughout the day.

Try pretzels or crackers with your medicines if your care team says it's OK.

Taste and smell changes: Cancer treatment can alter the taste or smell of food. Some people say food tastes bland. Others say it tastes metallic or too sweet or salty. You may need to try different foods to find what works for you.

To help with taste changes:

- Brighten the flavor. Add a little lemon, lime or vinegar unless your mouth is sore.
- Try strong flavors. Use spices such as cinnamon, ginger, basil or rosemary.
- Make foods sweeter. Add sugar or another sweetener if food tastes bitter or sour.
- Use marinades before cooking.
- Choose other proteins. If meat doesn't taste good, try beans, nuts or fish.
- Use plastic or bamboo utensils. These may help if food tastes metallic.



- Try new foods. You won't have expectations about the taste.

To help with strong smells:

- Cook food in the microwave or use a crockpot or instant cooker in the garage.
- Eat foods cold or at room temperature.
- Cover food while it cooks.
- Use a window or fan to help remove unpleasant odors.
- Drink from a covered cup.
- Ask a friend to cook for you.

Sore throat, mouth or trouble swallowing: When your throat is sore or it's hard to swallow, eating may be painful or tiring. These tips can help:

- Soften the texture. Opt for smooth foods, such as cooked cereal, mashed potatoes or scrambled eggs.
- Cool things down. Choose smoothies, ice pops or a bowl of ice cream.
- Take smaller bites and cut food into tiny pieces.

Avoid what bothers you. Spicy, sour, crunchy or vinegar-based foods, citrus fruits, tomato sauce or carbonated beverages can cause discomfort.

Suck on ice chips or ice pops.

Diarrhea and constipation: Bowel changes

are unpleasant but common side effects of cancer treatment.

To help with diarrhea:

- Eat small, frequent meals and snacks.
- Choose soft, low-fiber foods.
- Avoid caffeine and alcohol.
- Limit lactose found in milk and yogurt.
- Avoid sugar substitutes such as sorbitol, xylitol or mannitol, which are often found in sugar-free candy or gum.
- Drink plenty of fluids, including electrolyte-containing fluids, to stay hydrated.

For constipation, aim to:

Drink enough fluid to stay hydrated and keep stools soft. Try to drink eight to 10 cups of water each day. Warm coffee, tea or broth-based soup in the morning can help your bowels move. Use the bathroom when you feel the urge.

Move your body. Even short walks help your digestive system work better. Keep regular mealtimes. Eat a high-fiber diet.

The care team is an excellent resource for what you can expect during treatment and for the symptoms that may affect his diet and weight.

menopause

There is a quiet moment many women encounter in midlife; one that rarely makes headlines but is deeply felt. It is not marked by outward crisis, but by an internal shift. A heaviness and a fatigue that rest does not seem to cure. Invariably, a truth that gently rises to the surface: I don't want to be the strong one any more.

According to Nicola Clarke, this moment is not a sign of weakness, but a powerful turning point, one that often coincides with the physical and emotional transitions of menopause.

"Being tired of being the strong one doesn't mean you are breaking. It means you are becoming more honest with yourself," she said.

For years, many women have been the emotional anchors in their families and communities, the ones who carry responsibilities quietly and consistently. Strength becomes identity and reliability becomes expectation. However, midlife changes that dynamic.

Hormonal shifts can lower emotional tolerance, while life itself becomes more

complex. Ageing parents may require care and children become more independent, shifting relational roles. Long-term relationships evolve, and beneath it all lies years of accumulated emotional labour.

"What once felt manageable now feels heavy, and not because you are weaker, but because it is no longer sustainable," she said.

This convergence of internal and external pressures often leads women to confront an imbalance they may have long ignored, one of constant giving with little replenishment.

Rather than viewing this phase as decline, Clarke reframes it as a transition from endurance to awareness. "You begin to notice the imbalance. The one-sided giving. The lack of support. The quiet resentment," she said.

This awareness becomes the catalyst for change. It signals not the loss of strength, but its evolution. "Strength is no longer about how much you can carry. It's about recognising what you were never meant to carry alone," she said.

Clarke outlines a series of intentional

shifts that can help women navigate this stage with clarity and self-compassion:

1. Acknowledge the weight: You can't change what you haven't named. Identifying areas of depletion, resentment, or invisibility is the first step towards healing.
2. Allow support: For many women, receiving help feels unfamiliar, even uncomfortable. Support is not a failure, it is a rebalancing.
3. Stop over-functioning: Years of anticipating needs and filling gaps can create dependency patterns. Overfunctioning keeps others underfunctioning, encouraging women to step back and allow others to contribute.
4. Set boundaries around energy: Not every demand deserves a response. Not everything deserves your time, attention, or emotional capacity. Discernment is the new strength.
5. Embrace a new identity: Growth often requires releasing old roles. You are not responsible for maintaining an identity that costs you your well-being. As women begin to shift, Clarke notes that meaningful transformation unfolds:

- Relationships become more balanced and reciprocal.
- Emotional resentment gives way to support and clarity.
- Decisions are guided by intention rather than obligation.
- A deeper connection to self begins to re-emerge.

The narrative around menopause is often framed in terms of loss - loss of energy, youth, or vitality - but Clarke offers a different perspective: one of renewal and realignment.

In this next phase, strength is no longer measured by how much a woman can endure in silence. Instead, it is defined by her willingness to honour her needs, set boundaries, and invite support.

"Strength in this next phase is not about holding everything together, it's about no longer carrying it alone," she said.

As more women embrace this redefinition, menopause becomes less of an ending and more of a powerful recalibration, one that opens the door to a more balanced, authentic, and supported way of living.

Buju Banton sings about love on 'Butterflies'

Fans of Buju Banton will be smiling ear to ear to learn that the Gargamel is back to his old ways, musically. His latest song shouts '90s dancehall meets the present, and it is sure to keep the dance rocking and give all "gal pickney" nothing but butterflies.

It is common knowledge that the gruff-voiced Banton deejaying on a "wicked" dancehall riddim, toasting the ladies, is pure fire. Just think Love Sponge, the tune on which the Rastaman boldly declares his love for the woman who is so "lovable and kissable ... all di man dem after yuh". In 2026, he is asking the type of question that back in the day was the perfect "walk out" line in the dance: "Tell mi this gal how yuh skin a glow suh?" Then he delves into Mary Poppins and comes up with that 34-letter, feel-good word to describe her. He declares: "You are supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." These gems are packaged in a song titled Butterflies, which the Gargamel drops on Friday. It is his first single from his upcoming VP Records album. Butterflies is an offering that he told The Gleaner will take him

"back to the basics", hinting that there will perhaps be a blend of the dancehall Banton and the equally powerful roots reggae, 'Til Shiloh, type of Banton.

"The music takes me wherever I need to go," Banton said in a recent interview with The Gleaner. "This time it's back to the basics. All processes of creativity are driven by an innate desire to express oneself musically." For this album, Banton, who signed a management/partnership with Jay Z's Roc Nation entertainment company in November 2019, has chosen VP Records as the vessel to carry this message, and he shared why. "[VP Records] is in line with the vision, given their close relationship with reggae and dancehall. It's the perfect home for this project," Banton said.

Speaking on the artiste's return to the label, VP Records CEO Christopher Chin told The Gleaner, "Buju has always been a defining voice in reggae, and his return to VP Records reinforces our shared commitment to [continue] inspiring our culture that resonates across the globe," said Chin.

This will be Banton's first album since the Grammy-nominated Born For Greatness, released in September 2023 on Gargamel Music/Roc Nation. Upside Down (2020) was also released on Gargamel Music/Roc Nation, and it came 10 years after Banton's Grammy Award-winning Best Reggae Album, Before the Dawn.

Buju Banton, who was born Mark Myrie, began toasting under the moniker 'Gargamel' at the age of 12, working with the Sweet Love and Rambo Mango sound systems. His Wikipedia bio states that it was in 1986, some 40 years ago, that he was introduced to producer Robert Ffrench by fellow deejay Clement Irie, and his first single, The Ruler, was released one year later. He would later take on the name Buju Banton in tribute to the deejay Burro Banton, whom he admired as a child. In 1991, Banton joined Donovan Germain's Penthouse Records, which he is still affiliated with to this day.

His debut album, Mr Mention, includes some of his greatest hits, including Bonafide Love, featuring Wayne Wonder, the singer



Buju Banton

who first brought Banton out as a guest star on the annual Jamaican stage show Sting. Known for his collabs as much as his solo songs, Banton did not hesitate to name the artistes he has teamed with for memorable features.

"Among some of my fave collabs are [songs with] Beres Hammond, Stephen Marley, Wayne Wonder, Garnet Silk, Jamali and Gramps Morgan," Banton told The Gleaner. An entertainer who has inspired generations through his music and who has also demonstrated his philanthropy, Banton is crystal clear on what he wants for his legacy. Butterflies will be officially released on all platforms just after midnight on Friday morning.



Machel Montano poses for cameras at the premiere of his documentary, 'Like Ah Boss: Journey of a Soca King', held on Tuesday night at Palace Amusement's Carib 5 cinema in Crossroads, St Andrew.

Following the Carnival in Jamaica Road March on Sunday, Machel Montano continued the soca celebrations locally with the premiere of his documentary, Like Ah Boss: Journey of a Soca King, held on Tuesday night at Palace Amusement's Carib 5 cinema in Cross Roads, St Andrew.

According to the Happiest Man Alive singer, the documentary focuses on the epic soca year that was 2015, "the year when I did the song, Like Ah Boss". But it also chronicles his 40-year success in the music industry. He told The Gleaner following his performance at I Love Soca, "The documentary shows what we did for that carnival season. But it also tells my life story from my childhood to that point and even goes beyond that."

The film on the history of mas, which took over a decade to produce, has evolved into a visual masterpiece. Its pre- and post-production phases were completed late last year.

"It also explores me going to India and discovering spirituality through the practice of yoga, winning road marches over the years and selling out Barclays Center in New York," he said.

On the night of the premiere, the audience was pleased to see Montano professing deep affections for his wife, Renée, who sat beside him during an interview.

He went on to share the tremendous impact she has had on his life, especially as an artiste once labelled a ladies' man and playboy. Montano was particularly moved

Machel Montano's 'Like Ah Boss' chronicles 'epic soca year', 40-year success

by Renée's dedication, support, and encouragement in helping him strengthen his relationship with his children.

The true icing on the cake came with the heartwarming scenes of their private wedding and public celebrations during his concert Machel Mondays – The Wedding in February of 2020. This was his 10th and final staging of the annual series.

For Montano, it was equally important to showcase the dark times of his career as well. "This is the side of Machel that those looking on will never see or know unless I talk about it," he shared, adding that he also took this great opportunity to show young people what life is really like behind the curtain.

Seeing all the hard work and dedication come to fruition has been meaningful for the musical community. He also hopes others will experience this Pardy and Encore through his perspective.

GRATITUDE

"After spending decades in this industry, I have so much gratitude for still being relevant and loved. I'm just excited about doing different things now, experimenting a little, and hope that it is a hit regionally as well as

globally," he said.

His connection to the local soil wasn't lost in the film either. As a young boy running around with big dreams of one day becoming a soca legend, it wouldn't have been possible without acknowledging his roots in the land of wood and water.

"As I have said before, the first time I ever played mas in my life was in Jamaica," he said, adding, "Soca, calypso and dancehall are all related. So, I have to include my Jamaican friends in the documentary."

He made special mention of local game-changers such as Shaggy, Sean Paul and Beenie Man, who make appearances in the film. Internationally, musical giants such as American producer DJ Khaled and Canadian rapper Drake are also present.

Following the successful debut in Trinidad, Montano said it is now Jamaica's turn to experience the artistry, revelry and rich history of the soca monarch.

There was no better time than carnival season. A question-and-answer session followed the private screening with the soca megastar, and guests were also treated to a special performance, giving them a chance to experience the moment up close.

ROCK HOUSE

TURKS & CAICOS

GRACE BAY RESORTS

OPEN JOB POSITIONS

*Director of Owner Relations

Job Overview: This candidate will be the primary point of contact with condominium owners, and will be responsible with ensuring each owner receives proper attention, communication and service, while transmitting relevant information to each department within resort operations. This role will allow Grace Bay Resorts to provide quality communications among our owners, resort operations and management.

Essential Functions:

Owners communication and follow up, including:

- Regular updates on construction progress of Phase II & III.
- Construction progress certificates, requests for owner payments and accounting follow up.
 - Punch list follow up reports to owners.
- Updates and follow up on hotel bookings, special requests, etc, made by owners as requested by the resort General Manager, the reservations team or others in operations as specified by the General Manager.
- Responsible to ensure quarterly income/expense reports are sent timely and professionally to condominium owners, working together with our accounting department. Strata corporation management, including:
 - Responsibility to ensure strata budgets are completed timely and delivered to owners, working together with our accounting department.
 - Preparation of documentation required for annual meetings with owners.
 - Organization of annual meetings, including notices and proxies, minutes, follow up correspondence to owners.
 - General support to Managing Partner, all new development activities, including correspondence with architects, engineers, designers, procurement agents, financial partners, banks and others as required.
 - Assistance with all marketing initiatives.
 - Assistance to procurement agent in FF&E purchases and coordination.
 - Assistance in all development related issues in the hotel refurbishment program.
 - FF&E research as necessary.
 - Support to builders, subcontractors, suppliers as necessary.
 - Any and all other support necessary in development projects. Residential Operations- Pre-opening support
 - Obtain current levels of all pre-opening work streams related to the opening project and assist with establishing the relevant next steps.
 - Create and refine pre-opening critical path template that is relevant to each residential operating model to ensure all residential opening considerations are included.
 - Develop a clear road map of Residential Operational requirements that may extend to post opening. Ensure the team is aware and understands the timeline and action required to meet these requirements.
 - Provide guidance to assist with the setup of the operations in the following areas: service, homeowner, communication, Strata management, homeowner recognition, safety and emergency plans, maintenance programs for common areas, residential systems set up, etc.

Requirements and Qualifications:

- 5 years of experience in property management and/or a comparable position in hotel operations.
- Experience with construction and/or resort openings is recommended. Creates The GBR Experience through performance that demonstrates the standards of:
 - Ownership – Takes personal responsibility and shows initiative in work planning and problem-solving.
 - Personalized Service – Shows personal attention to owners' unique needs, interests and expectations.
 - Expertise – Keeps informed and demonstrates job knowledge, following all job and service standards.
 - Natural Approach – Provides genuine service through actions that display self confidence, grace and courtesy to guests and colleagues; and
 - Any other duties that may be assigned to you.

Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.

Salary Range: \$US 100,000.00 - \$US 108,000.00 per annum

Pool & Beach Labourer

Job Overview: Perform tasks involving physical labor at work sites operating under the Pool and Beach Department to ensure that the pool and beach areas are kept to the standards of the hotel guests and management. May operate hand and power tools of all types and a variety of other equipment and instruments. Will be responsible for upkeeping the daily wear and tear that occurs by the pool and beach areas with a high flow of guests. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, and clean up rubble, seaweeds, debris and other waste materials.

Skill and Qualifications:

- Work experience in pool and beach operations
- Good organizational and time management skills with the ability to work under pressure and to multiple deadlines.
- Ability to work independently as well as on a team
- Ability to manage cleaning resources, organize work efficiently and effectively.
- Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs and push/pull in excess of 50 lbs

Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.

Salary \$8.00 - \$9.00 per hour

Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labor & Work Permit Board Zone 2

Qualified candidates should submit their Resumes to our Human Resources Department via Email: humanresources@rockhouseressort.com or hand deliver applications at our office on #1 International Drive, Providenciales. **Positions marked with an * are currently being held by a work permit holder. Deadline for submission: June 1, 2026**



Finding Your Home at Amethyst Residences in Providenciales

Living in Providenciales offers a lifestyle many aspire to - turquoise waters, a thriving tourism economy, and a relaxed island rhythm.

Yet beneath that allure lies a growing challenge: access to affordable, quality housing for residents who live and work in the Turks and Caicos Islands; and overseas buyers who wish to live near Grace Bay but wish to avoid its premium rates. Amethyst Residences is stepping in to address these gaps.

Located in the sought-after Long Bay area, this gated residential community represents Phase II of a thoughtfully planned three-phase development. Phase I, completed in 2008/2009, laid the groundwork for what is now evolving into a modern, community-oriented housing solution

designed specifically with residents in mind.

Phase II introduces 16 contemporary residences, offering a mix of one-bedroom and two-bedroom units that prioritize space, functionality, and comfort. With one-bedroom homes measuring approximately 716 square feet and two-bedroom town-homes extending to 1,316 square feet, the development moves away from the compact, investor-driven model often seen in the local market. Instead, it delivers homes designed for everyday living.

Each residence features open-plan layouts that integrate kitchen, dining, and living spaces, creating an airy, light-filled environment. Large balcony doors allow natural light to flood interiors, while private terraces and balconies extend the living space

outdoors. Two-bedroom units span two levels, with en-suite bedrooms and walk-in closets positioned on the upper floor for added privacy and comfort.

High-quality finishes and modern appliances further elevate the offering, reinforcing the project's central premise: that affordability does not have to come at the expense of quality. With prices starting at \$355,000, Amethyst Residences opens the door to homeownership for a segment of the population that has often been priced out of the market.

Beyond design and pricing, the development also offers flexibility. With no rental restrictions, homeowners have the option to generate income from their property, creating an additional pathway to financial stability while contributing to the island's

broader housing ecosystem.

Its location in Long Bay adds to its appeal. Residents benefit from proximity to both tranquility and convenience, as the development is located just minutes from the commercial hub of Grace Bay, while also near the calm, shallow waters of Long Bay Beach, known for its natural beauty and recreational appeal.

A Local Vision, Built Over Time
What sets Amethyst Residences apart is not just its design or location, but its origin.

This is a locally driven development, rooted in a long-term vision that began more than a decade ago. The completion of Phase I in 2008/2009 marked an early investment in community-centered housing. Phase II builds on that foundation, expanding both the scale and ambition of



but also creating spaces where individuals and families can establish roots and build long-term security.

In an industry traditionally dominated by men, Garland's leadership underscores the growing importance of women in development. Her work aligns with global priorities such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), which advocate for inclusive, resilient, and equitable urban development.

Through Amethyst Residences, Garland is contributing to a model of development that is both economically and socially impactful, one that empowers residents to transition from renters to homeowners, while also demonstrating the critical role women play in shaping the future of the built environment.

As Phase II takes shape and future phases remain on the horizon, Amethyst Residences stands as more than just a housing development. It is a reflection of local vision, long-term planning, and the transformative potential of inclusive leadership in one of the Caribbean's most dynamic real estate markets - the Turks and Caicos Islands: 'Beautiful By Nature'.

**For more information contact:
Sean O'Neill (649 232 1316) or
Sherryl White-Garland (649 341 6987)**

**THE AGENCY
7/8 Saltmills
Grace Bay
Providenciales, Turks and Caicos**

the project while maintaining its original purpose: creating livable, accessible homes for residents and holiday homeowners alike.

The local flair of the development is evident in every aspect of the project. It was designed by TCI Structures Ltd and is being constructed by Been Construction Ltd. Sales and marketing are being managed by The Agency, further reinforcing the project's strong community spirit.

In a market often dominated by overseas investment and luxury tourism developments, the continuation of this project signals a deliberate effort to rebalance

priorities, placing residents at the center of growth.

Meet the Developer: Judith Garland

At the helm of Amethyst Residences is Judith Garland, a pioneering female developer in the Turks and Caicos Islands whose work reflects a broader shift toward inclusive and community-focused development.

Garland brings a unique combination of legal expertise and real estate experience, enabling her to navigate complex development processes while maintaining a clear vision for accessible housing. Her approach emphasizes not just building structures,





Graceway Communities Hosts Impactful Earth Day Fair

Graceway Communities, the charitable arm of Graceway Supermarkets, successfully hosted its 6th Annual Earth Day Fair under the theme “Our Power, Our Planet: A Strong, Sustainable Community Future,” bringing together hundreds of residents, environmental partners, government leaders, and local businesses in a shared commitment to environmental stewardship.

The event, held at the Graceway IGA parking lot, was honored by the presence of Her Excellency Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, The Governor of the TCI, along with Her Excellency Anya Williams, The Deputy Governor of the TCI. Also in attendance were Hon. Kyle Knowles, Hon. Shawn Malcolm, and Hon. Jamel Robinson, reflecting strong national support for sustainability initiatives and environmental awareness.

Throughout the day, attendees engaged with interactive exhibits, educational displays, and hands-on activities designed to promote conservation, sustainable living, and environmental responsibility across the Turks and Caicos Islands. A strong emphasis was placed on youth engagement, with student-led interviews encouraging the next generation to take an active role in protecting the environment.

The event featured a dynamic lineup of environmental partners and exhibitors, including Roots2Reef, Pelican Energy TCI, RENU Energy TCI, Nikki’s Trinkets, the Turks and Caicos Environmental Club, and Turks and Caicos Horticulture (TCH).

Additional support was provided by the Environmental Health Department, Grace Bay Resorts Foundation, and COMO Parrot Cay, along with local agricultural and small business partners such as R&A Farm, The Green Room, Caicos Acres, Annette Solomon, and Sylvia’s Local Treats.

The event also featured a live radio



broadcast by 88 Jamz, allowing the wider community to tune in and engage with the day’s activities and conversa-

tions around sustainability. A total of \$3,265.00 was raised in support of this year’s official charity part-

ner, Roots2Reef. All funds will contribute directly to environmental education initiatives, marine conservation efforts, and community outreach programs aimed at preserving the natural beauty of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Statement from Edith Cox, Executive Board Member, Graceway Communities:

“Earth Day is more than a single moment; it is a reminder of the responsibility we share every day to protect and preserve our environment. At Graceway Communities, we are proud to create spaces where education, collaboration, and community come together to inspire meaningful action. The support from our partners, government leaders, and the wider community reflects a shared commitment to building a sustainable future for the Turks and Caicos Islands.”

Graceway Communities has extended sincere thanks to all partners, volunteers, and attendees who contributed to the success of this year’s event and continue to support initiatives that strengthen and uplift the community.

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SEE PG32

Inter-High School Rugby Tournament Signals Bright Future for TCI Rugby

The future of rugby in the Turks and Caicos Islands will be on full display this weekend as the Inter-High School Rugby Tournament takes center stage at Meridian Field, uniting the nation's most promising young athletes in a competition that reflects the sport's rapid rise across the islands.

Scheduled for April 25 at 9:00 a.m., the tournament will feature teams from Grand Turk, North Caicos, Providenciales, and South Caicos, each vying for the championship title and the pride of their school. But beyond the trophies and bragging rights, the event represents something far more significant, a clear sign that rugby in the Turks and Caicos is building a strong and sustainable future.

In recent months, there has been a noticeable shift in the local sporting landscape. Rugby, once considered a niche sport with a small but passionate following, is now gaining widespread attention and support. That transformation has been driven largely by the success of the national team, whose performances on the regional stage have captured the imagination of fans and inspired a new generation of players.

Earlier this year, the Turks and Caicos Islands delivered an impressive second-place finish at the RAN 7s tournament, proving they could compete with some of the Caribbean's best. That momentum carried into Saint Lucia, where the team went



A file photo of TCI National Rugby Team in action

one step further, claiming the Ruggerama 7s title in a landmark victory that signaled their arrival as a serious force in regional rugby.

Such achievements do not happen overnight. They are the result of consistent effort, improved structure, and a growing belief within the rugby community. The support of sponsors, organizers, and fans across the islands has also played a critical role, helping to create opportunities for development and competition.

Now, that progress is filtering down to the grassroots level. The Inter-High School Rugby Tournament is a direct reflection of the sport's expanding reach, offering young

players the chance to learn, compete, and showcase their abilities on a national stage. For many of these students, it will be their first taste of organized rugby competition, an experience that could shape their sporting journeys for years to come. Organizers see the tournament as a vital step in strengthening the rugby pathway in the Turks and Caicos Islands. By engaging schools and introducing structured competition at an early age, they are building a pipeline of talent that will eventually feed into club and national teams. It is a long-term vision, but one that is already beginning to bear fruit.

"This is where the future of the

game really sits," the organizers noted. "The more young players we can bring into rugby, the stronger we become as a country."

The timing of the tournament also adds to its significance. It comes just days after the national team's latest success, creating a sense of excitement and momentum that is expected to carry into the event. Young players will not only be competing for their schools but also drawing inspiration from the achievements of those who have recently represented the country with distinction.

The celebrations will continue later that evening at Meridian Field, where a championship party will be held in honor of the national team's victory. Featuring live music, food, and a lively atmosphere, the event will bring together players, supporters, and the wider community in a shared celebration of rugby's growth in the islands.

Taken together, the Inter-High School Rugby Tournament and the championship celebration highlight a defining moment for the sport in the Turks and Caicos Islands. With youth participation on the rise and the national team achieving new heights, rugby is no longer just developing, it is thriving.

As the young athletes take to the field this Saturday, they will not only be competing for a title but also carrying the hopes of a sport that is firmly on the rise.

Frank Lampard makes Coventry transfer plea after sealing Premier League return

Frank Lampard believes Coventry need to be 'ambitious' ahead of their first Premier League season in nearly three decades. The Midlands side sealed promotion last week with a 1-1 draw with Blackburn.

Coventry still have work to do to rubber-stamp the Championship title but it appears that Lampard is already putting plans in place for next season.

He has claimed that the Sky Blues need to ensure they approach next season with ambition, not hesitation. Speaking after being crowned EFL Championship Manager of the Season, Lampard said: "There's a lot of work to do because we know the step that it will be for the football club.

"So that's something we have to work on quickly now because of where we're at, we have to be ambitious -- we're Coventry City football club.

"I know what the Premier League is

and its going to be a challenge, we can enjoy the moment for the next two weeks, but of course we have to work behind the scenes to ensure we go up the right way."

Speaking about Coventry's promotion to the Premier League, Lampard added: "I was emotional the other night [securing promotion at Blackburn] because it dawned on me in that moment what we had achieved.

"A club that I walked into 16 months ago that had gone to the depths and back up, and football is always about people and always about supporters and I'd missed it.

"You have to credit Mark Robins [previous head coach] for what he did at the club, the owner Doug King and appreciate the moment, and I'm working with a great group of players.

"When you walk into a group forget the football talent, that's obviously im-

portant but when they look after themselves, they train well, they support each other, they have a laugh, that's the gold. It's an incredible story and I'm pleased to be a part of it."

Coventry have three games of the season remaining and will no doubt be aiming to secure the Championship trophy. They welcome Portsmouth to the CBS Arena on Tuesday evening, ahead of another home game against Wrexham. The Sky Blues round off their campaign against Watford at Vicarage Road.

As it stands, the race for the second automatic promotion spot looks set to go down to the wire. Ipswich Town currently sit second ahead of Millwall on goal difference, albeit with a game in hand. Southampton are one place and a point further behind, while Middlesbrough could still snatch second before the season finishes.



"I know what the Premier League is and its going to be a challenge."



Cheshire Hall FC

Cheshire Hall FC Rally to Defeat Teachers FC in Midweek Clausura Clash

Teachers FC struggled to regain momentum after conceding twice in quick succession, managing only two cautions during the match, issued to #13 Daniel Leazard (11') and #7 Mirvel Sime (37').

Standout performers included Jhafflyn Smith (#2), who earned Player of the Match honors for Teachers FC, while Stanley Israel (#9) was recognized as the top performer for Cheshire Hall FC. The match was overseen by Commissioner Andrea Cope.

Flamingoes FC Outscore Teachers FC Men in High-Scoring Affair

Meanwhile, in the first of a double header of the Clausura Round on Saturday, April 18, Flamingoes FC delivered an attacking masterclass to defeat Teachers FC Men 5-3.

Flamingoes dominated the first half, building a commanding 3-0 lead courtesy of a brace from #9 Hansley Noel (12', 19') and a goal from #7 Sergo Victo (15').

They continued their dominance in the second half with goals from #19 Francky Pierre

(58') and #5 Frantz Pierre (72'). Teachers FC Men attempted a late comeback, benefiting from an own goal by #1 Kervens Montiment in the 63rd minute, followed by strikes from #14 Juvenson Termiline (83') and #23 Kervins Bruno (86'), but ultimately fell short.

The match was marked by several disciplinary issues. Flamingoes FC saw multiple players booked, with Coach Vibert Sonson and #5 Frantz Pierre both sent off after accumulating two yellow cards each. Teachers FC Men also recorded two cautions during the match.

Francky Pierre (#19) was named MVP for Flamingoes FC, while Kerwill Bruno (#3) earned MVP honors for Teachers FC Men.

SWA Sharks Awarded Victory After Beaches FC No-Show

In the first scheduled match on Saturday, April 18, SWA Sharks FC were awarded a 3-point victory after Beaches FC failed to show up for their Clausura Round fixture. The game was officially forfeited.

A competitive midweek encounter in the Clausura Round of the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) saw Cheshire Hall FC come from an early setback to secure a 3-1 victory over Teachers FC on Wednesday night in Match #51.

Teachers FC struck first, with #10 Henry Jean Pierre finding the back of the net in the 5th minute to give his side an early advantage. However, the lead was short-lived as Cheshire Hall FC responded just two min-

utes later through #8 Ralph Sylvestre, leveling the score at 1-1 heading into halftime.

The second half belonged to Cheshire Hall FC, with #9 Stanley Israel putting his team ahead in the 56th minute before #19 Wilsony Charles extended the lead just four minutes later in the 60th minute. Despite the strong performance, Charles' night ended prematurely after receiving two quick yellow cards in the 72nd and 73rd minutes, resulting in a red card.

From Vision to Reality

First FIFA Arena Pitch Completed Through TCIFA and Government Partnership Expanding Community Football Access

The Turks & Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) is proud to announce the successful completion of the first FIFA Arena mini-pitch at Kew Town Park, marking a major milestone in expanding access to football across the Islands.

With one pitch now complete, attention turns to the Adelaide Oemler Primary School in North Caicos, where the second FIFA Arena pitch is expected to be completed within the next week.

This achievement forms part of FIFA's global FIFA Arena initiative, championed by FIFA President Gianni Infantino, which aims to deliver at least 1,000 mini-pitches worldwide, creating more opportunities for children to play the game and fostering development within communities.

A Vision Realized Through Strong Partnership

For TCIFA President Sonia Fulford, this milestone represents the realization of a long-standing vision.

"This initiative holds deep personal significance for me, as it reflects something I have advocated for over many years, bringing accessible football facilities into our communities. While earlier efforts did not come to fruition, I remained confident that this was exactly what our country needed. To now see it delivered through the FIFA Arena programme is incredibly rewarding."

President Fulford emphasized that the successful delivery of the project reflects the strength of collaboration between FIFA, TCIFA, and the Turks & Caicos Islands Government.

"We are grateful to FIFA for leading this global initiative and for bringing this opportunity to the Turks & Caicos Islands. At the local level, TCIFA worked in close partner-



ship with the Government and key stakeholders to support the successful delivery of the project on the ground."

She added, "The Government played a critical role in the execution of these projects, including the preparation and completion of the sub-base, support with logistics in facilitating the arrival of materials into the Turks & Caicos Islands, and assistance on the ground during the installation process. Importantly, the Government will also play a key role in the ongoing maintenance and oversight of these facilities to ensure their long-term sustainability and benefit to our communities."

President Fulford also commended the Government's leadership:

"I must commend the Government of the Turks & Caicos Islands, and in particular the Hon. Rachel Taylor and her team, for their decisive leadership and unwavering sup-

port. Their willingness to embrace this initiative and move with purpose has been instrumental in bringing these facilities to life for our people."

The Hon. Minister also shared her remarks on the significance of the initiative:

"This project represents a meaningful investment in our communities and our young people. Through this partnership with FIFA and the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association, we have been able to deliver high-quality sporting infrastructure that expands access to the game across our islands. The Government remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote youth development, healthy lifestyles, and community engagement, and we will ensure these facilities are properly maintained for the long-term benefit of our people."

A Lasting Investment in Youth and Community

The FIFA Arena pitches are designed to provide safe, high-quality playing spaces for children and young people, particularly in communities where access to sporting facilities has been limited.

"These facilities represent a powerful investment in our youth and in the future of our country. They are spaces where potential will be discovered, confidence will be built, and dreams will begin to take shape, both on and off the field."

President Fulford also issued a call to the public:

"As we celebrate this milestone, I am encouraging our communities to take pride in these facilities. We must all play our part in protecting, caring for, and preserving them. These pitches belong to our youth, and their longevity depends on the respect and responsibility we show as a people."

Looking Ahead

With the North Caicos pitch nearing completion, TCIFA is already looking toward future opportunities to expand the programme.

"It is my sincere hope that the successful delivery of these two pitches will position the Turks & Caicos Islands to benefit from additional FIFA Arena installations. The need across our islands is clear, and we remain committed to continuing this important work for our communities."

An official inauguration ceremony, led by FIFA representatives, is expected to take place in the coming weeks to formally mark the completion of both facilities.

The Turks & Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) is the governing body for football in the Turks & Caicos Islands, dedicated to developing the game at all levels and creating opportunities for participation, excellence, and community engagement.

'WHO CARES' DONATES \$12,000 TO THE TCI ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT FUND

A 37-year community tradition becomes a generational investment in the islands' athletes.

The Turks and Caicos Islands Athlete Development Fund (ADF) has received a donation of \$12,000 from the Who Cares Fishing Tournament, a contribution that is as meaningful in its story as it is in its sum. Established in 1989, the Who Cares Fishing Tournament is one of the islands' longest-established sporting traditions. For more than three decades, it has brought residents and visiting anglers together each year on the waters off Providenciales, not for corporate spectacle, but for the simple act of doing something together, and doing something good.

This year, that tradition translated into \$12,000 for the next generation of TCI athletes.

The story behind the cheque is what makes it remarkable.

The children who once stood beside their parents on the decks of those early tournaments are now adults helping to keep the tradition alive. They organize it. They fish it. They bring their own children along. For nearly four decades, the tournament has been a place where memories are made on the water, a tradition carried quietly from one generation to the next. Now, that same generation has chosen to pass what it built outward, to the country's young athletes.

"Since 1989 the Who Cares Fishing Tournament has been bringing the community of all ages together and giving back to this great community we live in. The tournament, reenergized by founders and the next generations of these members, raises funds for the youth of the Turks and Caicos

Islands, our future is in the hands of our youth, and we need to inspire and invest in them!" says Betty Stubbs, Committee Member of Who Cares Fishing Club.

In choosing the ADF as this year's beneficiary, the tournament's organizers have pointed to two things: their belief in the work of the Sports Commission, and their commitment to bolstering positive activities for the Islands' youth. That endorsement is not taken lightly.

The ADF exists for exactly this kind of moment. Community and institution meeting around a shared purpose. Its mandate is to increase opportunities for Turks and Caicos Islanders to participate in quality sport, to build the capacity of our national system to achieve world-class results, and to advance our Islands' interests, values, and ethics in sport at home and abroad. Every dollar contributed becomes a line in an athlete's story, whether that story ends in a medal, a regional championship, or simply the chance to train at a level that was not previously possible.

"This contribution from the Who Cares Fishing Tournament Committee is a powerful example of community investment in youth development. The Athlete Development Fund continues to open doors for our athletes, and support like this directly translates into opportunities, whether that's access to training, exposure to competition, or the ability to pursue excellence at higher levels.

We are extremely grateful for the committee's commitment and generosity, and for

the role they continue to play in strengthening sport and empowering young people across the Turks and Caicos Islands" noted Mr. Jarrett Forbes, Director of Sports.

There is a lesson in what the Who Cares Fishing Tournament has built, and it is one worth naming.

Sport development in the Turks and Caicos will not be funded by a single entity. It will be funded the way this tournament has been sustained for 37 years. By people. By families. By a community choosing, year after year, to show up for something larger than itself. Corporate partnerships matter. Government support matters. But so, fundamentally, do tournaments like this one, where the fundraising is measured not in marketing budgets but in the shared effort of a community.

We extend our sincere thanks to the organizers, captains, crews, and participants of the Who Cares Fishing Tournament. Their \$12,000 gift is a vote of confidence in our athletes, and an example for others to follow.

To the leagues, the clubs, the regattas, the golf days, and the community events already quietly doing work across our islands, your contribution belongs in this story too. The ADF is open. The pathway exists. And every gift, at every scale, widens it.

The future, as the ADF has long reminded us, is now. With this contribution, the Who Cares Fishing Tournament has brought it meaningfully closer.

To learn more about the Athlete Development Fund or to contribute, visit www.tci-athletedevelopmentfund.com.



TCI FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION PARTNERS WITH ROAD DOGS RUNNING CLUB

The Turks and Caicos Islands Financial Services Commission (TCI FSC) is proud to announce its new legacy partnership with Road Dogs Running Club (RDRC).

The Commission supported RDRC's inaugural Run of Nations 5K/10K in January 2026 and will continue collaborating with organizers to build momentum toward the TCI International Marathon in 2027.

Recognition of the partnership was a highlight of RDRC's first annual general meeting on April 10, 2026, at Mackey's Café, Grace Bay- Providenciales, where the Commission was formally acknowledged and presented with a plaque of appreciation.

"Partnerships like the TCI FSC's strengthen Road Dogs Running Club's capacity to deliver programs, expand access to health and wellness, and provide meaningful mentorship for participants. Their corporate social responsibility investment amplifies

our reach—empowering runners, nurturing young athletes, and building a healthier, more connected community across the Turks and Caicos," Leo Lightbourne, President, Road Dogs Running Club. Road Dogs Running Club, founded by local running enthusiasts, is a community-based organisation devoted to promoting fitness, healthy living, and sportsmanship across the Turks and Caicos Islands. The club organises weekly group runs, youth mentoring, and community outreach and partners regularly with civic organisations — including Soroptimist International and the Department of Culture—to stage inclusive events that engage residents of all ages and abilities.

The TCI FSC's involvement is driven by its commitment to staff well-being and community engagement. Three members of the Commission's team are active runners with RDRC, participating in weekly runs, volun-



Zonelle Hamilton of the FSC, collects an appreciation plaque from the Road Dogs Running Club, being presented by President Leonardo Lightbourne (right), and Gardiner (left).

teer activities, and event planning. Their direct involvement reflects the FSC's wider workplace culture that values physical activity, mental wellness, and team-building. By supporting RDRC, the Commission encourages healthy lifestyles among employees, fosters camaraderie, and models civic participation.

RDRC's programs deliver tangible community benefits: they create safe, social spaces for exercise; provide mentorship for high school athletes; support mental well-being through regular activity; and encourage

volunteerism and civic pride. By nurturing youth athletes, the club builds pathways for healthier lifestyles, local sporting talent, and potential tourism through quality road-racing events.

Kenisha Bacchus, Managing Director (AG) of the TCI FSC, said, "We are honoured to join arms with Road Dogs Running Club. Supporting Run of Nations aligns with our commitment to community well-being, youth empowerment, and raising the Turks and Caicos Islands' profile as a destination for quality sporting events."

Salt Rakers Aquatic Club to Host 2nd Annual Corporate Open Water Swim in August

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Club is set to host its highly anticipated 2nd Annual Corporate Open Water Swimming Competition on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at Rickie's Flamingo Café in Grace Bay, Providenciales.

The event, which continues to grow in popularity, will bring together swimmers from across the corporate community and beyond for a day of endurance, teamwork, and aquatic excellence in the pristine waters of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Participants will compete in three



race categories: 2K, 1K, and 500 meters, offering options for both

seasoned swimmers and newcomers eager to test their skills

in open water conditions.

The competition is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., with organizers encouraging early arrival to ensure a smooth and proper event coordination.

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Club is calling on companies, teams, and individual swimmers to take part in the exciting challenge, promoting fitness, camaraderie, and community engagement.

Interested participants and sponsors can get more information or register by contacting the organizers at (649) 241-1272 or via email at saltrakers@gmail.com.

Omar's Eke Out Exciting 10-Run Win Over Police

Omar's edged out Police by 10 runs in an exciting encounter in the Turks and Caicos Islands Cricket Association (TCICA) Senior Men's Competition, played on Sunday, April 19 at the Downtown Ball Park.

After losing the toss and being sent into bat, Omar's posted a competitive total of 183 for 7 from their allotted 20 overs. The innings was anchored by a composed half-century from Rohan Hines, who struck 61 runs, including nine boundaries and a six, to provide stability at the top of the order.

He found solid support from Garrett Campbell, who contributed a brisk 29 runs, featuring two fours and two sixes, while Xavier Scott added 19 runs with two fours and a six to keep the momentum going in the middle overs.

Police bowlers managed to contain the scoring at key intervals despite the strong total. Shan Livermore was the standout performer with the ball, claiming 3 wickets for just 17 runs in his four overs. Aaron Chalarie chipped in with 2 wickets for 44 runs, while Ricardo Browne and Douglas

Odane each picked up a wicket, conceding 33 runs apiece from their respective spells.

Chasing 184 for victory, Police mounted a determined response but ultimately fell just short, finishing on 173 for 7 at the end of their 20 overs. Alpha Edwards led the charge with an impressive 58 runs, striking seven fours and two sixes in a well-paced innings.

Garvin Bruno supported with 28 runs, including five boundaries and a six, while Nixon Lewis contributed 21 runs with four fours. Sabuton John added 12 runs, hitting two boundaries, but the chase lost momentum in the closing stages.

Omar's bowlers held their nerve under pressure to secure the narrow win. Garrett Campbell capped off an outstanding all-round performance by taking 3 wickets for 22 runs from his four overs, proving decisive in restricting the Police batting lineup. Robert Johnson and Xavier Scott also made important contributions with the ball, each taking a wicket while maintaining steady control during their spells.



Garrett Campbell is seen here collecting his Man of the Match Award

For his all-round excellence, scoring 29 runs and claiming 3 wickets for 22 runs, Garrett Campbell was deservedly named Man of the Match.

The TCICA Senior Men's Competition continues on Sunday, April 26, 2026, with Omar's set to face Jaguars in what promises to be another competitive fixture.