

**Basketball Federation Seeks Nationwide Talent**  
PG32



# NEWSLINE

Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage



**Police Intensifies Targeted Enforcement Operations** PG4



**Electricity Rates Expected to Fall Within Two Years** PG8

# \$120-MILLION SUPPORT

Mike Misick's Bond was Set at \$15M, But a Whopping \$120M was Made Available From Supporters



Former Premier Michael Misick leaves the courtroom on Wednesday after his conviction on Wednesday, February 4.

>>> STORY ON PG5

# Electors Claims and Objections Deadline February 14

The Elections Department is reminding all registered electors that the deadline for submitting Claims and Objections for the 2026/2027 Electors List is Friday, February 14, 2026. Following the publication of the Electors List on January 31, 2026, registered electors are given fourteen (14) days to carefully review the list and confirm that their information is accurate. As this period is about to an end, electors are urged to act to ensure the details being published are correct. A qualified elector whose name or particulars have been omitted wrongly may submit a claim for inclusion or correction of the electoral list using Form 5. An eligible elector within the same electoral district may object to any other person whose name appears on the electoral list and not entitle to have his or her name therein may file an objection using Form 6. Where an elector is likely to be temporarily absent from the Islands may appoint another person in writing to act as an agent on his or her behalf for the purpose of making a claim by using Form 7, supported by a sworn affidavit confirming the agent's authority. All forms mentioned above can be obtained from the Elections Department website <https://www.gov.tc/elections/>. Completed Claims and Objections may

be submitted to:

- Elections Department, Pond Street, Grand Turk
- Elections Department, #17 Caribbean Place, Leeward Highway, Providenciales
- District Commissioner's Offices in South Caicos, North Caicos, Middle Caicos, and Salt Cay.

The Electors List remains available for public viewing across the ten (10) Electoral Districts and online via the official Elections Department webpage. Viewing locations include:

**ED 1 – Grand Turk North**  
Fulford's Gas Station; Sunny Food Store (West Road); Durham's Home Centre; John Missick Bar (West Road); Shop Rite Grocery Store; Things Galore Store (Over Back); A&H Hair Supply (Over Back); Fishermen Paradise (Over Back); Poop Deck Restaurant (Pond Street).

**ED 2 – Grand Turk South & Salt Cay**  
Graceway Supermarket; Do-It Centre; Sunny Foods; Grand Turk Library; Grand Turk International Airport; DC's Office, Salt Cay; Community Centre, Salt Cay; Grand Turk Liquors; Grace Bay Pharmacy (Church Folly).

**ED 3 – South Caicos**  
Airport Terminal; District Commissioner's Office; Seaview Marina; Super Value Supermarket; G & H Enterprise;

Government Treasury.

**ED 4 – Middle & North Caicos**  
District Commissioner's Office, Conch Bar; Community Centre, Bambarra; Government Clinic, Lorimers; District Commissioner's Office, Bottle Creek; Kevin's Enterprise; Digicel Store, Bottle Creek; Community Centre, Kew; Community Centre, Whitby; Community Centre, Sandy Point.

**ED 5 – Leeward**  
Sand Castle Convenience Store; TCI Ferry Service; IBO Store; Rick's Flamingo Café.

**ED 6 – The Bight**  
Froggies Souse House & Sports Bar; Rubis Gas Station, Long Bay; Kathleen's 7-11Store; Rubis Grace Bay Petro Mart; Rubis Gas Station; Graceway Gourmet Supermarket; Graceway Supermarket (Main Store).

**ED 7 – Cheshire Hall & Richmond Hill**  
**The Library;** Grant's Gas Station; The Post Office; Betty's Store, Kew Town; Black's Store, Kew Town; Chinson's Grill Shack; Discount Liquors; Provo Discount Store; Building Material Do-It Centre.

**ED 8 – Blue Hills**  
Keyse's Variety Store; Pablo Wash House; Chicken Shack; The African Store; Grace Variety Store; Lapel's TCI Dry Cleaners; Parker's Variety Party Store.

**ED 9 – Five Cays**  
Mackey's Automotive; Kitch's Restaurant; Hole in the Wall Restaurant; Gilly's Café (International Airport); Five Cays Wash House; Walk-In Service Station; Liz Bakery; Caicos Oil Mart.

**ED 10 – Wheeland**  
Froggies on the Beach; Frank's Store 4U; Red Zone Variety Store; Snappers Beachfront Restaurant.

Official forms may be collected from the Elections Department offices in Grand Turk and Providenciales, as well as District Commissioner's Offices throughout the islands. The Elections Department encourages all electors to verify their registration details and submit any necessary Claims or Objections before the February 14 deadline, helping to ensure the continued accuracy, integrity, and fairness of the electoral process in the Turks and Caicos Islands. For more information or inquiries regarding voter registration or the voters list, persons are encouraged to contact the Elections Department directly. The Department can be reached by phone at 649-338-2301 or via email at [electionsdept@gov.tc](mailto:electionsdept@gov.tc). Stay informed by following the Elections Department on [www.gov.tc/elections](http://www.gov.tc/elections) or on Facebook and Instagram at [@tcielectionsdepartment](https://www.facebook.com/tcielectionsdepartment) for news and additional updates.



### DENTONS TCI : CHARITY PARTNER SOUGHT

Dentons TCI (formerly Griffiths & Partners) has enjoyed a successful charity partnership with the Diabetic Association since 2023, during which time we raised over \$45K for the charity.

We are now looking to review our preferred charity partner, and wish to invite expressions of interest from charities in the Turks and Caicos Islands who would like to work with Dentons as our preferred charity partner. Our target is to raise more than \$100K over a three-year partnership period.

If you are an established (more than 3 years in operation, with a Board, and registered as a charitable entity) charity operating in the Turks and Caicos Islands, please send us a short proposal as to how you would partner with us to make the most of this partnership opportunity, and what you would do differently if you had an extra \$100K to spend over the next three years.

**Please send your proposals to [ayanna.ferdinandcatlyn@dentons.com](mailto:ayanna.ferdinandcatlyn@dentons.com) with a copy to [gertrude.forbes@dentons.com](mailto:gertrude.forbes@dentons.com) no later than March 31st .**

# LUMPY CONSTRUCTION

SOUTH DOCK ROAD, PROVIDENCIALES HAS AN OPENING FOR A

# CARPENTER

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS POSITION INCLUDE**  
REPAIRS OF BUILDING FRAMEWORKS AND STRUCTURES SUCH AS STAIRWAYS, DOORFRAMES, PARTITIONS, AND VARIOUS WOODEN FURNITURE. ASSISTS WITH GENERAL MAINTENANCE

**ENQUIRIES EXPERIENCE:** MINIMUM 2 YEARS' EXPERIENCE AS A CARPENTER WITH THE ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY. **SALARY: \$8.00 - \$10.00 PER HOUR. MONDAY - FRIDAY**

**Please apply no later than Friday, February 13, 2026, to 649-241-2478.**





### **\*Training & Quality Assurance Manager**

**Job Overview:** Candidates with a passion for excellence, great analytical skills and proven leadership experience are invited to apply. The Training & Quality Assurance Manager, works across the different disciplines and is in charge of the quality assurance processes and training programs. You will manage the effective implementation of training events and special projects throughout both properties. You will assist with designing, developing, coordinating, and running of both large- and small-scale training programs

### **Essential Functions:**

- Assist with designing and developing comprehensive programs for training, including departmental specific training, guest satisfaction training, behavioral training, company culture training, HR training, and policy and procedural training.
- Manages an effective standards training program and ensures Standards Training Manuals are updated regularly and training checklists are turned in for new hires Maintains an effective Designated Trainer (or Learning Coach) program
- Daily production of the Grace Gazette, an internal training newsletter with a strong focus on company culture, guest satisfaction training and disbursement of pertinent staff related information.
- Assist with selecting the ideal training methods or activities for a particular purpose and audience (online, role playing, mentoring, on the job training, professional development classes, etc.).
- Market and promote training opportunities to employees in a compelling way that provides all necessary information.
- Assist with the planning and conducting New Employee Orientation in accordance with the department's monthly schedule.
- Assist with the company's Rewards and Recognition programs including Employee and Leader of the Quarter & Year Ceremonies, Respect Cards Drawings and any other activities related to rewards and recognition.
- Utilize LHW, Forbes, Medallia and Guest Comments to design and implement training to address any issues in service delivery.
- Assist with conducting regular, whole-organization needs assessments, identifying skills or knowledge gaps that need addressing.
- Utilize training best practices and education principles.
- Analyze and incorporate new training methods and techniques.
- Assist with developing and preparing educational/training aids and materials, as needed.
- Assist with evaluating effectiveness of training courses and provide summary reports to management, determining impact of training on employee skills and corporate goals.
- Collaborate with and connect internal stakeholders and liaise with various experts regarding instruction and training planning.
- Maintain a database of curriculum, materials, and personnel training records.
- Organize and conduct train-the-trainer sessions for in-house experts/trainers.
- Oversee and maintain in-house training facilities and necessary training equipment.
- Manage both local and international internship programs
- Produce Annual Training Calendar for presentation to and approval of Senior Leadership.
- Collaborate with Director of Human Resources on preparing, issuing and follow-through of Performance Improvement Plans.
- Assist with succession planning for all team members of both properties
- Any other duties as assigned by the Director of Training & Quality Assurance

### **Requirements and Qualifications**

- Previous work experience as a, hospitality trainer, coach, or training facilitator, preferably in a large group resort environment.
- Knowledge and successful implementation of instructional design theory.
- Experience working with and implementing a Learning Management System (LMS)
- Familiar with both traditional and modern job training methods, trends and techniques.
- Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Office proficiency; familiarity with web delivery tools.
- Outstanding communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Exceptional organizational skills, including the ability to handle multiple assignments and prioritize work.
- B.A. or B.S. Degree in Hospitality, Learning & Development or Business preferred
- Professional Learning & Development Certification or Designation from an accredited institution
- Minimum 3 years' experience as a Learning & Development Professional or Instructional Designer preferably in a luxury hotel environment
- Forbes and Leading Quality Assurance certified training or previous experience training in a Forbes hospitality environment preferred
- Ability to multi-task, prioritize and deliver results in a fast-paced environment
- Highly adaptable and flexible
- Must have a valid driver's license





**Competencies**

- Business Acumen.
- Great organization & planning skills.
- Effective Communication & Confidentiality
- Consultation
- Strong Connection & Collaboration skills
- Critical Evaluation
- Ethical Practice
- Values Diversity
- Global & Cultural Awareness
- Learning & Development Expertise
- Leadership & Navigation
- Relationship Management

**Salary Range: \$US 70,000.00 - \$US 72,000.00 per annum**

**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](mailto: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: February 5, 2026**



*A police officer about to check a motorist for compliance*

A total of 43 traffic tickets were issued during two targeted traffic enforcement operations conducted by the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force (RT&CI PF) through its Traffic Enforcement Unit, in collaboration with the Turks and Caicos Islands Border Force, as part of ongoing efforts to improve road safety across the islands. The operations, carried out on Wednesday, 21 January 2026, and Friday, 30 January 2026, were aimed at enforcing traffic laws, reducing unsafe driving practices, and minimizing risks to motorists, passengers, and pedestrians.

Together, the operations resulted in 91 traffic checks, reflecting the Force’s continued commitment to proactive road policing and accident prevention. During the most recent operation on Friday, 30 January 2026, officers conducted a total of 36 traffic checks. These checks led to the issuance of 19 traffic tickets, along with other enforcement actions taken against motorists found to be in breach of traffic regulations. Officers focused on a range of violations, including licensing and documentation compliance, vehicle roadworthiness, and driver behavior.

# Police Intensifies Targeted Enforcement Operations

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, 21 January 2026, the Traffic Enforcement Unit carried out 55 traffic checks at various locations. That operation resulted in 24 traffic tickets being issued. As with the later exercise, officers concentrated on ensuring that drivers and vehicles met the legal requirements for operating on public roads, while also reinforcing the importance of safe driving practices. Police officials noted that both operations form part of a broader, sustained traffic enforcement strategy designed to address persistent road safety concerns. These include speeding, failure to wear seat belts, driving uninsured or unlicensed vehicles, and operating vehicles that are not roadworthy. Such violations not only contravene the law but also significantly increase the likelihood of traffic accidents and serious injuries. The RT&CI PF is reminding all drivers and passengers of their responsibility to always wear seat belts, regardless of distance traveled or seating position. Seat belts remain one of the most effective safety measures for reducing the sever-

ity of injuries in the event of a collision. Motorists are also being urged to ensure their vehicles are properly licensed, insured, and mechanically sound, and that all documentation is up to date. Drivers should further ensure they are fully compliant with all traffic regulations, including speed limits and other road safety requirements. Police have advised that traffic enforcement operations will continue island-wide, and that drivers should expect regular and targeted checks as part of these ongoing initiatives. The Force emphasized that enforcement is not intended to inconvenience law-abiding motorists, but rather to promote safer roads and protect lives. The Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force expressed its appreciation to members of the public for their cooperation during the operations and encouraged all road users to play their part in keeping the Turks and Caicos Islands safe. Through shared responsibility and adherence to traffic laws, authorities say safer roads can be achieved for everyone.



# Massive Show of Financial Support for 'Mike' after Conviction

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Former Premier Michael Misick has reportedly received an extraordinary outpouring of financial backing following his conviction on corruption-related charges in the Supreme Court this past Wednesday, with sources indicating that support far exceeded the bail amount set by the court.

Misick, along with former parliamentary colleague McAllister Hanchell and his brother and attorney Thomas Chalmers Misick, was found guilty on multiple counts following a landmark ruling delivered on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

Presiding judge Justice Rajendra Narine granted bail to all three men pending sentencing, setting bond amounts of \$15 million for Michael Misick, \$4 million for Hanchell, and \$5 million for Chalmers Misick. The court ordered that the bonds be posted immediately or the defendants would be remanded into custody.

However, according to a source close to the former Premier, and who was in the court's office when bail bond arrangements were being made, the response from supporters was overwhelming. The source claimed that an estimated \$120 million in assets and available cash were pledged within a short period, far surpassing the bail requirement imposed by the court.

"The support for 'Mike' was overwhelming," the source said. "There was a lot of coalescing around him. While I can't speak for 'Piper' (Hanchell) or 'Chal' (Chalmers Misick), instead of the \$15 million bond he was required to post, we raised approximately \$120 million. The prosecution thought they had cornered him, but there is still a tremen-



Co-accused with former premier Michael Misick, McAllister Hanchell (right) and Chalmers Misick, depart the courthouse in Providenciales shortly after their convictions.

dous amount of support out there for 'Mike'."

The convictions stem from a long-running corruption trial centred on allegations that the defendants exploited their public offices to benefit from lucrative land development deals while in government. Prosecutors argued that the schemes involved millions of dollars in improperly obtained benefits during Misick's tenure as Premier and Minister of the Crown.

Michael Misick was found guilty on three counts of bribery. Hanchell was convicted on two counts of bribery, while Chalmers Misick was found guilty on four counts related to money laundering and concealing the proceeds of criminal conduct. The prosecution maintained that funds received through corrupt inducements were laundered through Chalmers Misick's law practice.

According to the evidence presented at trial, the offences occurred over several years and involved payments, benefits, and inducements allegedly provided by private devel-

opers and corporate entities seeking favourable treatment from the government. These inducements reportedly included cash, credit facilities, entertainment, and other advantages intended to influence official decision-making.

In Count One, the court found that between June 1, 2004, and March 31, 2007, Michael Misick accepted inducements directly or indirectly on behalf of the Beaches Group, including its principal Gordon "Butch" Stewart. The payments were deemed corrupt and unlawful and were intended to influence Misick's conduct as a Minister of the Crown in a manner contrary to the standards of honesty and integrity expected of public officials.

Count Two related to inducements accepted jointly by Misick and Hanchell between January 1, 2005, and April 30, 2009. The court ruled that the two men received corrupt payments and benefits from Mario Hoffman and related entities while serving in Cabinet, again with the intent of influencing official actions.

In Count Three, Misick and Hanchell were found to have accepted inducements between November 1, 2006, and May 1, 2008, from the Logwood Development Company and associated individuals, including Harold Charles, Alan Lisenby, Matt McDonald, and Scott Boatman. Prosecutors said the inducements were tied to land development approvals and other government decisions.

The remaining counts focused on the role of Chalmers Misick in concealing and disguising the proceeds of criminal conduct. Counts Four and Five, brought under the Proceeds of Crime Ordinance 1998, alleged that between August 2003 and October 2007, he knowingly assisted in concealing funds derived from bribery committed by Michael Misick and Hanchell, with the intent of avoiding confiscation or prosecution.

Counts Six and Seven, brought under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2007, covered the period between October 2007 and August 2009. The court found that Chalmers Misick concealed or disguised criminal property held on behalf of both Michael Misick and Hanchell, knowing or suspecting that the assets represented benefits derived from criminal conduct.

Michael Misick was ousted from office in 2009 following a Commission of Inquiry that led to the suspension of the Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution and the imposition of direct British rule. Wednesday's convictions mark the culmination of one of the most significant corruption cases in the country's history.

Sentencing is expected May 4, while a confiscation hearing is set for April 21.



# New Housing Model for Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands

By Paladin

Several articles have been written in the last few weeks concerning Housing in Turks and Caicos, especially the Island of Providenciales.

I have read them all and did not see where there was an answer to (2) basic Questions:

1. Is there enough Land to sustain the Model that is no “favored”? (Everyone has a yard of some kind?)

2. Why is the Affordable Housing Projects not placed closer to the jobs... (Right now, live in Blue Hills but work on Grace Bay?)

With this Op-Ed I will propose one solution that can be discussed. As you, readers already know I write to “encourage meaningful discussion” about a particular topic. All in the hopes that the right people will begin to think and question, may be galvanized to action, resulting in some solution(s). Use what I have put forward in any way You like.

What follows is one “idea” of a blueprint for **Providenciales specific housing model** that blends Caribbean urbanism, land efficiency, cultural identity, and economic reality.

**A New Housing Model for Providenciales: Local, Affordable, and Land Smart**  
Providenciales is facing a classic island challenge:

- Limited land
- Exploding land prices
- Tourism growth outpacing local wages
- A suburban model (½ acre lots) that is mathematically impossible to scale
- Pressure on infrastructure, traffic, and informal housing

The solution is **not** to abandon local identity — it’s to evolve the housing model so locals can actually live, work, and thrive on their own island.

**1. Why Provo Needs a New Housing Framework**

Providenciales is no longer a rural island with abundant land. It is:

- A global tourism hub
  - A high value real estate market
  - A place where land scarcity is structural, not temporary
  - An island where infrastructure costs skyrocket when spread out
- The ½ acre model produces:
- Sprawl
  - High utility costs
  - Long commutes
  - Unaffordable land
  - Pressure for illegal subdivisions

**It’s not sustainable for locals or the government.**

**2. The New Model: Medium Density, Caribbean Appropriate Housing**

Providenciales needs a **purpose built, island specific housing typology** that respects culture while using land efficiently.

The sweet spot is:

**A. 3–5 Story Mid Rise Buildings**

- Perfect for Provo’s scale
- Hurricane resilient
- Efficient land use

- Affordable to maintain
- Avoids “high rise” stigma

**B. Clustered Communities**

Instead of scattered houses, create **neighborhood clusters** with:

- Housing
- Shops
- Daycare
- Community gardens
- Small parks
- Transit links

This creates villages, not “projects.”

**C. Mixed Unit Types**

To serve locals at different life stages:

- Studios (young workers)
- 1 bedroom (couples)
- 2 bedroom (small families)
- 3 bedroom (established families)
- Townhouses with small yards (for those who want land)

This avoids monocultures and supports social stability.

**3. How This Model Fits Providenciales’ Geography**

Providenciales has distinct zones that lend themselves to different housing strategies:

**A. Grace Bay / Leeward / Tourism Belt**

- Worker housing (rental)
- Mixed use mid rise buildings
- Transit linked clusters
- Reduces traffic and commute times

**B. Blue Hills / Five Cays / Kew Town**

- Local affordable housing
- Rent to own units
- Community scaled density
- Upgrading existing neighborhoods with better infrastructure

**C. Long Bay / Cooper Jack / Venetian Road**

- Mixed income developments
- Townhouses + mid rise apartments
- Small lot ownership options

**D. Northwest Point / South Dock Corridor**

- Larger master planned communities
- Opportunity for new local housing villages
- Land still available for structured growth

**4. Architectural Identity: Caribbean, Not Generic**

Providenciales can avoid the “slum” look by using:

- Breezeways
- Shaded courtyards
- Colorful façades
- Natural ventilation
- Overhangs and verandas
- Local stone and wood accents
- Community gardens instead of large private yards

This keeps the developments **beautiful, culturally rooted, and climate appropriate.**

**5. Affordability Mechanisms for Locals**

A Providenciales specific model must include **multiple pathways**, not just rentals.

**A. Affordable Rental Units**

- Income linked
- Government regulated
- Professionally managed

**B. Rent to Own Programs**



Critical for local wealth building.

**C. Shared Equity Ownership**

Government or a housing trust retains a portion of equity to keep units affordable long term.

**D. Employer Supported Housing**

Hotels, construction firms, and service industries contribute to housing funds or guarantee rents.

**E. Land Use Incentives**

Developers receive:

- Density bonuses
- Tax incentives
- Fast track approvals

...in exchange for delivering local affordable units.

**6. What About Locals Who Want a Yard?**

You can still offer:

- Townhouses with **small private yards**
- Cluster homes with **shared green spaces**

- Community gardens
- Pocket parks

But the days of ½ acre lots are gone.

A realistic lot size for Provo is **1,500–3,000 sq ft, not 20,000 sq ft.**

**7. Should Worker Housing and Local Housing Be Separate?**

No — not in Providenciales.

A unified model avoids:

- Segregation
- Stigma
- Unequal quality
- Political backlash

Instead, build **mixed income, mixed tenure communities** where:

- Locals
  - Workers
  - Middle income families
- ...all live in the same high quality environment.

**8. The Vision for Providenciales**

**A future where:**

- Locals can afford to stay on the island
- Workers live close to jobs
- Neighborhoods are walkable and vibrant
- Land is used wisely
- Housing builds wealth, not debt

- Communities feel Caribbean, not imported

This is not just housing — it’s **nation building.**

On top of all of this, here is a **sweetener.** TCIG has already laid the Ground work for a Mortgage Corporation, from which Locals can get loans to buy Houses, affordable or otherwise.

The very next step that could be enacted is to “gather” much more seed money (Capital) for this Bank / Corporation by issuing a Public Offering of Shares. As it stands now \$20 million seed capital means that this Institution can offer 100 loans at an “average” of \$200 K per house. This figure is used to drive the point; I am aware that the houses proposed will be of varying costs.

TCIG can look at the present structure and make adjustments accordingly. To fit the new paradigm of a Government / Public Partnership. When homes are sold or loans given both the Mortgage Corp. and the Shareholding public benefit.

TCIG has not married Nation Building to Islander empowerment.

**NEWSLINE TCI**  
Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

NEWSLINE TCI is located at  
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Providenciales,  
Turks & Caicos Islands, BW1.

Our numbers are:  
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1649 242-6695  
You can email us at  
[contact@newslinepci.com](mailto:contact@newslinepci.com) or  
[viviantyson@newslinepci.com](mailto:viviantyson@newslinepci.com)

Vivian Tyson – Editorial Department





### **Maintenance Laborer**

**Job Overview:** Perform tasks involving physical labor at work sites operating under the Maintenance Department to ensure that the property is 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 on a property with a high flow of guests.

### **Essential Functions:**

- May clean and prepare sites
- Dig trenches
- Clean up rubble, debris and other waste materials
- Assist other craft workers
- Operate hand and power tools of all types

### **Requirements and Qualifications**

- Work experience in the Construction/Maintenance field preferred
- Experience working at luxury hotel standards
- 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 read and write English proficiently

**Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.**

**Salary \$8.00 - \$11.00 per hour**

### **Housekeeper**

**Job Overview:** The Housekeeper provides for the comfort of guests by ensuring that guests rooms and public areas are clean, maintained and properly presented in accordance with hotel policies and quality standards. The housekeeper must promote a positive image of the property to the guests and must be pleasant, friendly and able to attend to our facilities with integrity and attention to detail.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Perform a variety of cleaning activities such as sweeping, mopping, dusting and polishing
- Ensure all guest rooms and villas are cared for and inspected according to Resort standards
- Responsible for the safe and efficient use of equipment, preventing any abuse and ensuring that they are cleaned and properly stored at the end of the work shift.
- Responsible for inventory of supplies for day to day use and replace when appropriate
- Perform housekeeping duties which includes but not limited to; delivering guest requests, stocking of supplies, maintaining cleanliness of rooms or public areas of the Resort.

### **Requirements:**

- Must possess and demonstrate excellent time management skills.
- Ability to manage cleaning resources, organize work efficiently and effectively.
- Must be passionate about cleanliness and have a keen eye for details
- Must be an extremely honest with high levels of integrity
- Demonstrate a high-level flexibility and adaptability
- Ability to communicate effectively with guests and co-workers in English
- Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs and push/pull in excess of 50 lbs

**Salary:** The starting salary for this position is \$8.00 per hour.

**Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & 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: February 5, 2026**

# Electricity Rates in Turks and Caicos Expected to Fall Within Two Years, Says Minister

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Electricity consumers in the Turks and Caicos Islands could see a reduction in their power bills within the next 18 to 24 months, as government negotiations continue with Pelican Energy, the country’s sole electricity provider and successor to FORTIS. That projection was shared by Hon. E. Jay Saunders, Minister of Innovation, Technology and Energy, during an interview on the That’s What’s Up Show. Saunders said he is confident that adjustments to electricity pricing mechanisms, particularly the fuel factor, can result in a lower combined rate for consumers. The minister explained that while the base electricity rate is fixed, the fuel factor fluctuates based on global fuel prices and operational costs.

This fuel factor can significantly raise or lower monthly bills, depending on diesel prices. By restructuring how that fuel factor is calculated and applied, Saunders believes consumers can benefit from meaningful reductions. “The consumer doesn’t see the base rate and the fuel factor separately,” Saunders said. “They see the combined rate on their bill. If we can lower that combined rate, that’s real relief.” One proposal under discussion is the standardization of the fuel factor across all islands. While fuel transportation costs differ, particularly for smaller islands, Saunders said those areas represent a small portion of Pelican Energy’s overall customer base, making it feasible to spread those costs system-wide with minimal impact.



Minister of Innovation, Technology and Energy Hon. E. Jay Saunders

UTOPIA MANAGEMENT

HAS AN IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR A

LABOURER

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS POSITION INCLUDE:

Heavy lifting, assist employees with lifting goods and cleaning supplies and maintain safe and clean work environment.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum 2 years’ experience as a Labourer with the ability to communicate effectively.

SALARY: \$2,000.00 per month.

Call 649-345-7285

Renewable energy is expected to play a central role in further lowering electricity costs over the medium to long term. Saunders said the government is pursuing a phased transition away from diesel generation, targeting 25 percent renewable energy production by 2030 and 50 percent by 2040. As renewable generation increases, reliance on diesel fuel would decrease, reducing the fuel factor accordingly. “If fuel is no longer producing 100 percent of the energy, the fuel factor goes down,” Saunders explained. Solar energy is viewed as the most practical and cost-effective renewable option for the Turks and Caicos Islands. Saunders noted that solar technology has advanced significantly, with panels becoming cheaper, more efficient, and resilient enough to withstand severe weather, including hurricanes. Advances in battery storage technology now allow energy to be stored for extended periods, improving reliability during prolonged cloudy or stormy conditions. Wind energy, however, poses challenges due to the proximity of air-strips across the islands, limiting

safe locations for wind farms. Other renewable options, including wave energy and biomass, may be considered as part of a diversified energy strategy. Saunders stressed that his focus is not renewable energy in isolation, but affordability. “I’m not the minister of renewable energy, I’m the minister of lower rates,” he said. “Everything we’re doing is about reducing the cost to the consumer.” Beyond renewables, the government is also examining engineering and infrastructure solutions to reduce fuel transportation costs, as well as regulatory tools such as license duration, which can affect how quickly utility investments are recovered through rates. While he stopped short of announcing specific outcomes, Saunders said discussions with Pelican Energy are progressing and that he is optimistic about the direction of talks. “People are feeling the pressure of high living costs,” he said. “My responsibility is to work toward lower electricity rates and a better deal for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands.”



**#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies**



**#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies**



# Turks & Caicos Sotheby’s International Realty Welcomes Sotheby’s New York Auctioneer Phyllis Kao to the TCI

Turks & Caicos Sotheby’s International Realty hosted an intimate VIP Welcome Reception at its EPIC Theatre in honour of Phyllis Kao, Vice President & Auctioneer at Sotheby’s New York, ahead of the highly anticipated 11th Annual Evening of Art Exhibition and Fundraiser.

Kao was on island in her role as lead auctioneer for the acclaimed fundraiser, which supports the Edward Gartland Youth Centre, shining a spotlight on its vital community work while celebrating the artistic talent of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The evening brought together artist, collectors, partners, and invited guests for a rare and engaging experience centered on art, philanthropy, and global auction expertise.

The highlight of the reception was a compelling Q&A session between Phyllis Kao and Joe Zahm, President of Turks & Caicos Sotheby’s International Realty, which left the audience visibly intrigued and energized.

During the discussion, Kao shared insights from her international career, including one of her most memorable moments at the rostrum: the auction of a dinosaur skeleton that achieved approximately US \$45 million, one of the most talked-about natural history sales in recent years. Her reflections offered guests a behind-the-scenes look at the drama, strategy, and global



*New York Auctioneer Phyllis Kao fields questions from the members of the audience during the Q&A session on Friday, January 30, 2026, at the Epic Theatre. Looking on is Joe Zahm, President of Turks & Caicos Sotheby’s International Realty.*

interest that define landmark auctions at Sotheby’s. The cocktail reception also featured the appearance of Bradley Theodore, the internationally recognized contemporary visual artist from the Turks and Caicos Islands. Theodore, who has been a longstanding supporter of the Evening of Art Exhibition and Fundraiser, shared his continued love for his native Turks and Caicos and reaf-



*Hotelier Stan Hartling of the Hartling Group shares a photo Phyllis Kao*

firmed his support for both the local art community and the youth of the Islands. “Phyllis’s visit and Bradley’s presence added extraordinary depth and meaning to this year’s event,” said Zahm. “Their combined international prestige and star power, and Bradley’s local roots, creates a powerful platform for both cultural exchange and com-

munity impact.” The welcome Reception and sponsorship of the 11th Annual Evening of Art Exhibition and Fundraiser reflect Turks & Caicos Sotheby’s International Realty’s commitment to blending world-class art experiences with meaningful philanthropy in support of local artists and community initiatives across the Turks and Caicos Islands.



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# Votes Should Come With the Tools to Deliver

*An Op-Ed by Audley A. Astwood*

Elections are promises dressed as hope. People line up in the sun, mark a box, and trust that life might work a little better after. That's the deal. Votes in exchange for results in a small country where everyone feels the impact of government decisions up close. But here's the problem. A government can win an election and still not fully run the system that turns promises into action. That's where frustration is born in the Turks and Caicos, where people expect to see change with their own eyes, not just hear about it. If voters choose leaders, those leaders should be able to guide the engine of government. Not to bully it. Not to turn it into a party club. But to make it move in the direction the public chose. Otherwise, we've built a strange thing. Leaders who carry the blame, and a system they don't fully steer even while communities from Grand Turk to Providenciales are waiting on results. People don't care about structures and titles. They care if the clinic in their district

has staff, if the hospital can cope, if a small business licence or planning approval comes on time, if roads get fixed before tyres give out and drainage works before the next heavy rain floods neighbourhoods. When that doesn't happen, they don't blame a department chart. They blame the government they elected. Fair enough. That's democracy. But fairness cuts both ways. Responsibility and authority should live in the same place in our system, not split in ways ordinary people can't see.

A professional civil service matters. It should be skilled, steady, and not tied to party politics. That's not in question. But being neutral doesn't mean being distant from elected direction. Civil servants serve the country by helping the government of the day carry out its plans. Advice can be honest and firm. Final direction should still come from those with a public mandate from the people of these islands. This isn't a judgment on the dedication or competence of the people who lead and serve within the public ser-

vice. Many are hardworking professionals doing their best within the structure they operate in. The issue is whether that structure itself matches what voters believe happens when they choose a government.

In a small territory, speed isn't a luxury. It's survival. Investment, housing, schools, health care. These things can't crawl through a maze of split control and blurred lines while the population grows, tourism expands, and pressure on services rises. When leadership and administration pull in the same clear direction, projects move. When they don't, paper piles up and nothing changes on the ground in communities that feel every delay. This is about better alignment between elected leaders and the public service, not friction between them. Both exist for the same purpose, to serve the people well.

This isn't about grabbing power. It's about making democracy real in daily life. If elections are to mean more than speeches and slogans, the people chosen at the ballot box

must be able to set priorities for the public service and expect delivery in a country where government isn't distant, it's part of daily life. Our governance model was shaped in a different time and under different pressures, and it's reasonable to ask whether the balance between elected authority and administrative control still fits the country we are today.

Of course there should be guardrails. Hiring based on merit. Strong rules. Oversight. There should also be protection for those who speak up about wrongdoing. Professional standards don't weaken when elected leaders have clear authority. They matter even more in a close-knit society where trust in public institutions is everything.

In the end, the question is simple. If the people are in charge, shouldn't the government they choose be able to run the system that serves them. If the answer is no, then elections start to feel like theatre. And citizens of the Turks and Caicos deserve more than a show.

## “Healthcare is falling on the beautiful Turks and Caicos Islands”



### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Several weeks ago, an article by Sabrina Greene resonated deeply with many indigenous Turks and Caicos Islanders. In it, she highlighted an uncomfortable truth: locals are increasingly marginalized, while those in positions of power place greater value on the opinions of outsiders—individuals who often lack a true understanding of the social, cultural, and economic realities of these islands. This is not a partisan issue. I have experienced it under both PDM and PNP administrations, and most recently with the current Minister of Health. I write not as an observer, but as a Turks and Caicos Islander—one who is of the soil. I understand our eating habits, our historical relationship with physical activity, and the cultural influences that shape health behaviors across our communities. I know our people because I am one of them. I bring over twenty-four years of experience in the healthcare industry, supported by an MBA in Health Administration, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification, and specialization in Change Management within healthcare systems. I have held senior leadership roles at institutions including Memorial Hospital, UnitedHealthcare, and Aetna. My professional experience spans clinical operations, hospital administration, managed care, Medicare and Medicaid, oncology services, and the leadership of multidisciplinary clinical teams. Today, I work independently as a healthcare consultant. Over the years, I have repeatedly offered my expertise to successive governments—past and present—without expectation of compensation. Those of-

fers were ignored. Whether due to indifference or ego, the outcome remains the same: qualified local professionals are overlooked while foreign consultants are embraced at significant cost to the public purse.

This approach is deeply flawed. Those who are of the soil understand realities that cannot be learned through reports or short-term consultancies. We understand what food is accessible and affordable for the average household. We understand the gaps in school-based health education and the economic barriers that prevent many families from adopting healthier lifestyles, even when the desire exists.

I have remained silent for too long, but that silence has become exhausting. Our people are dying far too young. Chronic illness, late diagnoses, and preventable complications have become routine rather than rare. Too often, patients must be flown overseas—to Jamaica or the Cayman Islands—for care that should be available at home. There is no comprehensive, data-driven national strategy focused on prevention, early intervention, root-cause analysis, and long-term wellness.

This reality persists despite the fact that the country boasts substantial financial reserves. Each election cycle brings promises of healthcare reform, yet once the ballots are counted, those promises fade into inaction. The result is a healthcare system that continues to underperform while our people pay the ultimate price.

The question must be asked: how many more must die before meaningful change occurs? True reform will require humility, collaboration, and a willingness to listen—particularly to qualified professionals who are indigenous to these islands and understand the lived realities of our people.

In closing, the facts are undeniable. Our citizens are dying too young. Health education within our schools remains inadequate. Access to preventative care and wellness programs is limited, and

recreational and community health infrastructure remains insufficient. At the same time, local expertise continues to be undervalued.

The time has come for our political lead-

ers to set aside ego and prioritize outcomes. Our people deserve better, and the cost of continued inaction is measured in lives.

M. Martin, MBA, LBBH, CMS

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YOU DON'T HAVE AN ARTSY, CREATIVE INNER SELF.

YOU HAVE A CARELESS, DISHEVELED INNER SELF.

BINGO!

WHATCHA DOING?

WAITING.

FOR WHAT?

TOMORRIE.

FINE FOR YOU, BUT I'M NOT WASTING MY TIME SITTING AROUND DOING NOTHING.

MY MOMMY'S MAKING COOKIES TOMORRIE!

CAN I WAIT WITH YOU?

I FEAR, MISS OYL, YOUR GORILLA IS IN LOVE WITH POPEYE!

WOE! I RENTED THE WRONG BEAST!

I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A SHE! I WAS JUST TRYING TO MAKE POPEYE JEALOUS!

NOW I AM THE ONE THAT'S JEALOUS!

I HAS HAD ENOUGH BANANAS!

ZONK!

HERE'S THE WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE SOARING OVER THE FRONT LINES IN HIS SOPWITH CAMEL...

HE WAVES TO THE POOR BLIGHTERS IN THE TRENCHES BELOW

IN THEIR ADMIRATION FOR HIM THEY SHOWER HIM WITH GIFTS...


LIKE ROCKS!

YES, FOR THE FIVE HUNDRED AND FOURTH TIME - YOU ARE A GOOD BOY.

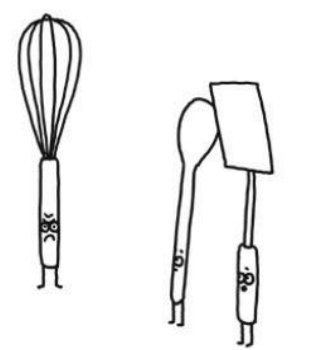
DOGS AND CHATGPT.

# NEWSLINE<sup>TM</sup> COMICS

AND FOR MY NEXT TRICK...



I'M FOREVER BUYING GROCERIES BUT THERES STILL NOTHING TO EAT!



Eric Scott

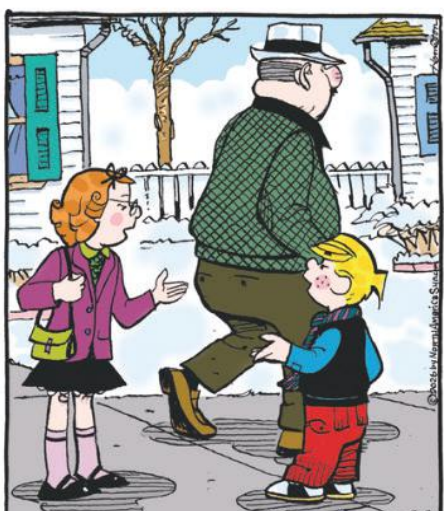
"Don't do business with that guy. He's whisky."

Wayne & Piro. 2-4-26

You may think it sounds intelligent, but when you say "upon reflection," it doesn't ring true.



Bizarro.com © 2016 Bizarro Comics



"I LOOK UP TO MR. WILSON. MAYBE YOU SHOULD, TOO."

"OF COURSE I DO... THAT'S HOW I SEE HIS FACE."





# 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.*



# InterHealth Canada TCI Hospital Launches “Heart Strong TCI” Initiative in Support of Healthy Hearts Across the Turks and Caicos Islands

The Turks and Caicos Islands Hospitals are proud to announce the official launch of the Heart Strong TCI Initiative during the month of February 2026, in observance of Heart Month.

Under the theme “Strong Hearts, Strong Islands,” the Heart Strong TCI Initiative is a comprehensive, community-centered public health campaign designed to raise awareness of heart disease, strengthen health literacy, promote prevention and effective management of cardiovascular disease (CVD), and ultimately reduce the growing impact and cost of heart disease on individuals, families, and communities across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Addressing an Urgent Public Health Need**

Cardiovascular disease (heart disease) remains the leading cause of death worldwide, responsible for nearly one in every three deaths globally. According to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), in the Americas and the Caribbean Region, death from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and respiratory conditions, have risen by 43 % since 2000, reaching about 6 million deaths in 2021. Cardiovascular disease accounts for the largest share of these deaths. Despite being largely preventable, rates of heart disease continue to rise due to aging populations, physical inactivity, unhealthy diets, tobacco use, harmful alcohol consumption, and poorly controlled conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, and high cholesterol. In the Turks and Caicos Islands, an aging population, high life expectancy, and increasing prevalence of noncommunicable diseases place residents at heightened risk. International data rank TCI among the top 20 percent of countries globally for CVD mortality, underscoring the urgency for coordinated prevention and early intervention.

“Heart disease affects not just our health system, but our families, our workforce, and our national productivity,” said Dr. Denise Braithwaite-Tennant, Campaign Lead for Heart Strong TCI. “This initiative is about



empowering people with knowledge, access, and support so they can protect their hearts and live longer, healthier lives.”

**What Is Heart Strong TCI?**

The Heart Strong TCI Initiative focuses on prevention, early detection, community empowerment, and partnerships, aligned with World Health Organization “Best Buys” and PAHO regional strategies for noncommunicable diseases.

The campaign addresses cardiovascular disease in clear, practical terms, highlighting conditions such as heart disease, stroke, blood clots, and peripheral artery disease and emphasizes the risk factors that can be changed, including smoking, poor diet, inactivity, obesity, and uncontrolled blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol.

**Key Campaign Activities**

Throughout 2026 and beyond, Heart Strong TCI will deliver evidence-based interventions across the prevention continuum, in-

cluding:

**H - Health Promotion:**

Annual House Call radio programs focused on heart health and lifestyle education, and biannual community heart health screening events.

**E - Community Empowerment:**

Sponsorship of CPR training for at least 50 community members each year to strengthen layperson emergency response capacity.

**A - Advocacy and Policy Influence:**

Utilize a multi-stakeholder approach to advancing action on noncommunicable disease prevention and control.

**R - Physical Activity Promotion:**

An annual 5K Walk/Run/Cycle event in partnership with the NGOs, encouraging active living across all ages. This year the partnership is with Rotary Club of Providenciales, District 7020

**T - Technology-Enabled Health Promotion:**

Promotion of the TCI Hospitals’ MyCare-

Corner patient portal, supporting digital health literacy, continuity of care, and patient engagement nationwide.

**Strong Partnerships for Lasting Impact**

The initiative will be delivered through collaboration with the Ministry of Health, public and private healthcare providers, NGOs, faith-based organizations, civic groups, media partners, and private sector sponsors.

**Building a Heart-Healthy Future**

Heart Strong TCI is designed to be sustainable, with activities integrated into routine community outreach, aligned with national NCD strategies, and supported through public-private partnerships.

“By investing in prevention today, we can reduce avoidable illness, save lives, and protect the future of our islands,” Dr. Braithwaite-Tennant added. “To our community your heart matters and you are TCI’s greatest resource and together we can make the Turks and Caicos Islands a heart-healthy community. By making small, healthy choices every day and supporting each other, we can protect our hearts and our islands. Strong hearts truly do build strong islands.”



Denise Braithwaite-Tennant, CEO of TCI Hospital.

# DECR AND DFMRM JOIN UK SCIENTISTS FOR “BEYOND THE REEF” EXPEDITION

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) and the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources Management (DFMRM) have announced their collaboration with joining UK scientists on the Blue Belt Programme- Beyond the Reef: Caribbean Expedition.

This ground-breaking mission will take place aboard the RRS James Cook, a British Royal Research Ship operated by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), from 30 January to 10 February 2026 in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The expedition will explore the Caribbean waters surrounding Anguilla, the Turks and

Caicos Islands, and the Cayman Islands, advancing scientific understanding of these vital marine ecosystems.

Coinciding with the 10-year anniversary of the Blue Belt Programme, the initiative builds on the success of previous surveys, including the Discovery 159 Expedition around Ascension and St Helena in 2022. The findings will continue to strengthen the capacity of UK Overseas Territories to manage and protect their marine protected areas.

Using advanced techniques such as BRUVs (Baited Remote Underwater Video systems), eDNA sampling, seafloor cameras,

water sampling, and acoustic monitoring, the expedition will generate robust scientific evidence to guide the Turks and Caicos Islands Government in shaping marine conservation policies, fishing regulations, and long-term sustainability priorities.

In addition to research, the survey will provide capacity building across multiple scientific disciplines, including oceanography, hydrography, and ecology. The objectives of the surveys are as follows:

- Exploration of deep-water environments of the Turks and Caicos Islands
- Identification of potential new fisheries

- Enhanced understanding of off-shore ecosystems
  - Monitoring of water quality and pollution levels
  - Expansion of local expertise in water quality analysis
  - Addressing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing
- As members of our team embark today enroute to the RRS James Cook, we extend our best wishes for safe travels and a successful expedition. This initiative marks a phenomenal step forward in safeguarding the future of TCI’s marine resources for generations to come.



Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

# The Community Fellowship Centre

This week in Newsline Featured Church, we shine the spotlight on the Community Fellowship Centre church, located along the Leeward Highway in Providenciales. The Community Fellowship Centre, which also operates a school – the Community Christian Academy – is led by Pastor Bradley Handfield, who is also a trained teacher. Community Fellowship Centre conducts a series of engagements during the course of each week, starting with divine service on Sunday at 9a.m. On Thursday between 5a.m. and 6a.m. is early morning prayer meeting. Between Monday and Friday at 12noon is midday prayer meeting. Monday to Friday between 7p.m. and 9pm.m, is Bible study, while Youth Meeting is held on Friday.



## Life line Church Directory

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

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

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

In a renewed effort to strengthen the visibility of local heritage and culture, the Turks and Caicos National Trust has officially reopened its retail store at the Grace Bay Market Place, positioning the space as both a cultural showcase and an economic opportunity for local artisans.

The reopening ceremony brought together government officials, National Trust leadership, educators, students and community stakeholders, all united around a shared goal of ensuring that Turks and Caicos culture is not only preserved, but actively lived, shared and economically sustained.

Executive Director Jasmine Parker-Thomas described the reopening as far more than the return of a retail outlet, calling it a recommitment to the Trust's role at the center of the community.

"Today is more than a refreshed space," Parker-Thomas said. "It is a renewed commitment to being present, visible, and active in the heart of our community."

She explained that the store is intended to function as a welcoming hub where both residents and visitors can explore the stories, crafts and traditions that define the Turks and Caicos Islands. As part of its expanded vision, the Trust plans to host regular events, pop-up markets and educational programming that spotlight local artists, historians and cultural practitioners. Parker-Thomas also emphasized the importance of membership in sustaining the Trust's work, noting that members support conservation efforts, receive exclusive benefits and help shape programs that protect heritage



Hon. Zhavargo Jolly (left), Minister of Tourism, with responsibility for the National Trust, cuts the ribbon to officially reopen the National Stores at the Grace Bay Market in Providenciales. Sharing in the moment are Claudia Munnings (centre), Chair of the National Trust and Jasmine Thomas, Managing Director of the National Trust.

for future generations. A major highlight of the reopening is the introduction of new opportunities for local entrepreneurs. The Trust will offer designated vendor spaces and flexible co-assignment options, particu-

larly aimed at artisans from the community. Training and mentorship opportunities are also planned, creating pathways for small entrepreneurs to grow. "This initiative is designed to create fair economic opportunity,

lift local craftsmanship, and ensure that people who carry our traditions can earn from them," she said.

Minister of Tourism, Zhavargo Jolly, whose portfolio includes responsibility for the National Trust, congratulated the board and staff, praising their innovation and execution.

He said the reopening reinforces the Trust's broader responsibility, not only protecting heritage sites, but educating people about the nation's culture, history and identity.

"By reopening the store, you've created a central nucleus where people can actually go and engage with our history and our culture," Jolly said.

The minister stressed that while the country continues to develop its tourism product, heritage must remain central to national growth.

"We are nation-building right now," he said. "It's important



The singing of the National Anthem and Song





National Trust Staff at the event



Students from the A Louise Garland Thomas High School pitches their interactive book at the event



Claudia Munnings, Chair of the National Trust addresses the audience



A visitor snaps photos of some of the items on display in the National Trust Store in Grace Bay



Hon. Zhavargo Jolly (centre), Claudia Munnings (left) and Jasmine Thomas discuss a book inside the store, which caught their interest

that our local community understands there is a place for them to engage in our heritage and our culture. We cannot allow it to be drowned out as we develop products for visitors.” Jolly added that initiatives like

the store ensure that heritage, environment and history remain integrated into everything the country represents to the world. Chair of the National Trust, Claudia Munnings, reflected on the challenges faced in reopening

the store, calling the launch a proud moment for the organization.

“It has not been an easy road with this store,” Munnings said. “But it is a challenge that today we have overcome.”

She highlighted that the store creates opportunities for artisans and entrepreneurs who may not have the financial means to operate a standalone storefront, while also helping the Trust expand its reach beyond its most commonly known sites.

“We are bigger than that. We are bolder than that,” Munnings said, referencing the perception that the Trust’s work is limited to a few historic landmarks. “We are taking very big, bold steps.” Munnings also underscored the importance of youth engagement, noting that cultural pride begins in early education. She expressed pleasure at seeing students in attendance and reaf-

firmed the Trust’s commitment to supporting schools and community outreach.

“Our team is small, but our team is mighty,” she said, thanking staff, partners and the Ministry of Tourism for their continued support.

Adding a youth-driven perspective to the event, students from A. Louise Garland Thomas High School presented Turks and Tails Collectives, an educational activity book they have been developing.

The book combines illustrations, cultural facts, “Did You Know” sections and interactive puzzles designed to teach youth, tourists and locals about the history, culture and heritage of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Students said their goal is not only to educate, but to raise awareness of national identity and encourage pride in local culture.



# THE POWER OF DOING LESS

## Why slowing down helps your hormones, mood, and energy

By Monica Uttamchandani  
Holistic Health Coach, Turks and Caicos

Many women push through their days with long lists and constant pressure. The body interprets this as stress which raises cortisol and affects everything from sleep to mood to digestion. Doing less is not laziness. It is regulation. Your system needs recovery just as much as productivity. Pausing during the day helps your body return to safety. It gives your mind clarity and prevents decision fatigue. Rest is not optional. It is biologically necessary. Slowing down looks different for everyone. It might be gentler workouts. Short breaks between tasks. Lighter evenings. More space in your schedule. These choices reduce nervous system load and create room for deeper calm. When you allow yourself to do less, you often accomplish more because your energy becomes steadier and your focus improves. Your body works best when it is not constantly overwhelmed.

**Rest is Productive**

Doing less is not about shirking responsibilities. It is about giving your system the support it needs to reset, recover, and operate



with greater ease. By intentionally slowing down, you create the conditions for improved hormonal balance, mental clarity, and sustainable energy.

**Here are some ways to make rest productive:**

1. Take intentional pauses. Use 5-10 minutes between tasks to stretch, breathe, or simply close your eyes.
2. Practice mindful movement. Gentle walks or yoga help circulation, reduce tension, and refresh your mind.

3. Limit digital distractions. Step away from your phone or computer to allow your nervous system to reset.
4. Prioritise sleep. Restful sleep is the foundation for hormones, mood, and energy balance.
5. Schedule recovery time. Treat rest periods as non-negotiable appointments in your day.
6. Nourish yourself. Hydrate, eat mindfully, and allow your body to absorb nutrients without rushing.

For more guidance on slowing down, regulating your nervous system, and supporting hormonal balance, follow @balancedby-monica on Instagram.

**Monica Uttamchandani is a certified Holistic Health Coach based in the Turks and Caicos Islands, supporting men and women in creating grounded, nourishing lives, one breath at a time. She also consults in person at The Elephant Rooms in Salt Mills, Providenciales.**



### OPEN JOB POSITIONS

**POSITION: Housekeeper**

**PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

**Job Overview:** Member of the Grace Bay Resorts Housekeeping team. Responsibilities include assisting and providing support in all areas of Housekeeping. The goal is to create a clean and orderly environment for our guests that will become a critical factor in maintaining and strengthening our reputation. This position reports to the Housekeeping Supervisor, Assistant Executive Housekeeper and the Executive Housekeeper.

**Job Responsibilities:**

- Collecting your work sheet at the begging of your shift
- Handing your updated worksheet at the end of your shift (must be authorized by your supervisor before you go off duty) handing your authorized worksheet to the coordinator.
- Ensuring that all rooms assigned to you during your shift are completed in accordance with t Grace Bay Resort room cleaning standards, before you go off duty.
- Placing a Do Not Disturb note under the guest room door that has the Relaxing signage hanging on the handle – (make a note on your room assignment sheet – stating the time you slipped the card under the door and what time you followed up to see if the guest had removed the Relaxing signage) Advise your supervisor also.
- Greeting guests and responding to queries in a friendly and timely manner.
- Always wares their name badge (must be neat and tidy) your name must be clear.
- Clean rooms assigned to you according to the Grace Bay Resort rooms standard.
- Advise your Supervisor of Manager regarding any defects in the room or public Areas.

**Skills and Competencies Required**

- High school diploma required; training certificate is preferred.
- 3-5- years housekeeping experience working in a luxury/fine hotel preferred.
- Must be able to work under pressure in a fast-paced environment.
- Must be comfortable to speak to guests and diffusing a situation should they become upset.
- Must be well groomed, clean and polite.
- Must have clear, concise English written and verbal communication skills.
- Must be able to work morning shifts, afternoon shifts, holidays, weekends when required.
- Must be flexible to cover Public Areas and Laundry shifts if required.

**Shift Varies. Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.**  
**Salary Range: \$8.00 – \$9.00 per hour**

Interested persons should contact our Human Resources Department no later than February 12th 2025  
Email: [humanresources@gracebayclub.com](mailto:humanresources@gracebayclub.com)  
(649) 946-5050 Ext. 1020  
#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies



# DBHS Team Engages Stakeholders Across the Twin Islands to Strengthen Mental Health Access

On 27 January 2026, the Department of Behavioural Health Services conducted stakeholder engagement visits across the Twin Islands as part of its continued efforts to strengthen collaboration, improve referral pathways, and promote equitable access to specialised mental health and substance use services.

The visits included Mrs. Kacy Higgs, Substance Abuse Counsellor stationed on the Twin Islands, Ms. Tiara McTaire, Mental Health Education Specialist, Dr. Jadetra Inghram, Clinical Psychologist, and Dr. Coryse Penco, Clinical Psychologist. The team met with staff across multiple sectors to share information, answer questions, and reinforce clear and appropriate referral processes.

The engagements reflect the Department of Behavioural Health Services' strategic focus on accessibility, continuity of care, and system-wide collaboration. Under the leadership of Dr. Alicia Malcolm, Director of the Department, the Department has prioritised strengthening referral pathways, expanding access to specialised mental health services across all islands, and ensuring that frontline stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge needed to connect individuals to the appropriate level of care.

"Access to specialised mental health care should not depend on where

you live," said Dr. Alicia Malcolm, Director of the Department of Behavioural Health Services. "These engagements reflect our ongoing commitment to strengthening partnerships, clarifying referral pathways, and ensuring that individuals across the Twin Islands can connect to the right level of support when they need it."

Commenting on this initiative, the Honourable Minister of Health and Human Services, Kyle Knowles, stated that "This engagement forms part of a broader, ongoing outreach initiative by the Department of Behavioural Health Services. Similar stakeholder visits and collaborative sessions are planned for other islands to ensure consistent understanding of available services, referral pathways, and access to specialised mental health support across the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Ministry through the Department, remains committed to sustained engagement, not one-time visits, as part of its wider strategy to strengthen island-wide mental health care delivery."

To learn more about DBHS programs please contact:

Department of Behavioural Health Services- Zone 1 (Grand Turk/South Caicos, Salt Cay) 649338 3613 and Zone 2 (Providenciales, North & Middle Caicos) 649 338 3616.



DBHS Team

Also, be sure to visit our website [www.gov.tc/dmhsd](http://www.gov.tc/dmhsd) and follow our social media accounts [www.facebook.com/TCIDBHS](http://www.facebook.com/TCIDBHS) and @TCIDBHS

on Instagram. You can also visit the Ministry of Health's Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/tci-ministryofhealth/>.

## Public Reminder to Register for Tobacco Dealer's License

The Department of Behavioural Health, under the Ministry of Health and Human Services, is reminding all individuals and Businesses involved in the sale, distribution, or manufacture of tobacco and tobacco-related products that the registration for a valid tobacco license is mandatory under the Tobacco Control Ordinance 2016.

In accordance with the laws of the Turks and Caicos Islands, all persons operating within the tobacco industry must apply for and obtain a Valid Tobacco Dealer's License. Persons or businesses currently operating without a license, or those intending to engage in tobacco-related business activities, are urged to complete their registration no later than February 28, 2026.

Failure to comply with the licensing requirements may result in enforcement action, including fines,



penalties, or closure of business operations, as provided under the law.

The tobacco licensing system supports regulatory oversight, protects public health, and ensures that tobacco products are sold in compli-

ance with national standards. This requirement applies to retailers, wholesalers, importers, distributors, and manufacturers, including roadside vendors and other non-traditional points of sale. Applicants are encouraged to sub-

mit their registration early to avoid delays. Registration forms and detailed guidance can be obtained from Department of Behavioural Services, Sam Harvey's Building Downtown, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, during normal business hours.

The Department of Behavioural Health Services thanks all business operators for their cooperation and commitment to compliance with the laws of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

For more information about the Department of Behavioural Health Services, be sure to visit our website [www.gov.tc/dmhsd](http://www.gov.tc/dmhsd) and follow our social media accounts [www.facebook.com/TCIDBHS](http://www.facebook.com/TCIDBHS) and @TCIDBHS on Instagram. You can also visit the Ministry of Health's Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/tciministryofhealth/>.





Her Excellency Governor Dileeni Daniel Selvaratnam (in white dress) shares lens with members of the TCI Red Cross Board

# TCI Red Cross Charts Path Forward with Re-Elected Board and New Directors

The Turks and Caicos Islands Red Cross (TCI Red Cross) successfully convened its Annual General Meeting (AGM), bringing together volunteers, partners, and supporters from across the islands. Volunteers from the family islands also participated virtually, reflecting the organization’s continued commitment to inclusivity and national engagement.

The meeting was honored by the presence of Her Excellency the Governor, Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, Patron of the TCI Red Cross, who delivered thoughtful remarks recognizing the organization’s enduring humanitarian impact and its dynamic role in supporting communities throughout the territory.

Board elections were conducted during the AGM, resulting in the re-election of the existing board and the addition of two new members, Sarah Mubenwarfor and Anetra Musgrove, further strengthening the leadership team for the 2026–2027 term. Chair Dawn O’Sullivan expressed sincere appreciation to the volunteers, partners, and supporters whose continued dedication advances the mission and impact of the TCI Red Cross. She also offered special recognition to the Director for exemplary leadership, operational stewardship, and unwavering commitment to strengthening humanitarian services across the islands.

In addition, Chair O’Sullivan extended heartfelt thanks to the organization’s staff, acknowledging their essential role in delivering critical services to communities in need.

“Our staff are truly the backbone of our operations. Their professionalism, compassion, and commitment ensure that our services reach those who need them most across the Turks and Caicos Islands. We could not fulfill our mission without their continuous

hard work,” she said.

As the organization looks ahead to the coming year, the TCI Red Cross remains focused on expanding disaster preparedness initiatives, strengthening community resilience, and delivering vital humanitarian assistance across the Turks and Caicos Islands. Guided by experienced leadership and supported by dedicated volunteers and partners, the organization continues to chart a forward-looking

path in service to the people of the territory.

2026–2027 TCI Red Cross Board of Directors: Dawn O’Sullivan – Chair; Cheryl Ann Jones – Secretary; Jasmine Adams – Treasurer; LaToya Jones – Member; Gladys Kennedy – Member; Karen Whitt – Member; Marcella Del Mar – Member; Craig Oliver – Member; Sarah Mubenwarfor – Member (New); Anetra Musgrove – Member (New).



TCI Red Cross Board members and the governor





Youth engagement



FSC Resource Officers Dileecia A. Taylor (right) and Destiny Rosario (second left) with students

# TCI FSC ENGAGES YOUTH AT TOURISM CAREERS EXPO

The Turks and Caicos Islands Financial Services Commission (FSC) exhibited at the Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with Experience Turks and Caicos' (ETC) Tourism Careers Expo.

The Expo, which formed part of the National Tourism Youth Congress Speech Competition, was held on Thursday, 29th January, 2026, at the Graceway IGA Sports Centre in Providenciales. The combined event brought together students, educators, and industry representatives to showcase career pathways across the Islands' vital tourism sector and name one industrious student, Turks and Caicos' Junior Minister of Tourism 2026.

The FSC's presence at the Careers Expo reflects the Commission's commitment to public education and youth engagement. By introducing students to regulatory and compliance careers, including roles in supervision, AML/CFT, finance, corporate services, and registry functions, the Commission seeks to broaden perceptions of the professional opportunities that support tourism, inward investment, and the



FSC Resource Officers Destiny Rosario (right) and Dileecia A. Taylor (second) field questions from students during the expo

Islands' broader economic resilience.

The FSC stand attracted steady interest at the event. Human Resources Officers Dileecia A. Taylor and Destiny Rosario spoke with many students, answered questions on career routes and employability, and distributed

FSC-branded materials and information.

"Engaging with young people at events like the Tourism Careers Expo is an investment in the Islands' future," said Kenisha Bacchus, Managing Director (Ag.), at the FSC. "By exposing students to the diverse career

pathways within regulation and financial services, we help build a home-grown talent pool capable of supporting strong governance and long-term prosperity. We were encouraged by the enthusiasm shown and look forward to continuing practical engagement with schools and partners."



# What makes the Mediterranean diet so healthy for your heart?

The Mediterranean diet not only improves cardiovascular health, but also supports a healthy weight and healthier lifestyle habits.

Extensive research over the years has continued to identify the Mediterranean diet as one of the best for heart health. Why? It helps reduce chronic inflammation in the body, explains Janet McCann, a registered dietitian nutritionist at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

“Not all inflammation is bad, but once it becomes chronic, it can lead to heart disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia and cancer. One of the main risk factors for chronic inflammation is a diet high in fats and sugars,” says McCann.

The Mediterranean diet is the opposite of that, “and best of all, eating healthy following the Mediterranean diet feels more like eating and living well. Basically, it’s a blueprint for an eating plan for good health,” she adds.

The Mediterranean diet is based on plant-based foods and follows this approach:

- Replaces harmful fats with healthy, monounsaturated fats, which have been shown to reduce total cholesterol and low-density lipoproteins, known as LDL or “bad” cholesterol.
- Includes foods rich in antioxidants and phytochemicals that help reduce inflammation in the arteries.
- Supports healthy blood pressure by prioritizing potassium-rich foods and reducing salt intake.
- Promotes whole grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables, which are rich in fiber, support gut health and reduce blood sugar fluctuations.
- Encourages a healthy weight because it focuses on nutrient-dense, filling foods that naturally help prevent overeating.

## Tips for adopting a Mediterranean diet

Try to consume 2 to 3 servings of fruit and 4 or more servings of vegetables per day. Expand your variety of fruits and vegetables with pomegranates, figs, grapes, peaches, nectarines, cantaloupe, spinach, kale, Swiss chard, collard greens and mustard greens. Swap snacks



for fruits and vegetables when you feel like nibbling.

**Choose whole grains:** Switch to 100% whole-grain bread, cereal and pasta. Try other grains such as bulgur and farro.

**Add nuts and seeds:** These foods are high in fiber, protein and healthy fats. Aim for 4 servings of raw or unsalted nuts and seeds per week. One serving equals one quarter cup.

**Use healthy fats:** Try cooking with olive oil, avocado oil or grapeseed oil instead of butter. Instead of spreading butter or margarine on bread, try dipping it in flavored olive oil.

**Eat fish twice a week:** Fresh or water packed tuna, salmon, trout, mackerel, sardines and herring, along with seafood such as shrimp, crab and mussels, are rich in healthy omega-3 fats. Look to grill, steam or bake fish and seafood instead of frying them.

**Reduce red meat:** Replace red meat with fish, poultry, eggs, or legumes and lentils. If you do eat red meat,

make sure it is lean, keep portions small — generally about 3 ounces of cooked meat and eat it in moderation.

**Don't forget dairy:** Consume low fat or nonfat Greek or regular yogurt, cottage cheese, milk and a variety of soft cheeses. Try cheeses made from goat or sheep's milk, such as chèvre or feta. Mix fresh or frozen fruit into yogurt to avoid added sugars.

**Add spices:** Herbs and spices enhance flavor and reduce the need for salt.

Drink wine or alcohol in moderation. While red wine is often an option in the Mediterranean diet, it is optional. If you drink wine or alcohol, limit intake to one drink or less per day. Light to moderate consumption may reduce the risk of heart disease, but in general, it is not recommended to start drinking alcohol or increase consumption. Remember to include water, as it is the best fluid for your body.

Modify your lifestyle. While much

of the Mediterranean diet revolves around healthy eating, another important part involves slowing down and savoring life something most of us could benefit from to improve our well-being and mental health. The basic principles of Mediterranean style eating include:

- Sitting down at the table for at least two lunches or dinners per week.
- Taking time to eat, without rushing.
- Eating with friends and family.

Engaging in physical activity with the goal of at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise per week.

“There are many eating plans, but the Mediterranean diet is a holistic approach that includes healthy and delicious foods, as well as lifestyle choices that promote well-being. Many people who adopt this style of eating say they will never eat another way,” says McCann.

**Source — Mayo Clinic**



# Pharrell prays for US leaders at Black Music Collective event

At a pre-Grammy event celebrating black music’s cultural power, Pharrell Williams used the Recording Academy stage to deliver a prayer, not for himself, but for US leaders.

“I want to pray for the leaders of this nation and the powers that be,” Williams said Thursday night at the Recording Academy’s Black Music Collective event in Los Angeles, where he received the Dr. Dre Global Impact Award.

“I’m praying that they find it in their hearts some empathy, some grace and, most importantly, some mercy for these people who may not have been born in this country, but love it just as much,” he said.

The 13-time Grammy winner’s remarks drew applause inside the Fairmont Century Plaza ballroom, just days before Sunday’s Grammy Awards.

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“Trust me,” he said, “they would not be here if they didn’t believe us when we keep saying that this is the greatest nation on the planet. So please ... empathy, grace and mercy.”

Williams was one of three honorees at the fourth annual event, which celebrates artists whose influence extends far beyond music.

R&B mainstay Brandy and gospel trailblazer Kirk Franklin each received the Black Music Icon Award.

Justin Timberlake presented Williams with the award after performing a medley of songs they

crafted together, including Rock Your Body and Happy. Before handing him the trophy, Timberlake praised his longtime collaborator as “one of one”, adding, “You are one of my favourite humans, Bro. I am so honoured to be here.”

Tyler, the Creator delivered one of the night’s most emotional tributes, crediting Williams with opening doors throughout his career.

“Every door he goes in, he comes back out, grabs people, gives them the key,” Tyler said. “You have been, you are and you will always be my North Star.”

Dr. Dre, for whom the award is named, highlighted Williams’ impact across music, fashion, philanthropy and entrepreneurship. He said that Williams has consistently leveraged his music, fashion and culture to advocate for social change.

“For this, I am so proud to have my name on an award now shared by him,” Dr. Dre said.

In his own remarks, Williams described music as “the skeleton key” that unlocked opportunity throughout his life.

“A good skeleton key opens all doors, not just exclusive ones,” he said. “Music opened the doors to the things that matter the most in my life.”

Brandy was serenaded with renditions of her songs by Coco Jones, FLO and Kehlani. She appeared visibly moved after she took the stage and sang Almost Doesn’t Count.

“Never did I imagine my name and the word ‘icon’ to ever merge,” she said. “I’m humbly just a vessel chosen to use the gift to inspire, touch

and change a life.”

Franklin, introduced as “the king of urban gospel”, was honoured following performances by John Legend, who sang He’s Able, along with Lecrae, PJ Morton and Tamela Mann.

The 20-time Grammy winner reflected on his upbringing – such as being adopted, experiencing homelessness and sleeping in his car, and how faith shaped his journey.

“I learned early on about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and never wanted to be afraid to say that name,” Franklin said. “It hurts when I see the faith that I really believe in be so divisive and not be a message of love.”

He said: “When all this fades and passes away, I want to be known for how I love people.”

The evening also delivered a surprise moment when Recording Academy CEO Harvey Mason Jr presented Eve with a long-overdue Grammy for her contributions to The Roots’ 2000 hit You Got Me. Though Eve rapped on the song, she wasn’t credited when the track won best rap performance by a duo or group more than two decades ago.

“To make it right,” Mason told the audience, “The Recording Academy is here to offer a much-deserved respect and recognition.”

An emotional Eve accepted the award to a standing ovation. “This is actually for little Eve from Philly,” she said. “What is yours never can miss you.”

Since its launch, the Black Music Collective has worked to champion black creators and industry

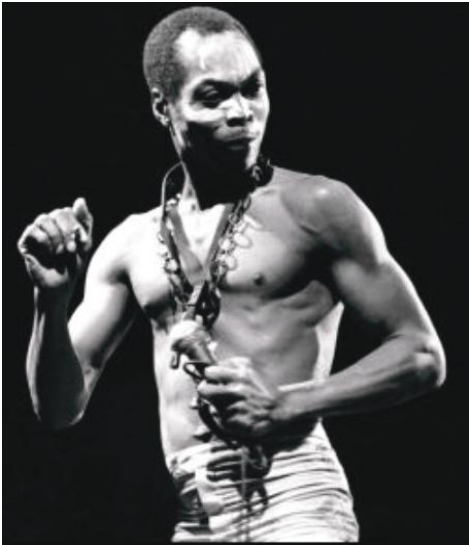


Helen Lasichanh (left) and Pharrell Williams attend the Recording Academy Honors presented by the Black Music Collective last Thursday, in Los Angeles.

leaders, previously honouring Alicia Keys, JAY-Z, Missy Elliott, John Legend and Mariah Carey. The group also supports scholarships and initiatives aimed at cultivating the next generation of black music leaders.

But amid the tributes and performances, Williams’ prayer lingered in the room. It was a reminder that for him, impact is both global and deeply personal.

“Impact comes in many forms,” he said. “Sometimes global, sometimes local, sometimes cultural and sometimes deeply personal.”



Nigerian musician and composer Fela Anikulapo Kuti performs on September 13, 1986 at the ‘Party of Humankind’ of the French Communist Party at La Courneuve in Paris, France.

Chaka Khan, Cher, Carlos Santana, Paul Simon, Fela Kuti and Whitney Houston received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Recording Academy at the Grammys Special Merit Awards on Saturday night.

“Music has been my prayer, my healing, my joy, my truth,” Khan said as she accepted the award. “Through it, I saved my life.”

She was the only Lifetime Achievement recipient who appeared at the ceremony at the small Wilshire Ebell Theatre in Los Angeles on the eve of Sunday’s main Grammys ceremony.

She was preceded by a short documentary on her career that highlighted her hits as a member of the funk band Rufus and as a solo artiste, including 1974’s Stevie Wonder-written Tell Me Something Good, Ain’t Nobody (1983), I’m Every Woman (1978) and the Prince-penned I Feel For

# Fela Kuti, Chaka Khan, Cher among Grammy Lifetime Achievement awardees

You (1984).

Wearing a shimmering sea green gown, she thanked her many collaborators while admitting not all of them were entirely sane.

“Over 50 years I am blessed to walk alongside extraordinary artistes, musicians, writers, producers and creatives,” she said, pausing before adding, “and cuckoos”.

Family accepted the Lifetime Achievement Awards for the Nigerian Afrobeat legend, Kuti, who died in 1997, and the singing superstar Houston, who died in 2012.

Three of his children accepted the award for Kuti, introduced as a “producer, arranger, political radical, outlaw and the father of Afrobeat”. He’s the first African musician to get the award.

“Thank you for bringing our father here,” Femi Kuti said. “It’s so important for us, it’s so important for Africa, it’s so important for world peace and the struggle.”

Fela Kuti was born into the Ransome-Kuti family, an upper-middle-class family, on 15 October 1938, in Abeokuta, Colonial Nigeria. His mother, Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, was an anti-colonial feminist, and his father, Israel Oludotun Ransome-Kuti was an Anglican minister, school principal, and the first president of the Nigeria Union of Teachers. Kuti’s parents both played active roles in the anti-colonial movement in

Nigeria, most notably the Abeokuta Women’s Riots which were led by his mother in 1946. His brothers Beko Ransome-Kuti and Olikoye Ransome-Kuti, both medical doctors, were well known nationally. Kuti is a cousin to the writer and fellow activist Wole Soyinka, a Nobel Prize for Literature winner. They are both descendants of Josiah Ransome-Kuti, an Anglican clergyman and musical pioneer.

In 1958, he was invited to London by his younger brother to study music at the Trinity College of Music. While there, he formed the band Koola Lobitos and played a fusion of jazz and highlife. In 1960, Kuti married his first wife, Remilekun (Remi) Taylor with whom he had three children (Yeni, Femi, and Sola). In 1963, Kuti moved back to the newly independent Federation of Nigeria, re-formed Koola Lobitos. He called his style Afrobeat, a combination of Apala, funk, jazz, highlife, salsa, calypso and traditional Yoruba music.

MESSAGE OF SANTANA

The audience gave a collective moan of disappointment when academy President Harvey Mason Jr. said Cher wasn’t there. She spoke in a very short video.

“The only thing I ever wanted to be was a singer. When I was four years old I used to run around the house naked, singing into a hair brush,” she said. “Things haven’t changed all that much.”

Santana also spoke on video, after his son, Salvador, accepted his trophy.

“The world is so infected with fear that we need the music and message of Santana to bring hope, courage and joy to heal the world,” Carlos Santana said.

Elton John’s longtime lyricist Bernie Taupin paid tribute to Simon, calling him “the greatest American songwriter alive”. Despite co-writing the vast majority of John’s hits, Taupin has somehow never won a competitive Grammy.

“I’ve been waiting 57 years for one of these,” he said, looking at his honorary trophy.

Eddie Palmieri, a pianist, composer and bandleader who was a great innovator in Latin jazz and rumba, also got a Trustees Award.

Palmieri, who died last year at 88, became the first Latino to win a Grammy Award, in 1975. Another trustees honoree was Sylvia Rhone, the first black woman to head a major record label.

John Chowning, whose work as a Stanford professor in the 1960s was essential to the synthesizer sounds that dominated the 1980s, won the Technical Grammy Award. Jennifer Jimenez, a band director from South Miami Senior High School, won the Grammys Music Educator Award, and Ice Cream Man by Raye got the Harry Belafonte Song for Social Change Award.





Photos appearing to show Andrew crouched over an unidentified woman were included in the latest Epstein files release (US Department of Justice)

Former Prince Andrew saw his reputation destroyed six years ago when he gave a disastrous interview to the BBC about his relationship with the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. He became the butt of internet jokes and is unlikely to take that risk again even as Prime Minister Keir Starmer, U.S. congressmen and lawyers representing Epstein’s victims call for him to tell investigators what he knows about Epstein and his network of rich and powerful friends. “If you view the Newsnight evidence as a precedent, then who knows what Andrew would say or how he would come across in what would be some very, very hostile questioning — far (more) hostile than he faced from Emily Maitlis,” Craig Prescott, an expert on constitutional law and the monarchy at Royal Holloway, University of London, said, referring to the 2019 BBC interview. “It’s very difficult to see how that is, in a sense, in the interests of Andrew to do that voluntarily.” The pressure for Andrew to testify is growing after the latest release of documents from the U.S. Justice Department’s investigation into Epstein revealed further unsavory details

about links between the two men.

Attorney Gloria Allred, who represents many of Epstein’s victims, said Monday that Andrew has a duty to provide any evidence that could help investigators understand how Epstein was able to abuse so many women for so long, and who else might have been involved in his crimes. But the last time Andrew tried to answer questions about his friendship with Epstein it ended in disaster. **It didn’t end well** After the 2019 interview with Maitlis, Andrew was pilloried for offering unbelievable explanations for his continued contact with Epstein following the financier’s 2008 conviction for soliciting a minor for prostitution, and for failing to show empathy for the victims. Last fall, King Charles III stripped Andrew of his royal titles, including the right to be called a prince, as he tried to insulate the monarchy from the continuing revelations about his younger brother’s relationship with Epstein, which have tarnished the royal family for more than a decade. The former prince is now known simply as Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor.

# Epstein victims want Andrew to testify: He’s unlikely to do so

Andrew has also been ordered to vacate Royal Lodge, the 30-room mansion near Windsor Castle that has been his home for more than a decade. **Good luck with asking him to testify** Mountbatten-Windsor has little to lose by ignoring calls for him to testify, and U.S. authorities will find it hard to compel him to appear before Congress, said lawyer Mark Stephens, who handles international and complex cases at Howard Kennedy in London. “There will be huge pressure and calls for him to (testify), but I don’t think that even if he gets there, even if he gives evidence, it’s going to reveal anything meaningful,” Stephens said. “I would fully expect him to take the fifth, as Americans say, the privilege against self-incrimination. And so I don’t think, beyond his name, he’s going answer any of the questions either by turning up or not turning up.” Documents released Friday suggest that Epstein sought to arrange a date between Mountbatten-Windsor and a “beautiful” 26-year-old Russian woman, and that the former prince offered Epstein dinner at Buckingham Palace. They also revealed emails sent by Sarah Ferguson, Mountbatten-Windsor’s ex-wife, in which she called Epstein a “legend” and “the brother I have always wished for.” Documents do not show wrongdoing by many of those named; their appearance in the files reflects Epstein’s extremely wide reach. **Not sharing what he knows** Mountbatten-Windsor has previously demonstrated caution about talking to U.S. authorities. After he stepped away from royal duties in

2019, Mountbatten-Windsor announced that he was willing to help “any appropriate law enforcement agency” with its investigation into Epstein. But documents released last year showed how 10 months of negotiations between Mountbatten-Windsor’s lawyers and federal prosecutors failed to secure his testimony. Attorneys for the king’s brother ultimately rejected proposals for their client to be directly interviewed by the prosecutors, either in person or by video. Instead, they proposed that he give his answers in writing, something they said was perfectly acceptable in British courts. Finally, on Sept. 23, 2020, the prosecutors gave up on the idea of securing a voluntary interview and said they planned to start the formal process of asking the British courts to compel Andrew’s testimony under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty between the two countries. There is no indication that interview ever took place. Allred said the testimony is important for Epstein’s victims. While Mountbatten-Windsor has said he doesn’t know anything about Epstein’s crimes, the documents released by the Justice Department show that he has at least some understanding of the parties Epstein hosted, and how he used young women to influence his network of wealthy, powerful friends, Allred told the BBC. “He’s not the one who should decide whether he knows anything that could help in the investigation,” she said. “I am saying it’s not too late, and he does have information that he can share that may help them.”

# Trump says Mexico will ‘cease’ sending oil to Cuba

US President Donald Trump said Monday that Mexico would stop sending oil to Cuba, which is already struggling after supplies from its traditional provider Venezuela dried up following the fall of Nicolas Maduro. “It’s a failed nation. Mexico is going to cease sending them oil,” Trump told reporters in the Oval Office when asked about Cuba. For years, until Maduro’s ouster, the Cuban economy spluttered along on cheap supplies of Venezuelan oil. The end of Mexican supplies, too, would significantly deepen what is already Cuba’s most serious economic crisis since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union. There was no immediate response from Mexico to Trump’s comments. The US president has approved punitive tariffs against countries supplying oil to Cuba. The decree effectively forced Cuba’s partners to choose between trade with the world’s

largest economy or with an impoverished island of 11 million people. Mexico has been reluctant to cut supplies, with President Claudia Sheinbaum warning of a “far-reaching humanitarian crisis directly affecting hospitals, food supplies, and other basic services for the Cuban people.” But the United States is Mexico’s largest trade partner, and tariffs could damage the already slow-growing economy. While reiterating her “everlasting solidarity” with the Cuban people, Sheinbaum added, “We don’t want to put our country at risk in terms of tariffs.” She also said that during a phone conversation Thursday with Trump, the two leaders “never discussed” the issue of oil with Cuba. In his Oval Office remarks, Trump again said his administration was in talks with Cuba’s leaders. “I think we are pretty close, but we are deal-



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks as he announces the creation of the U.S. strategic critical minerals reserve during an event in the Oval Office of the White House on February 02, 2026 in Washington, DC. Trump, who was joined by manufacturing leaders, administration officials and lawmakers, announced the creation of Project Vault, a strategic reserve of rare earth minerals to help protect American manufacturers against potential supply chain disruptions.

ing with the Cuban leaders right now,” he said, without elaborating. A senior Cuban diplomat on Monday said there were contacts between the two countries, but no formal talks.

“Today we cannot talk about having a dialogue table with the United States, but it is true that there have been communications between the two governments,” vice foreign minister Carlos Fernandez de Cossio told AFP.





## OPEN JOB POSITIONS

**POSITION: Assistant Executive Housekeeper**

**PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

**Job Overview:** Working under the direct supervision of the Executive Housekeeper, the Assistant Executive Housekeeper will assist and provide support in all areas of departmental operations. The Assistant Executive Housekeeper will maintain regular and effective communication with the Executive Housekeeper on all assignments and responsibilities

### **Job Responsibilities:**

- Assist in managing the delivery and measurement of guest service consistent with the company's core service standards and brand attributes
- Provide input into research, development, evaluation, and implementation of new products, services, technology, and processes to ensure the hotel's competitive position and in anticipation of customers' changing needs.
- Assist in managing Human Resources responsibilities, including creating a work environment that promotes teamwork, performance feedback, recognition, mutual respect, and employee satisfaction, quality hiring, training, and succession planning processes.
- Performs the duties of the executive housekeeper in their absence
- Perform other duties as directed; and Any other duties that may be assigned to you

### **Skills and Competencies Required**

- Must possess and demonstrate excellent time management skills and ability to manage resources and prioritize and organize work efficiently and effectively.
- Possess and demonstrate a keen eye for details.
- Must be an extremely honest person with high levels of integrity
- Be able to work in close co-operation with and foster team spirit with all coworkers, demonstrating teamwork by co-operating and assisting co-workers as needed.
- Communicates freely and effectively with customers, co-workers, and management to provide services as agreed.
- Provides value-added service to customers by doing whatever is possible and reasonable to meet or exceed customer expectations
- Has full knowledge of Hotel and Department policies and procedures.
- Projects a positive work attitude at all times while refraining from gossiping and other work habits that may affect your work performance as well as fellow workers.
- Demonstrate a high-level flexibility and adaptability Must have a high level of effective communication skills in both oral and written forms.
- Ability to read and write English. Ability to use a computer and computer software programs. Ability to develop data for use in operations, interpret simple and complex business statements.
- Must have a full understanding and possess the ability to develop an operating budget and other financial statements.
- Possess working knowledge of industry standards, inventory management, and cost control procedures.
- Must have excellent organizational and administrative skills. Must be detail-oriented with an ability to handle multiple priorities.
- Possess service-oriented style with professional presentation skills.
- Ability to define and resolve problems in a highly professional manner.
- Have self-control in difficult situations.
- Able to work in a culturally diverse environment.
- Able to work under stress.
- Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs. and push/pull more than 50 lbs.
- Must be physically able to stand on feet for long periods of time, bend, and perform repetitive tasks.
- Assist and contribute significantly to the short- and long-term planning of the department.
- Interpret company policies and provide a safe working environment by ensuring compliance with safety programs and job safety analysis.
- Assist in scheduling employees in accordance with occupancy levels and labor guidelines, and as per budgetary guidelines.
- Assist in ensuring maintenance of all equipment and hotel property throughout the designated housekeeping and laundry areas and public areas, through work orders and interdepartmental communications.
- Assist in the proper training, development, direction, and discipline of employees through the implementation of programs, checklists, and training.
- Ensure proper cleaning and project schedules are completed as directed Ensure all follow-up programs and room inspections are completed in a timely fashion according to department standards.
- Assist in maintaining effective communications with all departments to ensure a high-quality product and service are consistently delivered to all guests.
- Assist in the timely completion of department payroll as directed.
- Assist in developing and maintaining a high level of accountability and efficiency procedures in all areas of department operations Assist in maintaining constant vigilance and oversight of department operations, initiating immediate corrective action where deficiencies are identified.
- Assist in ensuring that laundry procedures and standards are established and carried out

**Shift Varies. Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.**

**Salary Range: \$55,000.00 - \$60,000.00 per Annum**

**Interested persons should contact our Human Resources Department no later than February 12th 2025**

**Email: [humanresources@gracebayclub.com](mailto:humanresources@gracebayclub.com)**

**(649) 946-5050 Ext. 1020**

**#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies**



# St Lucia gov't says no permission granted to Uber to operate in the island

The St Lucia government says it gave no permission to the American multi-national transportation company Uber to begin operations in the country. “I want to ... make it very clear that contrary to what you’ve been hearing, reading from various sources, that the Government of St Lucia has not in any way approved, sanctioned, or encouraged Uber to operate any service in St Lucia,” Tourism Minister Dr Ernest Hilaire told reporters. He said the Phillip J Pierre administration has not in “any way approved, sanctioned or encouraged Uber to operate any service in St Lucia” amid

mounting public debate over the ride-hailing company’s recent launch. He said Uber first made contact with the government last December, indicating that it was interested in setting up a service on the island. “They described themselves as a technology platform that offers transportation for people who want to move from point A to point B. We indicated to them then that we would be reviewing their intention and that we shall have discussions with them. “They sent in a second note indicating that there has been substantial interest in St Lucia from taxi associations



and individual taxi drivers. So they were going to move ahead, and again we told them that we would want to discuss the matter with the stakeholders and with Uber itself”. Hilaire told reporters that last weekend, the government got a notice from Uber saying “they were launching their service the following day. “We indicated to them that we were planning to meet with them to discuss the matter in detail and that they

should not proceed,” he said, adding that a meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday with the national taxi association. He said he is hoping by next week Monday to provide an update to the population on the matter. “Again, I want to make it very clear that the government has not approved, encouraged, or sanctioned Uber operating any service in St Lucia,” Hilaire told reporters.



A supporter of ousted President Nicolas Maduro gestures as she takes part in a vigil in Caracas on February 2, 2026. On February 2 Washington’s new top diplomat in Venezuela said that in a meeting with the country’s interim president she addressed the issue of a transition after the ouster of Nicolas Maduro.

# Thousands of Venezuelans march to demand Maduro’s release

decisions taken by our interim president, Delcy Rodriguez.” He added that “sooner or later they will have to free our president.”

– ‘Prosperous and democratic’ –

Rodriguez was a staunch backer of Maduro, and served as his vice president. US President Donald Trump has said he is willing to work with her as long as she toes Washington’s line, particularly on granting access to Venezuela’s vast oil reserves. Under pressure, Rodriguez has started freeing political prisoners and opened Venezuela’s nationalized hydrocarbons industry to private investment. The countries have reestablished diplomatic relations severed in 2019 after Maduro was accused of stealing his first reelection. American envoy Laura Dogu arrived in Caracas on Saturday. On Tuesday, in a video issued by the US mission, she pointed to a three-phase

plan for the crisis-stricken South American country, ending in “the transition to a friendly, stable, prosperous and democratic Venezuela.”

– Freedom ‘in the streets’ –

Earlier on Tuesday, hundreds of university students and relatives of political prisoners also marched in the capital, calling for the quick approval of an amnesty law promised by Rodriguez. It has not yet come before parliament, whose leader is the acting president’s brother, Jorge Rodriguez, another staunch Chavista and Maduro backer. Anti-government protests had been rare since the crackdown on demonstrations against Maduro’s contested claim to another reelection in 2024. More than 2,000 people were jailed at the time. “Freedom is in the streets and no one can stop it!” chanted the crowd. The opposition in Venezuela has been calling for fresh elections to be held after Maduro’s ouster.

Thousands of backers of Venezuela’s former leader Nicolas Maduro, who was ousted in a deadly US military operation, marched in Caracas on Tuesday to demand his freedom. “Venezuela needs Nicolas,” chanted the crowd, a month to the day since he was spectacularly toppled and whisked away to stand trial on drug charges in New York. Stand-in President Delcy Rodriguez has been walking a tightrope since then — trying to hold on to support from Washington but also from Maduro acolytes in her government and the Venezuelan people.

Several demonstrators, many of them public sector workers, held photos of Maduro and of his wife, Cilia Flores, who was also seized in the US raid. The march, called by the government, stretched for several hundred meters, accompanied by trucks blaring music. Many protesters waved Venezuelan flags and were dressed in the red colors of the ruling “Chavista” movement named after Maduro’s socialist predecessor, Hugo Chavez. “We feel confused, sad, angry. There are a lot of emotions,” said Jose Perdomo, a 58-year-old municipal employee who also declared his backing “for the





## OPEN JOB POSITIONS

**POSITION: Laundry Attendant**

**PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

**Job Overview:** Member of the Grace Bay Resorts Housekeeping team. Responsibilities include ensuring guests are provided with the clean and adequate linen services they enjoy as a part of their hotel experience, ensuring that owner's investment in linen is treated carefully allowing a full linen life and return on investment. This position reports to the Laundry Manager, Assistant Executive Housekeeper and Executive Housekeeper.

### Job Responsibilities:

- Reports to work on time, with a clean uniform, neatly groomed and in accordance with company guidelines.
- Follows hotel grooming and position dress standards, including name tag and proper shoes.
- Proceeds to Housekeeping Office immediately and follows procedures for signing/clocking in.
- Take due note of announcements on Notice Board and actively seek out information relevant to daily departmental and hotel operations.
- Following procedures, sorts all soiled linens as to prepare them for washing.
- Separate all stained linen by stains and treat accordingly
- Processes, (wash, dry, fold and press) linen as directed, as per quality standards and according to schedule.
- Maintain linens in accordance with the hotel standards by bringing to the attention of the Laundry Supervisor/Housekeeping Manager, the condition of linens, specifically those in need of repair and or replacing
- Maintain a minimum level of productivity as required.
- Check chemical and supplies inventory daily to ensure adequate supplies. Report low stock inventory to H/K Manager immediately.
- Constantly monitor supplies and linen for signs of abuse or overuse. Report any and all such observations to Supervisor immediately.
- Log and record all items received as directed and according to policy.
- Issue linen as per policy.
- Report and hand over to H/K Office all Lost and Found Items immediately. Make note on Daily Production Report.
- Ensure worksheets are completed accurately and completely. Reconcile work sheets at the end of the work day.
- Maintain a clean, neat and well-organized work area at all times
- Responsible for the safe and efficient use of equipment, preventing any abuse and ensuring that they are cleaned and turned off at the end of the work day. Clean lint traps as required to prevent any loss in operating efficiency. Perform cleaning duties as per schedule.
- Maintain constant vigilance and observation of equipment operations. Report any equipment malfunctions or defects immediately to Supervisor. Assist in physical inventory in laundry and linen Store Room as directed.
- Practice safety standards at all times including constant awareness of safety hazards
- Respond to all guests requests quickly and appropriately and remain alert, courteous and helpful to guests and fellow workers at all times.
- Has full knowledge of Hotel and Department policies and procedures.
- Projects a positive work attitude at all times while refraining from gossiping and other work habits which may affect your work performance as well as fellow workers.
- Demonstrate a high-level flexibility and
- Handles any routine projects assigned on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.
- Complete special project or assignments as directed.
- Attend and participate fully in pre-shift briefings, department meetings or other meetings as requested.

### Skills and Competencies Required

- Must possess and demonstrate excellent time management skills and ability to manage resources and prioritize and organize work efficiently and effectively.
- Possess and demonstrate a keen eye for details
- Must be an extremely honest person with high levels of integrity
- Be able to work in close co-operation with and foster team spirit with all co-workers, demonstrating teamwork by co-operating and assisting co-workers as needed.
- Communicates freely and effectively with customers, co-workers and management to provide services as agreed.
- Maintain positive relationships in the Housekeeping Department and with other departments within the hotel as well as with guests and other affiliates.
- Interprets policies and procedures and ensures proper standards of conduct and service are maintained
- Provides value added service to customers by doing whatever is possible and reasonable to meet or exceed customer expectations
- Ability to read and write English
- Ability to communicate effectively with guests and co-workers in English
- Ability to do basic arithmetic
- Responsible, punctual and neat in appearance.
- Have self-control in difficult situations
- Able to work in a culturally diverse environment
- Able to work under stress and multi task.
- Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs. and push/pull in excess of 50 lbs.
- Must be physically able to stand on feet for long periods of time, bend and perform repetitious tasks.

**Shift Varies. Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.**

**Salary Range: \$8.00 – \$9.00 per hour**

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#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies



A photograph of a basketball game in progress. A player in a pink jersey is jumping high, holding a red and white basketball above his head. A player in a red jersey is jumping below him, attempting to block the shot. A referee in a white shirt is also visible, looking up at the play. The background shows blue bleachers with a few spectators.

# **BASKETBALL FEDERATION SEEKS NATIONWIDE TALENT**

Full Story on Page 32



# Dowrich, CWI settle legal dispute

A long-standing legal dispute between Cricket West Indies (CWI) and former West Indies wicketkeeper-batsman Shane Dowrich has been amicably settled, closing a chapter that began with his early departure from the 2020 tour of New Zealand.

The conflict, which centred on issues of player eligibility and his central contract not being renewed, has been resolved after discussions between the parties. Both sides have expressed satisfaction at bringing the matter to a close.

With the legal impasse cleared, Dowrich's future in West Indies cricket is set to take a new path.

CWI Chief Executive Officer Chris Dehring announced that the organisation is pleased to welcome the retired cricketer into its coaching structure.

"CWI is pleased that an agreement has been reached and welcomes Shane to be part of its coaching structure as he moves into further professional development, having retired from international cricket in December 2023," Dehring said.

Dowrich, who ended his playing career in late 2023 after 35 Test matches, echoed the sentiment of moving forward. His attorney, Philip Nicholls, conveyed the player's relief and renewed focus.

"Shane is delighted that this uncertain period over the last five years has come to an end," Nicholls said. "He is now looking forward to forging a coaching career and maintaining his involvement in the game he loves. He welcomed the opportunity to pass on the knowledge gained during his career to the next generation of cricketers, and wicketkeepers in particular." The specific terms of the settlement will remain confidential, as agreed by both parties. The resolution allows Dowrich to transition fully into a mentorship role, contributing to the development of Caribbean cricket from a new perspective.



Former West Indies wicketkeeper-batsman Shane Dowrich

# Never say never!

Jamaica women's cricket coach claims winning mentality was driving force behind Super50 success

Shane Brooks, the Jamaica senior women's cricket head coach, says the "never-say-never mentality" of the team was the driving force behind the remarkable CG United Super50 Cup triumph in St Vincent and the Grenadines.

The Jamaican women entered Saturday's final round of matches in fifth place with nine points, but defeated Leeward Islands and gained valuable bonus points to leapfrog into top position.

Jamaica ended with 21 points, just ahead of Windward Islands (20), Guyana (20), and Trinidad and Tobago (19). Barbados, on 13 points, and Leeward Islands (seven) rounded out the six-team table.

Brooks, who along with the players, returned to Jamaica on Monday, reflected on the hallmark of their success.

"The main thing that stood out [during the tournament] is the resilience of the team. These players have a never-say-never mentality and belief in themselves," the coach told the Jamaica Observer.

"The ladies are elated after coming from behind to win the 50-over competition... they were very resilient and weathered the storm. We're always looking for solutions regardless of the situation we find ourselves in. "We always lean on each other and these girls are winners, they are accustomed to winning and they know that once they pull together, [execute] the team plans and support the coach's vision they will always be victors," he said.



In this June 14, 2022 file photo, Jamaica's Women's cricketers celebrate the fall of a wicket in a Twenty20 match against Leeward Islands in Guyana

"The players always believed — the one thing that this team doesn't lack is belief. They believe in their abilities and they believe in their skills, and there was no moment in time that we believed that we could not have won the competition, based on the structure of the competition," Brooks added.

He noted that the chance to accrue bonus points, with restricting opponents scoring, claiming wickets, and achieving bowling and batting milestones always gave his experienced team hope.

"There was always the possibility of getting 12 to 15 bonus points from

each game," he explained.

The Jamaicans last lifted the Super50 Cup in 2024, when they completed the regional double by also winning the Twenty20 (T20) tournament.

Largely due to limited pre-tournament preparation, it was a slow start for the Jamaicans this season — they were fifth in the T20 competition prior to the Super50 Cup.

But by the time they switched from the T20 to the 50-over format they were starting to hit their straps.

"We have won five titles in the past five years. This one means as much as all the others but this campaign we had a shorter time to prepare the

team. We were not as sharp as we would have liked but the duration of the tournaments allowed us to get better each passing day, so the performances improved.

"We weren't playing well and we didn't play our best game [during the tournament] but every game we played we kept on improving," Brooks, who is also coach of the Jamaica Under-19 women's team, recalled.

While not singling out anyone for individual performances, Brooks said he was pleased with the way in which the senior players supported their captain.

"Another thing that stood out is the improvement from our Captain Rashada Williams. She is a young captain — she is in her second year — and winning her first title [as captain]. The team really rallied around her, and she showed growth in her ability to think on her feet and her ability to work with the team plans. The senior players like Stafanie Taylor, Chedean Nation, Vanessa Watts, [and others] stood by her and believed in her leadership," he said.

Brooks told the Observer that a lot of the team's success was inspired by the late former women's cricketer and administrator Dorothy Hobson, who passed away last month.

"What the ladies have stressed on about Ms Hobson is that she was always a disciplinarian. She always believed in discipline, she always believed in country first, and the girls speak of this on numerous times. She believed in giving everything on the field, and these principles the girls took from her — giving everything that you have," he said.





OPEN JOB POSITIONS

POSITION: Housekeeper PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club

**Job Overview:** Member of the Grace Bay Resorts Housekeeping team. Responsibilities include assisting and providing support in all areas of Housekeeping. The goal is to create a clean and orderly environment for our guests that will become a critical factor in maintaining and strengthening our reputation. This position reports to the Housekeeping Supervisor, Assistant Executive Housekeeper and the Executive Housekeeper.

- Main Responsibilities:**
- Collecting your work sheet at the begging of your shift
  - Handing your updated worksheet at the end of your shift (must be authorized by your supervisor before you go off duty) handing your authorized worksheet to the coordinator.
  - Ensuring that all rooms assigned to you during your shift are completed in accordance with t Grace Bay Resort room cleaning standards, before you go off duty.
  - Placing a Do Not Disturb note under the guest room door that has the Relaxing signage hanging on the handle – (make a note on your room assignment sheet – stating the time you slipped the card under the door and what time you followed up to see if the guest had removed the Relaxing signage) Advise your supervisor also.
  - Greeting guests and responding to queries in a friendly and timely manner.
  - Always wares their name badge (must be neat and tidy) your name must be clear.
  - Clean rooms assigned to you according to the Grace Bay Resort rooms standard.
  - Advise your Supervisor of Manager regarding any defects in the room or public Areas.

- Skills and Competencies Required**
- High school diploma required; training certificate is preferred.
  - 3-5- years housekeeping experience working in a luxury/fine hotel preferred.
  - Must be able to work under pressure in a fast-paced environment.
  - Must be comfortable to speak to guests and diffusing a situation should they become upset.
  - Must be well groomed, clean and polite.
  - Must have clear, concise English written and verbal communication skills.
  - Must be able to work morning shifts, afternoon shifts, holidays, weekends when required.
  - Must be flexible to cover Public Areas and Laundry shifts if required.

Shift Varies. Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.  
Salary Range: \$8.00 – \$9.00 per hour

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(649) 946-5050 Ext. 1020  
#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies



OPEN JOB POSITIONS

POSITION: Senior Chef De Partie PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club

**Job Overview:** The Chef de Partie ensures that all stocks are kept under optimum condition, mise-end-place is always freshly prepared and on time, dishes are being prepared to the correct recipe and to the correct quantity, dishes reach the hot plate or passé correctly garnished, the correct portion and size, presented on the correct serving dish in the prescribed manner. Must attend all training classes required. Report any shortages promptly to the Sous Chefs.

- Job Responsibilities:**
- Ensuring that the hotel is always supplied and stocked with the necessary pastries and desserts for the various meal services
  - Assisting with purchasing and ensuring that inventories are properly kept and recorded
  - Assisting with the recruitment and hiring of the department
  - Assisting with any function/ events that the property may be hosting
  - Assisting with the coordinating meal service with the other departments within the Kitchen to ensure that service runs smoothly
  - Helping to maintain the kitchen standards
  - Will assist with supervising all kitchen workers and give performance reviews

- Skills and Competencies Required**
- Bachelor’s Degree in Culinary Arts, Food and Beverage Management or Equivalent
  - International culinary experience in a five-star property with focuses on creative and interesting desserts
  - Candidate should have at least 3 years’ experience in a kitchen management capacity and excellent knowledge of current culinary trends.
  - Must have experience in high volume hotel business.
  - Must be competent in culinary creativity as demonstrated by cooking test.
  - Have strong knowledge of food cost and inventories.
  - Must possess the ability to handle stressful and busy hotel.
  - Candidate must have good knowledge of computers (e.g. Excel & Word).
  - Clear, concise written and verbal communication skills.
  - Candidate must be comfortable to speak to guests and conduct meetings.
  - Must have a good understanding of cost control.

Shift Varies. Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.  
Salary Range: \$24,000.00 - \$26,000.00 per Annum

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# Sharks, Academy Eagles Crowned Apertura & Clausura Champions

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

SWA Sharks FC and Academy Eagles are the Apertura and Clausura Champions respectively after contrasting wins.

The Sharks produced one of the most dominant championship performances in recent memory to claim the PPL Apertura Round title on Saturday, January 31, overwhelming Provo United SC in a lopsided final that ended 17-0 at full time.

From the opening whistle, the Sharks set an unforgiving tempo and wasted no time asserting control. By halftime, they had already built an astonishing 8-0 lead, leaving Provo United chasing shadows as wave after wave of attacks crashed forward.

Joseph Friend-Lerr ignited the rout with early goals in the 7th and 21st minutes, setting the tone for a night that belonged entirely to the Sharks. Junior Paul followed with a clinical display in front of goal, scoring five times (14', 47', 50', 59', 74') to torment the Provo United backline throughout both halves.

Midfielder Junior Belizaire delivered a masterclass performance, netting four goals (17', 39', 45', 67') while controlling the tempo of play. His influence on both ends of the pitch earned him Most Valuable Player honors for SWA Sharks FC.

Additional goals came from Jake Maughan (29'), Brian Gregg (30', 40+2'), Jerry Belizaire (60'), and late strikes by Marc-Edy Longchamp (77', 80'), as the Sharks showed no signs of slowing until the final whistle.

Despite the heavy defeat, Provo United SC goalkeeper Curtis Pennant was named his team's MVP after facing an onslaught of shots throughout the match. Provo United received cautions



Apertura Champions Sharks celebrate with their trophy.

through Melcy Sedek Orne (36') and Lourdjt Diamant (52'), while the Sharks remarkably completed the match without a single booking. Match Commissioner duties were carried out by Shelly-Ann James.

## Eagles Grind Out Clausura Title

While the Apertura final delivered fireworks, Sunday's WPL Clausura Round championship offered a contrast in style, as Academy Eagles FC edged Teachers FC Strikers 1-0 in a tightly contested and disciplined encounter.

Both sides were locked scoreless at halftime, with defenses on top and chances at a premium. The breakthrough finally came in the 69th minute, when Innocent Jean stepped up and calmly converted a penalty to give Academy Eagles the decisive advantage.

From there, the Eagles showed composure and tactical maturity, shutting down attacking lanes and protecting their nar-

row lead until the final whistle. The lone caution of the match went to Academy Eagles' Marcellin Renaldo in the 58th minute, reflecting the intensity of the midfield battle.

With SWA Sharks FC lifting the Apertura crown in emphatic fashion and Academy Eagles

FC claiming the Clausura title through patience and precision, the league season closed with champions that showcased two very different paths to glory, one built on relentless attacking power, the other on discipline, nerve, and timely execution.



Clausura Champions, Academy Eagles in a jubilant mood with their trophy



# TCI Basketball Federation Seeks Nationwide Talent for U16 and U23 National Teams

The Turks and Caicos Basketball Federation (TCBF) is now seeking players from across the country for selection to its U16 and U23 national basketball teams, as preparations resume for upcoming international competition. National team training will officially recommence on Wednesday, 4 February, following improved collaboration between the Federation and the Sports Commission, which has expanded training opportunities throughout February. Additional ses-

sions are also expected to be introduced in March. TCBF President Trevor Cooke said the Federation is focused on widening its talent pool and strengthening national programmes ahead of future regional and international engagements. In keeping with recent updates to the FIBA 2026 international competition calendar, the Federation has combined its U15 and U16 programmes into a single U16 national team selection pool.

Training sessions will be led by Technical Consultant Slavaljub "Lale" Gorunovic. For the U16 National Team trainings are Wednesdays and Fridays between 3:30p.m. and 5:30 p.m. For the U23 National Team, training sessions are held on Thursdays between 3:30p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Saturday's training sessions are held between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. All eligible athletes are required to complete the official national team application process. Eligibility is as

follows:

- U16: Athletes born 2010 and younger
- U23: Athletes born 2003–2009

Selected athletes will be formally registered within the Federation's official national athlete database. Cooke emphasized that this phase of preparation will be driven by commitment, discipline, and unity, as the Federation works to build competitive and representative national teams.

# POP STAR MALUMA DONATES GEAR TO TCIFA

International Pop and movie star Juan Luis Londono, better known as 'Maluma' has donated what has been described by the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) as a substantial number of football boots to the U17 and U20 National Teams. The FA also described the gifts as timely, as it came at a time when both teams prepare to compete in the prestigious Concacaf Qualifiers this year. While Maluma was not physically on hand to deliver the gifts himself, representatives of his were. Speaking about the donation, TCI's Men's U20 Head Coach and Expert Goalkeeper Coach Aaron Lawrence expressed his excitement. "We are deeply appreciative of Mr. Londono's generous donation," Lawrence said. "It is support like this that helps uplift our teams and encourages them to pursue their dreams with passion and determination. We are absolutely thrilled and beyond grateful for this generous donation, which has arrived just in the nick of time to supercharge our capabilities! It's an incredible boost for the team and a shining testament to the community's belief in what we're building here. These resources will definitely empower us to elevate our young athletes' skills and potential to new heights!" As the teams gear up for the upcoming Concacaf Qualifiers, this



donation not only boosts their morale but also enhances their readiness to compete at an elite level. It reflects a shared belief in the power of sport to inspire and unite communities. The Concacaf Men's U17 Qualifiers

are scheduled to take place from February 5th to 12th. The Turks and Caicos team will compete in Group D against Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and the British Virgin Islands in Alajuela, Costa Rica. The Concacaf Men's U20 Qualifiers

will follow, occurring from February 23rd to March 4th. Turks and Caicos has been drawn into Group B, alongside Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts and Nevis, the Cayman Islands, and Bonaire. Matches for Group B will be held in Willemstad, Curacao.