

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

www.thelabourspokesman.com



SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED... TITUS 2:8

Year 68 NO. 30

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 2024

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 15/08/24

DELTA \$14.13/ SOL \$13.78

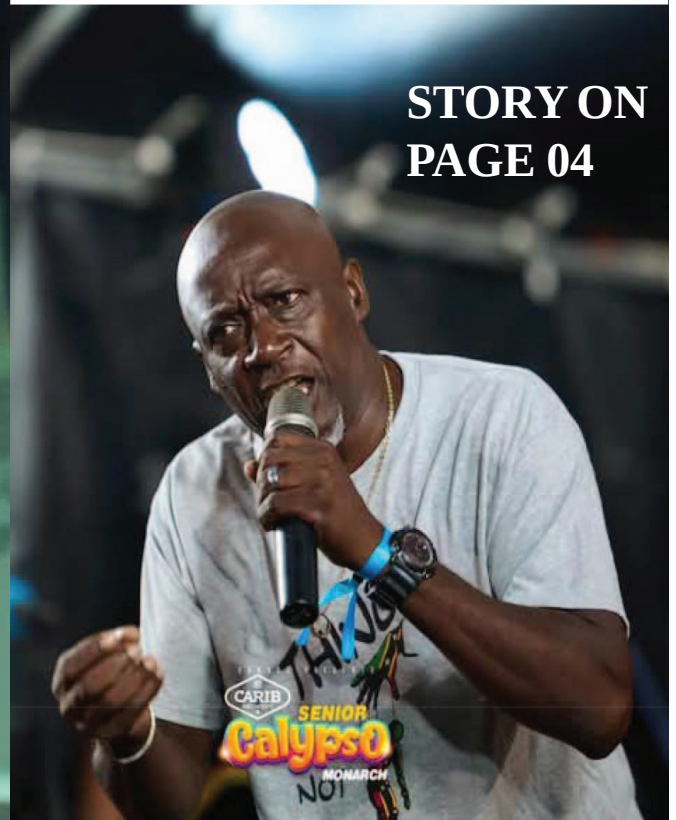
DAZZLING DARLING

STORY ON PAGE 03



'NO GAG'

STORY ON
PAGE 04



POLICE SAY...



VALDEZ, JESUS

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

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Editorial

Keeping the True Spirit of Christmas Alive

As the Christmas season unfolds, it is a time for reflection not just on the celebrations but also on how we approach the religious holiday itself.

There is no denying that the modern Christmas season has become increasingly commercialized. Glittering advertisements, endless shopping deals, and a focus on material gifts have overshadowed the deeper meaning of this sacred occasion for many.

Yet, as a society, we must make a conscious effort to ensure that Christmas remains a celebration of love, togetherness, and kindness-values that should define the season, not be lost in the noise of consumerism.

Here in St. Kitts and Nevis, we are fortunate to have traditions that remind us of the essence of Christmas. Even the Sugar Mas (National Carnival) festivities calendar includes the beloved In the Spirit of Christmas event, highlighting both merriment and the spiritual themes of the season. Churches across the nation play a vital role, hosting services and events that center the holiday on its true purpose. These traditions remind us that Christmas is not merely a time for buying and receiving but a time for giving, sharing, and reflecting.

The well-known phrase '*Jesus is the reason for the season*' serves as love, hope, humility, and compassion. As we embrace the festivities, we must also take time to reflect on the spiritual significance of the holiday, grounding ourselves in its deeper meaning and sharing its message with others.



Still, the global trend of turning Christmas into a commercialized affair looms large, even in our communities. It is easy to get caught up in the seasonal rush of sales and promotions, where the value of gifts is often measured in price tags rather than the thought and care behind them. This focus on materialism risks overshadowing the true values that Christmas should instill in all of us.

How do we, as individuals and as a society, resist this trend? How do we ensure that Christmas remains a season of meaning rather than a frenzy of consumerism?

It begins with intentional choices. Families can make the conscious decision to prioritize meaningful traditions over extravagant spending. Simple acts, such as sharing meals or participating in charity drives, can bring more joy and connection than any store-bought item. Teaching children the importance of giving and gratitude, rather than placing emphasis on receiving, can help instill the true spirit of the holiday in the next generation.

Communities, too, play a critical role in preserving the essence of Christmas. Events that emphasize connection, kindness, and togetherness-such as caroling, volunteer initiatives, and shared

worship-help shift the focus away from commercialism and toward the values that matter most. Supporting these types of celebrations can serve as a powerful reminder that the best gifts cannot be wrapped or purchased.

Let us also reflect on how we carry the spirit of Christmas beyond December. The themes of love, generosity, and unity should not be confined to one season but practiced throughout the year. By doing so, we ensure that the values of Christmas remain alive in our daily lives, long after the decorations have been packed away.

The commercialization of Christmas may be a reality of our modern world, but it does not have to define how we celebrate. Each of us has the power to focus on what truly matters and to share the spirit of the season with those around us.

This Christmas, let us be mindful of the choices we make and the traditions we uphold. Let us remember that the greatest gifts are the ones that cannot be bought-love, kindness, and togetherness.

Merry Christmas to all, and may we keep the true spirit of the season alive, now and always.



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‘Dazzling Darling’ Outshines In Miss SKN Queen Pageant

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Monday 23rd December 2024) - Miss Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd., Daneika Dickenson, fondly known as “Your Dazzling Darling,” captured the title of Miss National Carnival Queen 2024-2025 following the themed ‘A Night of Elegance’ event, held on Thursday 19th December at Carnival Village in St. Kitts.

Dickenson, who scored a remarkable 710 points, was crowned by Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew.

1st Runner-up position went to Tyannah Richards (Miss Urban Development Corporation) with 653 points while Tonia Manners (Miss Azul Printers) got the 2nd Runner-up spot with 648 points.

In addition to the prestigious title, Dickenson was awarded a \$20,000 cash prize and won the *National Pride Costume* segment with 173 points. She was also voted the Most Popular Contestant Online- recognized for receiving the most likes on official photos shared by the St. Kitts-Nevis National Carnival Committee on



Photo: Miss Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd., Daneika Dickenson Miss National Carnival Queen 2024-2025 along with (Left) 1st Runner-up position went to Tyannah Richards (Miss Urban Development Corporation) with 653 points while Tonia Manners (Miss Azul Printers) got the 2nd Runner-up spot pose for a photo (Official Carnival Photo)



Photo: Best Interview winner Jutambien Kelly (Miss St. Kitts Music Festival)- Screen via Youtube/Sugar Mas SKNCarnival)

social media since 4th October.

Her costume, titled “*Carnival Tales Unmasked*,” featured vibrant national colors and creatively merged cultural elements like the playful energy of clowns, the mystique of masquerades, and Anansi’s cunning wisdom. This dazzling ensemble celebrated the rich heritage of St. Kitts and Nevis, blending festivity and folklore into a breathtaking tribute to the nation’s vibrant culture and identity.

Meanwhile, Richards won the categories for *Best Modelling Skills in Evening Gown* (88 points) and *Best in Evening Gown*. Additionally, she won the Vintage Glamour Segment, scoring 94.5 points in the one-piece swimsuit category and also excelled in the two-piece swimsuit segment. The Swimsuit Showcase was held separately on Sunday 8th October 2024.

She also captured the Miss Photogenic as selected by the carnival committee’s official photographer as the most captivating and camera-friendly contestant.

Manners won Best Performing Talent with 199 points. Her dramatic presentation, infused with political satire, entertained the audience as she humorously touched on recent and current political events involving the present St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party (SKNLP) administration and the opposition People’s Labour Party (PLP).

Vanessa Simon (Miss Coca-Cola) won three awards namely- Chairman’s Award-recognized for her consistent participation, punctuality, dignified conduct, and appropriate attire throughout the competition, Miss Amity-Chosen by her peers as the most friendly and easiest to get along with as well as Best Platform Development’ Awarded for effectively raising awareness about her platform, ‘*Murder Victims’ Children*.’

Best Interview was won by Jutambien Kelly (Miss St. Kitts Music Festival) who scored 190 points for her eloquent response to the interviewer’s question which wowed the audience.

The interviewer: Some argue that beauty pageants place too much emphasis on physical appearance. How would you respond to this comment?

Kelly’s response: “Thank you so much for that question. So, throughout history, beauty pageants have been shown to be vain events. People feel like they focus too much on the physical instead of what’s happening up inside the woman’s brain or what’s happening inside her heart. Now throughout my journey in Miss St.Kitts, I have realized something. I feel like with the introduction of the platform, it has given us a certain sense of purpose. Purpose to do something. Purpose to make societal change. If I look at my platform, which is RISE, which stands for Resilience, Individuality, Strength, and Empowerment, I have learned that through this platform, I can really go out there and make a difference. And I feel like as I stand here, I am able to showcase my platform in front of an audience of people who come from all different walks of life. Yes, they did look at my physical appearance, especially in the swimsuit pageant that just now passed but that is not all that beauty pageants are made out of we are powerful women they make us out to be ambassadors representatives we are the people who are stepping out into the future and making the change this is just a tool to do that and if it means that they have to focus a little bit on the physical that is okay because it’s really what we focus on the inside that makes all the difference. Thank you.â€œ

Of note, all contestants were asked the same question, and each wore mask headphones backstage during this segment.

The other contestant was Mikaya Collins (Miss A1 Tent and Events Supply). Photos:

Front Page Image: Miss Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd., Daneika Dickenson, fondly known as “Your Dazzling Darling,” captured the title of Miss National Carnival Queen 2024-2025 following the themed ‘A Night of Elegance’ event, held on Thursday, 19th December at Carnival Village in St. Kitts (Official Carnival Photo)

Carnival Committee Refutes ‘Gag Order’ Rumour

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Monday 23rd December 2024) - In response to social media rumors suggesting a “gag order” condition imposed on the final leg of the Senior Calypso Finals competition, the St. Kitts and Nevis National Carnival Committee (SKNNCC) has dismissed such claims.

“The SKNNCC firmly upholds the principle of freedom of speech, particularly in relation to all national carnival events, with Calypso being a fundamental expression of the voice of the people”, a recent press release read in part.

For the upcoming competition, seven (7) calypsonians are set to compete against reigning Monarch Queen Independent in the Carib Senior Calypso Finals at Carnival Village come Friday 27th December 2024, featuring two rounds of what is expected to be a fierce competition.

Following the semifinals held on Friday 13th December, the top seven semi-finalists and their scores are as follows: Big Lice - 457 points, Drewsy - 453 points, Lady Carens - 443 points, Queen Kibi - 443 points, Issa Kamal - 434 points, Queen Singing Jackie - 429 points and Lady Diva - 421 points.

The alternate for the competition is Mighty Freddy.

See full SKNNCC press statement below.

The SKNNCC Affirms Support For Freedom of Speech In Senior Calypso Monarch Finals

The St. Kitts and Nevis National Carnival Committee (SKNNCC) wishes to address recent concerns regarding the Senior Calypso Monarch Finals and is pleased to clarify its position regarding the Senior Calypso Monarch Finals, reaffirming that there is no “gag order” imposed on participating Calypsonians. The SKNNCC firmly upholds the principle of freedom of speech, particularly in relation to all national carnival events, with Calypso being a fundamental expression of the voice of the people.

On Friday, December 20, 2024, the SKNNCC convened with Calypso Finalists to pull their performance positions for the upcoming Senior Calypso Monarch competition. The previously established Calypso policy that was signed by all Calypsonians, includes a clause designed to indemnify the SKNNCC and further states that participants must respect the audience and judges and not exceed the boundaries of good taste. This clause prompted inquiries from Calypsonians regarding the boundaries of their performances.

In response to these inquiries, the committee sought to clarify the intent of the clause and provided an addendum to the original policy for discussion. The SKNNCC wants to assure all participants that there is absolutely no intention to suppress the voices of Calypsonians or any other contributors in our national carnival events. Our primary aim is to encourage creative expression while ensuring that all performances exhibit a level of respect for all individuals.

The SKNNCC remains committed to fostering an environment where Calypsonians can freely express their artistry and experiences. We appreciate the engagement from our Calypsonians and the general public and always encourage open dialogue.

We look forward to the general public’s support of all Calypso Finalists on the 27th December at the Carib Senior Calypso Monarch Finals at Carnival Village. It will definitely be a showdown for the history books!!

REGIONAL



CDB Approves USD 34.8 Million Loan to Build Geothermal Energy Plant in Dominica

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados - The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB, the Bank) has approved a USD 34.8 million loan to the Geothermal Power Company of Dominica (GPC) to fund the construction of a 10-megawatt (MW) geothermal power plant. The project is designed to strengthen Dominica’s energy security, reduce electricity production costs, and significantly lower carbon emissions in the power sector.

Currently, Dominica imports over 90% of its energy, mainly in the form of fossil fuels. Approximately 70% of the country’s electricity is diesel-generated, driving up energy costs and hindering business growth and progress towards key Sustainable Development Goals. However, Dominica, located in the Eastern Caribbean, is home to vast geothermal energy potential linked to its volcanic origin.

Geothermal energy, derived from the Earth’s heat, primarily in volcanic areas, provides a constant, 24-hour source of renewable energy-unlike solar and wind power, which are subject to variability. This makes it a critical solution for reducing dependence on diesel among countries in the Eastern Caribbean that currently rely heavily on fossil fuels.

The power plant construction in Dominica follows significant strides in developing its geothermal development, including the drilling of production and re-injection wells. Estimates suggest that the island’s geothermal potential could provide electrical power capacity up to 50-times the current peak demand of approximately 18 MW.

CDB’s funding - with resources from the Inter-American Development Bank (through the Green Climate Fund), and Government of Canada through the Global Affairs Canada - covers 51% of the total project costs of approximately USD68 million, with the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) contributing 22%, and the remainder as equity from the GPC.

This project is funded under CDB’s GeoSmart Initiative which seeks to support countries with geothermal potential in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in developing projects with funding and technical assistance.

Mrs Therese Turner-Jones, CDB’s Vice President of Operations (Ag), emphasised that the plant will enable Dominica to leverage its natural resources to diversify its energy supply. “This plant will go a long way in helping Dominica achieve its sustainable energy goals and transition from fossil fuel-based electricity

(cont’d on next page)



Man Charged With Killing Young Boy, and Uncle

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Monday 23rd December 2024)

- Police on St. Kitts have informed that a man previously charged with murder has also been named in the August 2024 shooting deaths of a man and his nephew whose bodies were found in a vehicle.

In a press statement issued on Monday 23rd December 2024, police shared that Jesus Valdez, of John Street, Newtown, St. Kitts, has received two (2) additional charges for the murders of thirty (30)-year-old Devon Parris and nine (9)-year-old J'Marni Smithen, both of Craddock Road, Nevis.

The crimes were committed on August 1, 2024, at Newton Ground, St. Kitts.

Valdez was previously charged on December 12, 2024, for the shooting death of eighteen (18)-year-old Crisbel Rivera, of Carty Alley, Newtown, St. Kitts. That incident occurred on April 17, 2024, at John Street, Newtown.

The two additional murder charges were laid against Valdez on December 23, 2024, at the Basseterre Police Station.

The Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force extended its gratitude to the general public for their cooperation and assistance in the resolution of these cases.

Autopsies conducted on 12th August 2024, confirmed that the deaths of Parris and his nephew Smithen, resulted from severe cranioencephalic trauma caused by gunshot wounds to the head. The post-mortem examinations were carried out at the JNF Hospital Mortuary by resident pathologists Dr. Adrian Nunez and Dr. Naudica Philip.

The bodies of Parris and Smithen were discovered on Friday 2nd August, near Newton Ground Bay, St. Kitts. Police responded to a report from a concerned citizen who noticed a suspicious vehicle in the area.

Upon arrival, officers found the lifeless bodies of Parris, of Stoney Grove, Nevis, and Smithen, of Craddock Road, Nevis, inside a red Honda Fit, registration number R 66.



VALDEZ, JESUS

Both were lying face down with apparent gunshot wounds to the head.

Preliminary investigations revealed that Parris and Smithen had left a relative's home on the afternoon of Thursday, August 1, intending

to attend a birthday party at Caribbean Cinemas. When they failed to arrive and repeated calls to Parris's phone went unanswered, family members grew increasingly concerned.

Their bodies were discovered the next morning, inside the vehicle partially concealed in bushes near the sea in Newton Ground.

Page Image: Jesus Valdez

CDB Approves USD 34.8 Million Loan to Build Geothermal Energy Plant in Dominica

(cont'd from last page)

generation to entirely renewable sources," she said.

In addition to Dominica, other OECS nations have received support under the GeoSmart Initiative. A USD9.4 million grant has been approved for test drilling in Grenada, while St Kitts and Nevis received USD 17 million in funding towards the drilling of production wells on the island of Nevis. CDB previously provided USD27 million to support completed geothermal exploration in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Mr Joseph Williams, Coordinator of the CDB's Sustainable Energy Unit, noted that the approved funding for Dominica represents an important milestone and highlighted the importance of development financing in geothermal projects in small island developing states, given the high risk and national governments' fiscal and human capacity constraints.

He further highlighted CDB's contingently recovery grant (CRG) provided under GeoSmart: "This is a key financial mechanism that helps address the high drilling risk and unlock private investment. The CRG allows for the funding of exploration such that if the drilling is unsuccessful,

the funding remains a grant, with government or developer not having to repay a loan," Mr Williams said.

By tapping its geothermal potential, the OECS is not only working to strengthen its energy security but also contributing to regional efforts to reduce carbon emissions and increase resilience to climate change. Besides, energy affordability will help improve the competitiveness of these economies as electricity costs come down for consumers, households, and businesses. This marks a significant step towards a sustainable energy future for the Caribbean.

Save Water

TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS

Art meets Sustainable Energy: OECS Commission Celebrates Young Artist Winners of the Watt's Art Sustainable Energy Art Contest

OECS MEDIA RELEASE

December 20, 2024

December 20 - The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission is thrilled to announce the winners of the inaugural Watt's Art Sustainable Energy Art Contest, a vibrant initiative to promote awareness of sustainable energy through artistic expression.

The competition showcased the creativity and talent of young artists from across the OECS, with 21 entries submitted from eight Member States.

The prize winners are:

- **First Prize: Iyondel Williams, 18, Grenada**
- **Second Prize: Rianna Heylinger, 18, St Kitts and Nevis**
- **Third Prize: Nikira Sylvester, 16, Grenada**
- **People's Choice Award: Jaquori Isaac, 18, St Kitts and Nevis**

A five-member panel of judges drawn from across the region evaluated the 21 submissions based on creativity, relevance to the theme of sustainable energy, and overall artistic quality.

Judith Ephraim-Schmidt, Head of the Sustainable Energy Unit at the OECS Commission, expressed her admiration for the entries, stating:

"The artworks submitted were not only visually stunning but also deeply resonant with key themes of sustainability. They reflect a profound understanding of renewable energy and its significance in our fight against climate change. Each



- **First Prize: Iyondel Williams, 18, Grenada**



- **Second Prize: Rianna Heylinger, 18, St Kitts and Nevis**

piece tells a story that inspires hope for a cleaner and more sustainable future."

First prize winner Iyondel Williams described his winning piece as a symbol of "the harmony between humanity, Earth, and renewable energy", emphasising the responsibility we have towards our planet.

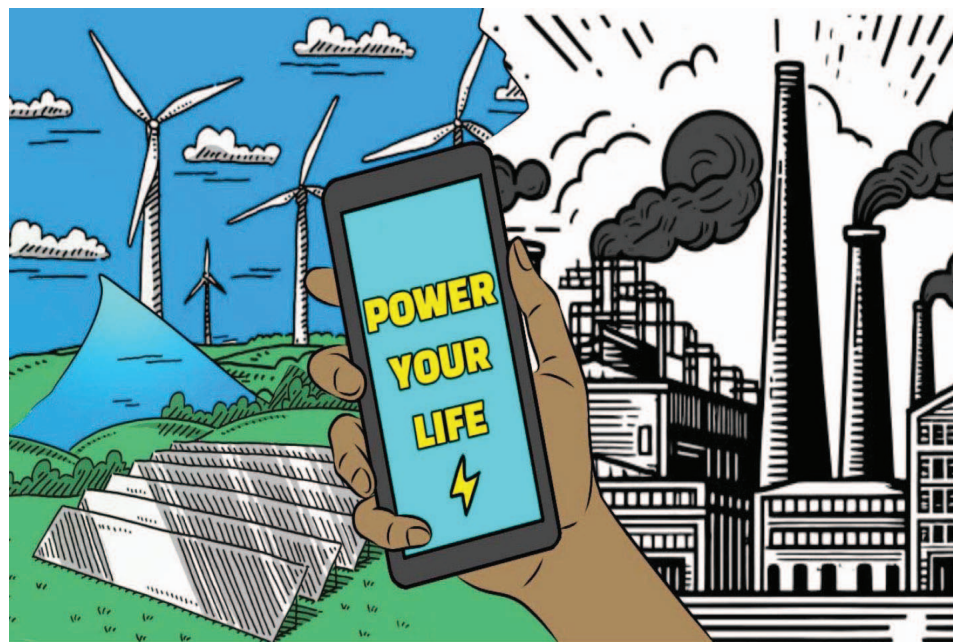
Rianna Heylinger noted that her artwork explores "the power of renewable resources", showcasing how various forms of energy can work together to enhance sustainability.

Nikira Sylvester shared her excitement about her piece featuring "Lady Solar", a superhero combating environmental threats and promoting energy conservation.

In addition to the prizes awarded to the top three winners - a Samsung Galaxy Tab tablet for first place, a Samsung Galaxy Watch for second place, and an Echo Dot with Echo Buds for third place - the People's Choice Award winner, who received 100 votes from some 524 voters in a 36-hour voting period- will receive a Fujifilm Instax camera bundle.

The OECS Commission is also excited to announce that the top 12 artworks will be featured in a 2025 OECS Sustainable Energy Calendar, providing these young artists with a platform to share their visions with a broader audience.

This contest not only celebrates artistic talent but also fosters critical thinking about energy sustainability among youth in the region. The OECS Commission looks forward to continuing its efforts at inclusion of the region's young people as it promotes sustainable development through such innovative initiatives as Watt's Art.



- **People's Choice Award: Jaquori Isaac, 18, St Kitts and Nevis**



Delta Airlines’ Non-Stop Service from JFK to St. Kitts Returns

Basseterre, St. Kitts (23 December 2024) - The St. Kitts Tourism Authority is delighted to announce the return of Delta Airlines’ highly anticipated non-stop service from New York’s John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) to Robert L. Bradshaw International Airport (SKB). The returning flight, which commenced on Saturday, December 21, 2024, welcomed 160 passengers, showcasing strong demand for travel to St. Kitts.



This vital route re-establishes a direct connection for travelers from one of the busiest international hubs to the vibrant shores of St. Kitts, offering unparalleled convenience and accessibility to North American visitors.

The Honorable Marsha T. Henderson, Minister of Tourism, International Transport, Civil Aviation, Urban Development, Employment, and Labour, emphasized the significance of this milestone, stating:

“The return of Delta Airlines’ non-stop service from JFK to SKB underscores the growing appeal of St. Kitts as a premier Caribbean destination. This route not only provides seamless travel for our visitors but also reinforces our commitment to strengthening partnerships with major airlines. We are thrilled to see such strong initial demand and look forward to welcoming more travelers seeking the unique experiences that St. Kitts offers.”

The resumption of this service is expected to bolster the tourism industry, providing a boost to the local economy and supporting efforts to position St. Kitts as a leading destination for leisure and business travel.

Case Number :SKBHPB2024/0158

FILED

HIGH COURT

ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS

(ST. KITTIS CIRCUIT)

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

Submitted Date:17/12/2024 12:09

Filed Date:17/12/2024 12:09

Fees Paid:12.00

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

A. D. 2024

(PROBATE)

SKBHPB2024/

In the Estate of **DEONJA ZACK FINLEY** late of Lower Monkey Hill, St. Peters, Saint Christopher, deceased, intestate.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Jacqueline Finley of Arawak Street, Bird Rock, Saint Christopher and Dave Matthew of Lower Monkey Hill, St. Peters, Saint Christopher for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicants who are the Intended Administrators of the Estate of Deonja Zack Finley and two of the beneficiaries of the Estate of the above-named deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 23rd day of September, 2023.

Any person having an objection to the Letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 19th day of November , 2024.

Britany Osborne

Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony

Solicitors for the Estate of **Deonja Zack Finley**

Filed by The Law Offices of Sylvester Anthony, Chambers, Unit C16 The Sands Complex, Bay Road, Basseterre, Saint Kitts. Telephone (869) 466-5834; Facsimile (869) 466-6851. E-mail lawoffices@sylvesteranthony.com.

The Court Office is at the Sir Lee L. Moore Judicial and Legal Services Complex, East Independence Square Street, Basseterre, Saint Kitts. Tel: (869) 467 -1335, The office is open between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

Case Number :SKBHPB2024/0127

FILED

HIGH COURT

ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS

(ST. KITTIS CIRCUIT)

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

Submitted Date:18/12/2024 12:30

Filed Date:18/12/2024 12:31

Fees Paid:52.00

A. D. 2024

(PROBATE)

SKBHPB2024/

In the matter of the Application of **HEZEKIAH NATTA** for the issue of a Grant of Probate in the Estate of **VIOLET CHAPMAN** formerly of No. 2 Cunningham Heights Housing Development, in the Island of Saint Christopher (St. Kitts) but resided at #31 Tan Tan Terrace, Christianstead, St. Croix U.S.V.I deceased

And

In the Matter of Rule 13 of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (Non-Contentious Probate and Administration of Estates) Rules

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **HEZEKIAH NATTA** of 4404 McCaan Quay, Chesapeake, VA 23321 for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 7th day of December, 2022 without revoking a Will bearing the date 20th March, 2022 wherein the applicant is named sole Executor.

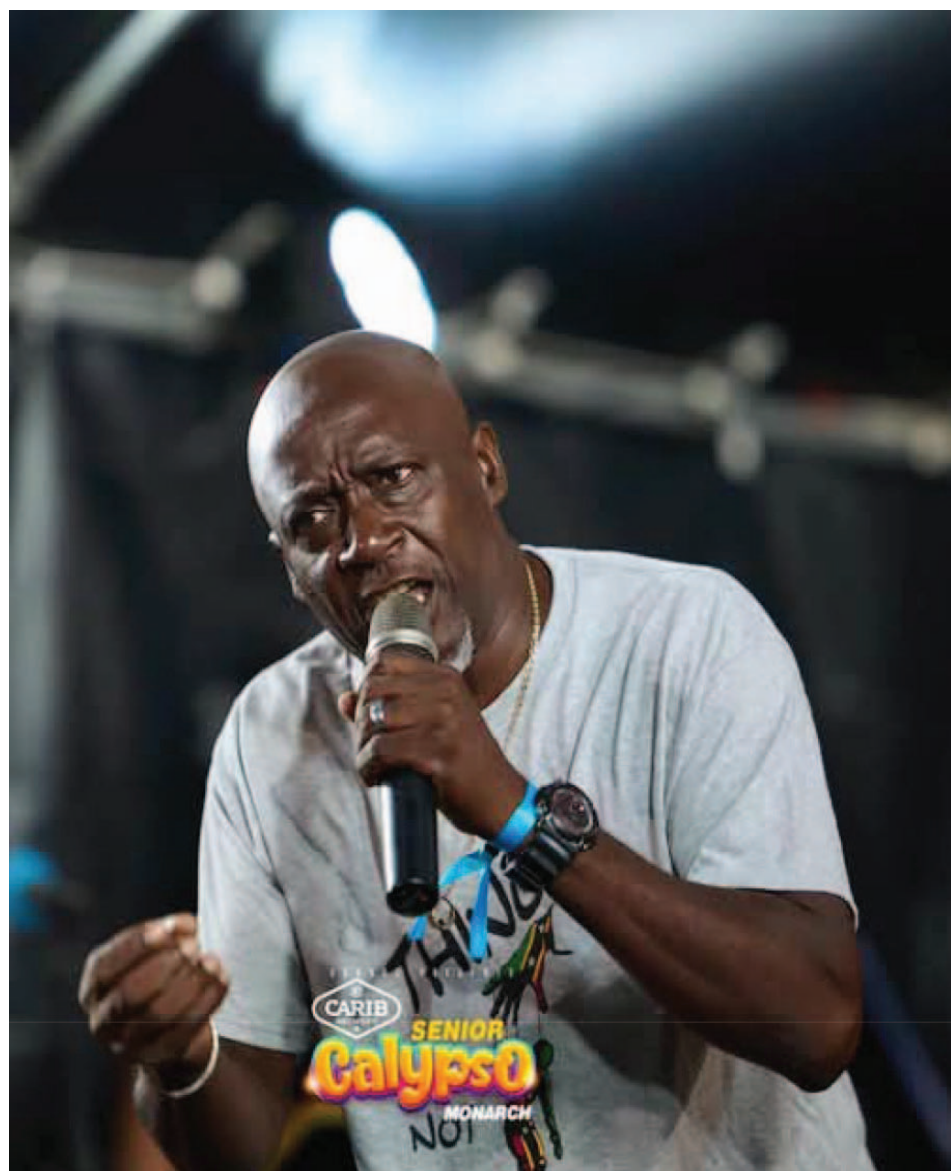
Any person having an objection to the grant of Probate of Will to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 27th day of November, 2024.

Filed by C. Marissa Hobson-Newman of **HOBSON-NEWMAN & AMRITT**, Attorneys-at Law whose address for service is: Unit A5-1, Sands Complex, Bay Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts



Drewsy



Big Lice



Issa Kamal



Queen Kibi



Lady Caren



Queen Jackie

FREEDOM
TO
SING



Lady Diva

St. Kitts Records Eight Road Fatalities in Under Two Weeks

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Monday 23rd December 2024) -Tragedy struck again on the roads of St. Kitts as the island recorded its eighth road fatality in less than two weeks.

The latest victim, 29-year-old medical doctor Simoneth Williams of St. Peter's, lost her life after being struck by a vehicle while walking along the main road near New Road on Friday 20th December 2024.

Police have reported that the incident occurred between 11:30 PM and 12 midnight near the fencing of the Robert L. Bradshaw International Airport's runway.

Preliminary investigations revealed that Ms. Williams was struck by a vehicle while walking along the road. She was rushed to the Joseph N. France General Hospital via ambulance but sadly succumbed to her injuries shortly thereafter.

The Crime Scene Unit of the Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF) processed the scene, collecting several items of evidential value.

Both the vehicle and its driver have been identified, and an investigation into the incident is ongoing. The police have assured the public that updates will be provided as the investigation progresses.

The RSCNPF has extended heartfelt condolences to Williams' family, friends, and all those impacted by her untimely passing.

The death of Williams comes on the heels of two other tragic accidents that have claimed multiple lives, bringing the total number of road fatalities to eight within a span of two weeks.

On Thursday 12th December, police confirmed the passing of 25-year-old Malique Rawlins of Newton Ground, who succumbed to his injuries while in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the Joseph N. France General Hospital. His death brought the total fatalities from a December 11th accident to five.

The fatal accident, which occurred between 7:15 AM and 7:45 AM near Brimstone Hill, involved a collision between an omnibus carrying five passengers and a jeep.

Four individuals were pronounced dead on the day of the incident: Ms. Rozina Herbert of Sandy Point (omnibus passenger), Mr. Dijorn Davis of Old Road (jeep driver), Mr. Ian Jules of St. Paul's (jeep passenger) and Ms. Belinda Paul of Sandy Point (omnibus passenger)

Herbert succumbed to her injuries at the hospital, while Davis, who underwent emergency surgery, later passed away. Mr. Jules and Ms. Paul were pronounced dead at the scene.

Two other passengers from the omnibus sustained injuries, while the driver, Jamie Herbert, and another passenger were treated for minor injuries and discharged.

Five days prior to the Brimstone Hill accident, a head-on collision on the F. T. Williams Highway claimed the lives of two young adults-Shida Jarvis, 19 years old and Malik Williams

Preliminary investigations revealed that 19-year-old Azzian Thomas of Wellington Road, driving one of the vehicles involved, collided head-on with a car driven by Kareem Richards of Lime Kiln, St. Kitts. Jarvis and Williams, passengers in Mr. Thomas' vehicle, were pronounced dead at the scene.

The two drivers, along with two other passengers-Ojani Williams and Zehian Jeffers-sustained varying injuries.

WINAIR

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Another deadly crush in Nigeria at event offering free food

Wedaeli Chibelushi & Richard Kagoe
BBC News



AFP A palm scoops grains of rice up from a large sack AFP

Food costs have surged in Nigeria over the last 18 months

The number of dead from a crowd crush in the south-east town of Okija in Nigeria has risen to 22, police say. It is the third case this week of people

being crushed to death at events where free food was being distributed.

The fatalities in Okija occurred at a charity event on Saturday, when residents rushed to collect Christmas donations, including rice and vegetable oil.

On the same day, a similar tragedy at a Catholic church in the capital city Abuja killed 10 people, while 35 children died during a carnival event on Wednesday in the city of Ibadan.

Police have now warned organisers to notify authorities before holding charity events in order to prevent such loss of life.

Toyin Abdul Kadri, who witnessed the crush at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Abuja, told AFP news agency the attendees “forced the gates and forced their selves inside”.

The event involved “vulnerable and elderly individuals” and four children were killed, the police said.

In a social media post about the crushes, Amnesty International Nigeria wrote: “President Bola Tinubu’s government must urgently prioritise addressing widespread hunger, higher unemployment and the rapidly falling standard of living.”

Food and transportation costs have more than tripled in Nigeria in the last 18 months.

The global bout of inflation has been exacerbated by some of the policies of the government - designed to strengthen

the economy in the long-term - such as ending a fuel subsidy.

In a statement on the deadly crushes, President Bola Tinubu said: “In a season of joy and celebration, we grieve with fellow citizens mourning the painful losses of their loved ones. Our prayers of divine comfort and healing are with them.”

He urged state governments and the police to enforce strict crowd control measures, and has cancelled all his official engagements in honour of the victims.

He also noted the similarities between the incidents, including one earlier this week in the south-west city of Ibadan.

A crush at a school funfair there killed 35 children and seriously injured six others.

Thousands of people had turned up on the promise of free food.

Residents in Bashorun, a suburb of Ibadan, told the BBC the crowd soon exceeded 5,000 with many attempting to force their way through the school gate. Parents are said to have tried to scale the fence surrounding the compound to gain access.

Police spokesperson Olumuyiwa Adejobi said the three “tragic” incidents highlight the “urgent need for a more structured and effective approach to delivering aid to vulnerable communities and members of the public in general”.

Man charged with murder after woman set on fire on New York subway

Thomas Mackintosh - BBC News



Reuters A New York police composite image showing three views of a person of interest arrested in connection with the death of a woman who was set on fire on a subway train in BrooklynReuters

New York police released images of a person of interest in the incident, later announcing they had charged him with murder

A man has been charged with murder in connection with the death of a woman who was set on fire on a subway train in New York.

Sebastian Zapeta, 33, was charged

with first and second degree murder as well as arson on Monday over the attack.

Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch described Sunday’s incident as “one of the most depraved crimes one person could possibly commit against another human being”.

She said the woman was on a

stationary F train in Brooklyn when she was approached by a man who used a lighter to ignite her clothing - which became “fully engulfed in a matter of seconds”. Although officers extinguished the flames, the victim died at the scene.

Officers said the woman, who they have not named, was in a subway carriage at the Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue station at about 07:30 local time (12:30 GMT) when the man approached her.

The victim was “motionless” when she was set on fire, but detectives were still establishing whether or not she was asleep. “We’re not 100% sure,” said the NYPD’s Joseph Gulotta.

There was no interaction between the pair before the attack, Mr Gulotta said, adding that police did not believe the two people knew each other.

Describing how police were alerted to the incident, Ms Tisch said: “Officers were on patrol on an upper level of that station, smelled and saw smoke and went to investigate.”

“What they saw was a person standing inside the train car fully engulfed in flames.”

An immigration official said that Mr Zapeta entered the US illegally in 2018 and was detained and deported. The official said he subsequently unlawfully re-entered the US.

The incident unfolded at Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue Station in

Brooklyn

The man got off the train as police officers on patrol in the station rushed to the fire, but he did not flee immediately.

“Unbeknownst to the officers who responded, the suspect had stayed on the scene and was seated on a bench on the platform just outside the train car,” Ms Tisch said.

She explained that police were therefore able to obtain “very clear, detailed” pictures of him from the responding officers’ body worn cameras. The images were circulated by the New York Police Department (NYPD).

Later, three high school-aged New Yorkers called 911 to report they had recognised the suspect on another subway train, Ms Tisch told reporters.

The man was located after officers boarded the train and walked through the carriages.

He was arrested at Herald Square station - which is located near the Empire State Building in Manhattan. He was found with a lighter in his pocket, Ms Tisch said.

“I want to thank the young people who called 911 to help,” Ms Tisch added. “They saw something, they said something and they did something.”

Getty Images Police investigate at the Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue Station in Brooklyn

Honda and Nissan join forces to take on China in cars

Faarea Masud
BBC Business reporter

Honda and Nissan plan to merge as the two Japanese firms seek to fight back against competition from the Chinese car industry.

Joining forces would create one of the world's biggest car producers alongside Toyota, Volkswagen, General Motors and Ford.

The potentially multibillion dollar deal to combat "the rise of Chinese power" was a key driver behind the plan, said Honda's chief executive Toshihiro Mibe.

Mr Mibe said a plan to "fight back" needs to be in place by 2030, or they risk being "beaten" by rivals.

The merger, which would include Mitsubishi - of which Nissan is the biggest shareholder - would allow all three companies to share resources against other electric vehicle competitors such as Tesla.

The growing electric car market has been increasingly dominated by Chinese-made electric vehicles, including BYD, which have posed a threat to some of the world's best known car firms.

"There is a rise of Chinese power and emerging forces and the structure of the automobile industry is changing," Mr Mibe told reporters at a press conference announcing the merger talks.

Growing competition in China has left many car makers struggling to compete, as lower labour and manufacturing costs make local firms more nimble and able to price their goods lower than foreign counterparts, making them far more attractive to buyers.

It has led to China becoming the world's biggest producer of electric vehicles.

In October, EU officials said the Chinese state was unfairly subsidising its EV makers and announced big taxes on imports of EVs from China to the EU,

(cont'd on next page)



Getty Images A Nissan Juke in the Sunderland Nissan factory
Images
Nissan makes the Juke hybrid vehicle in Sunderland



National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that **policy number 63374 on the life of Eldrin Dickenson has been lost** and having made application to the directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 20/11/2024

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager



National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that **policy number 68131 on the life of Eudora Marshall has been lost** and having made an application to the Directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless an objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17/12/2024

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager



National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that **policy number 59119 on the life of Clinton Dore has been lost** and having made an application to the Directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless an objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17/12/2024

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager



National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that **policy number 78800 on the life of Tiffany Richards has been lost** and having made an application to the Directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless an objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17/12/2024

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager



National Caribbean Insurance Company Limited having made sworn deposition that **policy number 71232 on the life of Delroy Harris has been lost** and having made an application to the Directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless an objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 17/12/2024

By Order,

Diana Williams-Humphrey
General Manager

Honda and Nissan join forces to take on China in cars

(cont'd from last page)

after the majority of member states backed the plans. The tariffs are set to rise from 10% to 45% for the next five years, but there are concerns it could raise EV prices higher for buyers.

‘Capabilities to fight’

The total sales of Nissan and Honda is more than \$191bn (£152bn), said Nissan’s chief executive, Makoto Uchida.

In March, the two Japanese car makers agreed to explore a strategic partnership for electric vehicles (EVs).

“The talks started because we believe that we must build up capabilities to fight them, including the current emerging forces, by 2030. Otherwise we will be beaten”, said Mr Mibe.

He added that the deal was not a bailout of Nissan, which has been struggling with falling sales.

In November, Nissan said it will cut around 9,000 jobs as it slashes global production to tackle a drop in sales in China and the US. The cuts mean its global production will be reduced by a fifth.

Nissan, once a symbol of Japan’s car making strength, has spent the past few years trying to regain its footing after the arrest of longtime chief executive Carlos Ghosn.

Mr Ghosn faced charges of financial misconduct when he fled Japan in 2019, and is currently the subject of an Interpol Red Notice, which is a request to law enforcement worldwide to find

and arrest a person.

Mr Ghosn, currently in Lebanon, told reporters in December that Nissan’s merger plans were an act of panic and desperation.

Mr Mibe said that any merger would be dependent on the turnaround of Nissan.

Honda and Nissan agreed in March to cooperate in their EV businesses, and in August deepened their ties, agreeing to work together on batteries and other technology.

However, any deal is likely to come under intense political scrutiny in Japan as it may result in job cuts, whilst Nissan is likely to unwind its alliance with French auto firm Renault.

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Glenville Dolphin of Tabernacle Housing Development having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. J554001376** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc.** and assumed by **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc.** on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: **09th December, 2024.**

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

SAGICOR LIFE EASTERN CARIBBEAN INC

Wesley Dore of Sunrise, Florida, USA having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. F00089077** issued by **Caribbean Atlantic Insurance Company** and assumed by **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc** on his has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: **09th December, 2024.**

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Querida Finch of Lodge Slope, Lodge Project, St. Kitts having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. J554000993** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc** and assumed by **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc.** on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: **09th December, 2024.**

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

Sonya Parry of Colquhouns Estate, St. Thomas’ Parish, Nevis, having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. N327479** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc.** and assumed by **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc.** on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: **09th December, 2024.**

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary



Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc



Merry Christmas
&
A Haapy New Year

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS

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NHC To Offer Additional Innovative Housing Solutions For Families

Basseterre, St. Kitts, December 20, 2024 (SKNIS): Prospective homeowners in St. Kitts, who do not qualify for pre-approved funding from a financial institution to meet the housing solution by East Coast Housing Development, have been assured that they will not be left out of the housing revolution.

The National Housing Corporation (NHC) has more than 4,000 housing applications, many of which were received following a housing information fair in May 2023, that showcased designs by the East Coast Housing Development Ltd.

Deputy Prime Minister, the Honourable Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, told the nation listening to the 2025 Budget Debate on December 19, 2024, that the National Housing Corporation (NHC) will have additional affordable housing solutions that persons can apply for.

"We have innovative (programmes) that we are going to launch that will benefit those persons who were not approved," Dr. Hanley stated.

One of the initiatives to be unveiled includes vertical living options. Apartment buildings are viewed as a practical, sustainable option as there are limited land options in urban areas for residential purposes. Some structures are already being constructed in East Street and West Street, Newtown, that offer a glimpse of what similar projects may look like.

Additionally, the Ministry of Sustainable Development is encouraging people to seriously consider living options in rural areas where land is available at very affordable rates.

Deputy Prime Minister Hanley said that the government is committed to meeting the demand for housing as it represents an asset that contributes to generational wealth.



Photo: Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Geoffrey Hanley



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LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

**To the Magistrate,
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Cui yi Feng now residing in Wellington Road the town of Basseterre, do hereby give you notice that is our intention to apply on 06th day of January, 2025, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Wholesale Liquor Licence in respect of our premises in Hong Yun Supermarket in New Town in Basseterre.

Dated this
16th day of December, 2024.

Signed: Feng Cui Yi

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

**To the Magistrate,
District "B"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Tahirah Leader now residing in Crab Hill in the town of Sandy Point do hereby give you notice that is our intention to apply on 06th day of January, 2025, to the District Magistrate at Sandy Point for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in All Day Everyday in Sandy Point in St. Kitts.

Dated this
13th day of December, 2024.

Signed: Tahirah Leader

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

**To the Magistrate,
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Fayola Bryson now residing in Bourkes Road the town of Basseterre, do hereby give you notice that is our intention to apply on 06th day of January, 2025, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Liquor Licence in respect of our premises in Stewarts Carwash in Needsmust Estate in Basseterre.

Dated this
13th day of December, 2024.

Signed: F. Bryson

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Call: 661-6307

or apply in writing to: The General Manager
De War Security Ltd.

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*Closing date and time of all applications will be on
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The SKNFA releases lists of candidates for office in upcoming election

The St. Kitts-Nevis Football Association (SKNFA) released on Sunday 22nd December, 2024 the lists of candidates who will contend for positions in the upcoming elections slated for Sunday 12th January, 2025.

The lists were issued in accordance to Article 11 of the Electoral Code of SKNFA, thus providing the requisite notice to the SKNFA membership.

Please see the lists of candidates nominated to contest for various positions on the SKNFA Council:

List 1	List 2
President: Atiba Harris	Jeffrey Hazel
First Vice President: Shawn White	Don Grant
Second Vice President: Cuthbert Caines	Aisha Duggins
Ordinary Members: Javeim Blanchette	Troy Hendrickson
Sheila Patricia Claxton	Almon Crooke
Phill Cooper	Ronald Williams
Alleyne Morris	Juliana Sargeant

The 2025 SKNFA Extraordinary Congress is scheduled to take place on Sunday 12th January, 2025 at the NBGC Technical Centre, St. Peter’s at 3 pm.

Woods and son Charlie, 15, tied for first in Orlando



Image source,Getty Images
Tiger Woods and his son Charlie first played at the PNC Championship in 2020

**Published BBC Sport
22 December 2024**

Tiger Woods and his 15-year-old son Charlie were tied for the lead at the end of the first day of the PNC Championship in Orlando.

The pair carded a 59 in the opening round and are on 13 under along with Bernhard Langer and his son Jason Langer as well as Vijay Singh and his son Qass.

The 36-hole exhibition tournament, which includes current and former professional golfers playing with a parent or child, concludes on Sunday.

Tiger Woods, a 15-time major winner, and Charlie

are making their fifth appearance at the annual event, which also allows players to use golf carts.

The duo tied for fifth last year after finishing second in 2021.

“It’s a scramble, so we’re trying to pull off each and every shot for each other,” said Tiger Woods, 48.

“I think we did that

West Indies Announces Test Squad For Two Test Series Against Pakistan

ST JOHN’S, Antigua - Cricket West Indies is pleased to announce the squad for the tour of Pakistan, which will feature two Test matches from January 17-29, 2025, at the Multan Cricket Stadium.

The series, which marks the final installment of the two-year World Test Championship cycle, will see the West Indies playing a Test series in Pakistan for the first time in 18 years.

A standout performer in recent months, left-handed batter Amir Jangoo, who made a stunning match-winning ODI century on debut against Bangladesh, has earned his first Test call-up. Also returning to the squad is Gudakesh Motie, who was unavailable for the recent drawn series against Bangladesh.

Head Coach Andre Coley views the series as an opportunity to demonstrate continued development and evolution. He stated:

“For the Test series against Pakistan in January 2025, the focus is on building on what we have done well and transforming the learnings from 2024 into tangible results.”

Coley also welcomed the inclusion of Amir Jangoo and Gudakesh Motie, stating “Motie rejoins the squad to bolster the spin attack, while Jangoo’s selection comes on the back of his consistency across formats in regional cricket, as well as his demonstrated high level of competency against spin bowling.”

Shamar Joseph will continue his rehabilitation from injury, while Alzarri Joseph will be unavailable due to other engagements.

The squad departs the Caribbean on January 2 and will arrive in Islamabad on January 6.

West Indies Test Squad to Pakistan

- Kraig Brathwaite (Captain)
- Joshua Da Silva (Vice-Captain)
- Alick Athanaze
- Keacy Carty
- Justin Greaves
- Kavem Hodge
- Tevin Imlach
- Amir Jangoo
- Mikyle Louis
- Gudakesh Motie
- Anderson Phillip
- Kemar Roach
- Kevin Sinclair
- Jayden Seales
- Jomel Warrican

Team Management Unit (TMU)

- Head Coach: Andre Coley
- Manager: Rawl Lewis
- Assistant Coach (Bowling): James Franklin
- Assistant Coach (Fielding): Rayon Griffith
- Assistant Coach (Batting): James Adams
- Physiotherapist: Denis Byam
- Strength & Conditioning Coach: Ronald Rogers
- Massage Therapist: Darc Browne
- Analyst: Avenesh Seetaram
- Media & Content Officer: Jerome Foster

great pretty much the entire day. Charlie made pretty much most of the putts today.”

Charlie Woods added: “I didn’t hit it great, but Dad saved me on a couple of them and I rolled them in.”

Tiger Woods is playing for the first time since The

Open in July - where he failed to make the cut for the third consecutive major - having had back surgery in September.

“I’m not competitive right now,” Woods told the PGA Tour website, external said on Friday. “But I just want to be able to have the experience again.”

Asked about an occasion when he had been beaten by Charlie, he added: “Yeah, he beat me for nine holes.

“He has yet to beat me for 18 holes. That day is coming - I’m just prolonging it for as long as I possibly can.”