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PDM Wants Independent Review of Police Promotion Process PG3



Agriculture Department to Trap Wild Dogs PG7



Colorado Route In Sight

United Air slated to begin Service to TCI from Colorado by this Fall

>>> STORY ON PG5



Andy Misick arguing on the floor



Front Row from left: Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson; Hon. Akierra Misick, Minister of Home Affairs; and Jatavia Howell, Director of Youth. Immediately behind the deputy premier is businessman Kyle Smith.

Youth Tribunal Sparks Debate on Cost of Living vs Economic Growth in TCI

The inaugural Youth Tribunal hosted by the Rotaract Club of Providenciales has earned praise from government leaders and participants alike, following an engaging discussion centered on one of the country's most pressing national issues: whether the Turks and Caicos Islands should prioritize controlling the cost of living over rapid economic development. The event brought together young professionals and emerging leaders to debate the topic, providing a platform for meaningful dialogue and civic engagement while encouraging youth to contribute to national discussions.

Minister of Home Affairs Hon. Akierra Missick applauded the initiative, saying the event offered valuable insights and highlighted the importance of considering different perspectives.

"We're very grateful for Rotaract, Open Thought and the organizers for putting the Youth Tribunal together," she said. "It's always rewarding to hear both sides of the story, economic growth versus affordable living, and Honorable Jamell and I have some food for thought that will be taken away."

Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson also commended the event, describing it as both energetic and productive.

"Having participated or listened to the presentations this evening, I think it's a great idea and something that they should continue on different topics as well," Robinson said. He added that he had been taking notes throughout the discussions with the intention of considering ideas and solutions during Cabinet discussions. Director of Youth Affairs Jatavia How-



Speaker Graceaniqua Harvey

ell emphasized the importance of youth participation in national conversations, stating that young people experience the country's challenges firsthand.

"We feel the cost of groceries, transportation, rent, and opportunities in real time," Howell said. "We speak from lived experiences, fresh perspectives, and a genuine desire to see the country thrive for generations to come."

Howell also praised the organizers for creating an environment where young voices can be heard and valued.

"Too often, young people are told that we are the leaders of tomorrow. But events like this remind us that we are contributors of today. Our voices matter now."

She noted that the discussion surrounding economic growth and affordability remains one of the most relevant topics facing the nation today, calling for a balanced approach that considers sustainability, opportunity and equity.

Nideka Missick of the Rotaract Club of Providenciales echoed those sen-

timents, highlighting the role of young adults in shaping the future of the country.

"As our country continues to develop and expand, many citizens are asking important questions about affordability, opportunity, sustainability and quality of life," Missick said. "And who better to lead this conversation than the young adults of this nation?"

She described the participants as

informed, ambitious and innovative individuals willing to tackle complex issues and contribute meaningfully to national development.

The Youth Tribunal concluded with participants being encouraged to continue speaking boldly, challenge ideas respectfully and offer solutions to issues affecting the Turks and Caicos Islands, reinforcing the belief that youth voices remain critical to the country's future progress.



Speaker Antwon Walkin



Speaker Selena Grant

PDM CALLS FOR INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF POLICE PROMOTION PROCESS

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The opposition Peoples' Democratic Movement (PDM) is calling for an independent review of the police promotion process.

A few weeks ago, news broke that an undisclosed number of police officers who believed they were overlooked for promotion recently, threaten to challenge the promotion process in court.

According to the PDM, Over the past few weeks, it has observed a growing number of social media posts, public comments, and online discussions concerning the recent promotion process conducted within the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force.

"Among the matters being circulated are allegations of leaked promotion examination materials, claims of unfair treatment, and concerns that some long serving officers were not promoted while others, reportedly with lower scores or weaker outcomes, were advanced. These claims have also been referenced in online publications and have generated significant public discussion," the PDM said in a news release.

The PDM noted categorically stated that its statement is not intended to attack any individual, undermine the Police Force, or politicize the matter, acknowledging that the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force is a vital national institution, and that public confidence in its leadership, fairness, and internal processes must always be protected. "However, the concerns now being raised are serious enough that they should not be



Opposition Leader and Leader of the PDM Hon. Edwin Astwood



Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey

dismissed as mere dissatisfaction from officers who were unsuccessful in the process," the PDM stated. "Promotion within a police service is not simply an internal employment matter. It affects morale, discipline, leadership, public trust, and the overall effectiveness of policing across the country."

The opposition party noted that Commissioner of Police, Fitz Bailey, has publicly stated that the promotion process was transparent, fair, and based on performance, merit, and good conduct.

"Those assurances are important," the PDM noted. "However, where repeated concerns continue to surface publicly, and where officers themselves may feel unable to speak

openly due to regulations restricting communication with the media, there is a clear need for an independent review to provide confidence and closure. We have looked into these allegations and believe that there is sufficient concern to warrant a review".

It added: "Police officers serve under strict rules. They cannot always defend themselves publicly, explain their grievances openly, or respond to public narratives in the same way other citizens can. That places a greater responsibility on the relevant authorities to ensure that any credible concern affecting fairness, transparency, and confidence is properly examined."

"For that reason, the People's Democratic Movement respectfully calls on the Gov-

ernment to support our demand that Her Excellency the Governor commissions an independent review and investigate these allegations over the recent police promotion process. Such a review should not be seen as an attack on the Commissioner, the Police Force, or any officer who was promoted. Rather, it should be seen as a responsible step to protect the integrity of the institution and reassure all parties that the process was properly conducted."

The PDM statement argued that if the process was fair, as Commissioner Bailey has stated, "...Then an independent review would help clear the air and strengthen public confidence. If shortcomings are identified, then the appropriate corrective steps can be taken. Either outcome would be better than allowing uncertainty, speculation, and frustration to continue growing."

It stated further: "This matter should be approached calmly, respectfully, and professionally. The aim should not be to embarrass anyone, but to ensure transparency, fairness, and trust in one of the country's most important institutions.

"Police officers deserve confidence that their careers are determined by merit, integrity, performance, and fairness. The public also deserves confidence that those promoted into leadership positions were selected through a process that can withstand scrutiny.

"For the sake of the officers, the Police Force, and the wider community, these concerns must be independently reviewed and not ignored."



<h3 style="text-align: center;">F&B Specialist/Administrator</h3> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role is responsible for assisting with reporting, inventory tracking in our yellow dog system, supplier coordination, scheduling, and general administrative duties to support smooth F&B operations. Preparing reports, maintaining records, and organizing departmental documentation. Assisting with menu updates, pricing documentation, and promotional materials where required. Ensuring compliance with company policies, food safety standards, and administrative procedures. Handling customer or vendor inquiries professionally and escalating issues when necessary. Supporting management with audits, data entry, and operational follow-ups. Maintaining organized filing systems and accurate database records. <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak and write English proficiently. Minimum of 1-2 years' experience in Food & Beverage administration, hospitality administration, or a similar support role. Strong organizational and administrative skills. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite and general administrative systems. Experience supporting diverse teams within hospitality or restaurant environments is an asset. Ability to multitask, prioritize duties, and work efficiently in a fast-paced environment. <p style="font-size: small;">Salary expectations - \$26,500 - \$27,500 per annum</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Housekeeper</h3> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean and tidy guest rooms, bathrooms, and common areas Change bed linens and make beds Replenish guest room supplies, such as toiletries and towels Dust and polish furniture and fixtures Vacuum and sweep floors Report any maintenance issues to the appropriate department Assist guests with any requests or needs they may have Follow all safety and sanitation policies and procedures <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak English Must have 2-3 years experience in related field Must be able to work in a restaurant environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure. Prior experience in housekeeping or related field preferred Knowledge of cleaning chemicals, proper storage, and disposal methods Ability to follow instructions and procedures Positive attitude and willingness to learn <p style="font-size: small;">Salary expectations - \$9.00 - \$10.00 per hour</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">APPLY NOW!</p> <p>Send your resume to: careers@thestrandtci.com</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Interested applicants for this position listed on this ad, should also send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Airport Road, Providenciales</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Security Manager</h3> <p>Job Specification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing and supervising the daily operations of the security department. Developing and implementing security policies, procedures, and emergency response plans. Monitoring security systems, surveillance equipment, and access control procedures. Conducting routine inspections and risk assessments to identify potential security concerns. Investigating incidents, preparing reports, and recommending corrective actions. Coordinating security coverage schedules and ensuring adequate staffing levels. Training, mentoring, and evaluating security personnel to maintain high performance standards. Working closely with management and local authorities on safety and security matters. Ensuring compliance with health, safety, and security regulations. Responding promptly and effectively to emergencies, incidents, or disturbances. Maintaining accurate records, logs, and departmental documentation. <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be able to speak and write English proficiently. Minimum of 3-5 years' experience in security management Ability to manage diverse teams and work effectively under pressure. Knowledge of security systems, emergency procedures, and incident reporting. Must be physically capable of standing or walking for extended periods when required. Excellent communication and conflict-resolution skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Office and report-writing is preferred. <p style="font-size: small;">Salary expectation - \$45,600 - \$48,000 per annum</p>
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TCHTA Creates Immersive Turks and Caicos Experience During Dallas Reception

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands Hotel and Tourism Association (TCHTA) took participants attending the Dallas leg of the Premier's Roadshow on an immersive journey through the destination with the debut of a custom virtual reality viewer showcasing the beauty and experiences of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The branded binocular-style viewers were placed on tables throughout a ballroom at the Hotel Swexan, offering invited guests an immersive and tactile way to experience the destination's turquoise waters, luxury resorts, marine adventures, and natural beauty. The activation formed part of broader efforts by the TCHTA to create deeper and

more memorable connections with potential visitors through innovative and experiential marketing.

"As travellers increasingly seek experiential and immersive interactions, this creative tool allows us to bring the Turks and Caicos Islands directly to audiences in a way that is engaging, memorable, and emotionally impactful," said Stacy Cox, TCHTA CEO. "It offers guests a sensory introduction to the destination before ever stepping onto the islands."

The Premier's Road Show, organized by the TCHTA with support from Experience Turks and Caicos, the Ministry of Tourism, Invest Turks and Caicos, and the Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority (TCIAA), touched



Retired Dallas Cowboys defensive back, Kavon Frazier with Karen Whitt of the TCHTA

down in four U.S. cities this week — New York, Dallas, Denver, and Chicago.

The Road Show officially launched on May 18th at the Grayson Hotel with the debut of the "Meet Me in Turks and Caicos" destination anthem and accompanying music video, developed as part of the destination's latest tourism campaign.

Guests attending the Dallas reception included former Dallas Cowboys player Kavon Frazier, journalist Terri Guthrie, and several travel advisors from the Dallas area.



A TCHTA viewfinder introduced during the Dallas Reception

JetBlue Passengers Praise Turks and Caicos Emergency Preparedness Following Landing Scare

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Passengers aboard a JetBlue flight from New York to Providenciales are giving high marks to Turks and Caicos emergency responders after witnessing what many described as an impressive level of preparedness during a frightening in-flight situation on Friday, May 15.

While the experience onboard left many shaken, several travelers said they were reassured after seeing ambulances, police vehicles and fire and rescue personnel positioned and ready on the ground as the aircraft prepared for what was initially feared could become an emergency landing situation.

One visitor reportedly told hotel staff after arriving at her destina-

tion that despite the frightening moments in the air, she was impressed by the coordinated response awaiting the aircraft below. Passengers said seeing emergency personnel in place provided a sense of comfort during an otherwise tense ordeal, with some noting that responders appeared organized and prepared for any possible outcome.

The frightening incident unfolded aboard the JetBlue flight originating in New York and bound for Providenciales after the aircraft reportedly developed issues during an attempted landing.

According to passengers on board, shortly after the pilot announced that the aircraft was preparing for landing, another announcement followed advising that the plane was experiencing what appeared

to be a mechanical issue.

One passenger said the pilot aborted the initial landing attempt and pulled the aircraft back into the air. Following the maneuver, passengers reported hearing another announcement instructing them to tighten their seatbelts and assume a brace position, with the pilot reportedly explaining that he could not predict what might happen during the next landing attempt.

The announcement reportedly triggered panic among some passengers on board. Travelers said several individuals immediately reached for their cell phones to contact family members and loved ones to inform them about the developing situation. Passengers also described hearing cries and emotional reactions throughout

the cabin as uncertainty grew.

Meanwhile, NewslineTCI understands that emergency protocols on the ground were also being activated.

The Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME) reportedly received a 911 call regarding the developing incident and preparations began for a possible emergency response. However, officials were later advised to stand down after the aircraft successfully landed and the emergency situation was averted. Relief quickly turned into celebration inside the cabin after the plane touched down safely without further incident.

NewslineTCI understands that the majority of passengers aboard the flight were tourists visiting the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Colorado Route In Sight

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Turks and Caicos may soon see another expansion in airlift from the United States, with indications emerging that United Airlines could begin service between Colorado and the Turks and Caicos Islands as early as this fall.

While the development has generated excitement during the ongoing Premier-led Tourism Roadshow in the United States, tourism officials stopped short of formally confirming the anticipated service.

Speaking during the Premier Roadshow, Chief Executive Officer of the Turks and Caicos Hotel and Tourism Association (TCHTA), Stacy Cox, said she could not confirm the service, but stated that the roadshow was geared at marketing the Turks and Caicos and to attract both tourists and additional airlift.

When questioned about reports that United Airlines could begin flights between Colorado and Turks and Caicos by the fall, Cox indicated that she could not yet officially verify the information.

"I cannot confirm officially (the United Air service between Colorado and Providenciales," she said.

However, industry sources told NewslineTCI that while the deal was not official, the deal is all but sealed, and that, before the end of the fall, a service between Colorado should be in full effect.

The possibility of direct service from Colorado would represent another important boost for the destination's air connectivity and could open access to additional travelers from the western United States market. However, details surrounding the proposed service remain unclear, including whether operations would begin as a weekly route or with more frequent flights.

No official announcement has yet been made by United Airlines regarding scheduling, routing details, or frequency of service.

Meanwhile, Cox described the Premier Roadshow itself as a major success, noting strong enthusiasm from industry partners and



travel stakeholders.

"Partners are excited to see the team and the Premier in the market. It's certainly generating a buzz around Turks and Caicos," she said.

The roadshow, which began on Monday, is concluding in Chicago after multiple stops across the United States. Cox said the campaign marks an important return after a decade-long absence.

"I think it's a huge success after a

10-year hiatus. First of all, I'm glad to see us back," she said.

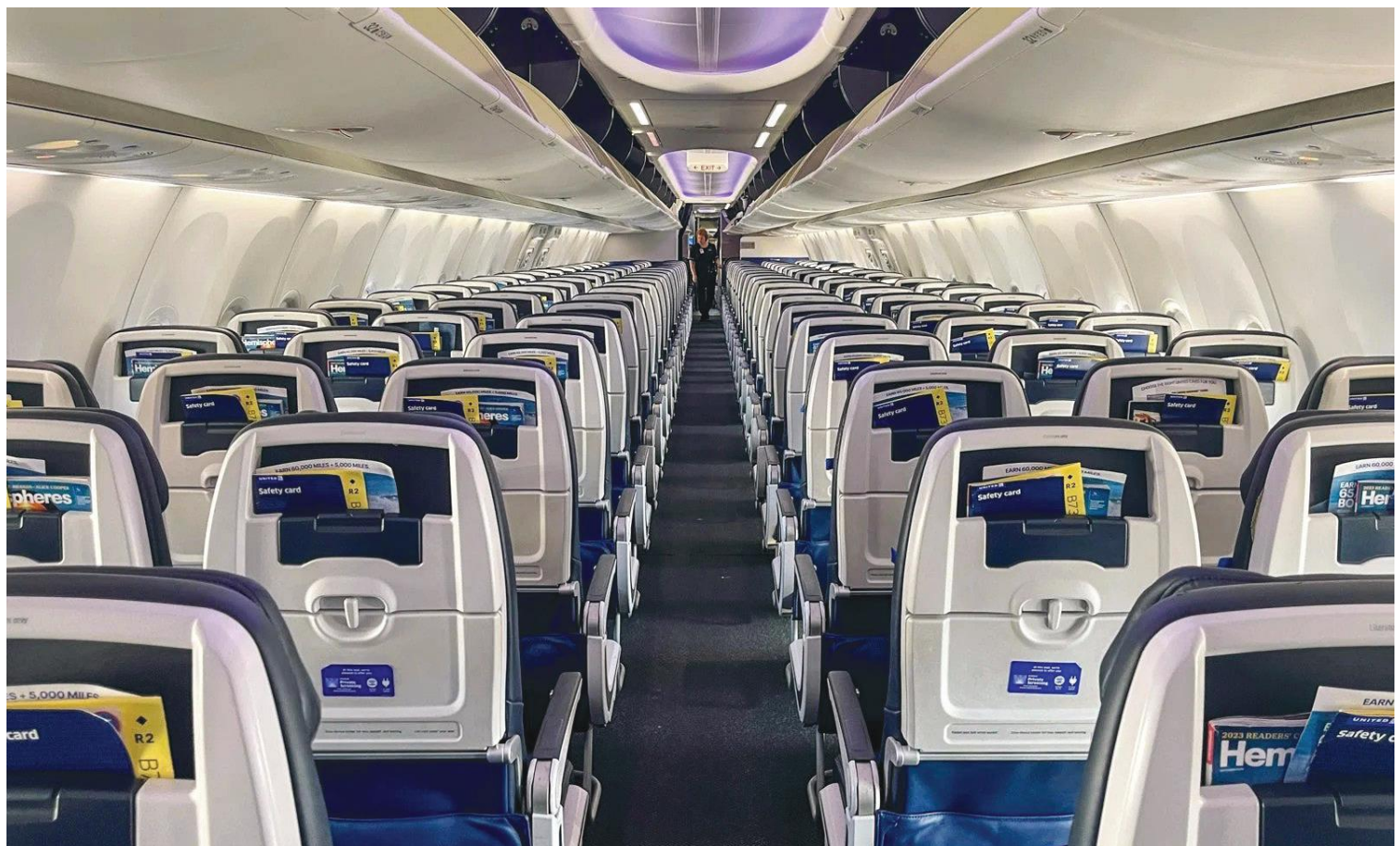
She added that the collaborative approach involving tourism stakeholders, airport authorities, hotel partners and government representatives has presented a unified message promoting the destination.

The potential addition of a Colorado route, if confirmed, would further strengthen Turks and Caicos' growing network of international

airlift options and support continued expansion of the territory's tourism sector.

United operates existing flights out of the United States, offering year-round direct flights to the island, with frequent non-stop service originating from their hub in Houston (IAH).

On May 20, Colorado Governor Jarrod Polis, declared that day 'Colorado/Turks and Caicos Friendship Day'.



Objecting to Beaches' 250-Unit Staff Housing: Protecting Long Bay's Community

On May 4, 2026, I attended the public consultation meeting held by the Ministry of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development alongside Beaches' senior team and development team at Shore Club regarding the proposed Beaches Staff Housing in Long Bay, Providenciales.

In the meeting a short presentation by Beaches representative was about the application, registered PR 18118 for a Development Permission for the construction of a Staff Housing Development consisting of Twelve Apartment Blocks a total of Two Hundred and Fifty (250) Units, Laundry Facility, Club House and Ancillary Facilities for Block & Parcel 60810/11 which comprises of 6.25 acres of land located in Long Bay, Providenciales.

After the rather short presentation,

the floor was open to public questions. I rose and made it clear that I strongly oppose the proposed 250 staff units. Such a large-scale project will fundamentally alter the character of Long Bay and threaten the fabric of our residential community. I also made direct suggestions to the Beaches representative to consider partnering with locals who have vacant land and to develop low-density staff housing rather than imposing a massive, all inclusive, Section A development.

I must applaud the Long Bay community for turning out in numbers to the meeting and humbly addressing their concerns and objections to the proposed elaborate 250 Beaches staff housing.

If this application, registered PR 18118 for the proposed 250 staff housing for

Beaches is approved, this will set a dangerous precedent. Other resorts will likely follow suit, leading to unchecked high-density development across the island. This will kill the long-term rental market and leave locals on the sidelines. The proposed 250 staff accommodation will not benefit the country or its people; only Beaches stands to gain.

Allowing this would signal to investors that our zoning laws are flexible for those with enough influence, eroding public trust in our planning process. We must rise up and put our foot down on this Section A type of development, which threatens our community's future. Our elected officials should not be naive about allowing such matters to flood our market and undermine the well being of Turks and Caicos residents.

We know that there is mounting pressure over housing shortages and the strain on infrastructure caused by rapid population growth, especially in Providenciales. However, this should not give any developer the right to provide such disproportionately large accommodations for their staff.

Once again, I stress the importance of partnering with locals who have land to develop staff housing in various locations, spreading out the impact and supporting local enterprise. There is no justification for developing a "mini Beaches" compound for their staff. Let us keep the money circulating within our country and ensure that development benefits all, not just a single corporation.

**Yours Truly,
Ranaldo Forbes**

Resilience 2.0: Reclaiming Citizenship in a Post Digital Turks and Caicos

Op Ed. By PALADIN

Somewhere along the last two decades, Turks and Caicos slipped into a new kind of isolation—one that has nothing to do with geography. We became a nation of people living on digital islands, each person surrounded by their own curated reality, each conversation filtered through algorithms that reward outrage and discourage understanding. We didn't choose this shift. It arrived quietly, through the glow of a screen, and now we are left to confront the consequences.

In a small country like ours, fragmentation hits harder. When your entire population could fit inside a single stadium, every crack in the social fabric is a national issue. Every breakdown in communication becomes a community wound. Every drift toward self absorption weakens the collective strength that small nations depend on to survive and thrive.

The instinct is to long for the past—to imagine that if we could just return to the pre smartphone era, before the endless scroll and the influencer economy, everything would settle back into place. But nostalgia is not a national development plan. The world has changed too profoundly for that. What we need now is not a return to 1995, but a blueprint for 2026—a framework that accepts the digital age while refusing to surrender our social cohesion to it.

This is where Resilience 2.0 comes in: a national program for post digital citizenship.

The first step is acknowledging that the challenges we face are not moral failings. They are design failures. We built a society where young people were told they were exceptional before they ever had to prove it, and then we handed them devices engineered to keep them distracted, anxious, and endlessly comparing themselves to others. We encouraged everyone to "speak their truth," but never taught them how to listen. We celebrated individual expression while quietly abandoning the shared obligations that hold a small nation together. If we want to reverse this, we must rebuild the conditions that produce grounded, capable, socially connected citizens.

Education is the foundation. Not the old civics lessons that gather dust, but a modern curriculum that teaches young people how to navigate information, how to recognize manipulation, how to disagree without falling apart, and how to participate in a community that includes people who do not think like them. In a country as small as ours, media literacy is not just a skill—it is a form of national protection.

But education alone cannot repair the deeper erosion: the collapse of real world interdependence. Turks and Caicos once relied on thick networks of family, church, neighborhood, and shared responsibility. Those networks have thinned. We need structured opportunities for people to work together across age, class, and background. A national service program—civilian, flexible, and rooted in community contribution—

would do more to rebuild social cohesion than any number of speeches or slogans. When people spend a year solving real problems with strangers, they learn quickly that identity is not destiny and that competence matters more than performance.

Communities must reclaim their role as the antidote to digital isolation. We need public spaces where phones are not banned but simply irrelevant—places where people build things, argue face to face, and remember what it feels like to be part of something larger than themselves. Intergenerational programs, local problem solving assemblies, and shared civic rituals can restore the connective tissue that has worn thin.

Families must adapt as well—not by shaming young people for being shaped by the world we handed them, but by creating micro cultures of resilience. Children do not become strong because we tell them to toughen up. They become strong because they see adults model discipline, contribution, and emotional steadiness. They become strong because they are allowed to fail and expected to try again.


Ultimately, Resilience 2.0 is not about blaming a generation for the conditions they inherited. It is about acknowledging that we engineered a society optimized for convenience, validation, and emotional insulation—and now we must consciously engineer one that strengthens the human spirit instead of weakening it.

Turks and Caicos has always been a place of reinvention. We know how to adapt.

We know how to rebuild. And we know that small nations cannot afford to drift. Our future depends on our ability to cultivate citizens who are grounded, capable, and connected to one another—not just online, but in the real world where nations are built.

Resilience is not a personality trait. It is a culture. And cultures are made—deliberately, collectively, and with a clear understanding of what we are trying to preserve.

If we want a generation capable of carrying the weight of the future, then we must give them something worth carrying. That is the work of Resilience 2.0. And the time to begin is now.



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Vivian Tyson – Editorial Department

Department of Agriculture Launches Dog Trapping Initiative to Promote Public Safety

The Department of Agriculture in the Turks and Caicos Islands has begun an active dog trapping exercise aimed at improving community safety and reducing the growing concerns surrounding stray and uncontrolled dogs across the islands. Residents in several communities have expressed concerns over roaming dogs, incidents of dog bites, and threats to livestock and private property. In response, the Department has launched a coordinated effort designed to safely capture unconfined dogs while encouraging responsible pet ownership.



Officials explained that the exercise has three primary objectives: reducing dog bite incidents and protecting the public, safeguarding livestock and property, and limiting the spread of diseases that can affect both animals and humans.

As trapping teams move through communities, dog owners are being reminded to keep their pets properly secured and confined at all times. Authorities stressed that dogs should not be allowed to

roam freely and must remain on a leash when in public spaces. Pet owners are also encouraged to ensure their dogs are microchipped or carry engraved identification collars to assist with quick identifi-

cation if animals are collected. "Let us work together for a safer, healthier community," the Department urged in its public appeal.

The Department is also asking pet owners to act quickly if they suspect their dog has been trapped during the exercise. Owners are advised to contact the Department of Agriculture within 72 hours to claim their pets and verify ownership.

Officials say the initiative is not intended to punish pet owners but rather to create a safer environment where residents, children, livestock, and animals can coexist responsibly.

The Department hopes that with greater public cooperation and responsible pet ownership practices, communities across the Turks and Caicos Islands will become safer and healthier places for everyone.



Mixologist

Job Specification:

- Preparing and serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages to guests.
- Creating seasonal cocktails, specialty drinks, and updating beverage menus.
- Providing excellent customer service and engaging with guests professionally.
- Maintaining cleanliness, organization, and presentation of the bar area.
- Monitoring inventory levels, ordering supplies, and minimizing waste.
- Ensuring accurate billing, portion control, and cash handling procedures.
- Assisting in increasing beverage sales through recommendations and promotions.
- Ensuring compliance with responsible alcohol service and company policies.
- Working closely with the restaurant and management team to maintain service standards.
- Training junior bar staff when required.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak and write English proficiently.
- Minimum of 3-5 years' experience as a Mixologist or Bartender in a high-volume environment.
- Strong knowledge of cocktails, spirits, wines, and beverage preparation.
- Excellent customer service and communication skills.
- Ability to work efficiently under pressure and stand for long hours.
- Beverage or hospitality certifications are an asset.

Salary expectations - \$33,000 - \$36,000 per annum

Cook

Job Specification:

- Follow recipes and instructions carefully, ensuring consistency in quality and taste.
- Cook simple food items under the supervision of more experienced cooks.
- Assist with the preparation of sauces, stocks, and other culinary components.
- Maintain proper food handling and storage procedures to ensure food safety.
- Maintain cleanliness of work areas, equipment, and utensils.
- Assist with cleaning tasks as assigned, contributing to the overall kitchen hygiene.
- Assist with other kitchen tasks as needed (e.g., stocking supplies, assisting with mise en place).
- Work effectively as part of a team, collaborating with other kitchen staff.

Job Requirements:

- Culinary school diploma or equivalent experience is preferred.
- Minimum of 2-3 years of experience as a line cook or in a similar kitchen role.
- Proven ability to cook a variety of dishes within their assigned station, maintaining consistency and high quality.
- Strong knowledge of culinary techniques and food preparation methods relevant to their station.
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills.
- Strong attention to detail and commitment to quality.

Salary expectations - \$11.00- \$13.00 per hour

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Chef de Cuisine

Job Specification:

- Managing and supervising daily kitchen operations and culinary staff.
- Planning, developing, and updating menus, including seasonal and specialty offerings.
- Ensuring consistency, quality, portion control, and presentation of all dishes.
- Monitoring food preparation methods, cooking standards, and kitchen productivity.
- Controlling food and labor costs while minimizing waste and maximizing efficiency.
- Managing inventory levels, ordering supplies, and coordinating with vendors and suppliers.
- Training, mentoring, and evaluating kitchen staff to maintain high performance standards.
- Creating staff schedules and ensuring proper staffing levels during service.
- Maintaining cleanliness, organization, and sanitation standards throughout the kitchen.
- Ensuring compliance with all food safety, health, and company regulations.
- Collaborating with restaurant management on promotions, special events, and operational improvements.
- Assisting with budgeting, forecasting, and kitchen performance reporting.
- Handling guest feedback related to food quality and resolving issues professionally.

Job Requirements:

- Associate's or Bachelor's degree in Culinary Arts or related field, or equivalent experience.
- Minimum of 3-5 years of experience as a line cook or in a similar kitchen role, with at least 1-2 years of supervisory experience.
- Strong knowledge of culinary techniques and food preparation methods.
- Ability to manage a team and delegate tasks effectively.
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills.

Salary expectation - \$42,000 - \$56,000 per annum



TCSIR Team and CALA leaders following the welcome sunset cruise and dinner

Turks and Caicos Sotheby's International Realty Hosts CALA Leaders' Summit

Turks and Caicos Sotheby's International Realty recently hosted the 2026 CALA Leaders' Summit, welcoming over twenty-five regional leaders from across thirteen Caribbean and Latin American countries for a three-day gathering focused on collaboration, market insights, and the future of luxury real estate. The summit, held from May 12–14, brought together affiliate leaders and executives from the Sotheby's International Realty network for a series of working sessions, presentations, and on-island experiences designed to foster meaningful dialogue and strengthen regional relationships.

The event opened with a sunset catamaran cruise along Grace Bay, offering guests a relaxed setting to connect ahead of the formal sessions. Over the following days, attendees gathered at TCSIR's EPIC Theatre at Venture House in Grace Bay for a curated program that included global brand updates, regional overviews, affiliate presentations, and a collaborative case study session led by Sotheby's International Realty's CALA leadership team.

Highlights of the agenda was a presentation by Mark Durliat, CEO and Co-Founder of Grace Bay Resorts, who shared insights into the evolving landscape of luxury developments in Turks and Caicos, followed by guided tours of key new developments across the island including The Strand Turks and Caicos located in Cooper Jack and South Bank Turks and Caicos located in Long Bay.



Joe Zahm presenting the EPIC Theatre experience to CALA Summit attendees.

The program also featured an AI-focused workshop, highlighting the network's continued emphasis on innovation and evolving strategies within the luxury real estate industry. The summit concluded with closing remarks from Tammy Fahmi, SVP Global Servicing & Strategy at Sotheby's International Realty, who thanked Turks and Caicos Sotheby's International Realty for hosting the 2026 CALA Leaders' Summit and acknowledged the team's efforts in delivering a thoughtful and memorable experience for attendees. Commenting on the Summit, Joe

Zahm, President of Turks and Caicos Sotheby's International Realty stated, "Hosting our CALA partners here in Turks and Caicos provided an awesome opportunity to showcase not only our market, but the strength of collaboration across a growing and dynamic region. "Bringing everyone together in our EPIC Theatre allowed for meaningful conversations, knowledge sharing, and a deeper connection to what makes Turks and Caicos and the Caribbean region so special. "The summit also created a valuable opportunity for training and collabo-

ration with the TCSIR team, focused on elevating the next generation of real estate leaders, promoting the future of island luxury, and cultivating lasting regional relationships." Theo Vassiliou, Head of Region, CALA, Sotheby's International Realty, added, "The CALA Leaders' Summit continues to be a valuable platform for our affiliates to exchange ideas and align on the future of the brand across the region. Hosting this year's summit in Turks and Caicos provided the perfect backdrop to combine strategic discussions with real insight into one of the Caribbean's most dynamic luxury markets and highlights its growing importance within the global Sotheby's International Realty network and its appeal as both a lifestyle destination and investment market."



Joe Zahm, President of TCSIR, Nina Siegenthaler, Vice President TCSIR and Mark Durliat, CEO and Co-Founder GBR

Multi-Agency Enforcement Action Conducted in Lower Bight

The Informal Settlements Unit (ISU), in coordination with the Planning Department and key partner agencies, conducted a multi-agency enforcement exercise on Thursday, May 7, 2026, in the Lower Bight area in Providenciales.

The exercise resulted in the complete removal of a total of eight (8) unauthorized structures and all associated debris from a privately-owned parcel of land.

The operation was led by the Planning Department, with coordination by the ISU and support from the TCI Border Force, the Crown Land Unit, and Pelican Energy. Security for the exercise was provided by the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force. All agencies worked collaboratively to ensure the exercise was carried out in a safe, orderly, and controlled manner.

The enforcement action followed a structured and lawful process in accordance with the Physical Planning



The area after the operation

regulatory framework of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Section 45 Enforcement Notices were first issued on the affected parcel in December 2024, identifying unauthorized structures erected without the requisite approvals.

This was followed by the issuance of Warning Notices on April 16, 2026, which advised occupants that they were in breach of planning and land use regulations and provided notice that demolition activities would proceed following the prescribed com-

pliance period. Despite these notices and the time afforded for compliance, the unauthorized structures remained in place.

This exercise represents part of an ongoing commitment to ensuring that development within the Turks and Caicos Islands is lawful, safe, and aligned with national standards.



The area before the operation



THE STRAND
TURKS & CAICOS

Executive Housekeeper

Job Specification:

- Responsible for cleanliness, orderliness, and appearance of the entire property
- Ensure that rooms are made as per company standards.
- Prepare Annual Housekeeping Budget.
- Maintain par stock of guest supplies, cleaning supplies, linen, and laundry items.
- Organize inventories with Accounts and General Store for linen, laundry items and fixed assets.
- Pay particular attention while organizing pest eradication activities.
- Develop and implement Housekeeping systems and procedures
- Prepare reports for management information.
- Assist the Purchase department in selecting suppliers for items related to Housekeeping.
- Attending and resolving guest complaints.
- Organize on-the-job training and evaluate its effectiveness.
- Approval of the Functional Manual of the department.
- Recommend recruitment of new personnel.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have experience managing a laundry operation
- Must have 3+ years as an Exec Housekeeper + demonstrate management certifications
- Must have a good experience in managing diverse teams.
- Must be able to work in a housekeeping environment; stand for long hours and work efficiently under pressure

Salary expectations - \$57,000 - \$66,000 per annum

Food & Beverage Supervisor

Job Specification:

- Assist in the hiring and training of new employees as well as the continuous training of existing staff.
- Oversee both front and back of house operations, including wait staff, kitchen crew, and bussing staff.
- Maintain high-quality food standards.
- Oversee our kitchen staff's compliance with all health code and sanitation requirements.
- Provide exceptional customer service and lead staff to do the same.
- Respond to customer complaints quickly and resolve them effectively.
- Develop strategies for improving our customers' dining experience.
- Work with staff to project future needs for kitchen supplies, goods, and cleaning products.
- Maintain inventory of all needed supplies.
- Identify methods our restaurant can use to cut waste, decrease costs, and improve profits.
- Manage the work schedules of our restaurant's staff.

Job Requirements:

- Must have 2- 3 years experience in related field
- Must be able to move over sloping, uneven, or slippery surfaces. Reach overhead and below the knees, including bending, twisting, pulling, and stooping. Perform other reasonable job duties as requested.

Salary expectation - \$34,320- \$38,000 per annum

APPLY NOW!

Send your resume to: careers@thestrاندtci.com

Interested applicants for this position listed on this ad, should also send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Airport Road, Providenciales

Executive Chef

Job Specification:

- Creating innovative recipes, seasonal menus, and specialty offerings that align with the restaurant's concept and standards.
- Managing, supervising, and motivating kitchen staff to maintain high performance and teamwork.
- Leading kitchen operations in a fast-paced environment while ensuring efficiency and quality control.
- Developing plating and presentation standards to ensure consistency across all dishes.
- Hiring, training, mentoring, and evaluating culinary staff.
- Preparing staff schedules and leading daily pre-shift meetings.
- Monitoring food preparation, portion control, and waste management to maximize profitability.
- Ordering, inspecting, and evaluating food supplies and ingredients to ensure quality standards are met.
- Managing kitchen inventory levels and maintaining proper stock rotation procedures.
- Assisting with budgeting, forecasting, and financial planning for kitchen operations.
- Collaborating with management on promotions, special events, and operational improvements.
- Handling and resolving guest complaints related to food quality and service professionally.
- Ensuring compliance with all food safety, sanitation, health, and company regulations.
- Establishing and implementing kitchen policies, procedures, and operational standards.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 3-5 years experience as an Executive Chef
- Certificates and advancement qualifications
- Must be able to work in a restaurant and kitchen environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.

Salary expectation - \$95,000 - \$100,000 per annum

CIBC Caribbean Announces Distinguished Judging Panel for 2026 Unsung Heroes Campaign

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

CIBC Caribbean has announced an accomplished panel of judges for the 2026 Unsung Heroes campaign in the Turks and Caicos Islands, bringing together leaders from sports, business, finance, and national development to assist in recognizing individuals making a meaningful impact within their communities.

The Unsung Heroes campaign celebrates individuals who quietly dedicate themselves to uplifting others through service, leadership, kindness, and community involvement. Among this year's judges is Sonia Fulford, an accomplished football executive, former multi-sport athlete, author, and holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) Degree. In 2014, she made history as the first female and first Turks and Caicos Islander elected President of the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association and currently serves roles on both the FIFA Council and Concacaf Council. In recognition of her outstanding contribution to sports, she was inducted into the Turks and Caicos Islands Sports Hall of Fame in 2015. Her continued leadership and advocacy have positioned her as a respected voice in regional and international sports development, with a strong commitment to empowering future generations.

Joining the panel is Drexwell Seymour, Certified Public Accountant, entrepreneur, father, author, and Managing Partner of HLB TCI Ltd with more than 30 years of experience in finance and business. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting and



Angela Musgrove, Chief Executive Officer of Invest Turks and Caicos



Drexwell Seymour, Certified Public Accountant, entrepreneur, father, author



Sonia Fulford, an accomplished football executive

an MBA in Finance. He is a respected host on RTC, the national radio station, where he leads the weekly programme Financially Speaking. Seymour is also the author of two publications and contributes weekly articles to the Turks and Caicos Weekly News and Turks and Caicos Sun. Through his work in business, media, and mentorship, he continues to make a meaningful impact on the local community and economic landscape. Also serving on the panel is Angela Musgrove, Chief Executive Officer of Invest Turks and Caicos with more than 20 years of experience in public administration, entrepreneurship, education, and business development. Holding advanced degrees in Economics and Finance, she is widely recog-

nized for her leadership in economic growth and national development within the Turks and Caicos Islands. Musgrove is a recipient of the British Empire Medal for her extraordinary civic service; she remains committed to fostering investment opportunities and initiatives that contribute to the long-term advancement of the country. This year, CIBC Caribbean has significantly increased the regional cash prizes for the Unsung Heroes campaign. The 2026 Regional Unsung Hero will receive USD \$10,000, while the first and second runners-up will receive USD \$7,000 and USD \$5,000 respectively. A special prize of USD \$1,000 will also be awarded to the individual who nominates the overall Regional Unsung Hero.

The nomination period runs from April through the end of July 2026. Local winners will be selected and announced in August, with winners from each participating country advancing to the regional level. The regional winners will be announced at the end of August 2026.

CIBC Caribbean's Unsung Heroes campaign is open to individuals aged ten and over who have made a positive difference within their communities and whose contributions may not have received significant recognition. Residents across the Turks and Caicos Islands are encouraged to nominate deserving individuals who embody the spirit of service, kindness, and community impact.



Assistant Food & Beverage Manager

Job Specification:

- Supporting the achievement of Food & Beverage operational objectives by assisting with strategic planning, operational reviews, and implementation of service standards.
- Assisting in monitoring production, productivity, quality, and customer service standards, and addressing operational issues as they arise.
- Supporting budgeting and financial objectives by assisting with forecasting, expenditure tracking, and variance analysis.
- Assisting with menu planning in collaboration with chefs, including reviewing food costs, pricing, and profitability.
- Supporting cost control initiatives by monitoring portion control, minimizing waste, and ensuring consistency in food and beverage preparation.
- Assisting in maximizing bar and restaurant profitability through monitoring sales, pricing accuracy, and service efficiency.
- Supporting marketing and promotional activities, including in-house promotions, events, and guest engagement initiatives.
- Assisting with audits, reporting, and identifying operational improvements to enhance efficiency and guest satisfaction.
- Supporting training and supervision of F&B staff to maintain service standards and operational consistency.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 3-5 years as a Restaurant Manager + management certifications
- Must have a good experience in managing diverse teams in various restaurants cuisines
- Must be able to work in a restaurant; stand for long hours and work efficiently under pressure

Salary expectations - \$57,000 - \$66,000 per annum

IT Manager

Job Specification:

- Infrastructure Management: Handling physical servers, virtualization (Hyper-V/Vmware/Cloud), Active Directory, DHCP, DNS, RAID, O365, SQL, Oracle Database, backup, storage, networking, and various hardware devices (laptop, desktop, tablet, printer, scanner).
- Assessment and Implementation: Assessing, designing, implementing, and migrating/upgrading virtual infrastructure based on Hyper-V/Vmware/Cloud. Also, managing structured cabling, switches, VLANs, routers, load balancers, access points, and rack installations.
- System Maintenance: Maintaining computer networks and related computing environments, including hardware, systems software, and applications such as POS (Symphony), PMS (OPERA), and other configurations. Ensuring data security, network access, and backup systems.
- Support and Project Management: Providing support and project experience in a multi-technology environment, understanding guest and owner requirements, and meeting market standards and customer expectations.
- Technical Leadership: Providing technical leadership and expertise, collaborating closely with development teams to ensure that IT infrastructure meets business requirements.

Job Requirements:

- Minimum 3-5 years of experience in the hospitality industry.
- Qualification: Bachelor of Information Technology/Network.

Salary expectations - \$66,000.00 - \$70,000.00 per annum

APPLY NOW!

Send your resume to: careers@thestrاندtci.com

Interested applicants for this position listed on this ad, should also send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Airport Road, Providenciales

Recreation Activities Supervisor

Job Specification:

- Planning and supervising daily recreational, pool and beach activities and events.
- Supervising and coordinating recreation, pool and beach staff, including scheduling and performance oversight.
- Managing inventory for recreation and pool and beach operations, including tracking supplies and equipment.
- Ensuring all activities and operations are conducted safely and in line with company policies and procedures.
- Overseeing guest engagement initiatives and assisting in the development of new recreational programs.
- Monitoring, maintaining, and reporting on the condition of recreational and pool and beach equipment and facilities.
- Responding promptly to guest inquiries, concerns, and incidents in a professional manner.
- Preparing activity schedules, operational reports, staff documentation, and inventory records.
- Assisting with special events, promotions, and entertainment programs to enhance guest experience.
- Ensuring cleanliness, presentation, and organization of all recreation and pool and beach areas.
- Supporting enforcement of health, safety, and emergency procedures.

Job Requirements:

- Must have experience supervising Recreation Activities
- Must have 3+ years as a Recreation Supervisor + demonstrate management certifications
- Must have a good experience in supervising diverse teams.
- Must be able to work outdoors; stand for long hours and work efficiently under pressure

Salary expectation - \$13.50- \$15.00 per hour

Thoughts, Prayers & Poems....

HOME PEOPLE

By Chrystal 'Tess' Charles

Hi, my name is Chrystal Charles, and I am a Voice of Turks and Caicos.

We continue with the series, Thoughts, Poems and Prayers, body of expression that has been accumulated over many years that I've decided to share.

We are in the month of May, a time that should stand in honour of our one official National Hero, the Right Excellent James Alexander George Smith "J. A. G. S." McCartney, and in celebration of ourselves as a people.

Yet over time, I find that the story of the man behind the movement has been softened and reshaped until many of us know only pieces of who he truly was and what really happened. And perhaps that is something we often do- not only to our heroes, but to one another.

We tend to believe greatness belongs to a certain kind of person, when in truth our people have always been far more complex than that. We are imperfect, gifted, resilient, spirited people, shaped by faith, heritage, struggle, and grace. Still, in our own ways, we continue to create excellence worth remembering and celebrating.

This piece is rooted in both truth and celebration. Some parts may challenge familiar narratives, but truth does not lessen our legacy, it deepens it. What follows is a reflection on the people, practices, and spirit that continue to shape our community, and the beauty found within it all.

With that said, here's a poem for you.... called **HOME PEOPLE**:

Home people look like melanated hues, Some of them black and some white like Fox News.

Some born so, some bleach so, Marisa and Ponkey coulda pass for both, you know.

Home people smell like good food and good manners, Clean clothes on the line and salt ponds. Home people smell like fish and grits, Johnny cake, souse and stew conch on a Saturday morn.

Home people sound like bells and shells, PDM and PNP, Like last names matter, Although our slave masters gi dem to we.

Home people look like flora and fauna, The women's lobster tails getting bigger and bigger, The dainty flowers dripped in Dolce and Gabbana.

We look tingsy, Like the Arawaks, who ain't we kin.

Our boy Columbus Sort out they sorrows before we knew the ship we was in.

Home people sound like me and you, Bahamians, Bermudians,

Gullah Geechi people too.

Home people smell like Salt Cay candies, Cream cakes and Dulce

Banana, plantain and butatah bread, Outhouse, Elvis and fever grass, Rat root, brasileta and snake stick Drink 'em Saturday and double when you sick.

Home people sound proud, Big voices and compassionate, with sweet hearts,

And filled with goofanotin man Who don't love they wife like how they love they sweethearts.

Home people feel like sunshine in the morning

And lay down in ya bed when it rain.

Home people feel like government workers,

Always asking when government paying.

Home people look like they love hair like silk and skin like milk,

South Base babies and Trouvadore survivors,

Black, fluffy bodies, beautiful like the stars.

We feel like warm hugs and belly laughs after someone pass,

Family reunions for funeral and wedding,

Cousins making dozens and wrong daddies sharing.

We taste like soup with plenty tings.

We sound like Queen conch blowing for fish and hurricane,

One of the greatest leaders of our time- Mommy name Miss Mary Jane.

Home people sound likemMa, Pa, Murrarah, Farrah,

Sorrid, Norrid, Eastid and Westid.

We sound like we love white Jesus status

More than we practise it.

Home people feel like grace, Extended mostly to oneself and family.

However, you? No!

We won't let you live down nothing from 30 years ago.

Yet, We have short memories for colonisers, thieves and rapists and so and so. Oh, ho ho ho ho.

Hmmph, the mounta children done get feel up by teachers, pastors, And y'all brothers and sisters.

Now everyone listening to this part asking,

"Could we skip this?"

No.

Home people like they thrive on confusion

But turn right round and don't like confrontation.

That's why we quick to de-complexify our issues with Haitains

Not addressing our lack of strength in culture and celebration,

OR

Of sell out culture and overaccommoda-

tion

NOT to mention their lack of assimilation.

Because it's not required, by those who we have sired

With the ability to curate and change this nation.

All the while we rowing one another, Our hearts humanity erodes like Leeward Beach

Because without strength in 'identity' and self determination

We could NEVER accept, nor set the standard for those we teach

Anyway, back to the good,

'Cause we don't really fix nothing, we just does say God is good.

Home people sound like the rip saw,

The shakers and the goatskin drum, Sound like Yoruba tribes where we from.

We sound like Bambarra rum,

We sound like big dutty skorks and family time,

Nice houses and clean kitchens,

Two living rooms,

Five meats, four rice and eight sides on Sunday,

Diabetes, hypertension and obesity boxing you down on Monday.

Home people look like

Caves and World's Best Beaches, Lil drugs, big guns and maybe not enough snitches.

Home people are gay and lesbian and pan,

Y'all need accept yinna family and move on, man.

Home people sound like the world's greatest storytellers and chefs.

Be time we add lil razzle-dazzle to story and the food.

Wene realise the truth up and left, Taste buds so tantalised by the crackpot in the kitchen,

Mesmerised by being in a seafood haven or a harbour house.

Who worries about truth when you eating Carmen souse?

RIP Miss Hattie – GT.

Home people sound like Blythe and Bill Clare,

Carlton and Oliver Mills got to be in here,

Mrs Roseta Butterfield and Hilly Ewing, Nathaniel Bops Francis and Jags know what dey was doing.

Double O—oh, the things I've heard, About this man who we chose to serve.

The man that had the grit, the man that had the nerve.

Home people sound like All d Astwoods and All the Missicks

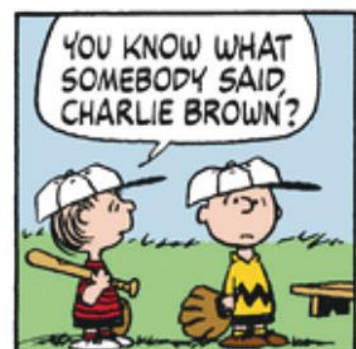
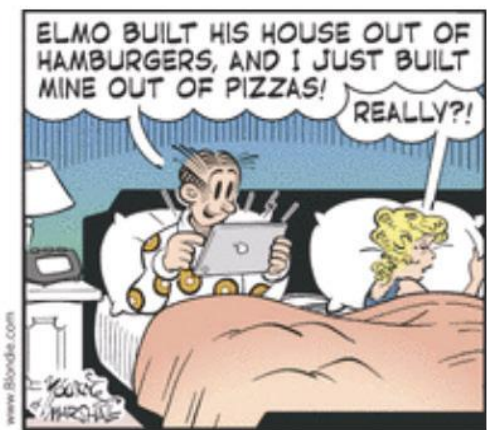
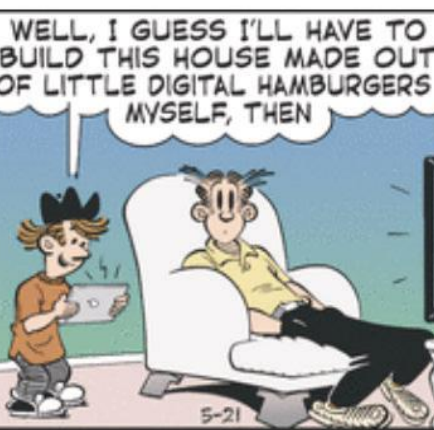
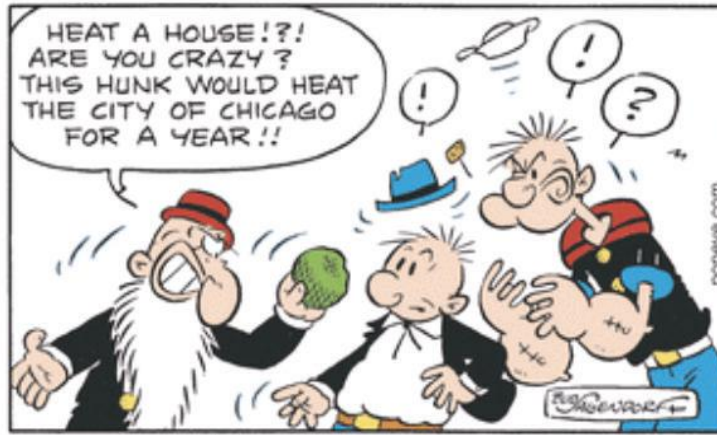
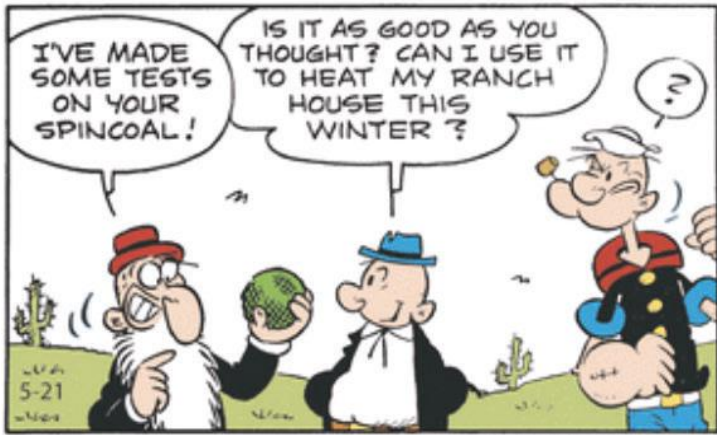
Our loyalty to both greatness and non-sense, defy laws of physics

They are Honorable, no one doubts, each and all

And with them, our First pilots, sailors and boat and peacemakers name's



should be called
Home people sound like MC Expo, Crabfest and Regatta,
Rake and Scrape, Cactus Fest, Salt Cay Day
And Courtney Shows Extravaganza.
Home people look like they lazy- 'cause how many years later
Shanice was still Miss Turks and Caicos, baby?
Rest in peace to Oehleo the visionary,
Your energy and excellence is a miss,
Healing energy to Kazz Forbes
And creatives who are listening to this.
Home people sound, look and feel like you,
The exquisite and the gifted few,
The artists and the talents that fight the good fight,
That come back to this land after they've taken flight,
Always thinking they can enhance and shine a light.
But when we reach down to pull anyone up, it's a hell of a fight.
Home people look like David Bowen,
Honoured in Japan but not here yet.
I just will leave that right here, cuz I soon change dat
Home people are warm and beautiful, pristine,
They are the truth and the best liars,
Somebody wife know what I mean.
They are docile and with bad mind,
That's why they love call the Queen.
One day, I doubt I'll be around,
But we will stand firm and free.
Home people accepting exactly who they be
Will one day, some day, be the only key.
Home people make up both you and me,
And forever a home person, I will be.
My name is Chrystal Charles, and I am a voice of Turks and Caicos.
Thoughts, Prayers & Poems 5



NEWSLINE TCI COMICS

If they wouldn't have BURNED YOU AT THE STAKE in 1690's Salem, YOU'RE REALLY NOT LIVING



National Trust Turks and Caicos Islands. (2020). Wildlife and Coastal Heritage of the Turks and Caicos Islands.
NOAA Fisheries. (2020). Brown Pelican Conservation and Recovery.
Visit Turks and Caicos Islands. (2019). Wildlife and Marine Life of the Turks and Caicos Islands.
Photo: Rapolla, A. (Flickr). Brown Pelican.

BROWN *pelican*

NEWSLINE
Heritage

For generations, the Brown Pelican has been a familiar and iconic presence across the Turks and Caicos Islands. Recognised as the national bird of the islands, the brown pelican is known for its distinctive appearance and remarkable fishing ability.

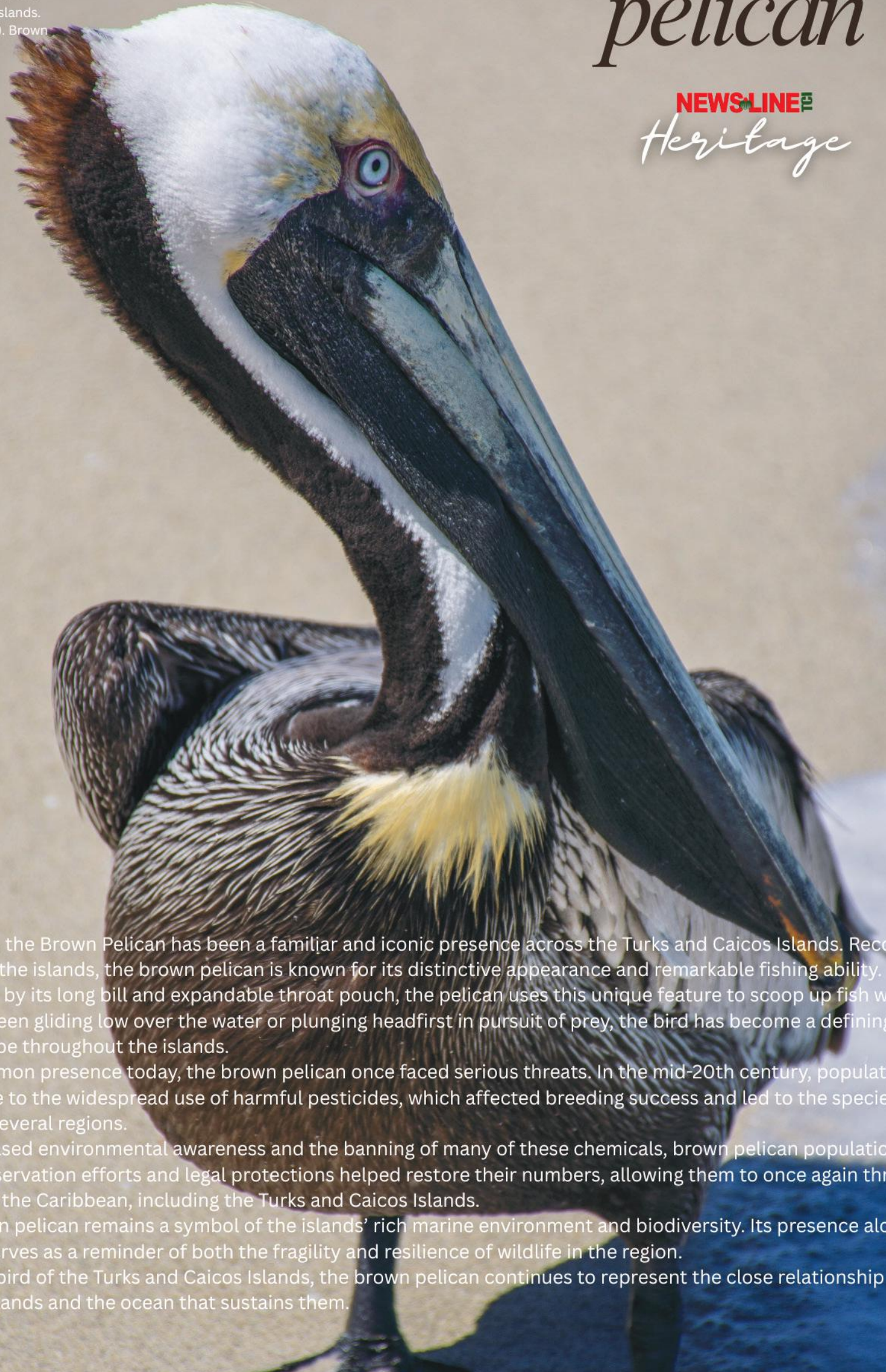
Easily identified by its long bill and expandable throat pouch, the pelican uses this unique feature to scoop up fish while diving into the sea. Often seen gliding low over the water or plunging headfirst in pursuit of prey, the bird has become a defining part of the coastal landscape throughout the islands.

Despite its common presence today, the brown pelican once faced serious threats. In the mid-20th century, populations declined significantly due to the widespread use of harmful pesticides, which affected breeding success and led to the species being listed as endangered in several regions.

Following increased environmental awareness and the banning of many of these chemicals, brown pelican populations gradually recovered. Conservation efforts and legal protections helped restore their numbers, allowing them to once again thrive across coastal areas of the Caribbean, including the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Today, the brown pelican remains a symbol of the islands' rich marine environment and biodiversity. Its presence along the shores and harbours serves as a reminder of both the fragility and resilience of wildlife in the region.

As the national bird of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the brown pelican continues to represent the close relationship between the people of the islands and the ocean that sustains them.





Beaches Turks and Caicos, Sandals Foundation Champion Early Childhood Literacy with Star-Studded Reading Road Trip

The grand opening of the Treasure Beach Village at Beaches Turks and Caicos brought more than just high-energy celebrations to the shores of Providenciales as the Sandals Foundation led a star-studded Reading Road Trip at four local primary schools.

Dozens of celebrities, global media representatives, resort guests, and hospitality executives took a purposeful break from the weekend's festivities to connect directly with the island's youngest learners. The initiative transformed standard kindergarten classrooms at Enid Capron Primary, Thema Lightbourne Primary, Ianthe Pratt Primary and Oseta Jolly Primary into dynamic literacy hubs as visitors including American Actor and Playwright Jesse Eisenberg, and Real Housewives of New York City and author Kelly Bensimon read books and engaged in fun literacy games and activities.

The carefully designed activities aimed to strengthen students' foundational reading comprehension skills and saw visitors actively animating characters, reading aloud, playing interactive literacy games, doing phonetic exercises and collaborative arts and crafts.

For local educators, the initiative represented a valuable opportunity to broaden students' horizons. Through meaningful interaction with media representatives, students learned first-hand about exciting careers in writing, photography, and broadcasting.

Nelene Swann, Vice Principal of Enid Capron Primary, highlighted the profound impact of the unique global connection. "The experience for the children was good as they interacted and shared in a cultural blend while learning about new cultures and different career options," Swann shared.

For American actor and playwright Jesse Eisenberg, who spent his afternoon volunteering at Oseta Jolly Primary School, his visit coincided with a special occasion on the school's calendar, creating an even more memorable atmosphere for the youngsters. "Our school was celebrating Boys Day



which allowed [Eisenberg] to share in the experience and even provide great mentorship advice. Lessons such as the importance of consistency were well received by students in this developmental phase," says Handsfield.

The Sandals Foundation has long championed early childhood education as a fundamental pillar of its philanthropic mission across the region.

Heidi Clarke, Executive Director of the Sandals Foundation, expressed her

pride in the weekend's grand opening educational outreach noting, "The Reading Road Trips provided a one-of-a-kind experience to guests and students as they shared in the power of play, imagination and life – all through the wonders of books. At the heart of our mission is to facilitate the creation of fun and dynamic learning environments that inspire students. We are proud to be a partner in TCI's education tapestry and will continue to support

initiatives that enable students' holistic development."

While the grand opening festivities brought a special influx of international participants to the classrooms, the commitment to local schools remains a consistent, year-round priority for the local resort staff. Employees regularly dedicate their personal time to mentor, tutor, and read with primary school students, fostering an incredibly strong bond between the hospitality sector and the local education system.

General Manager Deryk Meany emphasized the immense joy these initiatives bring to his dedicated staff. "This was a blast for the resort team members. The heart of the hospitality industry extends far beyond the resort's doors and through the Reading Road Trip and other team member volunteer initiatives, we are proud to share our time, resources and expertise to the school community."

Even as the official grand opening celebrations conclude, the positive impact of these classroom interactions will continue to resonate deeply throughout the Providenciales community and the world – example of a powerful model for community-integrated tourism.



Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

NEW BIRTH AGAPE MININTRIES INTERNATIONAL

In this edition of NewslineTCI Featured Church, we welcome New Birth Agape Fellowship International, under the auspices of Apostle Cindy Jarrett, founder, Minister, Teacher, Prophetess, Preacher & Apostle.

Apostle Jarrett is also a Legal Marriage Officer in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

A Pentecostal Ministry, New Birth Agape Ministries International believes in the Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

The ministry started in 2009, at a location along Old Airport Road in the country's capital, Grand Turk, but in 2015, transitioned to Providenciales at 233 Millennium Highway (situated in a yellow building with red roofing at the left side of the roadway, passing the Maranatha Academy and heading towards the Millennium Heights Housing settlement).

There are several weekly opportunities at the ministry. On Sunday at 11a.m. is Sunday Morning Service; on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm is Prayer Meeting; and on Fridays at 7pm is Youth Meeting.

You can contact New Birth Agape Ministries International at +1 (649) 245-9807 and leave a message or email at newbirthagapefellowshipintl@



Apostle Cindy Jarrett, Pastor for New Birth Agape Ministries International.

Life line Church Directory

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

Firm Foundation Ministries International

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

Christ is the Answer Ministry,

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

One Nation Empowerment Center Church Ministry,

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

Touch of Love Ministries International Center

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

Abundant Life Ministries International

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

Anglican Church Rectory Grant Turk,

Front Street, Grand Turk. Tel:946-2289

Bethany Baptist Church,

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

Church of God of Prophecy,

Lower Bight, Providenciales Tel: 941-8854

Bible Study Ministries, Grand Turk

Tel:946-1866

Calvary Baptist Church,

South Caicos. Tel:946-3212

Harvest Bible Chapel TCI,

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

Rock of Jesus Ministry,

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

Firm Foundation Ministries International

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

Church of God of Prophecy,

Providenciales Tel:941-3438

Roman Catholic Church,

Providenciales, Tel: 941-5136

Faith Tabernacle Church of God,

Providenciales, Tel:946-4073

New Testament Church of God,

Orea Alley, Grand Turk Tel:946-2175

New Testament Church of God,

South Caicos Tel:946-3631

Methodist Church,

Grand Turk Tel:946-2352

Healing Waters Ministries,

Blue Hills Providenciales Tel: 941-5867

House of Prayer Church of God,

Long Bay Road Providenciales Tel: 941-8309

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses,

Darrell Road, Grand Turk Tel:946-2727

Mount Mariah Baptist Church,

Conch Bar Middle Caicos Tel:946-6205

New Beginning Harvest Ministry,

Pond Street, Grand Turk Tel:946-1759

New Testament Church of God

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

Firm Foundation Ministries International

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

Paradise Baptist Church,

Five Cays, Providenciale
Tel:941-4349

Revival Faith Center,

North Backsalina, Grand Turk
Tel:946-2349

Salem Baptist Church,

Mission Folly, Grand Turk
Tel:946-2565

Solid Rock Apostolic Ministries

International,
Discovery Bay Providenciales
Tel: 946-5181

St. Monica's Anglican Church

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

Turks and Caicos Mission of Seventh

Day Adventists,
P.O. Box 803, Providenciales

United Pentecostal Church,

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

Wesleyan Methodist Church,

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

Editor's Note: If your Ministry is not listed and/or you would like for it to be part of the NEWSLINETCI Church Diary, contact us at: contact@newslnetci.com



Treasure Beach Village Officially Opens

Media houses from across the world descended on the Turks and Caicos Islands on Saturday, May 16, to cover the official opening of the Treasure Beach Village located on the Property of Beaches Turks and Caicos Resort Villages and Spa on Providenciales. The opening also attracted some level had star power, as a throng of A-list movie stars were also in attendance. In addition to the local government, Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness was also in attendance. The following are photo highlights of the event.





50th Anniversary of Ministerial Government (1976–2026) Series...

1962: A Country in Transition

A series by Joan Astwood Sutton

PART TWO

The Beginning of the Constitutional Journey

The story of Ministerial Government in the Turks and Caicos Islands did not begin with the 1976 election alone. Its deeper roots lie in the years of transition, uncertainty, and constitutional change that followed 1962.

That year marked one of the most significant turning points in the modern political history of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

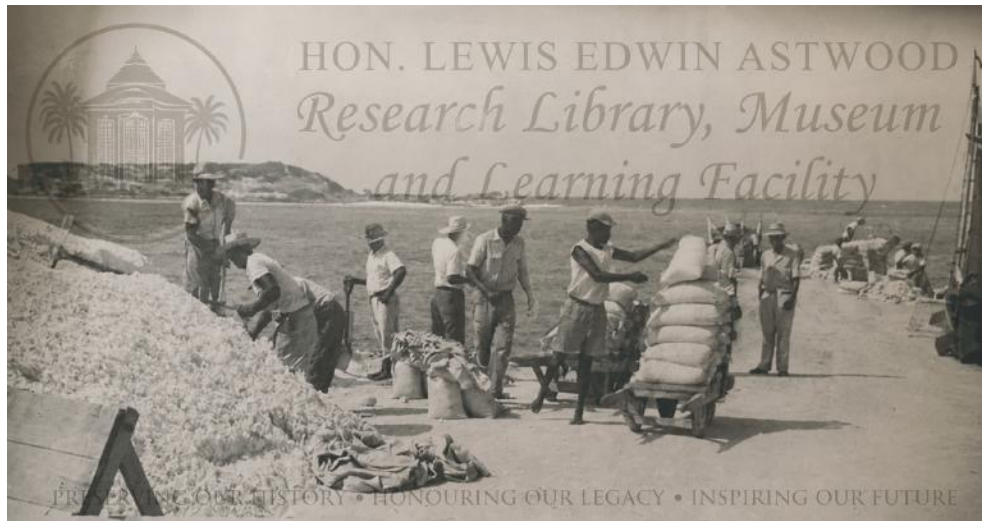
In August 1962, Jamaica gained independence from Britain. For many years before that, the Turks and Caicos Islands had been administratively linked to Jamaica. Official government affairs affecting the Islands often passed through Kingston, and this relationship shaped administration, communication, governance, and political oversight throughout much of the twentieth century. Jamaica's independence, therefore, created an entirely new situation for the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Islands now entered a separate constitutional phase as a British Crown Colony operating under its own constitutional arrangements.

Although this constitutional change did not immediately transfer major political authority to local leaders, it marked the beginning of an important constitutional transition that would gradually reshape political life in the country over the following decade. Under the constitutional arrangements that followed, the State Council became part of the local administration structure. Elected representation existed, but many significant powers remained within the wider colonial administrative system under British authority. For many Islanders, the years following 1962 became a period of uncertainty.

Questions emerged about:

- governance,
- constitutional authority,
- local representation,
- economic survival,
- and the long-term future of the country.

At the same time, the Turks and Caicos Islands faced serious economic hardship. For generations, the salt industry had supported communities across Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and South Caicos. The Salinas shaped labour, trade, migration, and survival throughout much of the Islands' history. But by the 1960s, the old salt economy was in steady decline. Employment opportunities became increasingly limited.



Overseas migration intensified as many Turks and Caicos Islanders travelled abroad in search of work and economic stability. Families became divided across islands and foreign countries. Entire communities struggled under growing uncertainty.

On some islands, hardship became deeply personal within everyday family life. In Salt Cay, for example, some men employed in the Public Works Department reportedly worked only three days per week and only until midday. For many households, this was insufficient to provide stable financial support during a period already marked by economic decline and limited opportunity.

For ordinary citizens, survival itself often became the primary concern. At the same time, the country itself was beginning to change in other ways. By the mid-1960s, colonial administrators had begun to recognise that the old salt economy alone could no longer sustain the Islands. Discussions about tourism, fisheries expansion, infrastructure development, land registration, and the future economic potential of Providenciales were beginning to emerge.

Administrator John Anthony Golding later reflected on this period as one in which the Islands urgently sought a new economic direction after the salt industry's collapse. His writings described growing discussions about tourism development, foreign investment, and future development proposals for Providenciales. These developments reveal that the foundations of modern economic diversification were already taking shape in the years before Ministerial Government. However, for many Islanders, an important issue remained unresolved. Who would truly shape the future of the country?

While economic and development discussions were beginning to emerge, many people still felt disconnected from the decision-making

processes that affected their lives and futures. For ordinary citizens, politics often appeared distant from daily reality. Yet beneath the surface, something important was beginning to develop across the Islands.

The years following 1962 slowly awakened deeper conversations about:

- representation,
- constitutional authority,
- local participation,
- democracy,
- leadership,
- and national identity.

The people of the Turks and Caicos Islands were beginning to think more seriously about who they were politically and what kind of future they hoped to build for themselves. This awakening did not happen suddenly. It developed gradually:

- through conversations in homes,
- discussions in churches,
- debates within communities,
- growing newspaper discussion,
- and increasing political awareness among younger generations.

Across the wider Caribbean, movements surrounding self-determination, Black identity, constitutional reform, and political participation were also influencing political thought throughout the region. The Turks and Caicos Islands did not exist in isolation from these wider Caribbean changes.

By the late 1960s, a growing number of Islanders felt that the country could no longer remain politically passive forever. The constitutional journey that would eventually lead to Ministerial Government had quietly begun. 1962 did not create Ministerial Government itself. But it marked the beginning of the constitutional road that would eventually lead there. It represented the start of a national transition: from dependency toward greater political awareness, from administration toward participation, and from uncer-

tainty to the long, complicated journey toward self-government.

The story of Ministerial Government, therefore, did not begin in 1976 alone. Part of its foundation was already being laid during the uncertain years that followed 1962. And although few may have fully realised it at the time, the constitutional journey that would eventually reshape the political history of the Turks and Caicos Islands had already begun.

Joan Astwood-Sutton, LLB (Hons.), Master's in Publishing, and Certificate in Youth & Community Studies, is a cultural heritage researcher, museum founder, storyteller, and historical preservation advocate in the Turks and Caicos Islands. She is the Founder and Director of the Hon. Lewis Edwin Astwood Research Library, Museum and Learning Facility, dedicated to preserving the political, cultural, social, and historical legacy of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

She is the daughter of the late Hon. Lewis Edwin Astwood, who served in the first Ministerial Government established under the 1976 Constitution, and of the late Mildred Garland Astwood, both of whom were closely connected to the political, cultural, and community movements surrounding the rise of Ministerial Government in the Turks and Caicos Islands during the 1970s. Through decades of archival preservation, oral history documentation, historical research, and cultural interpretation, she has worked extensively to preserve the memory and identity of the Turks and Caicos Islands for future generations.



On 12 May, the Turks and Caicos Islands Department of Agriculture joins countries around the world in observing International Plant Health Day under the global theme: “Plant Biosecurity for Food Security.”

Healthy plants are the foundation of healthy communities. In the Turks and Caicos Islands, where the country relies heavily on imported food, protecting plant health is critical to strengthening national food security, safeguarding the environment, and supporting sustainable agriculture.

Since the establishment of the Department of Agriculture, significant emphasis has been placed on protecting the islands from the introduction and spread of plant pests, diseases, and invasive species that threaten local food production and fragile ecosystems.

Plant health is not only about growing crops. It is about protecting the nation’s food supply, economy, biodiversity, and future resilience. Healthy plants lead to healthy harvests, and healthy harvests contribute to a stronger and more secure food system for all residents of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Department of Agriculture continues to actively monitor and manage threats posed by harmful organisms, including fruit flies of the Tephritidae family and other invasive plant pests that can severely impact local agriculture and trade.

As small island states, the Turks and Caicos Islands are especially vulnerable. A single invasive pest or disease can spread rapidly and cause extensive economic and environmental damage. This is why plant biosecurity — the systems and measures

used to prevent harmful organisms from entering or spreading within the islands — remains a national priority.

Protecting plant health is a shared responsibility. Travelers, importers, farmers, landscapers, backyard gardeners, and residents all have an important role to play in preventing the introduction and spread of harmful pests and diseases.

Regional and international partnerships continue to strengthen the country’s biosecurity systems. Through collaboration with organizations such as Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Turks and Caicos Islands benefit from technical expertise, training, surveillance support, and early warning systems that enhance the Territory’s ability to detect and respond to plant health threats.

Strong plant health systems directly support food security by:

- Supporting local farmers in producing fresh fruits, vegetables, and root crops;
 - Reducing dependence on imported food;
 - Protecting native plant species and biodiversity;
 - Strengthening sustainable agriculture and tourism.
- The Department of Agriculture is encouraging the public to support national plant health efforts by:
- Reporting unusual plant pests or diseases;
 - Following all plant import inspection and quarantine requirements;
 - Supporting local farmers and locally grown produce;
 - Participating in backyard gardening and commu-

Protecting Plant Health to Secure the Future of Food in the Turks and Caicos Islands



Plant Quarantine Officers conducting fruit fly trapping in Providenciales



Plant Quarantine Officer engaging the public at an event



Chief Plant Protection Officer receiving training on fruit fly and ants identification



Plant Quarantine Officer conducting inspection of imported fruits and vegetables at South Dock, Providenciales

nity food production initiatives;

- Supporting the Farmers Market and local agricultural enterprises.

The message for International Plant Health Day is clear: Healthy Plants Mean a Healthy Nation.

By protecting plant health, the Turks and Caicos Islands protect their people, economy, environment, and future food security.



OSETA JOLLY CELEBRATE BOYS' DAY

On Friday, May 15, the Oseta Jolly Primary School in Providenciales staged its Boys' Day celebration, which coincided with International Day of the Boy Child. The ceremony aspect of the event saw a number of speakers from government and the private sector. A breakaway session followed the ceremony, where members of the business sector and other members of the community were invited in to give the students talks on a variety of topics. The following are photo highlights of the event.





CARPHA Calls for Stronger Fight Against Mosquito-Borne Diseases Across Caribbean

Caribbean health officials are renewing calls for urgent action to combat mosquito-borne diseases as the region continues to face public health threats from illnesses such as dengue, malaria, chikungunya, and yellow fever.

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), during the observance of Caribbean Mosquito Awareness Week (CMAW) 2026, warned that mosquito-borne diseases continue to impact lives, families, and communities across the region, highlighting the importance of stronger prevention efforts and sustained public awareness.

CARPHA Executive Director Dr. Lisa Indar stressed that while countries continue managing outbreaks of dengue and malaria, the agency is also monitoring the re-emergence of yellow fever and chikungunya in South American territories, which could potentially spread further throughout the Caribbean.

“These diseases continue to affect lives, families, and communities, reinforcing the need for ongoing vigilance and coordinated regional action,” Dr. Indar said.

She emphasized that reducing mosquito populations starts with individual and community responsibility.

“Mosquito control begins at home, in our schools, in our workplaces, and throughout our communities,” Dr. Indar stated.

CARPHA is leading the regional observance of Caribbean Mosquito Awareness Week from May 11–15 under the theme “Stop Disease Transmission, Start Source Reduction” and the tagline “Clean Up Today, Keep Mosquitoes Away.”

Funded through CARPHA’s Pandemic Fund project, the campaign is designed to encourage practical household and community action aimed at eliminating mosquito breeding sites and reducing the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses.

Dr. Indar said the Caribbean’s response must be regional, coordinated, and guided by evidence-based practices. Through its vector-borne disease networks and response systems, CARPHA continues supporting Member States through surveillance improvements, early warning systems, vector control guidance, training initiatives, and public education campaigns.

As part of the observance, CARPHA is also targeting young people through educational activities focused on vector management and disease prevention. Students from primary and secondary schools are participating in interactive learning stations, source reduction demonstrations, personal protection sessions, and technology showcases.

Speaking at the opening ceremony on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago’s Minister of Education, Dr. Matthew Desaine stressed that controlling mosquito-borne illnesses requires broad collaboration.

“Mosquito control is not the responsibility of one ministry, one agency, or one sector alone. It requires shared responsibility and sustained collaboration,” he said.

CARPHA has also launched online educational resources and a regional Instagram Reel Competition to encourage public participation and strengthen awareness efforts throughout the Caribbean.



Students and teachers from Valencia R.C. Government Primary School are joined by CARPHA officials and education representatives during the launch of Caribbean Mosquito Awareness Week 2026 at CARPHA Headquarters in Trinidad on May 11, 2026.



Pop star Shakira acquitted in Spanish tax fraud case

A Spanish court acquitted Shakira in a tax fraud case, ordering the government to return more than 55 million euros (US\$64 million) in wrongly imposed fines, a court document seen Monday by The Associated Press said.

The decision follows years of tax troubles in Spain for the Colombian superstar.

The ruling relates to a dispute over the 2011 tax year in which Spanish authorities failed to prove that the singer was a resident of Spain, the Madrid-based court said in its decision.

For a person to be considered a tax resident in Spain, they must spend more than 183 days in the country.

Spanish authorities were only able to prove that Shakira lived in Spain that year for a total of 163 days, the court said, ordering the Treasury to reimburse the singer the tax paid plus interest.

Spain's tax agency argued that at the

time Shakira was tied to Spain through a relationship with now-retired soccer player Gerard Piqué, and that she based her main economic activities in the country.

But the High Court ruled that the relationship could not be legally equated to a marital one, nor was it proven that "the main center or base" of Shakira's activities or economic interests in 2011 were directly or indirectly located in Spain.

"There was never any fraud, and the Tax Agency itself was never able to prove otherwise, simply because it wasn't true," Shakira, who had filed an appeal, said in a statement provided by her lawyers.

Spain's Treasury is to reimburse the singer 60 million euros (almost US\$70 million), including interest, Shakira's lawyer said.

"This resolution comes after an eight-year ordeal that has taken an unac-



ceptable toll, reflecting a lack of rigor in administrative practices," her attorney, José Luís Prada, said in a statement.

In 2023, in a separate tax fraud case, Shakira reached a deal with Spanish prosecutors to avoid a trial over charges that she did not pay Spanish income tax worth 14.5 million euros (then US\$15.8 million) between 2012 and 2014.

The singer accepted the charges and was forced to pay 7.3 million euros (then US\$8 million) in addition to the previously unpaid taxes and interest.

The "Hips Don't Lie" singer was named

in the 2017 "Paradise Papers" leaks that detailed the offshore tax arrangements of numerous high-profile individuals, including pop icons Madonna and U2's Bono.

Spain's tax authorities have over the past decade or so cracked down on soccer stars like Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo for not paying their full due in taxes. Those players were found guilty of tax evasion but avoided prison time thanks to a provision that allows a judge to waive sentences under two years in length for first-time offenders.



Stephen Colbert on 'The Late Show With Stephen Colbert' in February 2026

Stephen Colbert now thinks "Late Show" cancellation may have 'saved my life'

mentioned he was hesitant to take over Late Show from David Letterman in 2015 after hosting The Colbert Report from 2005 until 2014.

"I'm an actor and a writer. I became a writer because nobody would cast me in anything and I had to write for myself. I always imagined that's what I'd be doing after The Colbert Report because that was an acting job. When I got this, at first I was like, 'No, I can't do that job. I'm not a standup. I've never been myself.'"

Reflecting on his time on Late Show, Colbert said, "I tried never to take for granted filming in the Ed Sullivan Broadway theater, having that tremendous audience, or having the ability to work with the funniest people I know every day and make jokes about the things that make me most anxious."

Get your daily dose of entertainment news, celebrity updates, and what to

watch with our EW Dispatch newsletter.

CBS announced in July 2025 that they were canceling The Late Show franchise as a whole after 33 years.

"We consider Stephen Colbert irreplaceable and will retire The Late Show franchise at that time. We are proud that Stephen called CBS home. He and the broadcast will be remembered in the pantheon of greats that graced late night television," a statement read, noting that it was "purely a financial decision."

Colbert also addressed the decision on his show at the time, lamenting that "this is all just going away."

"Let me tell you, it is a fantastic job," he said. "I wish somebody else was getting it. And it's a job that I'm looking forward to doing with this usual gang of idiots for another 10 months. It's going to be fun."

Maybe Stephen Colbert's show getting canceled has a silver lining.

The longtime Late Show With Stephen Colbert host mused that CBS pulling the plug on his eponymous show "saved my life," he told PEOPLE. The reason? "It takes a lot of bone marrow to do the show every day, and now I'll be stepping down with enough time, enough energy to do other things that I want to do."

He and his wife, Evelyn McGee Colbert, share three adult children: Madeleine, 30, Peter, 28, and John, 24. Colbert admitted that this stage of fatherhood is "the best."

"To lose an argument with an adult child over something you thought you knew about. I mean, if you can take it, it's pretty great," the 62-year-old quipped.

Elsewhere in the interview, Colbert

Chris Brown, Vybz Kartel collab makes two Billboard charts

Dancehall king Vybz Kartel has earned his second entry on Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart thanks to his collaboration with R&B singer Chris Brown, titled ** and Party. The song, which is among the tracks from Brown's self-titled album

BROWN, debuts at #39 on the chart. It is Kartel's first time on this particular Billboard chart, since Kartel and Spice's Ramping Shop topped out at #76 in 2009. The collaboration also debuted at #22 on Billboard's R&B Songs chart.



In the meantime, BROWN charts at #7 on the all-genre Billboard 200 albums chart, #3 on Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums, #19 on Top Album Sales and #4 on Top Streaming Albums charts.

The last time that Vybz Kartel charted on any Billboard chart was in December 2025, when PBT by Travis Scott, Tyla and Vybz Kartel peaked at #5 on Rhythmic Airplay.



Sharon Marley soars with 'Firebird'

Renewed. That is the best way to describe Sharon Marley's energy as she brings new music, new collaborations and new vibes to the table with her new album, Firebird. "The title itself, Firebird, is about rising up from the ashes, being re-born and taking the opportunity to start afresh. At this stage in my life, I am reborn ... not Christian-wise ... but every day you wake up, you are re-born, so I have that track as my new focus," Marley explained in a recent interview with The Sunday Gleaner. Inspired by her beloved mother, Rita, Marley explained that the guiding light is what motivated her to tap into a refreshed love frequency. "My mother is my guiding post. I gave her the completed album with the album cover for Mother's Day. So, for me, it felt like my mission was fulfilled in terms of having the album done and presenting it

to her. So, I give thanks that I was able to fulfil that because anything could have happened," she shared. Speaking of family, since her children are now old enough to contribute behind the scenes, she was honoured that they chose to do so. This made the creation of this album all the more special, "The Marley and Prendergast families go way back, and my children, who are the Prendergast, played a big part in the making of the album, as my son, Ingermar, wrote songs on the album such as Step-pa, Island, and also Forever, which is a song I did with my other son, Matthew. Donisha has some writing skills as well, which she put towards the album, and she does the visuals for my video," Marley said. She continued by detailing just how joyful it was to have this familial musical collaboration. "When I first ventured into music, they were

babies who actually came on the Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers tour bus, and they would come onstage during the last song which was either Look Who's Dancing or Could You Be Loved. So to now see them contributing to my solo project is amazing." Island, the second single on the album, speaks directly to the land of wood and water, and this stood as the whole reason for her recent visit. "I want to go down to Westmoreland and see some of the things that my daughter has been working on there, because any money that I get from Island I plan to put towards building housing opportunities for people who lost their homes due to Hurricane Melissa," she highlighted. Firebird, Marley emphasised, is different from anything else she has made and she noted that some may even wonder, after listening, if it is a reggae album at all. "I find that I don't only like reggae music. I like blues and jazz, so it's a mixture for me that I call 'jazz-reg' because it has a different vibe, which is just the way I like to sing." A lot of people have spoken to the effectiveness of the love frequency, which has helped to calm them down as they tune into the vibrations and beat, matched by her powerful lyrics. "It's a deep al-

bum that pulls on your emotions and feelings, as I just started working with the 422 Hertz frequency, which is a love frequency, so this album is about healing. Persons felt love coming out of it, and that is exactly what I wanted to convey. I didn't just want to put out music for music's sake," she said enthusiastically. In a period where a plethora of reggae albums are being released, Firebird stands out for its unique ability to unite hearts by offering a different spin on 'feel good' music. "Because I put my foot in it, it's a different type of music than what you are used to hearing all the time. I didn't do this album to get a Grammy or no big rating. I did it for my Mom. I miss hearing her voice, and sometimes when I sing, I do hear her voice. It may not relate to the younger people, but I find my music will be relatable to a more mature audience." This body of work also aims to send an important message to women, encouraging them to dust themselves off and try again when things don't work out the first time. "This album is for women to remind them of who they are and what it is that they really want to accomplish in life. Whatever it is, ignore the naysayer and go for it," she said.

TCI STRENGTHENS AML/CFT CAPACITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN CFATF ASSESSOR TRAINING

The Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) Anti-Money Laundering Committee (AMLC) is pleased to announce the successful participation of a multi-agency delegation in the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) Assessor Training held in the Cayman Islands from April 27th to May 1st, 2026.

The TCI was represented by six (6) public-sector delegates. Representatives from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force (RTCIPF), the Financial Services Commission (FSC), the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC), and the Integrity Commission (IC) took part in this intensive training programme.

The training focused on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) 5th Round Methodology, equipping participants with the technical expertise required to assess jurisdictions' compliance with international anti-money laundering, counter-terrorist financing, and counter-proliferation financing standards.

This initiative represents a critical step in strengthening TCI's institutional capacity ahead of its upcoming CFATF (Caribbean Financial Action Task Force) mutual evaluation, which will assess TCI's framework to combat



money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing against the international standards. The assessment process for the TCI will commence in 2027 with the Technical Compliance review, followed by an onsite assessment by an international

team of reviewers scheduled for March 2028.

By expanding the pool of trained assessors within key national agencies, the TCI is enhancing its' ability to effectively prepare for, and respond to, the rigorous evaluation process.

Additionally, the training supports improved inter-agency coordination, deeper understanding of the FATF standards, and greater resilience within the national AML/CFT framework.

The TCI has also demonstrated its ongoing commitment to the regional fight against financial crime by actively supporting the work of the CFATF. Notably, the jurisdiction has contributed assessors and a Co-Mission Lead to each of the CFATF's first five mutual evaluation assessments under the current round, namely Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, The Bahamas, Bermuda, and Barbados.

This sustained engagement reflects TCI's leadership role and dedication to upholding international standards across the Caribbean region. Additionally, the TCI will take up leadership of the regional body from November 2026 when the TCI will host the CFATF 62nd Plenary and Working Group Meetings.

The Anti-Money Laundering Committee extends its appreciation to the CFATF for facilitating this important training and to all participating agencies for their continued commitment to safeguarding the integrity of the Turks and Caicos Islands' financial system.

Registration Drive Returns Across the Islands

The Turks and Caicos Islands Elections Department (TCIED) is bringing back its Voter Registration Drive, with the Elections team visiting several islands over the coming weeks to assist eligible residents with registering to vote or updating their voter information ahead of the next General Elections.

With the theme "Register to Vote – Your Vote is Your Voice," the renewed initiative is a part of the Department's ongoing efforts to remain visible, accessible, and engaged within communities while encouraging greater public participation in the democratic process.

Acting Supervisor of Elections, Willette Pratt, said the Department remains committed to ensuring every eligible resident has the opportunity to register and participate in shaping the future of the country.

"We want people to know that the Elections Department is coming to their community," Pratt said. "This registration drive is about meeting people where they are, making the process convenient, and encouraging persons to take that important step to register. Voting is one of the most important ways we can make our voices

heard, and we want every eligible resident to be prepared and included."

She added that maintaining an ongoing registration presence throughout the islands is an important part of the Department's outreach efforts.

"We believe voter education and voter registration should be continuous and ongoing. Our goal is to maintain an active presence in the community, keep the public informed, and encourage as many eligible persons as possible to register before the deadline. We want to make sure that no one is left behind."

The registration initiative is intended for:

- Persons registering for the first time; and
- Persons who have changed their place of residence and require a transfer to a new electoral district or an address update within the same district. Eligible Turks and Caicos Islanders with a valid National Turks and Caicos Islander Status Card may register if they:
 - Are at least 18 years old;
 - Have lived in the Turks and Caicos Islands for twelve out of the twenty-four months prior to the qualifying date; or

- Are members of His Majesty's Forces, persons employed overseas on Government business, or students living abroad.

The Department also noted that pre-registration is permitted from the age of 17, although voting rights begin at age 18. Residents attending the registration drive are reminded to bring their National Turks and Caicos Islander Status Card, proof of address, and any TWO of the following approved forms of identification:

- Valid Passport;
- National Insurance Card;
- National Health Insurance Card; or
- Any other Government-issued identification.

The registration drive will include visits to Providenciales, Grand Turk, North Caicos, and South Caicos, with registration stations being established at several convenient community locations.

The registration drive schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 – Graceway IGA Supermarket, Leeward Highway, Providenciales at 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27, 2026 – Graceway IGA Supermarket, Church Folly,

Grand Turk | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 28, 2026 – Graceway Gourmet Supermarket (Java Bar), Grace Bay, Providenciales at 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Friday, May 29, 2026 – Smart Supermarket, Downtown, Providenciales at 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Monday, June 1, 2026 – District Commissioner's Office, Conference Room, Bottle Creek, North Caicos at 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 – Community Centre, District Commissioner's Office, South Caicos at 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Residents of Salt Cay may attend any registration location or register at the District Commissioner's Office.

The Elections Department is encouraging residents, community leaders, and organizations across the Turks and Caicos Islands to help spread the word and encourage voter participation.

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.

CIBC Caribbean Leads Corporate Support for Bahamas All Star Band's Historic London Appearance



Donation being presented to The Bahamas All Star Band

A global spotlight awaits a group of young Bahamians whose talent and discipline have earned international acclaim. Ensuring they are ready to meet that moment is already becoming a shared national effort, with the first corporate contribution being made by CIBC Caribbean.

The bank recently presented the first donation in support of the Bahamas All Star Band following the band's historic invitation to participate in the 41st London New Year's Day Parade in 2027.

The selection marks the first time a band from The Bahamas and the wider region has been invited to the internationally renowned parade. Held annually in London, the event attracts hundreds of thousands of spectators and reaches millions worldwide through broadcast coverage. It offers participating bands one of the most visible stages of the New Year.

CIBC Caribbean's Acting Managing Director, Terrance Gibson, highlighted that the bank's contribution aligns with its mission of investing in communities and young people. Gibson said, "The Bahamas All Star Band represents hard work, resilience, and national pride. CIBC Caribbean is proud to be the first corporate partner supporting this historic journey and helping to



Members of the Band going through their paces

ensure our youth are equipped to represent The Bahamas on the world stage."

Director of Bands, Yonell Justilien, said the invitation reflects the Bahamas All Star Band's long-standing focus on developing character

through music.

"It reflects our commitment not only to perform music, but to nurturing character, discipline, teamwork, and leadership through the arts. For our students, this experience is transformational," he said.

CIBC Caribbean's early commitment provides vital financial support as the band begins preparations for travel and the many logistical requirements necessary to represent The Bahamas with excellence.

ROCK HOUSE

TURKS & CAICOS
GRACE BAY RESORTS

Director of Operations

Job Overview: The Director of Operations is responsible for overseeing and integrating the operational performance of the Food & Beverage, Rooms Division including the Culinary department and Coco Boutique at Rock House.

This role ensures exceptional guest experiences, strong financial performance, and seamless coordination across all operational departments. The position requires a strategic leader with strong operational expertise, and a hands-on leadership style to drive service excellence, team engagement, and profitability.

Responsibilities:

1. Operational Leadership:

- Oversee daily operations of F&B, Rooms Division, Culinary, and Coco Boutique.
- Ensure consistent service standards across all guest touchpoints.
- Drive operational excellence aligned with Leading Hotels of the World standards.
- Lead cross-departmental coordination to ensure seamless guest experience.

2. Guest Experience & Service Excellence:

- Champion a culture of personalized luxury service.
- Monitor guest feedback and implement corrective actions where necessary (AQS)
- Ensure all departments proactively anticipate guest needs and preferences.
- Lead service recovery processes when required.

3. Financial Management:

- Develop and manage annual budgets.
- Drive revenue growth, cost control, and profitability across all divisions.
- Analyze monthly P&L performance and implement corrective strategies.
- Ensure accurate forecasting and financial reporting in collaboration with Finance.

4. Leadership & Team Development:

- Lead, coach, and develop department heads and key leaders across all operational areas.
- Foster a high-performance culture focused on accountability, service excellence, and teamwork.
- Conduct performance reviews and ensure succession planning is in place.
- Oversee recruitment, onboarding, and training programs.

5. Food & Beverage Operations:

- Oversee all F&B outlets, including Vita restaurants, Cave bar, and in-room dining.
- Ensure menu engineering, concept development, and product innovation.
- Work closely with F&B VP and MD to maintain quality and creativity.
- Optimize revenue generation through upselling and concept activation.

6. Culinary Oversight:

- Provide strategic direction to the Executive Chef and culinary team.
- Ensure consistency, quality, and innovation in all food offerings.
- Oversee cost control, waste management, and supplier relationships.
- Support seasonal menu development and special events.

7. Rooms Division Oversight:

- Oversee Front Office, Housekeeping, Guest Services, and Reservations.
- Ensure flawless arrival, in-stay, and departure experience.
- Monitor occupancy, ADR, RevPAR, and service KPIs.
- Drive continuous improvement in operational efficiency and guest satisfaction.

8. Coco Boutique Operations:

- Oversee boutique strategy, merchandising, and sales performance.
- Ensure strong retail experience aligned with resort positioning.
- Ensure inventory control, reporting, and visual standards.

Requirements:

- Must possess and demonstrate excellent time management skills.
- Strong leadership background with ability to manage diverse teams.
- Deep understanding of luxury service standards (Forbes / LHW preferred).
- Experience in lifestyle hotel operations is an advantage.
- Strong communication, organizational, and decision-making skills.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, guest-centric environment.

SALARY 100,000.00 -108,000.00

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: June 8, 2026

HEATED

K.O.

BATTLE

Cheshire Hall, Beaches, Sharks, Eagles
in K.O. Semis



SEE PG32

Women in Sports Association Celebrates Mothers with Wellness Walk & Run



The Women in Sports Association hosted a successful Mother's Day Wellness Walk & Run on Saturday, May 9, 2026, in Grand Turk, bringing together mothers, families, supporters, and members of the community in a celebration of health, wellness, and appreciation for mothers.

The event commenced at 5:00 a.m. from the historic Clock Tower in Grand Turk and saw an encouraging turnout of participants who gathered in honour of mothers while promoting healthy living and physical activity.

In addition to the wellness walk and run, the association also conducted a membership drive, encouraging more women to become a part of the organization and support its ongoing mission of empowering women through sports, wellness, and community involvement.

One of the highlights of the morning was an inspiring and motivational presentation delivered by guest speaker Mr. Ashley Brooks, who spoke passionately about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and prioritizing wellness in everyday life.

Several special prizes and tokens of appreciation were presented during the event. Claudia Smith received the prize for the oldest mother, while DeAjah Smith was recognized as the youngest mother in attendance. Cherylann Jones received a prize for having the most children with her at the event.

A heartwarming moment came when Catherine Ann Forbes was recognized for attending with her granddaughter, Zaya Bottex, who also received a special gift.

The association also took the opportunity to honour several outstanding women for their support and contribution to the organization. Hon. Sharon Simons, Past President of the association, received a gift of appreciation for her contribution and dedication over the years. Hon. Rita Gardiner was also presented with a gift of appreciation, while Lynette Thomas received a beautiful bouquet of flowers as a token of gratitude.

The President of the association, Rosalie Ingham-Hall, and Vice President



Angela Brooks both received gifts in recognition of their leadership and commitment. Additionally, all moth-

ers present at the event were presented with roses in celebration of Mother's Day. President Rosalie Ingham-Hall ex-

pressed her delight with the turnout and extended sincere thanks and appreciation to the Executive Members of the association for their hard work, dedication, and commitment in making the event a tremendous success.

Special thanks were also extended to the generous sponsors and donors whose contributions helped to make the event memorable. Sponsors included Olympic Construction, A & H Beauty Supply, Natural Healing Herbs, Goldsmith, Faboutique Fashions, and the Turks and Caicos Islands Commonwealth Games Association.

The association also expressed gratitude to members who personally donated gifts and supported the initiative. The event was described as a meaningful and uplifting celebration that successfully combined fitness, fellowship, and appreciation for mothers within the community.



Victorious Long Bay Hawks, coaches and TCIRU



Long Bay High Hawks Players, Coaches celebrate with Jarrett Forbes and TCIRFU Members

LGT, BWIC and Wesley Methodist Crowned Rugby Champions

Louise Garland Thomas High School (LGT) emerged as one of the dominant forces at the TCI Rugby Football Union (TCIRFU) youth championships, capturing both the Under-15 Boys and Under-15 Girls titles during a day of exciting competition at Meridian Field.

Meanwhile, British West Indies Collegiate (BWIC) secured the Under-18 Girls crown after a dramatic overtime victory, while Wesley Methodist School claimed the Under-18 Boys championship following a disciplined defensive performance in the final.

Sixteen teams competed on Saturday, May 9, in championship action across four divisions after qualifying from a field of 22 schools that participated in round-robin competition during April.

LGT put on an impressive display in the Under-15 divisions, dominating the boys competition with an emphatic 15-0 victory over BWIC in the gold medal match after defeating International School 11-5 in the semi-finals.

The LGT girls were equally dominant, overcoming BWIC in a closely fought semi-final before delivering a commanding 12-0 performance over Provo Middle School in the championship match to secure the gold medal. BWIC captured the Under-18 Girls title after an intense and dramatic



Long Bay High Hawks Players, Coaches celebrate with Jarrett Forbes and TCIRFU Members



TCIRFU EX Members, Wesley Methodist Team, Coach Myrie, Jarrett Forbes Sports Commission

final against Clement Howell High School. The two evenly matched teams battled through regulation without either side scoring before BWIC finally found an opening during overtime to secure a narrow 2-0 victory.

Wesley Methodist secured the Under-18 Boys championship with a 4-0 win over HJ Robinson High School. Wesley's disciplined defensive effort frustrated HJ Robinson throughout the contest, while timely attacking play proved enough to secure the title.

Other medal winners included International School, which earned bronze in the Under-15 Boys division after defeating Provo Middle School, while BWIC claimed the Under-15 Girls bronze medal.

LGT also secured bronze in the Under-18 Girls competition after defeating HJ Robinson, while TCIPS claimed bronze in the Under-18 Boys division following a lengthy contest against Marjorie Basden High School that stretched into double overtime.

Tournament organizers said the event ran smoothly, with games beginning on schedule and participants displaying positive sportsmanship throughout the day.

The TCIRFU executive and volunteers were also praised for their continued efforts to promote rugby and positive social development among young people across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Jamaican Coach David Riley Leads Jumps Workshop for TCI Coaches

Turks and Caicos Islands coaches recently benefited from specialized training in the field events discipline as experienced Jamaican coach David Riley conducted a jumps workshop from Sunday, May 18 to Wednesday, May 20, 2021. The workshop focused on strengthening coaching techniques and enhancing the development of local athletes.

Riley brings a wealth of experience to the programme, serving as President of the Jamaica Track and Field Coaches Association and Technical Director for Jamaica's Under-20 Athletics programme. His involvement provided local coaches with an opportunity to gain valuable insight from one of the region's respected athletics professionals.

In addition to his leadership roles, Riley currently coaches Turks and Caicos athletes Markey Zepherin and Roniesha Johnson at Excelsior Community College and Excelsior High School in Kingston, Jamaica. His continued work with TCI athletes highlights the growing relationship between the Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica in track and field development.



Salt Rakers Aquatic Club Launches Fundraiser Raffle with 2026 Kia K3 Grand Prize

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Club has officially launched a major fundraising raffle aimed at supporting the development of young swimmers and strengthening the club's programs across the Turks and Caicos Islands. Headlining the raffle is a brand-new 2026 Kia K3, sponsored through Connolly Motors, which will be awarded as the grand prize winner. Organizers say the initiative is designed not only to raise funds for the club's activities, but also to encourage community support for youth sports and aquatic development.

In addition to the top prize vehicle, participants will have the opportunity to win a wide range of other prizes, including private excursions, luxury resort stays, family day passes, gift certificates, and swimming-related experiences.

The raffle prize lineup includes:

1st Prize: 2026 Kia K3 from Connolly Motors

2nd Prize: Private yacht excursion gift voucher for eight guests includ-



A 2026 Kia K3 motorcar

ing food, beverages, and snorkeling equipment

3rd Prize: Ocean Club Resorts two-night stay in a two-bedroom suite

4th Prize: Grace Bay Club two-night oceanfront suite stay with daily breakfast

5th Prize: Beaches Turks and Caicos day pass for two adults and two children

6th Prize: West Bay Club dinner-for-two gift certificate

7th Prize: Big Blue Collective stand-up paddle eco-tour gift certificate

8th Prize: US\$500 IGA Supermarket gift certificate

9th Prize: Pegasus VIP Transport US\$250 gift certificate

10th Prize: One-month free swimming lesson for one child through Salt Rakers

The club is encouraging residents and supporters to participate, noting that proceeds will assist in developing athletes and expanding opportunities for young people involved in swimming and aquatic sports.

Under the campaign slogan, "Support Our Club. Make a Splash. Change Lives!", the organization hopes the community will rally behind the fundraising effort.

Salt Rakers Aquatic Club has long played a key role in nurturing swimming talent in the Turks and Caicos Islands, helping young athletes develop both competitive skills and personal discipline through the sport.

Details regarding ticket sales and raffle draw information are expected to be announced by organizers.



Roan Waugh of Beaches



Brian Gregg of SWA Sharks

Cheshire Hall, Beaches, Sharks, Eagles in K.O. Semis

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The race for the Beaches-sponsored Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) Knockout title is entering its decisive stage, with four clubs now standing just one victory away from a place in the championship final.

The semifinal round is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2026, and will feature two highly anticipated encounters as teams battle for a place in the title match.

In the opening semifinal at 6:30 p.m., Cheshire Hall FC will take on Beaches FC, in what is expected to be a fiercely contested matchup between two clubs determined to keep their championship hopes alive. Both teams will understand that there is no margin for error with a place in the final on the line.

The second semifinal at 8:30 p.m. will see defending champions SWA Sharks FC face Academy Eagles FC, another intriguing contest that pits two



Standley Paulsaint of Cheshire Hall FC



Winston Brown of Academy Eagles

ambitious sides against each other with a ticket to the final at stake.

The winners of those matches

will advance to the Knockout Final on Saturday, May 30 at 8:30 p.m., where the tournament champion will be

crowned. Earlier that evening, the losing semi-finalists will meet in the third-place playoff at 6:30 p.m.