

**EAGLES
CROWNED PPL
CHAMPS**
PG32



NEWSLINE

Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage



**Special
Constable
Charged PG4**



**North Caicos
to Get Luxury
Resort PG8**



Starlink is owned and operated by SpaceX, the aerospace company founded by billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk.

STARLINK BY SUMMER

Public Safety Minister Hon. Shaun Malcolm Reveals
Elon Musk Internet Company Could Begin Operating
TCI as Early as this Summer

>>> STORY ON PG5



New Chief Justice, Yonnette Cummings-Edwards (seated at left), is joined by members of the Turks and Caicos Islands government. Seated alongside her are (from left) – Her Excellency Dileeni Daniel Selvaratnam; Speaker of the House of Parliament Hon. Gordon Burton; and Acting Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson. Standing from left: Minister of Tourism Hon. Zhavargo Jolly; Minister of Public Safety, Gender and Religious Affairs and Social Welfare Hon. Shaun Malcolm; Minister of Home Affairs Hon. Akierra Missick; Deputy Governor Her Excellency Anya Williams; Attorney General Hon. Rhondalee Braithwaite-Knowles; Minister of Health Hon. Kyles Knowles; Member of Parliament Hon. Willin Belliard; and Member of Parliament Hon. Josephine Connolly.

Turks and Caicos Islands Welcomes New Chief Justice

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands has officially welcomed its new Chief Justice, the Hon. Mrs. Justice Yonnette Cummings-Edwards, who was sworn into office during a special sitting held Tuesday, May 5, at the Supreme Court Annex in Providenciales.

The ceremony brought together senior government officials, members of the judiciary, legal professionals, and justice sector stakeholders, all of whom pledged support for the new Chief Justice as she assumes leadership of the country's judiciary.

Governor Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam described the appointment as “a defining occasion in the life of our justice system,” emphasizing the importance of judicial independence, public confidence, and the rule of law.

“Public confidence in institutions can no longer be assumed. It must be actively earned, continually reinforced and visibly sustained through performance, integrity and openness,” the Governor said.

She noted that Justice Cummings-Edwards brings extensive judicial experience from Guyana, including leadership in judicial reform, modernization, and improving access to justice.

The Governor also highlighted the increasing complexity of modern judicial systems, including rising caseloads, organized crime, financial crimes, and public demand for timely justice.

“The strength of our justice system is ultimately the cornerstone of the stability and prosperity of these islands,” she said.

Director of Public Prosecutions Jeremy Taylor welcomed the new Chief Justice and expressed confidence in her ability to further strengthen the court system.

“Your predecessor has started by building an edifice. To you is the expansion by adding rooms and stories to this building,” Taylor said, adding that the judiciary would



Newly sworn-in Chief Justice Yonnette Cummings-Edwards (seated at left), is joined by Her Excellency Governor Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam (seated at centre), President of the Court of Appeal Alice Yorke-Soo Hon (seated at right), and other members of the court in a photo op.

find “willing and cooperative stakeholders” ready to support reform efforts.

President of the Bar Council Mark Fulford praised the diversity and strength of the Turks and Caicos Bar while stressing the importance of ensuring opportunities for Turks and Caicos Islanders within the legal profession.

“A justice system must always make room for the sons and daughters of the soil to see themselves not only as users of the system, but as builders of it,” Fulford stated.

He also commended recent judicial reforms, including sentencing guidance, mediation initiatives, and technological advancements that have improved court access across the islands.

Doyen of the Bar Ariel Misick congratulated Justice Cummings-Edwards on her appointment and expressed confidence in her leadership.

“We are confident that you bring with you

all of those attributes, and you will apply them in carrying out your role as Chief Justice,” Misick said, referencing her experience and commitment to fairness, integrity, and judicial reform.

Chairman of the Judicial Services Commission Neville Adderley revealed that the position attracted 14 applicants from across the Caribbean, Africa, England, Papua New Guinea, and the Turks and Caicos Islands itself.

Adderley said the Commission sought a candidate with not only legal expertise but also proven independence and the ability to continue judicial modernization efforts already underway.

He praised Justice Cummings-Edwards’ work in Guyana, particularly in digitization, e-filing, and expanding access to justice in remote communities.

“She demonstrated the capacity to maintain the reforms or improve them or to bring new reforms,” Adderley said.

President of the Court of Appeal Alice Yorke-Soo Hon described the appointment as “a moment of continuity and restoration for the administration of justice in these islands.”

She praised Justice Cummings-Edwards’ distinguished legal career spanning more than three decades, noting her work in criminal justice reform and judicial leadership in Guyana.

“To the people of these islands, you have gained a guardian of the Constitution, committed to ensuring that justice is administered without fear or favour, affection or ill will,” Yorke-Soo Hon said.

In her response, Chief Justice Cummings-Edwards said she was “deeply honoured and humbled” by the appointment and pledged to uphold the Constitution and strengthen the administration of justice in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

“I look forward to working collaboratively with my judicial colleagues, the legal profession and senior justice partners to build on the strong foundation that has been established,” she said.

The new Chief Justice emphasized her commitment to fairness, accessibility, accountability, and modernization of the judiciary, while also expressing interest in pursuing international standards of court excellence for the Turks and Caicos judiciary.

“Justice must be available to the underprivileged, the poor and the vulnerable — the wealthy and the most privileged — indeed to everyone who seeks it,” she declared.

Justice Cummings-Edwards also acknowledged the work already undertaken by her predecessor, Mabel Agyemang, and pledged to continue strengthening judicial institutions and public trust in the justice system.

Quoting poet Robert Frost, she concluded: “The woods are lovely, dark and deep, but I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep.”



A Dynamic Mobile Service provider seeks to recruit for the following post:

Job Title: Field Force Engineer

REPORTS TO (TITLE): L1 Operations Manager

Key Responsibilities:

- Execute network infrastructure deployments in the field, including but not limited to base stations, antennas, and related equipment.
- Conduct routine maintenance, inspections, and troubleshooting of network assets, ensuring their continued reliability.
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams to plan and execute network expansion projects, optimizing coverage and capacity.
- Adhere to quality control measures in field operations, ensuring the highest standards of performance and reliability.
- Maintain detailed records of field activities, including equipment installations, maintenance logs, and inspection reports.

Qualifications, knowledge & experience:

- A bachelor’s degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, or a related field is typically required.
- Demonstrate a minimum of 5 years of experience in field operations, ideally within the telecommunications industry.
- Exhibit technical expertise in deploying, maintaining, and troubleshooting network infrastructure and technology assets.
- Maintain a strong focus on safety protocols and practices in field operations.
- Understand fundamental networking concepts and equipment

Compensation: USD\$55,000 – 60,000 per annum

DEADLINE:

Positions open to all qualified Turks and Caicos nationals. Interested applicants can forward their resumes to hrtic@digicelgroup.com The closing date for applications is May 9th 2026

VACANCY: FIELD ENGINEER

Primary objective of the job:

- Responsible for the operation and maintenance of all RBS, Power and Transmission equipment within a specific region to achieve 100% availability of all Cell Sites
 - Monitoring of all environmental factors, buildings and grounds to include earth connections and measurements at Digicel sites in a specific region
 - Escalation & follow through of all anomalies to relevant departments
 - Scheduling of preventative maintenance rosters
 - Coordination of all site related work and projects
 - Coordination with MSC & Transmission engineer on outage solutions
 - On-call support for after hours outages & planned works as required
- Main Duties and Responsibilities:

Maintain inventory of RBS, Test and Transmission equipment

- Monitor Return & Replace process, tracking RMA number & return date with Ericsson
- Oversee generator maintenance
- Liaise with equipment suppliers and maintenance contractors as required
- Generate & submit Planned Works for service affecting network activity in a timely manner
- Provide feedback on network performance as observed in day to day activities to MSC engineers
- Assist other departments with troubleshooting & engineering support as required
- Provide callout function & network support as required

Academic qualifications and experience required for job:

- Diploma in telecommunications/electronics or equivalent
- Minimum one (1) year experience in maintenance of telecommunications network
- Detailed working knowledge of Microwave transmission systems, radio transmitters
- Detailed working knowledge of DC and AC power systems
- Detailed working knowledge of GSM radio telephony operations
- Detailed working knowledge of associated test equipment

Compensation: USD\$55,000 – 60,000 per annum

DEADLINE:

Positions open to all qualified Turks and Caicos nationals. Interested applicants can forward their resumes to <https://careers.digicelgroup.com> The closing date for applications is May 9th 2026

Lawman Charged, Suspended after Forensic Audit

The Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force (RT&CIPF) has charged and suspended one of their own following what they described as the conclusion of a forensic audit.

The RTCIPF did not release the name of the officer, however, NEWSLINETCI has learnt that he is Special Constable Phil Branch, who, at the time of his rap was Head of Operational Support. Prior to that position, Branch worked as an IT specialist and then as Asset Manager, charged with some levels of asset procurement for the force.

According to a release from the RT&CIPF, Branch was charged following a forensic audit of police financial accounts, commissioned by Her Excellency Governor Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam.

The police said Branch's suspension took effect on Thursday, May 7 May, the time he was formally charged under the Police Force Act and the Police Disciplinary Code.

Arising from the incident, Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey has established a dedicated investigative team to advance the audit findings, and according to the news release, active lines of inquiry remain ongoing, including matters that may amount to criminal misconduct. The report said that further suspensions or disciplinary action will be taken where supported by evidence. The police force further noted that, in parallel, decisive steps are being implemented to strengthen financial controls, enhance oversight, and reinforce authorization processes across the Force.

Commenting on Branch's charge, Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey stated that the entity, under his watch, will move with alacrity to stamp out any semblance of irregularity within its ranks.

"The Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force operates a zero-tolerance approach to misconduct," Bailey asserted. "This ac-



Phil Branch

tion underscores our unwavering commitment to integrity, accountability, and professionalism. Maintaining public confidence is paramount."

He added: "Where wrongdoing is identified, we will act firmly and in accordance

with the law without exception; any breach will be met with unequivocal action."

The police said it plans to make no further comment on the matter at this time while investigations and disciplinary proceedings remain ongoing.

MPs, Police Commissioner Discuss Neighbourhood Watches, Traffic and Community Safety

Neighbourhood watch programmes, increased police visibility, traffic congestion and stronger partnerships between law enforcement and elected officials were among the major issues discussed during a recent meeting on Monday, 4th May, 2026, between Members of Parliament and Constituency Representatives, Kyle Knowles and Randy Howell and Commissioner of Police, Fitz Bailey.

The meeting focused on identifying practical solutions to improve safety and security within the Wheeland and Blue Hills constituencies while strengthening collaboration between these communities and the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force.

A major area of discussion centred on the development and strengthening of neighbourhood watch initiatives. The representatives agreed that greater community involvement could play a critical role in crime prevention, intelligence sharing and improving relationships between residents and police officers.

Commissioner Bailey stressed the importance of adopting a stronger community policing model throughout the country, stating that "every officer should be a community officer." He acknowledged ongoing manpower challenges within the police force but indicated that once the current recruitment phase is completed and staffing levels improve, the force intends to increase police visibility within the constituencies.

The Commissioner also addressed the MPs concerns regarding the possible establishment of police substations in the communities, explaining that human resource limitations remain a challenge. However, he assured the MPs that the matter would be revisited once additional officers are recruited.



Police Commissioner Fitz Bailey is flanked by Minister of Health and Human Services and Member of Parliament Wheeland Hon. Kyle Knowles (left), and Member of Parliament for Blue Hills Hon. Randy Howell.

Traffic congestion, particularly the heavy daily traffic moving in and out of Blue Hills, also formed part of the discussions. Residents have long complained about delays and safety concerns along major roadways servicing the area.

Hon. Howell raised concerns surrounding the impact of traffic build-up on residents and commuters, while Commissioner Bailey noted that operational capacity continues to affect how quickly additional traffic enforcement measures can be expanded.

Hon. Knowles highlighted the importance of communication and public engagement, noting that Members of Parliament maintain active community communication channels and group chats which could assist

police in quickly sharing important public safety information. Knowles suggested that closer collaboration between MPs and police could improve outreach efforts and strengthen the flow of accurate information to residents during emergencies or criminal investigations.

The meeting also explored broader initiatives aimed at building safer communities, including improved street lighting, surveillance cameras and stronger stakeholder partnerships.

Addressing matters raised during the meeting, Hon. Kyle Knowles noted that he had received concerns from the Police Welfare Association regarding the coverage of officers under the Treatment Abroad Pro-

gramme (TAP). He emphasised that while he awaits further formal communication from the Office of the Deputy Governor, he wishes to assure all police officers that they will be covered under the programme. The Minister also engaged the Commissioner on the ongoing issue of illegal migration within his constituency, highlighting the need for continued police support in enforcement and removal efforts. Additionally, he raised operational concerns surrounding the deployment of medical officers to certain high-risk areas, noting that safety considerations must remain paramount where environments are deemed unsafe.

Looking ahead, as the Wheeland and Blue Hills constituencies are becoming popular tourist spots, the Minister proposed the development of a coordinated tourism and public health initiative aimed at addressing preventable incidents such as drownings and impaired driving, with a focus on clearly communicating essential "dos and don'ts" to both residents and visitors.

Both MPs emphasised the importance of collaboration, community partnerships and identification of specific areas where stakeholders can provide assistance to support policing efforts as fundamental to strengthening public safety within their constituencies.

Hon. Knowles thanked Commissioner Bailey for taking the time to meet with the constituency representatives and engage directly on the concerns affecting their communities. He further suggested that a future meeting involving a wider cross-section of Members of Parliament later in the year could prove beneficial in advancing broader discussions on crime prevention, public safety and community policing across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

STARLINK COULD BE OPERATIONAL BY THIS SUMMER

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Satellite internet provider Starlink is on track to begin operations in the Turks and Caicos Islands by this summer, according to Minister of Public Safety, Gender and Religious Affairs and Social Welfare. Hon. Shaun Malcolm, who says the government is now moving through the final legislative steps needed to approve the service.

Speaking during an interview with NewslineTCI earlier this week, Minister Malcolm confirmed that only one legislative hurdle remains before the Elon Musk-owned satellite internet company can officially launch in the territory.

"It requires one legislative amendment that I have already submitted to Cabinet," Malcolm explained. "So, hopefully in the next Cabinet we might be able to take the paper, and probably before the end of June I should be able to get it through Parliament." The minister said once the amendment is approved in Parliament, residents could see Starlink services rolled out during the summer months.

The anticipated launch is expected to significantly improve internet access across the Turks and Caicos Islands, particularly in communities where traditional broadband infrastructure has been difficult or expensive to expand. The development is also being viewed as an important step in the government's wider telecommunications modernization efforts.

During the interview, Malcolm also addressed the territory's broader telecommunications agenda, including the planned expansion of fibre optic infrastructure.

"We're definitely going to see a move on it," the minister stated when asked whether residents could expect progress on fibre optics within the current financial year. "Of course, that is a huge infrastructural process, so I think we have already got Cabinet approval to move forward with the project, which is half of the battle."

The introduction of Starlink would mark a major shift in internet connectivity options for Turks and Caicos consumers and businesses. Unlike traditional internet



Minister of Public Safety, Gender and Religious Affairs and Social Welfare. Hon. Shaun Malcolm

systems that rely heavily on underground fibre networks or cell towers, Starlink operates using a constellation of satellites orbiting the Earth.

Starlink is owned and operated by SpaceX, the aerospace company founded by billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk. The service was designed to provide high-speed internet access to remote and underserved areas around the world where reliable broadband services are often unavailable.

The system works differently from older satellite internet providers. Instead of using a few large satellites positioned far from Earth, Starlink relies on thousands of smaller satellites placed in low Earth orbit, approximately 550 kilometres above the planet. Because the satellites are much

closer to Earth, users experience lower latency and faster internet speeds compared to traditional satellite services.

Customers connect to the network using a small satellite dish installed at their homes or businesses. The dish communicates directly with satellites overhead, which then transfer data through ground stations connected to the global internet network.

Globally, Starlink users typically experience internet speeds ranging from 50 to 250 megabits per second, though speeds can vary depending on location and network demand. Latency, the delay experienced during internet communication, is also significantly reduced, averaging between 20 and 40 milliseconds.

The technology has become es-

pecially popular in rural and island communities where traditional internet infrastructure can be difficult to build and maintain. In territories like the Turks and Caicos Islands, where geography can create connectivity challenges between islands and settlements, satellite internet could provide a more flexible alternative.

The government's push to improve digital infrastructure comes amid increasing demand for reliable internet services for education, tourism, business operations, and remote work opportunities. Many residents and business owners have long complained about internet reliability, service interruptions, and high costs associated with existing providers.

The possible arrival of Starlink also aligns with broader regional trends, as several Caribbean nations have already approved or begun integrating satellite-based internet services into their telecommunications sectors.

While the legislative amendment still requires Cabinet and Parliamentary approval, Malcolm's comments suggest the government is optimistic the process can be completed within weeks.

If approved as expected, Turks and Caicos residents may soon have access to another internet option that officials believe could help strengthen connectivity across the islands and support the country's long-term digital development goals.



Billionaire businessman Elon Musk, the owner of Starlink Satellite company, Tesla automakers, spacecraft company SpaceX, X (formerly Twitter), and xAI.

Turks and Caicos Is Not Just Provo – Stop Governing Like It Is

An Op-Ed By Paladin

In a recent speech to Cabinet, the Premier announced that there would be a halt on development approvals. On the surface, that sounds bold and decisive. In reality, what they meant was a halt on handing out “choice deals” for developers wanting to build in Providenciales. That distinction matters.

Because it exposes something we don't like to say out loud: the entire focus of this government's economic thinking – and frankly, several governments before it – is one sided. Country, economy, tourism, investment... all seen through the single eye of one island.

Turks and Caicos is an archipelago. But we are being governed like a suburb of Grace Bay.

A moratorium that misses the real problem

The stated reason for the halt is that large scale development is outpacing the labour force – from construction workers to hotel staff. That is true. But the response is wrong. We don't have “too much development” in Turks and Caicos. We have too much of one kind of development, in one place, serving one model of tourism. Stopping approvals in Provo without a national plan is not strategy. It is a knee jerk reaction dressed up as policy.

If the problem is imbalance, the answer cannot be paralysis. The answer has to be redistribution and redesign.

Twelve-storey boxes on Grace Bay – is that really our vision?

Let's talk honestly about what is being proposed and built on Grace Bay and elsewhere in Providenciales. We are told there is a “need” for twelve storey buildings on the beach. Yet the ones proposed and some already built have zero style, zero flair. They are plain, unadorned boxes – the kind of structures you could drop into any city in the world and no one would know where they are.

We are in the Caribbean. We are supposed to be a luxury destination. We had every right to expect that developers would bring something more tasteful, more artistic, more regionally inspired – the kind of design you see in parts of Asia or Dubai, where architecture is part of

the experience, not just a container for it.

Instead, we are approving height and density without demanding beauty, character, or cultural presence in return.

If you are going to fight for twelve storeys on Grace Bay, at least fight for something that looks like it belongs in a world class Caribbean destination, not a generic waterfront anywhere.

Why is everything still about Provo?

Here is the bigger question: why has the focus not been on nudging developers to build in any of the other islands, now that there are better facilities there?

North Caicos, Middle Caicos, South Caicos, Grand Turk – these islands have airports, accommodations, communities, and history. They have people who want to work and people who want to stay on their home island instead of uprooting their lives to come to Provo for a job.

With more development – hotels, marinas, condos, shops, restaurants – built in the other islands, we would see something powerful happen: opportunity would start to live closer to where people are born.

Put plainly, a person born in North, Middle or South Caicos should not have to leave his or her home island just to find work. There should be enough opportunity closer to home. That is what balanced development looks like. That is what real national planning looks like.

It's not about stopping deals – it's about moving them

So this is not a matter of “cessation” of deals to build resorts or anything else in Turks and Caicos. It is not about slamming the door on investors.

It is about doing better at encouraging potential investors and developers to build in the islands that need the project more.

If a resort, marina, or mixed use development is going to bring jobs, training, and spin off businesses, why must it always land on Provo first? Why not South Caicos, where the Minister has already stood in the House of Assembly begging for basic support – buses, road repair,

airport parking, regular flights, a developed fishing industry, a proper ferry schedule?

Why not North and Middle Caicos, where there is land, space, and a different kind of beauty that lends itself to quieter, more eco aware tourism?

The moratorium, if it is to mean anything, should be a pause on automatic Provo first thinking – not a pause on development across the entire country.

Development brings more than rooms – it brings systems

When you build in the outer islands, you don't just get hotel rooms. You get a whole ecosystem.

Flights no longer have to be subsidized by government just to keep a route alive – real demand starts to justify regular service. Local economies get direct revenue from visitors, suppliers, and staff. Multiple ports of entry become viable, and private jets can land in more than one place.

You start to see small businesses emerge: tour operators, restaurants, shops, guides, artisans, service providers. You see young people staying instead of leaving. You see older people able to work part time or seasonally without relocating.

That is what diversification within tourism actually looks like.

Diversification is not just “beyond tourism” – it's also within tourism

The government once promised to diversify the economy so we would not rely solely on tourism. That has not happened. But even if we accept that tourism will remain our main pillar for now, there is still a huge amount of diversification that can happen within the tourism offering itself.

Not everyone wants a multi storey resort towering above the beach. Not everyone wants golf, water sports, horses, or scuba diving. There is a global market for low impact, high visibility, high net worth tourism: eco aware resorts, wellness retreats, quiet, centering holiday experiences where people come to rest, think, heal, and reconnect. There is a market for design driven boutique hotels that win awards for service, food, and atmosphere.

We should be creating a serious program – with depth, not just slogans – to research what kinds of resorts and experiences are the best fit for our “other” islands. Then we should be actively courting those brands and operators.

By doing this, Turks and Caicos could start winning awards for Best Hotel, Best Service, Best Experience – the things you have to work to earn – not just “Best Beach,” which nature gave us and nature maintains.

Stop the knee-jerk policy

The pattern is familiar: a crisis or imbalance is discovered, and the response is a blunt instrument. Stop permits. Freeze approvals. Announce a moratorium. That is not governance. That is reaction.


Public policy cannot be a series of knee jerk responses to problems we should have seen coming. We cannot be lazy about this. We have to do the work.

Do the research. Evaluate the pros and cons. Look at labour capacity, infrastructure, environment, and community impact island by island. Develop forward looking solutions instead of temporary stoppages.

We say we want to build for the future. Then we have to act like it.

A halt on development approvals in Providenciales could be the start of something intelligent – a reset, a re-balancing, a new chapter in how we think about tourism and development across the whole archipelago. But only if we stop governing like TCI is one island with one beach and one way of doing things.

It isn't. And it never was.



Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

NEWSLINE TCI is located at
1085 Leeward Highway,
Providenciales,
Turks & Caicos Islands, BW1.

Our numbers are:
1649 348-9587
1649 242-6695
You can email us at
contact@newslinetci.com or
viviantyson@newslinetci.com

Vivian Tyson – Editorial Department



A Dynamic Mobile Service provider seeks to recruit for the following post:

Job Title: ICT Engineer

REPORTS TO (TITLE): IP Operations Engineer

Key Responsibilities:

- Attend technical meetings with internal and external stakeholders
- Conduct pre-installation site surveys to ensure all is in place for actual installations
- Installation of hardware and software to support DIA, Fixed Voice and Cloud technologies
- The provisioning of services for related DIA, Fixed Voice and Cloud technologies
- Prepare Scope of Work (SOW) documents for all installations
- Ensure Acceptance Test Plan (ATP) are executed at the end of each installation and signed by customer
- Ensure that Customer Acceptance Form (CAF) and Customer Premise Equipment Form (CPEF) are signed by customer at the end of each installation.
- Maintain a database of customer installations which includes device inventory, SOW, network diagrams, circuit diagrams, software licenses and ATP.
- Ensures that services are delivered to customers in a timely and professional manner.
- Ensure that all DIA, Fixed Voice and Cloud elements are implemented with appropriate level of security, and interfaces to allow for full surveillance and remote monitoring.
- Liaise with ICT/Business Services Management team to ensure timely, accurate and professional delivery of services.
- Provide timely and accurate reports as per business requirement.
- Provide IT/IP Support to other departments and external parties as required
- Manage Windows AD infrastructure, DNS, DHCP and Domain Controllers.

Qualifications, knowledge & experience:

- B.Sc.in Computer Science or equivalent with at least three (5) years experience in IP & Data technology.
- Cisco CCNA/CCDA Required
- Cisco CCNP Voice or Check Point CCSA will be an asset
- Installation and configuration of Cisco Routers/Switches/IP PBX, Mitel, Avaya, Nortel IP PBX/Legacy PBX, Check Point and/or Cisco Firewall, Wireless Routers/Access Points, Voice Gateways and Analog Terminal Adaptor
- Functional operations, maintenance of Video and VoIP technologies.
- Network Security.
- Structure and operation of Internet gateway links.
- Network planning, engineering and development.
- Report writing Additionally, should be familiar with:
- Project management of medium to large projects, preferably rolled out to users across multiple sites
- Analytical and performance reporting/generating tools.
- SLA development and performance management tools.
- Knowledge of OS such as Linux/Unix and Windows is an asset

Compensation: USD\$55,000 – 60,000 per annum

DEADLINE: Positions open to all qualified Turks and Caicos nationals. Interested applicants can forward their resumes to hrtic@digicelgroup.com The closing date for applications is May 9th 2026

North Caicos To Get First Luxury Resort Development

Minor Hotels Announces Anantara's Caribbean Debut with New Development in North Caicos

Minor Hotels, the international hotel owner, operator and investor, has unveiled plans for the future debut of its luxury Anantara brand in the Caribbean region with a new development set along the pristine Sandy Point coastline of North Caicos in the Turks & Caicos Islands.

Scheduled to open in 2029, the development of Anantara Turks and Caicos Resort & Residences further strengthens the brand's expansion into leading luxury destinations worldwide. Anantara is a global luxury hospitality brand whose resorts, featured in productions like *The White Lotus*, are known for immersive, experience-led travel shaped by wellness, culture, and the character of each destination.

The low-density property, featuring 78 branded residences, including a collection of beachfront villas, all available for private ownership, also marks the first major luxury development on North Caicos.

Known as the "Garden Island", North offers a quieter, nature led expression of Turks and Caicos with more open space, privacy and natural beauty along its long, quiet stretches of coastline. Building on the destination's easy access, the global appeal of its beaches and its well-established luxury market, the project responds to rising demand for branded residential living in highly sought after resort locations.

"We applaud the development team and Anantara (Minor Hotel Group) for embracing the unique character of North Caicos and creating a truly distinctive addition for both visitors and property investors," said Charles Washington Misick, the Honourable Premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"Together, they are introducing a new level of rejuvenating luxury to the global marketplace. The world-renowned Anantara brand, with its exceptional attention to detail and emphasis on holistic experiences, is a natural fit for the deeply embedded culture of well-being in North Caicos. This marks the beginning of a new chapter for luxury lifestyles in the Turks and Caicos Islands."

"From the outset, our vision has been to build on what has always made Turks and Caicos so compelling, while delivering an experience that feels true to the destination," said Rob Ayer, the developer behind Wymara Resort and Villas and H2O Resort, who is part of the development team behind this project along with Knuru Capital and Caroline Domange of Octans. Together, they bring a complementary mix of local development expertise, global capital, and seasoned luxury brand perspective. "The project reflects a shared commitment to quality, thoughtful density, and environmental integrity, ensuring North



Caicos' character and natural beauty endure for generations to come."

The development will be shaped for generous indoor-outdoor living by Miami based RAD and Meyer Davis, an award-winning architecture and design firm renowned for its work across some of the most iconic luxury hospitality and residential projects worldwide.

Dillip Rajakarier, CEO of Minor Hotels and Group CEO of Minor International, said, "Introducing Anantara to the Caribbean is a significant milestone for our group. The Turks and Caicos Islands are among the world's most recognised luxury destinations, and North Caicos provides an ideal setting for our experiential and sustainability driven approach to hospitality. "This key project strengthens our presence in the Americas and reflects our commitment to expanding into destinations that support meaningful travel, whilst also expanding our luxury footprint in North America, aligning to our growth ambitions in the region."

Wellbeing shaped by land, sea and sky

North Caicos is distinguished by its fertile landscapes, rich ecological diversity, and a local community deeply connected to wellness and sustainable living. This unique setting will offer residents and visitors alike an opportunity to experience a more intentional way of life.

Respecting the slower pace of North Caicos, Anantara will offer experiences rooted in authenticity and a deeper connection to nature, with wellness drawn directly from the landscape. Native species, medicinal plants and flowering botanicals from the resort's gardens will inspire treatments at the full-service Anantara Spa, while an on-site observatory will add a celestial dimension to the lei-

sure offering, making the most of minimal light pollution.

The focus will be on activities guided by lunar cycles, planetary alignments and seasonal shifts, alongside nighttime relaxation rituals, sleep focused experiences and sunrise practices. A fitness centre and yoga studios complement tennis, padel and pickleball courts, together with a dedicated water sports centre and multiple pools for relaxed, resort style lounging.

This holistic connection between nature and wellbeing will continue through the resort's signature dining, enriched with herb led infusions and ingredients drawn from the on-site botanical garden. Relaxed, feet in the sand beachfront venues, a wine cellar and a sunset rooftop bar will extend that thread into the wider resort experience.

As one of the Caribbean's most aspirational destinations, situated just 575 miles southeast of Miami, the archipelago enjoys direct flight connections from major U.S. and Canadian hubs, making it a prime market for high end travellers and homeowners. The development will be easily accessible from the Providenciales International Airport (PLS), followed by a short private boat transfer directly to the resort's marina, or via North Caicos Airport, which is currently undergoing re-development to further enhance private flight access to the island.

Caroline Domange, CEO of Octans, part of the project's development team, said: "Very few destinations offer the convenient access to both the serenity, and extraordinary water, beaches and natural beauty that have made Providenciales globally renowned.

"The preserved shores of North Caicos and its people bring an even great-

er sense of both calm and joy. Together with Anantara and our wider team that has proven experience in other notable developments in TCI, we are creating an investment opportunity that feels deeply connected to the type of life well lived we all aspire to."

"The Anantara brand reflects the level of quality we expect for the Turks and Caicos Islands—luxury, exclusivity, and a meaningful connection to our natural environment," said the Honourable Zhavargo Jolly, Minister of Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Heritage and the Environment for Turks & Caicos.

"The expansion into North Caicos is a deliberate step in broadening our tourism offering, while preserving the island's ecological integrity and cultural character. Sustainable, low-density development is the direction we are setting for North Caicos, ensuring that growth enhances the island without compromising what makes it special. This is how we continue to strengthen our position as a premier, high-value destination."

Branded residences are now available for presale, with inquiries welcomed through the project's dedicated sales team at www.anantaraturksandcaicos.com.

Anantara continues to develop its offering through strategic expansion in key destinations worldwide. In the Americas, Anantara Turks and Caicos Resort & Residences is the fifth property under the brand to be announced, with two resorts currently under development in Brazil, one in Ushuaia in Southern Argentina, and one recently announced in Miami in the US.

In addition, the first property of the group's new luxury brand The Wolseley Hotels was recently announced to launch in New York in early 2027.

RADIO TURKS AND CAICOS MODERNIZES FOR “VISUAL RADIO”

Radio Turks and Caicos (RTC) is embarking on a strategic evolution to transform the national listening experience into a high-definition visual journey. Following a research mission at the 2026 NAB Show in Las Vegas, RTC is preparing to invest in state-of-the-art broadcasting and editing systems.

This modernization initiative is designed to ensure that our valued listeners can see the stories they love, creating a more connected and interactive media landscape for every citizen. As part of this transition, RTC has already secured professional RØDE mixing gear and microphones to enhance the quality of outside broadcasts. To further this vision, the organization intends to secure Black-



(L to R) Director, Christopher Jarrett and Radio Announcer, Vaughn Hinds attending a technical workshop at NAB April 20th 2026.

magic Design hardware and the DaVinci Resolve editing suite.

These tools will elevate the broadcaster’s output, enabling the development of live video nightly news and enhanced social media content that meets international standards.

Beyond technology, 2026 marks a revival of community programming. Listeners have already welcomed the return of Teen Jam, with the relaunch of the beloved Kids Club featuring five local primary schools coming soon. Additionally, A Child’s Life with Mrs. Yolanda Robin-

son returns, while Sports on the Go will provide daily World Cup highlights.

Lastly, supporters can look forward to “Phase One” of Nightly News Live, bringing the day’s stories to life with crystal-clear visuals and studio-grade sound. “Our goal for the next 50 years is to ensure RTC is a visual experience for everyone who relies on us,” said Director Christopher Jarrett. “Our residents want to be seen as well as heard, and we are building a new framework to bring radio and television together for our community. We sincerely thank the Ministry specifically Minister Hon. E. Jay Saunders and PS Ms. Tamera Howell-Robinson as well as the entire RTC team for their support in making this vision a reality.”

The future of RTC is designed specifically for the people, featuring a strengthened RTC App (available on iOS and Android) and a fully redeveloped website, www.rtc89fm.com, launching this May. These platforms will provide the public with easier access to podcasts, missed stories, and new interactive ways for local businesses to reach the community.



RTC Director, Christopher Jarrett attending an NAB session April 19th 2026

WANTED PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

THE LEARNING CASTLE INVITES APPLICATIONS FROM QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED

PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS

to join our team. A Child Development or Early Childhood credential is recommended. Alternatively, candidates with significant previous experience in a pre-school or early childhood setting will be considered. Salary is commensurate with qualification.

Interested candidates may forward their applications along with their CVs, copies of academic credentials and experience certificates to principal@thelearningcastletci.com.

CONTACT: (649) 441-8409

CMO Supports Turks and Caicos in Strengthening Early Warning Communication

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands is taking steps to strengthen its disaster communication systems through a collaborative exercise involving the TCI National Weather Service, the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies, and the Government Communications Directorate.

The initiative is being supported by the Caribbean Meteorological Organization and is aimed at improving coordination, communication, and understanding among agencies responsible for issuing warnings and information during emergencies.

Haley Anderson, Project Development Officer at the Caribbean Meteorological Organization and Kerri Cox, Communication Strategist, Nudge and Narrative and CMO Consultant were the facilitators of the workshop. Anderson, explained that the exercise builds on a regional workshop held earlier this year in Trinidad.

“We are trying to assist the authorities here in the TCI to strengthen their understanding of each other’s roles and responsibilities in early warnings, but also to help them improve the coordination and communication processes that they would be utilizing,” Anderson said.

He noted that the exercise stemmed from a January regional workshop that brought together representatives from meteorology, disaster management, and the media from across the Caribbean to discuss similar



Haley Anderson, Project Development Officer at the Caribbean Meteorological Organization.

issues at a broader level. According to Anderson, the in-country exercise was organized following a request from Dr. Holly Hamilton, Director of Meteorology at the Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority.

“The CMO decided that it would be a good idea to support the TCI to have a similar type of activity in-country in a face-to-face manner,” Anderson further noted said. He described the discussions and participation throughout the exercise as highly productive.

“It has been truly insightful. The participants have been very active. The discussions have been very fruitful,” He said. “We’ve identified

a lot of opportunities for improvement. We’ve come up with several recommendations on how to address some of the communica-

tions bottlenecks and choke points that exist.”

One of the next steps will involve developing emergency message templates that can be used during urgent situations when time is limited, helping agencies communicate more effectively and efficiently.

Looking ahead, Anderson said the goal is to ensure the Turks and Caicos Islands can provide timely and effective warnings to residents despite limited resources.

“We want to enable them and also for them to serve as an example to other countries in the Caribbean that in spite of size, in spite of resources, they are able to deliver effective warnings to their population that reach even the most vulnerable populations, that reach the last mile of communications,” He said.

Anderson emphasized the importance of strengthening warning systems in a country highly vulnerable to tropical cyclones, tropical storms, hurricanes, and other natural hazards affecting the Caribbean region.



Kerri Cox, Communication Strategist, Nudge and Narrative and CMO Consultant

The Cost of Unprotected Culture

“Where are the local artists?”, This question is not simply about visibility. It’s about structure and law. And more precisely, it is about whether Turks and Caicos has fully come to terms with what it means to exist within the global framework of intellectual property while still failing to execute it locally. The absence of local artists in major developments is not an accident of taste. It is the predictable outcome of a system that recognizes rights in theory but struggles to enforce them in practice.

When culture is reduced to atmosphere, the people who produce it are reduced to suppliers as with the business license structure and how cultural creators are categorized as retail entities which further support this framework. Their work becomes interchangeable with references and motifs. Their intellectual property becomes negotiable.

At the centre of this is the Berne Convention (1886) for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.

Protection..But, Not Really

On paper, Turks and Caicos benefits from international copyright protections through its constitutional relationship with the UK. The Berne Convention guarantees that creators (authors, musicians, painters, photographers, sculptors, filmmakers etc). automatically own rights to their work without formal registration, that sounds modern.

But the reality is; the only operative copyright framework materially available to artists in Turks and Caicos remains the Copyright Act 1911. A law written for a different century, drafted before digital reproduction and predates the very economy that uses art as a commercial asset. So while the convention exists as an international standard, the local mechanism through which an artist must assert and defend their rights is effectively anchored in the 1911 act, while the Berne convention was revised in 1971.

Regional Contrast

Countries such as Bermuda and The Bahamas have moved beyond inherited frameworks and enacted modern copyright legislation that gives real effect to the Berne Convention within their domestic systems. They have updated copyright laws aligned with contemporary use, enacted clearer enforcement pathways, provided legal recognition of digital and commercial reproduction and have systems that better position artists within the economic structure.

In other words, they have translated the Convention from principle into

practice.

The Berne Convention

The Berne Convention establishes three core principles:

- automatic protection
- national treatment
- minimum standards for rights

But none of these principles enforce themselves. They require local systems to give them force, what exists is not a functioning copyright ecosystem. It is a legal inheritance.

There is:

- no modern, locally tailored copyright regime
- no structured licensing or royalty collection systems
- limited institutional pathways for enforcement
- and a heavy reliance on outdated legal provisions to address contemporary commercial use

In this context, the Convention becomes theoretical; while artists are left to operate within a system that has not caught up.

A Cultural Economy Being Built on Outdated Law

Turks and Caicos is not lacking in the arts. It is lacking in legal infrastructure that treats art as an economic asset in real time. The reliance on the 1911 Copyright Act produces a specific set of conditions:

- reproduction rights are often misunderstood or ignored
- commercial use of artwork in marketing exists in a grey zone until challenged
- enforcement becomes expensive, slow, and reactive
- artists must carry the burden of asserting rights that should already be structurally protected

So when developments ask for culture, what they are often engaging with is not a regulated market, but an unsecured one.

Tourism, Aesthetics, and Unregulated Value

The Turks and Caicos Islands sells an image of place. That image is not just beaches and water. It is culture, even if some persons may not agree, it is identity and visual language.

Arts sit inside this concept with a contradiction: culture is used to increase property value, brand identity, and global appeal. Yet the legal system governing that culture remains outdated and under-enforced. This creates an environment where art can be absorbed into commercial projects without clear frameworks, artists are treated as aesthetic contributors rather than rights holders and value flows outward without structured returns.

Not because the Berne



(Below: 1 Brass Manilla, artwork from the Tears of the Trouvadore series)

Convention allows it, but because the local system fails to prevent it.

The Berne Convention assumes a baseline: that authorship will be respected. But in jurisdictions where: legal literacy is uneven, enforcement mechanisms are weak and power imbalances are significant, that assumption collapses. What remains is a gap between what the law says could be possible (by extension as a UK territory) and what artists can realistically enforce. That gap is filled by the continued reliance on a 1911 statute to manage 21st-century commercial realities.

Artists' Rights

The conversation cannot stop at inclusion. It must move to ownership and enforcement. If Turks and Caicos is serious and wishes to further expand its economic sectors via the creative economy; its reliance on the Copyright Act 1911 is no longer sufficient. A modern legal framework is required to address digital use, marketing reproduction, and commercial exploitation of work.

1. Institutional Development

Systems must exist to support licensing, rights management, and dispute resolution that are accessible to local artists.

2. Developer Responsibility

Cultural due diligence must become

standard practice. Intellectual property cannot remain an afterthought in projects that rely on cultural branding.

3. Repositioning the Artist

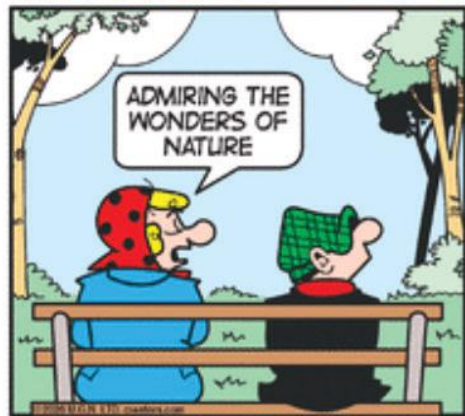
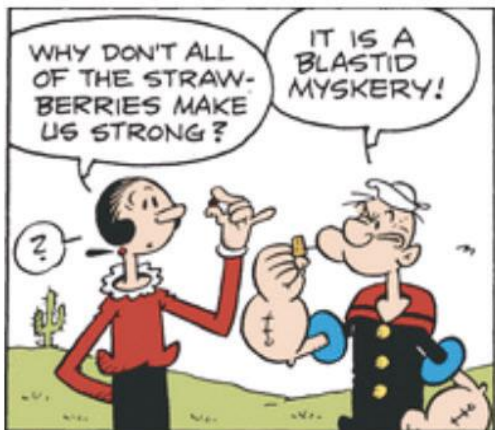
Artists must be recognised not as optional additions, but as rights holders whose work carries enforceable economic value.

To support local culture is not to decorate with it. It is to protect it, regulate it, and ensure that those who produce it participate in the value it generates. Right now, Turks and Caicos exists in a contradiction that anchors it to a 1911 legal framework without significant revision. Until that is resolved, the system will continue to produce the same outcome and so the question is no longer just: “Where are the local artists?” but;

“What legal system has been built for artists to stand on?”

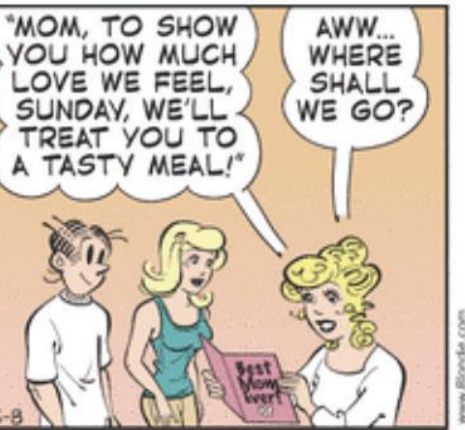
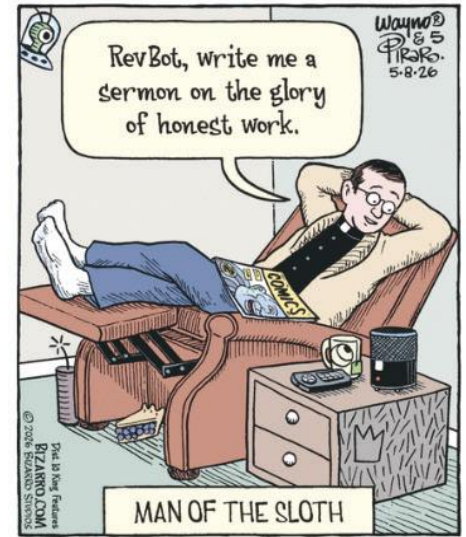
Because without that system, the Berne Convention remains what it currently is in Turks and Caicos: A principle without power.

Turks and Caicos Islands’ artist Hezron Henry’s work is an exploration of this concept, via his practice. His body of work consists of oil stick, oil pastel and acrylic on paper, canvas, and digital painting, adapting both traditional and modern painting mediums to his signature style.

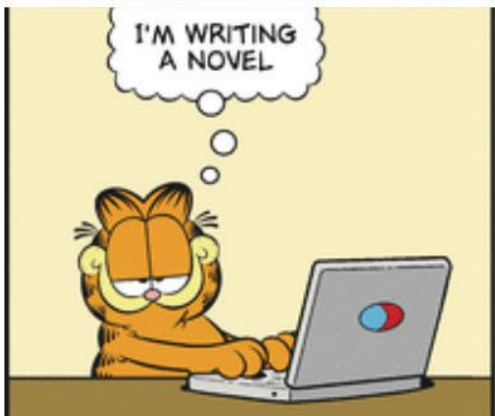


NEWSLINE TCI COMICS

My SUPERPOWER is CHOOSING THE SLOWEST MOVING LINE IN THE GROCERY STORE.



"The olive branch represents land, but it's also the garnish in my bloody Mary from a sweet little dive I discovered."



"YOU USED TO LICK STAMPS, DAD. WHAT KIND OF FLAVORS DID THEY HAVE?"

NEWSLINE
Heritage

References

BirdLife International. (n.d.).
Phoenicopterus ruber (American
Flamingo) species factsheet.

Retrieved from
<https://www.birdlife.org>

Department of Environment and
Coastal Resources (DECR), Turks
and Caicos Islands Government.

(n.d.). Wildlife and protected
areas of the Turks and Caicos
Islands. Retrieved from

<https://www.gov.tc/decr>

National Trust of the Turks and
Caicos Islands. (2018). Cultural
Heritage of the Turks and Caicos
Islands. Turks and Caicos

National Trust. Retrieved from
[https://turksandcaicosnationaltr
ust.com](https://turksandcaicosnationaltrust.com)

Turks and Caicos Islands
Government. (n.d.). Environment
and natural resources of the
Turks and Caicos Islands.

Retrieved from

<https://www.gov.tc>

PINK Flamingo

NEWSLINE
Heritage



The Pink Flamingo is one of the most striking bird species found in the Turks and Caicos Islands. With its bright pink feathers, long legs, and distinctive curved bill, the flamingo is closely associated with the islands' wetlands, salt ponds, and shallow coastal lagoons. Historically, flamingos were found in large numbers across the Turks and Caicos Islands, particularly on North Caicos, Middle Caicos, and Grand Turk. These birds depend on quiet, shallow waters where they feed on small crustaceans, algae, and microscopic organisms that give their feathers their well-known pink colour.

During the early twentieth century, flamingo populations across the region declined due to hunting and disturbance of nesting grounds. As awareness of wildlife conservation grew, protective measures were introduced to safeguard flamingos and their habitats. Wetlands and coastal lagoons in parts of the Turks and Caicos Islands were later included within national parks and protected areas, helping to preserve important feeding and resting sites for the birds.

Today, flamingos remain an important part of the natural environment of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Their presence in salt ponds and wetlands reflects the ecological richness of the islands and highlights the importance of protecting fragile coastal habitats for future generations.



A photo shows the before and after land-clearance on a second in Providenciales.



An ISU representative serves notice at a house constructed illegally

ISU Demolishes Over 830 Illegal Structures Since 2023, Strengthens Enforcement and Data Systems

The Informal Settlements Unit (ISU) says it has demolished more than 830 illegal structures since its establishment in 2023, reflecting intensified enforcement efforts to address the spread of informal settlements across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

According to the Unit, 495 of those structures were removed in 2025 alone, as part of a coordinated effort with government agencies to contain and reduce unauthorised development. These actions have also led to the reclamation of approximately 44.6 acres of land.

The figures were revealed in the ISU's 2025 Annual Report, which highlights significant progress in strengthening enforcement, improving data collection, and expanding the Unit's operational capacity to better respond to informal settlement activity nationwide.

The report notes that the ISU is now better positioned to implement a more targeted and coordinated national response, supported by improved mapping, socio-economic data gathering, and inter-agency collaboration. A major component of this



A rendering of a formal housing solution complex

progress has been the expansion of the Social Needs Assessment Survey, aimed at understanding the living conditions and needs of residents in informal communities. By the end of 2025, data collection had been completed in 12 sites, with work ongoing in an additional

15 locations. In tandem, the Unit has advanced its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping programme, completing the first full cycle across all 51 identified informal settlement sites in the country. The mapping exercise identified a total of 6,065

structures, establishing a critical baseline for planning and enforcement. A second round of mapping is already underway, with 30 sites remapped for ongoing monitoring.

Beyond enforcement, the ISU has also been laying the groundwork for long-term solutions, including housing development planning, infrastructure regularisation, and draft legislative frameworks to support land tenure reform.

Community engagement remained a key pillar of the Unit's work throughout the year. Initiatives such as the ISU Youth Outreach Programme and Community Caravans in areas including Providenciales and Grand Turk helped raise awareness and strengthen relationships with residents. The Unit also hosted its first Holiday Cheer Caravan, distributing gifts to children in several communities.

The ISU said the progress outlined in the report represents a critical phase in its development, positioning the Unit to transition toward more evidence-based and sustainable interventions as it continues its work into 2026.

Life Line 

FEATURED CHURCH

The Church of St. Monica

This week on Newsline Featured Church, we turn the spotlight on The Church of St. Monica Anglican, located at 1307 Leeward Highway in Providenciales.

The weekly activities are: Sundays – 7a.m. Holy Eucharist; 9a.m. – Holy Eucharist with Sunday School; Monday – 6:30a.m. ACW (2ND and 4th Monday); Tuesday – 9.m. ACM (1st and 3rd Tuesday); Wednesday – 12:30p.m. Holy Eucharist; Fridays – 7p.m. CYM; Saturdays – 11a.m. Acolyte Practice.

The Mission of the church: “We are committed to spreading the good news of the Gospel, transforming lives through prayer, teaching and outreach, spreading the truth in love and unity and honouring God with our lives.” The Vision: “We are determined to be a Growing, Giving and Godly community of Faith and Love.”



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.tc>.

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

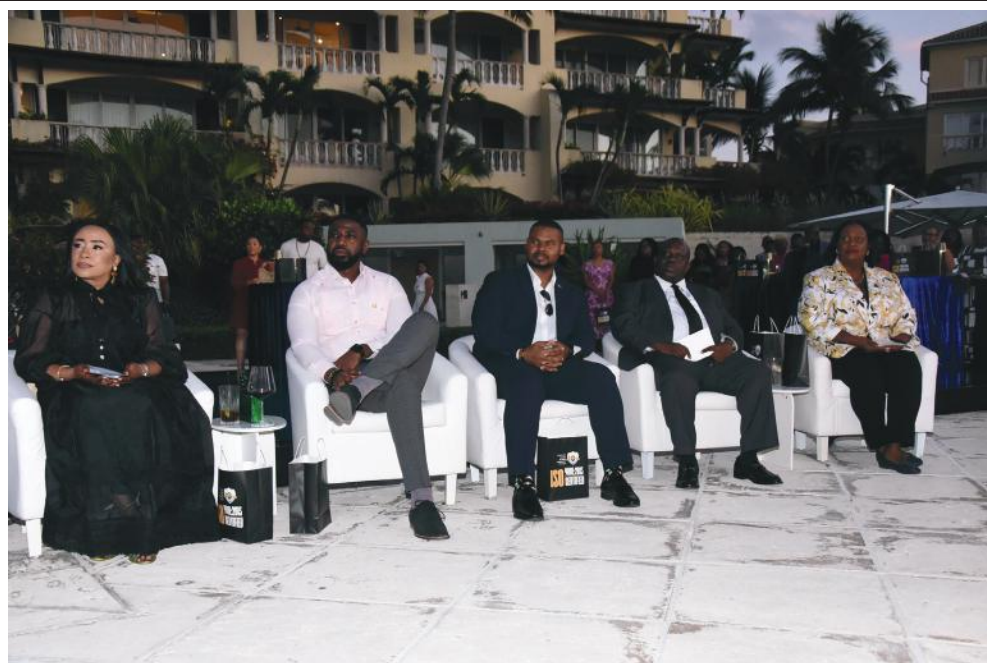
United Pentecostal Church,

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



TCICC ATTAINS ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATION

The Turks and Caicos Islands Community College, on Thursday, April 30, celebrated the achievement of ISO 9001:2015, with a ceremony and presentation at the Krave Restaurant at the Grace Bay Resort. ISO 9001:2015 is an international standard for Quality Management Systems (QMS) published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). ISO 9001:2015 sets out the requirements an organization must follow to ensure that it consistently provides products or services that meet customer and regulatory requirements, enhances customer satisfaction, and continuously improves its processes. The "2015" refers to the year of the latest revision of the standard. The following are highlights of the event.





FIVE FOODS THAT SUPPORT INFLAMMATION REDUCTION

And why consistency matters more than perfection

By *Monica Uttamchandani*
Holistic Health Coach, Turks and Caicos

Inflammation is influenced by what you eat regularly, not what you eat occasionally. While no single food can “cure” inflammation, certain foods support the body’s ability to regulate it.

Here are five that consistently show up in anti-inflammatory nutrition patterns.

Fatty fish

Salmon, sardines, and mackerel provide omega-3 fats that help reduce inflammatory signalling and support cardiovascular health.

Cooked leafy greens

Spinach, kale, and Swiss chard

supply magnesium, antioxidants, and fibre. Cooking them makes nutrients easier to absorb and gentler on digestion.

Berries

Blueberries, strawberries, and raspberries are rich in polyphenols that support cellular repair and reduce oxidative stress.

Olive oil

Extra virgin olive oil contains compounds that support inflammation regulation when used regularly in meals.

Fermented foods

Yogurt, kefir, sauerkraut, and kimchi support gut bacteria, which directly influences immune and inflammatory responses.

These foods work best when paired with stable blood sugar, adequate protein, and proper digestion. Adding them occasionally helps. Eating them consistently changes how the body responds over time. Inflammation is shaped by patterns.

The body responds to what you do most often, not what you do perfectly. For more grounded nutrition guidance and inflammation support, follow @balancedbymonica on Instagram.

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



Understanding Probation: What it is and How it Works

Probation is a key component of the criminal justice system, though it is often misunderstood. Rather than being solely punitive, probation is a structured, court-ordered measure that combines supervision, accountability, and opportunities for personal development.

It allows individuals who have been convicted of an offence to remain in the community under specific conditions, instead of serving a prison sentence. This approach supports public safety while providing individuals with the opportunity to address behaviours that contributed to their offending.

The conditions of probation are determined by the Court and tailored to the individual. These may include regular reporting to a probation officer, participation in counselling, engagement in educational or vocational programmes, completion of community service, or submission to random drug testing. As each case is unique, probation orders are designed to reflect the specific circumstances and requirements of the individual.

To inform this process, proba-

tion officers utilise structured assessment tools such as the Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI). This evidence-based tool, which officers are formally trained to administer, assesses the likelihood of reoffending and identifies key criminogenic needs. The results guide the development of targeted supervision strategies and interventions, ensuring that support is both appropriate and effective.

The role of the probation officer is central to the success of the process. In addition to monitoring compliance with court-ordered conditions, probation officers provide guidance and oversight, working with individuals to address issues such as substance use, anger management, and poor decision-making, just to name a few. They also assist in setting realistic goals and tracking progress over time.

Importantly, probation is not limited to enforcement. It is a structured process that supports individuals in making meaningful changes while remaining connected to their



families, employment, and communities. When effectively implemented, it contributes to reduced reoffending and safer communities.

Ultimately, probation reflects a balanced approach within the justice system; one that holds individuals accountable while recognising their capacity for

change.

To learn more about the Department of Rehabilitation and Community Supervision, visit www.drccs.tc.

Submitted by
Drexanna Seymour,
Probation and Parole Officer
Department of Rehabilitation
and Community Supervision



CIBC Caribbean Strengthens Business Connections Through Private Banking Networking Event

CIBC Caribbean recently brought together real estate professionals and key business leaders for an evening of meaningful connections, collaboration, and insight into tailored financial solutions. The event, hosted by the bank's Private Wealth team, was aimed at demonstrating its continued commitment to supporting business growth by creating opportunities for professionals across sectors to engage, share insights, and build strategic relationships. Attendees emphasized the importance of such initiatives in strengthening the local business community and fostering greater collaboration. "Events like this are incredibly valuable," one real estate professional shared. "They create opportunities to network with professionals across different sectors. It's the kind of engagement we need more of." The event also reinforced the bank's role as a connector within the business community, facilitating collaboration across industries and contributing to economic development in the Turks and Caicos Islands.



A notable business owner highlighted the critical role of person-

alized banking in driving efficiency and maintaining strong client

relationships. "At this level, banking is about relationships as much as it is about transactions. Having that direct access and responsiveness gives us the confidence to move quickly and maintain strong, trusted client relationships." Chief Commercial Officer Pim van der Burg highlighted that CIBC Caribbean's Private Banking services are designed to provide a personalized experience, offering clients dedicated support, tailored financial solutions, and seamless access to banking services. "We place our clients at the centre of everything we do, delivering personalized and exceptional service at every touchpoint," said Janae Rolle, Private Banking Representative at CIBC Caribbean. "Our goal is to build strong, lasting relationships while providing the responsiveness and support our clients expect." CIBC Caribbean continues to engage key sectors through strategic initiatives and client-focused experiences that prioritize convenience, trust, and long-term partnership.



The delegates to the Commonwealth Summit share lens

TCI's Zaria Ingham Wins Youth Impact Award at 2026 Commonwealth Youth Development Summit

Turks and Caicos Islands' youth leader, Ms. Zaria Ingham, has recently been recognised on the international stage upon receiving the 'Youth Impact Award' at the 2026 Commonwealth Youth Development Summit, held from April 9-11, under the theme "From Commitment to Impact: Working for a Resilient Commonwealth."

The three-day summit brought together over 150 delegates from more than 50 countries, providing a platform for young leaders, policymakers, and development partners to actively engage in critical dialogue on advancing youth development across the Commonwealth of Nations. Key discussions focused on strengthening advocacy efforts and delivering actionable policy recommendations in crucial areas impacting young people, including the economy, the environment, and democratic resilience, ahead of the 2026 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda.

Ingham's award recognises her outstanding contributions to advancing youth development at both national and in-



Zaria Ingham collecting her prize at the Commonwealth Youth Summit

ternational levels. Her work spans a wide range of advocacy initiatives, including engagement with organisations such as UNICEF, the Commonwealth Youth Parliament, the CARICOM Youth Ambassador Programme, as well as collaboration with global non-governmental organisations. Her decade-long advocacy has spanned a variety of key issues impacting young people, including climate change, mental health, education, women's empowerment, and civic engagement.

As the sole delegate representing the Turks and Caicos

Islands, Ingham championed and amplified young people's perspectives, ensuring that local priorities and lived experiences were reflected in wider Commonwealth discussions. Her contributions formed part of broader youth-led recommendations aimed at strengthening democratic resilience and inclusion across member states.

Reflecting on both the recognition and a growing global consensus, Ingham emphasised the need to move beyond dialogue to tangible outcomes, noting that while youth voices are increasingly included

in global conversations, lasting impact depends on clearly defining the path forward, strengthening intergenerational collaboration, and translating youth perspectives into policy and action across local institutions.

Her participation and recognition at the summit not only highlight individual achievement but also signal the growing presence of Turks and Caicos Islands youth in global policy spaces, reinforcing the importance of continued investment in youth engagement and leadership at the national level.



TCI's Zaria Ingham participates in the Commonwealth Youth Summit

Young Environmental Scientist Represents TCI at Global Sustainable Summit in Spain

Environmental scientist and sustainability leader, Oshin Whyte represented the Turks and Caicos Islands as a speaker at the Global Sustainable Islands Summit 2026 in Gran Canaria, Spain from April 20-22, 2026.

She joined global leaders, policymakers, and innovators advancing climate resilience and sustainable development across Small Island Developing States. As a speaker at the Summit, Whyte contributed to discussions on accelerating the energy transition in island nations, highlighting the persistent gap between ambition and implementation. She emphasised that global sustainability commitments must translate into tangible, local action.

“For many small islands, the challenge is not a lack of ambition, but translating that ambition into practical, achievable steps,” she said. “We have to ask what these commitments actually look like on the ground, for our communities, our coastlines, and our economies.”

Whyte participated in a high-level session convened by the Blue Planet Alliance, alongside partners including Peace Boat US and the Rocky Mountain Institute, where island representatives examined both the barriers and opportunities shaping renewable energy transitions.

Key challenges identified included outdated regulatory frameworks, limited grid infrastructure, and institutional constraints that continue to slow progress across many island states. For the Turks and Caicos Islands, discussions reinforced the need for modernised, renewable-friendly policies and more efficient permitting processes.

At the same time, the session highlighted that practical solutions are already within reach. Solar energy paired with battery storage, microgrids, and im-



BPA Global Youth Ambassador with David Gumbs from Rocky Mountain Institute



Oshin Whyte with DPS Williams

provements in energy efficiency were highlighted as scalable actions capable of delivering near-term progress.

Beyond the formal sessions, the Summit provided an important platform for strengthening regional and international partnerships. Whyte noted that collaboration among island states is essential, particularly given the shared nature of the challenges they face.

Her participation reflects the growing influence of Caribbean professionals in global sustainability discourse, particularly in shaping climate policy, financing, and implementation strategies. Also in attendance was Mrs. Lormeka Williams, Deputy Per-

manent Secretary in the Premier’s Office, highlighting the Turks and Caicos Islands Government’s engagement in international sustainability dialogue and its commitment to advancing national priorities in climate resilience and clean energy. Commenting on Ms. Whyte’s participation, Hon. Premier Charles Washington Misick stated:

“The Turks and Caicos Islands remains firmly committed to advancing sustainable development. Participation in the Global Sustainable Islands Summit ensures that our country is not only part of the global conversation but actively shaping solutions that reflect the realities of

small island states. We are proud to see Ms. Whyte contributing at this level and bringing back knowledge that will support our national development priorities.”

The insights from the Summit showed that while the barriers to energy transition in island nations are significant, they are not insurmountable. With targeted policy reform, strategic investment, and sustained collaboration, island states can move decisively from planning to implementation.

Whyte’s work spans marine conservation, environmental policy, and climate resilience across the Caribbean. She is the founder of Gaia Environmental, a consultancy delivering science-led solutions that bridge conservation and development. She also serves as the Blue Planet Alliance Global Youth Ambassador for the Turks and Caicos Islands, and a former Peace Boat Youth for the SDGs scholar.

The Blue Planet Alliance is a global non-profit organisation working to support islands and nations in transitioning to 100% renewable energy. It brings together governments, utilities, and partners to provide technical support, policy guidance, and capacity building to accelerate clean energy solutions.

-Contributed



Oshin speaking as a panelist

6 steps to a flat stomach

SUZANNE HILL

WE all want it, really badly, but for many women, getting a flat stomach is as unreachable as finding gold at the end of a rainbow. We'll diet, exercise, starve ourselves and pray, and at the end of the day, that pudgy, that flab, that fat, is just stubbornly sitting there, making it impossible to wear certain clothes, to be confident, and to just feel good about ourselves.

But while you may be trying, fitness trainer Lennox Richards said chances are, your mistake is as simple as eating the wrong things, and at the wrong time. In fact, he said, there are specific foods that can guarantee a flat stomach, and others that will just bloat you up.

"Incorporating a healthy diet

into your routine can contribute to overall weight management and potentially help reduce bloating," he said.

Here are some foods he suggests to include in your diet, that will have your tummy flat in no time.

Fibre-rich foods

Include plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and legumes in your meals. These can help you feel full, support digestion, and prevent constipation.

Lean proteins

Opt for lean sources of protein like poultry, fish, tofu or beans. Protein can help with satiety and support muscle development.

Healthy fats

Include sources of healthy fats such as avocados, nuts, seeds



and olive oil. These provide essential nutrients and can help you feel satisfied.

Hydration

Drink an adequate amount of water throughout the day to support digestion and prevent bloating.

Probiotic-rich foods

Incorporate foods like yoghurt, kefir and kimchi, which contain beneficial bacteria that support gut health.

Mindful eating

Pay attention to portion sizes and eat slowly. Mindful eating can help prevent overeating and promote better digestion.

"Remember, achieving a flat stomach involves a combination of factors, including overall body composition, exercise and a balanced diet," Richards said. "It's important to focus on overall health and well-being rather than solely on appearance."

Strategies to deal with anxiety

LICHELE PALMER

NOT many people understand how debilitating having anxiety can be, especially when it's written off as a woman just being moody, having issues with PMS, or just being unable to cope with her emotions. And so for a long time many women have dealt with this issue in silence, continually being anxious, unsettled and unhappy, for however long the period of anxiety lasts.

What has been good about this new culture of sharing everything, opening up, and doing therapy, is that more people are coming forward to describe their experience with issues like anxiety, which are not necessarily considered serious in medical circles. And the suggestions for improving one's life have been many — from therapy to medication, a solution is available.

Atlanta-based mental health

counsellor Angela Dacres said dealing with anxiety can be challenging, but there are strategies that can help. Here are some tips she noted, specifically for women:

Self-care

Prioritise self-care activities like exercise, healthy eating, adequate sleep and relaxation techniques such as deep breathing or meditation.

Support network

Build a strong support network of friends, family, or support groups. Sharing your feelings and experiences with others who understand can provide comfort and reassurance.

Time management

Organise your schedule and prioritise tasks. Breaking larger tasks into smaller, manageable steps can reduce feelings of overwhelm and anxiety.

Boundaries

Set clear boundaries in your



personal and professional life. Learn to say no to additional commitments when you're feeling overwhelmed.

Mindfulness techniques

Practice mindfulness to stay present and focus on the present moment. Techniques like grounding exercises or keeping a gratitude journal can help redirect your thoughts.

Seek professional help

If anxiety persists or becomes unmanageable, consider seeking help from a mental health professional. They can provide guidance, therapy, or medication if necessary.

Everyone's experience with anxiety is unique, so it's essential to find coping strategies that work best for you, Dacres said.

Rugby Player Trevor Watkins is the 2026 TCI TOP Model Winner

Trevor Watkins has been crowned TCI Top Model 2026, delivering a commanding, multi-award-winning performance at the Grand Finale of Cycle 7 held at Brayton Hall in Providenciales over the weekend.

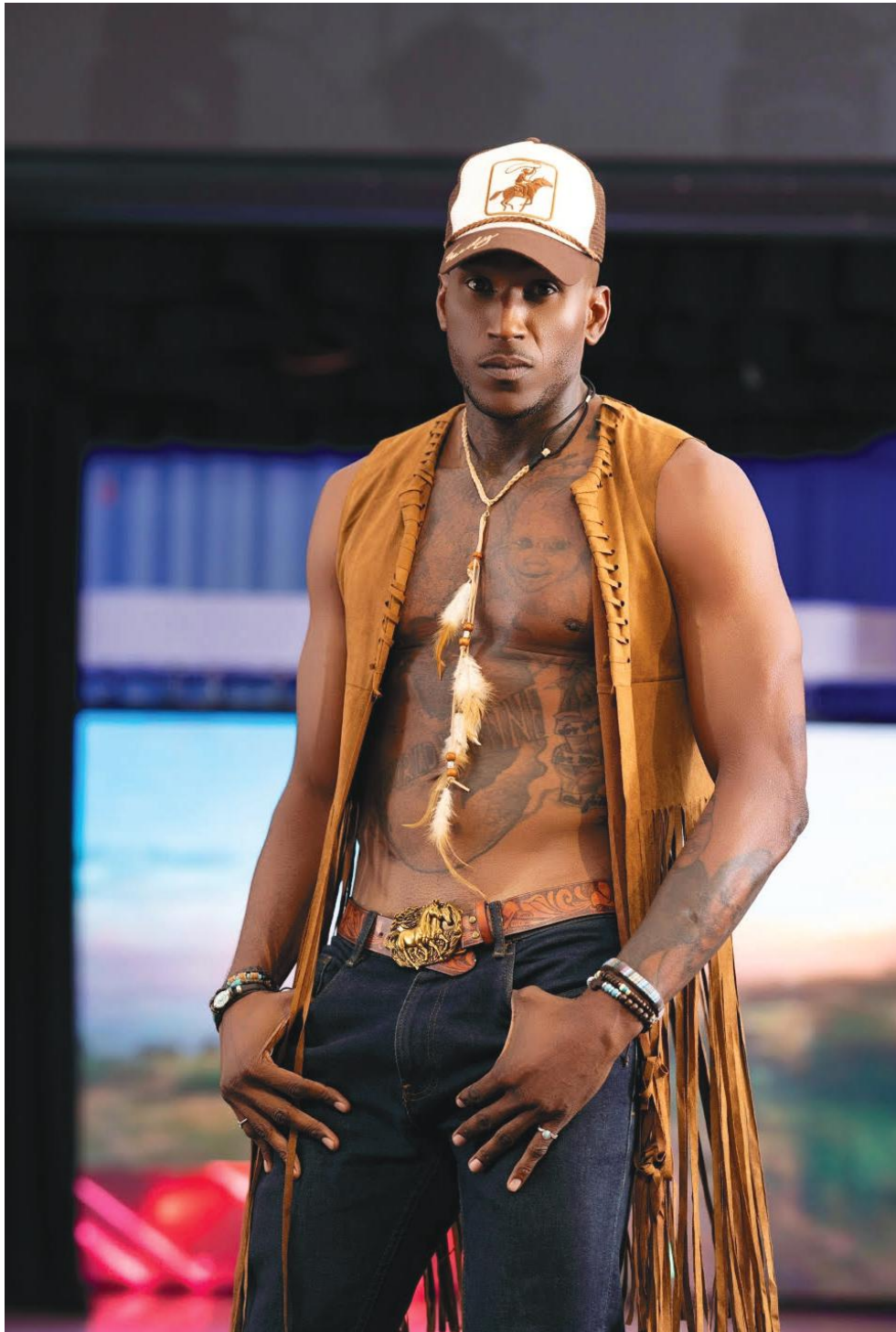
The Grand Turk native and professional rugby player dominated the competition, sweeping four major sectional titles—Industry Readiness, Model's Portfolio, Best Body, and Best Runway Walk—to secure the top honor. Standing at 6'4", Watkins brought a magnetic presence to the stage, captivating both judges and audience with a blend of athletic discipline, island pride, and refined poise. His transition from sport to high fashion challenged expectations, positioning him as a standout ambassador for Turks and Caicos on and off the runway.

Cycle 7 delivered a high-caliber production featuring four signature runway segments: Glitter (Impact Appeal), Boots on the Ground (Runway Walk), the return of the Le Bead Aime Jewelry Swimsuit Competition (Best Body), and Turks Island Dandy (Fashion Forward). Each segment showcased cutting-edge design, meticulous styling, and dynamic choreography, reinforcing the show's reputation for innovation.

The audience complemented the spectacle, arriving in striking fashion and contributing to an electric atmosphere that celebrated creativity and culture.

"Competing in TCI Top Model has been a powerful journey of transformation and purpose," Watkins said following his win. "Moving from the rugby pitch to the runway taught me to translate discipline into poise, teamwork into presence, and resilience into creative confidence. I felt the islands behind me—my family, my coaches, and the reefs I learnt to protect—guiding every step."

He added that the platform has strengthened his commitment to youth empowerment, environ-



Trevor Watkins not only took the TCI 2026 Top Model Competition, but also won a majority of the sectional prizes

mental stewardship, and authentic representation of Turks and Caicos. "Winning these coveted prizes affirmed that strength and style can coexist with humility and service," he said.

Watkins' background extends beyond sport into maritime work with Oasis Divers and service at the Fisheries Department, experiences that have shaped his advocacy for conservation and community development. Skilled in vessel handling, diving, and rescue, he also channels his creativity into music and mindful living.

Donnell Williams secured First

Runner-Up honors, also winning the Fashion Forward and Mainstream Media awards, while Alecia Higgs was named Second Runner-Up and earned the Broadcast Presence Award. Shedly Constant took home the Fan Favourite Challenge title.

The evening was hosted by Super P the Entertainer, with commentary from TCI Top Model alum Brittney Bien Amie. Performances by Aaliya Delva and Corey Stubbs added energy to the showcase, while reigning Top Model 2025 Shakem Charles and First Runner-Up Hu Prospere presented awards. Organizers

also emphasized inclusivity, featuring legacy, plus-sized, and mature models.

Founder and Executive Producer Courtney Robinson praised the production and its broader mission.

"TCI Top Model is far more than a fashion contest; it is an educational laboratory where structured training, mentorship, and disciplined practice unlock potential and amplify voices," Robinson said. "Tonight proves that through education, hard work, and high expectations, our islands can cultivate world-class storytellers, leaders, and creative professionals."

This year's production raised the bar with a visually immersive experience, highlighted by a state-of-the-art LED wall displaying dynamic storytelling elements, including contestant journeys, program milestones, and behind-the-scenes footage. The combination of narrative depth and visual spectacle left audiences impressed—and already anticipating what's next in 2027.

Winners:

The TCI Top Model Contest continues to serve as a platform for aspiring talent in the Turks and Caicos Islands, offering opportunities for growth, exposure, and entry into the fashion and creative industries locally and internationally.



Trevor Watkins not only took the TCI 2026 Top Model Competition, but also won a majority of the sectional prizes

Peaches showcases versatility on new single 'Meaning', advises Caribbean women to be true to themselves

For years, female recording artists have experienced limited recording opportunities, whether to have their voices heard or to showcase their musical capabilities.

Jamaican recording artiste Peaches, who started her own record label Adaba Entertainment, says she enjoys the freedom of putting out her own music.

Her latest effort is Meaning, a song inspired by personal experiences.

"There was a time when I felt low and I lost focus. I almost lost myself trying to change who I am for social circles and to fit in. I wasn't happy, and so this song is a personal message to women of the Caribbean, to just focus, be yourself and don't fall under the pressure of changing who you are to please a label or the crowd if you're not comfortable," Peaches

disclosed in a media release.

Unlike her previous releases, Meaning showcases sultriness with lyrical storytelling, all combining a syrupy delivery which pulls in the listener.

"I'm just showcasing my versatility," she says. "I love all genres of music, but I've been told to find a niche and stick to it, but I'm not comfortable with being in a box. Last year, I had to step back and be grateful. Sometimes greed will make you blind to the fact that your blessed or that you have everything you've ever wanted."

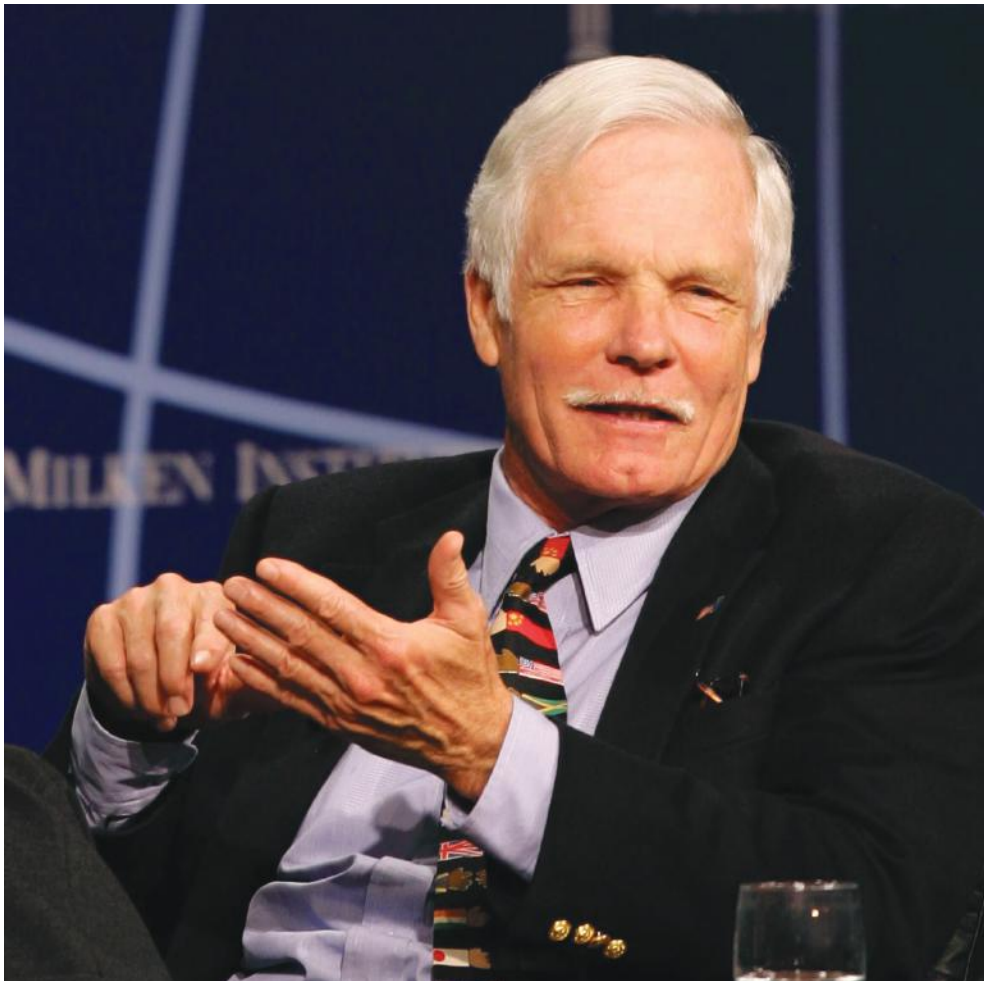
She is pleased with the response to Meaning, a song which she has high hopes for.

"The feedback has been great; fans have been asking me for more because I took a break but I'm cooking up something special for them. The official video will be released on May 14," said Peach-



es. Follow Peaches on Instagram: @

peachesadaba or visit her website at www.peachesadaba.com



Ted Turner, a brash television pioneer who raced yachts, owned huge chunks of the American West and transformed the news business by launching CNN and introducing

the 24-hour cable news cycle, died Wednesday. He was 87.

Turner died surrounded by his family, according to Turner Enterprises, the company that oversees his vast busi-

CNN founder Ted Turner dies at age 87

ness interests.

Turner owned professional sports teams in Atlanta, defended the America's Cup in yachting in 1977 and donated a stunning \$1 billion to United Nations charities. He married three women — most famously actor Jane Fonda — and earned the nicknames "Captain Outrageous" and "The Mouth of the South."

He once bragged: "If only I had a little humility, I'd be perfect."

He was slowed in later years by Lewy body dementia. Long out of the television business, he concentrated on philanthropy.

His garrulous personality sometimes overshadowed a risk-taking business acumen. By the time he sold his Turner Broadcasting System to Time Warner Inc. in 1996, Turner had turned his late father's billboard company into a global conglomerate that included seven major cable networks, three professional sports teams and a pair of hit movie studios.

President Donald Trump, reacting to

Turner's death, called him "one of the Greats of All Time."

The creation of CNN

Turner's signature achievement was creating the Cable News Network, the first 24-hour, all-news television network in 1980. In part, Turner's own frustration with television news was the instigator. He often worked past 8 p.m., after the ABC, CBS and NBC nightly newscasts had already gone off the air.

He took a chance by starting the operation in the early days of cable television, living in an apartment above its Atlanta office.

CNN's breakthrough moment came during the Gulf War with Iraq in 1991. Most television journalists had fled Baghdad but CNN stayed, capturing arresting images of a war's outbreak. Turner was promised a continued role in CNN after his company's sale to Time Warner but was gradually pushed out, much to his regret.

"The mistake I made was losing control of the company," he later said.

DDME Hosts Successful Road Safety Safe School Training

The Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME), recently coordinated a four-day 'Safe School' training programme in Providenciales, bringing together key stakeholders in the education and law enforcement sectors.

The training was facilitated by Mr. Bernez Khodra, Resilience Specialist, currently serving as Lead Consultant of KHODRA's Advisory Group. Mr. Khodra is also the former senior programme officer for Safe Schools at the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) under the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) project; and School Safety Officer for the Ministry of Education in Saint Lucia.

A total of twenty-two (22) participants successfully completed the programme. The cohort represented the Department of Special Educational Needs Services, the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force and public and private schools in the Turks and Caicos Islands. The training provided a focused opportunity to examine current school safety practices, challenge existing approaches and refresh participants understanding of core disaster risk and emergency management principles to keep schools safe.

The final day of the training culminated in a full-scale simulation exercise based on an earthquake scenario that triggered a fire emergency at 'The A. Louise Garland Thomas High School'. Designed to mirror real-life conditions as



closely as possible, the drill engaged students, faculty members and programme participants in a coordinated emergency response. This exercise reinforced the practical application of strategies covered throughout the training, as well as knowledge and guidance that DDME delivered to the students over the course of the school year. Students were also assessed on their understanding and execution of procedures presented during these sessions, demonstrating their ability to respond effectively and follow safety protocols in an emergency.

Full-scale exercises of this nature are critical to strengthening school safety systems, as they move beyond theory to test readiness in real time.

The simulation assessed key areas including communication protocols, evacuation procedures, incident command coordination, decision-making under pressure and the safe movement and accountability of students and staff.

The exercise incorporated a multi-agency response from the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the Fire Department, and DDME; allowing for the evaluation of response times and the effectiveness of joint operations in a high-pressure environment.

Mr. Bernez Khodra, training facilitator praised the programme, stating that "Participants showed exemplary dedication throughout the

four-day programme. Their enthusiasm and collaborative spirit demonstrated that we are on the right path toward strengthening school safety and emergency preparedness nationwide."

Speaking on the significance of the training programme, Ms. Tamara Hylton, Training and Education Manager for DDME stated, "This training underscores DDME's commitment to helping to bring quality education and training programmes to build safety and resiliency across the Turks and Caicos Islands. The high level of engagement demonstrated by participants in this exercise also reflects a shared recognition that school safety is everyone's responsibility."

The 2026 'Safe School' training in Providenciales will significantly enhance disaster preparedness within the Turks and Caicos Islands national school system. DDME remains committed to supporting safer learning environments and equipping stakeholders with the skills needed to protect students, staff, and communities.



WHO warns of more hantavirus cases in 'limited' outbreak

The World Health Organization (WHO) said Thursday that more hantavirus cases could emerge after the disease killed three passengers from a cruise ship but it expected the outbreak to be limited if precautions were taken.

Another sick passenger from the MV Hondius landed in Europe earlier in the day, as the vessel headed to the Spanish Canary Islands and health officials scrambled to map the outbreak of the potentially deadly human-to-human strain.

The fate of the Hondius sparked international alarm after three people travelling on it died, though health officials have played down fears of a wider global outbreak from the rat-borne virus, which is less contagious than COVID-19. WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told journalists in Geneva that five confirmed and three suspected cases had been reported overall, including the three deaths.

"Given the incubation period of the Andes virus, which can be up to six weeks, it's possible that more cases may be reported," he said, referring to the rare strain detected aboard the Hondius, which can be transmitted between humans.

The Leiden University Medical Centre in the Netherlands later announced another patient had tested positive.

But the WHO's Emergency Alert and Response Director Abdi Rahman Mahamud insisted: "We believe this will be a limited outbreak if the public health measures are implemented and solidarity shown across all countries."

People thought to have contracted the virus are being treated or isolating in Britain, Germany, the Netherlands, Swit-



Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (R) speaking with WHO Health Emergencies Programme executive director Chikwe Ihekweazu prior to a virtual press conference on the hantavirus cluster linked to a cruise ship travel, at the WHO headquarters, in Geneva.

zerland and South Africa.

Hantavirus is a rare respiratory disease that is usually spread from infected rodents and can cause respiratory and cardiac distress as well as haemorrhagic fevers. There are no vaccines and no known cure for it.

A passenger is thought to have contracted the virus before boarding the ship in Argentina and eventually infected others on board as it sailed across the Atlantic.

Three evacuees were whisked away from the ship on Wednesday when it anchored off Cape Verde and a fourth landed on Thursday in Amsterdam, said the vessel's operator, Nether-

lands-based Oceanwide Expeditions.

"No symptomatic individuals are present on board" the ship at the moment, as it sails toward the Spanish island of Tenerife, it said in a statement.

The ship is scheduled to arrive there on Sunday and those on board evacuated.

The ship's Dutch operator Oceanwide Expeditions said there were 149 people on the ship, including 88 passengers.

Two people who returned to the United Kingdom (UK) from the ship have been advised to self-isolate, the UK Health Security Agency said, adding they were asymptomatic and insisting the risk to the public was "very low".

Officials in Argentina said they planned

to test rodents in the coastal city of Ushuaia, from where the ship had set sail on April 1.

A Dutch man who had boarded in Ushuaia along with his wife died aboard the ship on April 11.

The man's body was taken off the ship on April 24 in Saint Helena, an island in the south Atlantic where 29 other passengers disembarked, the ship's operator said.

It said it was working to trace all passengers and crew who got on or off the ship since March 20.

Ghebreyesus said the WHO had informed 12 countries that its nationals disembarked from the cruise ship on Saint Helena.

The deceased man's wife — who left the ship to accompany his body to South Africa — died there 15 days later after also falling ill, with hantavirus confirmed as the cause on May 4.

The couple had visited Chile, Uruguay and Argentina before the cruise, Argentine officials said.

Chile's health ministry said the two passengers who died were not infected in that country as they travelled there at "a period that does not correspond to the incubation time".

The WHO says the incubation period for hantavirus can be up to six weeks.

The Dutch woman had flown on a commercial plane from the island of Saint Helena to Johannesburg while she was showing symptoms.

Officials were trying to trace people on that flight, which South African-based carrier Airlink said was carrying 82 passengers and six crew.

A German passenger died on May 2. Her body remains on the ship.

UWI recognises excellence in teaching with distinguished award ceremony

The University of the West Indies (UWI) last Thursday recognised outstanding educators during an award ceremony hosted by the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) in association with the Office of the Deputy Principal.

Among the 37 lecturers honoured was Ethnie Miller Simpson, who received the UWI Distinguished Teaching Award 2023–2025 for exceptional performance in teaching.

Miller Simpson accepted the award with humility as she reflected on remarks delivered by keynote speaker Senior Instructional Designer at the University of Central Florida, Dr Rohan Jowallah.

She said one of the concepts that resonated strongly with her was "the productive struggle of learning", which she described as an accurate reflection of the journey students undertake in earning their degrees while lecturers continuously adapt their teaching methods and content

to remain relevant and engaging.

According to Miller Simpson, educators must constantly refine their approaches to ensure lessons are transferable to real-world challenges while also anticipating changes within Jamaica, the Caribbean and the wider global landscape.

She also pointed to the growing importance of addressing "Assessment, Equity and AI: Governance in Caribbean Education", noting that one of the key challenges facing education in 2026 and beyond will be the meaningful integration of artificial intelligence into classrooms.

Miller Simpson stressed that learning must go beyond "an easy cut-and-paste experience" for both students and teachers, adding that lecturers are under increasing pressure to foster creativity and practical understanding that extend beyond examination

performance into the workplace and wider society.



Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr Heather Ricketts and Ethnie Miller Simpson, UWI Distinguished Teaching Awardee 2023 – 2025.

She further raised the question of whether the Caribbean should move towards developing and owning its own artificial intelligence systems to help shape the region's future.

The recognition of educators such as Miller Simpson comes as the University of the West Indies continues to maintain its standing among the top 3.6 per cent of universities globally.

Sandals and Beaches Women Master the Art of Hospitality Leadership

At Sandals and Beaches Resorts, leadership excellence is par for the course. This is increasingly evident as the Sandals Corporate University (SCU) continues to provide team members with extraordinary opportunities for higher education, growth and professional development.

Recently, four of the company's female leaders from properties across the Caribbean celebrated a major milestone having graduated with the 2024-2025 cohort of the Les Roches Global Hospitality Education's Executive Master's in Business Administration (EMBA) and Executive Master's in International Hotel Management (EMIHM) programmes.

Facilitated through the SCU, the programmes offered executive team members the opportunity to pursue advanced studies with Les Roches, an internationally recognised Swiss hospitality university accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

Renowned for its comprehensive hospitality curriculum, Les Roches was also recently ranked #2 in the world in Hospitality & Leisure Management by the QS World University Rankings 2026.

The graduating group included EMBA recipients: Heather Effs, regional manager, entertainment – Sandals Resorts, Jamaica, Della John, general manager at Sandals Grande St. Lucian and Melissa Stacy Giddings, regional manager, entertainment in the Eastern Caribbean.

Also graduating was Senior Wedding Manager at Sandals Royal Bahamian, Samaria Smith-Cooper who completed the EMIHM programme.

While studying for their degrees, the EMBA students were able to enhance their experience through immersive classroom learning, travelling to the Les Roches campuses in Switzerland and Dubai to participate in the institution's Residential Weeks. Both weeks, which took place at the start and toward the end of the course, provided the leaders with opportunities for in depth academic expo-

sure, training and collaboration with fellow students from around the world.

Reflecting on their experiences and their decisions to pursue higher education through the SCU, each graduate expressed long standing aspirations to further their education and earn their master's degrees and extended gratitude to the SCU for making those dreams a reality.

John, who graduated with distinction, shared that it was a proud and emotional moment when she crossed the stage to collect her certificate. She recalled that while the programme was demanding, the opportunity to deepen her knowledge of the hospitality industry on a global level made the journey a rewarding one.

"Education has always been intrinsic to who I am. I believe we must continuously learn so we can grow in this industry where we serve and lead others. This programme allowed me to sharpen my tools as a leader while gaining a broader global perspective on hospitality and tourism.

Collaborating with professionals from different countries and cultures was an incredible experience and it challenged me to think differently about the future of our industry," she remarked.

"My journey continues as I will keep sharing what I have learned to strengthen our teams and our brand every single day."

For Giddings, the opportunity to network, study with her colleagues and lean into the vastness of hospitality was all the motivation she needed to embark on her Les Roches journey.

"I thought to myself, this was my chance to learn, expand and grow with two women I highly admire and respect."

She noted that the coursework itself was not without its challenges, but she recognised the value in pushing forward to earn her degree which would inevitably allow her to take the next step in her career.

"It is an investment in yourself. I feel a profound sense of achievement and confidence and I feel prepared and excited about the

opportunities that lie ahead," she added.

Smith-Cooper shared that the EMIHM programme was the perfect opportunity to discover what she was capable of. However, between designing dream destination weddings for couples and navigating parenthood and life in general, she admitted that the undertaking was no small feat.

"One of my biggest challenges was balancing school with my everyday responsibilities at work, at home and in my personal life but this experience showed me that my capacity could grow."

Despite the demands, she credits determination, self-belief and the encouragement of a strong support system for helping her see the journey through.

"Today, I feel proud, relieved, accomplished and more confident. This programme has helped to build my skills and prepare me for new responsibilities and future opportunities."

Effs, who also earned her EMBA with distinction, regarded the experience as a transformative step in her professional journey.

"Pursuing this programme was truly a leap of faith for me. The coursework challenged me intellectually and professionally, but each module stretched me in the best way. I was constantly learning, applying and evolving."

The regional entertainment manager also encouraged other team members to take advantage of the opportunities available through SCU.

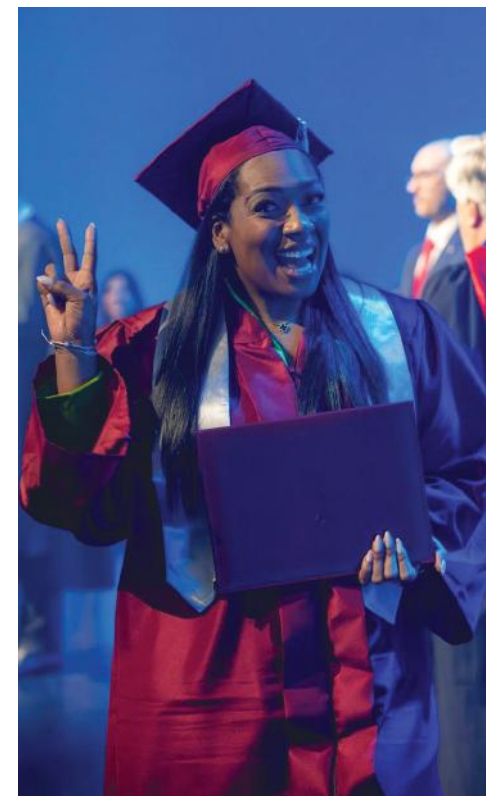
"To anyone considering taking the next step through SCU, my advice is simple: take the leap of faith. Trust yourself. Tap into your superpowers. Growth begins the moment you step outside of your comfort zone. The journey may challenge you, but it will also transform you," Effs added.

Speaking on the partnership with Les Roches, Senior Corporate Director of the SCU, Dr. Luz Longworth expressed her appreciation for the calibre of hospitality training offered by the institution.

"Les Roches' commitment to working with

the Caribbean really impressed us and we were excited to take a team to Marbella to visit their campus and explore the possibilities for collaboration. The quality of the programme strengthens the capacity of our leaders to navigate the complex and ever evolving world of hospitality and it is highly relevant to the needs of our region," she shared.

The Sandals Corporate University remains committed to empowering team members through world class training and educational opportunities. By investing in leadership development and professional advancement, SCU continues to equip its people with the tools needed to grow while helping to shape the next generation of hospitality leaders across the Caribbean.



Tourist dies after being bitten at snake show while on vacation in Egypt

A German tourist has died after being bitten by a snake during a show at the hotel where he was staying in Hurghada, Egypt.

A German tourist has died after being bitten by a snake during a show at the hotel where he was staying in Hurghada, Egypt. Khaled Desouki/AFP/Getty Images

A German tourist has died after being bitten by a snake while on vacation in Egypt, authorities have said.

The 57-year-old man, who has not been identified, had attended a snake-charmer show while on vacation with his family when he was bitten by the animal earlier this month, according to German police, who didn't release the exact date of the incident. The family-of-three from the Unterallgäu region of Germany were staying in a holiday resort in Hurghada along the Red Sea coast in Egypt, a press statement from the Bavarian Police confirmed on Monday.

During their stay, they attended the show, which was part of the entertainment program at their hotel. It involved two snakes,

believed to be cobras, which the "charmer" hung around the necks of people in the audience, police said.

But the deadly incident apparently occurred when one of the snakes managed to get inside the German tourist's clothing, according to the police statement.

"One of the snakes crawled into the trousers of a 57-year-old man, resulting in a bite to the German tourist's leg," it said. "He subsequently exhibited clear symptoms of poisoning and required resuscitation."

The man was taken to a nearby hospital, where he later died.

An investigation has been launched into the circumstances surrounding the man's death by the Memmingen Criminal Police Inspectorate and the results of a toxicological examination are pending, officials said.

According to the World Health Organization, around 81,000 to 138,000 people die globally each year from snakebites, while about three times that amount lead to amputations and other permanent disabilities.



A German tourist has died after being bitten by a snake during a show at the hotel where he was staying in Hurghada, Egypt.



EAGLES

CROWNED

PPL CHAMPS

SEE PG32 ▶

SEE PG 32

Chelsea offer £1m a year for Khadija Bunny Shaw — reports

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Jamaica's star striker Khadija "Bunny" Shaw is reportedly weighing her future amid claims that Chelsea Women have made her a £1 million-per-year offer.

According to The Athletic, the Reggae Girlz captain has received a substantial contract proposal from Chelsea, said to be worth around £1 million annually, as her current deal with Manchester City nears its expiration this summer.

Since joining Manchester City in 2021, Shaw has grown into one of the most formidable forwards in the Women's Super League (WSL), consistently delivering goals and establishing herself among the league's elite attackers.

This season, she has been particularly impressive, ranking among the top scorers and playing a key role in City's push for the WSL title. Her performances have further elevated her standing on a global stage, attracting attention not only



Khadija "Bunny" Shaw

from Chelsea but also from clubs across Europe and the United States.

Despite the lucrative offer, Shaw is reportedly currently leaning toward staying at Manchester City.

However, the club has yet to match the financial terms reportedly put forward by Chelsea.

Mexico threatens World Cup ban for no-show players

Mexico football chiefs vowed to exclude domestic club players from the country's World Cup squad if they fail to report for a pre-tournament team training camp scheduled for later Wednesday.

In a bizarre twist to Mexico's World Cup preparations, with their opening game just five weeks away, the federation said players who skipped the get-together risked being ruled out of contention for the squad.

"Per instructions from the coaching staff, any player who does not report to the training camp today will be left out of the World Cup squad," the national team stated in a press release.

The standoff emerged this week after several internationals signalled they may not be able to join the camp, which is taking place outside of FIFA's designated international window.

They include two Mexico internationals who play for Liga-MX side Toluca, who are due to face Los Angeles FC later Wednesday in the second leg of the CONCACAF Champions Cup semi-finals. The game is scheduled to kick off half an hour before the



Jacob Shaffelburg #18 of the Los Angeles Football Club controls the ball against Jesus Gallardo #20 of Toluca during the second half of the CONCACAF Champions Cup 2026 semifinals first leg at BMO Stadium on April 29, 2026 in Los Angeles, California.

formal start of Mexico coach Javier Aguirre's pre-World Cup gathering. The absence of the two Toluca players, Alexis Vega and Jesus Gallardo, has angered Liga-MX side Chivas de Guadalajara, which initially released five internationals to the national

team despite currently preparing to for a crunch playoff quarter-final this weekend.

Chivas president Amaury Vergara subsequently recalled national team players Raul Rangel, Luis Romo, Brian Gutierrez, Roberto Alvarado and

Armando Gonzalez.

Mexico coach Aguirre called up 20 players for the training camp — all of whom play in the Mexican domestic league — which is being held at the Mexican Football Federation's High Performance Center in Mexico City.

In February, the clubs agreed to release their players following the conclusion of the domestic regular season and after the first leg of the CONCACAF semi-finals.

However, according to reports in Mexico, Toluca duo Gallardo and Vega — both called up by Aguirre — trained with their club on Tuesday.

Toluca head coach Antonio Mohamed reportedly plans to field them in the second leg of the CONCACAF Champions Cup semi-finals later Wednesday.

"Agreements are valid only when all parties respect them," Guadalajara president Vergara said on X.

Mexico's training camp is taking place ahead of World Cup warm-up matches against Ghana (May 22), Australia (May 30), and Serbia (June 4).

Mexico kick off the World Cup at the Estadio Azteca on June 11 with a Group A clash against South Africa.



From left - Jordan Victiore, Sonia Fulford, Hon Rachel Taylor, and Hon Arlington Musgrove, cut the ribbon to officially open the FIFA Mini Pitch at the Adelaide Oemler Primary School in North Caicos



TCIFA Officially Opens FIFA Arena Mini Pitch at Adelaide Oemler

The Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) has marked another significant milestone in the development of football across the Islands with the official opening of the new FIFA Arena Pitch at the Adelaide Oemler Primary School in Bottle Creek, North Caicos.

The opening of the facility represents far more than the unveiling of a new playing surface. It stands as a lasting investment in youth development, community empowerment, and the continued growth of grass-roots football throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The FIFA Arena Mini Pitch was made possible through a strong and purposeful partnership among FIFA, the Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association, and the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands. This collaborative effort reflects a shared vision of using football as a vehicle for social development, education, inclusion, and opportunity.

Through the FIFA Arena programme, FIFA continues to expand access to football in communities around the world by creating safe, modern, and accessible spaces where children can play, learn, and grow. In the Turks and Caicos Islands, TCIFA has embraced that vision by working to ensure that football infrastructure reaches communities across all islands, including those where access to quality sporting facilities has historically been limited.

For TCIFA, the opening of the Bottle Creek facility is particularly meaningful. North Caicos has long been a community with strong roots, deep pride, and tremendous potential. The installation of the FIFA Arena Mini Pitch at Adelaide Oemler Primary School creates new pathways for students and young people to engage in football from an early age while giving the wider community a modern space that can serve educational, recreational, and developmental purposes. The project also highlights the critical role played by the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands in supporting sport as an important pillar of national development. While the seed of the initiative was planted through TCIFA's vision for football development, the Government's support and partnership helped to bring that vision into a tangible reality for the people of North Caicos.



Dane Ritchie, Jordan Victiore, Candia Ewing, Sonia Fulford, Hon Rachel Taylor, Hon Arlington Musgrove, Patrice Senior, Paula Galand, Malaika Church, Alvin Parker

The FIFA Arena Mini Pitch will serve as a hub for a range of football activities including school-based football programmes, grass-roots development festivals, youth training sessions, community engagement initiatives, and talent identification opportunities. The facility will also help strengthen TCIFA's long-term strategic objective of broadening participation in football, particularly among children at the primary school level. TCIFA believes that football is about far more than competition. It teaches teamwork, discipline, leadership, confidence, and resilience. Facilities such as the FIFA Arena Mini Pitch provide young people with spac-

es where those values can be developed daily, both on and off the field.

Speaking on the occasion, President Sonia Fulford noted that the opening of the pitch represents a proud moment not only for football, but for the entire North Caicos community.

"Today is a celebration of partnership, vision, and possibility. This FIFA Arena Mini Pitch stands as proof of what can be achieved when international partners, national institutions, and local communities work together with a common purpose. It is our hope that this facility will inspire generations of young people in North Caicos to

dream bigger, play harder, and believe in what is possible."

President Fulford also expressed sincere appreciation to FIFA for its continued commitment to football development throughout the Caribbean region and for supporting projects that create meaningful and lasting impact at the community level.

She further extended gratitude to the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the leadership and staff of Adelaide Oemler Primary School, community stakeholders in both North and Middle Caicos, and all individuals whose dedication and cooperation helped bring the project to completion.

JAGS McCartney Road Relay May 23

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Residents, athletes, families and community organizations across the Turks and Caicos Islands are being encouraged to come together in a powerful display of patriotism and unity during the upcoming Jags McCartney Road Relay, scheduled to take place on Friday, May 23, in Providenciales.

The highly anticipated event, which celebrates the life and legacy of National Hero Jags McCartney, is expected to attract a wide cross-section of participants from throughout the country as teams gather to compete, exercise and honor one of the nation's most influential leaders.

According to promotional information released by organizers, the road relay will begin at 5:00 a.m. with participants assembling at IGA Gourmet before making their way through the community of The Bight in what is expected to be an energetic and inspiring early morning event.

The relay is being staged under the patriotic banner "Be Patriotic! Be a Part of This Event," with organizers emphasizing that the occasion is about far more than competition. The event is



designed to unite communities while encouraging healthy lifestyles, teamwork and national pride.

Participants are invited to enter as community teams, family teams, company teams and civic groups, creating an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to become involved. Registration for the event is set at \$20.00.

Organizers are also encouraging businesses and organizations to use the relay as a team-building exercise while promoting wellness and civic engage-

ment among employees and members.

The event's slogan — "Run to Honor. Run to Inspire. Run as One" — reflects the spirit organizers hope to foster as participants move together through the streets of Providenciales in celebration of unity and national identity.

The road relay is one of the activities honoring the enduring legacy of Jags McCartney, whose leadership and dedication to the Turks and Caicos Islands helped shape the nation's political and social development. Widely re-

garded as a symbol of courage, vision and patriotism, McCartney continues to inspire generations across the islands.

Organizers say the relay also serves as an opportunity for younger generations to learn more about the contributions of the National Hero while participating in a positive and healthy community activity.

Support for the event is being provided by the Turks and Caicos Amateur Athletic Association and Commonwealth Games Turks and Caicos, highlighting the continued push to strengthen athletics and community participation in sports throughout the country.

With excitement already building ahead of the event, organizers are calling on residents from across Providenciales and the wider Turks and Caicos Islands to come out in large numbers and take part in what promises to be a memorable national celebration.

Whether running competitively, participating for fitness or simply showing support along the route, organizers believe the Jags McCartney Road Relay will stand as a meaningful tribute to national unity, pride and the enduring spirit of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Women Set to Tee Off for 5th Annual Women's Golf Day at Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The countdown is on for one of the most anticipated ladies' sporting and social events on the Turks and Caicos calendar, as the 5th Annual Women's Golf Day tees off on Sunday, May 31 at Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club.

Organizers are inviting women across the islands, from seasoned golfers to complete beginners, to take part in the International Women's Golf Day celebration at the Caribbean's top-ranked golf course.

Now in its fifth year, the event continues to grow as part of the global Women's Golf Day movement, which promotes empowerment, confidence and connection through the game of golf. Participants are encouraged to embrace this year's black-and-white theme while enjoying an afternoon designed to combine friendly competition, social interaction and fun on the course.

The event begins at 2 p.m. with complimentary specialty cocktails and a putting challenge before players head

out for a Par 3 Scramble at 3 p.m. Activities will conclude with a social gathering and dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Organizers say the format is intentionally welcoming and inclusive, allowing women of all skill levels to participate. Golfers may register individually or as twosomes, threesomes or foursomes, with each group encouraged to include at least one experienced player alongside newer golfers.

Those without a team will also be paired with other participants to ensure everyone can enjoy the relaxed atmosphere.

The registration fee is \$100 per golfer and includes the Par 3 green fee and dinner. A dinner-only option is also available for guests at a cost of \$45.

Women interested in participating are asked to register by emailing Ashley at ashley@rtcgc.com

and indicating whether they require club rentals and their level of golfing experience.

Organizers are promising an afternoon filled with "laughter, connection, en-



Photo: Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club

couragement and a little friendly competition" as women from across the

Turks and Caicos come together to celebrate the sport.

Academy Eagles Crowned Provo Premier League Champions

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Academy Eagles FC are the new Provo Premier League champions after defeating SWA Sharks FC 2-0 in the PPL Championship Playoff Final on an exciting evening of football.

The championship encounter featured the Apertura Round winners SWA Sharks FC against Clausura Round winners Academy Eagles FC, with both sides battling through a tense first half that ended scoreless at 0-0. While the Sharks defended resolutely and created a physical contest, the Eagles eventually found their breakthrough through star striker Jean Innocent, who delivered when it mattered most.

Innocent opened the scoring in the 77th minute after a tightly contested affair, sending the Eagles supporters into celebration. As the Sharks pushed forward desperately searching for an equalizer in stoppage time, Innocent struck again in the 90+5 minute to secure the championship and complete a memorable brace.

The forward's outstanding performance earned him MVP honors for Academy Eagles, while Sharks goalkeeper Coreilan Dondy was named Most Valuable Player for his team after keeping the Sharks in the match with several important saves.

The final was also an intense physical battle, with SWA Sharks receiving multiple yellow cards throughout the contest. Joseph Friend Ierr was cautioned in the 20th minute, followed by Elton Joseph in the 56th minute and Jake Maghan a minute later. Elbaket Eugene was booked in the 70th minute, while Maken-son Cadet and Caleb Innocent both received cautions in stoppage time.

Following the title-clinching victory, Academy Eagles head



The Academy Eagles Team

coach Aaron Lawrence praised the commitment and discipline of his players throughout the season.

"We work hard. We were more organized than all the teams in the competition and the players gave everything," Lawrence said. "We were more disciplined throughout the season, and we prepared well and got the job done."

Lawrence credited the team's tactical approach for its consistent success throughout the campaign.

"We play to a plan, and the plan works for us throughout every game that we play. We never give any team time to play against us and when we have the ball, we try to play as much as we can."

The Eagles coach also expressed gratitude to Beaches for sponsoring the club and helping provide opportunities for players to compete at a high level.

"We're looking forward to next year's club championship, and we hope Beaches can continue to support what we are doing," he said.

Lawrence also highlighted the

importance of youth development within the organization, and the wider impact football can have on young people in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"It means a lot for us to help youngsters go through the ranks, play internationally, go to college and even get into academies overseas. This is what we are here for, to help the youth, help build the programme and help build Turks and Caicos football."

Despite the loss, SWA Sharks coach Jack Watson said he was proud of his team's effort and praised the Eagles for an outstanding season.

"We've had a good season overall. We won the first cup and had a brilliant season," Watson said. "Eagles had a terrific season. They were the ones we were chasing for this cup. Hats off to them."

Watson noted that his side showed significant improvement after previously suffering a heavy defeat against the Eagles earlier in the season.

"The last time we played them we got beat 5-0, so this was a tight game. Possibly the better

team at the end won."

With the knockout competition beginning immediately after the league final, Watson said the Sharks will quickly regroup and prepare for another title challenge.

"We get back to training on Monday. Today is a tough loss, but we are proud of the lads for making the final and we just go again," he said.

Watson also praised the continued development of football infrastructure and youth programmes in the Turks and Caicos Islands, describing the future of the sport locally as very promising.

"I think it's brilliant what's going on here at TCIFA. The facilities here are on par with some high-end facilities in England. The next five to ten years for TCI football is really encouraging for players who want opportunities to play professionally overseas." With the league title now secured, Academy Eagles will now turn their attention to the upcoming knockout competition as they attempt to add another trophy to an already impressive season.