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Police at a murder scene in Kew Town, Providenciales

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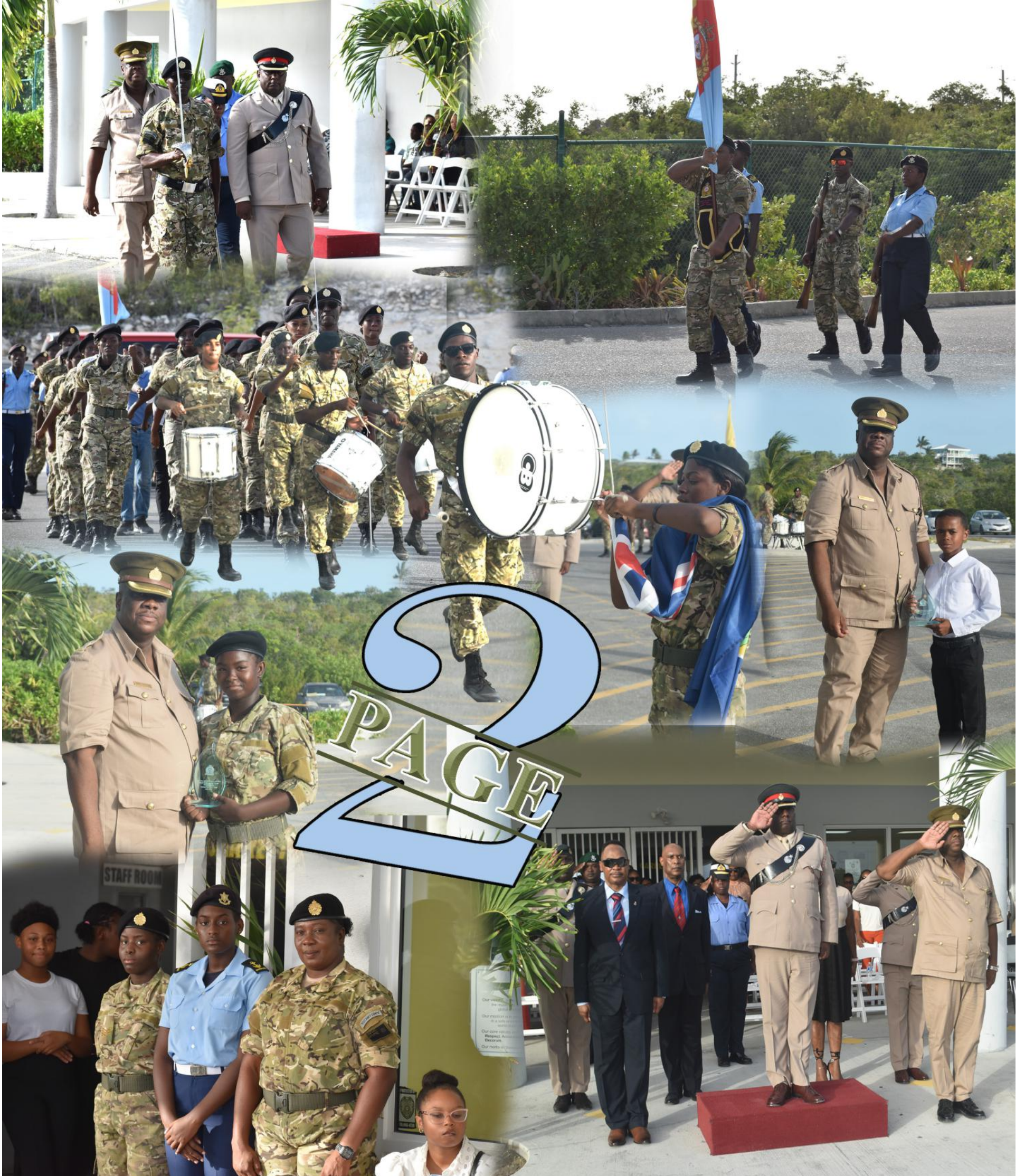
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Cadet Corps Passing Out Ceremony

The Turks and Caicos Islands Cadet Corps staged its Annual Summer Camp Passing-Out (graduation) Ceremony on Wednesday, July 20, at the Louise Garland Thomas High School on Providenciales. Newsline TCI was there and captured the event.



Immigration Minister Encouraged By Ordinance Change Participation

By Vivian Tyson



Musgrove... "So far, our proposals have been gaining a lot of support both for the consultation and for the recommendations."

Immigration and Border Service Minister Hon. Arlington Musgrove told NewslineTCI that he is pleased with the level of engagements from the public towards the proposed Changes to the Immigration Ordinance. Minister Musgrove said there has been a growing interest among residents towards the online survey, launched on July 14, pointing out that daily participation has seen an increase.

A 30-page document released by the Turks and Caicos Islands Government has proposed a plethora of changes to the Immigration Law that the Washington Misick Administration said was aimed to benefit Turks and Caicos Islanders.

Among the changes are that the number of years on a work permit or residence permit to qualify for application for a PRC will increase from 10 to 15 years. Additionally, the document proposed that freelance work permits are to be discontinued and term limits be placed on work permits.

There will be a maximum of 3 consecutive years for unskilled work permits with a mandatory requirement for the work permit holder exiting the country after the three

years when the permit has come to an end and before a new work permit can be applied for.

Additionally, the document proposed that skilled and unskilled categories will be defined, and endorsement of dependents will be prohibited on unskilled categories of work permits. Temporary Work Permits will be defined in policy to specify a category for Emergency. Business Visitor's Permits will be rebranded as Business Visas and will go under the remit of Border Services.

The decision by the government to amend the Immigration Law is to conduct a general clean-up and tightening of the Ordinance. And according to Minister Musgrove, the responses by members of the public has been great.

"Since the launch we have got almost three hundred people that have responded to us," noting that Thursday (July 21) was a big increase.

He said residents have been living up to the expectations of engagements at the face-to-face consultations.

"I expect people to engage, which they did. We were in North Caicos last night (July 21),

and I was totally impressed with the level of questions and concerns raised, but all the islands that we have had the consultations," Musgrove said, pointing out that while some of the residents raised concerns mainly about the three-year work permit term, they understood that government was trying to build the country with its people in mind.

"So far, our proposals have been gaining a lot of support both for the consultation and for the recommendations. One of the things that came out of the consultations was that a few persons said that the three-year term work permit for them was a bit of concern, but they also said that they saw what we are trying to do, and they are willing to pull back a little bit, which I appreciate," he noted.

Minister Musgrove said after the survey and townhall meetings, government would then put the bill together and take to the House of Assembly in September, expecting the House to pass it into law by the latest October.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Immigration and Border Services said it was still seeking public input on the proposed Immigration Ordinance changes, stating that the calls for the feedbacks demonstrated the ministry's commitment to transparency, inclusivity, and to ensuring that the views and concerns of citizens and stakeholders are taken into account. As a result, government said it was encouraging all interested individuals, organisations, and communities to participate.

The following is the survey's link to participate: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HX2JBLV>.

Alternatively, individuals, according to the Ministry of Immigration Border Services, can also share their opinions, suggestions, and concerns relating to the proposed amendments via email at: mibs.consultation@gov.tc.

The ministry said it also welcomes written submissions from the public.

"We value the input of our citizens, residents, and stakeholders, as it helps us develop a well-informed, robust Immigration Ordinance that serves the best interests of our nation," Musgrove said. "Your feedback is invaluable in shaping the future of our immigration laws and ensuring a more prosperous and secure future for all."

The feedback period will remain open until 31st July 2023. After the closing date, all responses and submissions will be thoroughly analyzed, and the Ministry will take into account the various perspectives in finalizing the proposed changes to the Immigration Ordinance.

Five Cays Resident Adherent PNP, PDM Failed Community

By Vivian Tyson



Arthur... "My gut is still digging from losing my son September 2."

At least one Five Cays resident believes that both political parties – the Progressive National Party (PNP) and the Peoples Democratic Movement (PDM) have failed the community of Five Cays IN spectacular fashion.

Prominent resident Paula Arthur, who has suffered two violent losses of close family members in less than a year, said both political entities have paid the community scant regard.

Arthur lost her brother on July 5, after his body was found minus its head in the community. Last year, she lost her son who returned from college for the holidays. The latter was cut down in a hail of bullets.

Arthur said the killer, Brandon Rahming, who was later killed in a joint Royal Bahamian Police Force and the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force operation in Dock Yard, Providenciales, called her phone to explain that her son was not the intended target, but was merely a collateral damage.

She little to nothing was being done to unearth the cause of the sudden rise in vicious crimes in the community.

"Bring in more investigators if you need to," she suggested. "Bring in more level-headed people, bring in more impartial people...do something." Arthur, who was grousing at a townhall meeting in the community on Monday, July 17, said

crime should have been at the top of the list, rather than not being discussed at all.

The meeting was primarily about information on the Crown Land payment amnesty, the National Insurance Board, and the benefits thereof, and how to access free funding through the Medium Small Micro Enterprises (MSME).

The meeting was attended by Premier Hon. Washington Misick, Deputy Premier Hon. E. Jay Saunders, Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Hon. Jamell Robinson, Member of Parliament for the area Hon. Rachel Taylor and Attorney General Hon. Rhondalee Braithwaite-Knowles.

"My gut is still digging from losing my son September 2 (2022). He got shot in his head by a 9mm gun. My brother was beheaded...and this is what you are coming to Five Cays to talk about? That can't do anything for me," Arthur asserted.

According to her, the authorities have been telling Five Cays residents that they would implement community policing in the area, but to date they have not seen the evidence of that.

"My message to you is, 'stop coming and try to trick the people of Five Cays. Policing is the biggest issue right now...this is what we need to hear,'" she said.

Arthur added: "I had a meeting with Mr. Adams

(Deputy Commissioner of Police) a few weeks ago, and when I asked about the community outpost ceremony that was held on the 27th of September (2022), I was told, 'yes, we did have that ceremony. But we realized that we didn't have the manpower. We didn't have the resources wherewithal to make it happen'. From September 27, 2022, to this day, July 2023, (nothing has been done). You got to mean more than that."

Arthur also urged the authorities to provide better protection for the dead at the Five Cays Cemetery, since unscrupulous people were desecrating the graves there and removing body parts from the coffins.

Recently, someone, pried open a grave in the cemetery and removed the head of one of the dead there, evoking a myriad of thoughts across the country as to what such bizarre action was in aid of.

Arthur said she visited light and power company Fortis, to get them to provide lights for the cemetery, but was told that government would have to initiate the move.

Arthur said she had already reached out to the Public Works Department (PWD) to have them source the lights for the cemetery, and then approached the police as to whether they could provide CCTV on the poles when the lights are provided. This, she believes, would deter criminals from disturbing the graves.

"We all got frantic (when the grave was disturbed) because I have a son there. I have my dad there. I have grandparents and stuff there. I don't want anybody doing that to my family. I don't think anybody would like something like that. I buried my son, and my daughter went ahead and purchased a solar headstone for him that lit up at night...it glowed in the whole cemetery. And within a week it was damaged. Within a week there wasn't one light on his headstone. At least if you have a camera there, they will not do it because they don't want to be caught on the camera.

"You can't stop everything but sometimes you can deter it," she said.

Arthur is one of those who believe trust in the police force is at an all-time low since confidential information between the police and witnesses were being revealed to the public.

"Trusting the Police have long gone out the door. The amount of stuff that got back on the street after residents reported them in confidence...it is terrible.

"Once you give them information, they put it out on the street. It is not good, it is not safe," Arthur noted.

In addition to providing numbers to call police locally in confidence, they have also provided residents with the Crimestoppers external numbers, which are answered in the United States. This, the police said, would enable residents who do not have much confidence in the police, to call and give information, since it does not require callers to give their names.

U.S. Issue Travel Advisory For TCI!



An onlooker views the body of a man killed in Kew Town, Providenciales.

The United States Department of State has issued a level 2 travel advisory for the Turks and Caicos Islands in the wake of the recent upswing in gun murders.

A Level 2 – the second lowest of the four levels, urges the traveler to exercise increased Caution, meaning that the traveler must be aware of heightened risks to safety and security.

It is unclear how the advisory might affect travel to the territory, as NewslineTCI can confirm that there have been calls to the relevant authorities from travelers in the US, asking whether or not it was safe to travel here.

The recent upswing in brutal gun murders on Providenciales has left citizens wondering whether 2022 will repeat itself this year. In recent weeks, the country has seen a sharp climb in gun murders and injuries, which the authorities are saying gang warfare are to blame for the most part.

Last year, a wave of violence came to this small territory, snuffing out 35 lives, which represented a 150% jump over the 14 murders seen in 2021 in a country with a total population of just over 45,000.

Many of the murders were concentrated in the last third of the year, with 21 killings happening between September 3 and November 8, culminating with a triple murder on November 1, which included an infant.

Many shootings occurred in the Five Cays and Dock Yard areas of Providenciales, the country's most-populated island.

There were a great deal of blame to go around as it relates to who and what may have been responsible for the then unabated blood-letting.

Then Governor Nigel Dakin, blamed Jamaican gangs for "attempting to remove all criminal competition in the territory" using "unprecedented levels of targeted violence". Dakin also blamed local void-filling turf war, furthermore, blaming the unstable political climate in neighboring Haiti, as local authorities disclosed that criminals were using the opportunity to move guns and drugs to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The latest round of murders for this year took place in Kew Town, Grace Bay, and Five Cays.

The latest to die from the gun is 52-year-old David Leon McIntosh, who succumbed to gunshot wounds early Wednesday morning (July 19), after being attacked in the wee hours of the morning in Kew Town.

According to the police, the incident occurred at approximately 1:42 a.m. on July 19th when authorities received a distress call informing them that McIntosh, a resident of Kew Town, had been shot. When investigators reached the scene, they found McIntosh suffering from his injuries, and rushed

him to the Cheshire Hall Medical Center for treatment. However, police reported late Wednesday that the injured man had yielded to his wounds while being treated.

A day earlier, Derrick Missick, affectionately called 'Dope Baby', was gunned down in a brazen and daring daylight attack in Kew Town.

The Royal Turks, and Caicos Islands Police Force reported that Missick was killed in the vicinity of the Pink Bar and Musgrove Close. According to police reports, information reached 911 of shots being fired in the area, an upon arrival, officers discovered the lifeless body of a male, later identified as Missick, lying in a pool of blood, with apparent gunshot wounds to the upper part of his body.

Shortly after the discovery of Missick's body, the police got word that a male and a female had sought medical attention for gunshot wounds at the Cheshire Hall Medical Centre, apparently arising from Missick's gun attack. Early Sunday morning, July 16, a gun attack outside of the popular Shisha Lounge in the tourist belt of Grace Bay, left one man dead and four others nursing gunshot wounds. The Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force said the incident took place at about 12:51a.m. The gunmen managed to flee the scene before law enforcement arrived.

On July 5, the headless body of a Five Cays man – Desmond Arthur 48, otherwise called 'Gomer' and 'Pie' was discovered in the community. The police did not reveal whether he was shot before his was beheaded.

Denyse Renne, the Media Relations Officer for the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force, said based on preliminary information, a call was placed to the Police Control Room at around 1:24 a.m. that the lifeless body of a male was spotted at a location in Five Cays.

She said when officers arrived, they saw the decapitated body of a man. She said a few hours later, at around 7:45 a.m., officers received further information that what might have been the head of the decapitated body was seen in an area of the community called 'Club Med'. And after visiting the scene, confirmed that the head belonged to the victim. The police, up the time of submitting this article, did not apprehend anyone for the murder, neither did they establish a motive for the killing.

The United States is the Turks and Caicos Islands' tourism goose that lays the golden egg, having been its main source market.

In recent months crime-fighting in the Turks and Caicos Islands has been bolstered with a number of experienced crime sleuths from the United Kingdom and the Caribbean joining the force. Additionally, 18 new recruits, who were training in The Bahamas returned to the Islands to take assume their roles as full-fledged police officers.

West Indies cricket's long demise

The usual sentiment in the Caribbean and elsewhere as well is that cricket talent abounds in the region. That's a lie. There is a distinct shortage of cricket talent in the West Indies and that is why we are where we are, near the bottom of the world rankings.

Admittedly, it could be argued that the talent is there and is just not being uncovered. But that makes little difference, and the main issue is that there is not an abundance of cricketing ability available to represent the region in a sport it dominated for years.

The latest manifestation of this deficiency is the West Indies' failure to qualify for this year's Cricket World Cup and the recent dismal showing of the Test team against India in Dominica. Many considered it an indignity that the once great team had to play qualifying matches in the first place. But this was not the first time. Four years ago they barely made it through and might not have made it at all were it not for a few close umpiring calls. The point is that the malaise isn't new, and the failure to make the World Cup isn't all that surprising. The West Indies has been a bad team, in all three formats, for a while now and could well be for some time.

The production line that rolled out the greats of the past like gushes from a flood has slowed to a trickle. Giants who bowled like the wind have been replaced by men producing less heat and less discomfort for opposition players. And batters who often took on the best in the game with aplomb have been succeeded by inconsistent players who are a step below in quality.

The result is that the West Indies are no longer good at cricket.

That may be hard for some in the Caribbean to stomach, but it is true. The West Indies are now a bad team, hardly any better than many of the so-called minnows, such as Scotland and Zimbabwe. We are just as likely to beat them as they are to beat us, while it is mostly surprising whenever we achieve victory over teams like India and Australia.

Almost everyone involved with the team has been

singled out for fault during the long period of demise. Administrators, selectors, coaches, captains, and players have all been blamed at some point or other for the sorry state of Caribbean cricket.

It's not difficult, of course, to cast blame. It's easy to say it's the selector's fault, but what are they to do when the resources available are inadequate? As for the captain: What is he to do with underperforming players? His most cunning schemes will come to naught if his team is incapable of executing them properly. What of the coach?

He has to work with the raw material with which he is presented; he can't turn water into wine. And those who think blame lies solely with the administrator's are mistaken, though they must hold some responsibility as those overseeing the direction of Caribbean cricket.

We know it's not their fault because during the many years of descent we have changed captains, selectors, coaches, players, and administrators a number of times, and yet the rot continues. A few home Test series victories, most notably over England, and two Twenty20 World Cup wins have served as mitigation to the general despair. But those results are nothing we should hold on to now. What we need is to seriously study why we are not producing the high-quality cricketers that other nations do.

During the first innings of the first Test of the current series against India, we were shown a list of first-class batters in India averaging way over 40 — one averaging over 80 — who can't get into the Test team. None of our current Test players average 40 or above in first-class cricket. In fact, the last player to exceed that level is Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who played his last game for the West Indies in May 2015. Indeed, the current occupant of the important number three batting position has a first-class average of just over 27. In the meantime, India had a 21-year-old debutant opening batsman, Yashasvi Jaiswal, who made 171 in difficult conditions in a foreign land. His first-class average is 84 from 16 matches, with 10 centuries. West Indies cricket has fallen into a deep, dark hole from which it'll have a hell of a time climbing

out. There is obviously no easy fix, and so getting it back to a respectable level will take some time and some doing. It will require much thought and much action. I once thought the introduction of a professional league in the region would have significantly improved the level of cricket. I was wrong. I have seen no noticeable improvement and the regional teams have certainly not got any better since the inception of the Professional Cricket League in the 2014-2015 season.

Many believe quality West Indies cricketers are a dying breed.

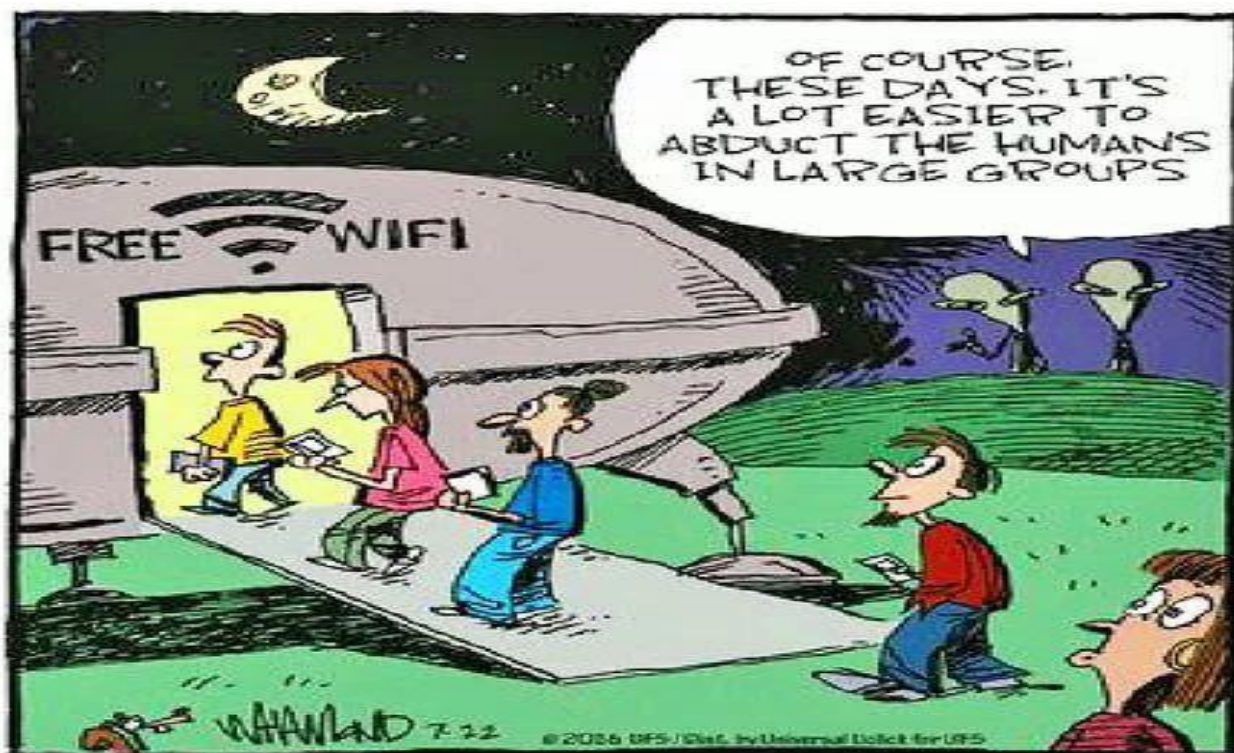
The problems, it seems, are much more complicated than the solutions that have been shot at them in the past. I think there must be simple things that can be done to make the situation better.

The Test team, for example, would benefit from the inclusion of players like Brandon King and Nicolas Pooran. Does anyone really think that King would not be a better candidate to bat at three than the current incumbent? Raymon Reifer is a good, hard-working player, but I doubt many people think he's a better batter than King. With limited options there needs to be better use of the available resources.

Still, in the end, the real goal must be to enlarge the pool of players with real ability, especially with the need to service all three formats of the game. The talent pool is dwindling, I believe, because interest in the game is waning. There are many activities nowadays that capture the interest of the young; cricket is not one of them.

Rekindling interest and participation could help revive the sport and ultimately lead to an improved level of play in the region and to better West Indies teams.

Garfield Robinson is a Jamaican living in the US who writes on cricket for a few Indian and English publications. Send comments to the Jamaica Observer or garfield.v.robinson@gmail.com.



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Premier, Police Commissioner Should Take The Blame – Robert Been Jr.



Commissioner of Police Trevor Botting



Premier Hon. Washington Misick



Robert Been Jr.

"We are witnessing the highest crime rates in our countries history, with an increase in gang-related activity leading to tragic incidents of violence, including murders."

That is the view of Deputy Leader of the Peoples Democratic Movement, Robert Been Jr.

According to Been, last year, TCI Authorities were compelled to seek assistance from the Royal Bahamas Police Force to regain control of our streets. But upon their departure, it appears crime has seen a rebirth.

"The recent beheading of an individual in Five Cays serves as a shocking reminder of the gruesome crimes plaguing our beloved Turks and Caicos Islands," Been lamented.

Been laid the blame for the upswing in crime squarely at the feet of the Washington Misick administration and Commissioner of Police Trevor Botting.

"These unsolved cases can be seen as a clear indication that either our premier is not allocating sufficient resources to combat crime, or our commissioner of police lacks the answers or solutions to address this escalating issue.

"The emotional toll on our citizens cannot be underestimated. Every Turk and Caicos Islander has the right to feel safe and secure within their homes and communities. Our children, the future of our nation, deserve to live and thrive without the threat of violence hanging over their lives," Been Asserted.

According the tough-talking deputy leader, it is the responsibility of any government to ensure the safety of its streets and neighborhoods, noting however, that the current administration has failed to effectively address the crime and violence that plague the territory.

He said his party stands ready to take the rein-in criminality, applying a holistic approach.

"The People's Democratic Movement (PDM) recognizes that crime and violence demand a holistic solution. We are committed to confronting these criminal elements head-on and utilizing all available resources, both legal and material, to reclaim our communities from these detrimental forces. Strategic operations, proper manpower, and necessary equipment must be employed to restore peace, tranquility, and security to our neighborhoods," Been remarked.

He added: "However, addressing crime and violence requires a multi-faceted approach. We must look deeper into the root causes of criminal behavior and juvenile delinquency in our communities.

"We must examine family structures, the impact of fatherlessness, the challenges faced by single mothers, and the importance of providing support through extracurricular activities, youth clubs, church groups, and other community ser-

vices. These measures act as barriers, preventing our youth from embracing lives of crime.

"Furthermore, we need policies in place that foster economic growth and job creation. By cultivating a robust economy, we enable our people to find employment and become productive members of society. This holistic approach should have been a priority for this government."

He stated that the authorities must endeavor to build a bridge between them and the community to foster a synergetic relationship especially between the citizenry and the police. He also noted that the justice system must appear to be fair, while calling for rehabilitative programmes for those who wish to turn from a life of criminality.

"We must engage in genuine and comprehensive consultations with community stakeholders to understand the underlying issues and build trust between residents and the police force. Crimes should no longer go unreported, and we must ensure that our justice system functions effectively to keep criminals, particularly repeat offenders, off our streets.

"Implementing rehabilitation programs for those willing to turn their lives around is also crucial. We must offer them a second chance," Been said, pointing out that it appears the current administration was in over its head as it relates to tackle crime.

"It is evident that the current government is overwhelmed and in dire need of assistance, not only in addressing crime but also in tackling the growing challenges our country faces. This is not a partisan issue; it affects every citizen of the Turks and Caicos Islands. The PDM has previously proposed solutions, and now it is time to put some of those solutions into action," he said.

Sandals Foundation Brings Back-to-School Joy to Middle, North, South Caicos



Janet Walkin (left), principal of the Raymond Gardiner High school and some of her students along with Sandals Foundation Ambassadors



Principal Diann Smith and students from Lighthouse Christian Academy join the Sandals Foundation representatives (wearing 'Hope' shirts for a photo op

Almost 500 students in the islands of Middle, North and South Caicos, recently benefitted from back-to-school donations of Beaches Turks and Caicos resort and the Sandals Foundation. The team from the resort ventured to the islands to bring joy to the students in the eight schools on the three islands.

The first-time event saw students being celebrated and recognised in separate locations at two main schools in North Caicos and at a central location in South Caicos. The 15 members of the Beaches Turks and Caicos team were provided with complimentary

trips on the ferries.

"School packages distributed included school bags with notebooks, storybooks, pencils, crayons, markers, highlighters, pens, erasers, glue and other art supplies, flash cards, construction paper, folder leaves, folders, rulers, sharpeners, calculators, pencil cases, sporting supplies and educational games. All items were donated by guests of the family resort through the Pack for A Purpose initiative which encourages visitors to bring along 5 pounds of needed supplies to support local communities."

"We are really happy for the help given to students of the Adelaide Oemler Primary school. These supplies will go a long way toward assisting them going back to school, as some of the parents will now be able to adjust their budgets for the new academic year. The joy expressed by the students could be overheard in the classroom discussions as they examined the content of each bag," said Abigail Delancy, Principal of the school.

"The kids were ecstatic to show off their new school bags with the goodies included, as well as the dif-



Sandals FOundtion Members (wearing 'Hope' shirts) are picture with Principal Brenda Harvey and students from the Doris Robinson primary in Middle Caicos



Sandals Foundation Ambassadors & the AOPS family

ferent activities that the Beaches Turks and Caicos team were involved in sharing. We can't thank the Sandals Foundation enough for their efforts," Carmencita Morley, Principal of the Charles Hubert James primary noted. Janet Walkin, the Raymond Gardiner High school principal and team, while acting as one of the host distribution points shared, "The back-to-school treat is just a small part of what the Sandals Foundation does for our community. The students being able to receive these items before the close of the school year will help to motivate them to have a prepared mindset for the new school year. This time of the

year is most ideal as parents are now able be more prepared financially for these students." General Manager, James McAnally shared: "Our Sandals Foundation volunteers have shown true commitment to the tasks of sharing and building different communities. These team members have prepared these items during the evening hours after work to ensure that these students are more prepared for the new school year. The team ensured that students in these islands were able to experience the care and commitment from the Sandals Foundation and the resort. We are happy for the support received from our partners in ensuring that

the logistics in preparing and delivering these gifts to these students." Beaches Turks and Caicos public relations manager, Orville Morgan said the Sandals Foundation team was happy to give back to a community with which it has close relationship. Noted Morgan: "It was great to see the smile on the faces of the recipients — and hats off to all the volunteers from the resort who gave of their time to make this a reality. Children on these islands have shown the passion and emotions from receiving these school supplies which we are confident that they are grateful for."

Environmental Health Department Hosts Workshop to Strengthen Port Health Compliance

By Vivian Tyson



From left – Chief Environmental Officer Trefa Hinds, Deputy Governor Her Excellency Anya Williams; Minister of Health Hon. Shaun Malcolm; Minister of Education, Youth and Sport Hon. Rachel Taylor; and Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development Hon. Jamell Robinson share a photo op with participants of the Port Health Workshop.

In an effort to bolster health compliance by importers at all ports in the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Environmental Health Department has organized a five-day workshop to bring its officers up to speed.

Trefa Hinds, the Chief Environmental Officer for the Turks and Caicos Islands explained that the primary objective of the workshop is to provide further education to its officers on how to detect malpractices and other deficiencies at the ports and ensure adherence to International Health Regulations (IHR) in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hinds emphasized the country's vulnerability at the ports during the pandemic and stressed the need for implementing measures to fortify the Port Health Unit and ensure compliance with health regulations.

In response to this need, he said the government initiated a program that introduced 12 temporary port health officers, noting that currently, 11 of these positions have been filled, marking progress in strengthening the port health workforce.

He said the workshop is a collaborative effort between the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), and the Ministry of Health and Human Services, and was being lectured by Technical Advisor of PAHO, Colin Browne.

"Mr. Browne, a port health specialist and consultant for PAHO, is leading the training program as the main lecturer," Hinds informed.

The scope of the initiative extends beyond just covering international airports. It also includes

marinas, seaports, and other entry points to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"The focus is not solely on health declaration clearances, but also on other crucial aspects such as quality control and regulations for various types of vessels, including cruise ships and pleasure crafts. The initiative aims to guide and regulate ship sanitation requirements and address potential importation issues, all of which fall under the umbrella of port health," Hinds further noted.

He said one of the key outcomes of the training is the identification of a potential opportunity for collaboration with Barbados College.

"The college offers a diploma course for port health, and the Environmental Health Department is considering engaging in this program. The intention is to assess the current level of expertise among local staff through the ongoing training and then selectively send a few officers for certification through the Barbados College program. This step would help further enhance the capacity and expertise within the department," Hinds emphasized.

He said the workshop participants consisted of port health officers, vector control officers, and environmental officers.

"With a total of 30 participants, the training aims to build a more comprehensive and capable team to effectively handle all aspects of port health and environmental health in the Turks and Caicos Islands," Hinds further noted. He added: "The initiative demonstrates the government's commitment to ensuring the

health and safety of its citizens and visitors and further strengthening the country's ability to respond to public health challenges at its ports and entry points."

Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service, Her Excellency Anya Williams, who addressed the opening of the session on Monday, July 17, lauded Hinds for endeavoring to ensure that training for officers was big on his agenda.

He also encouraged the officers to ensure that they have an idea of what they wanted to take away from the workshop.

For his part, Minister of Health Hon. Shaun Malcolm stated that it was imperative that the officers gather as much as they were able to, since their knowledge would depend on whether port health sinks or swims.

"I believe that the information gathered from this workshop is critical, therefore, I urge all the participants present to embrace this workshop and gain knowledge on strategies to strengthen the Port Health Regulations in these Turks and Caicos Islands," Health Minister Malcolm urged.

Malcolm reminded the officers of the pivotal role they played at the ports and thereby stressed the need for cohesiveness to strengthen surveillance at the points of entry.

"I want to emphasize the importance of working collaboratively, and I want to urge you to adopt a more coordinated team approach between the various agencies, to ensure that whatever we are doing is effective as well as very timely," Malcolm said.

Invest Turks and Caicos Launches Business Support Unit to Empower Entrepreneurs and Businesses



Invest Turks and Caicos' CEO Angela Musgrove cuts the ribbon to officially open the Business Support Unit



From Left: Angela Musgrove – CEO of Invest Turks and Caicos; Chairman Alvin Hegner; and Anissa Adderley – the Director for the Business Support Unit take time for a photo op at the launch of the Business Support Unit on Monday.



Invest Turks and Caicos staff lead members of the public on a tour of the Business Support Unit

Invest Turks and Caicos, on Monday, has launched its Business Support Unit aimed at providing comprehensive support services to businesses across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Anissa Adderley, the Director of the Business Support Unit, expressed her excitement about the official opening of this unit, which she said has been designed to offer assistance to all types of businesses across the country.

"It is a unit that is newly formed, specifically designed to provide business support services to all businesses in the Turks and Caicos Islands," Adderley said.

She said pointed out that the Business Support Unit offers five core services:

- **Business Planning:** Assistance in creating effective business plans to help entrepreneurs and business owners outline their goals and strategies;
- **Counseling:** Personalized counseling ses-

sions for individuals who seek guidance and advice on their business endeavors;

- **Training:** Training programs and workshops to equip entrepreneurs with essential skills and knowledge required for running successful businesses;

- **Administrative Services:** Support with administrative tasks to streamline business operations and increase efficiency; and

- **MSME Programme Recipient Support:** Assistance for businesses participating in the Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Program;

Prior to the establishment of the Business Support Unit, services, according to Adderley, were offered through third-party partners. However, with this new unit in place, businesses can now access support directly from a team of highly qualified business advisors. These advisors, she said, are available to provide personalized guid-

ance and support on various aspects of business operations.

She said entrepreneurs and business owners can easily access the Business Support Unit's services by walking in and completing a client assessment form. This form, she said, allows the unit to understand their specific needs, including the required training, website development, or other resources. She instructed that the assessment form is also available on the unit's website, and clients have the option to call and complete it over the phone, followed by scheduling an appointment to meet with the support team.

One notable aspect of the Business Support Unit, according to its director, is that it is not exclusive to existing business owners. She pointed out that even individuals with entrepreneurial aspirations can benefit from the program.

She said whether someone is contemplating the idea of starting a business and needs assistance with a business plan or is unsure about the process of obtaining a business license, the support unit is open to all.

"Now, we have a unit that is specifically designed to provide support. So we have a team of exceptionally qualified business advisors, who should provide one-on-one support on business operation, that we did not have in the past," she said. Adderley emphasized her dedication to inspire and empower all clients who register with the Business Support Unit. She said her passion for helping the community is evident, as she encourages individuals to take full advantage of the services provided.

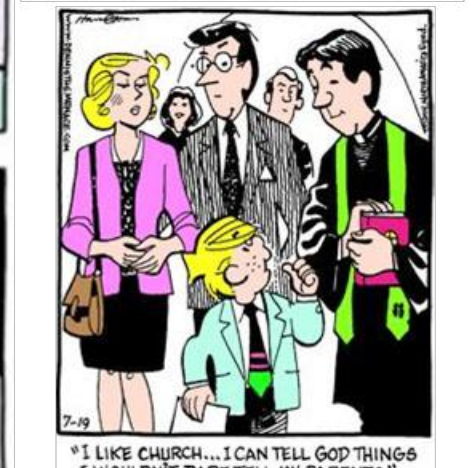
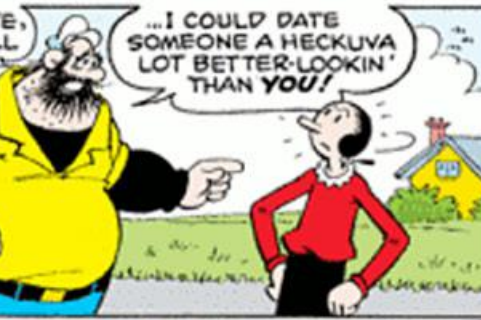
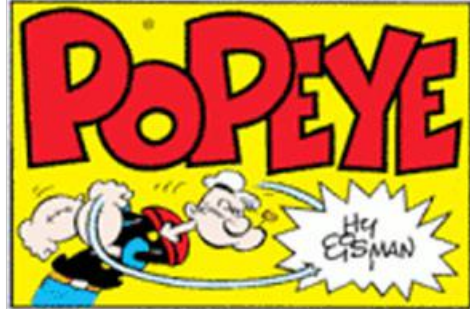
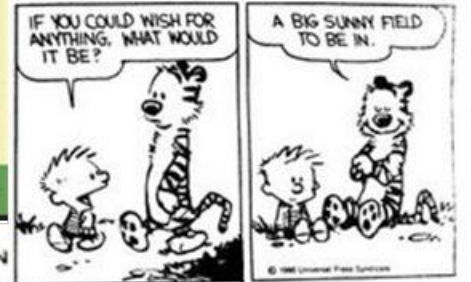
"The goal is to create sustainable and resilient enterprises throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands," she said.

To celebrate the launch, the Business Support Unit hosted an open house event, inviting the community to explore the facility and participate in giveaways.



NEWSLINE COMICS

Calvin and Hobbes



PINK *flamingo*

The Pink Flamingo or West Indian Flamingos are a common site in the wetlands throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands. West Indian Flamingos are one of the six species of flamingo in the world. They used to flourish but by the 1950's its numbers were greatly diminished due to hunting. The nature reserve program in the TCI brought an increased population. The West Indian Flamingo's numbers are now healthy.

NEWSLINE
Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

WEST
INDIAN
FLAMINGO

Scenes From Five Cays Town Hall Meeting

The Felix Morley Community Centre in Five Cays, Providenciales was packed to capacity on Monday, July 17, where a Town Hall Meeting by the government was staged. The meeting, hosted by Member of Parliament for the area and Minister of Education, Youth and Sport Hon Rachel Taylor, drew the likes of the Premier Hon. Washington Misick, Deputy Premier Hon. E. Jay Saunders, Minister of Infrastructure Hon. Jamell Robinson and Attorney General Hon. Rhondalee Braithwaite-Knowles. A range of topics were discussed, including land acquisition and Swatting, National Insurance and infrastructure in the area.





Visitation reinstated at the Cheshire Hall Medical Centre



The Turks and Caicos Islands Hospital is advising members of the public that visitation to the in-patient unit at the Cheshire Hall Medical Centre

has been reinstated to normal hours, which are between 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Earlier this week, the hospital an-

nounced a temporary suspension of visitation to its in-patient unit because of security concerns. This decision, according to the institution, came in response to recent incidents of violence in the area, with it said safety being a top priority for hospital administration.

However, after a thorough review of the situation, the institution has now issued a news release stating that normal visitation will be resumed. The decision to reinstate visitation comes with a message of gratitude to patients and their families for their understanding and cooperation during the temporary suspension.

"The Turks and Caicos Islands Hospital's administration regrets any inconvenience caused over the past two days and wishes to thank patients and their families for their understanding and cooperation during this time," the hospital said in a statement.

NHIP Appeals Tribunal Appointed



Minister of Health and Human Services Hon. Shaun Malcolm (centre) is flanked by two members of the NHIP Appeals Tribunal, attorney Mark Fulford (left) and Bishop Coleta Williams.

A new National Health Insurance Appeals Tribunal has been appointed for a period of two years with effect from 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2025.

The Appeals Tribunal comprises of Chairman Mark A Fulford, a leading Attorney and Managing Partner of F Chambers Law firm; Bishop Coleta A. Williams III, Bishop of the Abundant Life Ministries International church; and Mrs. Jena Janse, a Real Estate professional.

Commenting on the Tribunal re-establishment, Minister of Health and Human Services Hon. Shaun Malcolm, stated: "There are claims that need adjudicating dating back to as far as two years. I have chosen this team as they are all known to me as dedicated persons, who can get the job done," Malcolm said, adding: "I have full confidence that the tribunal will deliver justice swiftly and will deal with the backlog of claims immediately. The public can have faith in knowing that their claims will

be heard."

Commenting on the work of the Tribunal, Chairman Mark A Fulford stated: "The business of adjudicating on health care is near always a matter of life and death decision, and it is my view that we will do all we can within the remit of the law and our terms of reference to adjudicate on matters in a fair, impartial and swift manner. "We will deliberate with the level of seriousness that is deserving of such a tribunal. It is my vision that we modernize, and where possible, make electronic the process and work of the Tribunal, to provide a more people-centered approach to adjudicating these claims."

About the Appeals Tribunal: (1) Where any question arises as to—(a) registration;(b) contribution;(c) eligibility to receive benefit; (d) benefits; or (e) a claim, that question shall be considered in the first instance by the Chief Executive Officer who may, after making necessary

inquiry, determine the question or refer it to the Board for determination, if he considers it expedient to do so.

(2) Where a person is aggrieved by the Chief Executive Officer's decision on a question under sub-regulation (1), that question shall be referred to the Board for determination on the application of the aggrieved person. In such a case the Chief Executive Officer shall submit to the Board a report of his inquiry and his findings thereon.

(3) The decision of the Board on a question, under sub-regulation (1) shall be given in writing and shall specify the reason on which the decision is based: Provided that, if the Board considers that a question is of sufficient importance or that a question of law may arise therefrom, the question may be referred to the tribunal for decision.

How to Appeal: (1) A person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Board may appeal against that decision to the tribunal. (2) An appeal shall be brought by giving notice of appeal in writing to the Board not later than twenty-one days after the date on which the decision against which the appeal is made was issued to the person, or within such longer period, not exceeding sixty days, as the chairman of the tribunal may, in special circumstances, allow.

(3) The notice of appeal shall include a statement of the grounds upon which the appeal is made.

(4) The board shall refer the appeal as soon as practicable to the tribunal by written notice of reference, and shall forthwith send a copy of the notice to the appellant.

(5) The decision of the tribunal on the appeal shall be referred to the board, and the board shall thereupon confirm or revise the decision against which the appeal was made in accordance with the decision of the tribunal.

Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

This week on Newsline Featured Church, we highlight the Church of Christ, located in Blue Hills, Providenciales. The Church of Christ offers several opportunities for weekly worship. On Sunday at 9a.m. is Devine Worship. At 6:30p.m. is evening service. On Wednesday starting at 6:30pm is Bible Study and prayer meeting. The church is founded on Romans 16:16 – “Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.” Its bedrock is also built on 2Corinthians 9:1-15.

The Church of Christ is pastored by Jack Phanor and Patrick Forbes.



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.

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

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

Paradise Baptist Church,
Five Cays, Providenciales
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@newsline.tci.com



How to:

mixed prints

Pairing classic prints may seem scary, but it's actually easier than it looks. Deliberately playing around with prints and patterns could be seen as a style rebellion. However rebellious this may be, ironically, there are rules to follow. This comprehensive guide should make it easier on how to combine and carry-off the most 'out there' fashion clashes.

COLOUR. If you're going to wear a vibrant colour, balance it out with something darker. Much like this colourful plaid print with the darker scarf to contrast. SO bold patterns in neutral colours, for example, black and white, can offset wildly different patterns in a more vibrant colour scheme. One strategy is to mix a monochrome pattern, like a red and white polka dot, with a multicolour pattern that features the colour from the monochrome, like a red floral print. When in doubt, stick to

one colour palette. **LOUD & subtle.** The print on the scarves are less dramatic than the more vibrant print of the coat. The scarves are near solid in a similar colour scheme, so the colours blend together nicely. Mixed prints in the same tonal range look more put-together than not. Florals are some of the toughest patterns to mix and match. One tip that always works for doubling up on florals is to opt for one monochrome print and one multicolour

print that picks up the first colour. **COORDINATE.** This is an easy way to ease into mixing patterns. For example, mix a black and white polka dot outfit with a black and white striped clutch. Simple, but dynamic and effective. **STAPLES.** Classic, simple prints like stripes, polka dots and florals are a great start. Then, layer on a bolder print. For example, try a classic striped t shirt with a more exciting geometric pattern layered on top.

The simple stripe will act as a neutral. **OUTERWEAR.** Another easy way to ease into mixing patterns is by using outerwear. If you aren't willing to commit for the full day, add a plaid jacket or coat like the one pictured and throw on neutral graphic scarves. This can be an easy way to try out mixing prints. *Trust Yourself.* Prints are personal. Just because you love a print doesn't mean everyone else will love it and that's okay. So don't be disheartened if not everyone loves your print, and wear what makes you feel good.



Beaches Summer Internship Programme attracts 100-plus participants



Senior IT Manager Stefan Williams and Children's Activities Manager Fedeline Julien go through the interview process with one of the interns at the orientation



Learning and Development Manager at Beaches Turks and Caicos, Phildreka Mayham makes a point during her opening presentation at the first orientation session

More than 100 students from secondary and tertiary level institutions recently received the opportunity to gain valuable working experience through the Beaches Turks and Caicos (BTC) resort's annual internship programme.

The participants ranging from third form students to final year university attendees embarked on six weeks of on-the-job training across various departments with further support from human resources and learning and development trainers. In addition to acquiring valuable work experience, all students received a weekly stipend.

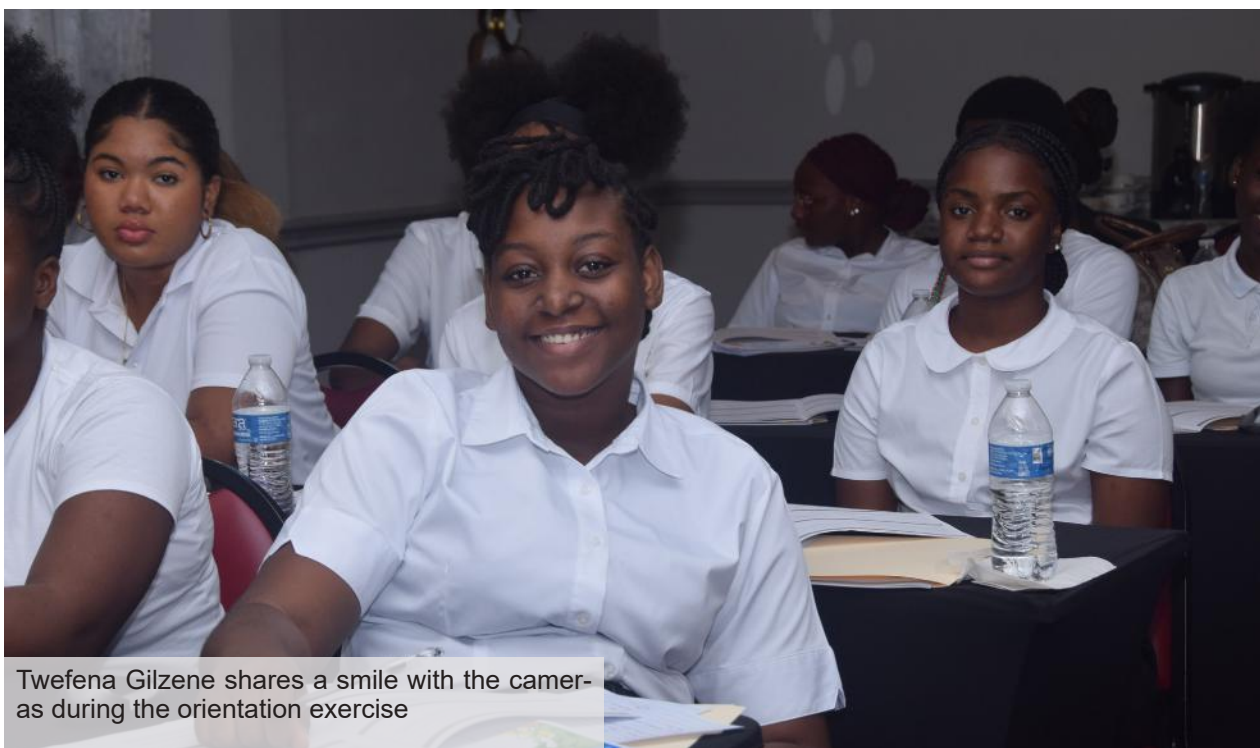
Human Resources Manager Owenta Coleby shared, "being able to provide these students with working experience is something that we are grateful to accommodate. This is one means of helping our youths to earn while they learn from experts within the industry. The students will be immersed in the daily operations of the resort which we anticipate will allow them to choose at a later time, a viable career within the industry."

Josua Louis, student from the Clement Howell High shared, "this opportunity from Beaches to build myself as a future watersports professional is exactly what I intend to achieve from this programme. I know that the team here in the watersports department are some of the most qualified to teach us the rudiments of this profession. I also love sales and marketing and interacting with people, hence my first two choices were watersports and the resort shop."

He added, "This is exactly what we as young people need as this will allow us to gain invaluable experience to include on our resumes."

Twefena Gilzene expressed similar sentiments when asked about what she was expecting to receive at the end of the period. "BTC is the largest private sector employer here in Turks and Caicos and for me to get the opportunity to learn from such experienced persons within this industry will give me added motivation to grow into being the professional I dream of becoming."

General Manager James McAnally noted, "the opportunity to be trained by BTC team members will provide for each participant a journey into an environment of learning, personal and professional development and networking with those already within the industry. We are keen on training all our team members and with these interns having the opportunity to join our team, we see this as a positive way forward initiative."



Twefena Gilzene shares a smile with the cameras during the orientation exercise



Section of the audience at the orientation period for the new interns

Health Department Issues Food Safety Tips



The Turks and Caicos Islands Health Department is advising that during warmer weather, instances of foodborne illness tend to increase.

According to the Health Department, as we go through the summer season it is important to take extra precautions in the handling, and preparation of temperature-sensitive foods such as meats, poultry, seafood, egg and dairy products.

"Perishable foods such as these which are not kept at the correct temperatures can become ideal environments for bacteria and other pathogens to rapidly multiply and lead to the spread of foodborne illnesses," The Health Department said in a news release.

The Environmental Health Department, in an effort to reduce the risk of food-related illnesses is suggesting tips to ensure safe food handling this summer.

Wash your hands and surfaces often

Germs that cause food poisoning can survive in many places and spread around your kitchen. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm or cold water before, during, and after preparing food and before eating.

Always wash hands after handling uncooked meat, chicken and other poultry, seafood, flour or eggs.

Wash your utensils, cutting boards, and counter-

tops with hot, soapy water after preparing each food item. Rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running water.

Separate: Don't cross-contaminate

According to the Environmental Health Department, raw meat, chicken and other poultry, seafood and eggs can spread germs to ready-to-eat food unless you keep them separate.

"When grocery shopping, keep raw meat, poultry, seafood, and their juices away from other foods.

"Keep raw or marinating meat, poultry, seafood and eggs separate from all other foods in the refrigerator. Store raw meat, poultry and seafood in sealed containers or wrap them securely so the juices do not leak onto other foods.

"Use one cutting board or plate for raw meat, poultry and seafood and a separate cutting board or plate for produce, bread and other foods that will not be cooked.

"Raw chicken is ready to cook and does not need to be washed first. Washing these foods can spread germs to other foods, the sink and the counter and make you sick. If you choose to wash chicken, do so as safely as possible, the Health Department advises.

Cook to the right temperature

According to the Health Department, food is safely

cooked when the internal temperature gets high enough to kill germs that can make you sick.

"The only way to tell if food is safely cooked is to use a food thermometer. You cannot tell if food is safely cooked by checking its color and texture (except for seafood)," the Health Department said.

"Use a food thermometer to ensure foods are cooked to a safe internal temperature. Learn how to place the thermometer correctly in different food to get an accurate reading."

The Health Department advises that whole cuts of beef, veal, lamb, and pork, including fresh ham should be cooked at 145°F (then allow the meat to rest for 3 minutes before carving or eating). It stated that fish with fins should be cooked at 145°F or until the flesh is opaque and separates easily with a fork, adding that ground meats, such as beef and pork should be cooked at 160°F.

It noted also that all poultry, including ground chicken and turkey should be cooked at 165°F, while leftovers and casseroles should be warmed at 165°F.

Microwave food thoroughly

"Follow recommended cooking and standing times. Letting food sit for a few minutes after microwaving allows cold spots to absorb heat from hotter areas and cook more completely," the Health Department further advises.

It pointed out that one should know his/her microwave's wattage.

"Check inside the door, owner's manual or manufacturer's website. If your microwave is high wattage (800 watts or more), use the minimum cooking time recommended. If it is low wattage (300-500 watts), use the maximum cooking time recommended.

"When reheating, use a food thermometer to make sure that microwaved food reaches 165°F, the Health Department noted.

Chill: Refrigerate promptly

The Health Department noted that bacteria can multiply rapidly if left at room temperature or in the "Danger Zone" between 40°F and 140°F.

"Keep your refrigerator at 40°F or below and your freezer at 0°F or below, and know when to throw food out before it spoils. If your refrigerator does not have a built-in thermometer, keep an appliance thermometer inside it to check the temperature.

"Lowering the temperature of coolers and other cold storage units to compensate for the warmer environmental temperatures.

"Package warm or hot food into several clean, shallow containers and then refrigerate. It is okay to put small portions of hot food in the refrigerator since they will chill faster.

"Refrigerate perishable food (meat, seafood, dairy, cut fruit, some vegetables, and cooked leftovers) within 2 hours. If the food is exposed to temperatures above 90°F, like a hot car or picnic, refrigerate it within 1 hour," the Health Department continued.

It also suggested that frozen food should be thawed safely in the refrigerator, in cold water, or in the microwave.

"Never thaw food on the counter because bacteria multiply quickly in the parts of the food that reach room temperature. For further information or assistance please contact the Environmental Health Department at Tel. 1-649-338-2143/2144," The Health Department concluded.

International Probation and Parole Week Activities Concluded



Ministry of Public Safety and Utilities, Department of Rehabilitation and Community Services (DRCS) celebrated International Probation and Parole Week on 3rd- 9th July 2023. The main objective of the week was to raise public awareness about probation and parole services and to also celebrate the valiant efforts of probation officers who are responsible for community supervision and the rehabilitation of offenders in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

During the weeklong celebration, an appreciation luncheon was held for Mr. Leo Selver who is credited for introducing probation and parole services to the country in 1979. Mr. Selver, though retired continues to assist the team whenever he is called upon. He is currently a sitting member of the Parole Board.

Additionally, an enrichment seminar and a wellness day were also held, to empower and equip staff with the skill-sets needed to be successful in both their professional and personal lives.

On Saturday, 8th July 2023, members of the Ministry's executive team joined the team in Providenciales for a staff appreciation dinner, where they received words of encouragement and appreciation for the essential work they are doing to promote public safety and reduce reoffending.

The week ended with a church service held at Jericho Baptist Church, Providenciales.

Commenting on the week of activities, Minister of Public Safety and Utilities, the Hon. Otis Morris stated, "I am delighted to work with a team of hard-working and dedicated probation and parole officers, who are change agents. They are an essential part of the justice system and work collaboratively with many stakeholders to uphold the law, safeguard the public from criminal activity, and ensure that offenders are equipped with the skills and resources to be productive members of society."

NEWSLINE & Chill

TCI Culture Scramble

- OANOUKJN _____
- AMAONOSK _____
- CNHCO _____
- OBRSLTE _____
- IAWPRS _____
- ANIOT _____
- KRUETDASH _____
- UANYCLA _____
- LLLTIMSA _____
- ILAASN _____

(1) Junkanoo (2) Maskanoo (3) Conch (4) Lobster (5) Ripsaw (6) Taino (7) Turks Head (8) Lucayan (9) Salt Mill (10) Salina

Brain Teaser

I weaken all men for hours each day. I show you strange visions while you are away. I take you by night, by day take you back. None suffer to have me, but do from my lack. What am I?

Answer: Sleep

Celebrities who have visited TCI

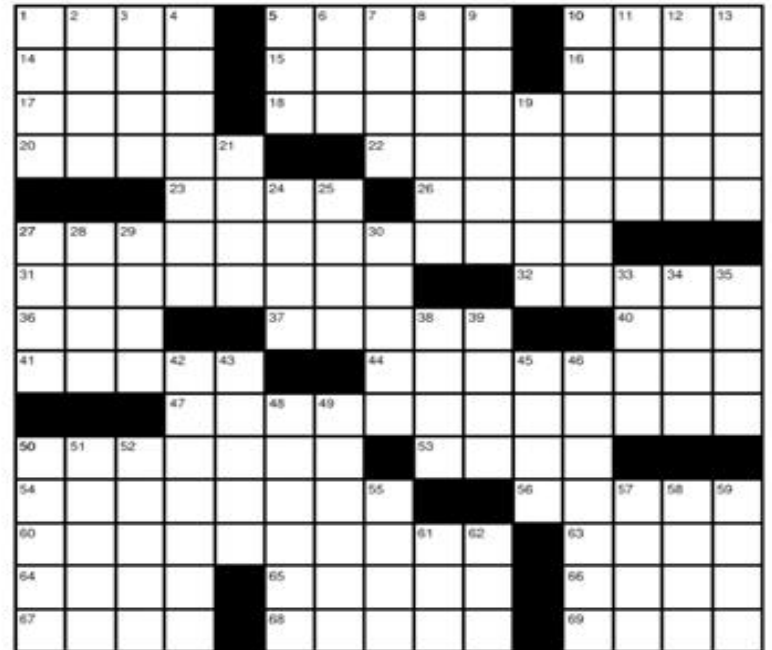
D R O F H S A R S U C R A M
 K E T M K B P N T T Y J L D
 S I Y S L X R D T J A Y A P
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 A J B T A D C M X D Y U D H
 J A T I A R I A B J C P T V
 N N B R L K D E E E C I J E
 O I B G C L C A W S M O K V
 R L R I D K G I S S N A L M
 B E N V H N L A L H R A J E
 E G P A L L K L T D I T Y Z
 L N M M I D I Z L E R A P R
 L A X S B W Z X Z D S X N Q

- Bill Gates
- Nicki Minaj
- Bruce Willis
- Brad Pitt
- David Beckham
- Angelina Jolie
- Ryan Seacrest
- J Cole
- Kim Kardashian
- Drake
- Marcus Rashford
- Will Smith
- Lebron James

Warped

- ACROSS**
1. Venerable
 5. Brutus's bruises
 10. Letters on a Soviet stamp
 14. Gujarati garb
 15. Gown material
 16. Columbus's home
 17. "Oh, woe!"
 18. Mid-life crisis comforts
 20. Five-way foundation
 22. Temporary suspension
 23. Noted sinner in Genesis
 26. Judge
 27. Somewhat unsatisfactory terms
 31. Pugsley's mom
 32. Mimimal
 36. 2006 star of "I Pity the Fool"
 37. What you might do with 18, 27, 47, and 60 across
 40. Bill's partner
 41. 60 minutes past midnight
 44. Creature in a maze
 47. Overhead tacks
 50. Change the orchestration
 53. Extras in a Peter Jackson film
 54. Star of "S1m0ne"
 56. Annual sports awards
 60. Assateague inhabitants
 63. Sailor's saint
 64. She plays "Nurse Jackie"
 65. French textile city
 66. Crazy in Córdoba
 67. Soaks flax
 68. Make many small withdrawals at the bank?
 69. Police jacket letters
- DOWN**
1. Hurried exhortation
 2. Apple variety
 3. Common and prohibition
 4. Warp
 5. Letters before Maine or Colorado

Robert Stockton



© 2010

6. Word with gangster or bum
7. Plato's portico
8. Inflatable life-saver
9. Digestive tracts
10. Contents of Holmes "seven-per-cent solution"
11. Plainsong, e.g.
12. Mythical inhabitant of Aeaëa
13. Pretentious fraud
19. 1976 Emmy-winning role for Sally Field
21. "The King ____"
24. Beginning in first grade
25. Big name in hair loss?
27. Cylinder contents
28. Shofar source
29. Comic Johnson of "Laugh-In"
30. "Evil Dead" director Sam
33. Berry marketed as an antioxidant "superfruit"
34. Play it with "heart" on the piano
35. Rocky peaks
38. "In ____ veritas"
39. Many an MIT grad
42. "Missile Command" centers, once
43. Sponge
45. Without repetition
46. Graduates' souvenirs
48. Orange and black songbird
49. Odin's bane at Ragnarök
50. Less refined
51. Omit
52. Bowler's bane
55. Nobel city
57. It's a sweet sight for the snow-bound
58. 1978 Village People hit
59. Bad flue symptom?
61. Long ago, long ago
62. Date

This puzzle was created using CrossFire (<http://beekeeperlabs.com/crossfire>)

J^{of the} JOKE WEEK

I invented a new word!

Plagiarism!

SUDOKU

	2			9	7	6
	7		6	2	8	9
	4	6		8	5	3
	8	2	9			6
5	6			8		2
7				6	2	9
	5	8	2		6	7
	3	4	8		7	5
	9	7	5			8

		7	1	2		8		
	4			8				6
	6			9		7	1	
		2		6		1		
6	8		7			4	2	
	1				5		8	
7				5	1		6	8
5		8		7		2		1
1			8		2		7	5

Is Type 1 Diabetes Genetic? Here's What Experts Say



Experts have identified some of the gene mutations that contribute to type 1 diabetes, but there are certainly more waiting to be discovered. But the genes are only part of the story. Most experts believe that specific gene mutations only predispose you to develop type 1 diabetes while additional environmental factors are needed to activate those genes. Here's what we know about the complicated genetic portrait of type 1 diabetes.

"There's a really strong genetic component but it's not the only thing going on," Leann Olansky, MD, an endocrinologist at the Cleveland Clinic tells Health. "There are environmental conditions that trigger the process."

Scientists have not identified one gene which causes type 1 diabetes. Instead, they've discovered mutations in a tribe of genes called the human leukocyte antigen (HLA) complex. Specific combinations of these mutations (called a haplotype) seem to confer a higher risk of developing type 1 diabetes.

"These mutations are associated with changes in one's immune system which stimulates an autoimmune destruction of the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas leading to type 1 diabetes," Deena Adimoolam, MD, a specialist in endocrinology and preventative medicine in New Jersey tells Health.

Specifically, these genes, which are located on chromosome 6, help the immune system identify which compounds are natural to the body and which shouldn't be there. Without this ability, the immune system has no way to tell which compounds are friends and which are foes. This same gene complex is also involved in other autoimmune diseases, which may explain another feature of type 1 diabetes.

"Patients with type 1 diabetes can have other autoimmune diseases," says Dr. Olansky. "They probably have a similar pathway."

But the changes in HLA genes only explain about 40% of the genetic risk for type 1 diabetes. There are other genes that can not only increase the risk but also lower the risk. "There are a lot of other genes that modify that risk and make it greater or lesser," says Dr. Olansky. The genes are most often present in Caucasian people, which makes sense because type 1 diabetes cases are overwhelmingly among white people. A specific gene mutation (HLA-DR7) may raise the risk for African Americans, while HLA-DR9 may heighten the risk for Japanese individuals.

One form of diabetes, called MODY (maturity-onset diabetes of the young), is clearly caused by variations in certain genes. Although

MODY has many features of type 1 diabetes, it is not identical.

The gene variations responsible for type 1 diabetes are passed down in families. "The lifetime risk of developing T1DM is significantly increased if one has a family history of type 1 diabetes," says Dr. Adimoolam. "One study suggests that the risk of developing T1DM with no family history is 0.4%. If there is one parent with T1DM, the risk of their child developing T1DM increases to 3%-4%."

If your mother or father has type 1 diabetes, your risk of getting it is about 5%, versus only 1% in the general population, says Dr. Olansky. But even among identical twins, the risk isn't equal. If one twin develops type 1 diabetes, then the other twin has a 50% chance of also developing the condition.

That means other issues are at play. "You can have the gene and be relatively protected until circumstances arise that trigger it," says Dr. Olansky.

About 25% of Caucasians have HLA types that are clearly associated with the risk of type 1 diabetes, but only about 1% of the total population actually

develops type 1, says Dr. Olansky. What's more, only about 5% of those who have the actual mutations develop the condition.

So why do these gene mutations raise the risk for some folks and not for others?

Again, experts' knowledge is still in its infancy, but there seem to be environmental triggers that set the genes in motion. No one knows exactly what those triggers are but there are a number of candidates.

Certain pregnancy-related factors that have been associated with type 1 diabetes include having a mother older than 25 years, preeclampsia, neonatal respiratory disease, and jaundice, says Dr. Adimoolam.

Certain viruses have also been implicated, namely rubella and coxsackievirus, as have vitamin D deficiency and even exposure to cold weather.

But just as no one gene explains type 1 diabetes, likely no one environmental trigger will either.

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Singapore has world's most powerful passport



The jiggling and jostling atop the global passport rankings for 2023 just got a little more interesting.

For five long years, Japan has been sitting pretty in the No.1 position in the Henley Passport Index, which measures global travel freedom in terms of how much visa-free and visa-on-demand access to the world different citizens enjoy.

But for summer 2023, Japan's been knocked down into third place and the new titleholder is Singapore, whose citizens are able to visit 193 destinations out of 227 around the world visa-free.

And while Asia has long dominated the top of the leaderboard in the index created by London-based global citizenship and residence advisory firm Henley & Partners, Europe is bouncing back. Germany, Italy and Spain have all moved up into second place with visa-free access to 190 destinations, while Japan and South Korea are joined in the No.3 slot by Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg and Sweden. Citizens from that particular magnificent seven enjoy access to 189 destinations without needing a prior visa. The United States and the United Kingdom have both been on a downward trajectory since the halcyon days when they jointly held the No.1 spot way back in 2014, but the UK, at least, appears to be turning things around. It's made a sprightly two-rankings hop to No.4 in the ranking, a position it's not held since 2017. The US, meanwhile, has dropped a further two places to eighth spot, with access to a mere 183 destinations visa-free.

The Henley Passport Index is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and ranks 199 passports worldwide. It's updated in real time throughout the year, as

and when visa policy changes come into effect. In its latest release, Henley & Partners notes that over the history of the 18-year-old ranking the average number of destinations travelers are able access visa-free has nearly doubled, from 58 in 2006 to 109.

However, the travel freedom gap between those at the top and the bottom of the ranking is wider than ever. Citizens of Afghanistan are only able to visit 27 destinations without a prior visa, just below Iraq (with 29 destinations) and Syria (with 30).

Cristian H. Kaelin, chairman of Henley & Partners, notes that Singapore has been busy securing greater travel freedom for its citizens over the past decade, gaining visa-free access to 25 new destinations.

"The UAE has added an impressive 107 destinations to its visa-free score since 2013," he says. "Of the countries sitting in the Top 10, the US has seen the smallest increase in its score, securing just 12 additional destinations."

Greg Lindsay, from Cornell Tech's Jacobs Institute, says in the Henley & Partners release, "The story is a simple one — by more or less standing still, the US has fallen behind. America's relentless slide down the rankings is a warning to its neighbor Canada and the rest of the Anglosphere as well."

First Reported by CNN

Elon Musk says Twitter's ad revenue is down 50% and cash flow is negative



MUSK... "It's definitely been extremely difficult."

Elon Musk disclosed on Twitter Saturday that, due to a 50% drop in advertising revenue and a "heavy debt load," the platform still has a negative cash flow.

The billionaire owner tweeted Saturday, in response to business advice from a follower, "Need

to reach positive cash flow before we have the luxury of anything else."

The tweet is in stark contrast to his tone in April, when Musk told the BBC the platform is now "roughly breaking even" and that most of its advertisers have returned.

Ad revenue has been a contentious issue and an uphill battle for the site, after hordes of advertisers fled after Musk took over. Advertisers were concerned about content moderation, mass layoffs and general uncertainty about Twitter's future.

Linda Yaccarino, a former NBCUniversal marketing executive, recently took over the CEO position from Musk — he's likely betting on her advertising experience to bring them back.

The New York Times reported that Twitter's US advertising revenue from the five weeks from April 1 to the first week of May was down 59% year-over-year, citing an internal presentation. (CNN has not viewed the presentation.)

Just 43% of Twitter's top 1,000 advertisers as of September, the month before Musk's takeover, were still advertising on the platform as of April, according to data provided to CNN by market intelligence firm Sensor Tower last month.

"It's definitely been extremely difficult," Musk said in Twitter Spaces livestream event Musk hosted with Robert F. Kennedy, Jr last month. "Basically, our revenue is cut in half because we didn't toe the line." He added it's been a "huge struggle for Twitter to break even."

And, after its rival app, Meta's Threads, surpassed 100 million downloads less than a week after it launched, Twitter is under increased pressure.

Musk has added a variety of cost-cutting or cash-seeking measures to the site, from giving blue checkmarks with a Twitter Blue membership to putting Tweetdeck behind a paywall.

On Thursday, Twitter announced content creators would be able to get a slice of the site's ad revenue, seemingly to encourage more creators to join the site. To be eligible, the creators must have Twitter Blue and have at least 5 million impressions on their posts in each of the last three months.

Among the creators who now get monetized off Twitter: Andrew Tate, the self-proclaimed "misogynist" online influencer, who was indicted in Romania on charges of human trafficking, rape and setting up a criminal gang.

CNN did not receive comment from Twitter.

Sports Commission Summer Camp A Hit With Campers

By Vivian Tyson



Campers on North Caicos engaging in drills



A female participant practices her basketball skills



Campers honing their basketball skills

The Turks and Caicos Islands Sports Commission's Summer Sports Camp is in full swing, offering an exciting and active experience for local kids.

The camp, which began on July 18 in North Caicos, witnessed a day full of fun in the sun as participants engaged in a variety of sports activities and drills, displaying remarkable effort and enthusiasm.

Children aged 9 to 17 years were given the opportunity to participate in a range of sporting activities, showcasing their talents and dedication to staying active during the summer break. The young athletes were coached and guided by experienced instructors who aimed to nurture their skills and foster a love for sports.

The Summer Sports Camp in North Caicos was slated to be followed by several other camps, catering to various interests and age groups. Here are the upcoming camps in North Caicos: Cricket Camp (9-17 Years) – took place between July 18 and 21;

Sports Performance Camp (12-18 Years) - July

27-29; and

Softball Camp (9-17 Years)- August 1-4.

The Sports Commission said parents and guardians who haven't registered their children for the camps as yet can still do so online by visiting the registration link provided by the Sports Commission: <https://forms.office.com/r/nLgOLKAVXN>.

The Sports Commission said its initiative to organize the summer camps aims to keep the youth engaged in healthy and active pursuits while also promoting a sense of camaraderie and teamwork among participants. It added that the camps provide a fantastic opportunity

for young sports enthusiasts to learn, grow, and make lasting memories.

The Sports Commission further pointed out that the success of the Summer Sports Camps has become evident from the spirited efforts of the children, their infectious energy, and the smiles on their faces as they enjoy each activity. The Sports Commission said it hopes that these camps will inspire the younger generation to develop a lifelong passion for sports and physical fitness.

The Turks and Caicos Islands Sports Commission further pointed out that through its summer camps, it is making a positive impact on the lives of the participants and contributing to the overall development of the country's sporting community.

Raymond Black Secures Two Bronze At NACAC Age Group Meet In DR



Remarkable athletes, Rayvon Black emerged as the shining star for the Turks and Caicos Islands, mining two bronze medals at the NACAC U13 and U15 Championships in Santiago, Dominican Republic between July 15 and 16.

Competing in the 80m Hurdles, Black exhibited remarkable speed, agility, and precision, securing the third-place position and claiming the bronze medal.

Additionally, he showcased his versatility as an athlete by clinching another bronze medal in the Shotput event. His strength and technique in this field event undoubtedly contributed to his

outstanding performance, solidifying his position as a rising talent in track and field.

Black, who is from Grand Turk, attends Denbigh High School in Jamaica, where he has been honing his skills and perfecting his craft.

His achievements at the NACAC Championships have brought immense pride to Turks and Caicos.

His performance at the championship undoubtedly demonstrates his unwavering determination and talent and has given him a promising future in the world of sports.

High Registration For Police Action Basketball League



Thursday, July 20, 2023) The TCI Sports Commission (TCISC) and Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force (RTCIPF) partnership Police Action League (PAL) hosted the Basketball Draft Day on July 15th and recorded over 100 male players registered to play. The resounding success resulted in a change in age tiers from 12U and 16U to 13U, 15U and 17U. Boys showed up to the Gustavus Lightbourne Sports Complex, Providenciales eager to show off their skilful prowess in the drills and scrimmages. As of 2022, the community-driven youth sports league fa-



facilitates Basketball for boys and Softball for girls.

The upcoming Softball Draft kicks off at 12:00 pm on July 22 at the Downtown Ballpark, Providenciales. Like the Basketball league, the players will take part in drills and scrimmages to be drafted by their prospective coach.

The team names remain the same as last year for both sports: Avengers, Badgers, Commanders, Guardians, Sequest, and Skyhawks. These names are the namesake of RTCIPF vessels.

Minister of Education, Labour, Employment and Customer Service Hon. Rachel Taylor, Director of Sports Jarrett Forbes and Deputy Commissioner of Police Rodney Adams were present and intricately involved in the festivities of the draft.

In 2022, The 12U Skyhawks and 16U Badgers came out as champions. This year with more age tiers, competition will be stiffer, especially for players who have moved up a tier.

Basketball and Softball games will take place every Friday and Saturday until August 26th as this is when the Playoffs begin. This all leads up to the Basketball Championships on Saturday, 9 September 2023 and Softball Championships on September 16, 2023. Fans can purchase tickets at the door Adults for \$3 and Children for \$1.



Sports Commission Summer Camp In High Gear

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