

COMMUNITIES KEY TO GROWTH

Over the last three months, the Tobago House of Assembly has been preparing the framework to strengthen the island's economy and the quality of life of Tobagonians. And last evening (May 17, 2017), Chief Secretary Kelvin Charles gave an update on what the Assembly has achieved so far. Charles said decentralising community services will be key to achieving these objectives.

He said the THA has taken a hands-on approach to this process, visiting villages to speak to members of the community one-on-one and engaging stakeholders through 17 meetings throughout Tobago's electoral districts.

Charles said community development is being boosted by expanding vocational and handicraft training, registering new community groups and through literacy initiatives and other key programmes.

"The groundwork continues to be laid in respect of our development thrust," he said. "We have incorporated the Tobago Tourism Agency, which shall have general responsibility for product development and destination marketing.

"This is the first step in ensuring that we exploit current tourism opportunities and identify new ones," Charles said. The new board of directors for the Agency, will develop a tourism master plan.

THA SPORTS AWARDS SATURDAY

Tobago's Sportsman of the Year and the Sportswoman of the Year will be crowned on Saturday night at the 2016 THA Sports Awards.

The ceremony will be hosted at the Magdalena Grand Beach and Golf Resort from 7 p.m., and the island's top performers will be honoured for their contribution to sport and sport development in Tobago.

The other categories at the awards include the Students of the Year, the Primary and Secondary School athletes of the Year, the Coach of the Year, Club of the Year, the Sporting Official of the Year and the Community Sport Programme or Project of the Year.



TRADITIONAL DANCE: Pembroke performers entertain during a cultural reception for the 49th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Historians (ACH). Delegates from European countries, the Americas and the Caribbean were treated to an evening of diverse cultural performances. The event took place at the Pembroke Heritage Park.

PROPERTY TAX SUPPORT FOR TOBAGO

Tobagonians who need assistance with completion and processing of their Property Tax forms will have support at three centres until Monday (May 22).

Assistance is being provided at the Board of Inland Revenue in Scarborough,

while centres opened today (May 18) at the Betsy's Hope/Louis D'or Multipurpose Facility and the Parlatuvier Community Centre for residents closest to these areas. This service will also be provided tomorrow (May 18) and Monday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to ensure

Tobagonians are in compliance with Property Tax regulations.

Accommodation has been made for staff from the Valuations Division of the Ministry of Finance at these locations, who will guide Tobago residents through the process.