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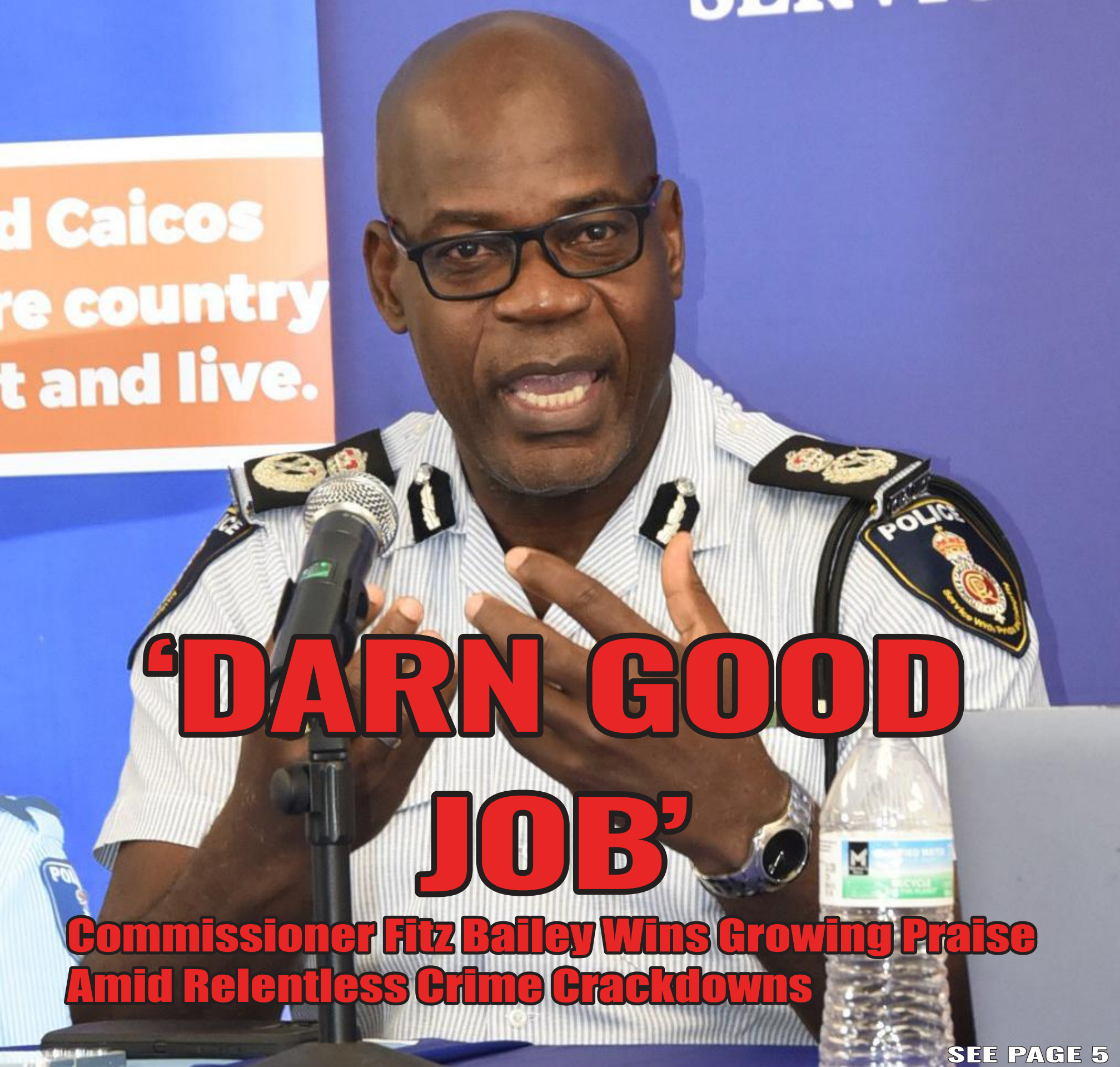
Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage



Over \$1.27 billion in investment agreements executed this fiscal year PG 4



Changes to Business Licensing Law Benefits TC Islanders Big Time PG 3 & 10



‘DARN GOOD JOB’

Commissioner Fitz Bailey Wins Growing Praise Amid Relentless Crime Crackdowns

SEE PAGE 5



The Andaz Turks and Caicos Residences at Grace Bay

Andaz Turks and Caicos Surpasses \$100 Million in Sales, Nears Full Sell-Out

The Andaz Turks and Caicos Residences at Grace Bay is celebrating a major milestone, with real estate sales officially soaring past the \$100 million mark.

The announcement follows the resort and residences’ strongest month since breaking ground, with five homes sold in the past 30 days alone. Hyatt’s first Andaz-branded property in the Caribbean continues to generate exceptional demand, leaving only a limited number of ownership opportunities. Inventory has narrowed to the final Sunrise Studio, offering direct ocean views from a sixth-floor beachfront terrace, and the last three-bedroom residence, designed for spacious family living and entertaining. A small number of one- and two-bedroom residences also remain available.

“This momentum underscores the uniqueness of the Andaz experience on Grace Bay Beach,” the developers noted in a release. “Now more than ever, these final residences represent an exclusive chance to join the Andaz Turks and Caicos community before we reach full sell-out.”

Construction Progress

On-site development is advancing steadily, with interior and exterior features taking shape ahead of the property’s anticipated Spring 2026 opening. Recent highlights include:

- 7th Floor: Final painting is underway.
- Guest Rooms: Decoration, ceilings, drywall, and plastering are



A rendering of one of the Andaz living rooms

more than 90% complete, with mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and sprinkler systems also nearing 90%.

- Millwork: Kitchen installation on the 6th and 7th floors is scheduled to begin by the end of September.
- Kids Club: A vibrant underwater mural is now 50% complete.
- Ground Floor: The arrival lobby’s stone wall has been completed.
- Pool Deck: The rough cast layer is in place, with landscaping and tree planting set to begin this month.

The property’s spa is also preparing to introduce a first-of-its-kind wellness feature to Grace Bay. Guests and residents will experience the restorative benefits of Nordic hot-and-cold contrast therapy, moving from

the heat of a cedar löyly sauna into the invigorating chill of an ice bath plunge.

A Growing Legacy

Beyond the resort’s walls, Andaz Turks and Caicos continues to align itself with local and international sustainability efforts. The Turks & Caicos Reef Fund, a key partner, recently earned recognition in National Geographic for its work in protecting marine ecosystems.

With sales momentum accelerating and construction milestones steadily achieved, the vision for Andaz Turks and Caicos is quickly becoming a reality—from the grand entryway to the water’s edge.



A rendering of one of the Andaz bedrooms, with inviting beach and waters of Grace Bay Beach beckoning



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

Saunders Leads Unveiling of Business Licensing Overhaul In Parliament

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Although the Bill falls under the Ministry of Finance, Saunders thanked Premier Hon. Charles Washington Misick for allowing him to lead the debate. He explained that the reform journey began in 2023 when, as Minister of Finance, he was told that a “Turks and Caicos Islander business” could be just 51 percent locally owned.

“It is those words that set me down the path to amending the business and investment frameworks to help Turks and Caicos Islanders thrive, and not just survive, as business owners,” Saunders said.

That revelation triggered more than a year of work, including islandwide town-hall meetings where residents voiced their concerns. By early October 2023, consultations had taken place in Providenciales, Grand Turk, Salt Cay, Middle Caicos, North Caicos, and South Caicos.

What the Bill Does

Saunders outlined a series of key reforms embedded in the amendments:

- Local ownership really means local. Reserved business categories will

now be limited to companies genuinely owned and controlled by Turks and Caicos Islanders.

- Clearer licensing rules. Business owners must hold the appropriate licence for each enterprise they operate, ensuring fairness and transparency.

- Closing the transfer loophole. Licences cannot be transferred. Any change in ownership requires a new application, ending the practice of backdoor share transfers.

- Digital government services. Applications, renewals, and notices will move online, with a fixed annual cycle running April 1 to March 31.

- Updated fees and categories. Simplified definitions will make it easier for businesses to understand their obligations.

“Mr. Speaker, these amendments will also ensure that restricted business sectors are not exploited,” Saunders stressed. “Most matters will now be resolved in days, not months.”

Protecting Local Entrepreneurs

With more business sectors now reserved for Islanders, Saunders said the Bill directly strengthens opportuni-

ties for local participation in services, trades, and tourism. Anti-fronting measures will protect genuine partnerships, while faster e-services mean entrepreneurs spend more time running businesses and less time waiting in lines. Safeguards are also built into the law. Non-Islander businesses already licensed will be grandfathered, ensuring that “the goalposts are not moved” for existing operators. Appeals to the Magistrate’s Court remain in place, protecting due process and fairness.

Lowering Barriers, Not Standards

Saunders described the amendments as a future-ready framework designed to “lower barriers, not standards.”

“At its heart, this Bill is about supporting and protecting Turks and Caicos Islander entrepreneurs. With these amendments, talent born in the Turks and Caicos Islands will now get to thrive in the Turks and Caicos Islands,” he said. Closing his presentation, Saunders quoted Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus: “All human beings are entrepreneurs, but many don’t have the opportunity to find that out. With these amendments, our people will now get an opportunity to do so.”



JOB FAIR

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

8:30am

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Join us in our mission to create Caribbean moments and memories that inspire people, their families, and our global community to dream bigger and live more prosperous, sustainable, and fulfilling lives.

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- Wedding Manager
- Food Beverage Manager
- Assistant F&B Manager
- Restaurant Manager
- Boat Captains *
- Scuba Instructors *
- Dive Master *

- Junior Accountant
- Income Auditor
- Accounts Clerks
- Sales Executive
- Wedding Coordinators
- Project Administrator
- Project Coordinator
- Room Attendants

- Loyalty & Travel Concierge
- Learning & Development Coordinator
- Resort Shop Attendants
- Cook 1,2,3
- Room Technicians
- Stove Technicians
- Security Officers

- Finish Carpenter
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- Restaurant Cleaners
- Laundry Attendants
- Landscapers
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- Bar Porters
- Stewards

REQUIREMENTS: Updated Resume | Passport | Freelance Permit | Residence Permit | Permanent Resident | Local Status Document [Belonger Card Certificate, Naturalization Certificate] | Qualifications/Experience required

BENEFITS: Healthcare | Education and Training | Staff Transportation | Competitive Salary Packages | Opportunities for Growth & Development

Bring along your banking details [bank name, branch name & account #]

Investments Surpass \$1.27B in Current Fiscal Period

By Todeline Defralien

The Turks and Caicos Islands have seen historic levels of new foreign direct investment with over \$1.27 billion in agreements executed this fiscal year alone, according to Hon. Charles Washington Misick, Premier and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Investment and Trade.

Misick, speaking at Invest TCI's 4th annual general meeting held at the Ritz Carlton ballroom in Providenciales, on Tuesday September 16th, 2025, said these new agreements have created more than 2,800 permanent jobs and added over 1,000 new rooms to the islands hospitality sector. He also stated that TCI economy is projected to grow by 5.4% this year.

"Over the past ten years, Invest TCI has been a catalyst for growth, attracting investment, supporting entrepreneurs, and contributing to the building of a more resilient economy. The results of our efforts are evident. Our economy is projected to grow by 5.4% this year, continuing the positive trajectory in recent years," he said.

He added: "We have seen historic levels of new foreign direct investment, over \$1.27 billion in agreements executed this fiscal year alone, creating more than 2,800 permanent jobs and adding over 1,000 new rooms to our hospitality sector. These are not just numbers; they will support livelihoods fami-

lies, and futures."

He continued: "Among the hallmark investments that have reshaped our tourism landscape has been the opening of the Ritz-Carlton in 2021, which brought the first global luxury brand to our shores and created hundreds of jobs for the country; and the launch of Salterra, a Marriott Luxury Collection resort on South Caicos in 2025, which has become a model for sustainable hospitality, supporting the local fishing industry, funding youth and community programs, generating renewable solar energy, and helping restore our coral reefs."

Misick stressed that these projects show that major investments can be both profitable, socially culturally and environmentally impactful for TCI's local communities.

In addition, he explained that while they welcome new investments, the Turks and Caicos Islands owe much of its' modern economic foundation to the vision and commitment of early investors who believed in the country's potential long before its global recognition as a premier destination.

"These pioneering investors established the first resorts, introduced international standards in hospitality, and laid the groundwork for tourism as the main economic driver. Many reinvested their profits locally, expanding their ventures, creating jobs, and contributing to infrastructure, healthcare, and community development.

"Their continued confidence in the

TCI has not only stimulated growth in real estate, construction, and financial services but also strengthened the Islands' reputation as a stable, attractive, and high-value destina-

tion. Today, with the help of TCIInvest their legacy endures through thriving businesses, sustained employment, and a lasting partnership in nation-building," Misick explained.



Misick... "Our economy is projected to grow by 5.4% this year, continuing the positive trajectory in recent years."

Landmark MOU Signed Between RT&CIPF and UWI

A landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, between the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force (RT&CIPF) and the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, Jamaica.

The historic agreement was formalized during a meeting in Jamaica between Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey, Ms. Sandra Maynard, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Global Affairs, and Dr. Shakira Maxwell, Senior Programme Officer at UWI.

The MOU represents a major step forward for the RT&CIPF as it strengthens its partnership with one of the region's most respected academic institutions.

Under the agreement, UWI will design and administer the Promotions Examination for Sergeants and Constables, scheduled to take place in

October. This collaboration ensures that the process is impartial, credible, and consistent with international best practices.

Commissioner Bailey described the initiative as a defining moment for the organization, noting that it reflects his determination to modernize the Force and to embed a culture of fairness and professionalism.

Since taking up leadership, Commissioner Bailey has emphasized that promotions within the RT&CIPF must be based on ability, performance, and leadership potential rather than personal connections or favoritism. He has also commissioned organizational reviews to identify and eliminate barriers to equality, with a particular focus on gender representation in leadership roles.

Beyond the immediate focus on the October examinations, the MOU sets the foundation for wider cooperation between the RT&CIPF and UWI. Future initiatives under discussion include specialized training modules, leadership development programmes, and the re-establishment of a police training school within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Commissioner highlighted that such capacity-building initiatives are essential to strengthening public confidence in the police and ensuring the Force is prepared to meet evolving challenges. With crime-fighting increasingly requiring specialized skills and advanced strategies, the partnership with UWI is seen as a strategic investment in the professional growth of officers and the overall safety of the Turks and Caicos Islands.



Ms. Sandra Maynard, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Global Affairs at the UWI and Commissioner of Police of the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands POLICE, Fitz Bailey, at the signing of the MOU.

'DARN GOOD JOB'

Commissioner Fitz Bailey Wins Growing Praise Amid Relentless Crime Crackdowns

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Public recognition has been steadily mounting for Police Commissioner Fitz Bailey, who some see as quickly becoming the darling of crimefighting in the Turks and Caicos Islands, after taking out or arresting some of the country's most ruthless criminals.

Bailey, a seasoned crime fighter from Jamaica, first arrived in the territory in 2024 as a police consultant. He was later appointed Joint Deputy Commissioner of Police, serving alongside then-Commissioner Edwin Martin. When Martin resigned after a short stint due to illness, Bailey was sworn in as acting commissioner. By April 2025, he was confirmed in the role.

At the time, the appointment stirred mixed emotions. Some residents doubted whether an outsider could turn the tide on violent crime, while others expressed cautious optimism. Bailey himself appeared unfazed. From the beginning, he declared that there would be no honeymoon period. Instead, he set to work immediately, introducing targeted crime-fighting strategies that quickly began producing results.

Taking the Fight to Criminal Networks

Bailey's leadership has been marked by bold, decisive actions aimed at dismantling entrenched criminal groups and removing illegal firearms from the streets. His results have sparked both relief and controversy, as several high-profile police operations ended in deadly encounters with wanted men. Perhaps the most dramatic was the killing of Andral Percival, the islands' most wanted criminal. On August 31, 2025, Percival, who the police said was responsible for almost a dozen murders, was shot dead during a confrontation with police in Blue Hills' Miracle Close.

For months, he had been the subject of intense manhunts, repeatedly slipping through police dragnets. Authorities linked him to several violent acts, including arson attacks in July that destroyed clusters of homes in Blue Hills, particularly in Mary Jane Lane.

Percival's reputation as elusive and dangerous fueled widespread fear. His death, however, was seen by many as a major breakthrough for the police and a personal triumph for Commissioner Bailey.

Before Percival's demise, the commissioner had already overseen another major operation: the fatal shooting of Jaheim Forbes, a 19-year-old want-

ed for his alleged role as a gunman in the mass shooting at a hookah bar that left four people dead, and nine others wounded. Forbes was killed at his Five Cays home in an early morning raid. His image had been plastered on wanted posters for weeks, but his mother publicly denied the allegations, insisting he was innocent at the time of his death.

Escalating Tensions

Forbes' death was followed by heightened tensions. A voice note, believed to have been recorded by Percival, circulated widely, threatening Bailey, his officers, and even innocent civilians. Instead of retreating, Bailey doubled down.

Just days before Percival was killed, officers clashed with his associates in Miracle Close. Acting on intelligence reports, police moved in on armed men. Shots were fired, and one suspect was fatally wounded. His identity remains unclear, but reports suggest he was a trusted member of Percival's circle.

Then, on September 12, 2025, police again descended on Miracle Close in search of Percival's allies. Officers encountered three armed men, triggering a fierce gun battle. One of the men, later identified only as "Tulan", said to be Percival's top lieutenant, was shot and killed. Another suspect fled the scene.

These incidents underscored the danger facing officers on the ground and the intensity of Bailey's campaign to disrupt criminal networks.

Expanding Arrests and Charges

Bailey's approach has not been limited to deadly encounters. His administration has also pushed hard for arrests and prosecutions in older murder cases, as well as the seizure of illegal firearms.

On September 13, 2025, a man and a woman were arrested in North Caicos following reports of a firearm threat at a local business. Police recovered a handgun believed to have been tossed from their vehicle during a pursuit. Both suspects remain in custody.

On September 11, 2025, the police laid fresh charges against Archley Forbes, 22, of Five Cays, in connection with two murders dating back to 2023 and 2024. Forbes was already on remand for the killing of Evanson "Archie" Walkin, and the new charges deepened the case against him.

Jevano Arthur, 22, was also charged with attempted murder, accused of

trying to kill Demitri Gurrier in October 2024. Arthur is jointly charged with Forbes in Walkin's murder case.

The police have also reported steady seizures of firearms and ammunition. Several high-powered rifles, handguns, and large caches of bullets have been confiscated. Most recently, police charged Dario Butterfield after discovering a rifle and 255 rounds of ammunition.

Public Reaction

While police actions under Bailey have led to multiple fatalities, they have also earned him a growing base of public support. Many residents, weary of violent crime, view his hardline approach as necessary.

"People are beginning to feel safer," said one Blue Hills resident, "because they see that criminals are no longer untouchable."

Bailey has consistently framed his mission as one of protecting communities and restoring stability. Speaking after the September 12 operation, he emphasized that the police would "not be intimidated by threats" and would

continue to act decisively against those who endanger the public.

Turning Point for Policing

Under Bailey's stewardship, the Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police Force appears to be undergoing a transformation. His emphasis on intelligence-led operations, quick response to threats, and relentless pursuit of wanted men has already reshaped the crime landscape.

The recovery of firearms, the charging of longstanding murder cases, and the disruption of violent gangs all suggest that Bailey's tenure could mark a turning point. Though critics remain cautious, the commissioner's growing reputation is undeniable.

What began with skepticism has gradually shifted to confidence. Bailey's combination of toughness and persistence is winning praise, not only from residents but also from regional law enforcement observers. As one local resident put it: "Bailey is doing a darn good job. For the first time in a long time, criminals are on the run, not the community."



Commissioner of Police Fitz Bailey

Is India a 'Tariff King'? Not really

There is a widespread but fallacious perception that India's tariffs are inordinately high. There are subjective factors when it comes to a country like livability, public courtesy, or even how foreigners are welcomed. But tariffs are quantifiable and there should really be no place for subjectivity. So, let us consider the facts in the case.

Before we do that, however, it might be useful for the average reader to know as to what function tariffs perform in a low-income developing country like India, as opposed to say, a high-income developed country like the United States of America.

Traditionally, low-income developing countries use tariffs for two reasons: one, to protect their domestic industry and two, to gain revenue from it. Protection of domestic industry is an accepted argument by economists all over the world, especially if the industry is an infant one and the country needs to develop an industrial base. Then, there is the revenue gaining function, which is illustrative of a country's duties on alcohol or luxury motorcycles, for instance. India's tariffs, which were high in the 1980s, were brought down significantly since the 1991 reforms were initiated and during the negotiations related to the Uruguay Round, which led to the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Since then, the secular trend in India has been one of gradual reduction of the applicable tariffs year after year.

From a technical point of view, there are two kinds of tariffs that countries have. One is applied tariffs, which as the name indicates is the actual tariff (normally ad valorem) imposed at the border when a foreign good enters a country.

The other one is bound tariffs, which is the maximum tariff that a country can impose on a foreign good from a legal obligation arising from its most-favored-nation (MFN) commitments to the WTO.

It goes without saying that the tariff war initiated by the U.S. is in violation of its commitments under the WTO agreements. But then, the WTO itself has been moribund for a while. It is also worth noting that tariffs cannot be the same for all countries. It is a truism that low-income developing countries will have higher tariffs (for reasons mentioned above) compared to G7 countries.

So, where does India figure in all of this? When India is judged on tariffs, there are two parameters which are used. One is simple average tariffs, and the other is trade-weighted tariffs. If you use the former metric, India's tariff does seem high (15.98 per cent). But this is in many ways academic because for most of the goods that come into the Indian market, it is the trade-weighted applied tariff that matters.

And the trade-weighted tariff that India maintains is a very respectable 4.6 per cent. This level of tariff gives the lie to claims that India is somehow a tariff king. Simple averages distort the picture since they treat all products alike regardless of the trade volumes. So, why is there such a big difference between India's simple average tariff and its trade-weighted tariff?

India does maintain relatively high tariffs in agriculture and automobiles. In both these cases, the main purpose of the tariffs is to protect domestic industry. Agriculture in India is sui generis and like no other major country in the world. Around 50 per cent of

India's mammoth population directly or indirectly depends on agriculture.

Besides, agriculture in India is not mechanized and land holdings are so small that farming is about survival and not about commerce. Asking India to open its farm sector to imports is akin to asking it to commit suicide, which no elected government in India would agree to. This demand is especially egregious since Western farmers are beneficiaries of direct and indirect subsidies.

Given all of this, India does maintain relatively high tariffs for agriculture products, average rates of around 33 percent on meat, dairy, fruits, and cereals. But this is not surprising if you consider the fact that the European Union's average rate is 37.5 per cent on dairy products going up to 205 per cent, and up to 261 per cent on fruits and vegetables.

Compare this with Japan whose rate is 61.3 per cent on dairy products, going up to 298 percent, and up to 258 per cent on cereals, and 160 percent on meat and vegetables. Or South Korea, whose average is 54 percent on agricultural goods with 800 per cent on vegetables, and 300 per cent on fruits. Who is the tariff king in agriculture, you might ask? As for automobiles, this sector creates mass employment and is crucial for that reason.

Even India's simple average tariff levels at 15.98 per cent is in line with global norms for developing economies. Bangladesh (14.1 percent), Argentina (13.4 per cent), and Türkiye (16.2 percent), which are all countries with comparable or higher GDP per capita, maintain similar or higher tariffs.

On the US saying their exports of non-agricultural products

face tariff barriers in India, it is worth noting that US exporters often face equal or lower tariffs in India compared to many Asian peers. In electronics and technology for instance, India has 0 per cent tariff on most IT hardware, semiconductors, computers, and associated parts, with average tariffs of 10.9 per cent on electronics and 8.3 per cent on computing machinery.

In comparison, Vietnam has a tariff of 8.5 per cent on electronic equipment, going up to 35 per cent. China has a tariff rate of 5.4 per cent going up to 20 per cent on electronics, and up to 25 per cent on computing machinery. And Indonesia has a tariff rate of 6.3 per cent on electronic equipment, going up to 20 per cent, and up to 30 per cent on computing machinery.

It is true that India maintains justifiable tariff protection for its agricultural, dairy, and auto markets for valid reasons. But its trade-weighted applied tariff in other sectors does not justify it being called a "tariff king" at all.

Dr Mohan Kumar is a former Indian ambassador and is director general of the newly established Jadeja Motwani Institute for American Studies at the OP Jindal Global University.

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OPEN JOB OPENINGS

A&G Department: • General Manager To lead and direct the operations and financial activities of a five-star luxury resort, maintaining the highest level of guest service and owner satisfaction. Ensure the selection and ongoing direction of resort team members to achieve the highest levels of integrity, job satisfaction, morale and team spirit. The position ensures the Resort's operation meets the Company's target customer needs, ensures employee satisfaction, and focuses on growing revenues and maximizing the financial performance of the department. Develops and implements property-wide strategies that deliver products and services to meet or exceed the needs and expectations of the customer and property employees and provides a return on investment. Job Specifications: • Bachelor's degree in Hospitality/ Tourism Management or Business Studies or equivalent certified qualifications preferred • At least 10 years five-star resort/International management experience in Senior Level Hotel Operations • Minimum of 5 years of direct related experience as a General Manager for a five-star luxury property • Must have pre-opening experience in a luxury hotel • Strong Rooms or Food & Beverage background • Luxury Brand Hotel Chain experience a must • Delivers business results through effective management of planning, forecasting, improving yield, budgeting, cost management and all aspects of business Management of Financial Resources: • Determining how money will be spent to get the work done, and accounting for these expenditures. Applied Business Knowledge: • Understanding market dynamics, enterprise level objectives and important aspects of the company's business to accurately diagnose strengths and weaknesses, anticipate opportunities and risks, identify issues, and develop strategies and plans. Aligning individual and team actions with strategies and plans to drive business results. • Obtaining and seeing to the appropriate use of equipment, facilities, and materials needed to do certain work. CORE WORK ACTIVITIES Developing and Maintaining Resort Goals: • Sets expectations and holds all Resort's leadership team accountable for demonstrating desired service behaviors. • Reviews financial reports and statements to determine how the Resort is performing against budget. • Makes recommendations for CAPEX funding of overall Resort equipment and renovations in accordance with brand business strategy. • Works with Resort's leadership teams to determine areas of concern and develops strategies to improve the department's financial performance. • Establishes challenging, realistic and obtainable goals to guide operation and performance. • Strives to improve service performance • Develops and manages Resort budgets. • Monitors the department's actual and projected sales to ensure revenue goals are met or exceeded and opportunities are identified and addressed. • Focuses on maintaining profit margins without compromising guest or employee satisfaction Salary: \$54,000- per annum • IT Manager Job Specifications: A key member of South Bank team, primary responsibility is to maintain and manage the information technology infrastructure of Grace Bay Resorts which includes all the member hotels and villas, service and quality.	This position reports and work directly with the Director of IT. Job Specification • Ensure all areas of the hotel and resort across all properties are supported with proper computer systems. • Provide technical support for all hotel and resort IT systems including but not limited to servers / network infrastructure / workstation and laptop / printers / wifi system / streaming infrastructure / point of sale / IoTs; Telecommunication systems including carriers, pbx, mobile systems, voip; All Hotel Software (Property Management System, Point of Sale, Back Office Financial, Time Management System; Productivity Applications (Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, Collaboration Tool); Administration of Email Systems (Gmail, Microsoft, Google Workspace). • Perform system administration and maintenance task including data protection / backup and disaster recovery at data; vulnerability management; management of software maintenance and updates; Windows, office and email management of virus protection and endpoint protection; surveillance and control systems. • General network and user administration tasks. • Management and overseeing of IT-related projects across properties. Salary: \$50,000.00- per annum Reports: Director of IT Kitchen Department • Head Baker • Sous Chef Job Specifications: • Participate in the production of all pastry items. • Create centerpieces in a timely manner, utilizing chocolate, pastillage, sugar, and dead dough. • Plate desserts. • Ensure that all ingredients, supplies, and equipment are properly stored. • Maintain production records. Qualifications: • Minimum 3 years of hands-on pastry shop experience in a fast-paced, hotel environment. • Excellent communication skills. • Ability to convert formulas and follow production lists. • Strong time management skills and ability to work effectively in a fast-paced environment. • Ability to lift and move materials of various weights and sizes. Reports: Pastry Sous Chef Salary: \$24,000 per annum • Pastry Chef • Sushi Chef • Cook 1 Job Specification: • Prepare all types of sushi, including maki, nigiri and sashimi; • Prepare appetizers, soups and salads that are close to the philosophy of Japanese cuisine; • Add additional flavors to sushi rolls with ginger, rice vinegar, wasabi and soy sauce, when appropriate. • Must be knowledgeable with handling the Wok. Qualifications: • Must have at least 3 to 5 years' experience with making sushi and Wok skills.
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- Must be experienced in Asian cuisine, particularly in Wok skills.
- Reports:** Sous Chef
Salary: \$24,600 – \$27,600- per annum

Food and Beverage Department:

- Assistant Director of Food and Beverage
- Sommelier/Beverage Manager
- Mixologist

Job Description

Provides functional assistance to the Director of Food & Beverage, the Food and Beverage operation, Pool and Beach operation and interact with resort members and individuals outside the Resort including, but not limited to suppliers, competitors and other members of the local community. The Assistant Director of Food & Beverage is responsible for assisting with the coordinating of functions and activities with department heads as appropriate. The Assistant Director of Food & Beverage will be responsible for assisting with the overseeing of the operations of Food & Beverage, Pool and Beach Department and special events/ functions, as well as the VIP facilities behind the scenes management. The Assistant Director of Food & Beverage will lead the department in the absence of the Director of Food & Beverage.

Job Specifications:

- To assist with the implementation of departmental strategies and action plans in accordance with the resort's strategic and sales plans.
- To assist with/ spearhead the organizing and conducting of interviews.
- To participate in the planning, developing and implementation of formal training plans for personnel.
- To regularly update the Director of Food & Beverage on all operations achievements and key issues.
- To operate an efficient and accurate administration process in order to meet statutory, legal and internal requirements.
- To conduct daily briefings to ensure that all departments receive updated information.
- To conduct weekly briefings to improve all aspects of the resort.

Reports: Director of Food & Beverage

Salary: \$78,000.00 per annum

- Cocktail Server
- Server

Job Specifications:

- Prepare all types of sushi, including maki, nigiri and sashimi;
- Prepare appetizers, soups and salads that are close to the philosophy of Japanese cuisine;
- Add additional flavors to sushi rolls with ginger, rice vinegar, wasabi and soy sauce, when appropriate.
- Must be knowledgeable with handling the Wok.

Qualifications:

- Must have at least 3 to 5 years' experience with making sushi and Wok skills;
- Must be experienced in Asian cuisine, particularly in Wok skills.

Reports: Food & Beverage Supervisor

Salary: \$19,448.00 per annum

Guest Service Department

- Junior Butler
- Butler

Job Specifications:

- Meet guests when they arrive and getting them settled in their rooms.
- Anticipate guests' needs by learning their preferences, allergies, dislikes, etc.
- Have a thorough understanding of all spirits and specialty foods in stock
- Assess and restock wine and spirit collections as necessary
- Serve meals and pour drinks for guests.

- Communicate with housekeeping to ensure rooms are cleaned at the most convenient time for guests
- Run errands for guests when necessary
- Ensure guests' rooms are clean and tidy up when necessary

Qualifications:

- Experience as a Butler or similar role in the hospitality industry
- Strong multi-tasking skills
- Excellent organizational skills

Reports: Head Butler

Salary: \$18,304 per annum

Housekeeping Department:

- Housekeeping Supervisor
- Room Squire Attendants (rooms, public area, laundry Attendants)
- Houseman

Job Description

Working under the general supervision of the Executive Housekeeper, provides work direction for cleaning and maintenance of guest rooms and public areas ensuring that service is provided to ensure maximum satisfaction for the guests. Follows established procedures and processes to ensure quality and timely completion of all assigned tasks.

Job Specifications:

- Supervise the day to day operations of the floors or assigned areas
- Reach and Sign Housekeeping Daily Log Book, Collects Worksheet and make notes of any relevant information pertaining to assigned section, while maintaining full awareness of all areas/sections of Housekeeping daily Operations.
- Make special note of VIP status rooms, late checkout rooms, room changes and maintenance rooms.
- Ensures that Housekeepers/Housemen report to their work areas at the scheduled time with a clean uniform and neatly groomed.
- Conducts morning check of all Housekeeping carts for proper inventory of all linen and supplies.
- Within the 1st hour of shift, complete a walkthrough of all public areas within section. Ensures that all exterior areas are clean and tidy, dirty dishes removed. Reports any unusual observations.
- Ensures that no later than 11:00 a.m. all Vacant and Clean Rooms are called in to H.K. Arriving rooms are given first priority, while giving attention to estimated arrival times so as to minimize or prevent delays in guest check in time.
- All Vacant Room status should be called in/updated in the Computer system no later 11:00 a.m. daily. Direct Housekeeper to early make up requests.

Reports: Housekeeping Manager

Salary: \$34,320 per annum

Engineering Department:

- General Labourer

Job Overview:

Perform tasks involving physical labor at work sites operating under the Maintenance Department to ensure that the property is kept to the standards of the hotel guests and management. May operate hand and power tools of all types and a variety of other equipment and instruments. Will be responsible for upkeeping the daily wear and tear that occurs on a property with a high flow of guests. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, and clean up rubble, debris and other waste materials. May assist other craft workers.

Qualifications:

- High School diploma is a must
- Work experience in the Construction/Maintenance field
- Experience working at luxury hotel standards
- Good organizational and time management skills with the ability
- To work under pressure and to multiple deadlines.
- Ability to work independently as well as on a team.

Reports: Engineering Supervisor

Salary: \$20,592.00 per annum

These positions are currently held by an expatriate worker. Qualified islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2.

Interested qualified candidates may submit their resume by September 26, 2025 to Director of Human Resources South Bank, Long Bay Marina.
Email address: erish@gracebayresorts.com



Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson

Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services, Hon. Jamell Robinson, has described the Business Licensing Amendment Bill 2025 as a transformative measure that will strengthen economic empowerment for Turks and Caicos Islanders by expanding reserved business categories, tightening enforcement, and closing long-standing loopholes. Addressing the House of Assembly during debate on the legislation, Robinson called the bill “a very, very important moment” in the country’s economic history. He said it was the result of years of effort by government officials and stakeholders who “put their shoulder to the wheel” to deliver meaningful change. The Deputy Premier referenced recent comments by a former premier who urged the government to be bold in decision-making. That challenge, Robinson said, is being met through reforms that

ensure islanders have greater access to ownership opportunities. “We moved from 77 reserved categories and 18 restricted categories to 190 reserved categories and just eight restricted,” Robinson explained. “That’s because we placed the majority of the restricted industries into the reserve list. This is bold action on behalf of Turks and Caicos Islanders.” Under the new framework, reserved industries will require 100 percent islander ownership, whether sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporate entity. Robinson stressed that there will be “no ifs, ands, or buts” about the requirement, signaling the government’s commitment to full local control. The expanded list of reserved categories covers a wide range of sectors, from professional services to small business operations. Among them are accounting, bookkeeping, ATV rentals, barbershops, bookstores, funeral

Robinson Hails “Bold” Business Licensing Reforms Geared to Empower Islanders

homes, marketing and public relations, professional engineering services, radio broadcasting, real estate agencies, retail and wholesale trade, and arts and craft enterprises. Robinson also outlined provisions to prevent abuse of the “miscellaneous” category of licenses, which some had previously used to circumvent restrictions. The government, he said, is moving to eliminate that loophole through regulatory changes that do not require further legislation. “You’re not going to come through the back door or the side door to operate in an industry that’s reserved,” Robinson told the House. “We are closing loopholes because, as the former premier said, we must be bold.” Another key feature of the bill is stricter regulation of license transfers. Business licenses in reserved categories will not be transferable to non-islanders. Any change in ownership that results in loss of islander control will require a fresh application, effectively excluding non-islanders from those sectors over time. “At some point, hopefully in our lifetime, but definitely in our children’s lifetime, every single reserve category will be filled and held by Turks and Caicos Islanders only,” Robinson said. The Deputy Premier credited the Ministry of Finance and Cabinet colleagues for ensuring that the reforms are practical and achievable. Financial viability studies

were conducted on all reserved industries, and results showed that islanders could expect profitable returns—often within the first year of operation. Robinson urged aspiring entrepreneurs to seize the opportunity. “Start your business, run your business well, reinvest, and the sky is the limit,” he said. “You don’t have to build an empire on day one, but your investment will bring returns.” Positioning the bill as part of a progressive governing philosophy, Robinson said the administration is steadily achieving what past governments only promised. “Slowly but surely, everything past governments have talked about doing, we are accomplishing one by one,” he concluded. “This is a time for boldness and a time for action.”

Malcolm wiring Services

located at 10 Caribbean Place, Providenciales is seeking a

TECHNICIAN

Wage is \$10.00 hourly.

Contact 232-1502



A group of proud team members from Sandals South Coast team pose for a quick photo op after receiving their training completion certificates.

Sandals Corporate University Wins Double Gold in AI Innovation and Hands-On Hospitality Training

Sandals Corporate University (SCU), the learning and development hub for Sandals and Beaches Resorts team members, continues to set the gold standard for excellence in AI implementation and training strategy as they celebrate their recent double win in the 2025 Brandon Hall Group™ HCM Excellence Awards®.

Collaborating with Canadian-based corporate training company, Flint Learning Solutions, the SCU was awarded two gold medals for projects submitted to the categories: Best Use of AI in Business Impact for elevating guest experiences with AI training and Best Learning in the Flow of Work for improving hospitality with on-the-job activities.

The awarding organisation, The Brandon Hall Group™, has, for over 30 years empowered and certified business excellence globally and through the HCM Excellence Awards®, which recognises organisations that have implemented best practices for initiatives in learning and development, talent acquisition and management, leadership development, human resources, sales performance, diversity, equity and inclusion and the future of work.

Highlighting the achievement, SCU's Senior Corporate Director, Dr. Luz Longworth stated, "the Hospitality industry requires a flexible and fast paced approach to on-the-job training and the SCU is excited about the possibilities for expanding the use of AI in its training model to enhance our team members' learning experience and to ultimately continue providing our Sandals and Beaches Resorts guests with consistently excellent service."

Lenise White, Sandals Resorts' measurement and evaluation specialist also shared her enthusiasm about the win. "The double gold win from the Brandon Hall Group™ is a tremendous recognition of the impact the SCU has made in transforming hospitality learning and



Sandals Ochi Beach Resort General Manager, Carol Bourke (left) presents Learning and Development Manager, Joy Bernard with her certificate of recognition for the role that she played in administering the training initiative.

service delivery. It signifies that our efforts to integrate AI into training are not only innovative but also delivering real business impact."

The partnership between SCU and Flint has, since its application, redefined on the job learning, demonstrating how innovative technology and training can ease real-world business challenges in the hospitality industry. The programme establishes a new standard for hospitality talent development and has given way to the integration of personalised, AI-powered learning, geared towards enhancing team member capabilities and elevating the guest experience without disrupting daily operations.

"We're incredibly proud of our partnership with Sandals Corporate University and the exceptional results we've achieved together. SCU's leadership in embracing innovative approaches to talent development has been instrumental in creating a programme that empowered employees to create the

exceptional, memorable experiences that define the Sandals brand and keep guests returning year after year," shared Flint's Chief Executive Officer, James Glover.

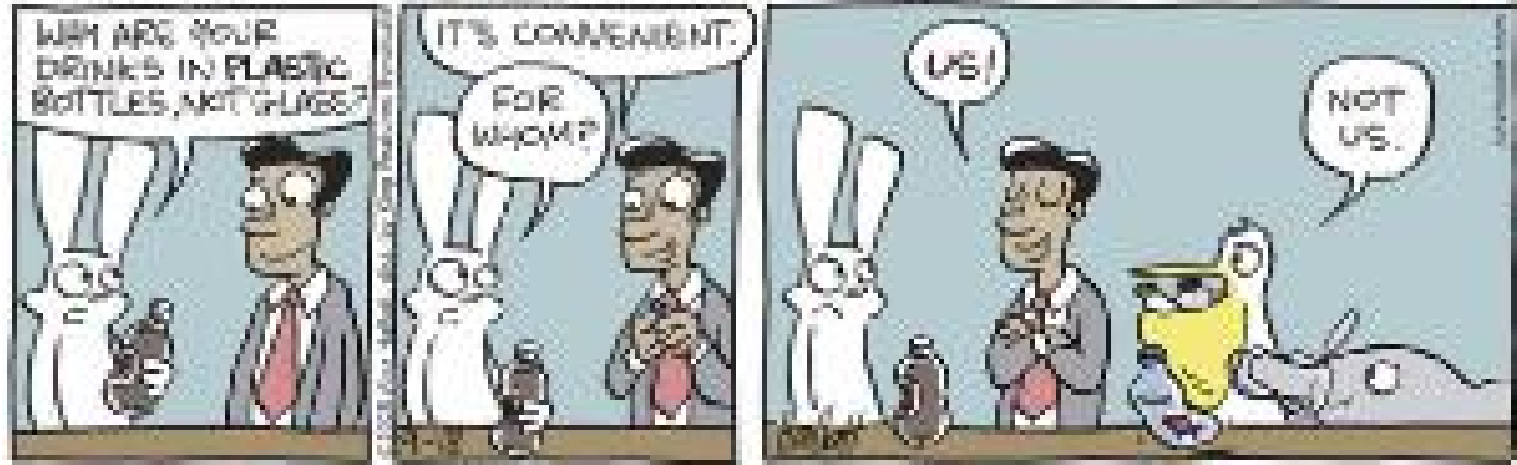
The 2025 award entries were evaluated by a panel of veteran, independent senior industry experts, Brandon Hall Group analysts and executives based on their alignment to business needs and environment, programme design, functionality and delivery, innovation and creativity among other criteria.

"This year's Excellence Award winners exemplify the transformative power of strategic human capital management. Through their innovative approaches to talent development and employee engagement, these organizations have not only achieved remarkable business outcomes but have also redefined what it means to create truly people-centric workplaces," remarked Brandon Hall Group Chief Operating Officer and HCM Excellence Awards® Programme Leader, Rachel Cooke.

The win follows another exceptional achievement in AI-powered training after the SCU copped the bronze award for Best Corporate University in Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Implementations from the Global CCU, earlier this year.



Ghislain Boutoulle, hotel manager at Beaches Turks and Caicos (right) beams as he congratulates bar department team member, Andrew Clarke on his successful course completion.





NEWSLINE

Heritage

THE

TROUVADORE

The Trouvadore: The Shipwreck That Shaped a Nation

In August 1841, La Trouvadore was illegally transporting nearly 200 enslaved Africans from Africa to Cuba, despite the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade by the British Empire in 1807. As the vessel neared East Caicos, it struck a reef and sank. In a rare act of mercy for the time, almost all of the Africans aboard survived the wreck and made ashore. Once on land, the survivors were taken into British custody in Grand Turk. Because slavery had been abolished across British territories, they were not re-enslaved, but instead liberated under British colonial law. Many would remain in the islands, where they integrated into local society and left an indelible mark on the cultural landscape.

A Hidden Chapter

For generations, the story of the Trouvadore was kept alive through oral history. Families in Grand Turk and Salt Cay passed down tales of African ancestors who arrived via shipwreck. However, the absence of official records or physical evidence kept the story on the fringes of public knowledge.

That changed in the early 2000s, when a joint team of archaeologists and marine scientists, led by the Turks and Caicos National Museum, along with support from the Smithsonian Institution and NOAA, embarked on a project to locate the lost vessel. In 2004, they announced the discovery of what was believed to be the remains of La Trouvadore off the coast of East Caicos. The find confirmed one of the most important, and least documented, episodes in the country's heritage.

From Trauma to a Legacy

The survivors of the Trouvadore are believed to have played a significant role in shaping the demographics and cultural identity of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Many of today's Turks and Caicos Islanders can trace their ancestry back to those nearly 200 souls who emerged from the sea, not as captives, but as free people on a new land.

Elements of African heritage, from bush medicine and rhythmic drumming to communal storytelling, bear the imprint of these unsung heroes. For many families, the story is personal, rooted in bloodlines, customs, and spiritual beliefs handed down through generations.

Memory and Meaning

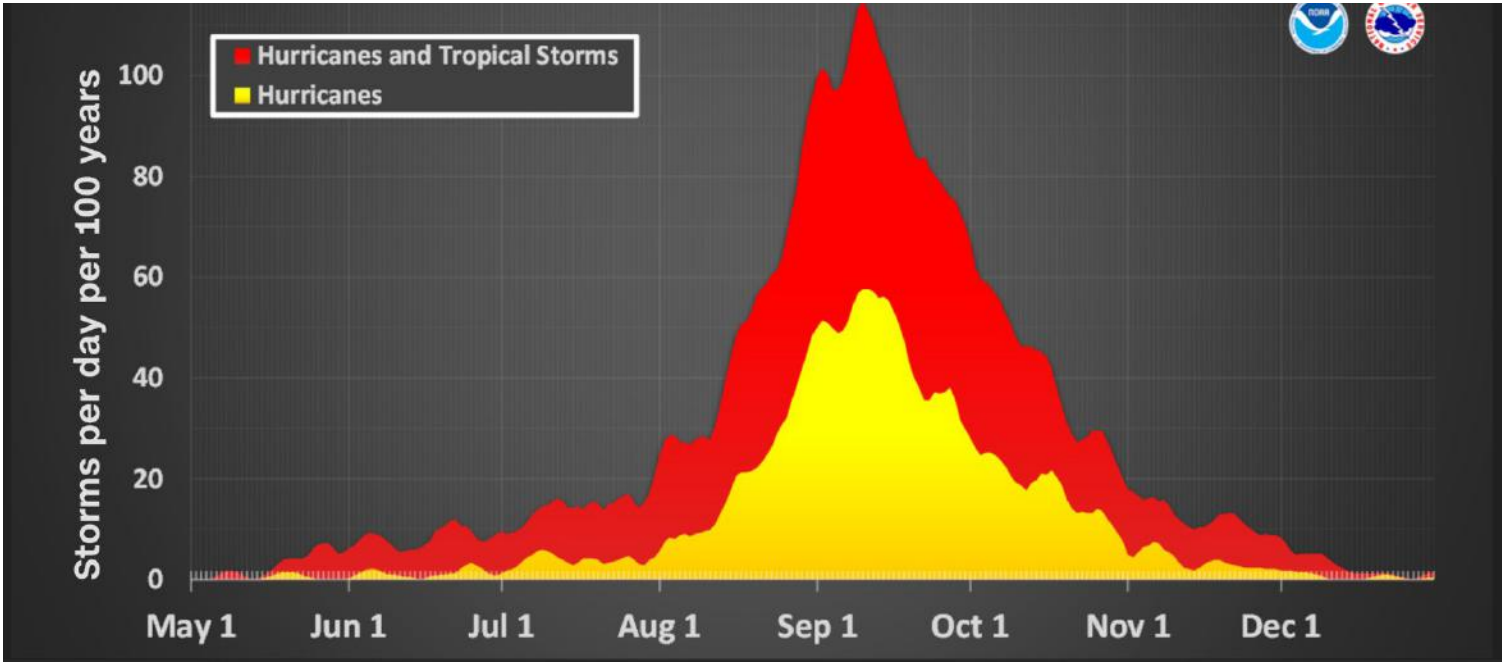
The Trouvadore reminds us that the roots of Turks and Caicos are not just colonial or European—they are African. It is a story of endurance and dignity, of people who, even in the face of dehumanization, survived, rebuilt, and helped shape a nation.

Though time may erode wood and sail, the impact of La Trouvadore is etched in the living memory of a people who turned a shipwreck into a new beginning—and helped shape a nation from its wreckage.

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2025 Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season at its Peak

The 2025 Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season, which officially began on Sunday, June 1 and runs until Sunday, November 30, has now reached its statistical peak. While the first half of the season has been less active than forecasters initially projected, meteorologists continue to urge caution, warning that the most dangerous storms often form later in the season. Ahead of the season, both the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Colorado State University (CSU) issued above-average forecasts. NOAA predicted between 13 and 19 named storms, with six to 10 expected to develop into hurricanes, of which three to five could become major hurricanes at Category 3 strength or higher. CSU's seasonal outlook was similar, forecasting 17 named storms, nine hurricanes, and four major hurricanes. So far, the Atlantic Basin has produced six tropical storms, only one of which intensified into a hurricane. That system, Hurricane Erin, became a powerful Category 5 storm in August with maximum sustained winds of 160 miles per hour. Erin tracked east of the Turks and Caicos Islands, triggering a Tropical Storm Warning from Sunday, August 17, until Tuesday, August 19. The islands were spared direct impact, though heavy rains and gusty winds were reported across the territory. September 10 marks the climatological peak of the hurricane season, a date when storm activity historically reaches its highest point. However, in an unusual twist, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) reported on Wednesday that "tropical cyclone activity is not expected during the next seven days." Records dating back to 1950 indicate that this is only the ninth time in 75 years that no named storms have been active on September 10. Meteorologists caution that a quiet peak does not mean the remainder of the season will remain subdued. "Even though activity to date is slightly below average, it only takes one storm making landfall to turn a quiet season into a destructive one," experts warn. The period from mid-September



through late October remains historically active, with several of the region's most devastating hurricanes forming after the peak date. Residents of the Turks and Caicos Islands are being reminded of storms such as Maria, Fiona, and Oscar, which developed in late September and October during past seasons. These examples underscore the need for year-round preparedness, as late-season hurricanes have often proven to be the most impactful. Disaster preparedness officials in the territory are encouraging households to keep emergency supplies stocked, review family evacuation plans, and stay informed through official channels. "We cannot afford complacency," one official noted. "The season is

not over until November 30, and historically, some of the strongest and most damaging storms occur in the latter half." As the 2025 season continues, forecasters will be watching closely for signs of increased activity later this month and into October. With ocean waters across the Atlantic remaining warm and atmospheric conditions still conducive to tropical development, the potential for renewed storm formation remains. For now, the absence of storms during the season's peak offers a temporary reprieve. But experts agree the message is clear: vigilance and preparation remain the best defense for the Turks and Caicos Islands and the wider Caribbean as the 2025 hurricane season moves forward.

Special Education Needs Services Department Launches Monthly Parent Training Night Series

The Special Education Needs Services (SENS) Department of the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture, is proud to announce the launch of its Parent Training Night Series, beginning Tuesday, 16 September 2025. This monthly initiative is designed to empower parents and caregivers of children with diverse learning needs by providing practical tools, expert guidance, and a supportive community. Each month, parents will have the opportunity to hear from guest expert presenters on key topics with-

in neurodiversity. The sessions are aimed at helping families better understand their child's unique needs, build stronger advocacy skills, and create meaningful pathways for success. The first session, scheduled for September 16, will focus on three areas:

- Understanding and accepting a diagnosis
- Advocating effectively for your child
- Identifying the way forward with confidence and support

"Our goal is to ensure that parents are not only informed but also feel

equipped and supported as they navigate their child's journey," said Dr. Anya Malcolm-Gibbs, Director of Special Education. "When families are empowered, children thrive, and that is at the heart of this initiative." Hon. Rachel M. Taylor, Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and Social Services, expressed support for the initiative, stating, "The launch of the Parent Training Night Series is a powerful step toward ensuring that parents are not only informed but also engaged partners in their child's development. When we equip families with knowledge and

tools, we strengthen our education system and create a more inclusive future for all children in the Turks and Caicos Islands." The series will continue monthly on the third Tuesday of every month, with each session exploring different aspects of neurodiversity, including communication, behaviour and speech strategies, wellness, and building collaborative partnerships with schools. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend. Participation is free, and sessions will be hosted virtually on Teams, allowing for greater access.

Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

Church of God of
Prophecy, Blue Hills

This week on Newsline Featured Church, we shine the spotlight on the Church of God of Prophecy, located in Blue Hills, Providenciales. The church is led by pastor Andrew Stone. There are at least six opportunities for worship during the week. On Sunday at 9:30a.m. is Sunday School. On Sunday 11a.m. is Divine Sunday Morning Service. On Sunday at 7:30p.m. is Evening Service. On Tuesday at 7:30p.m. is Prayer Meeting. On Wednesday at 7:30pm is Bible Study, and on Friday at 7:30pm is Youth Ministry. For further about any of the worship opportunities, contact 1 649-941-3438.



Life line Church Directory

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

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

On, September 6, the Boys Club of Grand Turk hosted a Boys Forum at the Salvation Amy’s Brighter Future’s Centre in Providenciales. The aim of the forum was to guard young men against destructive behaviors such as joining criminal gangs and other nefarious activities, but to usher them along paths of positive behaviors, which would render them constructive contributors of society. Among the speakers Deputy Premier Hon. Jamell Robinson, along with President of the Turks and Caicos Islands Christian Council Pastor Wilbert Jennings.





WHAT YOUR CRAVINGS ARE TRYING TO TELL YOU

Decode what your body is asking for... without guilt or shame.

By Monica Uttamchandani
Holistic Health Coach - Turks and Caicos

Cravings aren't just about will-power. They're your body's way of communicating that something is out of balance nutritionally, emotionally, or hormonally.

That sudden urge for chocolate, salty chips, or something crunchy isn't random. It's often a signal worth decoding. By getting curious instead of judgmental, you can learn what your body might be asking for: Sugar cravings You might be riding a blood sugar rollercoaster.

It maybe from skipping meals, relying on coffee, or eating too many simple carbs. Protein helps stabilise your energy and reduces the need for quick sugary fixes. Prioritise balanced meals and cut back on caffeine highs and crashes.

Salt cravings This often points to mineral loss. If you've been sweating a lot, stressed, or drinking lots of plain water without electrolytes, your body may be asking for sodium or potassium. Consider adding a pinch of sea salt to your water or sipping coconut water with lime.

Carb cravings Your body may be looking for quick fuel after undereating earlier in the day. It's common when you've skipped breakfast or had too small of a lunch. Instead of fighting it, honour your hunger with a full, grounding meal.

Crunchy or emotional cravings Sometimes, that craving isn't physical... it's emotional. Crunchy foods can feel relieving when we're stressed,



Monica Uttamchandani

angry, or overstimulated. Instead of immediately reaching for a snack, ask yourself what's going on internally. Are you needing a pause? Comfort?

A sense of control? Cravings Are Clues, Not Flaws Understanding cravings allows you to respond with care, not restriction. It's not about cutting everything out. It's about tuning in. Cravings are messengers, not mistakes. When

you respond to them with curiosity and nourishment, your relationship with food softens and your body starts to feel heard.

For more practical guidance on decoding cravings and finding balance in your meals, follow @balancedbymonica on Instagram.

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

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Is seeking

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TCI Red Cross Launches Basic Water Rescue Training to Build Community Resilience

Islands Red Cross (TCIRC) launched its newest life-saving initiative: Basic Water Rescue Training, a program designed to build resilience and empower everyday individuals to respond confidently to water-related emergencies in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Led by Master Trainer Peter Hughes, First Aid Program Manager of the Cayman Islands Red Cross, the training was held from August 19–24 and provided six dedicated first aid instructors with intensive, hands-on instruction in land-based and shallow-water rescue techniques.

The program equipped these instructors to deliver this critical course across the Turks and Caicos Islands, expanding local capacity to respond to aquatic emergencies.

“The Basic Water Rescue Training is a milestone for our islands, it gives every-day person the skills to respond confidently to water-related emergencies,” said TCI Red Cross Director Candianne Williams.

She added: “We were especially grateful to have hosted Master Trainer Peter Hughes, whose experience and expertise ensured that our instructors received world-class training. This initiative strengthens our community’s resilience and helps protect lives in a country where the sea is part of daily life.”

Hughes, a retired Royal Naval Officer with 22 years of service and over 18 years of Red Cross instruction, delivered comprehensive instruction focused on non-entry, land-based techniques, such as reaching and throwing assists, that allow responders to act quickly and

safely without entering the water.

The course also included guidance for situations requiring safe, shallow water entry (waist-deep or chest-deep) to assist someone in distress. The basic water rescue program that will be provided by the TCI Red Cross is not lifeguard certification and it is not professional rescuers. Instead, it is for teachers, resort staff, tour guides, parents, community volunteers, and ordinary people who want to be prepared to help in aquatic emergencies.

This new course joins the TCI Red Cross’ growing suite of training programs, designed to strengthen community preparedness and resilience. Current offerings include:

- Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
- Basic Life Support
- Basic Water Rescue
- Psychosocial First Aid

Together, these programs empower individuals, workplaces, and communities to take life-saving action in moments that matter most.

“We extend our heartfelt thanks to Club Med, Dive Provo, Ocean Frontiers, and Beach Enclave for their generous support in making this training possible, as well as to Master Trainer Peter Hughes and the Cayman Islands Red Cross for their collaboration,” Williams ended.

The TCI Red Cross remains committed to expanding access to life-saving education and strengthening local capacity to respond to health and humanitarian crises. Through partnerships, preparedness, and community engagement, the organization continues to build a safer, more resilient Turks and Caicos Islands.





Farrah Grant and Mrs Delthia Missick, Patron

History was made on Wednesday, September 10th, as the Turks and Caicos Islands proudly crowned Miss Farrah Grant as the nation’s first Miss International Turks and Caicos 2025. The moving coronation ceremony took place at the elegant Pelican Bay Restaurant and Bar, Grace Bay, Providenciales, marking a defining milestone for pageantry and cultural representation in the islands. Hosted by Courtney Robinson, the evening was more than a coronation—it was a celebration of heritage, identity, and empowerment. Robinson reminded guests that while time constraints prevented the hosting of the inaugural Miss International Turks and Caicos Pageant, the coronation ceremony ensured continuity of representation at the global level. “The coronation is more than the crowning of a head; it is the bestowal of trust, honour, and responsibility,” Robinson said. “Tonight, we formally present Miss Farrah Grant as the bearer of our nation’s crown, sash, and title. She is now the face and voice of Turks and Caicos on one of the world’s most celebrated stages in pageantry. By supporting Farrah, we are supporting Turks and Caicos. Her success will shine a light on our culture, our heritage, and our people.” The evening began with a heartfelt invocation by Overseer Erma Colby of Healing Waters Ministries, setting a tone of inspiration and blessing. Guests were later addressed by pageant coach Gerard Rolle and Robert Greenwood,

Director and Broker of Christie’s International, who both spoke of the importance of grooming confident, capable representatives to serve as ambassadors at home and abroad. The highlight of the night was the official coronation segment. Guests first viewed “Farrah Grant – My Story, My Platform, My Pageant Journey”, a video presentation where Farrah shared her passion for education, women’s empowerment, and cultural pride. The stage was then graced by Mrs. Delthia Russell Missick, Patron of Miss International Turks and Caicos and a former Miss Turks and Caicos, who unveiled the crown and sash before officially investing Farrah with the symbols of her reign. “It is both an honour and a privilege for me to stand here this evening—not only as Patron, but also as a former Miss Turks and Caicos—on this historic occasion,” Mrs. Missick said. “Tonight, we celebrate the crowning of our very first Miss International Turks and Caicos. Farrah, your journey is a reflection of grace, courage, and the limitless potential of our young women. You carry not only your dreams, but also the pride and aspirations of our islands. With great joy, I now perform the official crowning, entrusting you to represent the Turks and Caicos Islands with dignity, elegance, and strength on the international stage. Congratulations, Farrah—may your reign be truly inspirational.” Moments later, Farrah Grant gave her first remarks as queen, balancing gratitude with determination: “This crown

TURKS AND CAICOS CROWNS ITS FIRST MISS INTERNATIONAL ISLANDS REPRESENTATIVE – FARRAH GRANT

represents more than just a title. It symbolises the strength, beauty and potential of our islands and our people. I carry this honour not just for myself, but for every young woman from Turks and Caicos who dares to dream, to lead, and to rise. To the Miss International TCI Organisation, I thank you for entrusting me with this incredible opportunity. And to my family, friends and community—your love and support have made this moment possible.” Farrah now prepares to represent the Turks and Caicos Islands at the 63rd Miss International Pageant, to be held on 27th November 2025 in Tokyo, Japan. Established in 1960 and based in Japan, Miss International ranks among the world’s “Big Four” pageants alongside Miss Universe, Miss World, and Miss Earth. Guided by its theme, “Cheer All Women,” it fosters goodwill, cultural exchange, and empowerment. Contestants are celebrated not only for beauty and poise, but also for intellect, character, and service. Farrah’s record positions her as a strong ambassador. A Biology graduate, she currently serves as Charity Champion at The Source, spearheading initiatives in education, empowerment, and youth development. She is the visionary behind the Girls Confidence Power Camp and the Confident Girl Power Colouring Book, both designed to build resilience and leadership skills in girls aged 8–16. She has coordinated scholarships, led mentorship programs, hosted a Prom Dress Giveaway, and organised a sponsored 10K walk to support youth causes. Her influence extends internationally. As Miss Caribbean UK, Farrah championed Caribbean identity and women’s



Farrah Grant, brins remarks

rights, and earlier this year she earned the Social Impact Award at Miss Universe Turks and Caicos, confirming her pageant-readiness and alignment with Miss International’s values. The coronation was attended by community leaders, sponsors, and supporters, all united in celebrating this historic occasion. Guests were reminded that Farrah’s journey is not hers alone, but a shared national one—carrying the hopes and pride of the Turks and Caicos Islands onto the world stage. ENDS



Overseer Irma Colby invocation God’s President

NEWSLINE TCI



ADVICE
COLUMN

DEAR ADVISOR

A New Feature from NewslineTCI

You, our readers, have been asking for an advice column to help address the diverse challenges you face in everyday life. In response, we have assembled a team of advisors who have generously volunteered their time to answer your questions and concerns. Topics will include love and interpersonal relationships, psychological well-being, environmental issues, education, and more.

Young Mother with Suicidal Thoughts

Dear Advisor,

I was once regarded as a promising student in high school. I finished among the top of my class and graduated with honors. Unfortunately, on the night of prom, I slept with my boyfriend, and few weeks later, found that I became pregnant. Most of my friends have gone on to college, but now I am forced to work minimum wage to support my child. I now feel like a failure. At times I even contemplated suicide, the only thing holding me back is the love for my child. Tell me what to do.

-School dropout

Dear School Dropout,

First, let me tell you this: you are not a failure. You are a young woman who faced an unexpected challenge, and instead of giving up, you've chosen to take responsibility and care for your child. That takes tremendous courage and strength. Right now, it feels like your dreams have been cut short, but your story isn't over—it's just on a different path. Many people who've gone through similar struggles have gone on to build successful, fulfilling lives. Here are a few steps you might consider: **Prioritize Your Mental Health.** Suicidal thoughts are a sign of deep pain. Please reach out to a trusted friend, family member, or counselor. You don't have to carry this alone.

Reconnect With Education. There are flexible adult learning programs or online options designed for young parents. Education is still within your reach. **Seek Support Systems.** There are often programs that assist single mothers with childcare, job training, and housing. Even finding a small network, whether it's family, a church group, or a community center, can help lighten the load. **Set Small, Achievable Goals.** Don't try to fix everything at once. Start with steps like saving a little each week, applying for one new opportunity, or researching classes that fit your schedule. Each small

step builds momentum. **Remember Your Worth.** You are valuable not only as a mother, but also as an individual. Your child looks up to you, and by continuing to push forward, you'll teach them the power of resilience. Life didn't go the way you expected, but that doesn't mean your future is lost. You've proven you can survive hardship. Now it's time to believe you can thrive beyond it. Hold on, keep going, and don't be afraid to ask for help. You and your child both deserve the best of you—and that best is still very possible. With care, -Advisor

Concerned About Sharing My Christian Values in College

Dear Advisor,

I am a Christian by background, who is passionate about my faith. I am eager to tell people about Christ and what they need to be saved. Now I am going to college in America, and people are telling me that I cannot wear my religion on sleeve, because there are multiple other religions, plus there are people who outrightly do not believe in Christ. Advisor, I fear that if I do not preach Christ, I might lose my way. Please give me some guidance.

-Eager Christian

Dear Eager Christian,

Your zeal for Christ is beautiful, and your desire to see others come to faith shows a heart that truly loves the Lord. Remember, Scripture says, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news" (Romans 10:15). The Lord delights in your eagerness. At the same time, college will place you in a diverse setting—different faiths, different cultures, and different worldviews. This is not something to fear, but an opportunity to let your faith grow deep roots. Here are some thoughts to guide you: Live the Gospel as much as you speak it. Sometimes the loudest sermon is a life of integrity, kindness, and love. People will notice your joy, your peace, and your hope, and they may ask what makes you different. That is your opening to point them to Christ

(1 Peter 3:15). Use wisdom in sharing. Paul reminds us to speak with "grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6). This means being respectful, listening carefully, and sharing truth in love. You don't have to force Christ into every conversation; rather, let the Spirit lead you into the right ones. Stay rooted in fellowship. Look for Christian student groups, Bible studies, or local churches near your college. These will encourage you, pray with you, and keep you grounded in the Word when challenges arise. Remember the balance. Being a witness is not only about preaching Christ—it's about reflecting Christ. Trust that God will give you the right moments and words. Your responsibility is to remain faithful; His is to change hearts. Do not fear "losing your way" if you stay close to the Shepherd. As Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). Keep listening, keep walking with Him, and He will guide you. May your college years be a season where your faith is not diminished but deepened, and where many come to know Christ through both your words and your witness. -Advisor

Am I a chatterbox?

Dear Advisor

I love to engage in conversations, especially a good conversation. I am also a very opinionated person who is not afraid to speak what is on my mind. The thing is, people say I talk too much, and always either cut others off while they are talking or otherwise finish other people's sentence for them. Please let me know if that is a bad, and if so, what can I do to change it. -Your truly, Love to talk

Dear Love to Talk, Your love for engaging conversations is a wonderful strength — it shows enthusiasm, curiosity, and confidence. Many people struggle to contribute to discussions, so your willingness to share is a gift. However, when that energy comes across as interrupting or finishing other people's sentences, it can sometimes make others feel unheard or overlooked. It's not that talking a lot is "bad," but conversation works best when it feels balanced. If others are consistently pointing out that you cut them off, it may be a sign to practice active listening. Try these strategies:

Pause before responding. Count to two after someone finishes speaking. This creates space for their full thought to land. Listen to understand, not just to reply. Focus on their point, not on what you'll say next. Acknowledge before adding. Use phrases like, "That's interesting..." or "I hear you saying..." before sharing your own thought. Be mindful of body cues. If someone looks like they want to finish their sentence, let them. Channel your energy. Journaling, debates, or group discussions where quick back-and-forth is welcome can give you outlets for your expressiveness. With practice, you'll find the balance where your voice shines without dimming others. You don't need to talk less — just differently. That way, people will not only enjoy your words but also look forward to sharing theirs with you.

Yours truly,
Your Advisor

Dear Advisor is an advice column designed to offer thoughtful solutions to everyday challenges, personal dilemmas, and complex life situations. Whether the questions involve relationships, career choices, self-improvement, or navigating difficult decisions, Dear Advisor provides clear, compassionate, and practical guidance to help readers move forward with confidence. Dear Advisor uses pseudonyms rather than your real name, to protect your identity. Reach out to this column at: contactnewslineTCI.com, using the topic 'Dear Advisor'.



Mr. Paul Pennicook, Interim CEO Consultant, Experience Turks and Caicos holding the Best Beach Destination Award from Air Canada Vacations

Providenciales, Turks and Caicos (September 19th, 2025) — The Turks and Caicos Islands has been recognised as the Best Beach Vacation in the Air Canada Vacations Travellers’ Top Picks Awards.

The announcement was made during Air Canada Vacations’ 2025 Product Launch, held in Toronto on Thursday, September 18th, as part of the company’s 50th anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Paul Pennicook, Interim CEO Consultant of Experience Turks and Caicos, accepted the award on behalf of the destination.

“As we seek to deepen our relationships in the Canadian market, this award is both timely and meaningful. It reflects the work we’ve been doing to ensure the Turks and Caicos Islands remain a top choice for Canadian travellers,” said Mr. Pennicook. “Accolades judged directly by travellers are especially treasured because they affirm that our visitors have experienced and valued the quality of our beaches and the beauty of our destination firsthand. We are grateful for this recognition.”

Earlier this year, the Turks and Caicos Islands brand was re-established in Canada when Experience Turks and Caicos hosted a luncheon with travel advisors and media, reintroducing the destination and strengthening efforts to increase visitation.

This winter, Air Canada will operate daily flights from Toronto (YYZ) and 4 days per week from Montreal (YUL) to Providenciales, offering Canadian travellers convenient access to the best beaches in the Caribbean.

About Experience Turks and Caicos

Experience Turks and Caicos is the official destination marketing and management organisation (DMMO) for the Turks and Caicos Islands. The organisation is committed to positioning the destination as a premier, sustainable luxury tourism hub. By leveraging smart tools, data-driven strate-

Turks and Caicos Islands Win Best Beach Vacation at Air Canada Vacations Travellers’ Top Picks Award

gies, and stakeholder collaboration, Experience Turks and Caicos focuses on enhancing the visitor experience and fostering long-term industry success.

About the Turks and Caicos Islands

The Turks and Caicos Islands consist of two island groups in the Lucayan Archipelago—the larger Caicos Islands and the smaller Turks Islands. Home to some of the world’s most pristine beaches, including the award-winning Grace Bay Beach, the destination is renowned for its crystal-clear turquoise waters, luxury accommodations, and rich cultural heritage. Each island and cay offer a unique experience:

- Providenciales boasts world-class resorts, fine dining, and high-end tourism offerings.
- Grand Turk serves as the vibrant hub for cruise tourism and historical exploration.
- The sister islands provide a gateway to nature, adventure, and authentic local culture.

Recognised as the world’s best-kept secret, the Turks and Caicos Islands offer effortless luxury, with seamless connectivity via direct flights from major cities in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

**Turks&CaicosIslandsRedCross**

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

RETAIL ASSOCIATE

(PART-TIME)

ABOUT US – TCI RED CROSS

The Turks and Caicos Islands Red Cross is part of the global Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, committed to supporting and empowering people and communities in times of vulnerability. We act for humanity through disaster response, health education, and community resilience. Our thrift store is more than a retail space, it’s a hub for sustainability and compassion. Every purchase helps fund programs that assist individuals facing hardship, crisis, and disaster. By promoting recycled goods and vintage fashion, we reduce waste and encourage conscious consumerism that benefits both people and the planet.

ROLE OVERVIEW

We’re looking for a friendly, reliable Retail Associate to help create a great shopping experience. You’ll assist customers, process sales, organize stock, and support donation sorting, helping turn every purchase into support for our community.

JOB SUMMARY

As a Retail Associate, you’ll play a key role in creating a welcoming and inspiring shopping experience. You’ll help maintain a clean, bright, and organized store while protecting its assets and ensuring a safe retail environment. Your work will reflect the values and mission of the TCI Red Cross, including compassion for those in crisis and a commitment to community resilience.

- **Location:** TCI Red Cross Thrift Store, Sunshine Plaza, Leeward Highway, Provo
- **Salary:** \$1,320/month
- **Hours:** 30 hrs/week (Monday–Saturday)

Send your application to director@redcross.org.tc by Friday, October 3, 2025



OPEN JOB POSITIONS

***Director of Engineering**

Job Overview : The general purpose of the Director of Engineering is managing the Resort’s Engineering Department, including all related activities including participation in executive committee meetings; hire and maintain an effective work force appropriate for upscale private villas; establish and maintain preventative maintenance programs for all equipment, systems, guestrooms and public areas/ general maintenance; participate in effective safety programs; coordinate and implement capital improvement projects; establish, maintain and manage department budgets and monthly forecasts protecting the Resort and the Owners from losses, claims, and liabilities. Responsible for all aspects of the Engineering Department, including but not limited to, maintaining all facilities, equipment, furniture, fixtures, systems and landscaping at the highest quality standards.

Essential Functions

- Hire, train and direct all department personnel
- Provide efficient use of manpower to maintain workload
- Provide timely performance appraisals
- Conducts walk-through and visually assesses the safe and efficient maintenance and operation of the physical structures of the Resort, all mechanical, electrical, HVAC systems, vehicles and any other related equipment.
- Manage adequate inventory of parts, supplies, tools and material for the department
- Enforce Hotel / Resort and Company policies and procedures
- Must be able to respond to emergency situations, such as fire alarms, and other life-safety situations
- Maintain files per department guidelines. Schedule and conduct monthly department meetings.
- Attend and participate in weekly staff meetings.
- Maintain files per department guidelines.
- Maintain a working knowledge of all local laws, codes, and regulations.
- Assure proper certification of all employee mechanics and technicians, as required.
- Solicit and administer all sub-contract work.
- Analyze bids and verify quantities, as appropriate.
- Negotiate, prepare, and administer agreements and contracts with consultants and contractors.
- Liaise with governmental agencies and manage the procurement and compliance with entitlements, permits, inspections, notices, and other requirements.
- Produce annual operating budget for payroll, expenses, utilities, and capital improvements.
- Operate all areas within budgeted guidelines.
- Provide budget analysis each period.
- Establish and maintain an efficient inventory and purchasing system.
- Maintain the Hotel / Resort facility and related equipment in a safe and efficient manner.
- Participate in or possibly manage the property’s safety committee.
- Maintain the Resort facility and related equipment in a safe and efficient manner.
- Alignment with Property Mission and Core Values
- Model the property/company core values and other expected leadership attributes
- Maintain a professional image at all times.
- Act as a resource for all departments of the private villa.
- Maintain accurate records for all areas of responsibility.
- Perform other duties as assigned by Senior Leadership.
- Maintain property key schedules and records

Requirements

- Degree in Engineering/ equivalent and related field required
- Work experience as a director of engineering or in a similar senior-level position at an engineering department
- Proven experience in a similar medium to large hotel environment
- Experience in listed buildings and luxury hotel standards
- Daily management for all engineering operations including building and plant maintenance and protection, maintenance of guest rooms, public spaces and energy conservation.
- Long term asset protection and effective Capex management
- Good organizational and time management skills with the ability to work under pressure and to multiple deadlines.
- Leadership abilities with a strategic mind
- Excellent project management skills

Salary Range: \$90,000 - \$96,000 per annum

Security Supervisor

Job Overview: The Security Supervisor is responsible for assisting with overseeing asset protection for the resort, from the protection of people and staff to the prevention of theft and inventory loss. The security Supervisor will be responsible for assisting with developing and implementing security standards and ensuring that they are followed by all resort staff.

Essential Functions

- Conducting regular security assessment and audits to identify potential vulnerabilities and recommend appropriate solutions.
- Monitoring and analysing security systems, such as CCTV cameras, access control systems.
- Coordinating with other departments to ensure compliance with security protocols and procedures.
- Collaborating with law enforcement and emergency services in case of emergencies or security breaches.
- Maintaining accurate records of security incidents, equipment inventory, and training activities.
- Develop and implement emergency response plans and procedures.
- Maintaining accurate records of security incidents, equipment inventory and training activities

Requirements and skills

- Experience as a Security personnel or similar role
- Strong multi-tasking skills
- Excellent organizational skills
- Ability to adapt to a fluid environment
- Commitment to a high level of customer service
- Strict attention to detail
- Ability to handle sensitive matters with efficiency and discretion

Salary \$10.00 - \$12.00 per hour

***Pool & Beach Labourer**

Job Overview: Perform tasks involving physical labor at work sites operating under the Pool and Beach Department to ensure that the pool and beach areas are kept to the standards of the hotel guests and management. May operate hand and power tools of all types and a variety of other equipment and instruments. Will be responsible for upkeeping the daily wear and tear that occurs by the pool and beach areas with a high flow of guests. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, and clean up rubble, seaweeds, debris and other waste materials.

Skill and Qualifications:

- Work experience in pool and beach operations
- Good organizational and time management skills with the ability to work under pressure and to multiple deadlines.
- Ability to work independently as well as on a team
- Ability to manage cleaning resources, organize work efficiently and effectively.
- Ability to lift a minimum of 30 lbs and push/pull in excess of 50 lbs

Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.

Salary \$8.00 - \$9.00 per hour

***Housekeeper**

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

Responsibilities:

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

Requirements:

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

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

Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2

Qualified candidates should submit their Resumes to our Human Resources Department via Email: humanresources@rockhouseressort.com or hand deliver applications at our office on #1 International Drive, Providenciales. Positions marked with an * are currently being held by a work permit holder. Deadline for submission: September 19, 2025



DDME at Ports of Call Resort. From left Mrs. Agnieska Barrett, Assistant Resor Manager; Mrs. Patrina Pollard-Harris; DDME Training Officer; Mr. Angelo Duncan, DDME Hazard Mitigation and GIS Manager; Ms Tamara Hylton, DDME Training and EDUCATION Manger; Mr. Taiwayne Lewis, Resort Manager.



DDME AT BEACH ENCLAVE: From let: Mrs. Patrina Pollard-Harris, DDME Training Officer; Mr. Delroy Lightbourne, Guest Relations Manager; Ms Tanthca Kennedy, Group Human Resource Manager; Ms Kamila Tokembayeva, Executive Housekeeper; Mrs. Beverly Henfield, Guest Relations Assistant Manager; Ms Tamara Hylton, DDME Training and Education Manager; Mr. John Hilton, Resorts Manager; Mr. Goghul Pila, Director of Facilities; Mrs. Natacha Prosper, Senior Resort Manager; and Mr. Angelo Duncan, DDME Hazard Mitigation and GIS Manager.

DDME HOSTS EMERGENCY AND BUSINESS CONTINGENCY PLAN REVIEW AT LOCAL HOTELS

In keeping with DDME’s mandate to strengthen national resilience and promote disaster preparedness, the department recently conducted a comprehensive review of emergency preparedness at two local hotels. This initiative is part of the department’s ongoing efforts to enhance the private sector’s ability to effectively respond to and recover from disasters. The DDME Team consisted of Ms. Tamara Hylton, Training and Education Manager; Mr. Angelo Duncan, Hazard Mitigation and GIS Manager and Mrs. Patrina Pollard-Harris, Training Officer. The team visited The Ports of Call Resort and The Beach Enclave separately to carry out a comprehensive revision of each hotel’s existing emergency response plan with the respective management teams. The review

covered several key components, including:

- Evacuation procedures and shelter-in-place protocols
- Emergency communication systems
- Roles and responsibilities of staff during crises
- Hazard identification and risk assessment
- Coordination with local emergency services and first responders

Following the assessments, recommendations were provided to improve gaps identified in both planning and operational readiness. These recommendations were tailored to each hotel’s specific risks and operational dynamics to ensure relevance and effectiveness. As part of this initiative, each hotel was also issued a Business Contingency Plan (BCP)

template and guided step by step, through the process of developing the plan. A BCP is a critical risk management tool designed to promote pre-impact awareness while guiding immediate response actions and recovery strategies. The BCP enables management and staff to minimize service disruption during emergencies and safeguard guests, assets, and operations. “This initiative not only enhances the safety and preparedness of hotel operations but also empowers staff with greater confidence and clarity during emergencies. Our aim is to ensure that businesses, especially government and those in the tourism and hospitality sector, are equipped to manage all phases of disaster management.” said Ms. Kevaun Lucas, Deputy Director DDME. DDME’s wider mandate includes:

- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strat-

egies tailored to local hazards

- Preparation of Flood Hazard and Vulnerability Studies
- Planning, training, and exercising emergency scenarios with stakeholders
- Providing technical assistance to both public and private sector entities

The Department’s remains committed to building a culture of preparedness through partnerships, proactive planning, and the application of best practices in disaster resilience. If you would like The Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies to visit your organization and review your existing emergency plan, send an email to ddme@gmail.com and copy in tahylton@gov.tc with “Emergency Plan” in the subject and your organizations details in the body of the email, including a contact number.

CARPHA Unites the Region to Reduce the Prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases on Caribbean Wellness Day

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) proudly joins the Region to commemorate Caribbean Wellness Day (CWD), observed annually on the second Saturday in September. CWD is geared at increasing awareness and promoting activities to address Non-communicable diseases (NCDs). NCDs continue to be a leading cause of death and loss of productivity in the Caribbean. In this regard, CWD presents a unique opportunity to unite governments, communities, and individuals under a shared commitment to healthier living and to reduce this burden. This year, Caribbean Wellness Day will be celebrated on September 13, 2025, and marks the beginning of a new vision, as reflected by the overall theme for the new five-year period 2025-2029, “Engage, Empower, Elevate”. This theme emphasises the importance of community participation, youth engagement and empowerment through advo-

cacy among other strategies. This year’s campaign focuses on promoting healthier lifestyles through the ‘My Caribbean Plate’, a culturally rich model for healthy eating, while encouraging regular physical activity to combat NCDs such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer and hypertension. By placing the ‘My Caribbean Plate’ at the heart of this year’s observance under the theme “Working together to improve health and well-being for all”, the campaign aims to increase public awareness of the nutritional, environmental, and cultural value of the Caribbean Plate by showcasing local foods, traditional preparation methods, and sustainable agricultural practices. Speaking on the significance of Caribbean Wellness Day, Dr. Lisa Indar, Executive Director of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), shared: “Caribbean Wellness Day stands as a testament to our collective resolve, as mandated by the Heads of Government of CARICOM, to address the growing threat of non-com-

municable diseases (NCDs). The reality is grave: NCDs like diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and cancers—remain the leading causes of death and disability in our Region. Every Caribbean family is touched. The cost of inaction is measured not only in dollars but in lives lost and dreams unrealised. The day serves not only as a reminder of the commitments made in the Port of Spain Declaration but also as a call to action for governments, communities, and individuals to intensify efforts throughout the year”. Highlighting the role of communities, Dr. Heather Armstrong, Head of the Chronic Diseases and Injury Unit at CARPHA, added: “Improving health and well-being requires all of us, individuals, families, schools, workplaces, and policymakers to work together. Caribbean Wellness Day 2025 is not only a call to action, but also a celebration of Caribbean identity, resilience, and shared responsibility for health. By engaging communities, empowering individuals, and ele-

vating regional responses to wellness, the initiative seeks to create environments that make the healthier choice the easier choice for every Caribbean citizen”. As the Caribbean continues to face the growing challenge of NCDs, Caribbean Wellness Day 2025 serves as a reminder that by working together, we can build healthier nations and a stronger future for all. The day represents an annual reminder of the work that must be sustained throughout the year to reduce the burden of NCDs in the Region. Through ‘Engage, Empower, Elevate’, we can inspire lasting change, ensuring that the choices we make at the table contribute to the well-being of our people and the environment for generations to come. Caribbean Wellness Day (CWD) was conceptualised and mandated by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in 2007, as one of the regional responses to the threat posed by non-communicable diseases (NCDs).



This handout released by the Utah Governor's Office on September 13, 2025 shows the booking photo of Tyler Robinson, the suspect in the shooting death of right-wing activist Charlie Kirk. Authorities announced on September 12 that they had taken into custody Tyler Robinson, the person believed to have assassinated Charlie Kirk, a right-wing activist and close ally of President Donald Trump. He was shot while speaking at an event on September 10 at Utah Valley University (UVU), in the city of Orem, Utah.

BASSETTERRE, St Kitts (CMC) — The St Kitts and Nevis government Monday sought to distance the twin island federation from reports on social media that Tyler Robinson, the Utah State University student arrested in the assassination of

the 31-year-old right wing activist, Charlie Kirk, had visited the Caribbean country. Utah's Governor Spencer Cox has said that Robinson, who was taken into custody some 33 hours after Kirk was shot

St Kitts and Nevis gov't says US murder accused never visited federation

dead in Orem last Wednesday, "is not cooperating" with United States (US) authorities. Kirk was speaking at Utah Valley University at an open-air event held by Turning Point USA, the organisation he co-founded, when he was hit in the neck by a single bullet. In a statement, the St Kitts and Nevis government said it wanted to "address reports suggesting that the suspect in the recent tragic incident at Utah State University, or his parents, visited our federation". "Our official records show no evidence that neither the individual nor his family entered St Kitts and Nevis. We remain open to reviewing any credible information to the contrary, as accuracy and truth are paramount," it said. The government said that it "takes bor-

der security very seriously and continues to uphold strict measures to ensure the safety of all who live in and visit our country". "We also wish to clarify that in the federation, access to the shooting range is tightly regulated and permitted only to individuals holding a firearm license issued in St Kitts and Nevis, under police authorisation and strict supervision. Those without such a license are prohibited from access." The government said it is urging all nationals "to act responsibly in sharing information and to help protect the reputation of our beloved country by ensuring that only verified facts are circulated". "Citizens and residents are encouraged to rely on official government sources for reliable updates and information," it added.

Ja joins Commonwealth countries in backing new strategic plan for shared prosperity

Commonwealth high commissioners, including representatives from Jamaica, have approved a five-year strategic plan for the Commonwealth Secretariat to deliver focused support for the 2.7 billion people it serves. To set the stage for a new era of effective results, the secretariat developed its strategic plan covering the period 2025 to 2030, after extensive consultations with member countries, sister and accredited organisations, development partners, staff members and other stakeholders. Early in her tenure in April, Commonwealth Secretary-General Shirley Botchwey outlined a bold and ambitious vision for the secretariat, the executive arm of the 56-member association. The new strategic plan will make the Commonwealth more focused, strategic and impactful in its delivery, for the benefit of the people and planet it is mandated to serve. **NEW STRATEGIC DIRECTION** Under the new plan, the secretariat, with strategic partners, will focus on three key interrelated pillars, with a cross-cutting focus on young people, women and small states, that will create the conditions for fast-tracking development across the Commonwealth. A key component includes a focus on expanding youth digital skills through distance education, youth entrepreneurship, and STEM education for girls. The three pillars include:



High commissioners of Commonwealth member states are seen deliberating at an extraordinary meeting of the board of governors on September 10.

- Democratic resilience: supporting human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and strong elections;
 - Economic resilience: pushing for fair access to finance, inclusive trade, and sustainable debt; and
 - Environmental resilience: taking action on climate change, protecting the ocean, and promoting sustainable use of natural resources.
- Across these pillars, performance enablers and accelerators such as a reformed secretariat, technology and partnerships are being prioritised to strengthen programme delivery.

In particular, the secretariat will leverage its partnerships to tackle complex challenges such as health, education and addressing the needs of people with disabilities. In her remarks to the high commissioners at an extraordinary meeting of the board of governors on September 10, the Commonwealth secretary-general said: "In a world of disruption, the Commonwealth is needed more than ever, but we can only meet that need if we are willing to evolve. From climate to trade, democracy to youth empowerment, the challenges facing our mem-

bers are complex and interconnected. The world is moving fast, so we must keep pace. That's why this strategic plan is grounded in the enduring values of our charter, but shaped by the real, present demands of our time." After the meeting, the Chair of the Board of Governors, Titilupe Fanetupouvava'u Tu'ivakano, high commissioner of Tonga to the UK, shared: "The strategic plan is a big step forward in terms of collaboration between member countries and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The new plan has a focus on small island states, which we in the Pacific region are especially grateful for. We have agreed to a comprehensive plan that benefits people within our 56 member countries." **THE WAY AHEAD** To realise the strategic plan's ambitious goals, programme teams have developed detailed projects to translate these plans into concrete and coordinated actions for building a more resilient Commonwealth. Over the next few weeks, the Commonwealth secretary-general will embark on a series of engagements to share the secretariat's new direction with other strategic partners and stakeholders. She is scheduled to travel to New York later this month to lead the secretariat's delegation to the Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting on the margins of the UN General Assembly.



Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness (right) takes the oath of office which was administered by Governor General Sir Patrick Allen

Andrew Holness was on Tuesday sworn in as the country's ninth prime minister of Jamaica. Holness, during the swearing-in ceremony held at King's House and led by Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen, took the oath of allegiance and the oath of office.

He was also presented with the instrument of appointment. Sir Patrick Allen, in his remarks during the swearing-in ceremony, urged Holness to lead with clarity and compassion for the people of Jamaica. "Dr Holness, you are reassuming office as the ninth prime minister since inde-

Holness sworn in for a fourth time

pendence. Leadership, however, is never merely a title; it is both a privilege and a solemn responsibility. "You are once again called to lead with clarity, conviction and compassion. To ensure that the fruits of progress that we have shared, that no Jamaican is left behind anytime. You carry the hopes of people that desire a society that is more inclusive, more prosperous and more just," the governor-general said. "In a world of shifting global realities, economic pressures and social change, the task ahead is great, but so too is the opportunity to shape a Jamaica that rises above its challenges. Your previous terms have laid important foundations. Now with renewed vision and experience, you are entrusted to guide the next chapter of our national story. That the areas of our existence supervised by the state are properly addressed," he continued. Allen also sought to assure Jamaicans that, following the recently concluded general election, the machinery of gov-

ernment has been in place and functioning well. "The swearing in of the prime minister today as the head of government is essential to that continuity. Tomorrow we will swear in the cabinet ministers who are essential to the country's decision-making and administration. "The parliament, our law-making branch of government, will open this Thursday. You the people have already the members of the House of Representatives, and I am today recognising the appointment of government and opposition senators who will constitute the upper house. "I am also advised by the leader of the opposition; serving in that capacity, he has received the full support of the opposition members of parliament. Together these institutions reflect the will of the people and ensure the orderly governance of our nation," he said. This is the fourth time Dr Holness is being sworn in as the country's prime minister.

Qatar slams 'reckless, treacherous' Israel after deadly Doha strike

Qatar's prime minister denounced Israel on Sunday as foreign ministers from Arab and Muslim nations met to discuss a possible unified response to Israel's attack on Doha targeting the leadership of the militant group Hamas. "The reckless and treacherous Israeli aggression was committed while the state of Qatar was hosting official and public negotiations, with the knowledge of the Israeli side itself, and with the aim of achieving a ceasefire in Gaza," said Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, who also serves as Qatar's foreign minister. He made the comments before a meeting Monday of leaders from the Arab and Muslim nations. Sheikh Mohammed said Qatar remained committed to working with Egypt and the United States to reach a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war that has devastated the Gaza Strip after Hamas' attack on Israel nearly two years ago. However, he said that the Israeli strike that killed six people- five members of Hamas and a local Qatari security force member- represented "an attack on the principle of mediation itself." "This attack can only be described as state terrorism, an approach pursued by the current extremist Israeli government, which flouts international law," the minister said. Sheikh Mohammed stressed the moment had come for consequences to Israel's attacks in the wider Middle East.



A damaged building, following an Israeli attack on Hamas leaders in Doha, Qatar, September 9, 2025.

"It is time for the international community to stop applying double standards and punish Israel for all the crimes it has committed," Sheikh Mohammed said in footage later released by Qatar's government from the closed-door meeting. Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit separately criticised Israel and warned that "silence in the face of a crime ... paves the way for more crimes." There was no immediate response from Israel, which is hosting US Secretary of State Marco Rubio this weekend. But Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu on Saturday night again defended the strike. "The Hamas terrorists chiefs living in Qatar don't care about the people in Gaza," he posted on X. "They blocked all ceasefire attempts in order to endlessly drag out the war. Getting rid of them would rid the main obstacle to releasing all our hostages and ending the war." Hamas official Bassem Naim said in a statement that the organisation hopes that the summit on Monday will produce "a unified and decisive Arab-Islamic stance" on the war.

Qatar, an energy-rich nation on the Arabian Peninsula that hosted the 2022 World Cup, long has served as an intermediary in conflicts. For years, it has hosted Hamas' political leadership at the request of the US, providing a channel for Israel to negotiate with the militant group that has controlled Gaza for years. But as the Israel-Hamas war has raged on, Qatar increasingly has been criticised by hard-liners within Netanyahu's government. Netanyahu himself has vowed to strike all those who organised the Hamas-led attack on Israel in 2023, and in the time since the attack in Qatar, he has doubled down on saying Qatar remains a possible target if Hamas leaders are there. Netanyahu faces increasing pressure from the Israeli public over the fate of the remaining hostages held in Gaza. There are still 48 hostages remaining in Gaza, of whom 20 are believed by Israel to still be alive. Israel's offensives in Gaza has killed more than 64,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not say how many were civilians or combatants. It says around half of those killed were women and children. The war in Gaza began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on October 7, 2023, killing around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251.



LOVE JOSEPH KC BOUND

TCI Promising Middle/Long Distance Runner off to Athletics/Education-Rich Kingston College in Jamaica

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SCENES FROM THE 2025 WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TOKYO, JAPAN





Roxan Wake-Forbes (right), Director of the Edward Gartland Youth Centre directs parents to one of the resource booths at the event



Butterfield gold representatives were also present at the event

Edward Gartland Youth Centre Elevates Back-to-School Tradition with “Smart Start Expo”

The Edward Gartland Youth Centre (EGYC) has reimagined its annual back-to-school celebration with the launch of its first-ever “Smart Start Back to School Expo” in Providenciales on Saturday, September 6.

For more than 16 years, the Centre has hosted a summer bash to close out the season and help children prepare for the classroom with backpacks and supplies. But this year, Executive Director Roxanne Wake-Forbes said the team wanted to go beyond handouts and ensure students are truly prepared for the year ahead.

“Instead of just giving back backpacks and supplies, we wanted to really equip kids with tools and skills to succeed,” Wake-Forbes explained. “This Expo was about sharing knowledge, practical tips, and resources so their start to the school year is impactful and joyful.”

Addressing a Growing Need

Wake-Forbes candidly noted that in recent years, the event had begun to be seen mainly as an opportunity to collect free supplies. “I think we have to ask ourselves: are we giving them the tools and the skills to be able to succeed?” she said. “That’s what this is about, providing the practical knowledge to help them advance and succeed throughout the year.”

The “Smart Start” concept also grew out of the Centre’s belief that the challenges facing children today require more than material support. With increasing academic pressure, social



The TCI Cadet Corps' booth

challenges, and financial strain on families, the Expo aimed to equip both students and parents with knowledge to meet the year ahead.

Workshops and Learning Sessions

Program Development Manager Cesarina Paul described the Expo as the natural follow-up to the Centre’s summer programs, which concluded with a soft-skills workshop that encouraged children to start thinking about school readiness.

“This event is very timely,” Paul said. “It’s not just to give them something, but importantly, for them to learn things they’re going to need in order to be successful at school.”

Workshops offered throughout the day included:

- Mental health and wellness strategies

- Hygiene and self-care tips
- Study skills and time management techniques
- Nutrition and healthy snack preparation, showing families how to pack affordable, wholesome lunches
- Financial literacy, led by Scotiabank, targeting both parents and students

Paul emphasized the importance of teaching financial awareness early.

“Even children need to learn that they can save, that they can start developing financial techniques now that will help them in the future, not just depend on their parents,” she said.

Powered by Community Partnerships

The Expo was made possible through partnerships with local organizations, businesses, and individual volunteers. Contributors

included Scotiabank, Soroptimist International, Grace Bay Car Rentals, the Health Promotion Unit, Barbara’s Lighthouse, Butterfield Gold, Flyx Fitness, and facilitators such as Lavenia Bishop, Selena Grant, Arielle Neely, Alfred Smith, Chinaza Williams, Felipe Tornin Machin, Kenson Cazi, Maya Saunders, Tiffany Ellis and Tobechi Chukwu.

Youth-focused groups such as the TCI Regiment, Cadet Corps, and Rotaract Club of Providenciales also participated, offering recruitment opportunities and mentorship.

Paul praised the community support: “We had people step up not just as facilitators, but as volunteers, even parents who came on the spot and offered their time. It really was a community effort.”

Preparing Minds, Not Just Backpacks

Organizers said the key takeaway was preparing children’s attitudes and resilience alongside their school supplies.

“Everybody loves a new school uniform and bag, that’s fine,” Paul said. “But what’s in the mind? Children need to know that challenges will come, and they now have techniques to overcome them. That’s the true goal of Smart Start.”

In the meantime, Wake-Forbes pointed out that with this new approach, the Edward Gartland Youth Centre hopes to set a lasting standard for how back-to-school events can shape not only the start of the academic year, but the success of students far beyond it.

TCIFA launches “Own a Piece of Football History” to finish National Dormitory Complex

The Turks & Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) has kicked off a landmark fundraising campaign dubbed ‘Own a Piece of Football History’ aimed at securing the final funding needed to complete and operate the Association’s National Dormitory Complex, a year-round home for athletes, a hub for elite training, and a space where football dreams come to life.

Spearheaded by TCIFA President Sonia Fulford-Missick, the initiative invites supporters to place their names on facilities across the football campus, honouring loved ones, elevating a business, or creating a legacy that will inspire the next generation.

“Our athletes inspire us every day with their passion and dedication. By putting your name on one of our facilities, you’re telling them their dreams matter and that our community believes in them. Together, we can finish this dream,” a release from the FA said.

The National Dormitory Complex is designed to provide:

- Safe, modern accommodations for local athletes and visiting teams;
 - Professional training spaces and international-standard amenities; and
 - A sustainable future for youth development and senior national squads
- With the finish line in sight, TCIFA’s legacy packages offer individuals, families, and corporate partners a tangible way to



Sonia Fulford, President of the Turks and Caicos and Caicos Football Association.

help complete the project while gaining meaningful recognition. Sponsorship Opportunities & Legacy Packages

Supporters can secure naming rights to key facilities across the TCIFA campus. The Technical Building and the Administration Building are each available for a

five-year term at \$50,000, with full name and logo branding rights.

On the playing side, fields and pitches are available through quarterly partnerships. The Artificial Turf Field, the Beach Soccer Field, and the Futsal Court can each be sponsored at \$1,500 per quarter, while the Natural Grass Field is available for \$2,500 per quarter.

For indoor spaces, the Conference and Training Room can be named for \$15,000 over a three-year term. In addition, there are 27 individual Dormitory Rooms, each available for \$5,000 on a three-year term, offering donors the chance to leave a lasting personal or family legacy.

Naming rights are also open for the Locker Rooms. In the older building, four locker rooms can each be sponsored for \$1,500 over three years, while in the new dormitory building, two upgraded locker rooms are available at \$3,000 each for a three-year period.

Finally, the Scoreboard presents another unique legacy opportunity, available at \$2,500 for a three-year term.

The TCIFA pointed out that opportunities are limited and will be confirmed on a first-come basis.

How to secure your place in history

The TCIFA pointed out that in order to reserve a naming opportunity or request full details, to contact the TCIFA at (649) 941-5632, generalsecretarytcifa@gmail.com, or cewingtcifa@gmail.com

TCI BJJ Shines at World Master’s Championship in Las Vegas

The Turks and Caicos Islands Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (TCIBJJ) team delivered an impressive showing at the International Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Federation (IBJJF) World Master’s Championship in Las Vegas, Nevada, held from August 28 to 30.

While the squad did not secure the overall tally of victories they had hoped for, their campaign featured a string of memorable moments that underscored the grit and skill of the island’s athletes.

Among the highlights was a spectacular flying triangle submission executed by Norman Saunders, marking a powerful debut at purple belt on the world stage. His brother, Josh Saunders, also displayed remarkable determination, narrowly missing out on wins in tightly contested matches that were decided by slim advantage margins. The rest of the team pushed

hard in the qualifiers, gaining invaluable experience against top-tier international opponents.

The standout achievement came from Coach Shaun McCormack, who etched his name in TCI sporting history by claiming a bronze medal, the team’s first-ever World Master’s podium finish. Competing in one of the toughest brackets of the tournament, McCormack dominated his early matchups and battled his way to the semi-finals, falling just short of advancing to silver as time expired in his final contest.

“This is the largest Jiu Jitsu competition in the world every year and it’s always a challenge,” McCormack reflected. “We continue to train with the best in the world and prove that the talent level from our islands is world class.”

The World Master’s Championship is

widely regarded as the pinnacle annual event in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, drawing thousands of competitors from across the globe. With McCormack’s podium finish

and strong performances from the Saunders brothers and the rest of the squad, TCIBJJ has firmly placed the Turks and Caicos Islands on the global Jiu Jitsu map.



The Turks and Caicos Islands Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Team members share lens at the event.

Salt Rakers Aquatic Club to Host Mini-Triathlon in Grace Bay

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Club has announced its upcoming Mini-Triathlon, set for Saturday, October 25, 2025, at The Bight Park Beach, Grace Bay.

The event promises to bring together athletes of all levels, from first-time participants to seasoned triathletes and relay teams. With swimming, cycling, and running on the agenda, competitors will be challenged to test their endurance and versatility in one of the fastest-growing

sporting disciplines in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

“Ready to Push Your Limits?” is the slogan splashed across the event flyer, setting the tone for what organizers expect to be a high-energy day of sport, camaraderie, and personal achievement.

Salt Rakers Aquatic Club, known for its commitment to developing swimming and multisport programs in the islands, is aiming to use the Mini-Triathlon as both

a community fitness initiative and a platform to nurture future competitive athletes.

The course, staged against the backdrop of Grace Bay’s world-famous turquoise waters, will showcase the natural beauty of the islands while testing athletes’ stamina across the three disciplines.

Organizers emphasize that the event is open to beginners, seasoned pros, and relay teams, ensuring accessibility for any-

one looking to get involved in the triathlon community.

Interested participants are encouraged to register early and can contact the club at (649) 241-1272 for more details.

With the growing popularity of endurance sports in the Caribbean, the Salt Rakers Aquatic Mini-Triathlon is expected to become a highlight on the local sporting calendar, inspiring both residents and visitors to dive in, ride hard, and run strong.

Turks and Caicos Distance Runner Love Joseph Heads to Kingston College in Jamaica

By Vivian Tyson, NEWSLINE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Seventeen-year-old distance runner Love Joseph, one of the brightest young prospects in Turks and Caicos Islands athletics, is embarking on a new chapter in his career and education.

On Saturday, September 6, Joseph boarded a flight bound for Jamaica, where he will be joining the prestigious Kingston College, a school renowned for producing some of the Caribbean's top athletes.

Joseph, who competes in the 1,500m and 5,000m events, represented the Turks and Caicos Islands at the 2025 CARIFTA Games in Trinidad and Tobago earlier this year. Though he did not return home with a medal, he says the experience sharpened his determination to improve and to seek out greater opportunities for growth.

The young runner told NewslineTCI that it was important for him to go to the neighboring country to further his athletics journey and education because he believes that local athletes should be more prominent the podium.

"The need to go there (Jamaica) was because I feel that Turks and Caicos Islands athletes should not leave the airport or come to the airport with no medals at all," Joseph explained before his departure. "I decided to take drastic action and go somewhere where I felt like I could be challenged not only physically, but also academically as well. And I feel like Kingston College is the best place



Middle and long-distance runner Love Joseph

to do that, because it will test me in ways that I can't even imagine."

Kingston College, widely known in Jamaican athletics circles, has a storied history of excellence at the ISSA/GraceKennedy Boys and Girls Championships (Champs), one of the premier high school athletics meets in the world. For Joseph, the move represents not only a chance to compete at a higher level but also to measure himself against some of the region's best young distance

runners, including Lennox Miller - Olympic silver and bronze medallist; Akeem Bloomfield - World Athletics Championships silver medallist; and cricket legend Michael Holding.

The teenager described the decision as "drastic," but necessary, stressing that athletes from the Turks and Caicos Islands need to aim higher and break through on the international stage. He believes that exposure to a more competitive training environment will push him to reach his full

potential, both on the track and in the classroom.

Asked about his hopes for the future, Joseph emphasized that while medals are important, the true goal is to give his all.

"Even though we're a small island and we always bring some of the smallest teams, the thing is we have to go out there and do our best," he said. "Sometimes, even [if we] don't come home with a medal, if you know that you gave your best, that's all you can do. And just don't listen to the outside noise."

With Joseph now enrolled at Kingston College, he will now be given more competition to sharpen his skills, as he will now have a wider pool quality athlete to compete against at that institution. Additionally, he stands the opportunity of representing Kingston College at the Champs.

Joseph's move to Kingston College is being closely watched by local coaches and sports officials, who view it as a sign of the growing ambition among TCI athletes. The territory has steadily increased its participation at international meets such as the CARIFTA Games, Commonwealth Youth Games, and NACAC events, though medals have remained elusive in many categories.

With Joseph now stepping into one of the Caribbean's most competitive track and field environments, hopes are high that he will gain the experience and conditioning necessary to return stronger in regional and international competition.

TCI Boat Club Donates \$7,000 to TCI SNAP Centre from 11th Annual Poker Run

The TCI Boat Club has once again demonstrated its commitment to community support by donating \$7,000 to the SNAP Center, raised through its highly successful 11th Annual Poker Run.

This generous contribution highlights the club's dedication to supporting the vital services the SNAP Centre provides to children with special needs and their families in Providenciales. Last year's donation assisted with much-needed upgrades at the Centre, and this year's contribution will further strengthen the delivery of critical

programmes and services for students.

"Our Annual Poker Run is more than just a fun event on the water; it's a way for our community to come together and make a tangible difference. The SNAP Centre does invaluable work, and we are honoured to contribute and partner with their mission," said Ms. Jenekah Stubbs of the TCI Boat Club.

Director of the Special Education Needs Services (SENS) Department, Dr. Anya Malcolm-Gibbs expressed gratitude on behalf of the center: "We are truly thankful for the TCI

Boat Club's continued generosity. This donation will directly support our efforts to provide a safe, supportive, and empowering learning environment for our students. Partnerships like these remind us that when the community comes together, children with special needs are given the opportunity to thrive."

The Minister of Education, Youth, Sports and Social Services, Hon. Rachel M. Taylor, also commended the donation, stating: "The SNAP Centre plays a crucial role in our education system, offering specialised

services that make a real difference in the lives of children and families. I applaud the TCI Boat Club for their ongoing commitment to education and inclusion, and for demonstrating the power of community in supporting our nation's future."

The SNAP Centre remains dedicated to providing essential support, education, and resources for children with special needs.

Donations such as this ensure the Centre can continue to expand services and create meaningful opportunities for students and their families.