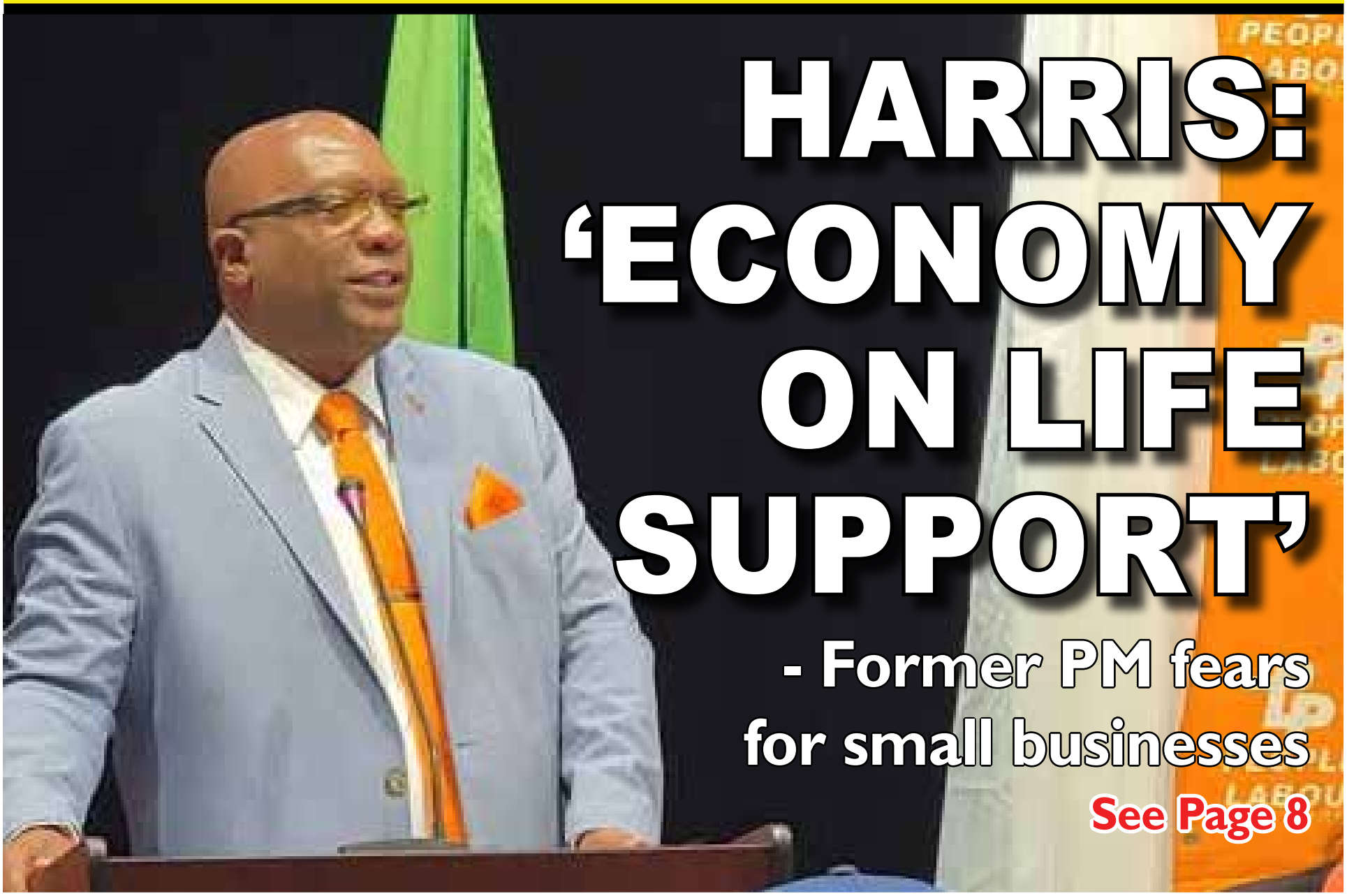
ECCU's growth outlook for 2025 remains positive | Page 5

St KITTS & NEVIS OBSERVER

$2

Friday, February 21, 2025 | *The Federation's Politically Independent News Source* | Issue #1585



HARRIS: 'ECONOMY ON LIFE SUPPORT'

- Former PM fears for small businesses

See Page 8

Team Nevis eyes debating title repeat

See Page 11

OECS launches 10-year Sustainable Energy action plan

See Page 7

NIA honours three public servants for exceptional service

The Nevis Island Administration (NIA), through its Ministry of Human Resources, has recognised three exemplary public servants for their dedication and exceptional service to the public sector.

During the recently held NIA Ministry of Human Resources 2025 Orientation Seminar, Training Officer Mrs. Shanola Murray-Gill announced Venrick Newton, Craig David, and Ezekiel Parris as the honourees, highlighting their contributions and the reasons behind their recognition.

Venrick Newton was honoured with the Outstanding Messenger and Delivery Service Award for his unwavering commitment over two decades. Originally serving as a Fisheries Field Assistant, he now holds the position of Marine Field Assistant in the Department of Marine Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Premier of Nevis, the Honourable Mark Brantley, Minister of Human Resources, presented Newton with the award, and Mrs. Murray-Gill commended his dedication.

"He is known for his friendly and energetic disposition, an officer who is dedicated, hard-working, and performs excellent customer service," she stated. "Whenever he enters a room, he lights it up with his special greetings, his small talk, and his animated spirit. He is easy to get along with and goes above the call of duty."

COURTESY PHOTO

Premier of Nevis Mark Brantley (r) honoured Craig David with an award during a recent ceremony.

Craig David was presented with the Innovative Thinker Award for his extensive contributions in the field of information technology and he strives to ensure that his department keeps up to date with technology's consistent evolution," Mrs. Murray-Gill noted.

Ezekiel Parris received the Ultimate Team Player Award in recognition of his selfless service and reliability. Since joining the civil service in 2004, he has served as a Valuation Officer at the Inland Revenue Department and now works as a systems technician in the Information Technology Department.

"This individual is also dedicated, extremely helpful, warm and approachable, and goes above the call of duty to serve all departments equally," said Mrs. Murray-Gill. "No matter how busy or where he's engaged, he makes time to respond to the call of assistance. This is why he is deemed the ultimate team player."

Each honouree received a plaque and gifts of appreciation, presented by Premier Brantley and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Human Resources, Kevin Barrett.

The NIA remains committed to recognising and rewarding the outstanding contributions of its public servants, who continue to play a vital role in the efficient functioning of government services on Nevis.

COURTESY PHOTO

Premier of Nevis Mark Brantley (r) presents Venrick Newton with the Outstanding Messenger and Delivery Service Award.

FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP.10.19
A. D. 2025

Claim No. **SKBLRD2025/**

In the matter of the Title by Registration Act Cap. 10.19 Section 144

AND

In the matter of the loss of a Certificate of Title Registered in Book C3 Folio 31 in the name of Winston **A. Liddie**.

NOTICE OF LOST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Earl Garfield Jeffers,** of Bird Rock in the Island of Saint Christopher has applied to the Registrar of Titles for a new Certificate of Title to replace one Registered in Book C3 Folio 31 of the Register of Titles of the Island of Saint Christopher in his name of **Winston A. Liddie** on the basis that the said Certificate of Title has been irretrievably lost. The land contained in the said title being ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land known as lot H of The Bird Rock Commercial Development the Parish of Saint George in the Island of Saint Christopher and bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say :- On or about the North Northwest by a Pedestrian Walkaway, 80.00 feet , On or towards the East Northeast by a Pedestrian Walkaway 80.00 feet, On or towards the East Southeast by lot G, 80.00 feet and on or towards the South Southwest by a Driveway 80.00 feet and containing by admeasurement 6,400 square feet. Unless good cause to the contrary be shown within 7 days from the publication of this Notice, the Registrar of Titles will issue a new Certificate of Title in respect of the parcel of land described above.

Any person knowing the whereabouts of or having any information concerning the said duplicate Certificate of Title which may lead to its recovery is requested to notify the Law Firm of Butler, Butler & Butler, Solicitors, Upper Market Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts, Tel No. (869)465-4130.

Dated the 14th day of February 2025.

Nassibou Butler
of Butler, Butler & Butler
Attorneys- at- Law for Applicant

'This is about more than just energy'

PM says Govt. determined to deliver on Geothermal project 'no matter the obstacles'

"This is about more than just energy. It is about economic transformation, environmental sustainability, and improving the quality of life for our people. We are committed to seeing this through, no matter the obstacles."

Speaking in a recent radio interview, Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew made this bold assertion as he declared that the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis is pushing forward with determination to deliver the long-awaited geothermal energy project.

Prime Minister Drew acknowledged the complexities involved in bringing the project to fruition. He said that while previous attempts to harness the geothermal potential of Nevis faced setbacks, the current administration has taken a strategic approach to mitigate risks and secure the necessary resources.

"We recognise that challenges have hindered this project in the past, but our focus is on solutions," Dr. Drew stated. "Through careful planning, collaboration, and securing critical funding, we are ensuring that this initiative does not stall. The people of St. Kitts and Nevis deserve affordable, sustainable energy, and we are determined to deliver."

Securing the financial backing for the geothermal project has been a critical hurdle, but recent developments indicate strong international support. The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has approved US$17 million in funding for the drilling phase, while the Saudi Fund for Development has committed an additional US$20 million in concessionary loan financing.

"This funding is a game-changer," said Prime Minister Drew. "It allows us to move forward with confidence, ensuring that drilling operations and infrastructure development proceed without unnecessary delays."

Logistically, the project involves the construction of a power plant capable of generating 50-60 megawatts of electricity, as well as the installation of a submarine electrical transmission cable to connect St. Kitts and Nevis. Drilling operations are expected to commence later this year, marking a major milestone in the process.

> ***'We recognise that challenges have hindered this project in the past, but our focus is on solutions. Through careful planning, collaboration, and securing critical funding, we are ensuring that this initiative does not stall. The people of St. Kitts and Nevis deserve affordable, sustainable energy, and we are determined to deliver.'***
>
> **Prime Minister**
> **Dr. Terrance Drew**

Despite political differences, the Federal Government and the Nevis Island Administration (NIA) have demonstrated a shared commitment to seeing the project through. Prime Minister Drew praised Premier Mark Brantley and his administration for their firm support in ensuring that geothermal energy becomes a reality.

"This project transcends politics," Dr. Drew emphasised. "We are working as one Federation to secure a sustainable energy future. The commitment of all stakeholders—government officials, international partners, and technical experts—has been instrumental in keeping

See ENERGY on Page 16 *

COURTESY PHOTO

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew speaking about the geothermal energy project during a recent radio interview.

LAND REGISTRY
Filed
FEB 10 2025
11:30 pm
ST CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS

FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
ISLAND OF ST. CHRISTOPHER
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP 10.19
A.D 2025

SKBLRD 2025/0011

IN THE MATTER OF a Certificate of Title in favour of **Otis Harvey and Julie Harvey** and registered in Register Book H-2 Folio 2 of the Register of Titles of the St. Christopher Circuit.

And

IN THE MATTER OF section 144 of the Title by Registration Act, Cap 10.19 of the Revised Laws of St. Christopher and Nevis.

NOTICE OF LOST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

TAKE NOTICE that an application was made to the Registrar of Titles, in Chambers, for the issuance of a new Certificate of Title in place of the lost duplicate Certificate of Title issued on the **8th day of January, 1982** and registered in **Register Book H-2 Folio 2** of the Register of Titles of the St. Christopher Circuit in favour of **OTIS HARVEY and JULIE HARVEY** of the Town of Basseterre, in the Island of St. Christopher in respect of 3,600.0 square feet of land situate at Lamberts Housing Development, in the Parish of St. Thomas, in the Island of St. Christopher, known as Lot No. 29 bounded and measuring as follows: **On or towards the North-East by Lot No. 30 – 90.0 feet, On or towards the South-West by Lot No. 28 - 90.0 feet, On or towards the South-East by a Public Road 40.0 feet and On or towards the North-West by Lot No. 18 – 40.0 feet**

Any person knowing the whereabouts or having any information concerning the said duplicate Certificate of Title which may lead to its recovery, should notify the **Registrar of Titles** at the Land Registry, Independence Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts or **JHT Law Firm**, Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant.

Dated the 30th **day of** January **2025**

Jackie Hunkins-Taylor
JHT LAW FIRM
Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public
Suite #1 JHT Executive Suites, Main Road, Stoney Grove,
St. John's Parish, Nevis
Tel: 869 469 7292 Email: info@jhtlawfirm.com

EDITORIAL

Yes, this is about more than just energy

It has been well over a decade that promises were made for Nevis to become "the greenest place on Earth". In the years that followed, the world was put on notice by Premier Mark Brantley that this forward-thinking initiative would be "transformative for Nevis, bringing it to 100 percent power generation from clean, less costly renewable energy sources", and that "looking ahead, we plan to export our expandable energy to neighboring islands becoming the Norway of the Caribbean."

Reports from reputable entities acknowledged that Nevis is "blessed with a vast resource of geothermal energy, enough that it can be 100% off fossil fuels and has energy left over to share with neighboring Caribbean islands". It was also noted that "No other country can currently make this claim".

Well, many years have since passed, and the dream has not yet been realised, but there is now greater optimism. The funding has been secured, and Prime Minister Terrance Drew has affirmed that the Government is pushing forward with determination to deliver on the important venture.

The financial backing for the geothermal project comes in the form of US$17 million from the Caribbean Development Bank for the drilling phase and an additional US$20 million in concessionary loan financing from the Saudi Fund for Development.

Prime Minister Drew has described this as a "game-changer", allowing for the government to "move forward with confidence", ensuring that drilling operations and infrastructure development proceed without unnecessary delays.

We have learnt that the project involves the construction of a power plant capable of generating 50-60 megawatts of electricity, as well as the installation of a submarine electrical transmission cable to connect St. Kitts and Nevis. Drilling operations are expected to commence later this year.

It was also encouraging to hear the Prime Minister say that the project transcends politics, and that "we are working as one Federation to secure a sustainable energy future", and "the commitment of all stakeholders—government officials, international partners, and technical experts—has been instrumental in keeping this project on track."

The Observer has called for all parties to put their heads together on matters of national interest and importance, as this would invariably benefit everyone. If the geothermal energy project does indeed come to fruition, we could be witnessing a possible unprecedented transformation in the way things generally work in the Federation.

As Prime Minister Drew posits, "This is about more than just energy". He's so right.

St KITTS & NEVIS OBSERVER

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The Federation's Politically Independent News Source

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Publisher/Editor-in-Chief: Kenneth Williams
Website: newstkittnevisobserver.com

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COMMENTARY

'America First' and the future of U.S.-CARICOM trade

By Alicia Nicholls

U.S. President Donald J. Trump's renewed 'America First' trade policy is a must-watch development for the Caribbean given the U.S.'s role as the region's primary trading partner – both as an export market and an import source. In 2023, CARICOM countries exported US $9.76 billion in goods to the U.S. market, importing US $18.9 billion from that country, and resulting in a longstanding trade deficit with the U.S.

Under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and its constituent legislation such as the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) and the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA), most Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member states have enjoyed preferential access to the U.S. market for their goods since the 1980s.

Unlike negotiated trade agreements, these trade preferences are unilaterally extended by the U.S. government and are non-reciprocal, meaning that beneficiaries are not required to grant similar trade concessions to U.S. goods. Eligible CARICOM member states also benefited under the U.S. Generalised System of Preferences (U.S. GSP) programme, a wider programme for developing countries, but this expired on December 31, 2020 and is awaiting congressional renewal.

This SRC Trading Thoughts examines the potential implications of President Trump's economic nationalist trade policy and agenda for CARICOM member states and concludes by offering some possible strategies they could adopt to navigate these evolving trade dynamics.

The First Iteration of "America First" Trade Policy

During President Trump's first term, he withdrew from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), imposed tariffs on major trading partners—most notably China and, to a lesser extent, the European Union (E.U.)—and pushed for the repatriation of manufacturing jobs to the U.S. He also halted U.S.-E.U. talks for a Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement, and renegotiated the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), now the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

This stance also led to an obstructionist approach at the World Trade Organization (WTO), including attempting to block the appointment of Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala as the Director-General and successfully blocking the appointment or reappointment of Appellate Body members (judges), which resulted in the WTO's Appellate Body being unable to hear appeals since December 2019.

Of particular concern for Caribbean countries was a proposal entitled "Procedures to Strengthen the Negotiating Function of the WTO" repeatedly submitted by the Trump administration at the WTO's General Council meetings in his first term. If accepted by members, this would have barred WTO developing country members from being eligible for special and differential treatment (S&DT) under the WTO's agreements if they met any of four criteria, including if they were classified as 'high income economies' by the World Bank.

Under this criterion, at least four CARICOM countries (Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, St. Kitts & Nevis and Trinidad & Tobago) would have become ineligible for special and differential treatment in current or future WTO negotiations or under any of the Agreements coming out of such negotiations. The Trump proposal failed to gain significant traction and the Biden Administration withdrew it.

Despite these developments, President Trump's first-term trade policies had minimal direct impact on CARICOM countries. Given the U.S.'s substantial trade surplus with the region and the bipartisan support historically enjoyed by the CBI, Caribbean countries were largely insulated from the more aggressive components of the 'America First' Trade Policy 1.0.

The CBERA is 'permanent' (albeit subject to periodic WTO waivers), and the CBTPA, which was due to expire in 2020, was renewed by Congress until 2030. However, as these trade preferences remain unilaterally granted, they are inherently vulnerable to future revocation.

'America First' Trade Policy 2.0: What Lies Ahead?

The broad contours of President Trump's second-term trade policies can be discerned from a memorandum outlining his 'America First' Trade Policy 2.0, one of several Executive Orders he signed on his first day in office. This memorandum outlined a strategy to prioritize the U.S. economy, workers, and national security.

The memorandum directs key officials to do five main things as a matter of priority: investigate trade deficits,

See TRADE on Page 15 *

COURTESY PHOTO

Minister for Finance, Grenada, Hon. Dennis Cornwall, Council Chairman, Premier and Minister for Finance, Anguilla, Hon. Dr Ellis Lorenzo Webster, and ECCB Governor, Timothy N.J. Antoine.

ECCU's growth outlook for 2025 remains positive

ECCU expects growth in the range of 3.5 – 4.5 percent

The ECCU's growth outlook for 2025 remains positive in the range of 3.5 percent – 4.5 percent, with Tourism, post-hurricane Beryl reconstruction and investments in physical infrastructure expected to drive growth.

This was one of the noteworthy predictions in the Governor's Report as the Monetary Council of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) held its 110th Meeting on February 14 in Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis.

At the outset, the Council welcomed back its newest member, The Honourable Reuben Meade, Premier of Montserrat. Other Council Members attending the meeting were: The Honourable Dr Ellis L Webster, Premier and Minister for Finance, Anguilla (Chairman); The Honourable Gaston Browne, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Antigua and Barbuda; The Honourable Dr Irving McIntyre, Minister for Finance, Commonwealth of Dominica; The Honourable Dennis Cornwall, Minister for Finance, Grenada; The Honourable Dr Terrance Drew, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis; The Honourable Philip J Pierre, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Saint Lucia, and The Honourable Camillo Gonsalves, Minister for Finance, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines.

The Monetary Council received the Governor's Report on Monetary, Credit and Financial Conditions in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU).

The Report, titled Seizing the Opportunities to Reposition the ECCU for Transformation, provided global and ECCU updates on monetary, credit and financial conditions and assessed their potential impact in the near to medium term. The Governor's Report indicated that:

a. The global economic environment is pregnant with uncertainty.

b. Amid easing inflation, global growth is projected to remain resilient with the USA projected to grow around 2.7 percent and China projected to grow around 4.6 percent (according to the IMF's World Economic Outlook, January 2025).

c. Key downside risks for the global economy include renewed inflationary pressures influenced by factors such as protectionist measures, geopolitical issues and climatic shocks.

d. Key downside risks for the Currency Union include policy shifts among major trading partners, volatility in Citizenship by Investment Programme (CBI/CIP) revenues; and climatic shocks.

e. Key upside risks (opportunities) for the ECCU conducive credit conditions, timely implementation of major infrastructural projects in member countries and financial sector reforms such as the ease of opening of bank accounts and rollout of the credit bureau.

f. The ECCU's growth outlook for 2025 remains positive in the range of 3.5 percent – 4.5 percent, with Tourism, post-hurricane Beryl reconstruction and investments in physical infrastructure expected to drive growth. Cognizant that bold reforms — and timely passage of legislation — are required for sustainable growth outcomes, the ECCB continues to support a stable and resilient financial sector and encourages the member Governments to expedite the enactment of the relevant legislation.

The EC currency remains strong: the backing ratio (also known as the ratio of foreign assets to demand liabilities) continues its upward trajectory, and stood at 98.2 per cent as at 7 February 2025. Reserves are EC$5.5 billion as at the week ending 7 February 2025 — up

g. Having considered the state of monetary, credit and financial conditions in the ECCU, the Monetary Council, on the recommendation of the Governor, agreed to:

i. Maintain the Minimum Savings Rate at 2.0 per cent; and

See ECCB on Page 12 *

Case Number :NEVHPB2025/0008

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

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
NEVIS CIRCUIT
(PROBATE)
A.D. 2025

Filed Date:17/02/2025 14:47

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of CLYDELLA PENNYFEATHER late of Prospect Estate (Malcolm Hill Housing Estate) in the Parish of St. John's in the Island of Nevis, deceased

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **ERNESTINE MILLS** of Cox Village in the Parish of St. John's in the Island of Nevis for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the mother of the deceased, Clydella Pennyfeather late of Prospect Estate (Malcolm Hill Housing Estate) in the Parish of St. John's in the Island of Nevis having died intestate on the 11th day of November, 2021 in the Parish of St. Paul in the Island of Nevis.

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

Dated this 11th day of February ,2025

Merchant

Merchant Legal Chambers

Legal Practitioners for the Estate of Clydella Pennyfeather, (deceased)

Filed by: Merchant Legal Chambers, Legal Practitioners for Ernestine Mills who's address for service is Upper Prince William Street, Charlestown, Nevis 1-869-469-6652(p) 1-869-469-1969 (f), Email: merchant@merchantlc.com .

[FIRST/SECOND PUBLICATION

Construction boom in Nevis

NIA's incentive programme spurs economic growth

The Nevis Island Administration (NIA) is already reaping the benefits of its newly introduced Home Renovation/Modernization Policy, as construction activity surges across the island, creating economic opportunities for homeowners, suppliers, and workers alike.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Colin Dore, highlighted the policy's early success during a recent edition of the Government at Work programme.

"Having launched it in December [2024] in the budget, we have already started to see an uptick in activity for persons wanting to do these things, which is good because it means that that level of economic activity is turning over as we go along. So it is generating the benefits that we were looking for," Mr. Dore stated.

He noted that the construction sector has remained a cornerstone of Nevis' economy, even during the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We noticed after COVID, when tourism was down, construction never lost its way. In fact, the construction sector was the first one to open after COVID. Since that, we continue to build. When we checked last year, we had more than 170 active construction sites, and as a result of that, we felt we needed to do things to stimulate that sector."

The Home Renovation/Modernization Policy is designed to assist homeowners upgrading their properties by offering significant concessions.

"What we find interesting is that whereas we had the First-Time Homeowners Programme, persons from time to time would be adding, remodelling, and renovating. So we've implemented a second policy for this year called Home Renovation/Modernization, which allows for an exemption from Customs Duty and Customs Service Charge on building materials—homeowners only pay VAT [Value Added Tax], and this does not apply to furniture or equipment," Mr. Dore explained.

He pointed out that the policy is particularly beneficial for homeowners whose living circumstances have changed since their initial home purchase.

"We felt that you may have somebody who built a first home when they had a family of two children, and the numbers have increased to three and four—they need to add two more rooms. You could not go back into a first-time homeowner's programme because you already have a first home.

"And so we felt that if you're going to provide some relief for these persons who want to improve themselves and their surroundings, we have to put something in place. So we put this arrangement in place, and when we have our discussions with the suppliers of building materials, these little initiatives are actually turning over stock at these entities because people are doing work. Even the smaller projects, worth $50,000 or so, are having a cumulative effect and driving economic activity."

The increased demand for construction services has resulted in full employment in the sector.

"The construction sector now seems to be fully engaged seven days a week. As a matter of fact, at this point, I don't think you can easily find a construction worker available. To try to get a contractor to do something for you, you have to fit into the schedule somewhere along. It tells us that this sector is growing, it's carrying the weight of the economy, and therefore we thought we needed to subsidize it and incentivize it through this programme."

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Colin Dore

> ***'The construction sector now seems to be fully engaged seven days a week. As a matter of fact, at this point, I don't think you can easily find a construction worker available.'***
>
> **Ministry of Finance Colin Dore**

Honourable Premier Mark Brantley, Minister of Economic Planning, has consistently underscored the construction sector's pivotal role in Nevis' economic development. He credited the NIA's incentive programmes, such as the COVID Relief Programme and the First-Time Homeowners Initiative, for sustaining growth in the sector.

According to the Department of Physical Planning, between January and October 2024, a total of 226 construction applications were received, including new homes, property renovations, apartment buildings, commercial properties, and perimeter fencing projects. Of these, 144 permits were approved, with 112 projects commencing construction.

The Home Renovation/Modernization Policy is expected to further bolster economic activity, ensuring that Nevisians continue to benefit from a thriving construction industry.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE Filed / Lodged JAN 31 2025 3:12pm ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS

SKBHCV2017/0079

ST KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED
- Applicant

and

DERRICK HANLEY
-Respondent

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at the Charles Amory Building, Fortlands, Basseterre, St Kitts, on the 24th day of **February, 2025** at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land situate at Newton Ground, in the Parish of St. Paul, in the Island of Saint Christopher, bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On or towards the North by lands of Cranstoun Estate occupied by Constantia Elliott, 54.89 feet; On or towards the East by lands of Cranstoun Estate occupied by Emanuel Burke, 61.24 feet; On or towards the South by lands of Cranstoun Estate occupied by Eleanor Charles, 30.09 feet; On or towards the West and South West by lands of Cranstoun Estate, 46,05 feet and 13.40 feet and containing by admeasurement 2,655.34 square feet, all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated the **30th day of May, 2007** and registered in **Book G3 Folio 294A** of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher Circuit in favour of **DERRICK HANLEY** of Bradshaw Alley, Newton Ground Village, in the Parish of St. Pauls, in the Island of Saint Christopher as registered proprietor thereof.

UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above property shall be **EC$30,283.05**

Dated the 5th day of February 2025

.....
Registrar of the Supreme Court

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT FIAT JUSTITIA HIGH COURT

OECS launches Decade of Action for sustainable energy development

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has taken a bold step towards a cleaner and economically sustainable future with the unanimous adoption of the landmark Basseterre Declaration at the Third Council of Ministers: Energy meeting held on February 4-5, 2025, in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

The Basseterre Declaration establishes the OECS Decade of Action for Sustainable Energy Development 2025-2035. Ministers have committed to achieving universal access to affordable, resilient, and reliable clean energy solutions across all Member States. The ambitious but practical agenda includes substantially increasing renewable energy generation capacity through solar, wind, geothermal, and green hydrogen projects specifically tailored to regional needs.

The Decade of Action pledges tangible benefits for all OECS citizens:

Lower energy costs: By reducing dependency on imported fossil fuels and adopting more energy efficiency, households and businesses can expect to spend less on energy.

Job creation: The sustainable energy transition will create new employment opportunities in renewable energy services, energy efficiency, e-mobility, and the green building sectors.

Enhanced resilience: Diversifying energy sources and building more robust energy infrastructure will strengthen the region's ability to withstand natural disasters and economic shocks.

Economic growth: Redirecting funds from fuel imports to local investments will stimulate economic development across various sectors. The success of this initiative relies on collaboration between governments, private sector entities, and communities.

The OECS Commission has been mandated to develop an OECS Sustainable Energy Greenprint, a comprehensive roadmap for action, advocacy, awareness, and progress monitoring throughout the Decade. This is directly aligned with the OECS Sustainable Energy Framework and builds on progress made through initiatives such as the Eastern Caribbean Solar Challenge and the OECS GEOBUILD geothermal energy development programme.

These efforts ultimately contribute to the goal of clean and indigenous energy transforming and driving development in the OECS.

The Basseterre Declaration comes at a pivotal moment when renewable energy is projected to become the world's leading source of electricity generation this year, supplying more than one-third of global electricity needs, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA).

The ministers have called upon regional and international partners, private sector entities, financial institutions, and academic organisations to support this transformative agenda through technical cooperation, investment, and knowledge sharing.

The sustainable energy transition represents a transformative opportunity for the economic reinvention of our region and stands as the unquestioned moonshot for Caribbean development, the Basseterre Declaration states, emphasising that this transition is not merely an environmental imperative but a socio-economic necessity to enhance resilience and reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels.

COURTESY PHOTO

From left: OECS Director General Dr Didacus Jules; Chairman of the Council of Ministers: Energy, Hon. Konris Maynard of St Kitts and Nevis; and Head of the Environmental Sustainability Division in the OECS Commission, Chamberlain Emmanuel.

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EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
SKBHCV2016/0156

ST KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED - Applicant

and

CLEMENT BOONE -Respondent

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at the Charles Amory Building, Fortlands, Basseterre, St Kitts, on the 27th day of **February, 2025** at 2:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land with building thereon situate at corner of Liverpoool Row and Old Gut Market, in the town of Basseterre, in the Island of Saint Christopher bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On the by Henrietta France, 26 feet 9 inches; On the East by Mrs. Procope, 28 feet 1 inch; On the South by Liverpool Row 29 feet and On the West by the Old Gut Market 31 feet and containing by admeasurement 823.5 square feet, all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated the **25th day of June, 1993** and registered in **Book S2 Folio 206** of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher Circuit in favour of **Clement Boone** of Old Road Village, in the Parish of St. Thomas, in the Island of Saint Christopher registered proprietor thereof.

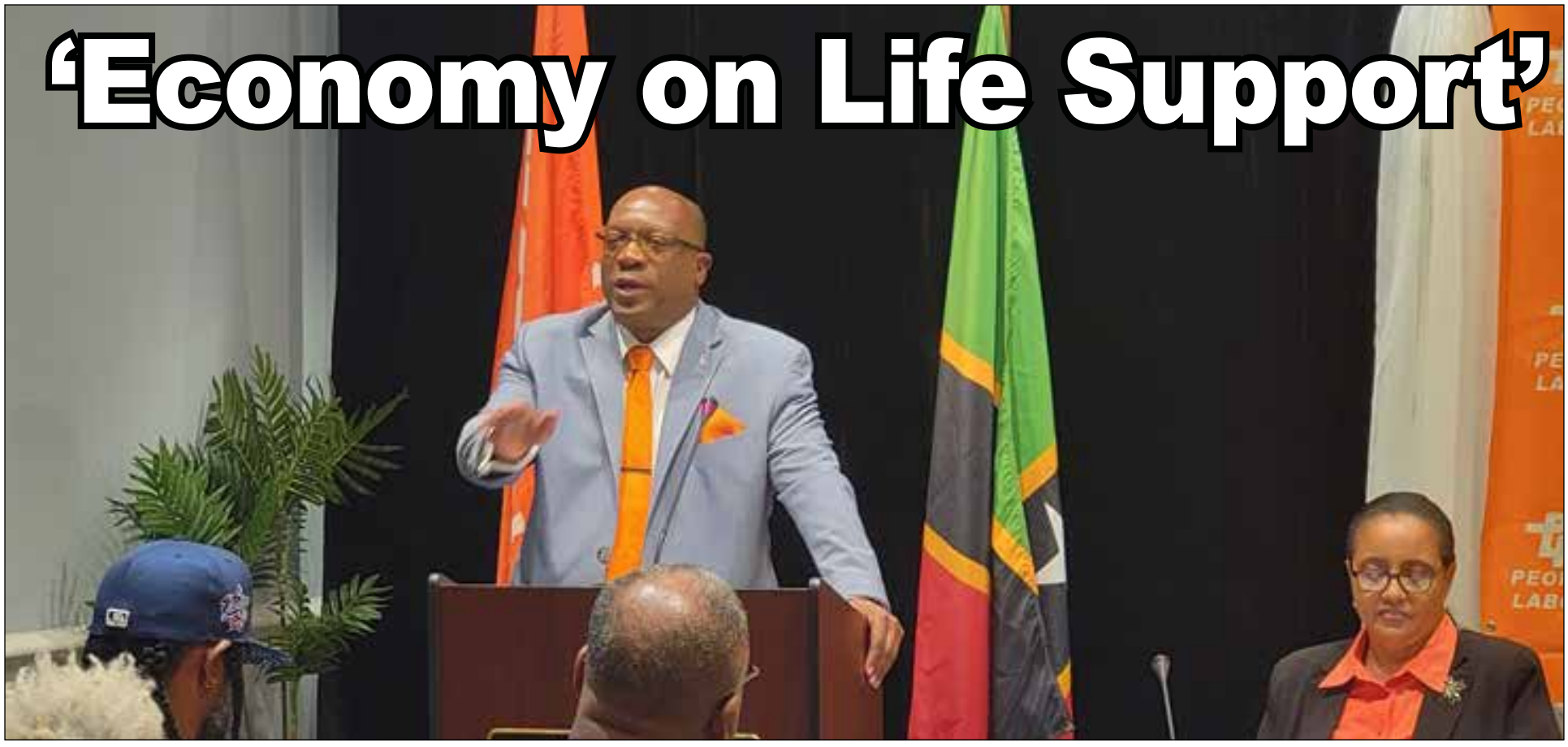
UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above property shall be **EC$435,515.00**

Dated the 5th day of February 2025

C.V. Tuitt
Registrar of the Supreme Court

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT FIAT JUSTITIA HIGH COURT



COURTESY PHOTO

People’s Labour Party Leader and Former PM Dr Timothy Harris addresses party members.

Former PM slams government’s handling of small businesses

By Loshaun Dixon
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

Former Prime Minister Dr Timothy Harris has launched a scathing critique of the government’s economic management, highlighting the devastating impact on small businesses and the broader economy of St. Kitts and Nevis.

In a recent address, Dr Harris painted a picture of an economy in decline, where once-thriving businesses now face extinction and financial pressures are crippling ordinary citizens.

Harris emphasised the crucial role small businesses play in the local economy, contributing to job creation and offering opportunities for self-employment, particularly for young people. He lamented that many of these businesses are “disappearing at an alarming rate,” with the iconic Pelican Mall in Basseterre being a prime example.

“The Pelican Mall? Oh, they tell me it’s like a ghost town. And the government has even closed the bathrooms down there,” he said, expressing disbelief at the closure of basic facilities in a key tourism hub. “Imagine that, one of the premier locales for tourism, and the bathrooms, toilets are closed permanently… Government without shame.”

According to Harris, the government’s inaction and neglect are creating an environment where “you can’t do business in a country like that.” He argued that instead of providing support and facilitation to small businesses, the government is harassing them.

He shared a specific instance where a business operator resisted demands for rent payments, citing the poor condition of the property: “One owner, well operator, had to tell them, “When you fix the property, you could come to me for your rent.”’

Harris did not hold back in his assessment of the broader economy, describing it as “on life support.” He stated that economic growth is “anemic,” job prospects are “dim,” and young people are being “locked out of opportunities for employment and indeed self-employment.”

“It is as if this government is fighting against the citizens and residents of our country, rather than fighting for you, rather than fighting for us,” he said.

Harris also criticised the administration for not addressing the rising cost of living, accusing them of prioritising business profit margins over consumer welfare.

“When we are talking about the cost of living, we hear the Prime Minister’s emphasis basically on safeguarding the profit margins of businesses rather than looking at the extortionate prices which you, the consumers, are faced with,” he added.

One particular example Harris highlighted was the increase in bus fares, which, while benefiting bus operators, placed an additional financial burden on ordinary people.

“For the majority of them, the bus fares have gone up by at least a dollar... $40 at least in a four-week month when things are tough,” he

See ECONOMY on Page 9 *

ECONOMY

Continued from Page 8

explained, noting that many cannot afford the additional costs to commute to work or visit loved ones.

Harris contrasted this with his administration's approach, where they provided concessions and support to bus operators to avoid passing costs onto commuters. "There are things that can be done, but for government to move, the government must be concerned about those who really need the help," he said.

The former Prime Minister further accused the government of being "deaf and dumb to the worsening plight of the people of St. Kitts and Nevis." Harris also mocked the Prime Minister's promise to speak with businesses about easing prices, calling it a "lazy idea" and questioning why no meeting had been held since December last year.

Harris urged citizens to take a stand against what he described as the government's mismanagement and insensitivity to public needs. He referenced protests in Guadeloupe as an example of how people could demand justice and fairness.

"Sometimes in defence of your own right, you have to close downtown to send a message that you will stand for your justice. And in a democracy, you have earned that right," he asserted.

As St. Kitts and Nevis continues to grapple with economic challenges, Dr Harris's remarks are likely to ignite further debate over the current administration's policies and their impact on the everyday lives of citizens and small business owners.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE Filed / Lodged DEC 20 2024 @ 3:20pm ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

CLAIM NO. SKBHCV2013/0026

ST KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED - Applicant

and

NIGEL DORSET and FRANCES DORSET -Respondents

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at the Charles Amory Building, Fortlands, Basseterre, St Kitts, on the 27th day of February **2025** at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land situate at Tabernacle Village, in the Parish of Saint John in the Island of Saint Christopher (St. Kitts) with building thereon bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On or towards the North-West by Stone Castle Estate, 123.56 feet; On or towards the North East by land bordering an Estate Road, 80.11 feet; On or towards the South-East by Stone Castle Estate, 104.44 feet; and On or towards the South by Stone Castle Estate, 92.54 feet and containing by admeasurement 9,656.17 square feet, all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated the **25th day of July, 2008** and registered **in Book H3 Folio 290** of the Register of Titles of the Saint Christopher Circuit in favour of **NIGEL DORSET and FRANCES DORSET** of Stone Castle, Tabernacle, in the Island of Saint Christopher as registered proprietors thereof.

UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above property shall be **EC$191,220.00**.

Dated the 17th day of January 2025

Registrar of the Supreme Court (Ag)

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT FIAT JUSTITIA

COURTESY PHOTO

H.E.Dr MutryceWilliams,and Counsellor Mrs Sonia Boddie-Thompson represented St Kitts and Nevis at the 63rd Session of the Commission for Social Development in New York.

SKN participates in UN Commission for Social Development session

By Rick Amburgey
St. Kitts-Nevis Observer

Permanent Representative to the United Nations, H.E. Dr Mutryce Williams, and Counsellor Mrs Sonia Boddie-Thompson represented St Kitts and Nevis at the 63rd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD63), held from 10 to 14 February at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

This year's session focused on the theme: "Strengthening solidarity, social inclusion and social cohesion to accelerate the delivery of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

According to the UN, the Commission adopted a draft resolution titled "Future Organisation and Methods of Work of the Commission for Social Development" (document E/CN.5/2025/L.7) by consensus and forwarded it to the Council. The theme for the 64th session was also set: "Advancing Social Development and Social Justice through Coordinated, Equitable, and Inclusive Policies."

Discussions included emerging issues such as social resilience and social development—both key aspects of St Kitts and Nevis' policies for achieving a sustainable island state. This aligns with Prime Minister Hon Dr Terrance Drew's 2025 Budget Address, in which he stated: "Creating jobs is not just about economic growth—it is about strengthening stability, reducing poverty, and building resilience against external shocks."

The Second World Summit for Social Development is scheduled for November in Qatar, where heads of state and government leaders will address gaps and reaffirm the principles of the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action.

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☐ Public Notice

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDINANCE, 1906

SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate District "C"

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Raymattie Komal Bowrin

Now residing in Clay Ghauts Street in the town or

Village of do hereby give you notice

That it is my intention to apply on 23rd

Day of February, 2025 next to the District Magistrate

At Charlestown for a Beer Licence in respect of my

Premises in Rams Food Court Street in Stoney Grove

Dated this 6th day of February, 2025

Signed: Raymattie komal Bowrin

Case Number :NEVHCV2025/0032

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

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
NEVIS CIRCUIT
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP 10.19
A.D. 2025

Submitted Date:20/02/2025 10:27

Filed Date:20/02/2025 10:28

Fees Paid:4.00

In the matter of an application by Carlton Williams formerly of Zion Village, St. George's Parish, Nevis but presently residing at 39 Aldersville, Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI for a First Certificate of Title to 0.4624 acre of land situate at Zion Village, Gingerland, Nevis pursuant to Section 12 (1) (a) of the Title by Registration Act, Cap 10.19.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION

For Certificates of Title, notings thereon and caveats for the week ending the 28th day of February, 2025.

Date of Request	Person Presenting	Nature of Document
5th December 2024	**CARLTON WILLIAMS** of Zion Village, St. George Parish in the island of Nevis by his Attorney-at-Law, Krysta Liburd-Clarke of Foundation House, Government Road, Charlestown, Nevis.	Request for the issue of a First Certificate of Title to 0.4624 acre of land situate at Zion Village in the Parish of St. George in the island of Nevis.

The parcel of land above referred to is bounded and measures as follows: On the North East by a Public Road 116.35 feet; On the South East by land of Shirley Tyson Cunningham 111.14 feet and by land of D. Forbes 90.5 feet and 4.25 feet; On the South West by land of Rose Palmer 83.55 feet and On the North West by land of Pearlene Manners 196.95 feet and containing by admeasurement 0.4624 acre.

Dated the 19th day of February 2025

Registrar

Culturama 51 officials unveil new slogan

Culturama 51 has a new slogan to remember, thanks to Onisha Hunt of Hamilton Estates.

Hunt's 'Nevision Pride! Second to none! Culturama 51!, will serve as the official slogan for the 51st Anniversary Culturama Festival. Her slogan was chosen from a list of 105 entries submitted between October 4 and November 29. By having her selected as the top entry, Hunt earned a cash prize of $500, two sets of complimentary tickets to all Culturama 51 activities, and a commemorative plaque.

This year's Culturama celebration will take place from July 24 to August 5. The annual event promises vibrant festivities that will showcase the island's rich heritage and creative spirit.

Organizers expressed their gratitude to all participants in the slogan contest for their enthusiasm and creativity, emphasizing that the festival continues to thrive because of the community's deep cultural pride.

FOR THE BEST DEALS ON SCAFFOLDINGS AND JACKS RENTALS, PLEASE CALL: (869) 663-6296 OR (869)764-7189.

Team Nevis gears up to defend LIDC title

Team Nevis, the reigning champions of the Leeward Islands Debating Competition (LIDC), is preparing to defend its title at the 53rd staging of the prestigious competition in St Maarten from 6 to 8 March 2025.

Representing Nevis will be a team of students from the Nevis Sixth Form College: Jeran Webb, T'Geonique Hunkins, Lauchele Herbert, Shirmia Thompson, Kijari Huggins, and President Khalia Huggins-Simmons.

As the defending champions of LIDC 52, Team Nevis will automatically advance to the semi-finals and, if successful, to the finals. The team has been diligently preparing, having worked throughout the vacation and engaged in practice sessions since late last year. This year's lineup includes a few new debaters who, after participating in mock debates over the past few months, are eager to take on the challenge.

COURTESY PHOTO

Team Nevis, the reigning champions of the Leeward Islands Debating Competition.

Mrs. Kerilyn Edwards-David, Deputy Principal responsible for the Nevis Sixth Form College and LIDC Coordinator, highlighted both the team's preparation efforts and the financial challenges they face.

The competition will feature five territories—Nevis, Anguilla, Antigua, St Kitts, and host St Maarten—battling in a test of intellect. Team Nevis will face the winner of debate one in debate three on 7 March, while the grand finale on 8 March will see the winners of debates two and three compete for the championship.

As Team Nevis sets its sights on retaining the title, the island is standing firmly behind them, anticipating another triumphant performance on the regional stage.

The door of advertising opportunity is wide open.

Walk in today and purchase a newspaper or website ad, all at affordable rates.

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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

St Kitts & Nevis OBSERVER

ST.CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
"Exceeding Expectations"

P. O. Box 52
Wellington Road
Basseterre, St. Kitts

Tel: (869) 467-1122
Email: Secretary.adminpwd@gov.kn

Wednesday 12th February, 2025

Request for Quotations to Purchase & Install One (1) New Asphalt Plant

The Public Works Department is seeking quotations for the cost to procure and install **one (1) New Asphalt Plant**, to outfit the Roads Division, Public Works Department at Canada Estate St Kitts West Indies.

1. **Parameters:**
   - The Asphalt Plant must be fitted with the following:
     i. Portable SPL 110 Drum Mixer with wet scrubber.
     ii. Hinged SPL Drag Conveyor with Truck Loading Batcher
     iii. Portable 4CFB Bin Aggregate System
     iv. Appropriate size Control Cabin Fully Outfitted
     v. Portable 20,000 Gallon Tank with Heater.

2. **Additional Services:**
   i. Price must include for service and start up.
   ii. Shipping to St Kitts (CIF)

3. **Warranty and Spare Parts**
   i. A warranty of at least one (1) year must be included in the accepted quotation.
   ii. Sufficient Spare Parts to be included for the servicing of the Asphalt Plant over the course of the first operational year.

4. **Evaluation and acceptance:**
   i. Quotations will only be accepted from established businesses with proof of registration and a track record of supplying/sales of large equipment.
   ii. Quotations will be evaluated by senior personnel from the Ministry of Public Works with recommendations to be submitted to the Procurement Board.
   iii. Quotations must be submitted by **Wednesday 2nd April, 2025**.

5. **Quotations must include the following:**
   a. Technical specifications and operational manual for the Asphalt Plant.
   b. We are proposing the following payment terms and conditions including a payment structure of:
      i. 40% deposit upon approval,
      ii. 40% prior to shipping and
      iii. 20% once the Asphalt Plant is landed and commissioned on St. Kitts or any other structure agreed to by the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis.
   c. Setup and training for use and maintenance of the Asphalt Plant.
   d. Shipment timeline from purchase to landing at the cargo port Basseterre, St Kitts.
   e. Company background and eligibility to participate in this quotation.
   f. Vendors must be able to hold the price for at least three (3) months pending purchase evaluations by the procurement board.

Please submit all quotations to the Ministry of Public Works, attention Public Works Department, Roads Division via email to secretary.adminpwd@gov.kn and to zekey.hazel@gov.kn or by hardcopy to Mr. George Gilbert, Director of Public Works or Mr. Zekey Hazel, Roads Manager no later than **Wednesday 2nd April, 2025**.

Winning bidders will be notified thereafter.

Please note that, solicitations, receipt and consideration of cost quotations **DO NOT** constitute a binding agreement to purchase equipment from any responding party or company.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ST. KITTS WEST INDIES

Mr. Zekey Hazel
Roads Manager
Public Works Department

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ST. KITTS WEST INDIES

Mr. George Gilbert
Director
Public Works Department

ECCB

Continued from Page 5

ii. Maintain the discount rate at 3.0 per cent for short-term credit and 4.5 per cent for long-term credit.

The Minimum Savings Rate is the lowest rate that commercial banks can offer on savings deposits. The Central Bank's discount rate is the rate at which the ECCB lends to governments and commercial banks.

The Monetary Council was advised of the following developments in the ECCU financial sector:

a. Banks are generally well-capitalised. Deposits continue to grow, including from businesses

b. The ECCU banking system remains stable with a high degree of liquidity (estimated at EC$1.5 billion at the end of December 2024).

c. Credit conditions have eased and competition is intense thereby creating a favourable environment for borrowing, particularly for mortgages.

d. EveryData ECCU Ltd (the credit bureau operator) has signed agreements with 27 of the 32 (84%) licensed financial institutions (LFIs) under the Banking Act in the ECCU. Eleven (11) have already gone live. Others are expected to follow in the upcoming months. Nineteen of forty-seven (40%) of credit unions signed agreements. Public education is ongoing throughout the region.

e. The Monetary Council noted the contents of the Financial Stability Report 2023 (Part 2) and approved its publication. The Report indicated that key risks to financial stability include cyber and climate.

In support of financial stability, efforts at addressing risks include:

1. Lowering credit risk by enhancing credit underwriting with the commencement of the credit bureau.

2. Lowering the risk profile of CBI/CIP programmes.

The ECCU fiscal situation showed signs of improvement in 2024 to increased economic activity and stronger fiscal management.

The Regional Government Securities Market (RGSM) continues to be a vital source of funding for member governments. An estimated EC$1.2 billion was raised in 2024 — a 9.0 per cent increase over 2023.

Growth in the ECCU continued to be propelled by Tourism and domestic-related construction activity in 2024. This trend is expected to continue in 2025. Despite some improvements, there is still need for more regional action to address the high cost and inconvenience of intra-regional air connectivity. The current situation is a major constraint to trade and faster growth and is inimical to the Big Push.

The Monetary Council, on the recommendation of the ECCB, approved an allocation of $25 million for a food and nutrition security programme in the ECCU from ECCB's Fiscal Tranche II account. This funding will support the efforts of ECCU member countries as they strive to reduce the food import bill by 25 per cent.

The ECCB issued a circular in November 2024, encouraging all LFIs governed under the Banking Act of 2015 to make basic bank accounts available to their customers, effective the first day of December 2024. To date, all LFIs have implemented some aspect of Simplified Due Diligence (SDD) in their policies and procedures, to facilitate the ease and reduce the complexity of opening a bank account for customers.

The ECCU banking industry is targeting a unified rollout of SDD and/or the basic bank account by April 2025. The Monetary Council strongly endorsed these actions and further committed to swift enactment of the amendments to the Banking Act, which include provision for the establishment of a basic bank account.

Consultations with a broad range of stakeholders, on the establishment of the Office of Financial Conduct and Inclusion (OFCI) and the Eastern Caribbean Financial Standards Board (ECFSB) have begun. These discussions, which are being held across the ECCU, commenced on 6 February, 2025, in Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis and will run through to June 2025.

The Monetary Council noted the update on the preparatory work towards procurement and deployment of a commercial-grade retail central bank digital currency solution (DCash 2.0). The DCash website (www.dcashec.com) was revamped, updated and relaunched in November. The website will continue to play a key role in public outreach and education on digital finance and DCash.

In respect of the Eastern Caribbean Partial Credit Guarantee Corporation, the Monetary Council noted that there were 147 guarantees approved across the ECCU (as at January 2025), in support of small business access to credit. The value of loans guaranteed to date is EC$18.1m and the value of the actual guarantees approved is EC$13.8m.

At the conclusion, Council agreed to hosting the Handing Over Ceremony to mark the change in Chairmanship of the Monetary Council on Thursday, 17 July 2025 in Antigua. The 111th Meeting of the Monetary Council will be convened the next day, Friday, 18 July 2025, on the sister island of Barbuda.

The Honourable Gaston Browne, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance of Antigua and Barbuda, is due to assume Chairmanship of the Council.

Sports

CG United women's Super50 Cup returns to St. Kitts

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced the return of regional women's cricket to St Kitts with the CG United Women's Super50 Cup, showcasing the Caribbean's top female cricketing talent.

The prestigious tournament will take place from 24 February to 7 March at three premier venues: Warner Park, Conaree Cricket Centre, and St Paul's Sports Complex. Matches will begin at 10 am daily.

Defending champions Jamaica will face stiff competition from Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago Red Force, Guyana, Windward Islands, and hosts Leeward Islands in what promises to be an intense battle for supremacy. This year's tournament also serves as crucial preparation ahead of a packed international schedule for the West Indies Women, who recently secured commanding ODI and T20I series victories against Bangladesh in St Kitts.

CWI Director of Cricket Miles Bascombe expressed his enthusiasm, saying:

"We at Cricket West Indies are thrilled to kick off this year's CG United Women's Super50. This tournament isn't just a competition but a celebration of the incredible strides we've made in women's cricket across the Caribbean. We are seeing phenomenal talent emerging from every corner of the region, and watching these players battle it out on the field is going to be something special."

"With international tours on the horizon and the impending ODI World Cup, the timing couldn't be better to showcase the strength of West Indies women's cricket. We are particularly excited for fans in St Kitts to witness some of our rising stars in action as the future of women's cricket in the Caribbean looks brighter than ever."

The 2024 edition of the tournament saw impressive performances despite rain-affected matches.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jamaica is the defending champion of the CG United Women's Super50 Cup, which showcases the Caribbean's top female cricketing talent. The tournament will take place from February 24 to March 7.

- Jamaica opened with a dominant 204-run victory over Barbados, powered by Stafanie Taylor's 99.
- Guyana emerged as serious contenders with consistent displays, including Ashmini Munisar's stunning 5/15 against Trinidad & Tobago.
- Windward Islands claimed a thrilling two-wicket win over Trinidad & Tobago, led by Jannillea Glasgow's 62.
- Standout individual performances included Chinelle Henry's 6/31 for Jamaica, Kycia Knight's three half-centuries for Barbados, and Shemaine Campbelle's aggressive batting for Guyana.

COURTESY PHOTO

Last year's Barbados squad is shown above.

CG United Women's Super50 Cup 2025 – Full Schedule

Round 1 – 24 February
- Windward Islands vs Leeward Islands (St Paul's)
- Barbados vs Guyana (Conaree)
- Jamaica vs Trinidad & Tobago (Warner Park)

Round 2 – 26 February
- Windward Islands vs Barbados (Warner Park)
- Trinidad & Tobago vs Leeward Islands (Conaree)
- Guyana vs Jamaica (St Paul's)

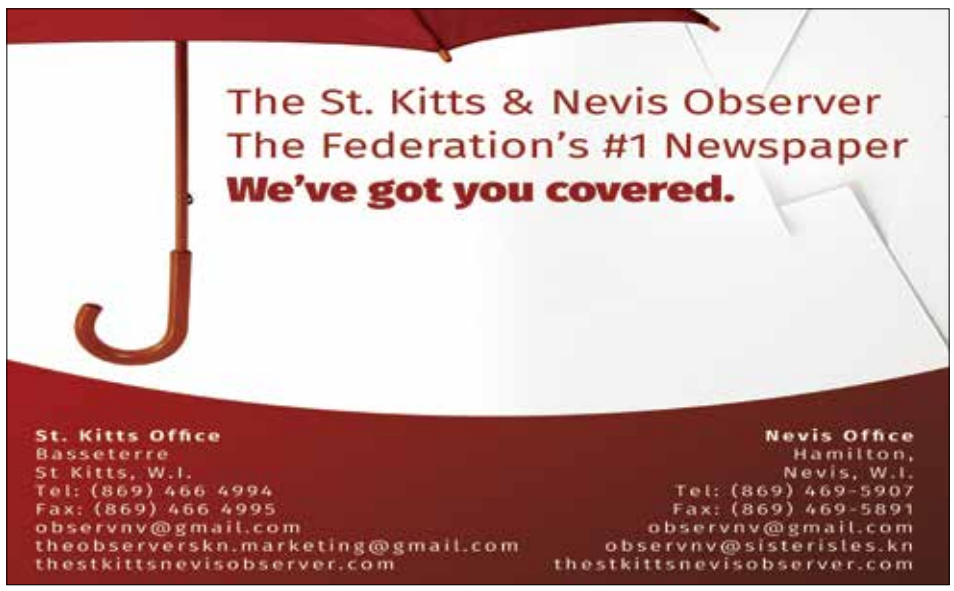
Round 3 – 28 February
- Trinidad & Tobago vs Windward Islands (St Paul's)
- Leeward Islands vs Guyana (Warner Park)
- Jamaica vs Barbados (Conaree)

Round 4 – 3 March
- Leeward Islands vs Jamaica (Warner Park)
- Barbados vs Trinidad & Tobago (St Paul's)
- Guyana vs Windward Islands (Conaree)

Round 5 – 5 March
- Guyana vs Trinidad & Tobago (Warner Park)
- Windward Islands vs Jamaica (Conaree)
- Barbados vs Leeward Islands (St Paul's)

Finals Day – 7 March
- Championship Final: 1st vs 2nd (Warner Park)
- 3rd Place Playoff (Conaree)
- 5th Place Playoff (St Paul's)

Rest/Practice Days:
- 25, 27 February & 1, 2, 4, 6 March



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☐ Vacancies

VACANCY
Best Buy Supermarket is searching for
two cashiers and one storeroom attendant
Contact: (869) 469-0817 or
Email: jdwallace@costpro.com

Vacancy - FIT Wellness Center
We are searching for certified personal
trainers with specialization.
Contact: info@fitwellnesscenter.com
or +1 (869) 469-3481 For More Information

Vacancy
Mohan Landscaping Services
is looking for ONE experienced Landscaper
Contact: (869) 660-5500
For More Information

☐ Vacancies

VACANCY
Casino Bar "Roll & Win" is looking for
One Bartender and one Server,
(one male and one female.)
Contact: (869) 668-1051

Vacancy
Gregory Pereira is looking for a
a housekeeper (Wigley Avenue, Fortlands)
Contact: (869) 662-6002
For More Information

Vacancy
Bevon Landscaping
is searching for Workers
Contact: (869) 665-2951
For More Information

☐ Vacancies

Vacancy
Colors Duty Free Jewelers
(Port Zante, St. Kitts)
Diamond Gemologist/Watch Horologist
Contact: (869) 465-2030

Vacancy
Greys Barbershop looking for
Two people to work as hairdressers.
Contact joselgrey248@gmail.com
For More Information

Vacancy - Diamonds International seeks an
experienced HR Manager to oversee
recruitment, employee relations, and
HR operations across multiple locations.
Send resume to: diamondsinternationalstkitts@gmail.com

VACANCIES

1. Luxury Real Estate Sales Executive
Associate degree and or equivalent educational experience.
Location: 858 Zenway BLVD Frigate Bay StKitts
Qualifications:
- Minimum 5 years of experience in luxury real estate sales
- Associate degree or higher
- Excellent communication skills
- Sales and marketing background

Compensation: Commission-based

Job Description:
We are seeking a driven and self-motivated Luxury Real Estate Sales Executive to join our team. Ideal candidates will have experience in new development and be goal-oriented, with a passion for achieving sales targets. This role offers a fantastic opportunity to work in the high-end luxury real estate market.

2. Chief Executive Officer
- Bachelor's degree
- Minimum 15 years of experience in luxury real estate, sales, and marketing
- Sales Director experience required
- Minimum 15 years of business development executive experience

Compensation: Base salary, plus incentive bonus

Job Description:
We are searching for a dynamic and experienced Chief Executive Officer to lead our global real estate brokerage. The ideal candidate will have over 15 years of experience in real estate management, business development, and leadership. The CEO will be responsible for driving company growth, team building, and strategic decision-making. This position requires a self-motivated, results-driven leader who can innovate and create solutions to shape the future of our organization.

CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS

☐ Vacancies

NOBLE Jewelers
ST. KITTS • ALASKA

VACANCY

FOR THE POST OF SALES/OFFICE MANAGEMENT

- Minimum 5 years experience in Fine Jewelry & Inventory Control
- Should be fluent in English Language and control the inventory Department

Please submit your CV in person to the below address:
Unit 3/23, Port Zante, Basseterre, St. Kitts, W.I.
Tel: 869-466-2849 Hours: 10a.m to 5p.m.

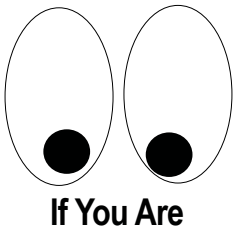
☐ Property For Sale

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 liamuiga.skb@gmail.com on or before 28th February 2025 will be considered.

For further information, contact Sam Franks at (869) 661-5313 or email: liamuiga.skb@gmail.com



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TRADE

Continued from Page 4

establish an external revenue service, identify unfair trade practices, review and assess the impact of the USMCA in preparation for the July 2026 review, and evaluate the currency policies of major U.S. trading partners.

While the Caribbean has not featured in any of President Trump's trade plans to date, some potential secondary risks and challenges for the region can already be anticipated. First, the expansion of tariff-based trade measures could impact the region given President Trump's penchant for using tariffs to tackle both trade and non-trade disputes.

Moreover, on February 13, the President issued a Presidential Memorandum directing the creation of a comprehensive strategy to promote 'fairness' in U.S. trade relations and address non-reciprocal trade agreements. This 'fair and reciprocal' plan would match U.S. tariffs with those charged by other countries on U.S. imports. If implemented, this plan potentially violates the spirit of the WTO's Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment principle.

Put simply, this core principle requires WTO members to not discriminate in their treatment amongst each other, except in instances where there is a free trade agreement or customs union or in cases of special and differential treatment. This plan could create uncertainty for businesses in the U.S. and those which export to or import from the U.S. using these preferential arrangements. Specifically, this raises the question of what this new policy means for the U.S.' unilateral preferences programmes like CBI and the Africa Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA).

Second, although the U.S.-Caribbean trade relationship may remain largely stable, the region could experience indirect fallout from Trump's trade and wider economic policies. Increased tariffs on imports, particularly from China, could drive up costs for American manufacturers. These costs may, in turn, be passed on to consumers in the U.S., including Caribbean diasporic communities, as well as to Caribbean consumers who rely on imported U.S. goods. As noted, the U.S. is a major source of imported goods into the region, including food stuffs.

Third, Trump's emphasis on cutting funding for various agencies and deregulation may result in relaxed sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards. Caribbean authorities should monitor these developments closely, as they could potentially affect the quality and safety of food and other products imported from the U.S.

Fourth, a continued obstructionist stance towards the WTO, the potential for U.S. renewed interest in introducing eligibility criteria for S&DT, and the possibility of escalating trade wars could further weaken the rules-based multilateral trading system, which while imperfect, provides some modicum of a safety net for small States. Its weakening could expose Caribbean economies to greater vulnerabilities, including from escalating trade wars.

Strategic Responses for the Caribbean

First, it is essential to recognize that this situation is evolving, and several of these proposals remain under consideration rather than constituting definitive actions. However, it is important to be proactive. To safeguard regional trade interests, Caribbean governments and trade representatives should continue to actively engage with U.S. lawmakers, the U.S.-based Caribbean diaspora and other stakeholders to ensure continued support for preferential trade programs like the CBI. This engagement should be evidence-based and could involve studying what could be the potential economic fall-out for the region of the removal of CBI preferences for Caribbean exports to the U.S.

The upcoming routine U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) hearings on the CBERA's impact on U.S. Industries and Consumers and on Beneficiary Countries are a good opportunity for the region to have its voice heard. A unified CARICOM voice can help the region navigate this shifting global landscape and advocate for its interests effectively. Like under the previous administration, individual US states could also be allies.

Second, continuing to expand trade relationships beyond the U.S. by strengthening economic ties with other partners, including the European Union, Latin America, and emerging markets in Africa and Asia could reduce dependency on the U.S., creating new opportunities for CARICOM exporters.

Third, supporting regional industries, increasing intra-Caribbean trade, and promoting food security can help reduce reliance on external markets and mitigate potential economic shocks stemming from these uncertainties. It is likely that these matters will occupy CARICOM Heads of Government as they meet in Barbados on February 19-20 for their 48th Regular meeting.

As President Trump's second term unfolds, Caribbean countries must remain vigilant, united and proactive in responding to shifts in U.S. trade policy. By strengthening diplomatic engagements, diversifying economic partnerships, and fostering regional economic resilience, the Caribbean can better position itself to navigate the trade and economic uncertainties of 'America First' 2.0.

Alicia Nicholls is the SRC's Junior Research Fellow. Learn more about the SRC here: www.shridathramphalcentre.com.

COURTESY PHOTO

SKELEC honoured former employees who dedicated years of service to the company with its annual Love Basket Distribution in celebration ofValentine's Day.

SKELEC celebrates retirees with Love Basket distribution

The St Kitts Electricity Company Ltd. SKELEC honoured former employees who dedicated years of service to the company with its annual Love Basket Distribution in celebration of Valentine's Day,

Representatives from various divisions travelled across the island to personally deliver love baskets to this year's recipients, including former electricians Olanzo Jacobs, Anthony Sweeney, Lesroy Clarke, Lionel Marsham, and Jerome Clarke.

General Manager Clement Williams emphasised the company's deep appreciation for its retirees, stating that the initiative underscores SKELEC's commitment to recognising those who have contributed to its success.

The Love Basket Distribution is one of SKELEC's many community-driven initiatives, reinforcing its dedication to appreciation and support. Each year, six retired employees are randomly selected to receive these tokens of gratitude, strengthening the company's lasting connection with those who helped shape its growth.

ENERGY

Continued from Page 3

this project on track."

Previous geothermal energy initiatives in Nevis faced difficulties, including technical setbacks and challenges in securing investment. Learning from these past experiences, the current administration has prioritised transparency, public engagement, and rigorous project management to avoid similar pitfalls.

"We have put in place measures to ensure accountability and efficiency," Dr. Drew said. "This includes working with reputable international partners, conducting thorough feasibility studies, and maintaining open communication with the public."

The successful implementation of the project is expected to reduce electricity costs, attract foreign investment, and solidify the Federation's status as a leader in renewable energy within the Caribbean.