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Heritage House Storytelling Series Tours Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park



Children and parents in one of the rooms viewing the wonderful exhibits at Brimstone Hill!

This Summer at the St. Christopher National Trust and Museum, it was all about discovering how telling stories of our heritage could impact the lives of our young children who were delighted to take a trip to the Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park.

On Saturday 17th August, 2019, parents and children, along with four staff members of the National Trust hopped onto the bus of Grey's Tours around 9:45 am for a historical adventure.

Mr. Thenford Grey took them on a journey to discover the Western side of St. Kitts, leading up to Brimstone Hill. It was a very exciting and informative tour, with the children posing questions and taking note of different interesting sites along the island's Main Road, such as former estates and old sugar mills that enthralled the young 'tourists'.

At Brimstone Hill, they watched a brief film about the history of the Fortress and climbed up the steps to the higher level court where they enjoyed an educational tour by Mr. Assif Woodley, the Museum Attendant.

They had loads of fun on this tour! Their enthusiasm reflects the motto of the St. Christopher National Trust, that it doesn't matter the age nor the nationality, "Our heritage belongs to all of us!". The team at the Trust says a big thank you to the staff at the Brimstone Hill Fortress, Mr. Thenford Grey, our two major sponsors KOSCAB/Dasani Water and Harpers Office Depot and of course the parents and children for making it great.

Photos of Heritage House Story Telling Tour of Brimstone Hill



We're lining up and ...



getting on the bus...



onwards to Brimstone Hill!



On the Island's Main Road



finally at Brimstone Hill ...



watching a documentary



Climbing the steps...



having fun at the top!



posing for a picture

This tour of Brimstone Hill Fortress & National Park was Fantastic!

3rd Annual Heritage House Storytelling Series Ends with a Musical Story Telling Presentation

The 3rd Annual Heritage House Story Telling Series sponsored in part by KOSCAB/Dasani Water and Harper's Office Depot came to an exciting end on August 31st with a musical



Children standing and singing to the tune of Papa George

story telling presentation from Creighton 'Papa George' Pencheon.

"Dead, dead, me nuh dead", "Bopsicaisico Peanut shell", "Mosquito 1, mosquito2, mosquito jump in de ol' man shoe"... these were some of the jingles which he taught the children (and adults) while exciting their West Indian interest with some Anansi stories and the history of the existence of mongooses on our island.

Creighton Pencheon was one of our seventh story tellers during this year's series.

Each week featured a



Miss Heidi interacting with the Children

different guest reader who shared stories either set in St. Kitts or tales of a Caribbean/Heritage nature.

It began on July 13th with our first story teller 'Miss Heidi' Fagerberg presenting one of her original stories 'Sweet Victory'.

Other readers in July were Mrs. Carleen Henry-Morton **Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism** reading *Crabs and Crab Catching* from the Nelson's New West Indian Reader Book 2; and



Hon. Vance Amory reading to the Children

Ms. Clarisa Langley-Stevens from NEMA who read 'Tata the Big Bad Bull' by Juleus Gunta.

Former Premier and Senior Minister of Labour and Social Security, et al Hon. Vance Amory joined the story tellers this year reading "Trouble Made the Monkey Eat Pepper" by Nelson's West Indian Reader Book 3. Minister Amory kept the children delightfully enthralled during his presentation.

"This opportunity to present to the children brought out the teacher in me" says Minister Amory who stated how delightful it was to sit and interact with the Children whom he said were unbashful with their questions and comments.

Mr. Loughlin Tatem a renowned Playwright, made his feature presentation with a story entitled "Shh".

Ms. Meceala Jeffers, who filled in for story teller Jihan Williams, made a dynamic contribution with her story

"The Three Wishes".

In addition to the stories, this year the children enjoyed a heritage tour of Brimstone Hill, a new feature that was added along with Poetry and drumming during and after the presentations.

It was indeed a great two months of summer at the National Museum and we would like to thank all of our sponsors, readers and participants for making Heritage House 2019 educationally exciting.

Heritage House Story Telling Series in Photos



Ms. Mecaela Jeffers (above) s making her contribution to our storytelling series here with her story about “The Three Wishes”.



Miss Clarisa Langley-Stevens reading to the Children “Tata and the Big Bad Bull”



Loughlin Tatem present his story “Shh”



Mrs. Carleen Henry-Morton presenting “Crabs and Crab Catching”



Poetry Corner activities after story telling with staff from the National Trust and Museum

National Trust Hosts Annual General Meeting



Members of the Board: (l to r) Percival Hanley, Brimstone Hill Society, Livingstone Huggins, Alfonso O'Garro, Schneidman Warner, Albert Edwards, Ryllis Percival, ED and Troy Mills, Min. of Culture

On Thursday 5th September 2019 the St. Christopher National Trust held its Annual General Meeting in the film room of the National Museum. A slate of candidates from the membership was elected to serve for one year with the exception of Schneidman Warner the president who is currently on his third year of his second and final term.

Following elections, the following persons now constitute the elected members of the Board of Directors: Mr. Schneidman Warner, President; Mr. Alfonso O'Garro, Vice President; Ms. Deniece Alleyne, Hon. Secretary; Mr. Albert Edwards, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Livingstone Huggins, Member.



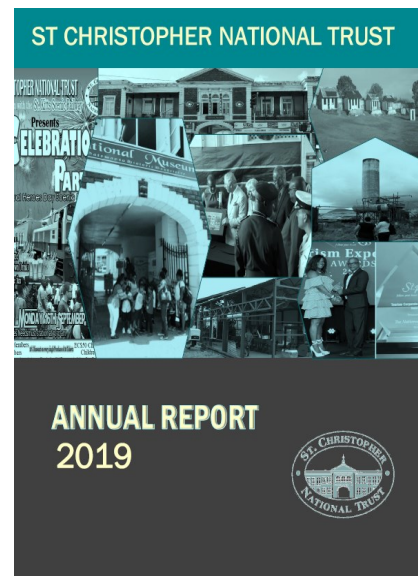
Members of the head table: (l to r) Deniece Alleyne, Hon Secretary; Schneidman Warner, President; Ryllis Percival, Executive Director and Alfonso O'Garro, Vice President

The full Board of Directors will be completed once the following positions have been confirmed: two members who are appointed by the Executive Committee, Representatives from the four government ministries and our two corporate partners - Brimstone Hill Society and the St. Kitts and Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Executive Director, Ryllis Percival introduced the members of the Board to the Membership following the election process. Each member will serve for one year from September 2019 to August 2020.

Prior to the elections, Members approved the Audited Financial Statements for the years ended December 31st 2016 and December 31st, 2017. President Warner also presented the Board's Report for the Period August 2017 to August 2019 along with the Treasurer's Report.

A limited number of copies of the Annual Report are available for members at the office. Office opens Monday to Thursday 9 am to 5 pm and Fridays 9am to 4 pm.



Meet the Artist!

In this edition, our focus will be on author, Ms. Heidi Fagerberg!

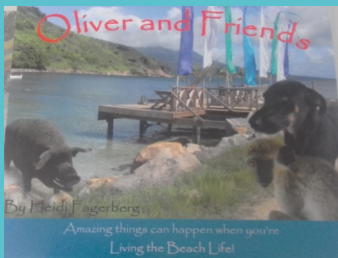
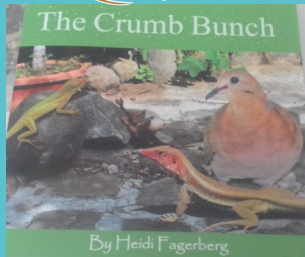


“Miss Heidi” Fagerberg is a warm and friendly, creative writer of children’s books. She obtained degrees in Early Childhood Development, Education and Human Services. Born in Irvington, New York, she has since lived in Delaware, U.S.A, in Costa Rica, and now has her home in St. Kitts.

She is dedicated to caring for and educating the young and old alike. Her experience, ideas and educational background help her create books that are for children and parents to read at home, influenced by the school’s curriculum.

Inspired by the beautiful island she lives on, the animals she loves and the children she meets, she continues to pen new stories and create activities for her books. Some of these titles can be found in local books stores and at the National Museum Gift Shop.

We say thank you to Miss Heidi for being one of our presenters at this year’s Heritage House Story Telling Series.

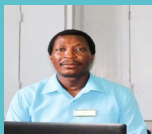


Meet the Members of Staff

There are always good things happening at the Trust and when it comes to staff, some good changes have been made there as well. Meet the team...



Claudia Harley, Museum Manager
 Museummanager@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Claudia joined the team in May 2019 as the Officer Manager. She was promoted to the post of Museum Manager in September 2019.



Derick 'Zeke' Boone
 Projects & Sites Manager
 boone@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Boone joined the team in February 2018.



Neidai Franklin
 Documentalist Assistant
 doccenter@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Neidai joined the team in September 2012.



Shanorya Walwyn, Receptionist
 schs@sisterisles.kn
 Shanorya joined the team in September 2019 as Receptionist/Office Assistant.



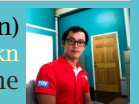
Desiree Tyson, Office Manager
 admin@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Des joined the team in November 2017 as our Gift Shop Supervisor. She was promoted to Office Manager in September 2019.



Melinda Lawrence, Museum Assistant
 museum@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Melinda has been part of the team since January 2010. She worked as Documentalist Assistant before being transferred to the Museum in February 2019.



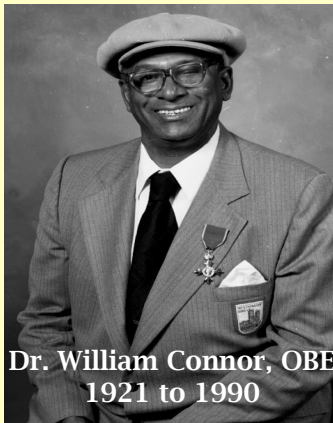
Tavika Hendricks, Gift Shop Supervisor
 giftshop@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Tavika joined the team in October 2018 after interning with us during her 2nd year of college. She was our Communications Coordinator before being promoted to Gifts Shop Supervisor in September 2019.



Tsui Han, Communications Coordinator (Intern)
 marketing@stchristophernationaltrust.kn
 Han is an intern from Taiwan who joined the Team in May 2019 through the ICDF program.

Join us in congratulating Claudia, Desiree and Tavika on the promotion to their new post.

Our Next National Hero?



Dr. William Connor, OBE
1921 to 1990

In an era of reverse colonisation when Caribbean people were 'colonising' the domain of the colonisers, Pastor Connor could have left his native land and taken on the nationality of some distant country as many did during the 1950's and 60's; the emerging post-colonisation period in the Caribbean and the period immediately after World War II. Instead, he remained at home and established a Sunday school for what he described as "underprivileged, unwanted, despised, neglected and down trodden children of the village" where he was raised. This Sunday School would gain a solid footing and evolve giving birth to the Baptist Movement in the Federation and a beacon known as the Antioch Baptist Church, first established Baptist Church in the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis.

On Monday, 04 March, 1963, twenty-one Converts along with Bro Connor decided that they were ready for the waters of baptism. The following day, Tuesday 5th March, at 5:00 a.m. , the Converts were baptised at ,Lime Kiln Beach. Despite adversity in the providence of God on that same day - 05 March 1963, Bro. Connor along with the converts came together with the assistance of Pastor Thompson and others of St. Thomas and started the Antioch Baptist Church of St. Kitts.

On Sunday 26 May, 1963, the first communion service was held. Twenty-four believers shared in the Lord's Supper at the unity Friendly Society Hall, locally called "the Black and White Hall".

In the year following its formation, driven by a missionary spirit and upon the invitation of



Ms. Marjorie Weeks, the Antioch Baptist Church started a new mission station in Lodge Village which has evolved into the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

In 1965 a mission was established in the holy ghost fire that had consumed St. Johnston Village and the surrounding areas was now spreading around the island. This time in the western direction. Information out of the village of St. Paul's had indicated

that a group of young men wearing black shirts and bearing the name 'Black Shirt Gang' was terrorising St. Paul's and organized into the Calvary Baptist Church in 1975.

For over a quarter of a century, Pastor William Connor dedicated his life to changing the landscape of the Federation while impacting many lives through the preaching and teaching of the word of God. As the Federation celebrates another National Hero's Day let us consider this dynamic, visionary, trailblazer, Rev. Dr. William Connor as one of the champions of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis.

(Information retrieved from www.antiochbaptistskn.org)



From our National Register of Heritage Places



Fountain in the Square

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE

Independence Square formerly Pall Mall Square, was renamed on September 19th 1983 to commemorate the birth of the new nation of St. Christopher and Nevis. It is located on the eastern side of Basseterre bordering Newtown. Its layout is designed to look like a Union Jack and the streets and houses surrounding it once date to the mid-eighteenth century. Unfortunately, time and environmental damage have destroyed many of them.

The Square started its life as a pasture on the edge of town. A map by Peter Bour, a French Surveyor whom the British employed when the French lands were being sold, shows a pasture just east of Fort Street with houses only on its western side.

In 1750, a law was passed to build a court house in the Square and concerns were raised about some individuals who had started to encroach on it from the North, East and South sides of the pasture. The administration in St. Kitts felt it had every right to use it because of Mathew's declaration but Gilbert Fleming, his fellow Commissioner and by then the head of Government objected. He reminded the Council and Assembly that all the French lands were deemed to be the private property of the King. He insisted that the Island Administration should either buy the land from His Majesty or ask his permission to build on it. Fleming even offered to pay for the land and donate it to the Administration which then objected that such a move would create obligations on its part. Despite this, Fleming went ahead and bought the land and when the Administration refused to deal with him, he sold it to Alexander Home in 1753 but then quickly bought it back in 1755.



Arial View of the Square

Negotiations with the Council and Fleming to purchase the pasture and what it would be used for were concluded in 1758 when Fleming accepted the Council's offer of £1500 Sterling for the land. In 1792 the Government acquired a property called Tontine located on the South Eastern Side of the Square which soon became the administrative building housing the offices of the Registrar, the Secretary, the Courts, the Assembly and the Council. An Auction house was also located in one of the buildings around the square but its exact location remains to be discovered.

The Author of the West India Sketchbook talks of a slave market in the Square where slaves went to sell the produce they grew or things they made. It was a gathering place where slaves actually met to interact with each other, something they looked forward to so much that missionaries had a hard time calling them to church on Sunday which then was market day.

From time to time the square became a parade ground where the militia went through its drills.

In 1855 the Council decided to bring pipe-borne water from Olivees into Basseterre and a location on the land was identified for this project. The Sum of £50 was made available to the Commissioners for this project. When the project was completed, a stone fountain was built in the center of the square to commemorate this significant development.

In the 1880's the gardener for the Square was Abraham Brookes. Visitor's descriptions of it showed that it was flourishing into an attractive space that included some horticultural wonders. By this time the Square was lit at night by kerosene lamps but these were replaced soon after electricity was introduced in 1928.

In 1953 L. R. Volonterio, Superintendent of Public Works did much to improve the look of the Square. The paths were embedded with concrete and surfaced with slabs. The small flower beds and short gravel walks which formerly encircled the fountain were replaced by larger beds intersected by paved walks designed by Volonterio himself.

Today the Square is the venue for many one-day cultural events.

From our Biodiversity World

The Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys Coriacea*)



Shell of a Leatherback Sea Turtle preserved in the National Museum

Leatherback sea turtles are listed as vulnerable. They represent the largest extant reptile, with the largest animal recorded measuring 305 cm in total length and weighing 916 kg. They have the widest range of sea turtles and are highly migratory, with some animals traveling over 10,000 miles per year.

Female leatherbacks reach sexual maturity around 15 years of age and nest every 2 to 3 years. These turtles can lay between 5 and 12 nests in a reproductive year, with an average of 80 eggs per nest. Leatherbacks are unique in that they lay smaller infertile eggs atop the larger fertilized eggs before covering the nest.

The leatherback nesting season on St. Kitts runs from February through July, with hatchlings emerging through the end of September and beginning of October. Leatherbacks prefer the Atlantic side of the island for nesting, with Keys and North

Friars being the highest density nesting beaches on the island. Nesting does occur on the Caribbean side of the island, although not as frequently.

This leatherback sea turtle shell is a beautiful artifact which has been well preserved for future generations to appreciate here at our National Museum.

A Special Visit from “The Future Leaders Camp” of Central Basseterre!



On August 22nd 2019, some special young guests from the “Future Leaders Camp” of Central Basseterre in St. Kitts, visited our National Museum. This is obviously an example of how learning can be fun and we are so proud to have been a part of their educational and cultural development.

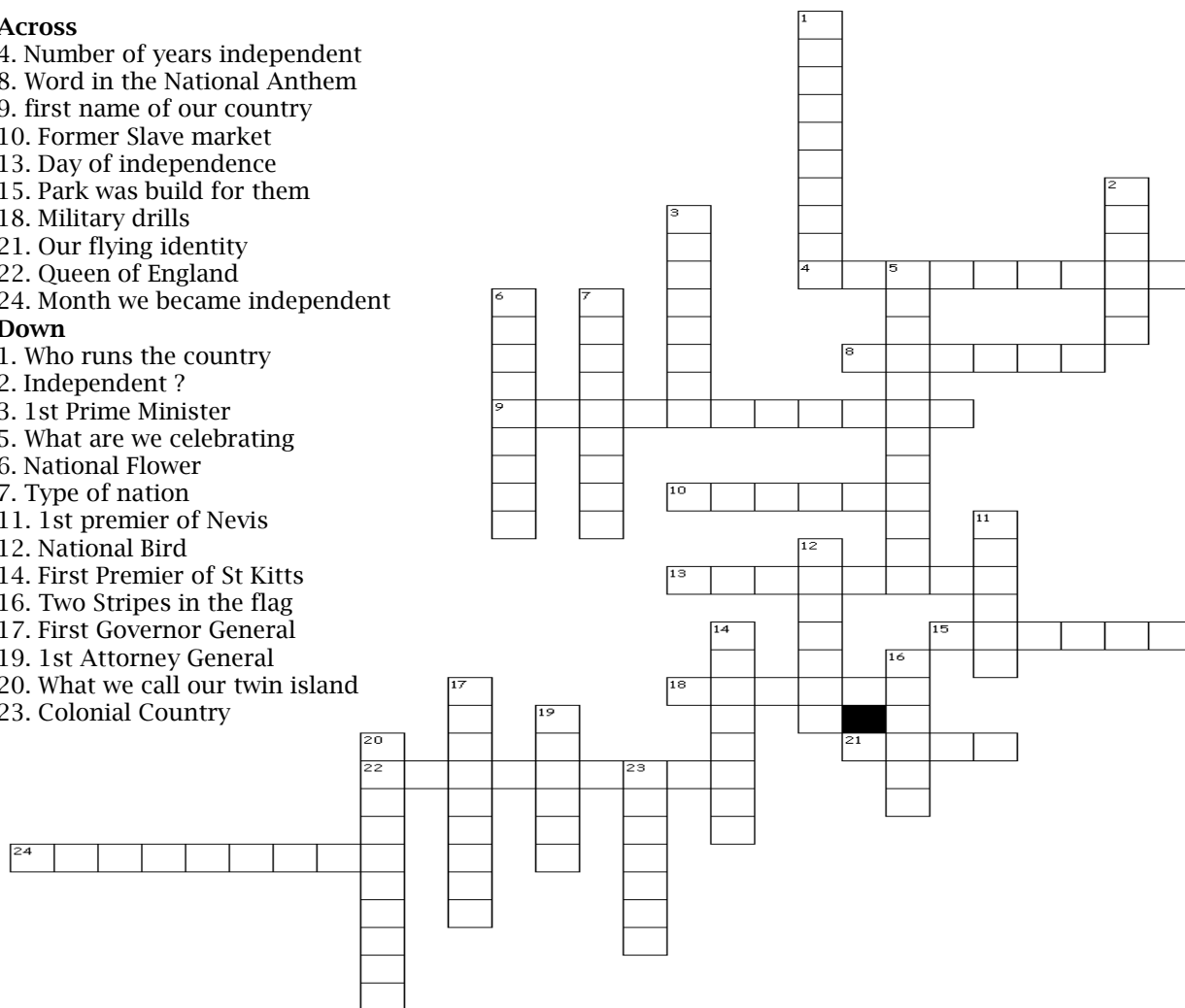
Heritage Matters Puzzle - Theme: Independence

Across

- 4. Number of years independent
- 8. Word in the National Anthem
- 9. first name of our country
- 10. Former Slave market
- 13. Day of independence
- 15. Park was build for them
- 18. Military drills
- 21. Our flying identity
- 22. Queen of England
- 24. Month we became independent

Down

- 1. Who runs the country
- 2. Independent ?
- 3. 1st Prime Minister
- 5. What are we celebrating
- 6. National Flower
- 7. Type of nation
- 11. 1st premier of Nevis
- 12. National Bird
- 14. First Premier of St Kitts
- 16. Two Stripes in the flag
- 17. First Governor General
- 19. 1st Attorney General
- 20. What we call our twin island
- 23. Colonial Country



Keep Up to Date On Our Social Media Platforms

Our social media platforms have been doing great over the past months. With increased views, likes and shares, our social media accounts are used daily to update our members and the public on information via articles, pictures and videos.

Visit us on



St. Christopher National Trust and Museum



www.stchristophernationaltrust.kn



sknationaltrust



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Independence Reflections



On Monday 19th September 1983, St. Kitts and Nevis attained independence from Great Britain to become the newest independent nation.

As we reflect on that historic moment, we highlight the first set of Nationals who were the recipients of an Independence Award.

(Excerpt from the Democrat Newspaper: Saturday September 24th 1983)

The government of St. Christopher and Nevis approved Independence Awards for the following ninety-six (96) Nationals for dedicated and outstanding service:

EDUCATION

Miss Martha Delaney, Mr. Cecil Edwards, Mrs. Mary Charles-George, Miss Rosina Pole, Mrs. Zenaida Katzen, Mrs. Alma Procopé, Miss Inez Morton, Miss Maude Croose, Mrs. Rosalie Andre, Rev. Fr. John Cole, Mr. Harold Farrell, Mr. James Kelly

MUSIC

Miss Pamela Wall, Mrs. Doris Wall, Mrs. Lorna Richards, Messrs. Elston Nero (Ellie Matt), Edgar Bridgewater

CULTURE

Messrs. Lloyd Matheson, Edgar Challenger, Cromwel Bowry, Winston 'Zak' Nisbett, Spencer Byron, Miss Irma Johnson

SPORTS

Elquemedo Willet, Livingstone Sargeant, Mrs. Janet Grell-Hull,

Mrs. Dora Stevens, Vance Amory, Edmund Arthurton, David Parry, George, Mc.Mahon, Calvin Wilkin, Austin Eddy, Victor Eddy, Edgar Gilbert, Leonard Harris, Leroy Coury, Stanley Thompson, Alphonso Bridgewater, Clifford Heyliger, Miss Rosemary Mc. Master, Mrs. Jillian Archibald, Mrs. Hilary Lewis, Miss Pamella Tyson

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Dr. H. E. Kelsick, Dr. D. E. W. Boyd, Dr. A. W. Lake, Miss Myrtle Woods, Miss Brontie Welsh, Mrs. Maureen Uddenburgh, Messrs. Peter Saunders, Ivan Buchanan, Cecil Roberts, James Woods, Howard Byron,



Mrs. Marion Trott, Mrs. Cassandra Parris-Roberts, Messrs. Bernard Clarke,

Edward Roper, Mrs. Lilibell Taylor

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. W. V. Herbert, Messrs. Ira Walwyn, Herbert S. Hanley, John Lynch-Wade Sr., John Reynolds, S. H. Best, C. F. Henville, Miss Rovita Butler, Miss Blondina Powell

ART

Miss Eva Wilkin

AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Miss Dorothy Emery, Messrs Emmanuel Gonsalves, Ashton Amory, Stanley Procopé, Colin Pereira, John Mallalieu, Allan Dickenson, Vincent Hardtman, Henry Francis, Cyril Sage, Hezekia Francis, Normal Queeley, George Morton, John Smith, Thomas Christmas, Joseph Estridge, Ernest Mills, David Basse, Samuel Hunkins, James Brookes, Dr. R. Walwyn.

Thirty (30) years later September 17, 2013, 30 nationals received Independence Awards in the various categories:

HEALTH

Ms Launette Adams (Administration), Ms Cathalina Paulius (Nurse), Mrs Margaret O'Brien-France (Nurse), and Dr Laughton Richardson

SPORTS

Mr. James 'Barman' Hanley, Mr. Alphonso Bridgewater, Mr. Elvis 'Pepe' Isaac and Nevisian Mr. Stuart Williams

INDUSTRY & COMMERCE

Nevisian Mr. Arthur Evelyn, Mr. Colin Mallalieu Mrs. Claire Mallalieu-Rawson, Mr. Ian Slack, Mrs. Patricia Bartlette, Mr. Kenneth Samuel and Mr. Richard Lupinacci

EDUCATION

Mr. Oswald Elliott, Mrs. Yvonne Mulley-Walters, Nevisian Mr. Pearlievan Wilkin, Ms. Carmen Ward, and Mr. John Charles

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Charles Stephens, Nevisian Mr. Augustine Merchant, Mr. Luther Clarke, Mrs. Louise Brudy, Mr. Blyden Brudy, and Mr. Keithley Armstrong

ARTS AND CULTURE

Mr. Halstead 'Sooty' Byron, Mr. Valentine Martin, Mr. Lionel Gumbs, and Mrs. Joan Mallalieu Mr. Ian Hodge and Rev. Canon Dr. Alston Percival

Annual Heritage Appeal Continues Our 2019 Goal is EC \$200,000

The St. Christopher National Trust launched its Annual Heritage Fundraising Appeal in January 2019 as a means of raising much-needed funds towards the work of the organization. This year, our goal is to raise EC \$200,000.

With your generous contribution to our Appeal, you will make it possible for the Trust to achieve its Mission which is **“To preserve and promote the natural, cultural and historical landscape of St. Kitts, and to build interest and stimulate minds through the development and preservation of our heritage, while educating our people to transform communities.”**

Your donation will allow the Trust to function at its optimal level. It will also ensure that the organization continues to protect and preserve our built heritage and to restore many of our monuments to their original beauty, while creating opportunities for re-use of the spaces that will bring economic benefits to our citizens and residents.

When you partner with the St. Christopher National Trust, you will not only be contributing to the work of the Trust, but you will also be investing in the future of St. Kitts by enhancing our tourism product to be more focused on our history and heritage.

**Our success depends on YOU!
Your gift can change the future!**

Yes! I want to contribute to the St. Christopher National Trust Annual Heritage Fundraising Appeal.
My contribution is shown below.

_____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$1000 _____ \$1500 _____ \$2,500 _____ \$5,000 _____ \$10,000

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

PLEASE DETACH THIS FORM AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR GIFT TO
St. Christopher National Trust, P O Box 888, Bay Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts
Or Call: (869) 465-5584/662-5548 Email: admin@stchristophernationaltrust.kn



ST. CHRISTOPHER NATIONAL TRUST

P.O. Box 888, Bay Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts

Tel/Fax (869) 465-5584

admin@stchristophernationaltrust.kn

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