STORIES OF THE DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015

Tobago House of Assembly

TOBAGO ARE SCHOOL CHAMPS AGAIN



AMIRAH SMILES: Girls Under-18 sprinter Amirah John returns home with 400 metres bronze. She was part of Tobago's victorious school team at the two-day National Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships at the Hasely Crawford Stadium on Wednesday and Thursday. Tobago's young athletes again brought home the National Secondary Schools Track and Field Championships overall zonal title after a solid Day Two at the Hasely Crawford Stadium in Mucurapo, Port of Spain on Thursday.

Anya Akili secured three gold medals for the Tobago zone, while six of her teammates finished with two gold medals apiece. Their winning haul tallied and impressive 93 medals—31 gold, 30 silver and 32 bronze. Akili added gold in the Girls Under-18 400 metres hurdles with a one minute, 06.06 seconds clocking, and high jump with her best effort of 1.50 metres, to her 100 metres hurdles win a day earlier. Tobago's other Carifta athletes did not disappoint. Record breaking thrower Tyriq Horsford triumphed in both the Boys Under-16 discus (49.74m) and javelin (66.04m) events, and Anson Moses won the 100 metres hurdles (15.95 seconds) and high jump events (1.70m).

Asha James grabbed Girls Under-18 discus and javelin gold. Zakiya Denoon took the Girls Over-18 100m and 200m double, a feat Ayla Moses repeated in the Girls Under-16 age group.

Safiya John topped the podium in the Girls Under-16 80 metres hurdles and high jump.

ARTS FOR THE AGING PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

Building bridges and transforming lives.

That's the focus of the Arts for the Aging Programme, according to Secretary of Community Development and Culture, Councillor Dr Denise Tsoiafatt-Angus.

The Secretary said this at the programme's launch on Thursday (16 April) at the Calder Hall Community Centre. She said senior citizens are important to Tobago, not just for the contributions they have made during their lifetime, but for the legacy and knowledge they can leave by interacting with younger generations.

"We're not only revitalising the spark in the aged, we are also helping that NGO in performing their duties even better. We have made their lives easier, because the persons there become energised," Tsoiafatt-Angus said. Tutors selected by the Division of Community Development and Culture, in partnership with the Division of Health and Social Services (DHSS), will go to various Senior Activities Centres across Tobago, where they will engage senior citizens in a number of arts and cultural activities. These include drama, dance, music, drumming and art.

She urged the tutors to show a caring attitude toward the seniors they serve.

DHSS Assistant Secretary Sheldon Cunningham said senior citizens can do more than just sit at home and relax.

"Most of us go home and sit in a rocking chair. And you say to yourself: 'this may be my portion until death do me part'. But are working with you to ensure that you have long life."

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MAIN RIDGE BOOTHS READY

Within a week, vendors will be able to take up new accommodations at the Main Ridge Reserve Centre, Bloody Bay. The first phase of the Centre was recently completed and will be commissioned next week. Selected vendors, some of whom have been selling their goods at Bloody Bay for over years, will formally receive keys to the new booths on Friday (24 April, 2015).

The update was provided by Secretary of Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment Godwin Adams said at the weekly post Executive Council media briefing on Wednesday at the Administrative Complex, Calder Hall. Adams said: "We are going to be issuing keys to for those booths next Friday at 10am on the site. People at those booths will ply their trade in batik and have some of the food sales, bene balls and different other things that Tobago vendors produce."

The Secretary also explained that when completed, the Centre will also provide information on Tobago's environment and tourism sites.

"There will be some virtual display and we'll have actual lectures of the flora and fauna on the main ridge and other parts of Tobago," Adams said.