

‘POLICING REQUIRES PARTNERSHIP’

The police service is seeking to build closer ties with the public. And the island’s top cops are reminding communities that the police will be most effective with the buy-in of citizens.

Speaking during the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service’s latest town meeting in Calder Hall last night (July 20), acting Senior Superintendent

Joanne Archie acknowledged that the police aren’t perfect. But she says officers are often criticised despite their best efforts.

Archie said she understands that “to whom much is given, much is expected”. She added that the meetings will allow residents to voice their concerns and provide feedback when officers don’t give the kind of service they should.

Acting Assistant Commissioner of Police Garfield Moore responded to a call for truancy officers for loitering students.

“We will do our part. We have a part to play,” Moore said. “But what about the parents? What part are they playing to ensure that their children get to school [on time]? What part do they play to ensure their children get home at a reasonable time? It’s a partnership.”



STICK FIGHT!: Action during a stage production at the SWUM (Spring Garden/Whim/Union/Mary’s Hill) Wake and Bongo on Tuesday night (July 19) at the Whim Hard Court. The event is part of the two-week islandwide Tobago Heritage Festival celebrations, which end on July 31st.

RABBIT CAGE WORKSHOP IN DEMAND

This week, the new Genetics Centre at Hope Farm has been offering a five-day workshop on building rabbit cages.

There has been high demand for the workshop at the Centre, which replaces the Artificial Insemination Unit at the Farm. Manager for the Centre Rodney Jones said the course was oversubscribed even before it began.

Although the workshop originally catered for 20 participants, 30 people are currently attending the course.

Mr. Jones says the farmers are willing to learn. He believes further training will help the island’s meat industry expand.

“I’m hoping that we could continue bringing more farmers, (and) advertise so that they can get exposure. More than that, rabbit cage construction is a business. So I will talk to the Secretary and probably the Administrator to see if we could run a second course for [those who missed out on] this first course.”

The famers also learned about feeding and caring for breeding stock.

NUTRITION CAMP TARGETING LIFESTYLE DISEASES IN CHILDREN

The Healthy Eating, Active Living Children’s camp is encouraging children to eat healthy and stay active. But the real objective of the camp—which is being run by the Nutrition Unit of the Tobago Regional Health Authority at the Louis D’Or Recreation Ground—is to influence the lifestyles of families on the island.

This year’s theme is “Be a champion, beat lifestyle diseases”. At the camp, 40 children ran obstacle courses and did aerobic exercises, and also learned about personal hygiene and eating a balanced meal.

Nutritionist Sydelle Gibson believes the camp, which began 11 years ago, is making a difference in the lives of its participants.

“We have seen a number of breakthrough

in terms of through our screening activities, we were able to pick up kids with high cholesterol levels,” Gibson said. “We’ve been able to pick up children who would be at risk of lifestyle diseases such as diabetes.”

One important component of the initiative is that officials will follow up with children to ensure they put to use what they learnt at the camp.