VOLUME 8 ISSUE 48

Nov. 27, 2026 - Dec. 04, 2026

OFF TO BEIJING

PG32



NEWS LINE TCI

Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

Find Us Online!

BIOMETRICS ROLL-OUT

Registration Starts December; To Begin for Non-Islanders



>>> STORY ON PG5

Police Commissioner assures a safe Maskanoo PG3

TCI Advancing Agriculture to Boost Food Security PG9

TCI Rugby Team Head to T&T for North America C'Bean 7s Champs PG30



Former female parliamentarians display their commemorative plaques during the "Pillars of Parliament: The Wall That We Built" luncheon at Beaches Turks and Caicos, celebrating 50 years of female parliamentary service. From left: Hon. Amanda Missick, Hon. Arabella Smith, Hon. Karen Delancy, Hon. Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, Hon. Porsha Stubbs, Hon. Lillian Boyce and Hon. Cheryl Astwood Tull.



Former female politicians who attended the event share friendship bracelets

'Pillars of Parliament': Celebrating 50 Years of Female Parliamentary Service in the Turks and Caicos Islands

Former female parliamentarians unite across political lines to honour five decades of service, leadership and sisterhood

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Fifty years of female parliamentary service in the Turks and Caicos Islands were celebrated on Monday, November 23, 2026, during a historic luncheon honouring the women who have served in the country's legislature over the past five decades.

Held under the theme "Pillars of Parliament: The Wall That We Built," the private luncheon took place at the Treasure Beach Terrace at Beaches Turks and Caicos in Providenciales and was jointly hosted by Hon. Sharlene L. Cartwright-Robinson, the country's first female Premier, and Hon. Dr. Lillian Boyce, its first female Deputy Premier.

While seven former female parliamentarians gathered for the occasion, the celebration encompassed all 20 women who have served in the legislature over the past 50 years, including those unable to attend due to conflicting engagements and illness, and those who have passed away.

In attendance were Hon. Amanda Missick McCollum, Hon. Arabella Smith, Hon. Karen Delancy, Hon. Sharlene L. Cartwright-Robinson, Hon. Dr. Porsha Stubbs, Hon. Dr. Lillian Boyce and Hon. Cheryl Astwood Tull.

Each received a personalised commemorative plaque featuring photographs from her political career and highlighting her parliamentary achievements.

In her opening remarks, Cartwright-Robinson emphasised the significance of the occasion and the relatively small number of women who have served in the legislature.

"Only 20 women in the last 50 years. Imagine that," she said.

"We fought each other in campaigns. We've opposed each other in the House, you know, but today we're just sisters. Today is an important historic day."

The former Premier explained that the inspiration for the gathering emerged from the unveiling of her own parliamentary portrait and reflecting on the contributions of the women who paved the way for her political achievements.

"All of you are pillars of Parliament," she said. "I am truly standing on your shoulders."

Celebrating historic firsts

In preparation for the luncheon, the organisers examined historical records and personal accounts, discovering that the women had achieved significant firsts in the country's parliamentary history.

Delancy was recognised as the first woman elected to represent the Bight constituency, while Missick McCollum was celebrated for the numerous ministerial portfolios she held during her political career.

Astwood Tull was recognised as the first woman elected in Providenciales, while Stubbs was honoured as the first woman to hold the tourism portfolio.

Boyce was celebrated as the country's first female Deputy Premier, having been elected in 1999, 2003 and 2007, representing the Five Cays constituency.

Smith was recognised for her pioneering parliamentary service, while Cartwright-Robinson was honoured for becoming the country's first female Premier.

Cartwright-Robinson acknowledged that Missick McCollum and Stubbs had travelled from overseas to attend, describing their presence as a demonstration of political maturity and sisterhood beyond partisan differences.

Honouring the absent and remembering the departed

Recognition was also extended to Hon. Mahayla Wynns, Hon. Madeline Potter, Hon. Lillian Missick, Hon. Rita Gardner, Hon. Ruth Blackman, Hon. Karen Malcolm and Hon. Emily Saunders, who were unable to attend.

A memorial tribute was dedicated to the late Hon. H.J. Robinson, Hon. Dimple Musgrove, Hon. Dr. Rosita Butterfield and Hon. Sarah Missick, with a candle-lighting ceremony and moment of silence included in the programme.

Throughout the gathering, the women embraced the refrain "Say Her Name," collectively calling out the names of their former colleagues to ensure their contributions were neither overlooked nor forgotten.

Preserving their stories

Through a segment entitled "In Her Own Voice," the former parliamentarians were encouraged to reflect on how they wished to be remembered and document their political journeys for future generations.

"We sincerely want you to write your story," Cartwright-Robinson urged, emphasising the importance of preserving firsthand accounts of women's contributions to parliamentary history.

The gathering also featured prayers of thanksgiving, expressions of appreciation, the presentation of flowers and friendship bracelets from Ghana, symbolising enduring bonds beyond political office.

The spirit of the occasion was captured in the message printed on the invitation:

"No party colours. Only sister colours. No ranks. Only respect.

Because the House was louder when we were in it, and the country is stronger because we served."

While seven women were physically present, the luncheon celebrated a much larger sisterhood whose collective service helped shape the political landscape of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

It was an opportunity to give the living their flowers, honour the memory of the departed and preserve the achievements of the women who broke barriers and laid the foundations for future generations of female political leaders.

CORAL GARDENS ON GRACE BAY LTD / CG MANAGEMENT CO LTD

IMMEDIATE OPENING

HOUSEMAN

Coral Gardens on Grace Bay LTD/ CG Management Co Ltd has an immediate opening for a Houseman.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Cleans, maintains and prepares arrival and departure guest rooms and bathrooms.
- High level inside & Outside cleaning, shifting furniture's using heavy cleaning equipment, ladders, shampoo and vacuum carpet
- Maintain and clean assigned public areas & guest room
- Collects soiled linen for laundering from housekeeping carts
- Cleans and restocks the facilities, administration offices and

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

This position is held by Work Permit Holder. Qualified Belonger candidates with clean police record are encouraged to submit a CV by e-mail to:

marsha@misickstanbrook.tc (Marsha Blanche)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

December 11, 2026.



From left: Fitz Bailey - Commissioner of Police, Jamie McAnally – TCHTA President and Minister of Tourism Hon. Zhavargo Jolly, lead a government, tourism and nationality security on a tour of Downtown Providenciales at the site where the 2026 staging of the Boxing Day cultural festival – Maskanoo – will be held. The tour also included Member of Parliament for the area Hon. Sammy Been and Deputy Speaker of The House of Parliament Hon. Jameka Williams, who is an All-Island Member of Parliament.

Police Commissioner assures public of safe Maskanoo

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey has given assurances that the 2026 staging of Maskanoo in downtown Providenciales will be safe and secure, pledging that the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force will implement a comprehensive security plan to safeguard residents and visitors attending the annual Boxing Day cultural celebration.

Bailey gave the assurance on Tuesday, November 24, 2026, as government and tourism officials, police representatives and other stakeholders conducted a walkthrough of the new venue ahead of the December 26 festivities.

The walkthrough formed part of preparations for the relocation of the popular cultural event from Grace Bay to downtown Providenciales, with stakeholders examining logistical arrangements, security requirements, traffic management and other considerations necessary for its successful staging.

"We will have a very tight security plan. I can't go into the detail. But one thing I will guarantee to the people and visitors of Turks and Caicos Islands, that the event will be policed effectively and efficiently," Bailey said.

"Our role is to safeguard the citizens and the visitors, and everyone who comes to the activity."

The Commissioner welcomed the decision to bring Maskanoo into the heart of the community, describing the collaborative approach among stakeholders as a positive initiative.

He said the event also presented an opportunity to dispel negative perceptions associated with certain communities across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"Turks and Caicos Islands is a safe place. Downtown is a safe place. And we will, through this experience, demonstrate to the people of Turks and Caicos Islands, and the visitors as well, that everywhere in Turks and Caicos is safe," Bailey stated.

"We have this stigma that is attached to certain areas, and we want to eliminate that, to let people know that you can go anywhere in Turks and Caicos."



The government and national security team that toured the Maskanoo 2026 Downtown Providenciales site

In addition to maintaining public safety, Bailey said the police would place significant emphasis on traffic management to ensure the smooth movement of vehicles during the festivities.

Asked what message he had for individuals who might seek to disrupt the celebrations, the Commissioner expressed confidence in the security arrangements, insisting that the police would work to prevent any such incidents.

He encouraged residents to turn out in large numbers to celebrate their cultural heritage.

"Come and support the event. It's an event for you. Come and enjoy your culture, come and enjoy the moment. And we are going to ensure that you are safeguarded, and we're going to ensure that you are safe," Bailey said.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Tourism Hon. Zhavargo Jolly, said the relocation of Maskanoo was part of a broader effort by the government to ensure that the economic benefits generated by the tourism industry reach communities beyond the traditional tourism hub of Grace Bay.

The Minister noted that while the Turks and Caicos Islands continues to experience growth in visitor arrivals and attract significant tourism-related investments, those achievements should not be the sole measure of the industry's success.

"If I call myself a successful Minister of Tourism, it has to be based on how my people benefit from the tourism dollar," the Minister stated.

He explained that bringing Maskanoo downtown would create opportunities for additional local vendors, make the festivities more accessible to residents and encourage visitors to explore other areas of Providenciales.

"We need our tourists to not just be in Grace Bay. They need to come downtown. They need to come to Cheshire Hall, Blue Hills, Five Cays. They even need to go to the Outer Islands," he said.

The Minister also suggested that Maskanoo could be staged in other communities in subsequent years as part of efforts to spread the economic benefits of tourism throughout the country.

"This year it may be downtown, next year it may be Blue Hills, and the next year it may be another district. But we have the responsibility of making sure that tourism dollar impacts Turks and Caicos Island lives. And that's what we're doing right now."

Addressing the significance of Tuesday's walkthrough, the Minister said involving the police and other stakeholders from the early stages of planning was critical to identifying and mitigating potential challenges associated with the change of venue.

He acknowledged that relocating an event of Maskanoo's magnitude would present logistical challenges but said the level of preparation demonstrated the government's commitment to ensuring the safety, security and convenience of patrons.

President of the Turks and Caicos Hotel and Tourism Association (TCHTA), Jamie McAnally, also expressed enthusiasm about the relocation, noting that Maskanoo had grown considerably over the past 15 years, attracting thousands of residents and visitors annually.

McAnally said the collaboration among the Ministry of Tourism, Experience Turks and Caicos, the police and other stakeholders would help extend the economic opportunities associated with the event to individuals who might not have benefited previously.

"It gives opportunities to people that maybe didn't have the opportunities in the past," McAnally said.

He explained that Tuesday's exercise was intended to ensure that organisers were proactive in addressing the logistical requirements of accommodating thousands of patrons in a new location.

Hon. Samuel 'Sammy' Been, the parliamentary representative for the area, welcomed the relocation, describing downtown Providenciales as a central and accessible location for residents of neighbouring communities, including Blue Hills, Five Cays and Cheshire Hall.

He pledged to work closely with the Ministry of Tourism and the police to ensure the success of the celebrations, while welcoming the possibility of additional walkthroughs to fine-tune arrangements ahead of Boxing Day.

Sibonne Beach Hotel | ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE MANAGER WANTED

The Sibonne Beach Hotel is seeking a suitably qualified person to assist in the ongoing maintenance and renovation of the property. Persons should be physically capable of doing manual labour and ideally have the following experience:

- Operation of power tools, including drills, pressure washers and soldering irons
- Understanding of AC, electrical, plumbing, swimming and communication systems
- Ability to work with limited supervision and operate during one day of the weekend



Interested parties should forward resumes to

admin@sibonne.com



Join our team

THE STRAND TURKS & CAICOS

Director of Recreation & Activities

Job Specification:

- Collaborate with staff and clinicians to understand the ways in which activities can promote healing and belonging for our guest
- Conduct needs assessments to ascertain physical, cognitive, and emotional abilities.
- Determine individual interests and expectations regarding leisure time.
- Determine and overseeing the use of available finances.
- Develop an activities programme that is both sufficiently diverse and sensitive to our occupants' requirements.
- Purchase or leasing supplies for all activities.
- Source, training, and monitoring the work of Activities Assistants.
- Advertize events well in advance of their scheduled times.
- Supervise and participate in events alongside staff and occupants.
- Compile reports that outline successes, constraints, and the way forward.
- Demonstrable experience as an Activities Director for a similar group.
- Computer literate, with sound knowledge of budgeting tools.
- Excellent programme, event planning, and supervision skills.
- Upbeat, communicative, and empathic disposition.
- Committed to fostering well-being and fun.
- Willingness to avail yourself for occasional weekend work.
- Appropriate training and/or certification is highly advantageous.

Job Requirements:

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

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

Occupancy: Work permit holder

Housekeeping Supervisor

Job Specification:

- Assist the Assistant Housekeeping Manager in overseeing daily housekeeping operations, ensuring the highest standards of cleanliness, presentation, and guest service throughout the property.
- Manage department budget and resources
- Manage inventory supplies and equipment
- Maintain high standards of cleanliness, hygiene, and sanitation within the facility
- Ensure all housekeeping employees follow the appropriate protocols
- Delegate housekeeping tasks to employees as needed
- Provide feedback to employees to improve performance
- Provide feedback to management on employee performance
- Supervise and oversee the performance of housekeeping employees
- Provide feedback to management on employee performance
- Oversee daily operation of the housekeeping department

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 2+ years experience as a Supervisor
- Certificates and advancement qualifications
- Must be able to work in a restaurant environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.

Salary expectation - $35,000 - $40,000 per annum

Occupancy: Vacant

Assistant Housekeeping Manager

Job Specification:

- Assist the Housekeeping Manager in overseeing daily housekeeping operations, ensuring the highest standards of cleanliness, presentation, and guest service throughout the property.
- Supervise and coordinate housekeeping staff in the cleaning, servicing, and preparation of guest rooms, suites, and public areas.
- Conduct room inspections and oversee deep cleaning of carpets, upholstery, floors, mirrors, glass, brass fixtures, chandeliers, and other furnishings.
- Monitor linen, laundry, housekeeping supplies, and inventory to ensure adequate stock and efficient departmental operations.
- Identify and report maintenance issues, damaged furnishings, and faulty fixtures to the appropriate departments.
- Oversee the cleanliness and presentation of outdoor areas, terraces, pathways, outdoor furniture, and designated recreational facilities.
- Assist with staff scheduling, daily task assignments, training, mentoring, and performance monitoring to maintain consistent service standards.
- Respond to guest requests and housekeeping concerns promptly, coordinating with other departments to ensure guest satisfaction.
- Ensure compliance with departmental procedures, health and safety requirements, and luxury hospitality standards.
- Assist with administrative duties, quality control, deep-cleaning schedules, and seasonal preparations to ensure the department is fully prepared for peak and festive operating periods.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 2+ years experience in related field
- Certificates and advancement qualifications
- Prior experience in housekeeping or related field preferred
- Knowledge of cleaning chemicals, proper storage, and disposal methods

Salary expectation - $41,000 - $42,000 per annum

Occupancy: Vacant

APPLY NOW!

Send your resume to: careers@thestrandtci.com

Company Address : 1 Seaview Drive Cooper Jack Bay, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Isalnds

We encourage belonger applicants to apply to our resort and send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Aiport Road, Providenciales

Biometric registration for non-Turks and Caicos Islanders to begin in December

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands Government is set to introduce biometric registration for all non-Turks and Caicos Islanders as part of a $12 million Digital Borders Programme aimed at strengthening border security, modernising immigration services and improving the country's ability to monitor individuals entering and leaving the territory.

Acting Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services, Hon. Jamell Robinson, revealed that the biometric system is expected to become operational at the country's detention centre in December, followed by a wider rollout over the subsequent six months.

Speaking during an interview with Cheryl Forman on Radio Turks and Caicos' First Edition programme, Robinson said considerable testing had already been undertaken.

"We are doing biometrics for all non-Turks and Caicos Islanders. We're introducing that. That's actually going to be set up and operational at our detention center by December," Robinson said.

"We've already done a lot of the testing so that's being implemented automatically and then there'll be a wider rollout over the next six months."

The initiative forms part of a comprehensive overhaul of the country's immigration system, supported by the Immigration Act 2026, which is scheduled to come into force on December 1.

The Digital Borders Programme also includes the introduction of an electronic travel authorisation system, the digitisation of immigration services and the installation of electronic gates at international airports.

The electronic gates will utilise facial recognition technology to facilitate passenger processing, allowing Border Force officers to devote greater attention to behavioural analysis.

Robinson explained that the programme will complement the Government's national identification initiative by providing identification for non-citizens who are not covered by the naturalisation and citizenship registry.

Warrantless searches

The new Immigration Act will also provide immigration authorities with expanded enforcement powers, including the ability to conduct warrantless searches under certain circumstances.

Robinson said the provision is necessary to enable officers to respond rapidly to intelligence concerning suspected immigration violations, particularly involving individuals suspected of harbouring or illegally employing persons without lawful immigration status.



ROBINSON: "That's actually going to be set up and operational at our detention center by December."

However, he sought to allay concerns about potential abuse, emphasising that warrantless searches would be governed by operational policies and standard operating procedures.

"So there has to be reasonable suspicion. It has to be a part of operation. So all those policies and standard operating procedures are in place to ensure that there's no abuse," Robinson said.

He stressed that enforcement would be applied without discrimination, irrespective of an individual's background or social standing.

"This doesn't have any face. This doesn't have any color. This doesn't have any class," he added.

Protecting employment opportunities

The Acting Premier said the legislation also strengthens the authority of the Employment Services Department as the Government seeks to create greater employment opportunities for Turks and Caicos Islanders.

He highlighted the Government's memorandum of understanding with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to conduct a national skills audit and develop a Labour Market Information System.

The system will enable authorities to better understand the composition of the country's workforce and identify opportunities for Islanders.

"Turks and Caicos Islander empowerment and opportunities has always been to the forefront. So I was more than pleased being the Minister of Immigration to be able to get these updates through," Robinson said.

Longer pathway to permanent residency

Among the most significant changes is the introduction of the Residence and Employment Rights Certificate (RERC), which Robinson described as an intermediate step towards obtaining a Permanent Residence Certificate (PRC).

Under the new framework, individuals would generally spend approximately 20 years progressing from work permit status to permanent residency, including a minimum of 10 years holding an RERC.

The legislation also introduces points-based assessments and quotas, with certain exceptions for healthcare workers, teachers, government employees and other technical personnel.

Robinson acknowledged that weaknesses in the previous legislation and inadequate implementation of certain provisions had resulted in a relatively straightforward pathway to permanent residency.

Individuals who held consecutive work permits for 10 years and satisfied the relevant requirements could qualify for permanent residency, regardless of whether they were employed in skilled or unskilled occupations.

Although the previous legislation provided opportunities to introduce a points-based system and quotas, Robinson said neither mechanism was implemented.

He maintained that the expansion of the country's citizenship and electoral franchise must be the result of deliberate national policy rather than an unintended consequence of successive work permit renewals.

"It can't be accidental citizenship," Robinson declared.

Permanent residency by investment

The legislation also removes the Permanent Residence Certificate by investment category, replacing it with a Long-Term Residency Permit offering residency for up to 25 years.

Robinson said concerns had been raised about individuals using permanent residency obtained through investment as a pathway towards British Overseas Territories Citizenship and potentially British citizenship.

The new arrangement is intended to provide investors with long-term stability without creating a pathway to permanent residency.

The Acting Premier also disclosed that the legislation provides for an independent review every four years to assess its effectiveness and determine whether further adjustments are necessary.

Robinson said the reforms represent several years of policy development, including groundwork undertaken by his predecessor, Hon. Arlington Musgrove.

He maintained that the legislation is designed to strengthen border security, protect employment opportunities for Turks and Caicos Islanders and ensure greater national control over the expansion of the country's citizenship and electoral franchise.

Grand Turk deserves more than "promises"

Development Without Transparency Is Not Progress

An Op-Ed by Paladin

When the Government announced the $177 million cruise port expansion for Grand Turk, we were told to celebrate.

We were told this project would bring prosperity. We were told it would create jobs. We were told it represented a new era of development for the capital island. Yet after the applause faded and the announcements ended, something important was missing.

Information.

No engineering studies were shared. No environmental assessments were made public. No detailed employment breakdowns were released. No public consultation process was presented. No explanation was given regarding ownership structures, long-term revenue arrangements, or the practical implications for the people of Grand Turk.

Instead, the public was handed a headline and expected to trust the rest.

This is not a criticism of development. Grand Turk needs investment. Grand Turk needs jobs. Grand Turk needs opportunities.

But development without transparency is not progress. It is simply an expensive promise. The people of this country have seen too many promises without the resulting ACTION to date.

The government has announced that the project will generate more than 1,000 direct jobs and more than 1,700 indirect jobs. Nearly 2,800 jobs in total.

At first glance, the number sounds impressive. But numbers deserve scrutiny.

Grand Turk is home to a relatively small population. Once children, retirees, and those already employed are taken into consideration, the available workforce becomes significantly smaller than the employment figures being promoted.

That raises obvious questions. What specific jobs are being created? How many are temporary construction positions? How many are long-term careers? Which positions require specialized skills? How many will be reserved for Turks Islanders? How many will ultimately be filled through imported labour?

These are not unreasonable questions.

In fact, they are the very questions responsible governments should answer before asking citizens to celebrate.

If government officials can tell the public there will be 2,769 opportunities, surely they can also tell the public what those opportunities actually are!

Where is the workforce plan? Where is the training strategy? Where is the timeline? Where is the project schedule? Where are the design drawings and visualizations to be used at Town Hall Meetings?

Where is the roadmap showing exactly how this development translates into opportunity for local people?

Without those answers, job numbers become political slogans rather than economic policy.

The people of Grand Turk deserve more. They deserve clarity. They deserve details. Most importantly, they deserve honesty.

Because the real question is not how many jobs a project creates. The real question is who benefits.

For decades, major developments across the Caribbean have followed a familiar pattern. Foreign investors arrive. Construction begins. Temporary workers are imported to bolster the local Labor Force. A lot of whom do not have any type of Certifications even though they are "super skilled in their field – Plumber; Electrician; H Vac Technician; Stone Mason. Certificates are needed so that the JOB can be Insured after passing Inspections.

Here is what usually happens. Local residents gain short-term employment. The project opens. Ownership remains external. Profits leave the country. The local population is left with little more than wages while others retain the assets, the influence, and the long-term revenue streams.

This model produces activity. It does not necessarily produce empowerment. **Employment and empowerment are not the same thing**. Employment can disappear. A job can be eliminated. A contract can expire. A position can be outsourced. Empowerment is different. Empowerment means ownership. Empowerment means participation. Empowerment means having a stake in the success of what is being built. Empowerment means that when a project succeeds, the people succeed with it.

These distinctions matter because Grand Turk is not simply another tourist destination. It is the capital of the Turks and Caicos Islands. It is the symbolic center of our governance and our national identity. The capital should never be treated as an afterthought.

Nor should Salt Cay.

For generations, Salt Cay helped build the economic foundation upon which this country stands today. The salt industry sustained families, funded commerce, and shaped our history. Yet today both islands often seem to appear only when election season arrives or when large announcements are being made.

That is not strategic governance. That is neglect disguised as attention.

The people of Grand Turk and Salt Cay deserve development that respects their communities, their environment, and their history.

And that begins with transparency. A project of this magnitude should include publicly available environmental studies. A simple "online portal" can be developed where Turks Islanders can leave comments and concerns.

Grand Turk possesses one of the most unique marine environments in the region. Coral reefs, marine banks, coastal ecosystems, and fragile shorelines are not obstacles to development. They are assets that require protection.

Here is what the Grand Turk Residents should know: What environmental assessments have been conducted and when were they done? Understand how marine habitats will be protected by the development safety measures put in place. All available information about dredging impacts, sediment controls, storm resilience measures, and long-term environmental safeguards.

Likewise, infrastructure questions deserve answers.

Grand Turk's power generation systems already face challenges. Fresh water comes primarily through desalination. Waste management systems operate under existing constraints.

A substantial increase in visitor traffic affects every aspect of island life.

Where are the utility impact assessments? Where is the water strategy? Where is the energy plan? Where is the waste management framework?

Good governance does not fear these questions. Good governance welcomes them. Good Governance should approach every new project with this at the forefront of their minds – What will be presented to the TCI Public on every Island at the Town Hall Meetings.

Public consultation should not be viewed as an inconvenience. It should be viewed as a requirement. The people are not obstacles to development. They are stakeholders in it.

Every major project should be subjected to a simple test:

Is it a good project?

Is it good for the people?

Is it good for the country?

If government leaders cannot confidently answer all three questions, then more work must be done before approval is granted.

This approach is not anti-development. Quite the opposite. It is how successful societies build trust. It is how governments earn confidence. It is how citizens become partners rather than spectators. Most importantly, it is how nations avoid repeating mistakes.

There is another possible path forward.

Rather than concentrating all commercial activity behind gates and fences, future planning should focus on integrating visitors into Grand Turk itself.

Front Street businesses should benefit. Local restaurants should benefit. Local artisans should benefit. Historic sites should benefit. Community-owned enterprises should benefit.

Tourism succeeds best when visitors experience authentic destinations rather than isolated compounds designed to capture every dollar before it reaches the local economy.

The goal should not simply be to increase visitor numbers. The goal should be to increase local participation in the revenue generated by those visitors.

That is how wealth circulates. That is how communities prosper. That is how economic resilience is built.

Yet none of these ideas can flourish in an atmosphere of silence. Transparency remains the foundation upon which all other success depends.

Which brings us to perhaps the simplest solution available. This is only the beginning of the "conversation" Turks Islanders can use this "proposal" to create something new and unique that fits TCI Model best.

The Turks and Caicos Islands can establish a **Mandatory Public Development Docket** for every major project above a specified threshold.

Every environmental assessment.
Every engineering study.
Every utility impact report.
Every consultation schedule.
Every ownership agreement.
Every amendment.
Every major project document.

All publicly available on line, before approvals are finalized. Not after. Before.

Such a system would not require constitutional reform. It would not require a new ministry. It would not require a vast bureaucracy. It would simply guarantee that the public has access to the information necessary to make informed judgments about developments that will shape their communities for generations.

Transparency should not depend upon the goodwill of elected officials. It should be embedded within the process itself.

The people of the Turks and Caicos Islands are not asking for miracles. They are not demanding perfection. They are asking for something far more reasonable.

Respect: Respect through disclosure.
Respect through consultation.
Respect through accountability.
Respect through honesty.

Grand Turk and Salt Cay both deserves development. But it deserves development built on trust, not secrecy. It deserves opportunities that create ownership, not dependency. It deserves projects that strengthen communities rather than merely generating headlines. Most of all, it deserves a government willing to show its work.

Because progress is not measured by the size of an announcement. Progress is measured by the confidence people have that development is being done with them, for them, and not simply around them.

The people are ready for that conversation.

The question now is whether their government is ready to have it.

NEWSLINE TCI
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



Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development Hon. Arlington Musgrove, the member of Parliament for North and Middle Caicos. The Anantara development will take place in his constituency



Minister of Tourism Hon. Zhavargo Jolly welcomes the development for North Caicos



Developer Rob Ayer addresses the audience at the Anantara Launch



Anantara Officially Launches Luxury Resort Development in North Caicos

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Former Royal Reef property to be transformed into luxury resort and residences, with opening targeted for 2029

North Caicos is poised to enter a new era of luxury tourism following the official launch of the Anantara Turks and Caicos Resort & Residences, a major beachfront development expected to generate employment, attract international investment and diversify the country's tourism industry beyond Providenciales.

The development, which will occupy approximately 20 acres at Sandy Point, will mark the Caribbean debut of Anantara, the internationally recognised luxury hospitality brand operated by Thailand-based Minor Hotels.

Targeted for opening in 2029, the resort will feature 60 condominiums, 18 villas, a private marina, restaurants, recreational facilities, a luxury spa and dedicated staff accommodation.

Alain Dib, Chief Executive Officer of Knuru Capital and one of the investment partners behind the development, told NewslineTCI that the range and authenticity of the amenities Anantara will offer could be rivalled by only one or two hotels in the entire country.

Dib explained that, given the resort's location on one of the outer islands, away from Providenciales, the tourism capital of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Anantara would offer compelling reasons for vacationers to choose North Caicos as a destination in its own right.

Addressing the launch were developer Rob Ayer; Acting Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson; Minister of Tourism Hon. Zhavargo Jolly; Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development Hon. Arlington Musgrove; and Minor Hotels representative Giles Selmes.

The project will breathe new life into the former Royal Reef development, which has been the subject of several unsuccessful attempts at completion over the past two decades.

Originally promoted in 2004 as a five-star resort and condominium development, Royal Reef encountered difficulties that left partially completed buildings on the beachfront. Subsequent efforts to revive the property in 2010 and 2018 failed to deliver an operational resort.



Acting Premier Hon. Jamell Robinson addresses the Anantara official launch

Ayer, who has called the Turks and Caicos Islands home for 24 years and previously developed Wymara and H2O resorts on Providenciales, said he immediately recognised the property's potential.

"When I first looked at the property, the potential was undeniable. It's a phenomenal 20-acre piece of beachfront with probably one of the most spectacular beaches in all of the Turks and Caicos Islands," Ayer said.

He explained that engineers assessed the structural integrity of the existing buildings before the development team proceeded with its plans.

"Today's travelers and resident buyers are looking for something more authentic, something different, something more natural, a place to escape to," he said.

"North Caicos gives us an amazing opportunity to showcase the true culture of Turks and Caicos and the beauty of the islands."

The development will feature extensive landscaping incorporating fruit trees and tropical vegetation, swimming pools, tennis, padel and pickleball courts, children's and teenagers' clubs and wellness facilities.

Significantly, the resort will provide 63 staff accommodation units, nine of which will have two bedrooms. Ayer said rehabilitation of existing staff accommodation had already commenced.



Giles Selmes, Senior Vice President of Luxury Hotels for Europe and the Americas at Minor Hotels was also in attendance at the Anantara development launch.

He also expressed confidence in the government's plans for North Caicos Airport and highlighted the importance of dredging to improve marine access and reduce travel times between Providenciales and North Caicos.

Acting Premier Robinson, who conveyed congratulations on behalf of Premier Hon. Charles Washington Misick, described the development as an opportunity to diversify the country's luxury tourism offerings while bringing international attention to North Caicos.

Robinson, a native of Kew, North Caicos, stressed that investment must translate into tangible benefits for residents.

"As we welcome developments of this nature, we must remain mindful that meaningful progress extends beyond beautiful architecture and international investment," Robinson said.

"It must also translate into opportunities for our people, meaningful employment, support of local businesses, and lasting benefits for the communities in which these developments take shape."

Meanwhile, Selmes said Minor Hotels was particularly excited about integrating the resort into the local community and creating employment, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Anantara, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary, operates more than 50 hotels across 26 countries.

"Our core values as a brand are authentic, local, and immersive," Selmes said.

He explained that working with local farmers, fishermen and other businesses would be central to the resort's operations.

Selmes also welcomed the provision of staff accommodation, noting that it could enable North Caicos residents who had relocated elsewhere in search of employment to return home and be closer to their families.

Musgrove, who represents North and Middle Caicos in Parliament, said the development was particularly significant for residents of the twin islands, which have long awaited greater tourism investment.

"Now is our time," Musgrove declared.

"We want to see our residents benefit through employment, training, opportunities for local businesses, and great economic activities throughout North and Middle Caicos."

He stressed that the government also had a responsibility to protect the natural beauty and character of the islands while welcoming international investment.

"Once again, welcome to the new frontier of luxury in the Turks and Caicos Islands," Musgrove said. "And guess what, ladies and gentlemen, it starts in Middle and North Caicos."

Jolly said the government was determined to apply the lessons learned from decades of development on Providenciales to the future growth of North Caicos.

"North Caicos is a gem, and we're going to do everything to grow North Caicos the right way, the proper way," Jolly said.

He noted that today's luxury travellers were increasingly conscious of sustainability, local culture, heritage and the social responsibility of hospitality companies.

With the formal groundbreaking still to come, the Anantara development represents a renewed opportunity to transform the long-dormant Royal Reef property into an economic catalyst for North Caicos while preserving the natural beauty, cultural heritage and community identity of the Garden Island.

Tourism pioneer Blythe Clare honoured by Women in Tourism Caribbean

Veteran tourism educator recognised for her outstanding contribution to training, cultural awareness and the development of the local tourism product

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief



Local tourism pioneer, Blythe Clare (centre), is presented with a Women In Tourism Caribbean Award by Stacy Cox, CEO of the Turks and Caicos Hotel and Tourism Association (TCHTA), during a visit to Clare's office. Sharing in the moment from left are other women from the organisation: Sheba Wilson, Tanya Swann, Theresa Cox and Fredlie Swann Bruno.

Blythe Clare, one of the foremost pioneers in the development of the Turks and Caicos Islands' tourism product, has been honoured by Women in Tourism Caribbean for her longstanding contribution to the country's tourism and hospitality industry.

Clare was among those recognised at the organisation's recently held awards banquet at Beaches Resort and Spa in Providenciales. However, having been absent from the event, representatives of the organisation visited her office to make the special presentation.

Stacey Cox, founder of Women in Tourism Caribbean and Chief Executive Officer of the Turks and Caicos Hotel and Tourism Association (TCHTA), and who led a team to Clare's Fasttrack Taxi Service Office on Providenciales on Tuesday, November, 24, said Clare exemplified the qualities of dedication, perseverance and excellence that the organisation seeks to recognise.

"Every year, as part of one of the pillars of the Women in Tourism Caribbean, is to honour a woman in tourism who has dedicated their life to the industry," Cox explained.

She highlighted Clare's contribution to preparing young people to represent the destination regionally, training taxi drivers and becoming one of the leading faces of women in tourism in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"Miss Clare has gone from good to great in this industry, and she still maintains the standard of a luxury destination, in my experience, with whatever she puts her hand on," Cox said.

She noted that Clare's contribution extended beyond the shores of the Turks and Caicos Islands into the wider Caribbean.

Asked what the younger generation could learn from Clare, Cox pointed to her perseverance and commitment.

"The ability to stick. A lot of times, we just want to move out, but we need to learn to just be grounded in what our belief system is, and look at Miss Clare as that example," Cox stated.

Clare, whose tourism career began in 2001, expressed surprise and gratitude upon receiving the award.

"It's a great feeling when people can recognise what you've done in your community, and it's the small things that count. Just by saying thank you, you made my day," she said.

Reflecting on her career, Clare expressed confidence that her contribution would occupy an important place in the country's tourism history.

"When the history books would have been written in tourism, my footprint will be there," she declared.

"I started the TIDES programme. I started tourism clubs. I started career talks."

Clare's pioneering contribution has been particularly significant in developing the human element of the local tourism product through training, cultural awareness and tourism education.

Her work helped establish a foundation for greater local participation in the industry, extending from primary school students to frontline hospitality workers, taxi drivers and craft vendors.

She acknowledged that training taxi drivers was among the most challenging undertakings of her career, but expressed satisfaction with the progress she had witnessed over the years.

"I can look back and say, I have fought a good fight, and I've done well with them," Clare said.

Although now employed in the private sector, Clare continues to dedicate herself to training, conducting sessions every Tuesday morning.

"Once an educator, always an educator," she remarked.

Clare also congratulated Cox on establishing Women in Tourism Caribbean, recalling their years of collaboration in introducing tourism clubs in schools, including at the primary level.

She stressed the importance of introducing children to tourism at an early age, given the industry's significance to the country's economic and social development.

"Tourism is the bedrock of our society," Clare asserted.

For the veteran tourism educator, however, the greatest measure of her success remains the lives she has positively influenced throughout her career.

"It's always good when you look back and see the lives you have touched," she said.

Clare summed up her philosophy of service with a particularly poignant reflection.

"Whenever God calls me home, the only thing I want on my tombstone is she made a difference in the lives of others."

HOUSE FOR RENT

Recently Built spacious two-bedroom, two-bathroom, living and dining areas, located at Man-o-War Road Long Bay Hills, Providenciales, close to South Bank Resort.

$3,600 per month.

Requires first and last month's rent, plus security deposit.

Call 348-9587.

TCI Advancing Five-Year Agricultural Plan to Boost Food Security

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands is advancing a five-year agricultural development plan extending to 2030, aimed at increasing domestic food production, reducing dependence on imports and strengthening the territory's resilience against disruptions to international food supplies.

Deputy Director of Agriculture Winston Scott said the government is already implementing several key components of the plan, including the establishment of an agro-park in North Caicos, the expansion of community gardening initiatives, the promotion of hydroponic farming and investment in livestock production.

Fielding questions from journalists on Wednesday, November 25, 2026, during an agricultural show showcasing local farmers and producers, Downtown Providenciales, Scott said increasing domestic agricultural production could also help lower food prices and ensure the country has access to locally produced food in times of crisis.

"Turks and Caicos have challenges. The water is salty, the soil profile is low, but there are technologies in agriculture that we can adapt to enhance the food production locally," Scott said.

He explained that greater domestic production would help facilitate import substitution while reducing the territory's vulnerability to interruptions in overseas shipments.

Central to the government's agricultural development efforts is the establishment of an agro-park in North Caicos, where land is being subdivided and equipped with irrigation systems, roads and other infrastructure to facilitate commercial farming.

The lands will be made available for lease to registered farmers, who will receive technical assistance from agricultural personnel operating at the adjacent government farm.

The department is currently targeting the production of several crops, including hot peppers, tomatoes and leafy vegetables.

Scott also disclosed that a capital project targeting livestock production is underway, involving the construction of goat pens and the development of pastures, wells and other supporting infrastructure.

While the government has not yet acquired land for an agro-park in Providenciales, Scott said residents are being encouraged to establish backyard gardens and maximise production within their available spaces.

The department's agricultural extension officers will also engage residents through seminars and workshops designed to improve their farming techniques.

Scott said registered farmers stand to benefit from government assistance, including access to agricultural land for lease, annual grants and marketing opportunities through the farmers' market.



SCOTT: "...There are technologies in agriculture that we can adapt to enhance the food production locally."

The department is also working to connect local producers with supermarkets and hotel chains to provide additional commercial opportunities.

He pointed to existing poultry and hydroponic farming operations as evidence of the potential for local producers to penetrate the territory's lucrative hospitality market, noting that some farmers are already supplying hotels with fresh eggs, poultry meat and lettuce.

Meanwhile, Scott said the agricultural show, which is intended to become an annual event, forms part of the department's broader strategy to encourage greater participation in agriculture, particularly among young people.



Enid Capron Students were fascinated to attend the event

He described the turnout as very good, noting that several schools participated and that the department had identified individuals interested in establishing home gardens and pursuing commercial farming.

The department is also considering staging a similar exhibition in Grand Turk, with the eventual objective of extending the initiative across the islands.

Although Scott did not disclose specific production targets or a definitive timeline for achieving food security, he said the agricultural development plan extends to 2030 and beyond, with several of its initiatives already being implemented.



Extension Officer with the Department of Agriculture demonstrates the art of gardening



Judith Garland of Invest TCI interacts with travel partners



Alizee Zimmerman of the Turks and Caicos Reef Fund

Turks and Caicos Islands Targets Superyacht Market at Fort Lauderdale Boat Show

By Vivian Tyson Newsline Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands made its first appearance at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS) as a destination, showcasing its appeal to superyacht owners, charter brokers and industry professionals while positioning yachting as an important opportunity for tourism diversification.

Participation in the internationally recognised event provided Experience Turks and Caicos with a platform to promote the destination's marine environment, luxury tourism offering and marina infrastructure, including the recently upgraded South Bank and Blue Haven Marinas, the latter which can accommodate superyachts.

The delegation engaged directly with charter brokers, yacht owners and other industry stakeholders to build awareness of the destination and explore opportunities to attract more yachts and high-value visitors to the Islands.

The delegation included Chairman of the Turks and Caicos Islands Tourism Authority, Mr. Anthony Garland; Director Mr. Levardo Talbot; Experience Turks and Caicos Public Relations Manager Ms. Laura Dowrich; Ms. Samantha Charles of the Department of Maritime; Ms. Judith Garland of Invest TCI; and Ms. Alizee Zimmerman of the Turks and Caicos Reef Fund. The delegation was supported by Mr. Phillip Knaggs who is in charge of Blue Haven Marina, Mr. Adam Foster, CEO of South Bank Marina and Ms. Claudette Pagano of Island Salts Company in Florida.

Throughout the show, Experience Turks and Caicos participated in key industry events and networking opportunities, including sponsorship of the Guy Harvey Foundation dinner and fundraiser, the Superyacht Association's 20th Anniversary Breakfast and the Women in Yachting Breakfast. These engagements provided opportunities to strengthen relationships across the yachting sector and position the Turks and Caicos Islands within conversations about the Caribbean's growing superyacht and luxury marine tourism market.



Members of the TCI Delegation share lens with travel partners

Minister of Tourism, the Hon. Zhavargo Jolly, said yachting represents a significant opportunity for the Turks and Caicos Islands to diversify our tourism economy and strengthen our position in the affluent travel market.

"Our participation at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show was a deliberate step in positioning the Turks and Caicos Islands more prominently within this industry and follows discussions we have held with the Department of Maritime, the Ministry of Immigration and Border Services, the marinas, and even with the Government of the British Virgin Islands to understand best practices and foster regional collaboration. As we continue to diversify tourism, yachting can create new avenues for investment, business development and economic benefits for Turks and Caicos Islanders."

Mr. Anthony Garland, Chairman of the Turks and Caicos Islands Tourism Authority, experienced first hand the benefits of the destination presence at FLIBS. "The yachting industry is highly competitive across the Caribbean, so establishing a presence for the Turks and Caicos Islands at what is widely regarded as the world's largest boat show was an important step for us. The added value and engagement that the yachting industry can potentially contribute to the local watersports and gastro economy is also an attractive proposition for Experience TCI and by extension The Turks & Caicos Islands nationwide".

Mr. Philip Knaggs of Blue Haven Marina, was very enthusiastic about the Turks and Caicos Islands' presence at FLIBS.

"The FLIBS show is always a great way to make industry contacts and to give your location exposure to a wider tourism audience. As the only Superyacht Marina in Turks and Caicos, Blue Haven Marina was excited about participating in multiple presentations and conversations showcasing the beauty that the destination has to offer. From the third largest barrier reef in the world, to nature sanctuaries, whale watching and varied cultural events, Turks and Caicos Islands, with it's 100 named islands and cays, has become the premier Superyacht destination in the Caribbean," he said.

Adam Foster, CEO, South Bank Marina said: "Experience Turks and Caicos' presence at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show added real value across every sector of our business. We strongly believe their participation enhanced the Turks and Caicos Islands brand and strengthened our visibility with the yachting community. We welcome the opportunity to work with them again next year."

The destination's presence also provided an opportunity for Experience Turks and Caicos to work alongside BermudAir in promoting its new nonstop Fort Lauderdale–Providenciales service, launched on October 26, 2026. The route strengthens connectivity between South Florida and the Turks and Caicos Islands, providing greater access for leisure and business travellers while supporting opportunities for yachting-related travel. The collaboration at FLIBS allowed both partners to highlight the destination's marine tourism offering alongside improved air access from an important regional gateway.

POLITICIANS LOVE A FUNERAL

An Op-Ed by Keith Higgs

There's something deeply insulting about a politician who can't find the time to visit an ordinary citizen while that person is alive, but somehow finds the time to stand beside their coffin when they die.

Time free! Diary cleared! This politician is here. Some will even catch a flight to attend a funeral, but refuse to pick up the phone to answer that same person who voted for them. They may be in black clothing, with heartfelt words, and a token of sympathy. They will say how important this individual was to the community. But where were they in the last several years? Why weren't they able to support this person in need? Why weren't they able to give them a call, visit them, or simply listen to their problems? Or at the very least respond to their message?

It seems as though to get some politicians to care, someone has to be dead. We should not be fooled into thinking politicians are showing great public service by attending a funeral. It requires little bravery to offer handshakes, sympathy and a photograph with a coffin. The real test of public service is whether you can be bothered to show up when people are alive and need you.

True character in politicians is shown in their ability to be accessible to members of the public. Is it possible for a struggling mother, or an elderly man, to get an appointment? Can the public visit an office without feeling like they are asking for an audience with royalty?

Some politicians only want members of the public to be close enough to vote for them. They want people to support them at public events, applaud them and attend political events. However, once the election is over, members of the public become inconvenient. Phone calls go unanswered. Messages are ignored. Doors wide open during the campaign now remain shut. That's not good leadership. That's selfishness in politics.

Many politicians have either forgotten or never realised that they are there to represent Turks and Caicos Islanders. Rather than treating us as fellow human beings who have lives, families, concerns and needs, some politicians appear to view us as disposable once we have cast our votes. Politicians appear to think they are better than us and that our only role is to give them votes before elections. If you fail to recognise those who elected you into office in this manner, then you have completely misunderstood the idea of public service.

In Turks and Caicos, we must stop confusing politicians being 'visible' in public with caring for members of the public. Funerals should celebrate this person, not be a demonstration of false sympathy from our elected officials.

If you can't make time for members of the public while they are alive, then don't expect us to believe that you cared for them simply because you have turned up at their funeral. The dead can't call you, ask you for help, or complain that you have ignored them. The living can. Perhaps that's precisely why some politicians find funerals so convenient.

Scotiabank Named Bank of the Year in the Caribbean by LatinFinance

Scotiabank has been named Bank of the Year in the Caribbean for 2026 by LatinFinance, one of the leading publications covering finance and capital markets in the region.

The Bank of the Year Award celebrates financial institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean that best demonstrate excellence in retail, commercial and investment services. Winners are determined by LatinFinance's editorial team following an extensive selection process that considers financial performance, market opinion, approach to sustainable finance and banking practices, and editorial evaluation.

Jabar Singh, President, Scotiabank Dominican Republic and the Caribbean, said the recognition reflects the Bank's locally led, regionally connected approach. "We are honoured to be named Bank of the Year in the Caribbean; this recognition belongs to our people. Our Scotiabankers serve clients from across the region and across the Bank. That means every client has the deep local knowledge of a team that understands their market, backed by the strength of a global bank. We will keep investing in the Caribbean, in our people, our capabilities and our digital platforms, because that is how we make banking simpler and help our clients grow."



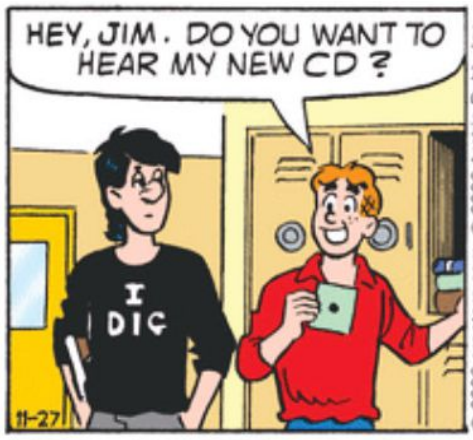
Jabar Singh, President, Scotiabank Dominican Republic and the Caribbean

During the review period, the Bank intensified rollout in the Caribbean of its ScotiaConnect platform, an enhanced digital experience for business clients that delivers an easier, faster and more intuitive interface. There were also ongoing enhancements to the mobile app, which integrated wealth account details, thereby improving accessibility for clients and foreign exchange capabilities to better support an increasingly sophisticated and cross-border banking experience.

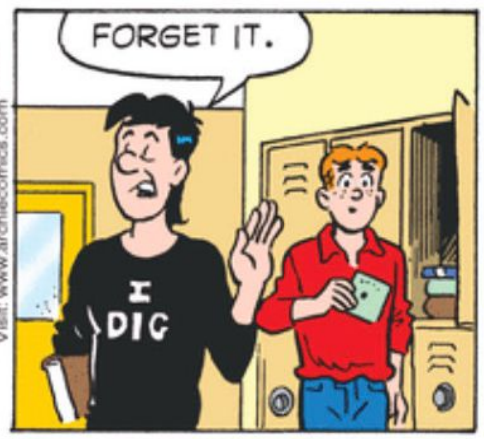
Looking ahead, Scotiabank's growth agenda in the Caribbean is focused on deepening client relationships, expanding its capital markets solutions and global transaction banking and wealth management capabilities, while supporting the sectors driving the region's development, including hospitality, tourism, infrastructure and the energy transition.

The Bank has been present in the Caribbean for more than 135 years. With more than CAD 35 billion in total assets and 7,000 employees serving approximately 2 million clients, the Bank supports governments, businesses and individuals across a footprint of more than 20 countries, through its operations and investments in affiliates and partners across the Caribbean, Central America and Colombia.

NEWSLINE TCI COMICS







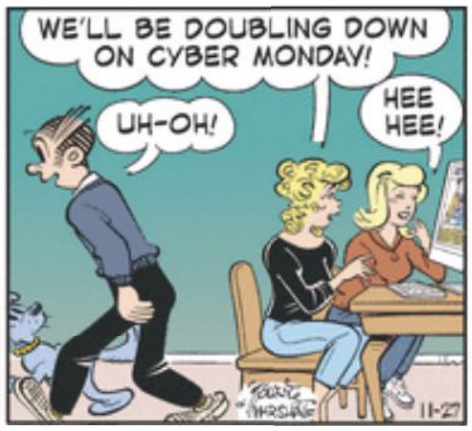




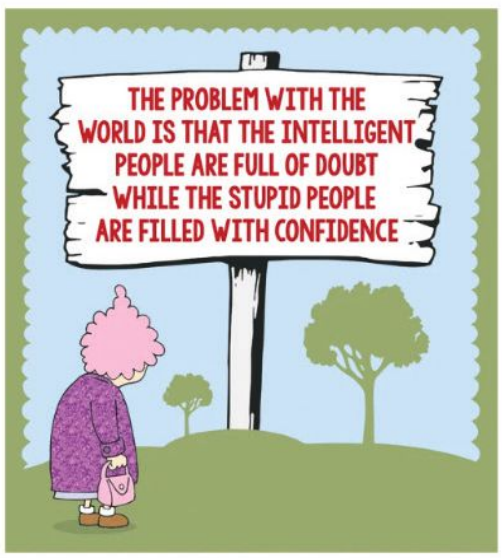
















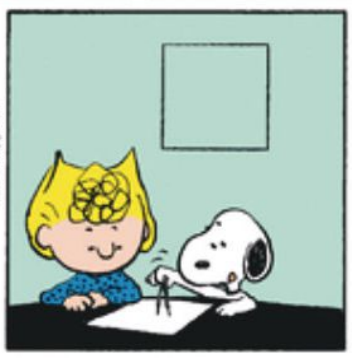




Veggie Dip





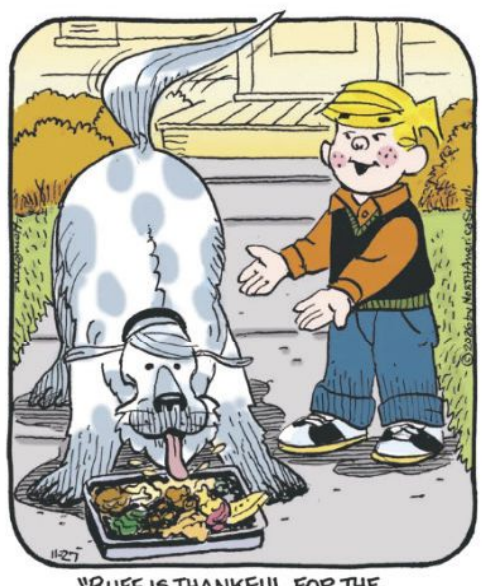












"RUFF IS THANKFUL FOR THE THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS."

Grand Turk LIGHTHOUSE

NEWSLINE TCI Heritage

Turks and Caicos National Museum. (n.d.). The Grand Turk Lighthouse.
Turks and Caicos National Museum. (n.d.). Landmarks. Historical Marker Database. (n.d.). Grand Turk Historic Lighthouse.
Image credit: © 2016 Richard F. Ebert, Encircle Photos.

Standing on the northern tip of Grand Turk since 1852, the Grand Turk Lighthouse is one of the most recognisable historical landmarks in the Turks and Caicos Islands, reflecting the country's longstanding connection to maritime trade and navigation.

During the early 19th century, the waters surrounding Grand Turk posed considerable dangers to passing vessels. Shallow reefs and hazardous sailing conditions contributed to numerous shipwrecks, prompting calls from shipping interests and the British and American governments for the construction of a lighthouse.

Designed by Alexander Gordon and manufactured in England by Chance Brothers, the 60-foot cast-iron structure was transported to Grand Turk and assembled in 1852. Its strategic location provided an important navigational reference for vessels travelling through the Turks Island Passage.

Originally, the lighthouse operated using whale oil and Argand reflector lamps. In 1943, its lighting system was upgraded with a Fresnel lens and kerosene-powered lamp, improving the visibility of its beacon to passing ships.

For 120 years, lighthouse keepers were responsible for maintaining the beacon and ensuring its continued operation. This era came to an end in 1972, when the lighthouse became automated.

Today, one of the Fresnel lenses formerly used in the lighthouse is preserved at the Turks and Caicos National Museum, offering visitors a glimpse into the islands' maritime past.

The Grand Turk Lighthouse remains the country's only lighthouse and is managed as a historic site by the Turks and Caicos National Trust.

More than a navigational landmark, the lighthouse stands as an enduring reminder of the importance of the sea in shaping the history, economy and identity of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

MSC's Arrival in Providenciales Raises Questions We Shouldn't Ignore

An Op-Ed by Ed Forbes

Are we prepared to welcome cruise ships offshore Provo, and what is the country receiving in return?

The recent arrival of an MSC Group's luxury cruise ship brand offshore Providenciales, has raised questions that deserve more than casual conversation. While cruise tourism is important to the Caribbean economy, recurring cruise calls should not be introduced without transparency, consultation and a clear understanding of the potential consequences.

I was particularly surprised by the development because Providenciales already has an established tourism economy, primarily driven by stayover visitors arriving by air. Unlike Grand Turk, which has built much of its tourism infrastructure around cruise tourism, Provo has an established network of hotels, restaurants, taxi operators, excursion providers and other businesses catering to visitors who spend several days in the destination.

The question, therefore, is not whether cruise tourism can generate economic activity. It can. The question is what additional value these cruise calls bring to Providenciales, and whether the benefits justify the environmental and infrastructural demands they may create.

What makes this development more concerning is the apparent lack of public awareness. Many local vendors and tourism operators reportedly had little knowledge of these calls. Through conversations with individuals familiar with the arrangement, I understand that additional calls may be scheduled throughout the season. If so, the public deserves to know when these arrangements were negotiated, who was involved and what conditions were established before the ships began arriving.

There is also an important environmental consideration. The vessel reportedly remained offshore and brought passengers ashore by tender rather than docking at a purpose-built cruise terminal. Although this may avoid the physical footprint associated with constructing a pier, it does not eliminate the potential environmental impacts of cruise operations.

If the vessel uses dynamic positioning systems to maintain its position rather than dropping an anchor, it may avoid direct anchor and chain damage to coral. However, dynamic positioning does not guarantee zero environmental impact. Propeller and thruster wash, underwater noise, vessel emissions, tender traffic and potential seabed sediment disturbance warrant careful assessment, particularly near sensitive coral reefs and marine habitats.

Before recurring cruise calls are approved, the Government should establish the operating locations, assess surrounding marine habitats, determine potential risks and implement independent environmental monitoring. Our reefs, seagrass beds and marine ecosystems are fundamental to the tourism product we sell and to the livelihoods of many people throughout these islands.

I cannot help but draw comparisons with Grand Turk, where the cruise port has been operating for years. While the port has brought considerable economic activity, there have also been missed opportunities to establish stronger environmental safeguards, waste-management arrangements and accountability mechanisms from the outset. Some of these issues have subsequently required attention when ideally they should have been incorporated into the original agreements.

Have we learned from those experiences? Or are we once again allowing commercial arrangements to move forward before adequately establishing the conditions under which they should operate?

There is also an economic question that cannot be overlooked. Cruise operators generate commercial revenue from their itineraries. When they bring passengers into our waters, they utilize our natural environment, infrastructure, services and the reputation of the Turks and Caicos Islands as a tourism destination. That should come with a measurable contribution to the country.

The Government already collects passenger-related fees, so the question is whether those existing revenues adequately reflect the demands cruise operations place on our islands.

How much is collected from cruise passengers, how is that revenue distributed, and what proportion is reinvested in marine conservation, environmental monitoring, waste management, infrastructure and local communities?

Rather than simply introducing another passenger charge, I believe the Government should establish a transparent accounting framework that demonstrates how existing cruise revenues benefit the destinations receiving these vessels. If the current arrangements are insufficient, then a review of the fees and their allocation may be warranted. Cruise operators should contribute fairly to the preservation of the very natural assets from which they generate commercial returns.

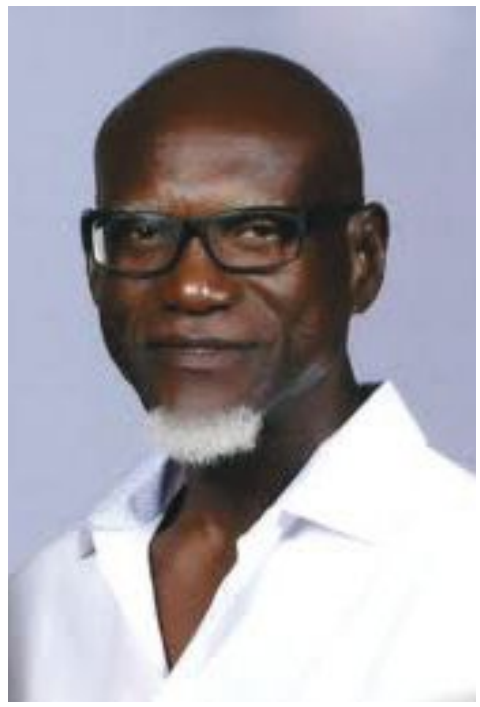
The million-dollar question is: What does this mean for Grand Turk? Is the MOU for the proposed dual-purpose port actually still moving forward, or was it just another carrot dangled in front of Grand Turk, much like the promises of a hotel and direct flights that we've heard before?

Additionally, were the relevant ministries, government departments, environmental agencies, the Port Authority and tourism stakeholders involved in the decision-making process? Is the public being afforded access to the terms, agreements and conditions under which these port calls were approved, or was this decision made without meaningful public disclosure?

The Turks and Caicos Islands should not be opposed to cruise tourism, nor should we discourage legitimate commercial opportunities. But welcoming investment does not mean abandoning transparency, due diligence or environmental responsibility.

My position is straightforward: No cruise ship should be granted recurring access to TCI waters for commercial passenger operations without a publicly disclosed environmental and economic benefit framework.

We have an opportunity to do this properly in Providenciales. We should not squander it by repeating the shortcomings of the past. Our marine environment, local businesses and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands deserve nothing less.



CIBC Caribbean Donates AC Unit to Shining Stars Preparatory School

Classrooms are where curiosity thrive, meaningful friendships flourish and young bright minds discover their unique potential.

However, in the Turks and Caicos where the sunshine rarely takes the day off, even the most enthusiastic students can find themselves distracted by the heat.

At Shining Stars Preparatory School, creating a comfortable learning environment for the nations' children remains a vital part of quality education. With a dedicated team of educators and staff committed to empowering each student to their fullest potential. Recognizing this need CIBC Caribbean has stepped forward with a donation of a 24,000 BTU air conditioning unit.

Corporate Manager at CIBC Caribbean Alonozo Higgs described the opportunity to donate as a privilege.

"At CIBC Caribbean, we take immense pride in supporting the communities we serve, and we are delighted to dedicate this new air conditioning unit to Shining Stars Preparatory School. We recognize that a comfortable, temperature-controlled learning environment is essential for fostering focus, engagement, and academic achievement.

Beyond this donation, CIBC Caribbean is deeply committed to empowering our youth. As part of that commitment, members of our team will provide direct mentorship and guidance to the young boys of this institution, helping to inspire confidence, ambition, and future success."

Higgs added that "as the largest bank in the Turks and Caicos Islands, it is our honor to invest not only in the physical learning spaces of our students but also in their potential as future leaders. We are proud to partner with Shining Stars Preparatory School in creating opportunities that will have a lasting impact for years to come."

Retail and Business Banking Manager at CIBC Caribbean Darian Watts recognized the importance of giving back to the community.

"As part of its ongoing commitment to community outreach and corporate social responsibility, CIBC Caribbean is proud to donate an air conditioning unit to Shining Stars Preparatory School. We recognize the important role that a comfortable and conducive learning environment plays in supporting the educational development and well-being of students.

"Through this contribution, CIBC reaffirms its dedication to investing in the communities we serve and supporting initiatives that positively impact the lives of children and families. We are honored to partner with Shining Stars Preparatory School and remain committed to helping create opportunities for future generations to learn, grow, and succeed," Watts further stated.

Principal of Shining Stars Preparatory School, Rohan Champagnie, viewed the donation as far more than an escape from the heat stating that the bank's "generosity…speaks volumes of your organization's commitment to supporting the community and investing in the development of our nation's future leaders. The contribution represents a significant step in our efforts to provide a comfortable and conducive learning environment, particularly as rising temperatures increasingly affect both the academic performance and overall well-being of our students."

The bank pointed that the donation reflects CIBC Caribbean's belief that investing in education means investing in the future of the Turks and Caicos Islands.



From left: Darian Watts, Retail and Business Banking Manager at CIBC Caribbean; Carolean Pauda Rodriguez, Business Support Officer at CIBC Caribbean in the Turks and Caicos Islands; Alonozo Higgs, Corporate Manager at CIBC Caribbean; and Principal of Shining Stars Preparatory School, Rohan Champagnie.

Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

Our Lady of Divine Providence Roman Catholic Church in Providenciales



This week on Church Spotlight, we are featuring Our Lady of Divine Providence Roman Catholic Church, located along the Leeward Highway in Providenciales. The church is a vibrant and multicultural parish, offering a range of spiritual activities in English, Spanish, and French Creole.

Weekend services begin on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. with English Mass. On Sundays, the congregation gathers at 9:00 a.m. for English, 10:30 a.m. for French Creole, and 12:30 p.m. for Spanish Mass, reflecting the island's rich diversity. Weekday Mass is held at 5:30 p.m., while Holy Hour takes place each Friday at 4:00 p.m., providing quiet time for reflection and prayer.

Through worship, fellowship, and community engagement, the church continues to serve as a spiritual home for many across Providenciales.

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 Prophesy,
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 Prophesy,
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@newslinetci.com





HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WOMEN IN TOURISM CARIBBEAN SUMMIT

Over the period November 12th and 15th, the Shore Club Resort in Long Bay, was the focal point for women who make tourism their bread and butter, with the hosting of the second annual Women in Tourism Caribbean Summit. The event brought together women from across the tourism sector for an occasion focused on building regional sisterhood, mentorship leadership, and the contributions women continue to make to one of the Caribbean's most important industries. The featured speaker for the event was Bahamian aviation executive and attorney Rexy Rolle. The following are photo highlights of the event.














HARTLING
EXPERIENCE TURKS & CAICOS
THE SHORE CLUB
TURKS AND CAICOS


Women
IN TOURISM
Caribbean


Women


Women
IN TOURISM
Caribbean


CONNECT






Women
IN TOURISM

GRACE BAY CLUB

GRACE BAY RESORTS

OPEN JOB POSITIONS

POSITION: Executive Pastry Sous Chef **PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

Job Overview: The Executive Pastry Sous Chef will assist the Executive Pastry Chef in overseeing pastry production, developing innovative desserts and ensuring consistency across all food and beverage outlets at Grace Bay Club. This role requires strong leadership, creativity, and a hands-on approach in producing and presenting high-quality pastries, desserts, breads, and confections. The Executive Pastry Sous Chef also ensures that all pastry operations align with company standards, cost goals, and health and safety regulations. He/She must have a passion for delivering exceptional pastry experiences in a luxury five-star resort environment.

Main Responsibilities:

- Assist in leading the pastry and bakery team to deliver exceptional quality and consistency across all outlets and events.
- Interact with guests to obtain feedback on product quality and service levels; respond promptly to guest concerns or complaints.
- Support menu development, recipe standardization, and cost control for all pastry and dessert offerings.
- Ensure all recipes and yields are accurately costed and updated regularly.
- Supervise the preparation, baking, and finishing of all pastries, breads, and desserts according to standard recipes and presentation guidelines.
- Maintain proper inventory levels, ensuring freshness and minimizing waste.
- Monitor food safety, hygiene, and sanitation standards throughout all pastry and storage areas.
- Ensure equipment is used safely, properly maintained, and kept clean at all times.
- Assist with the training, scheduling, and development of pastry team members to maintain high morale and performance.
- Support the creation of seasonal and special menus reflecting current trends, guest preferences, and local ingredients.
- Ensure proper communication and coordination with other kitchen sections and service teams.
- Participate in budget planning, inventory management, and cost control initiatives.

Skills and Competencies Required:

- Minimum 10 years' pastry/bakery experience, with at least 2 years in a senior management role in a luxury resort or hotel.
- Culinary or Pastry Arts degree required.
- Caribbean resort experience is highly preferred.
- Demonstrated ability to lead, train, and inspire a multicultural team.
- Strong knowledge of pastry techniques, chocolate work, bread making, and plated dessert presentation.
- Excellent administrative and organizational skills.
- Creative, innovative, and passionate about pastry arts.
- Strong communication and computer skills.
- Hands-on, detail-oriented, and self-motivated approach to all aspects of operations.
- Fair, firm, and motivational management style with excellent coaching skills.

Shift varies. Full time position. Weekend and holiday work may be required. Salary Range: $44,000 - $50,000 per annum. This position is currently held by a work permit holder.

POSITION: Line Cook **PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

Job Overview: The Line Cook is responsible for preparing, cooking, and presenting quality food in accordance with established recipes and standards. Working closely with the Sous Chef and kitchen team, the individual will ensure efficient kitchen operations, maintain proper food safety and hygiene practices, and consistently deliver well-prepared meals in a timely manner while meeting and exceeding guest expectations.

Main Responsibilities:
- Set up stations and collect all necessary supplies to prepare a menu for service.
- Weigh and measure ingredients for cooking.
- Prepare a variety of foods including meats, seafood, poultry, vegetable and cold food items.
- Prepare sauces and garnishes for the allocated station.
- Cover, date and correctly store all food items as per safe food-handling procedures.
- Serve food according to GBR's standards, in terms of quality, temperature, aesthetic, taste and presentation
- Close the kitchen correctly and follow the closing checklist for kitchen stations.
- Maintain an organized and sanitized work area at all times.
- Constantly use safe and hygienic food handling practices.
- Operate and maintain various kitchen appliances.

Skills and Competencies Required:
- Proven cooking experience, including experience as a Line chef, Restaurant cook or Prep cook
- Knowledge of food safety, sanitation, and proper food storage procedures.
- Excellent understanding of various cooking methods, ingredients, equipment and procedures
- Accuracy and speed in executing assigned tasks efficiently in a fast-paced kitchen environment
- Culinary school diploma highly desirable

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

Salary Range: $9.00 - $12.00 per hour
This position is currently held by a work permit holder.

POSITION: Housekeeper **PROPERTY: Grace Bay Club**

Job Overview: As a member of the Grace Bay Resorts Housekeeping team, this position is responsible for providing support across all areas of Housekeeping to ensure the highest standards of cleanliness, presentation, and organization are consistently maintained. The primary goal of the role is to create a clean, comfortable, and orderly environment that enhances the guest experience and contributes to maintaining and strengthening Grace Bay Resorts' reputation for exceptional service.

Main Responsibilities:
- Ensuring that all rooms assigned to you during your shift are completed in accordance with the Grace Bay Resort room cleaning standards.
- Greet guests and respond to queries in a professional and timely manner.
- Clean and sanitize rooms assigned to you, according to the Grace Bay Resort rooms standard.
- Make beds, change linens, replace towels, and replenish guest amenities and supplies.
- Inspect guest rooms for cleanliness, presentation, maintenance issues, and missing or damaged items.

Skills and Competencies Required:

- High School diploma required; training certificate is preferred.
- 3-5 years Housekeeping experience working in a luxury/fine hotel preferred.
- Must be able to work under pressure in a fast-paced environment.
- Must be comfortable speaking to guests and referring guest queries and complaints to Management.
- Must be well-groomed, tidy and courteous.
- Must have clear, concise written and verbal communication skills (English).
- Must be able to work various shifts, holidays, and weekends when required.
- Must be flexible and able to cover Public Areas and Laundry shifts as required.

Shift Varies. Full time position. Weekend and holiday work may be required.
Salary Range: $8.00 – $10.00 per hour

This position is currently held by a work permit holder.
Interested persons should contact our Human Resources Department no later than December 4th 2026.
Email: humanresources@gracebayclub.com
(649) 946-5050 Ext. 1020
#38 Grace Bay Circle, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies

NOTICE OF SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

Scotiabank Turks and Caicos Limited, as Chargee, pursuant to its charge and the Registered Land Ordinance, hereby gives notice that it will cause to be sold the property listed below by Public Auction, to be held at E202 Le Vele Plaza, Grace Bay, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands at 10:30am on December 4th, 2026.

Overview



An opportunity to acquire an income-generating residential property in the established Blue Hills area of Providenciales. Located at #11 Hanco Street, off Bible Street, the property comprises a detached single-storey duplex with two self-contained units on a generous 0.37-acre parcel. The new owner may reside in one unit while renting the other, or rent both units for maximum rental return.

Parcel	Block 60505, Parcel 71
Proprietor	Sherlene Ramsey
Site Area	Approx. 0.37 acres
Zoning	Residential

Description

- **Main building:** single-storey detached duplex of concrete construction with an asphalt shingle roof, built circa 2000. Floor area: approx. 1,666 sf.
- **Accommodation:** two self-contained units with a combined 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, including kitchen and living/dining areas.
- **Site:** level parcel of approx. 0.37 acres with frontage onto a paved public road.
- **Additional structures** on site are not included in this description (see terms and conditions of auction).







To obtain the applicable Auction Terms and Conditions please provide your name and contact details via email to jcordova@genesisintgroup.com and lpelaez@genesisintgroup.com requesting information.

Voices From the Streets…Article 71

You Have One Life to Live

By Nixon Dickenson

This week's Voices from the Streets features an inspiring conversation with Franklyn Williams, owner of I & I Handmade Bracelets, whose journey reflects the enduring values of hard work, resilience, and community.

Franklyn began making bracelets at just 13, inspired by his grandmother, Mrs Olive Taylor. Recognising his talent, she encouraged him to participate in the 1988 Cactus Fest, where he earned second place. That experience awakened his creativity and planted the seed for what would later become a small business built on passion and craftsmanship.

A guiding principle in Franklyn's life is the motto: "You only have one life to live but a million ways to die." For him, these words serve as a constant reminder to stay focused, persevere through challenges, and make the most of every opportunity life presents. Franklyn speaks with deep gratitude about the influence of his grandparents and the critical role they played in his upbringing. Their unwavering love, emotional support, cultural teachings, and steady presence shaped his character and instilled the resilience he needed to navigate life's obstacles. He believes that many grandparents of their generation provided an invaluable foundation for young people, helping to raise strong, grounded, and productive Turks and Caicos Islanders.

Sadly, Franklyn observes that this tradition is becoming less common in many communities today. He believes that some young people are increasingly drawn to the illusion of quick success and instant gratification, often overlooking the value of patience, discipline, and hard work. While these challenges have contributed to various social issues, Franklyn remains optimistic about the future. He believes that change begins with positive examples.

Parents, teachers, community leaders, business owners, faith leaders, and public servants all have a responsibility to guide young people to make wise decisions and avoid destructive behaviours. Franklyn envisions a Turks and Caicos where people can once again move freely through their communities without fear of crime and where respect, responsibility, and community pride flourish.

Despite facing mobility challenges, Franklyn remains committed to his craft and continues creating beautiful handmade bracelets. He is sincerely grateful to everyone who supports his business and encourages others living with challenges not to give up on their dreams.



Photo File…Franklyn Williams

A Call to Action

Franklyn's story is a powerful reminder that success is not always measured by how quickly we achieve our goals, but by the perseverance, character, and determination we demonstrate along the way

Let us all do our part to support local entrepreneurs like Franklyn and invest in the people who make our communities stronger. Take time to encourage a young person, support a small business, mentor someone in need, and lead by example at work, in church, at school, or in your community. Together, we can help build a generation that values integrity, hard work, respect, and purpose.

Young people, I challenge you to embrace the opportunities before you. Learn a skill, pursue your passion, respect the journey, and make choices that will lead you toward a brighter future. Your life has value, your dreams matter, and your future is worth working for. By choosing purpose over convenience and perseverance over shortcuts, you can become the leaders and changemakers our nation needs.

Franklyn, your courage, determination, and positive outlook inspire us all. You have chosen to live with purpose, dignity, and faith, turning challenges into opportunities and proving that resilience is stronger than any obstacle. Your story reminds us that our circumstances do not define us; our response to them does. Keep creating, keep inspiring, and keep being a shining example of what perseverance and hard work can achieve.



Join our team

THE STRAND
TURKS & CAICOS

Guest Service Expert/Server

Job Specification:

- Take food and drink orders from customers accurately and with a positive attitude.
- Write patrons' food orders on order slips, memorize orders, or enter orders into computers for transmittal to kitchen staff.
- Engage with customers in a friendly manner.
- Knowledge of the menu, with the ability to make suggestions.
- Ensure tables are enjoying their meals and take action to correct any problems.
- Collect payments from tables.
- Prepare checks that itemize and total meal costs and sales taxes.
- Help food preparation staff when necessary.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 3- 5 years experience as a Server
- Must have good interpersonal skills
- Must have experience working in busy restaurant environment
- Must be able to stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.

Salary expectation - $8.50 - $11.00 per hour

Occupancy: Local

Guest Environment Expert/Room Attendant

Job Specification:

- Clean and tidy guest rooms, bathrooms, and common areas
- Change bed linens and make beds
- Replenish guest room supplies, such as toiletries and towels
- Dust and polish furniture and fixtures
- Vacuum and sweep floors
- Report any maintenance issues to the appropriate department
- Assist guests with any requests or needs they may have
- Follow all safety and sanitation policies and procedures

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 2- 3 years experience in related field
- Must be able to work in a restaurant environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.
- Prior experience in housekeeping or related field preferred
- Knowledge of cleaning chemicals, proper storage, and disposal methods
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Positive attitude and willingness to learn

Salary expectation - $20,596 - $22,880 per annum

Occupancy: Local

Gardener/Landscaper

Job Specification:

- Install and maintain seasonal plants
- Mow, trim and fertilize green spaces
- Mulch, edge and weed gardens
- Prune and trim trees and bushes
- Maintain all gardening equipment and machinery, like mowers, trimmers and leaf blowers
- Monitor and maintain the health of plants
- Deal with pest problems that could damage plants
- Keep gardens and green spaces clear of debris and litter

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 2+ years experience as a Gardener
- Certificates and advancement qualifications
- Must be able to work in a restaurant environment, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.

Salary expectation - $9.00 - $10.00 per hour

Occupancy: Work permit holder

APPLY NOW!

Send your resume to: careers@thestrandtci.com

Company Address : 1 Seaview Drive Cooper Jack Bay, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Isalnds
We encourage belonger applicants to apply to our resort and send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Aiport Road, Providenciales

Finding joy in life is possible even when things don't go as planned

Launching into the adult world, welcoming a child, transitioning to an empty nest or starting retirement — each phase of life brings a range of emotions. Your initial feelings of excitement are often followed by stress and anxiety about the unknowns and the demands of everyday life. This is reality. So, where is the joy in that? It's there if you know how to look for it, says Rosean Bishop, Ph.D., a psychologist at Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato, Minnesota.

First, you need to know what joy isn't and what it is. Is it joy or is it happiness? Joy isn't the same as happiness, Dr. Bishop explains.

"Happiness is a reaction to things happening around you, like having a fun outing with a friend. When you're struggling, it's harder to be happy, but you can still have joy," she adds. "Joy is a state of mind. While happiness and joy can be entwined, joy is more profound, longer lasting, and less tied to events or circumstances. Joy is often connected to our sense of meaning and purpose and can exist even when we are experiencing adversity. It is also something that can be cultivated".

To experience joy, be open to it, Dr. Bishop suggests.

"For example, after a tough day at work, the last thing you want to do is take your dog for a walk on a gray, drizzly evening. But you know your connection with our dog is deeply meaningful to you, and he wants to walk in any kind of weather. As you are out walking, you begin to notice little green shoots growing in a neighbor's garden,



A psychologist explains how to recognize small moments of joy and cultivate emotional well-being through life's different stages and experiences.

the mild breeze on your face, a bird calling from its perch, your dog snuffling along the path," she says. "By noticing, acknowledging and savoring these things that matter to you, you're sparking joy. These sparks accumulate in your brain and support your mental health."

How to find and cultivate joy

How you find and cultivate joy is personal, Dr. Bishop says. To start, reflect on a time when you felt joy. What were you doing? Who were you with? Evaluating these times of joy can help you identify what matters to you. Reflecting on our values, what matters most, what gives us a sense of meaning and purpose, can help us identify where joy lives for us. Write these down and look for ways to incorporate them into your life.

"Finding joy is about paying attention to the moment — not looking ahead or ruminating on the past, but experiencing the now," she says.

Whenever possible, align your behaviors with what matters most to you, what you value. Dr. Bishop shares some techniques to practice:

Appreciate seeing joy in others. When someone else experiences joy, it boosts your own.

Do something that will remind you of moments of joy at those times when you don't feel joyful. For example, take photos of joy-filled moments and look through them later.

Practice deliberate acts of kindness.

Get involved in an activity or organization that corresponds with what gives you a sense of purpose.

Name three things that happened in the past day that you're grateful for. Gratitude plays into joy.

"When you're struggling, it's hard to be open to positive experiences," Dr. Bishop says. "It takes practice, but if you feel yourself focusing on negative thoughts and feelings, take a deep breath, pull yourself back and allow joy in."

Diet, movement and weight management work together to lower diabetes risk

Diabetes remains a major public health concern in Jamaica, where more than 235,000 adults are estimated to be living with the condition, with almost one in four cases going undiagnosed. The disease can cause serious damage to the heart, blood vessels, kidneys, eyes and nerves, placing a significant burden on individuals, families and healthcare systems.

The International Diabetes Federation's 2025 Diabetes Atlas estimates that 235,600 Jamaican adults age 20 to 79 were living with diabetes in 2024. This represents an estimated prevalence of 11.6 per cent, while the age-standardised prevalence was 12.5 per cent. The federation further estimates that 24.3 per cent of people with diabetes in Jamaica are unaware that they have the condition. Diabetes was also associated with an estimated 3,622 deaths among adults in this age group during 2024.

The figures reflect a wider regional and global challenge. An estimated 589 million adults worldwide are living with diabetes, including approximately 56.2 million across North America and the Caribbean. In the region, an estimated 29.1 per cent of adults with diabetes remain undiagnosed.

While age and family history can influence a person's risk, everyday lifestyle choices also play an important role in prevention. A balanced diet, regular physical activity and maintaining a healthy weight can work together to improve blood glucose control, support heart health, and reduce the likelihood of developing type 2 diabetes.

Dr Sanjeev Kumar Gulati, FACC, executive deputy director of Baptist Health Heart & Vascular Care and system chief of cardiovascular medicine, says understanding the relationship between diabetes and cardiovascular disease is essential to recognising the importance of prevention.

"Type 2 diabetes develops when the body becomes resistant to insulin or does not produce enough to regulate blood glucose effectively. Over time, elevated blood sugar can damage blood vessels and increase the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, stroke and heart failure, while also affecting the kidneys, eyes and nerves," he said.

The close relationship between diabetes and cardiovascular disease makes prevention and early intervention particularly important. The World Health Organization's 2023 estimates for Jamaica identify diabetes mellitus as the country's third-leading cause of death overall, with an estimated 78.8 deaths per 100,000 people.

practical adjustments

Dr Gulati points to findings from the PREDIMED-Plus clinical trial as further evidence of how lifestyle changes can help reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

The study followed 4,746 adults age 55 to 75 who were overweight or obesity and had metabolic syndrome. Participants who followed a calorie-reduced Mediterranean eating pattern, combined with physical activity, lowered their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by 31 per cent, compared with those following a traditional Mediterranean diet alone.

"Lifestyle habits can play an important role in reducing risk and supporting long-term health. The findings reinforce the benefits of combining dietary changes with physical activity, rather than relying on one lifestyle adjustment alone," Dr Gulati said.

The Mediterranean diet, which formed part of the study's intervention, emphasises vegetables, fruits, whole grains, beans, legumes, nuts, seeds, olive oil, fish and seafood. Poultry, eggs and dairy products can also be included in moderate amounts. This eating pattern provides fibre, healthy fats and essential nutrients that support blood glucose management, weight control and cardiovascular health.

Choosing minimally processed foods while limiting excess sodium, added sugars and saturated fats can further help maintain healthy blood pressure, cholesterol levels and blood vessels.

Dr Gulati explains that adopting this approach does not require following a strict or restrictive diet. Instead, the Mediterranean diet offers an eating pattern that can be maintained over the long term and adapted to local preferences.

"The Mediterranean diet is not intended to be a short-term diet. Its principles can be incorporated into everyday meals by including more plant-based foods, whole grains, healthy fats and lean sources of protein," he said.

As it relates to Jamaicans, this means making practical adjustments to familiar meals, including eating more vegetables and legumes, choosing whole grains more often, and being mindful of cooking methods and portion sizes. Healthy eating is most effective when it becomes a consistent part of everyday life.

Portion control is another important consideration. In PREDIMED-Plus, participants in the intervention group followed a Mediterranean diet with a moderate reduction in daily calorie intake. After six years, they lost an average of 3.3 kilograms and reduced their waist circumference by 3.6 centimetres.

shared risk factors

"Portion awareness and control can help people manage their energy intake while maintaining a varied diet. However, individual calorie needs differ according to age, activity level, health status and personal goals," he said.

Physical activity was also a central part of the intervention. Participants received guidance on moderate exercise, including brisk walking and strength training. The combination of dietary changes and physical activity produced greater benefits than the Mediterranean eating pattern alone.

"The study paired dietary changes with guidance on moderate physical activity, including brisk walking and strength training. Regular movement also supports heart health, blood pressure, weight management and insulin sensitivity," he said.

Walking, cycling, swimming and resistance exercises can all contribute to an active routine. The important consideration is finding activities that can be maintained consistently and safely.

Nutrition and physical activity reinforce each other. Together, they can improve several cardiovascular and metabolic risk factors while helping individuals maintain a healthier weight.

Recognising personal risk is equally important. Age, excess weight, family history, physical inactivity and certain metabolic conditions can increase the likelihood of developing type 2 diabetes. Because diabetes and cardiovascular disease share many risk factors, regular medical visits provide an opportunity to assess blood glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol, kidney function, and other indicators of metabolic and cardiovascular health.

"The risk factors for diabetes and cardiovascular disease often overlap, so regular medical check-ups are important. These visits provide an opportunity to review blood glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol and kidney function, and to identify concerns that may require further attention," Dr Gulati said.

The high proportion of undiagnosed cases in Jamaica makes screening particularly important. People may have elevated blood glucose without experiencing obvious symptoms, meaning routine checks can help identify the condition earlier and reduce the likelihood of complications.

Individuals who already have prediabetes or other risk factors can work with their healthcare teams to develop eating and activity plans suited to their needs. Those living with heart disease, experiencing heart failure symptoms or managing multiple cardiovascular risk factors may require a more personalised approach and closer medical follow-up.

"People with prediabetes or additional risk factors should work with their healthcare team to develop a plan that meets their individual needs. Those with existing heart disease or multiple cardiovascular risk factors may need closer medical supervision. Lifestyle changes should complement, rather than replace, prescribed medication and professional medical advice," he said.

Reducing diabetes risk involves more than changing what is on the plate. Combining nutritious eating, regular physical activity and weight management can help protect the heart, improve metabolic health and reduce the likelihood of developing type 2 diabetes. Alongside routine monitoring of blood glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol, these habits can make a lasting contribution to better health throughout adulthood.



Sanjeev Kumar Gulati

Nick Cannon, 46, is hospitalized amid lupus battle as he asks fans to 'pray' for him

Nick Cannon asked his fans for prayers after being hospitalized amid his ongoing battle with the chronic autoimmune disease, lupus.

On Friday, the 46-year-old comedian took to Instagram to share a selfie from a hospital room and revealed he was undergoing tests.

In the photo, Cannon could be seen wrapped up in blankets and wearing a face mask while lying down in a hospital bed.

'This [world] can definitely take a lot out of you,' he wrote over the photo. 'Pray for me y'all.'

Cannon, who revealed his lupus diagnosis 14 years ago, did not share any additional details about the reason for his sudden hospitalization.

Shortly after his post, the father of 12 followed up with an Instagram Story post of a CAT scan machine.

He also shared a clip from the same angle, and in the background, a voice could be heard asking: 'Have you ever had a CT before?'

His post garnered an outpouring of support from fans, family and friends of his.

His 15-year-old daughter Monroe Cannon also commented, sharing a crying GIF. (Cannon shares Monroe and her twin brother Moroccan with ex-wife Mariah Carey.)

Rapper Sexxy Red wrote: 'You got this broddy I'm so sorry to hear this.'

Fat Joe commented a red heart emoji and wrote: 'Love u brother.'

'I love you, Nick. Jesus loves you more… Keep fighting,' actress and comedian B. Simone wrote.

'Get well soon my brotha love yah bro peace,' Ginuwine wrote. And Kenan Thompson commented with eight prayer hand emojis.

Cannon went public with his lupus diagnosis in January 2012.

According to the Mayo Clinic, lupus is an autoimmune condition that causes the 'body's immune system attacks its own tissues and organs,' leading to 'swelling and irritation' that can affect the 'joints, skin, kidneys, blood cells, brain, heart and lungs.'

At the time, Cannon revealed that he had been suffering from kidney failure as well as blood clots in his lungs.

In September of this year, the Masked Singer host opened up to Us Weekly about how lupus has affected his life as an entertainer and as a father of 12 young children.

He admitted that his daily routine to manage his health can be 'challenging.'

'When I got diagnosed... [it felt] so life-altering,' he said.

'Now, it becomes like, "So what?" It's a part of my life. It keeps me in check,' Cannon continued.



On Friday, the 46-year-old comedian took to Instagram to share a selfie of himself from a hospital room and revealed he was undergoing tests.
(Source: Nick Cannon Instagram)

'I have to eat correctly, get rest and exercise twice a day. It was a blessing in disguise,' he shared about how he manages the chronic autoimmune condition.

'Other 45-year-olds aren't up at 4 a.m. to go to the gym. I work out to stay alive. It's a challenge, but I'm built for it.'



William and Kate pictured during a visit to India last week.

2 men arrested after suspected break-in at Prince William and Kate's country home

Two men were arrested on suspicion of burglary after police were called to Anmer Hall, in Norfolk, England, on Monday night after reports of "suspicious activity" on the estate.

The family wasn't home, Norfolk police confirmed in a statement to the media.

Prince William and Kate were instead thought to be at Forest Lodge, their main home near Windsor Castle, where they stay while their three children are at school in the local area.

The police statement said, "Two men have been arrested on suspicion of burglary following an incident at a property on the Sandringham Estate last night (Monday 23 November). Police were called just before 6 p.m. following a report of suspicious activity at the address. Officers attended and specialist resources, including police dogs, drones and the National Police Air Service helicopter, were deployed to assist with searches in the area.

"Two men were arrested on the estate on suspicion of burglary and trespass. They remain in police custody. The property was unoccupied at the time of the incident. Inquiries remain ongoing."

Kensington Palace declined to comment.

Anmer Hall is Kate and William's country home, located on King Charles's private Sandringham Estate. It's a vast property with 10 bedrooms that was given to the couple as a wedding present from Queen Elizabeth II in 2011.

They used it as their primary home during the COVID-19 pandemic and now spend Christmas and other holidays there, enjoying privacy, peace and outdoor activities.

The family spends the majority of their time at Forest Lodge, which is about 20 miles west of central London and a 15-minute drive from Prince George's new $85,000-a-year boarding school, Eton College. His younger siblings, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis, attend Lambrook, a coeducational private school an eight-minute drive from the house.

Forest Lodge is an ideal location for the family to be based, as William and Kate can easily reach the U.K. capital, where many of their public engagements take place. Today, William met with U.K. Prime Minister Andy Burnham at Burnham's London home and office, 10 Downing Street.

Kate, meanwhile, is awaiting the airing of her upcoming documentary, Heal. The "deeply personal" documentary covers Kate's diagnosis, recovery and life beyond cancer. It will be broadcast in the U.S. on Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. ET/PT on NBC, on Bravo at 11:30 p.m. ET/PT, and will be available to stream on Peacock from Dec.

‘Hunger Games’ goes big at the box office

Fourteen years and six movies in, The Hunger Games movie franchise rediscovered its box-office might, as Sunrise on the Reaping debuted with US$120 million in North American theatres over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The sun had seemed to be setting on The Hunger Games as a cultural force. After the original blockbuster run of four movies led by Jennifer Lawrence, Lionsgate’s 2023 prequel, The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, topped off at US$361.8 million worldwide, a decent sum, but about half what each of the first four movies grossed.

Yet, The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping has restored the Suzanne Collins adaptations to blockbuster status. The film, a sequel to Songbirds and Snakes and set 25 years before the original series, launched with US$225 million worldwide on its opening weekend. Lionsgate produced and distributed the movie, budgeted at about $150 million.

“It’s obviously not common for a film in its sixth installment to completely reverse the trajectory, but it’s awfully satisfying to be a part of it,” said Adam Fogelson, chairman of the Lionsgate Motion Picture Group.

At a time when movie series longevity is far from assured, ‘Sunrise on the Reaping’ managed to notch the year’s fifth $100 million-plus domestic launch. something only accomplished in 2026 by some of the most bankable franchises: Spider-Man (Spider-Man: Brand New Day), Toy Story (Toy Story 5), Super Mario (The Super Mario Galaxy Movie) and whatever Christopher Nolan makes (The Odyssey).



This image released by Lionsgate shows Joseph Zada, left, and McKenna Grace in a scene from ‘The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping’.

And it did it while a significant portion of potential moviegoers were locked at home playing ‘Grand Theft Auto VI’.

Yet Gen Z again powered a big weekend in theatres. Some 74 per cent of the audience for the Hunger Games prequel-sequel were aged 18-34. Several of 2026’s box-office hits – including Obsession, Backrooms and You Can See Everything – have likewise succeeded by packing theatres with the most potent demographic in moviegoing.

While Sunrise on the Reaping includes a supporting cast of well-known veteran stars (Ralph Fiennes, Kieran Culkin, Elle Fanning, Jesse Plemons), the movie largely belongs to a new generation of young actors: Jo Zada, Mckenna Grace, Ben Wang and Whitney Peak. The film, directed by Francis Lawrence, is centred around teenage Haymitch Abernathy (Zada), the role originally played by Woody Harrelson.

Fogelson credits several things to the Hunger Games turnaround. “Songbirds and Snakes” was an origin story of a villain, and thus a darker tale. “Sunrise on the Reaping” has the Hunger Games themselves more front and centre. It focuses on the backstory of a beloved character in Haymitch. And the cast, a mix of newcomers and veterans, elevated the film.

“It’s consistent with how The Hunger Games has always operated. Jennifer Lawrence wasn’t the mega movie star when this franchise started with her,” Fogelson says. “There is no question that part of the incredible resurgence we’ve seen at the box office has been Gen Z and Gen Alpha demonstrating how much they love going to movie theatres.”

Reviews were OK (67 per cent fresh on Rotten Tomatoes), but audience scores were better. Sunrise on the Reaping earned an “A-” CinemaScore from movie-goers, a tick up from the “B+” received by Songbirds and Snakes.

Grand jury indicts Meghan Markle’s father on child porn charges



Thomas Markle indicted on two counts of possession of child pornography

The estranged father of Meghan Markle, wife of Britain’s Prince Harry, was indicted by a California grand jury on Tuesday on two counts of possession of child pornography.

Thomas Markle, 82, who is already in custody in Florida after removing the ankle monitor that had been attached as a condition of house arrest, is expected to be arraigned in United States District Court in Los Angeles in the coming weeks.

The indictment alleges that Markle had 35mm negatives showing child sexual abuse, including at least one image involving a prepubescent minor.

Court documents allege Markle had illegal photographs both in the Philippines, where he had previously lived, and in two rented storage facilities in Los Angeles.

Prosecutors say FBI agents seized dozens of images on slides, film negatives and in books, including two that appear to depict Markle with children who are either naked or in various states of undress.

A Florida judge this month ordered that Markle undergo a psychiatric examination after finding “reasonable cause to believe” that Markle was suffering from a condition “rendering him mentally incompetent to the extent that he is unable to understand the nature and consequences of the proceedings against him or to assist properly in his defense.”

Markle’s legal troubles began in October when the British tabloid The Sun reported that his son, Thomas Markle Jr, had discovered child sex abuse images while going through boxes found in his father’s former home in the Philippines.

Markle had been living in Cebu in the Philippines until reportedly returning to the United States earlier this year.

Meghan Markle said last month that she was “deeply distressed” by accusations that her father possessed images of child sexual abuse.

She said she had blocked contact between him and her children over previous “troubling and disturbing” allegations.

Harry, the second son of King Charles III and estranged brother of heir to the throne Prince William, married Meghan, an American former actress, at Windsor Castle in May 2018. The couple left Britain and quit royal duties in 2020 but made an unexpected return with their two children to live in the United Kingdom in August.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTERIAL GOVERNMENT, 1976–2026…ROAD TO 1976

WHEN A NATION LOST ITS FIRST CHIEF MINISTER

JAGS McCartney, the Tragedy of 9 May 1980 and the Test of a Young Government

By Joan Astwood-Sutton
Author, Cultural Historian and Heritage Educator

ARTICLE 18 OF 23

A Memory That Has Never Left Me

Some historical events are remembered through documents and dates. Others remain with us because we stood among the people who experienced them. I was less than one month away from my fifteenth birthday when James Alexander George Smith McCartney, known throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands as JAGS McCartney, died on 9 May 1980. I could not fully appreciate the constitutional consequences of his death, but I understood that something deeply significant had happened to our country.

I remember standing among the crowd gathered at the airport in Grand Turk. The grief surrounding that gathering has remained with me for more than four decades. People were mourning a man who had become closely associated with the political hopes of a generation. For his family, the loss was far more personal. His wife, Dorothy, had lost her husband, his children had lost their father, and his relatives and friends had lost someone whose presence could never be replaced by a public monument or national honour.

McCartney was thirty-four years old when he died in an aircraft accident in New Jersey. He had served as the country's first Chief Minister for less than four years. His death came as the Ministerial Government he helped establish was still developing its institutions and confronting difficult questions about the territory's constitutional future.

A Leader Whose Work Was Unfinished

A United Nations Visiting Mission had arrived in the territory in April 1980. The country was debating a proposed timetable for independence, the financial assistance tied to that proposal and the extent of the authority elected ministers could exercise. The mission heard differing views about what the country was ready for and what it needed from Britain.

According to the United Nations report, McCartney and a government delegation left the territory on 3 May for talks with American officials in Washington. My father, Lewis Edwin Astwood, was among those who travelled with him to Washington. Six days after the delegation left home, McCartney died.

It is tempting to speculate about what might have happened had McCartney lived. He might have continued to press for constitutional change or reconsidered his position as public debate developed. We cannot know what he would have decided. The record shows that the country lost its first Chief Minister while important decisions about its future were still being debated.

The Man Beyond the Political Office

My father, Lewis "Louie" Edwin Astwood, served alongside McCartney in the first Ministerial Government. That connection meant political developments were part of the world I grew up in. The names that appeared in newspapers and official records belonged to people our families knew. Their work entered the conversations adults had around us, even when we were too young to understand all that was at stake.

For those who knew the men involved, the loss affected relationships built through years of political work, shared responsibilities and personal acquaintance. My father and his colleagues had helped establish a government the country had never had before. Now they faced the prospect of continuing that work without the man who had led them into office.

The Return to Grand Turk

The United Nations report records that McCartney's body was flown home for burial on 24 May 1980. I cannot claim to remember every detail of the occasion I witnessed at the airport. What remains clear to me is the sense of collective grief.

In a small society, someone the country knows as its Chief Minister may also be known as a neighbour, a friend, a relative or a man with whom people have worked. The crowd I remember brought together people whose reasons for mourning him were their own. His public office helps explain why so many felt the loss. It cannot tell us what each person carried home from that gathering.

A Constitutional Crisis

Public services and government departments still had to operate. The immediate constitutional question was whether the office of Chief Minister could be treated as vacant before McCartney's death had been formally established.

On 12 May, Governor John Clifford Strong addressed the country by radio. He treated the Chief Minister's office as vacant and said that the other ministerial offices had consequently fallen vacant. Until the elected members of the Legislative Council chose a new Chief Minister, he said, he would have to act without ministerial advice.

What made that decision so serious was its timing. In a statement issued on 15 May, the People's Democratic Movement said the Governor had informed the Speaker that morning that New Jersey police were still working to identify McCartney's remains and that no death certificate had been issued. Yet three days earlier, the Governor had already announced that the ministerial offices had fallen vacant. By the time the PDM issued its statement, the Council had met to elect a successor.

The PDM argued that McCartney should have been treated as absent until his death was legally established. On the party's reading of the Constitution, another minister could then have been appointed to act in his place. The distinction had a practical consequence: one course would have allowed a minister to act temporarily as Chief Minister; the course the Governor took left him acting without ministerial advice. The United Nations report preserves both the Governor's position and the PDM's objection.

That was the constitutional crisis: could a minister act temporarily while McCartney's death was being formally established, or could the Governor already treat the office as vacant and act without ministerial advice?

A Tied Vote, a By-Election and a Successor

The country was now facing a constitutional crisis. The Governor had treated the Chief Minister's office as vacant and announced that he would govern without ministerial advice. The PDM maintained that McCartney should have been treated as absent while police were still working to identify his remains and no death certificate had been issued. The question was who could lawfully exercise authority in the meantime. When the Legislative Council met on 15 May, it faced that question without being able to settle the succession: Skippings and Saunders received five votes each.



Rt.Hon. JAGS McCartney, the TCI's first Chief Minister is seen in this file photo arriving back home after an overseas trip

On **15 May 1980,** the elected members of the Legislative Council met in Grand Turk to choose a successor to JAGS McCartney.

Oswald O'Neil Skippings of the People's Democratic Movement and **Norman B. Saunders** of the Progressive National Party each received five votes. Neither was elected. Governor John Clifford Strong announced the result in a radio broadcast on **16 May**.

The tie gave the coming by-election a significance beyond North Back Salina. Voters there would choose a representative to fill McCartney's vacant seat. Once that seat was filled, the Council would again have eleven elected members, creating a way out of the deadlock.

On **12 June 1980**, the people of North Back Salina elected **Herbert Been**, the PDM candidate, as their representative. The elected members of the Legislative Council subsequently elected **Skippings as Chief Minister.** On his advice, the Governor appointed Been as Minister of Health, Education, Welfare and Local Government and reappointed Lewis Edwin Astwood and Charles William "Liam" Maguire to their previous portfolios.

The Independence Question Changed Direction

In December 1979, the Legislative Council had accepted a proposed timetable for independence by mid-1982, together with an associated British aid package. On **10 September 1980,** the Council approved a resolution introduced by Skippings rejecting that timetable and aid package. It called instead for internal self-government and for the people to determine the timing of any future move to independence through a referendum.

The September resolution changed the way such a decision would be made. It sought greater local authority and proposed a direct role for voters. It did not set a new independence date, and the Council's vote was not a referendum. The resolution tells us what the government under Skippings decided in September, in the circumstances it faced at the time.

The People Chose Another Government

At the general election on **4 November 1980,** the Progressive National Party won eight of the eleven elected seats, and the People's Democratic Movement won three. **By 6 November, Saunders was in office as Chief Minister.**

For the PDM, the result ended its first period in government. For the country, it marked the first transfer of power between political parties under the ministerial system. The events of May and June had tested whether the Council could elect a successor after a Chief Minister died in office. In November, the system faced a different test: whether it could carry out the electorate's decision to put the opposition in government. The institutions established in 1976 continued through both transitions.

Remembering the Life, Not Only the Loss

McCartney would later be recognised as a National Hero. That honour gives us another reason to study the young leader as he was in life: a man who worked within a constitution that limited what elected ministers could do, who faced real political disagreement and who shared the work of government with colleagues and public officers.

Forty-six years later, I believe preserving memories of that time is part of our responsibility to the historical record. Documents establish when decisions were made, who made them and how authority passed from one officeholder to another. Personal recollections help explain how people experienced those events. We need both to understand what those weeks meant to the people who lived through them.

When I think back to the airport in Grand Turk, I remember what I could understand then. The man people had gathered to mourn would never return to lead them again. It took me longer to understand what the country was being asked to do next. The people who stood there in grief still had decisions to make about their future. The country carried on, and the loss remained.

Dedicated to the memory of JAGS McCartney, to his family and colleagues, and to the people who mourned the country's first Chief Minister.

Author's source note: The account of the gathering at Grand Turk airport is Joan Astwood-Sutton's personal recollection. The United Nations Visiting Mission report, A/AC.109/636, paragraphs 66 and 97-100, records the December 1979 independence resolution, McCartney's death and the return of his body, Governor Strong's May broadcasts, and the PDM's account of the disputed vacancy.

The UN election observation report, A/AC.109/664, paragraphs 32 and 35, records Herbert Been's by-election victory, Oswald Skippings's subsequent election as Chief Minister and the 10 September resolution. Annexes I and VII of the companion report document the November election results and confirm that Norman Saunders was in office by 6 November.



Tanya Swann, Operations Manager for the new Treasure Beach Village are photographed with the Enid Capron Primary Students

Beaches welcomes young students for immersive tourism experience

In an effort to inspire the next generation of tourism professionals and deepen young people's understanding of the industry, Beaches Turks & Caicos welcomed students from Enid Capron and Provo Primary Schools for an immersive hospitality experience through the Hello Tourist Programme.

The initiative, formed part of the Turks and Caicos Islands' Tourism Environmental Awareness Month celebrations held in November, under the theme "Preserving Paradise: Tourism Today, Tomorrow & Beyond." It was organised in collaboration with Experience Turks and Caicos and the Ministry of Tourism, bringing students from primary and middle schools across Providenciales and neighbouring islands into the heart of the country's tourism sector.

Designed to give students a first-hand appreciation of what it means to be a visitor, the programme allowed participants to experience key aspects of the tourism journey while learning about the industry's contribution to the national economy and the importance of preserving the destination for future generations.

At Beaches Turks & Caicos, the students were welcomed with the same hospitality extended to the resort's guests. Their experience began with a traditional welcome song, refreshing cold towels and an orientation, followed by a simulated check-in process. Each student also received a stamp in their personal tourism passport, marking their visit to the resort.



Tanya Swann, Operations Manager for the new Treasure Beach Village are photographed with the Provo Primary Students

Leading the students on a tour of the property was resort's Operations Manager for the new Treasure Beach Village Tanya Swann, who provided insight into the operations, service standards and the importance of delivering exceptional guest experiences.

During the tour, Swann highlighted the significant role tourism plays in the Turks and Caicos Islands, encouraging the students to consider hospitality as a potential career path.

She emphasised that the industry offers a wide range of rewarding professional opportunities for young people who are passionate about service, personal development and creating memorable experiences for others.

Teachers accompanying the students praised the initiative, describing it as a valuable educational experience that brought classroom discussions about tourism to life.

Hilary Hull and Myrna Pereira of Provo Primary School commended the programme, noting that the opportunity to experience the industry first-hand was particularly beneficial. They described Hello Tourist as an excellent initiative, one they believed should be further strengthened and expanded.

Their sentiments were echoed by Ancie Bernadin, who accompanied students from Enid Capron Primary School alongside Christopher Foster. They highlighted the programme's value in making tourism experiences accessible to children who might not otherwise have the opportunity to visit and explore a resort environment.

The Hello Tourist Programme formed part of a wider island-wide initiative, with students from schools across the Turks and Caicos Islands visiting several participating resorts to gain a broader appreciation of the country's tourism product.

By taking learning beyond the classroom and placing students directly within the hospitality environment, the initiative underscored the importance of introducing young people to the industry at an early age.

As the Turks and Caicos Islands continues to strengthen its position as a premier tourism destination, initiatives such as Hello Tourist reinforce the importance of nurturing informed, engaged and environmentally conscious future ambassadors who understand that protecting

Flow Launches Christmas Campaign

The Gift That Keeps on Giving, Bringing Big Rewards and More Data Across TCI



Leading telecommunications provider, Flow has officially kicked off the holiday season with the launch of its Christmas campaign, The Gift That Keeps on Giving, on November 13, marking the start of a season focused on rewarding customers with exciting prizes, unforgettable experiences, and enhanced mobile value throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The campaign was launched through festive customer appreciation events in Providenciales and Grand Turk, where customers gathered to enjoy holiday entertainment, giveaways, and instant rewards. The celebrations created a vibrant atmosphere filled with excitement as lucky winners walked away with brand-new televisions, home appliances, grocery vouchers, and a variety of other prizes.

Customers also had the opportunity to test their luck at Flow's popular Spin and Win station, taking home instant holiday surprises.

As part of its commitment to delivering even greater value, Flow is also increasing data allowances across its prepaid and postpaid mobile plans. The enhanced plans will give customers more data to stream, share, work, and stay connected with family and friends throughout the holiday season and beyond.

While the launch events in Providenciales and Grand Turk marked the beginning of the campaign, Flow's holiday celebrations are far from over. In the weeks ahead, the company will bring seasonal promotions, customer rewards, and community-focused activities to islands across the Turks and Caicos, ensuring customers throughout the country can share in the festive spirit.

"This campaign is our way of saying thank you to the customers who continue to place their trust in Flow," said Joanne Missick, Country Manager, Flow Turks and Caicos. "The holiday season is a time for giving, connection, and celebration, and we wanted to create experiences that reflect those values. From exciting prizes and rewards to enhanced mobile data that helps keep loved ones connected, The Gift That Keeps on Giving is about delivering meaningful value and spreading holiday cheer across every island we serve."

Through this campaign, Flow continues to demonstrate its commitment to rewarding customer loyalty while bringing communities together during one of the most festive times of the year.

Customers are encouraged to follow Flow Turks and Caicos on social media and visit their nearest Flow location for updates on upcoming promotions, events, and opportunities to win.



Dominica could supply freshwater to Caribbean neighbours amid looming dry season

Dominica could help strengthen regional water security by supplying freshwater to neighbouring Caribbean territories as countries prepare for the 2026-2027 dry season, including through the possible transportation of water by barges.

Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) Executive Director, Laurayne Lucky, said the island's abundant freshwater resources could put it in a position to assist countries facing worsening water shortages in the coming months.

Speaking on the sidelines of the 2026-2027 Dry Season Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF) Stakeholder Forum, Lucky said the region must explore alternative approaches to water supply as climate projections point to potentially challenging conditions during the upcoming dry season.

"Countries like Dominica, if they can spare additional water and they can budget to nearby countries, I think that would be an option," Lucky stated.

She identified transporting water by barges as one possible non-traditional approach that could be explored.

"I spoke earlier on the panel about looking at non-traditional approaches to water supply, and barging water may be one of them," she said.

Lucky said water utilities across the region were already facing significant challenges, including high levels of non-revenue water, financial constraints and difficulties securing adequate raw water supplies.

She said Dominica's freshwater resources could therefore become a greater regional asset, but cautioned that any initiative to supply other territories would need to be properly structured and supported by clear policies and agreements.

Lucky recommended that Dominica establish formal arrangements, including memoranda of understanding (MOUs), with countries seeking to access its water resources.

"Anything we are doing should be policy-driven. We should ensure that it is either supported by some level of agreement, whether it's an MOU or some sort of agreement between the two countries," she said.

OFF TO BEIJING

Team TCI Heads to Beijing for World Aquatics Swimming Championships



SEE PAGE 32





Hamilton Education Golf Classic Raises Over $35,000 for Local Charities and Honours the Legacy of Lt. Col. Nimrol Beckles

The Hamilton Education Community Foundation (HECF) successfully hosted its 2nd Annual Hamilton Education Golf Classic on Sunday, November 15, 2026, at the Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club, bringing together golfers, corporate sponsors, community leaders, and supporters for a day of friendly competition, philanthropy, and community engagement.

The charity golf tournament raised over $35,000 in support of three important community organizations: the Turks and Caicos Islands Cadet Corps, United Way Turks and Caicos Islands, and the Youth HELP Foundation. The funds will support initiatives aimed at youth development, education, literacy, leadership, and community empowerment, including United Way TCI's Mobile Library initiative, the Cadet Corps' transportation needs, and the Youth HELP Foundation's STEM education programmes.

The tournament was honoured by the attendance of Her Excellency the Governor, Dileeni Daniel-Selvaratnam, whose presence underscored the importance of community partnerships and charitable initiatives in advancing opportunities for young people throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

In attendance and participating in the tournament were former Premiers Hon. Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson and Hon. Galmo Williams respectively, joining golfers and supporters from across the community in demonstrating their commitment to the charitable causes.

Honouring the Legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Nimrol Beckles

A particularly meaningful feature of this year's tournament was its dedication to the memory of the late Lieutenant Colonel Nimrol Beckles, whose leadership and dedicated service to the Turks and Caicos Islands Cadet Corps helped shape the lives of many young people.

In a moving tribute, members of the Cadet Corps conducted a ceremonial march in his honour, recognizing his contributions to youth development, discipline, leadership, and national service.

The tournament also gave cadets a unique opportunity to experience golf. Two Cadet Corps teams participated in the competition, receiving guidance and coaching from a golf professional provided by the Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club.

Building on this experience, the Golf Club generously offered to provide six weeks of golf training for 16 cadets, creating an opportunity for continued exposure to the sport, personal development, and mentorship.

This initiative is one of the tournament's most significant achievements, showing how sporting events can create lasting opportunities for young people beyond the fundraising itself.

Tournament Winners

The tournament featured enthusiastic participation and competitive play, with the following teams securing the top three positions:

First Place
Gervin Simmons
John Donatien
Paul Barresford
Rico Rolle

Second Place
Justin Simons
Kurt Rivers
Mark Fulford
Richard Chilton

Third Place
Chris Cardile
Jared Forbes
Tony Arata
Tony Garland

The Hamilton Education Community Foundation congratulates all winning teams and thanks every golfer who participated in support of the charitable causes.

A Community United Through Giving

The success of the 2nd Annual Hamilton Education Golf Classic reflects the generosity and commitment of the tournament's corporate sponsors, individual donors, volunteers, participating golfers, and community partners.

Speaking about the event's success, Dr. the Hon. Rufus W. Ewing, Chairman of the Hamilton Education Community Foundation, expressed appreciation for the overwhelming community support.

"The Hamilton Education Golf Classic is about much more than golf. It is about bringing our community together to invest in the future of our young people and to support organizations that are making a meaningful difference in their lives. We are especially proud that this year's tournament honoured the legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Nimrol Beckles, whose commitment to youth development and leadership continues to inspire us. Seeing our cadets participate in the tournament and being offered an opportunity to learn the game of golf is a wonderful example of the lasting impact that can emerge from initiatives such as this."

Dr. Ewing also expressed gratitude to the Royal Turks and Caicos Golf Club for its generous support, including waiving the green fees for the participating cadets, providing professional coaching during the tournament, and offering the six-week training programme.

The Foundation extends special thanks to the tournament sponsors, prize donors, organizing committee, volunteers, and all those who contributed to the event's success. The Foundation also thanks the Ministry of Education and the Department of Youth Affairs for facilitating the Cadet Corps' participation.



TCI RUGBY HEADS TO T&T FOR NORTH AMERICAN CARIBBEAN SEVENS CHAMPIONSHIP

The TCI team prepares to depart TCI to compete in the Rugby Americas North (RAN) international rugby tournament in Trinidad and Tobago this weekend.

There are 12 men's and 6 ladies' teams in the competition. Last year TCI competed in the Gold medal match after marching through the competition in the round robin play.

Unfortunately, the squad came up just short in the final match last year and the team is looking forward to a chance to redeem themselves this year and bring home the Gold.

TCI will play Bahamas at 8:30 Saturday morning in the first match of the tournament. This match will be a strong challenge for the TCI team as the Bahamas and TCI played at Meridian Field in TCI earlier this year to prepare for the tournament.

Both sides will be familiar with each other, however the TCI will have two new additional players on the roster for the tournament and hopefully those additions will provide the edge needed to bring the TCI to victory.

TCI will then proceed to play St. Lucia at 12:30 and the BVI at 4:30 later that day. Sunday TCI plays St. Vincent and the Grenadines at 9:14 and Curacao at 12:30 to complete round robin play.

TCI lost to Curacao in the final match last year so there will be excitement surrounding the rematch. The medal round will commence at 3:45 on Sunday.

TCI President Keith Burant is confident that the team will play well and make the TCI proud.



The TCI Rugby Team take time for a photo before departing to Trinidad and Tobago for the North America Caribbean Sevens Championship

"The team has been training very diligently and putting hard work leading up to the tournament," Burant said. "With the experienced coaching of Joseph Quashie and Dean Griffith the side is poised to take the next step in international competition. We are hoping the team will provide motivation for the other young players in the TCI to join the rugby movement."

For the first time ever rugby will be part of the 2027 Carifta games hosted in Bermuda this March and TCIRFU plans to send several age group teams in both the men and ladies divisions to this event. That will be huge opportunity for the young TCI players to compete against other nations and gain valuable playing experience before graduating to the Men's competition in the future.



Join our team

THE STRAND
TURKS & CAICOS

Reservations Manager

Job Specification:

- Provide leadership, guidance, and direction to the reservation team, including recruitment, training, performance management, and professional development, to foster a high-performing and motivated workforce.
- Oversee all aspects of the reservation process, including handling inquiries, managing bookings, confirming reservations, and resolving issues or discrepancies, ensuring accuracy, efficiency, and compliance with hotel policies and procedures.
- Develop and implement strategies to maximize room revenue and occupancy levels, including setting pricing strategies, managing inventory, and implementing upselling and cross-selling initiatives to achieve revenue targets.
- Distribution channel management
- Manage relationships with distribution partners, online travel agencies (OTAs), and global distribution systems (GDS), negotiating contracts, optimizing distribution channels, and monitoring performance to increase market share and revenue.
- Analyze reservation trends, booking patterns, and market demand data to forecast occupancy levels, identify opportunities for revenue growth, and make data-driven decisions to optimize pricing and inventory management strategies.
- Guest experience enhancement
- Collaborate with other hotel departments, including front office, sales, and marketing, to ensure a seamless and personalized guest experience from booking to check-out, implementing initiatives to enhance guest satisfaction and loyalty.
- Evaluate and implement reservation management systems, booking engines, and revenue management tools to streamline processes, enhance efficiency, and improve the guest booking experience.
- Reporting and analytics
- Generate reports and analytics related to reservation performance, revenue metrics, and market trends, providing insights and recommendations to senior management for strategic planning and decision-making.

Job Requirements:

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 3-5 years as a Reservations Manager + management certifications
- Must have a good experience in sales and revenue management.
- Must be articulate, professional and able to meet targets set for revenue generation.

Salary expectations - $50,000 - $65,000 per annum

Occupancy: Work permit holder

Maintenance Technician

Job Specification:

- Inspecting machinery, equipment, buildings and systems, including heating, ventilation and air conditioning
- Performing routine cleaning and sanitising, including specialist cleaning of delicate or high-value items such as entry systems, security equipment, lifts and escalators
- Completing small repairs such as fixing locks, leaky taps and broken windows
- Checking and maintaining safety equipment such as fire alarms, fire extinguishers and carbon monoxide detectors
- Performing grounds maintenance such as mowing lawns, trimming bushes and replacing exterior light bulbs
- Inspecting and troubleshooting problems and issues reported by clients or colleagues
- Maintaining vehicles, tools and equipment required to perform the role effectively
- Following a maintenance schedule to ensure that all routine tasks are completed

Job Requirements:

- Must have 2-3 years working in the Maintenance or Mechanical departments
- Must have a good experience in problem solving and fixing issues as required within the hotel environment, water waste, carpentry, mechanical issues, maintenance and fixtures.

Salary expectations - $22,000 - $35,000 per annum

Occupancy: Vacant

Guest Service Expert/ Pool & Beach Associate

Job Specification

- Greet guests upon arrival and provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere.
- Provide information about the resort's amenities, services, and activities available at the pool and beach.
- Take food and beverage orders from guests and deliver them in a timely manner.
- Maintain knowledge of the menu, daily specials, and promotions.
- Monitor pool and beach areas to ensure safety and enforce resort policies and regulations.
- Respond to guest inquiries, concerns, and any emergencies promptly and professionally
- Assist in enforcing pool and beach rules to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment.
- Regularly inspect and clean pool deck and beach areas, ensuring they are free of debris and hazards.

Job Requirements

- Must be able to speak English
- Must have 2+ years experience in related field
- Must be able to work in customer service, stand for long hours, and work efficiently under pressure.
- Ability to stand for extended periods and lift up to 25 pounds.
- Must be comfortable working outside in varying weather conditions
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Positive attitude and willingness to learn

Salary expectations - $8.50 - $9.00 per hour

Occupancy: Local

APPLY NOW!

Send your resume to: careers@thestrandtci.com

Company Address : 1 Seaview Drive Cooper Jack Bay, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Isalnds

We encourage belonger applicants to apply to our resort and send a copy of your resume to the Labour Department located Downtown, Aiport Road, Providenciales



Jessica Frattolillo (third from right), Chairperson of the Foundation and Kendi Jones (right), also of the Foundation, share a photo moment with the winners of the Grace Bay Foundation Fun Run.

Grace Bay Foundation Fun Run Raises $23,000 for Charity

The Grace Bay Foundation Fun Run brought together more than 350 participants on Saturday morning for a memorable community event that raised $23,000 for two important local organizations, the National Cancer Society and Food for Thought.

The funds raised will be split evenly between the two organizations, with $11,500 going to each, supporting their continued work and initiatives throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The event featured 5K, 10K, and youth categories, bringing together runners, walkers, families, and community supporters of all ages. Participants showed tremendous enthusiasm and commitment, even after the original event date had to be postponed due to a lightning storm.

Prizes were awarded to the first-place finishers in the 5K, 10K, and youth categories, with awards presented to both male and female winners.

The success of the Grace Bay Foundation Fun Run would not have been possible without the generous support of its sponsors:

Solutions Experts, Carlisle Supplies, BCQS, Hayes Elevator, Projetech, Baker Tilly, Miller Simons O'Sullivan, Core Construction, Windward, Coco Bistro, TCBC, Ritz-Carlton, Isle Help, FCIBC, Java Island and Graceway Supermarkets.

We are also grateful to all of our Grace Bay Resorts Properties who participated: Rock House, Grace Bay Club, South Bank, West Bay Club, Point Grace and the Private Villa Collection.

The Grace Bay Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to everyone who registered, participated, sponsored, volunteered, and supported the event. The strong turnout and generosity of the community helped make the event a meaningful success and demonstrated the continued commitment of the Turks and Caicos community to supporting local causes.



Photo shows some of the participates at the starting line

"We are incredibly grateful to everyone who came out and supported the Grace Bay Foundation Fun Run," said Jessica Frattolillo, Chairperson of the Foundation. "After having to postpone the original date due to the weather, seeing more than 350 participants return and come together for such an important cause was truly special. Raising over $20,000 for the National Cancer Society and Food for Thought is an incredible achievement, and we thank everyone who played a part."

The Grace Bay Foundation looks forward to continuing its efforts to bring the community together in support of organizations making a positive impact throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Team TCI Heads to Beijing for World Aquatics Swimming Championships

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands will once again take its place on the international sporting stage as two of the country's swimmers prepare to compete at the World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m) – Beijing 2026.

Gabrielle Martin and Sean Walters will proudly represent the Turks and Caicos Islands at the prestigious championships, scheduled to take place from December 1–6, 2026, at the iconic Beijing National Aquatics Centre, popularly known as the Water Cube, in the People's Republic of China.

The championships are expected to attract more than 1,000 world-class swimmers from over 200 countries for six days of high-level short-course swimming competition.

The Turks and Caicos Islands delegation comprises National Federation Representative Roydoya Robinson, Coach Lincoln Martin, and swimmers Gabrielle Martin and Sean Walters.



Gabrielle Martin (third from left) and Sean Walters (fourth left) are photographed with (from left) Joddy Harvey of the Sports Commission; Bennett Williams – Head of the Salt Rakers Aquatic Club; Coach Lincoln Martin and Roydoya Robinson of the TCI Swim Federation.
Photos: Bennett Williams

Team TCI departed the Howard Hamilton International Airport on Thursday, November 26, aboard Air Canada, embarking on a journey that presents another significant opportunity for the local athletes to showcase their talent, gain valuable international experience and compete against some of the world's finest swimmers.

Ahead of the scheduled departure, the Turks and Caicos Islands Swim Federation extended an invitation to representatives of the TCI Sports Commission to join the delegation at the airport, offering encouragement and demonstrating national support for the athletes.

The Beijing championships mark the 18th edition of the World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m), with competition taking place in a 25-metre pool at the historic venue that hosted swimming events during the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Morning heats are scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. Beijing time, followed by semi-finals and finals at 7:00 p.m. The evening session on the final day of competition will commence at 6:00 p.m.

GK Foods crush Red Strikers by 111 runs in Senior Men's Cricket Competition

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

GK Foods delivered a commanding all-round performance to defeat Red Strikers by 111 runs in the Turks and Caicos Islands Cricket Association (TCICA) Senior Men's T20 Cricket Competition on Sunday, November 22, 2026, at the Downtown Ball Park in Providenciales.

Red Strikers won the toss, with GK Foods batting first and posting a competitive total of 150 runs from their allotted 20 overs before producing an outstanding bowling performance to dismiss their opponents for just 39 runs in 14.2 overs.

Babu Arunachalam led the batting for GK Foods with 32 runs, while Nagarajan Kuthalingam contributed 21 and Mathan Selvakumar added 18. Rajakumar Kasi chipped in with 16 runs, while man-of-the-match Ariharan Kuthalingam contributed 13.

Red Strikers also conceded 38 extras, including 17 wides, nine no-balls, eight byes and four leg byes, which helped boost GK Foods' total.

Robert Johnson was the standout bowler for Red Strikers, claiming four wickets for just 12 runs from his four overs, including one maiden. Shaquille Cummings also impressed with figures of two wickets for 13 runs from four overs, while Shawn Gayle picked up two wickets for 29 runs. Tom Fuller and Dujon Neptune claimed one wicket apiece.

Chasing 151 runs for victory, Red Strikers struggled to establish any meaningful partnerships as the GK Foods bowling attack maintained relentless pressure throughout the innings.

Herbert Williams and Shaquille Cummings were the joint leading scorers for Red Strikers with eight runs each, with Cummings remaining unbeaten. Denzil Downes contributed six runs, while Dujon Neptune scored four.

Ariharan Kuthalingam spearheaded the GK Foods bowling attack with an exceptional spell, capturing four wickets for just seven runs from four overs, including one maiden.



Ariharan Kuthalingam, who spearheaded the GK Foods bowling attack was named man of the match
Photo: Contributed

Akilesh Chathurakinarulla Paramba provided excellent support, claiming three wickets for 12 runs from 3.2 overs, while Babu Arunachalam took two wickets for eight runs from four overs. Nagarajan Kuthalingam completed the demolition with one wicket for 10 runs from three overs.

The disciplined bowling display saw Red Strikers lose all 10 wickets for just 39 runs, handing GK Foods an emphatic 111-run victory.

GK Foods' impressive combination of productive batting and clinical bowling proved decisive, as they secured a convincing victory in the second round of the TCICA Senior Men's T20 Cricket Competition.

MATCH SUMMARY

- GK Foods: 150 runs (20 overs)
- Red Strikers: 39 all out (14.2 overs)
- Result: GK Foods won by 111 runs.
- Top batsman: Babu Arunachalam – 32 runs.
- Best bowler: Ariharan Kuthalingam – 4 wickets for 7 runs.
- Venue: Downtown Ball Park, Providenciales.
- Date: Sunday, November 22, 2026.