IRD issues guidelines for VAT reduction | Page 12

St KITTS & NEVIS OBSERVER

$2

Friday, January 10, 2025 | *The Federation's Politically Independent News Source* | Issue #1579

Person of the Year

Tesia Burton claims prestigious award from Observer

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PM warns traders over price gouging

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Nevis featured in Forbes Magazine

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Police address speculation following tragic death of Dr. Simoneth Williams

The Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF) has strongly condemned what it called "irresponsible and inflammatory" allegations circulating online, which claim that Dr Simoneth Williams' death was a homicide linked to recent public statements she had made. Police emphasised in a statement that these claims are entirely baseless, with no evidence uncovered during the investigation to suggest foul play or criminal intent.

"We urge the public to refrain from spreading unverified information that could hinder the investigative process or cause unnecessary tension within our community," the statement read. "The spread of false or speculative narratives jeopardises public trust and risks creating divisions among us."

Dr Williams tragically lost her life in a vehicular accident on December 21, 2024. In a statement released on January 4, 2025, the RSCNPF acknowledged the grief felt by all who knew and admired Dr. Williams. The police pledged to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation into the accident's circumstances.

The RSCNPF called on citizens to allow the investigation to proceed without interference or prejudice, assuring the public of their commitment to uncovering the facts and maintaining transparency throughout the process. They also encouraged reliance on legitimate media sources for updates, discouraging the circulation of unfounded rumours.

In closing, the police reiterated their dedication to ensuring peace, safety, and justice while thanking the public for their patience and cooperation.

The tragic loss of Dr Simoneth Williams has left a deep impact on the community, and many continue to mourn her passing. The RSCNPF's statement serves as both a reassurance of their commitment to justice and a call for responsible civic engagement during this difficult time.

COURTESY PHOTO

Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force officials have condemned speculation that the death of Dr. Simoneth Williams was killed due to recent public statements. RSCNPF officials have said the speculation was "irresponsible and inflammatory."

Smuggling attempt, firearm possession lead to charges

Law enforcement officials have laid charges in two unrelated but significant cases that occurred earlier this month, one involving a smuggling attempt at His Majesty's Prison and the other concerning firearm possession in Newtown.

In the first case, Steadroy Jules of St. Paul's has been charged for attempting to smuggle prohibited items into His Majesty's Prison. The incident occurred on January 3, 2025, and Mr. Jules is accused of conveying cannabis, wrappers, and tobacco into the facility. He was formally charged on January 5, 2025, at the Basseterre Police Station.

In a separate incident, Dequan Dore of East Street, Newtown, was charged with Possession of Firearm with Intent to Endanger Life. The alleged offence took place on January 2, 2025, in Newtown. Authorities charged Mr. Dore on January 4, 2025, following an investigation.

These cases underscore the efforts by local authorities to address illicit activities and ensure the safety of the Federation.

COURTESY PHOTO

Steadroy Jules

COURTESY PHOTO

Dequan Dore

'This savings must benefit the people'

PM vows to deal with price gouging

By Loshaun Dixon
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

"This savings must benefit the people, not be absorbed by unfair practices. We will not tolerate price gouging. Customs and Inland Revenue will monitor pricing closely, and those found exploiting consumers will be called out and held accountable."

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew was at the time expressing strong concerns about reports of merchants unfairly increasing prices despite the VAT reduction, undermining the intended benefits. He reaffirmed his administration's commitment to easing the financial burden on citizens as key initiatives announced earlier this year, officially take effect this month. These measures, set to last for six months, are aimed at addressing the global inflation crisis and providing direct relief to households.

Among the initiatives is the Budget Boost Wallet (BBW), which provides eligible citizens earning less than $5,000 per month with monthly installments of $250, totaling $1,500 over the six-month period. This innovative digital program, designed to ease the cost of living, allows recipients to purchase essential groceries, household goods, and pay utility bills.

"This is not just for lower-income families," Dr. Drew emphasized. "We have extended this relief to the middle class, including teachers, nurses, and police officers, who have also faced financial struggles."

The BBW uses digital wallets accessible via smartphones, ensuring convenience and security for users. Provisions are also in place for those without smartphones to access the funds through alternative methods. Dr. Drew highlighted that the funds can be spent flexibly across multiple vendors, ensuring recipients maximize their benefits.

COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Drew has expressed strong concerns about reports of merchants unfairly increasing prices despite the VAT reduction.

Complementing the BBW, a temporary VAT reduction from 17% to 13% has been implemented this month. The goal is to lower the cost of goods and services, providing additional relief for households.

Dr. Drew outlined steps his administration will take to deter individuals unfairly increasing prices, including working with Customs to scrutinize how much merchants paid for goods and their markups. He also urged traders to pass savings to consumers rather than hoarding profits. "You will benefit in the end through increased sales volumes. Cheaper prices drive demand," he explained.

The Prime Minister also called on the media to assist in identifying and exposing traders who engage in unfair practices. "If a product's price rises without a valid reason after we've lowered VAT, it's unacceptable," Dr. Drew said. "This is price gouging, and we will deal with it."

He assured citizens of his involvement in monitoring the implementation of these initiatives, pledging to visit businesses to ensure compliance and fairness. "Why would the government sacrifice to ease your burden only for some merchants to take advantage? This cannot and will not be tolerated," he added.

These measures, first announced earlier this year, have been highly anticipated by citizens eager for relief from rising costs. With the implementation now underway, the government aims to provide significant financial ease for households during this critical six-month period.

The administration will assess the impact of these initiatives in the coming months, hoping to stabilize households as the global economy shows signs of recovery. Dr. Drew remains optimistic about the measures, reiterating his government's commitment to supporting citizens through these challenging times.

"Inflation is a global issue, but we have responded decisively and innovatively. Together, we will overcome these challenges and ensure a brighter future for our people," the Prime Minister concluded.

EDITORIAL

It's all about dominance and control… We have to evaluate and choose

The Monroe Doctrine called for whatever activity goes on - whether it is in politics, international affairs or commerce - to be under the purview of the United States. To some extent the United States has moved away from that, whether seemingly or by default, and China has used the opportunity to set up camp in nearly every Caribbean country and most of South America.

China came up with their Belt and Road Initiative which basically entices countries around the world, not just the Caribbean and South America, and even in North America – in America's backyard, in Mexico – but also in most of Africa, where the Communist government of China loans these countries monies that many will never be able to pay back. In fact, it has been widely reported that a number of the projects are not finished in a timely manner or not completed at all.

So, for instance, all over Africa and elsewhere you have skeletons of unfinished ports, railways systems and trains, etc., with the ultimate result of the lender being able to eventually own and control. Now, with the reelection of Donald Trump, the US seemingly wants to reverse this course.

The Observer advocated a long time ago that the United States needed to step up to the plate and protect the interests of the Western Hemisphere that fall under the Monroe Doctrine. We also advocated long ago that the United States needed to surpass the offerings by the Communist government of China to the Caribbean and Latin America.

We believe that the Belt and Road Initiative can be counteracted by a proper American programme, where essential infrastructure could be properly done, and would be able to generate adequate revenue to pay back for themselves. We believe that the United States should have been doing that all along. We also believe that the United States should have been discouraging Caribbean nations from giving up their relationships with Taiwan for that of Communist China.

We believe that a democratic Taiwan is probably the best following for the Caribbean countries. We know the United States has a 'One China' policy, but, if you stand for democracy, you'll stand unwaveringly with Taiwan.

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We want to hear your opinion!

You opinion matters! Let everyone know how you feel about issues by writing a letter to the editor.

St KITTS & NEVIS OBSERVER $2

The Federation's Politically Independent News Source

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No one ever promised you a quiet home, buddy

Off the Beaten Path ...

Tommy Wells
Humour columnist

As a young man growing up, She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Made-Mad and I raised four wonderful children. Well ... for the most part, they were wonderful. There were times I thought they were put on this planet to make sure I remembered how to get to the principal's office at the school.

Our kids always kept the house hopping with energy and new friends. Sometimes as I made my way in from a long day of covering sports in whatever town we lived, I'd find children I didn't even know sleeping all over the place, and eating everything that wasn't plastic or nailed down. And, when they weren't eating or sleeping, they were talking louder than the 20 other kids yelling about whatever video game Bubba (our oldest son) or Bobby (our youngest son) were playing.

Let me back up a moment, SWMNBMM "raised" the children. You see, when we were younger I was often at work and, therefore, I only caught the tail end of whatever ruckus was going on at the house. Generally, I left before it started, visited the principal's office at lunch and returned when it was all over.

To my wife's credit, she loved every minute of it. I enjoyed it, too, but I only got it in short doses.

As fate would have it, the kids grew up and moved out. That left SWMNBMM and I at home admiring the silence.

Did you know that you can actually hear a television when there are no children in the house? I didn't. I thought for many years, TVs were just to look at.

The peace was short-lived because our children, as most children do, started bringing home children of their own. At first, there was only one - a beautiful and shy little girl named Baby Mal (I refer to all of my grandchildren by nicknames. Mallorie, if you want to know, is her real name).

Baby Mal used to be soooo quiet. Unfortunately, our oldest daughter, Whitney, brought home another child, a son. Peace and quiet moved out again.

Together, Baby Mal and Dom are no longer quiet. They make plenty of noise as they argue about everything, including who can breathe the most air.

A while later, our youngest daughter, Kayme, brought home her first daughter, Jewels.

Jewels (her real name is Ryhlie) was so cute and cuddly. Rarely a peep escaped from her angelic face as she cuddled up to Apa and enjoyed a nap on the couch. Unfortunately, that lasted about eight months - or until she learned to walk and talk. At that point, Baby Mal and Dom had a louder third partner in their noise-production business.

Still later, Kayme gave us another granddaughter, Gemmers (Kinzlee) and a grandson, Cheezer (Chaz) ...

I remember my mother, God rest her soul, telling me that boys were so much easier to raise. That might be true, but that doesn't mean they are quiet, or that you won't spend hours listening to dinosaurs growl, fight and bite holes in the wall. Whether it is because he has to scream to be heard over Jewels and Gemmers, or because he was born with the lungs of Superman, Cheezer is, by far, the loudest. I'm pretty sure he has a career as a lighthouse beacon in his future.

Bubba gave us a grandson, Rhysen, and Bobby brought in Jiraiya (or you can call him Bucky like me). Rhysen is loud and Bucky (who is just a baby) is already gaining on the crowd in volume.

Alas, it hasn't been quiet in Casa de Wells since.

I'm pretty sure the Sinister Seven could tear up a steel ball with a rubber hammer ... and raise the dead with all the screaming they do while doing it.

All in all, the quiet home we had has returned to the wild and noisy place of our youth.SWMNBMM couldn't be happier.

I might have to find a game to go to soon.

Tommy Wells is a huour columnist living on the edged of the desert on Texas. Everything in this column is true, except for the parts that are made up, fabricated or are just plain old lies.

Tesia Burton named 'Person of the Year'

By Rick Amburgey
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

Tesia Burton, branch manager (Ag) of the Republic Bank (EC) Limited, has been named Person Of The Year. This year, she's celebrating her 20th anniversary with the bank. We are so impressed by and inspired by her hard work and dedication. Burton started at the bank in 2005 as a teller. Since then, she's been promoted to various positions such as Customer Service Representative, Loan Officer and Assistant Manager before being promoted to her current position.

It's an honour that came as a surprise for Burton. She is such a humble person she initially wondered if it might be a joke. But it's definitely not a joke. Burton has impressed us with her legacy and with her contributions to the people in the Federation over the last year. She is extremely deserving to be called 'Person Of The Year'.

As a part of the Republic Bank, Burton has been a part of a lot of things that have helped the people of St. Kitts and Nevis. In October, the bank sponsored the 'Let's Get Physical Walk' in honour of Mental Health Awareness Month. In April, Burton was the chair of a ceremony to launch the second annual 'Five For Fun' Cricket Program.

Over the years, she has represented St. Kitts and Nevis in various ways. In 2006, Burton was crowned Miss St. Kitts and Nevis, which allowed her to compete in the Miss World pageant. In 2007, she competed in the Miss Caribbean World competition. As a 20-year-old, she competed in the Miss Carnival pageant in 2007. In 2009, she was in the Nevis World competition.

After competing in the pageants herself, the bank has sponsored the Nevis Culturama Festival and Mr. And Mrs. Talented Youth. In the past, she has also served as chair for the Miss Culture pageant at Culturama.

Outside of work, Burton is a private person and enjoys hobbies like reading. "I've never been one to put what I do on display," she said, adding that she tries to be the best at what she does.

COURTESY PHOTO

A former Miss St. Kitts and Nevis, Tesia Burton has also served as chair for the Miss Culture pageant at Culturama in the past.

COURTESY PHOTO

As Branch Manager (Ag) of the Republic Bank (EC) Limited, St Kitts and Nevis, Tesia Burton (L) has been instrumental in initiatives that have positively impacted the Federation. In this September 2024 photo is the sponsorship presentation for the "Let's Get Physical Walk" in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month.

COURTESY PHOTO

Tesia Burton (far right) at the June 2023 launching of the inaugural youth link initiative in St. Kitts.

Customer Survey

SAGICOR LIFE INC

JANUARY 6TH - JANUARY 24TH, 2025

Dear Valued Client,

As part of our continued efforts to ensure service excellence, Sagicor will be conducting a customer satisfaction survey during the period of **January 6, 2025 - January 24, 2025**. Customers will be randomly selected and contacted via telephone or email by a representative from our external vendor, Professional Training and Occupational Services (PTOS).

Please note that this survey will not require you to provide any detailed financial information.

Your feedback is important to us at **Sagicor Life Inc.** thank you for participating.

For more information or if you have any questions, please feel free to email us at **SFC_Research@sagicor.com** or call us at **1-800-744-7707**.

Sagicor

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Gateway Summit scheduled to return in May

Seen as cornerstone of efforts to attract renewed investments

By Loshaun Dixon
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew has announced the return of the Gateway Summit in May 2025, positioning it as a cornerstone of efforts to attract renewed investments through the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme. Speaking during a recent address, Dr Drew described the Summit as a critical platform to engage with CBI citizens and encourage them to invest further in the economic development of St. Kitts and Nevis.

"The inaugural Gateway Summit last year was a resounding success," the Prime Minister stated. "It targets our citizens by investment, inviting them to explore opportunities to contribute to the growth and prosperity of our nation. These individuals, many seasoned investors, have the potential to make transformative contributions to St. Kitts and Nevis."

The Summit, slated for late May 2025, will be the second edition of the event, and is expected to highlight investment opportunities across various sectors, including tourism, renewable energy, and infrastructure. Dr. Drew emphasized that this initiative aligns with his administration's broader vision of economic diversification and resilience.

Dr. Drew linked the Gateway Summit to recent reforms of the CBI programme, which were necessary to address international concerns and ensure the program's sustainability. "We have stabilized the CBI programme on the premise of transparency and within the framework of the OECS and the Caribbean," he explained. "It's no longer business as usual. Things have changed, and we have made these changes to make the program sustainable, respectable, and aligned with international standards."

The Prime Minister underscored the importance of balancing the CBI programme with other economic initiatives, noting that over-reliance on a single sector was unsustainable. "This is why diversification is critical," he said. "The Gateway Summit is a prime example of how we are seeking to leverage existing assets while building a more resilient economy."

Dr. Drew also addressed concerns about the demographic and sovereignty implications of the CBI programme. "Should we continue to allow a high volume of citizens to be admitted through this programme, where the numbers could surpass our indigenous population? That speaks to our sovereignty as a country," he said. These reforms, he added, are designed to manage the programme responsibly while maintaining visa-free access and strong international partnerships.

With the Gateway Summit and ongoing economic reforms, Dr. Drew expressed confidence in the country's ability to weather current challenges and emerge stronger. "We have done what was necessary to save the CBI programme and preserve opportunities for growth," he said. "The Gateway Summit will showcase St. Kitts and Nevis as an attractive destination for sustainable investments and a hub for innovation."

As the nation prepares for the upcoming Summit, the government's focus remains on fostering collaboration, transparency, and long-term economic stability. The Gateway Summit is expected to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of St. Kitts and Nevis by drawing on the strengths of its CBI programme and the broader investment community.

INTEGRITY COMMISSION (NEVIS)

Integrity in Public Life Ordinance, No. 2 of 2013
Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 2019
Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 2023

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NOTICE TO DECLARANTS IN PUBLIC LIFE, NEVIS

The year 2024 has concluded, and it is a fitting moment to start organizing your supporting documents. Please be reminded that the deadline for filing your 2024 Declarations of Assets, Liabilities, and Interests is April 30, 2025.

Please note that public officials who have resigned, retired, or otherwise left office after December 31, 2023, and 2024, are required to file declarations with the Integrity Commission for up to two (2) years after demitting office.

Public officials who are mandated to file at the federal level are reminded that the deadline is the same date and Declaration Forms can be downloaded via the website www.iplskn.com.

Please be guided and act accordingly.

Dated the 7th day of January 2025.

Ricaldo V. Caines LLB (UWI), LEC
(Attorney-at-law)
Chairman

Commissioners:
Mr. Ricaldo V. Caines (CHAIRMAN)
Mr. George S. Newton
Mrs. Diana Claxton-Whittaker

COURTESY PHOTO
Senator the Honourable Jahnel Nisbett, Minister of Gender Affairs in the NIA.

NIA's Daycare Voucher programme eases financial burdens for families

The Nevis Island Administration (NIA) Ministry of Gender Affairs has received widespread praise for its Daycare Voucher Assistance Programme (A.C.T.I.O.N Plan), a groundbreaking initiative designed to alleviate financial strain on working families by providing access to affordable, quality childcare.

Launched in 2023, the programme has been active throughout 2024 and is set to continue making a positive impact in the lives of families, particularly women, in the years ahead. The initiative supports parents with children aged three years or younger by offering vouchers of up to $300 per month to cover daycare and nursery costs, enabling parents to pursue employment or educational opportunities.

Currently, 38 parents are benefiting from the programme, with the first cohort of ten children successfully transitioning from daycare to preschool. Feedback from participating families has been overwhelmingly positive, with parents expressing gratitude for the financial relief and the simplified process of collecting vouchers.

Minister of Gender Affairs in the NIA, Senator the Honourable Jahnel Nisbett, emphasized the value of the programme, noting that the government invested $116,000 in the A.C.T.I.O.N Plan in 2024. "This has been money well spent," the Minister stated, highlighting the program's dual benefits: empowering parents while supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs in the childcare sector.

PM welcomes 2025 with vision for sustainable growth

The Annual New Year's Gala, hosted by Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Terrance Drew and Mrs. Diani Prince-Drew, ushered in 2025 with an evening of elegance, reflection, and hope. Held under the theme "Building Prosperity Through Sustainability," the event celebrated the Federation's resilience and charted a course toward a sustainable future.

In his remarks, Prime Minister Drew highlighted the achievements of 2024 and underscored the collective effort required for national progress. "The journey ahead is one that requires collective effort," he said, urging citizens to embrace opportunities and contribute to building a thriving St. Kitts and Nevis.

The Prime Minister outlined key milestones from the past year, including:

- Tourism Growth: A 26% increase in tourism, with over 1 million cruise visitors anticipated for the 2024-2025 season.
- Youth Empowerment: The launch of the ASPIRE Programme, which has positively impacted 2,300 young people.
- Innovative Initiatives: Groundbreaking projects in water security, renewable energy, housing, and healthcare.
- Crime Reduction: A successful 90-Day Campaign Against Crime, achieving a 19% reduction in reported crimes and a 66% decrease in firearm-related homicides.

"These are not just policies; they are the building blocks of a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future," Dr. Drew remarked, praising the efforts of citizens, civil servants, and stakeholders.

The gala also featured vibrant performances by celebrated local artists, including Edward 'Mighty J' Williams, Infamus, and Christopher Martin. Special guest Ms. Raheemah Abdulaleem, Special Assistant to the President of the United States, delivered the keynote address. She praised St. Kitts and Nevis for its potential to lead in sustainable development, emphasizing, "Sustainability is not just about preserving beauty; it is about protecting the foundation of our collective prosperity."

Ms. Abdulaleem introduced actionable principles for progress and underscored the Federation's role as a model for balancing economic growth with environmental stewardship. "True prosperity transcends economic metrics; it is about health, education, equity, and opportunity," she said.

Looking forward, Prime Minister Drew outlined ambitious plans for 2025, the "Year of Recovery," including the construction of Basseterre High School, advancements in healthcare, and transformative agricultural projects like the Tabasco Hot Pepper initiative.

The gala concluded with a toast by Prime Minister Drew and Mrs. Drew, celebrating progress, unity, and the bright future ahead. "Here's to a year of recovery and growth, where we build together toward a brighter, stronger, and more prosperous St. Kitts and Nevis," the Prime Minister declared, as attendees raised their glasses to a shared vision of sustainability and prosperity.

COURTESY PHOTO

Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Terrance Drew and keynote speaker Ms. Raheemah Abdulaleem, Special Assistant to the President of the United States, at the Annual New Year's Gala.

St. Kitts and Nevis assumes GRULAC chairmanship at UN

St. Kitts and Nevis has assumed the Chairmanship of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) at the United Nations, marking a significant step in the Federation's diplomatic efforts to strengthen global leadership and forge strategic development partnerships.

H.E. Dr. Mutryce Williams, Permanent Representative of St. Kitts and Nevis to the UN, succeeds H.E. Menissa Rambally, Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the UN. This leadership transition underscores regional cooperation and highlights the Federation's commitment to addressing global challenges such as financing for development, sustainable growth, and climate action.

The GRULAC Chairmanship offers St. Kitts and Nevis a unique platform to deepen its engagement with Latin America and the Caribbean, a region of growing geopolitical and geoeconomic importance. It also enables the Federation to amplify its voice on critical international issues while fostering closer ties with its neighbors.

GRULAC, one of five United Nations Regional Groups, represents 33 Member States from Central and South America and the Caribbean. This role reflects St. Kitts and Nevis's dedication to advancing collaborative efforts within the region and beyond

Case Number :NEVHCV2024/0117

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST.CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(NEVIS CIRCUIT)

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT, CHAPTER 10.19
NEVIS CIRCUIT
A.D. 2024

Submitted Date:03/01/2025 11:56
Filed Date:03/01/2025 11:56
Fees Paid:4.00

In the matter of the Title by Registration Act Cap. 10.19
And
In the Matter of an application by CARL ROHAN LIBURD for the issue of a First Certificate of Title for 5,121 Square feet of land with building thereon situate at Low Ground Estate in the Parish of St. John in the Island of Nevis

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION

For Certificate of Title and Notings thereon and Caveats for the week ending the 27th day of December, 2024.

Date of Request	Person Requesting	Nature of Request
24th October, 2024	**CARL ROHAN LIBURD** by his Legal Practitioners Merchant Legal Chambers of Upper Prince William Street, Charlestown, Nevis	For the issue of a First Certificate of Title to 5,121 Square feet of land with building thereon situate at Low Ground Estate in the Parish of St. John in the Island of Nevis.

Bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- **On or towards the North partly by remaining lands of Joseph Prentice and partly by a 10 Foot-Right of Way, 61.88 feet; On or towards the EAST by lands of George Sturge, 82.76 feet; On or towards the SOUTH by lands of Claude Williams, 61.88 feet; On or towards the West partly by remaining lands of Joseph Prentice, 82.76 feet; and containing by admeasurement 5,121 Square feet;**

Dated the 20th day of December, 2024

REGISTRAR OF TITLES

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
High Court of Justice

Nevis Featured in Forbes Magazine

COURTESY PHOTO

Nevis is carving out a unique niche as a destination for luxury travelers and those seeking an off-the-beaten-path escape.

How Nevis is becoming a top tourist destination and major regional player

Straddling the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean, Nevis is an exclusive tropical island that is transforming into a regional hub of excellence. Maintaining its private and tranquil atmosphere, the island is priming its citizens and local economy to provide world-class guest experiences. Nevis is actively seeking significant foreign investment to sustain its appeal and drive economic growth.

Nevis Has a Rich History

While often overlooked by Caribbean tourists, Nevis boasts a rich history and was once known as the "Queen of the Caribees" due to its thriving sugar economy in earlier centuries.

Charlestown, the island's capital, is home to multiple Georgian-style buildings and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city's heritage dates back to the 1660s when it served as the seat of the Leeward Islands government. It is also famous as the birthplace of Alexander Hamilton, a Founding Father of the United States.

Nevis prides itself on a longstanding tourism industry that prevents overcrowding, allowing guests to enjoy an "Old Caribbean" culture. With a population of over 13,000, the island offers a friendly atmosphere and boasts a literacy rate exceeding 95%. This educated and youthful population is poised for greater opportunities.

Forward-Looking Leadership

Premier Mark Brantley is building on this foundation to boost tourism and the local economy.

"Nevis is blessed with beauty, a great deal of human talent, and natural resources," says Brantley. "Our economic progress has been strong in recent years, but I'm working towards a real game-changer for the island. Nevisians share this ambition, so my administration must deliver."

According to Forbes Magazine, citing the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Nevis's economic growth is above average, with a projected annual GDP growth of 5.5% in 2024, compared to the global average of 3.2%. This momentum presents an opportunity to enhance the economy without sacrificing local interests. International investors are already taking note.

This financial resilience is paying dividends, with residents benefiting from higher salaries and expanded opportunities for education and employment. Amid global inflation, the island's health, housing, and infrastructure are also improving.

Premier Brantley emphasizes the importance of lasting success. "A sustained burst of investment would create many good jobs on the island and would be a boon for our small businesses. Increased revenues would flow to public services like our healthcare and education systems. Nevis would be ready to prosper now and long into the future."

Exclusivity Within Easy Reach

Nevis is famed for its secluded beaches, which feature warm waters, soft sands, and picturesque views. Public beaches and resorts with private access offer options for all visitors. The pleasant climate and soothing trade winds add to the allure.

Historic sites and cultural attractions are scat-

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NEVIS

Continued from Page 8

tered across the island, making it an enriching destination. Nevis is accessible by plane, yacht, or ferry, making it suitable for day trips or multi-night stays. Daily ferries and water taxis connect St. Kitts and Charlestown, with travel times as short as 25 minutes.

The expansion of Vance W. Amory International Airport, set to begin in early 2025, will allow for more direct flights from the United States and accommodate additional private aircraft. Visitors appreciate Nevis's small, close-knit character—the island has no traffic lights and only one roundabout, and traffic congestion is nonexistent.

With its pristine and mostly undeveloped beaches, Nevis remains a sanctuary. Visitors can explore nature trails, historic plantations, and year-round festivals, all while soaking in the island's laid-back, multi-generational culture.

Sustainable Tourism and a Business-Friendly Ethos

Nevis faces the challenge of balancing infrastructure growth with ecosystem preservation. Premier Brantley's administration aims to make the island fully eco-friendly by 2030, with alternative energy sources meeting all electricity demands.

The island has active solar projects and is an ideal candidate for geothermal energy due to its volcanic history. In 2023, five geothermal wells were drilled. The government is working with the Caribbean Development Bank and energy producers to build efficient geothermal plants. A reliable, renewable energy grid will not only prevent blackouts during extreme weather but also solidify Nevis's reputation for sustainability.

Substantial private investment is required to support these efforts, but Nevis's political and economic stability, combined with its pro-business stance, makes it an attractive destination for investors. This transformation into a financial services hub ensures competitive returns while preserving the island's heritage.

Visit Nevis

Nevis is carving out a unique niche as a destination for luxury travelers and those seeking an off-the-beaten-path escape. With its harmonious blend of antiquity and modernity, the island is set to achieve lasting success in tourism and beyond. As Forbes Magazine notes, a major wave of investment could be the game-changer that secures Nevis's future as a leading player in the region.

COURTESY PHOTO

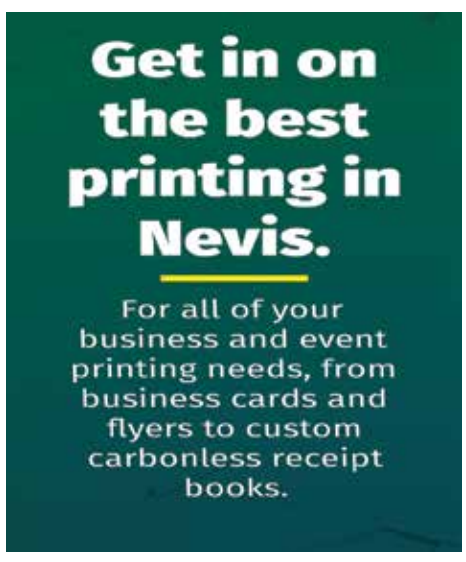
From L-R SKNNCC Chair Shannon Hawley, Minister of the Creative Economy, Samal Duggins, Ms. Haynes Smith Winner Kaitlyn Wilson, Director of Carnival, Clement O'Garro, and Permanent Secretary of the Creative Economy, Delrine Taylor.

SKN celebrates Creative Excellence

The achievements of local talent Kaitlyn Wilson were celebrated in grand fashion as government officials and community leaders recognized her historic victory at the 42nd Haynes Smith Miss Caribbean Talented Teen Pageant 2024. The event, held on December 29, 2024, in Tortola, BVI, marked a significant milestone for the pageant and for St. Kitts and Nevis.

Minister of the Creative Economy, Samal Duggins, hailed Wilson's triumph as a testament to the nation's commitment to nurturing creative talent. Speaking at the recognition ceremony, he praised her for representing the Federation with grace and excellence, building on her earlier success at the 2023 Miss Teen St. Kitts and Nevis Pageant.

Accompanied by her family, team, and officials including Permanent Secretary Delrine Taylor, SKNNCC Chair Shannon Hawley, and Director of Carnival Clement O'Garro, Wilson expressed gratitude to her supporters and excitement for the opportunities her achievements have created.



Case Number :SKBHPB2025/0002

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST.CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST.KITTS CIRCUIT)

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
A. D. 2024
(PROBATE)

Submitted Date:09/01/2025 08:27
Filed Date:09/01/2025 08:30
Fees Paid:12.00

In the Estate of **NAOMI MATHILDA BLANCHARD** of Upper Market Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE than an application has been filed by **PATRICIA JUDITH GODFREY** of 20-10 Seagirt Boulevard, Apartment 3G Far Rockaway, Queens, New York, 11691 for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above-named deceased, **NAOMI MATHILDA BLANCHARD,** who died on the 12th day of October, 2005 without revoking a will bearing the date of the 7th day of January, 1991 wherein the applicant is named Sole Executrix.

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

Dated this 18th day of November, 2024

Filed by: DUBLIN & O'BRIEN LAW FIRM, Attorneys-at-Law, whose address for service is Suite C18 The Sands, Bay Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts.

FIRST PUBLICATION

RSCNPF reflects on 'commendable 57% Homicide Solve Rate'

The Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF) has reflected on 2024 as a year filled with achievements and progress in public safety. According to the Force, among the highlights is "a commendable 57% homicide solve rate, a significant milestone underscoring the force's commitment to community protection and justice".

"This impressive solve rate stands as a testament to the dedication and hard work of the officers, as well as the crucial support and cooperation of the people of St. Kitts and Nevis. The RSCNPF's focus on accountability and effective policing has brought measurable improvements in addressing serious crimes.

"In addition to solving cases, the force welcomed new recruits with the graduation of Course 46, bringing a fresh generation of officers ready to serve and protect the federation. The year also saw St. Kitts host the Regional Security System Chiefs Meeting in October, reinforcing its role in fostering collaboration and enhancing regional security," the RSCNPF shared in a year-end statement.

In concluding, the Force pledged that: "As the RSCNPF looks ahead to 2025, it remains committed to building on this momentum. With enthusiasm and determination, the force aims to further enhance public safety and strengthen trust within the community. Thank you for your unwavering support throughout 2024,".

"Together, we will continue to protect and serve the citizens and residents of St. Kitts and Nevis with integrity and dedication. The RSCNPF extends best wishes for a prosperous and joyful New Year, inviting everyone to work together for a brighter, safer future."

COURTESY PHOTO

Several members of the Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF) High Command.

CDB OKs grant to UWI to strengthen water resource management

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB/the Bank) has approved a grant of USD909,000 to The University of the West Indies (UWI) to support critical efforts in strengthening water resource management and building climate resilience in Jamaica's coastal and inland communities.

Jamaica is among the 36 most water-stressed countries in the world, according to the World Resources Institute. Despite having an abundant freshwater supply, with 77% of safe yield remaining unused, water distribution across the island is uneven. Primary water sources are concentrated in the north, while population centres, industries, and agricultural areas are predominantly in the south. Rural and semi-urban communities often face chronic water shortages, poor water quality, and unreliable distribution systems. These challenges are further compounded by aging infrastructure, insufficient treatment capacity, and inadequate storage facilities.

Climate change poses an additional threat to Jamaica's water security. The island frequently experiences droughts, hurricanes, tropical storms, extreme rainfall, extensive flooding, leading to infrastructure damage and loss. More than half of Jamaica's nearly three million residents live in coastal areas, making them particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels, storm surges, and shoreline erosion. Addressing these challenges is essential for improving water access and security for all Jamaicans.

The Technical Assistance – Strengthening Water Resource Management and Climate Resilience in Coastal and Inland Communities – Jamaica project targets the coastal community of Port Maria and the inland Kingston and Rio Cobre Basins. Project funds will be used to finance consulting services and procure goods and services aimed at strengthening water resource management and enhancing climate resilience in coastal and inland watershed communities in Jamaica. Activities will include a comprehensive assessment of water resources in the Kingston and Rio Cobre Basins, the design and development of gender-responsive and socially inclusive flood early warning systems, and the enhancement of knowledge, awareness, and capacity building for vulnerable communities. The remaining USD 355,220 of the total project cost of USD1,264,220 will be provided by The UWI as counterpart funding.

"We are dedicated to fostering sustainable solutions that deliver lasting benefits to the region. This project will help strengthen community resilience to climate change and extreme weather events by improving water quality and security, and flood risk management in Jamaica. A clear understanding of water availability and quality is essential for effective water management. Equality important is enhanced flood forecasting capabilities to better predict and respond to flood events and, consequently, protect lives and livelihoods. We are excited to collaborate with the UWI to bring this project to life," said Dr Yves Robert Personna, Senior Programme Manager, CDB Environmental Sustainability Unit.

Dr Debbie-Ann Gordon-Smith, UWI Lecturer and Project Lead, expressed gratitude for the Bank's input.

"Through this grant, The UWI will be able to honour its commitment to supporting national and regional development through improved water resource management and climate resilience in flood prone communities. This project will provide vital assistance to communities that are experiencing significant climate-related challenges, as important steps will be made towards securing Jamaica's water resources and empowering vulnerable populations. We look forward to this collaboration with the CDB and other stakeholders on this journey towards a climate resilient Jamaica."

The project is being executed under CDB's Caribbean Action for Resilience Enhancement (CARE) Programme, which is funded by the European Union through the 11th European Development Fund's (EDF) Intra-African Caribbean Pacific – European Union (ACP-EU) Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme. CARE is a five-year, €14 million initiative to support disaster risk management and climate resilience-building efforts in CDB's 19 Borrowing Member Countries. The programme provides grant financing to support initiatives aimed at improving governance on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.

CDB has previously provided grant funding to UWI under CARE for the implementation of the Climate Systems, Techniques, and Resources for Improved Decision-Making, Education, and Sustainability as well as provided technical assistance to the Water Resources Authority to upgrade and expand the flood early warning system in the Bog Walk Gorge

COURTESY PHOTO

The Caribbean Development Bank approved a grant otoThe University of the West Indies (UWI) to support critical efforts in strengthening water resource management and building climate resilience in Jamaica's coastal and inland communities.

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SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO WIND UP

Dixcart Management Nevis Limited

Company number: 25/2000

In the matter of DIXCART MANAGEMENT NEVIS LIMITED

At an extraordinary general meeting of the above company, duly convened, and held at Dixcart House, Fort Charles, Charlestown, Nevis, Saint Kitts And Nevis on 17 of December 2024 the following Special Resolution was duly passed

'That the company be wound up voluntarily and that Shemica K. Maloney of Unit 1, The Key Complex, Cedar Trees, Charlestown, Nevis be appointed as the liquidator for the purposes of such winding-up'.

Dated: 17/12 /2024

.....

Rob Woolford

Director/Chairman

IRD issues guidelines for VAT reduction implementation

By Loshaun Dixon
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

In order to facilitate a seamless transition, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) has released guidelines as St. Kitts and Nevis enacts the temporary Value-Added Tax (VAT) reduction.

The VAT rate will decrease from 17% to 13% for the first six months of the year, a measure aimed at providing financial relief for families and individuals businesses.

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew announced during his 2025 Budget Address that the VAT reduction is designed to empower citizens by easing financial burdens. "This VAT relief holiday will ensure more money in your pocket," Dr. Drew said. "It empowers families to better manage their expenses while maintaining their quality of life."

"Reducing VAT from 17% to 13% benefits everyone because we all consume," said Dr. Drew, adding, "Together, we can ensure these savings translate into real benefits for our community."

The Prime Minister emphasized the government's commitment to fairness, pointing out that strict monitoring will prevent price gouging. "Our recently passed Consumer Protection Act and other relevant laws will allow for strict monitoring of businesses to prevent unfair practices," he stated.

COURTESY PHOTO

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew announced during his 2025 Budget Address that the VAT reduction is designed to empower citizens by easing financial burdens.

Dr. Drew also urged businesses to act responsibly and pass on the savings to consumers.

To help businesses and consumers navigate the changes, the IRD provided clarity on how the new VAT rate will be applied. Under the VAT Act Cap.18.47, the applicable rate is determined by the earliest of the following:

Delivery or Availability of Goods/Completion of Services: VAT is charged based on when goods are delivered or services are completed.

Issuance of Invoice: The rate depends on the date the supplier issues an invoice.

Receipt of Payment: If payment is received before delivery or invoicing, VAT is applied based on the payment date.

Transactions completed before January 1, 2025, remain subject to the previous 17% VAT rate.

The 10% reduced VAT rate for commercial rentals, accommodation services, and restaurant supplies under Section 27 (1) (d) of the VAT Act will remain unchanged.

> ***'Reducing VAT from 17% to 13% benefits everyone because we all consume. Together, we can ensure these savings translate into real benefits for our community.'***
>
> **Dr. Terrance Drew**
> **Prime Minister**

Dr. Drew highlighted the importance of vigilance among consumers, urging them to track prices and hold businesses accountable. "Consumers need to become vigilant as well. Monitor prices, and let people see what is happening with the prices," he said.

The government will work closely with the Consumer Affairs Department to ensure compliance and address any instances of non-compliance. Businesses found exploiting the VAT reduction to inflate prices may face penalties under the Consumer Protection Act.

The IRD stated that it is committed to supporting businesses in implementing the new VAT rate. Businesses and consumers are being encouraged to reach out with questions or concerns regarding the VAT adjustment. For assistance, the IRD can be contacted via its official phone and email. Updates and resources will also be available through the department's website and public notices.

NOTICE OF DELAY OF THE BANK OF NEVIS LIMITED'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board of Directors of The Bank of Nevis Limited sincerely apologizes to our shareholders and stakeholders for the delays experienced with the completion and publication of the financial statements for the Bank for the financial years ended 30th June 2022, 30th June 2023 and 30th June 2024.

The delays are mainly predicated on post Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) Acquisition-related matters. These matters are being addressed by the members of the Consortium of Banks that acquired the assets and liabilities of the former RBC throughout the Eastern Caribbean in April 2021.

Delays of this nature can occur with significant acquisition transactions, and we will continue to work with our External Auditor and Regulators to ensure that the Bank fulfils its regulatory requirements under the Banking Act 2015 (as amended) and the Securities Act and Regulations 2002 (as amended) including but not limited to obtaining the requisite extensions.

We have recently completed the financial statements for the financial year ended 30th June 2022 and will notify the shareholders of the date for the 36th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in a subsequent notification in accordance with the Bank's by-laws.

Shareholders who may have any queries and/or concerns, should contact the Office of the Corporate Secretary at 469-5564 extension 330 or email at cherbert@thebankofnevis.com.

The Board of Directors expresses its appreciation to our shareholders and stakeholders for your understanding and patience under these circumstance. We regret any inconvenience caused and look forward to engaging with you at the 36th AGM.

By Order of the Board

CHerbert

CINDY C.T HERBERT (MRS)
CORPORATE SECRETARY

ADVERTISE IN THE ST. KITTS & NEVIS OBSERVER
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GOVERNMENT OF ST KITTS AND NEVIS

MINISTRY OFEDUCATION

ENHANCING LEARNING CONTINUITY AND INCLUSION PROJECT

Installation of Network Routers, Network Switches and Wireless Access Points

INVITATION TO BID – SUPPLY OF WORKS

The Government of***Saint Kitts and Nevis***(GOSKN)has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to ***US$4,155,000M*** towards the cost of the **ENHANCING LEARNING CONTINUITY AND INCLUSION**Project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds to eligible payments under this contract.Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of ***GOSKN*** and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement. The Loan Agreement prohibits a withdrawal from the Loan Account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than***GOSKN***shall derive any rights from the Loan Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Loan.

The ***Education Management Information Systems Department, Education Planning Division***is the Executing Agency for the Project, and the ***Ministry of Education***, is responsible for the overall implementation of the project. The***Ministry of Education***intendstoinvite sealed bids from eligible and qualified bids for the supply of Installation of network routers, network switches and Wireless Access Points. The bidder may bid for any individual Lot or any combination of Lots:

(a) Lot 1 –Public Secondary Schools
(b) Lot 2 –Public Primary Schools

The bidding process is conducted according to the procedures specified in***the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January,2021), as published on CDB's website***and is open to all bidders from eligible countriesand is open to all bidders from eligible countries.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.Bidders are advised to review the relevant eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the***Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021), as published on CDB's website***

Firms whether applying individually or in the form of a Joint Venture, shall:

(a) be legally incorporated or otherwise organised in and have their principal place of business in an Eligible Country.

(b) be more than fifty (50) percent beneficially-owned by a citizen or citizens and/or a bona fide resident or residents of an Eligible Country, or by a body corporate or bodies meeting these requirements, as far as the ownership can be reasonably determined; and

(c) shall have no arrangement and undertake not to make any arrangement whereby the majority of the financial benefits of the contract, i.e. more than fifty (50) percent of the value of the contract, will accrue or be paid to sub-contractors or sub-consultants that are not from an Eligible Country.

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Qualification requirements include, inter alia:business certificate of incorporation, evidence of completion of similar provision of works.

Bidding and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required or that do not demonstrate the prospective supplier's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Bid documents will be available for first inspection at the first address below, from ***23rd December 2024.*** Requests may be madeby writing to kertney.thompson@moe.edu.kn. Written applications must be clearly marked: "Request for Bid Documents for **the Installation of Network Routers, Network Switches and Wireless Access Points** Project". The documents will be promptly dispatched, but under no circumstance will GOSKN***or the Education Planning Division,Ministry of Education***, be held responsible for late delivery, loss or damage to the documents.

Hard copies of Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, with the name and address of the bidder, and be clearly marked "Bid for Supply of ***Installation of network routers, network switches and Wireless Access Points*** –**ENHANCING LEARNING CONTINUITY AND INCLUSION** Project" and must be delivered to the second address below no later than ***2pm Atlantic Standard TimeJanuary 31, 2025***. Bids will be opened publicly immediately after the deadline for submission of bids, in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the first address below. Qualification information only must be submitted simultaneously to the third address below.

Each bid must be accompanied by Bid-Securing Declaration.Late bids will be rejected.

GOSKN /Ministry of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for ***GOSKN /Ministry of Education action***. GOSKNwill not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.

(1) ***Kertney Thompson*** Ministry of Education, Stanford Building Golden Rock Basseterre, St. Kitts kertney.thompson@moe.edu.kn 869-467-1106/1110	(2) ***Kertney Thompson*** Ministry of Education, Stanford Building Golden Rock Basseterre, St. Kitts kertney.thompson@moe.edu.kn 869-467-1106/1110
(3) Caribbean Development Bank **Email**: procurement@caribank.org	

NIA urging residents to apply for scholarships

The Nevis Island Administration (NIA), Ministry of Human Resources and MONROE College invites citizens of St. Kitts and Nevis to apply for higher education scholarships. Successful applicants can undergo studies at the New York or St. Lucia campus, or online.

Interested persons can apply to MONROE for either associates, bachelor's, or master's degree programs, and must submit the following documents along with a completed application form, and paid application fee of USD$35.00:

1. Official High School diploma or certificate of qualifications;
2. Official High School and/or College(s) transcript(s);
3. CSEC certificate with a minimum of five (5) passes;
4. Admissions Interview; and
5. If applicable, CAPE certificate.

Upon Acceptance, Immunizations will be required.

Applicants must apply to www.monroecollege.edu/apply and upon submission, a copy of their application must be submitted to the Ministry of Human Resources, along with a completed NIA Financial Assistance Application Form (can be requested from the Ministry). The following outlines the additional documents that must be submitted with the Financial Assistance Application:

1. A cover letter addressed to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Human Resources. The letter should state:

a. The course of study;

b. Why do you wish to undergo the specified field of education and how will such training influence your professional development;

c. How will your professional development contribute to the federation of St. Kitts and Nevis; and

d. The commencement date and expected duration of studies.

2. A University Acceptance Letter.

3. Birth Certificate or Certificate of Citizenship - must be a Nevisian (by birth or citizenship).

Applications will be assessed in accordance with the NIA priority areas and scholarship awardees will be required to fulfill bonding obligations with the NIA.

Financial Assistance Applications must be delivered to the Ministry of Human Resources by Friday, March 21st, 2025.

For additional information contact the following individuals:

Mrs. Shanola Murrey-Gill; or Mrs. Shelly Liburd; or Ms. Corissa Griffin Ministry of Human Resources, Nevis Island Administration, Social Security Building, Nevis. Tel No.: 469-5521 Ext. 5163, 5164 or 5166. Emails: shanola.murrey-gill@niagovkn.com or shelly.jones-liburd@niagovkn.com, corissa.griffin@niagovkn.com

ECSC to mark start of new year with ceremonial opening

On Friday, 10th January 2025, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court will mark the commencement of the New Law Year with its traditional Ceremonial Opening proceedings under the theme "Accessibility and Awareness -The ECSC Bridging the Gap Through Community Engagement". This year, the host Member State is Saint Lucia, where the first scheduled sitting for the Court of Appeal for 2025 will occur.

The Ceremonial Opening in St. Kitts and Nevis will commence with a church service at the St Paul Anglican Church Main Street, Charlestown, Nevis at 8:00 a.m. followed by the procession to The Theodore L Hobson KC Court Building, Main Street, Charlestown, Nevis where the Inspection of the Guard will be conducted followed by the Special Sitting of the Court which will commence at 9.30 am. An address by the Honourable Chief Justice Mr. Mario Michel at 10.00 a.m to mark the Opening of the New Law Year.

Similar to the past four years, there will be one Special Sitting throughout the 9 Member States and Territories. The Acting Chief Justice, His Lordship The Honourable Mr. Mario Michel, will deliver the feature address, appearing live from Saint Lucia along with the Attorney General of Saint Lucia the other speakers from the various Member States and Territories, including Ms. Miselle O'Brien of St. Christopher and Nevis will appear and speak via the Zoom platform.

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■ Vacancies

Vacancy
FINE WINE DUTY FREE Needs 2 persons with knowledge of inventory & stock taking & Accounts with skills of customer service & managing. Contact : (869) 764-4444

Vacancy
Cornelia's Homecare Services
is searching for a Home Care Officer
Call or Whatsapp- (869) 661-8643
For More Information

■ Vacancies

Vacancy
KARMA ASIAN CUISINE Needs 2 chefs for indo chinese & indian cuisine.
2 kitchen & Floor assistant to be Able to speak Hindi. Contact :1869-764-4444

Vacancy
Esmie's Sunrise Superette & Snackette
is searching for a Kitchenary Help/Cook
Contact: (869) 664-6446
For More Information

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contactus@nevisstylerealty.com

■ Vacancies

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Pastry Chefs
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THE Bistro KITCHEN + BAR
SWEET+ SAVORY BISTRO

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■ Public Notice

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDINANCE, 1906

SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate District "C"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Alexander D. Mills

Now residing in Nevisimes Street in the town or

Village of St. Georges Parish do hereby give you notice

That it is my intention to apply on 01st

Day of February 2025 next to the District Magistrate

At Charlestown for a Beer Licence in respect of my

Premises in Samuel Hunkins Dr. Street in Charlestown

Dated this 09th day of January 2025

Signed: Mayer

■ Public Notice

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDINANCE, 1906

SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate District "C"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, HECTOR FRIAS

Now residing in CHERRY GARDEN Street in the town or

Village of ST JOHNS PARISH do hereby give you notice

That it is my intention to apply on Wednesday 27th

Day of December 2024 next to the District Magistrate

At CHARLESTOWN for a RETAIL Liquor Licence in respect of my

Premises in BEACH HILL Street in

Dated this 27th day of Decembe

Signed: Hector A. Frias

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Contact us in St. Kitts or Nevis:

St. Kitts Office
Basseterre, St Kitts, W.I.
Tel: (869) 466 4994
Fax: (869) 466 4995
observnv@gmail.com
theobserverskn.marketing@gmail.com
thestkittsnevisobserver.com

Nevis Office
Hamilton, Nevis, W.I.
Tel: (869) 469-5907
Fax: (869) 469-5891
observnv@gmail.com
observnv@sisterisles.kn

INTEGRITY COMMISSION (NEVIS)

Integrity in Public Life Ordinance, No. 2 of 2013
Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 2019
Integrity in Public Life (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 2023

Rams Shopping Complex
Upper Floor
P. O. Box 1085
Stoney Grove
St. John's Parish, Nevis

Tel: 1-869-469-0205
1-869-469-0029

integrity.commission@niagovkn.com

1st July 2018 – 30th June 2019
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Ms. Lorna Hunkins	Chairperson, Nevis Cultural Development Foundation
2. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
3. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
4. Ms. Jadine Yarde	Chief Executive Officer, Nevis Tourism Authority

1st July 2019 – 30th June 2020
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
2. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
3. Mr. Jevon Williams	Director, Public Works Department
4. Ms. Jadine Yarde	Chief Executive Officer, Nevis Tourism Authority

1st July 2020 – 30th June 2021
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Mrs. Joan Browne	Principal Asst. Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
2. Mr. Colin Dore	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
3. Dr. Judy Nisbett	Medical Officer of Health
4. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
5. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
6. Mr. Jevon Williams	Director, Public Works Department
7. Ms. Jadine Yarde	Chief Executive Officer, Nevis Tourism Authority

1st July 2021 – 30th June 2022
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Mrs. Joan Browne	Principal Asst. Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
2. Mr. Colin Dore	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
3. Mr. Randy Elliott	Director, Ministry of Agriculture
4. Mrs. Hélène Anne Lewis	Legal Advisor, Legal Department
5. Mr. Keith Glasgow	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Development et al.
6. Dr. Judy Nisbett	Medical Officer of Health
7. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
8. Ms. Lillith Richards	Project Co-ordinator
9. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
10. Mr. Jevon Williams	Director, Public Works Department

1st July 2022 – 30th June 2023
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Mrs. Joan Browne	Principal Asst. Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
2. Mr. Randy Elliott	Director, Ministry of Agriculture
3. Mrs. Hélène Anne Lewis	Legal Advisor, Legal Department
4. Mr. Keith Glasgow	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Development et al.
5. Mr. Velie Maynard	Former Chief of Security, NASPA
6. Dr. Judy Nisbett	Medical Officer of Health
7. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
8. Ms. Lillith Richards	Project Co-ordinator
9. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
10. Mrs. Angela Walters-Delpeche	Senior Small Business Development Officer
11. Mr. Jevon Williams	Director, Public Works Department

1st July 2023 – 31st December 2023
NON-COMPLIANT PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE
as of 31st December 2024

1. Mrs. Joan Browne	Principal Asst. Secretary, Ministry of Finance et al.
2. Mr. Randy Elliott	Director, Ministry of Agriculture
3. Mrs. Hélène Anne Lewis	Legal Advisor, Legal Department
4. Mr. Keith Glasgow	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Development et al.
5. Mr. Velie Maynard	Former Chief of Security, NASPA
6. Dr. Judy Nisbett	Medical Officer of Health
7. Mr. Deora Pemberton	Director, Physical Planning Department
8. Dr. Cardell Rawlins	Medical Chief of Staff, Alexandra Hospital
9. Mr. Daron Sutton	Airport Manager, Vance Amory International Airport
10. Mr. Jevon Williams	Director, Public Works Department

Ricaldo V. Caines LLB (UWI), LEC
(Attorney – at- law)
Chairman

Diana Claxton-Whittaker LLB, LEC, CAMS, TEP
Commissioner

George S. Newton CAMS, MBA
Commissioner

Commissioners:
Mr. Ricaldo V. Caines (Chairman)
Mr. George S. Newton
Mrs. Diana Claxton-Whittaker

CHOOSE

Continued from Page 4

The recent grumbling of President Trump about Panama, Greenland and Canada is also quite interesting.

As it relates to Panama, up until 1903 it was part of Colombia, and the United States realized it could use a narrow strip of land in Colombia, between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, to have a canal to reduce the time of vessels sailing around to get to the United States, so the US demarcated the area, essentially encouraged some Colombians to revolt against Colombia, and carved out an area that is now known as Panama, declaring the province as autonomous. And that is how the Panama Canal came into existence. So the United States used its resources, including its money and troops, to take and establish what is now known as Panama.

With regard to the other sabre-rattling that involves Greenland and Canada, time will tell what will happen in the end. All of these things would appear far-fetched, but such was the opinion with the Colombia situation and the eventual establishment of Panama.

In the end, what is important is that the Monroe Doctrine must start to be looked at in earnest, and the United States must no longer turn its back to these countries that are so close to its border. Between North and South America there are the islands of the Caribbean. Some maps even denote many of the islands of the Caribbean as part of North America.

These are facts that must be taken into consideration, both economically and politically, when it comes to world sphere of influence, and with a strong American president things could change - we don't know how far President Trump is willing to go. The people of Greenland and Canada will scoff at the bold utterances of the incoming U.S. President, but as we have said before, nothing is really out of the realm of possibility.

Again, we want to champion the needs of the Caribbean and Latin America, which are bordering the United States, and we believe the United States needs to pay a closer look, and start to grant more aid, loans and technical support to these Caribbean countries.

China is very far away, geographically, but China is here on our doorsteps, because the United States has allowed it to do so. We have to bear in mind what is the purpose; what are the intentions. China wants to be the world's superpower, and is rapidly spreading its influence. A lot of these countries have natural resources – in the case of the African continent a lot of iron ore and all kinds of precious metals and other useful material. We see Guyana has discovered a lot of oil, most people knew all along that Guyana may have had oil. So China has positioned itself to get into all these countries and surround the United States.

We must ask ourselves what we prefer. We saw what the experiment with Communism and extreme Socialism did in an earlier Guyana, in Cuba and an earlier Jamaica. Would you prefer to live in a country, or be surrounded by countries that elect their leaders democratically or are democratic countries where you have freedom of speech, freedom of movement, freedom to invest, freedom to do what you want, or would you prefer to be surrounded or controlled by a communist China that has no election, has a leader who could declare himself leader for life or whatever, which do you prefer? That is the question that The Observer is asking.

In the midst of all of this, you have to bear in mind what the ultimate objective of the exercise is – it's all about dominance and control. We have to choose. We have to evaluate the two – the United States and China. We have to look at the successes of the United States since it became a nation in 1776, look at the experiment with Communism an extreme Socialism in the countries that we called, and take our pick.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Consisting of Land and Buildings, located at #23A, C A P Southwell Industrial Estate, Basseterre, St. Kitts, currently occupied by an automotive business operated as Wheels and Brakes.

Only submissions of 'Intent to Purchase' Or 'Agreement of Purchase and Sale' emailed to I iamuiga.skb@gmail.com on or before 28th February 2025 will be considered.

For further information, contact Sam Franks at (469) 661-5313 or email: liamuiga.skb@gmail.com

COURTESY PHOTO

Andrew Abraham was named the grand prize winner of its Light Up Your Christmas promotion with SKELEC. For winning, he received a $5,000 prize.

SKELEC announces grand prize winner of Light Up Your Christmas promotion

The St. Kitts Electricity Company Ltd. is excited to announce Andrew Abraham as the grand prize winner of its Light Up Your Christmas with SKELEC promotion! Andrew has taken home an amazing cash prize of $5,000, lighting up his holiday season.

This holiday initiative invited customers to participate by keeping their accounts in good standing or addressing their arrears. To qualify for the grand prize or weekly cash prizes, customers were required to clear their bill or pay $250 or more towards their arrears. Payments were made easy and convenient through various channels, including in-store, over the phone, online, at any local bank, via online banking, or by using the cheque drop box at SKELEC's Central Street location.

SKELEC also awarded four weekly winners of $500 each during the promotion. The winners were:

- Week One: Mr. Malik Liburd
- Week Two: Mr. Alexander Tyson
- Week Three: Ms. Arabella Henry
- Week Four: Ms. Sharmane Hunter

"SKELEC is proud to give back to our valued customers through the Light Up Your Christmas with SKELEC promotion. This is our way of saying thank you for your continued support. Congratulations to Mr. Andrew Abraham and our weekly winners of $500 cash. We remain dedicated to serving the people of St. Kitts with reliable electricity and rewarding programs that benefit our community," expressed Mr. Clement Williams, General Manager of SKELEC.

SKELEC extends its gratitude to all participants for making this promotion a success and reminds customers to stay connected for future opportunities to win.