

# OWNERS' NEWS

MAY 2018

*The Sands*  
AT GRACE BAY

THESANDSTC.COM

## Grace Bay Once Again Named World's No. 1 Beach!

**W**ith soft sparkling sand and crystal clear waters, beautiful Grace Bay Beach just received top recognition.

TripAdvisor once again named Grace Bay as the No. 1 Beach in the World. This award recognizes the very best in travel, based on the unbiased reviews from TripAdvisor users.

Whether you're seeking family fun or a romantic getaway, picturesque Grace Bay offers the opportunity to enjoy the greatest gift of all — treasured time together. And, despite Grace Bay's international acclaim, it always feels like an uncrowded paradise. We look forward to welcoming you soon to experience our tranquil setting on the World's No. 1 Beach!



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**2018 AGM MEETING: THURSDAY, JUNE 14TH AT 8:30 AM IN THE HOSPITALITY LOUNGE**

## Christmas Festive Season

**a**s we are already receiving a large number of inquiries at The Sands, we need to know as soon as possible if you *THINK* you might be using your unit for Christmas. Per your agreement, you do have until June 1st to officially let us know, but we wanted you to be aware that guests are already booking for the season and we don't want to miss any opportunities.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Resort News



Strata News



Island News

## From The General Manager

The past seven months have been a test of the true nature and strength of The Sands Team in restoring The Sands resort back to its beautiful luster. We went through a lot of ups and downs with the devastation caused by Hurricane Irma. Our team held strong together after both Hurricanes Irma and Maria getting everything back to pristine conditions. Through the resilience and amazing work of our entire team with the support of The Hartling Group, the resort opened three weeks after Hurricane Irma.



One of the best days in my career was when we welcomed our first returning guests to The Sands Resort. However, the delight of reopening was overshadowed by all the recovery work that still needed to be done on the island. Additionally, despite a strong public relations push, tourists were not coming to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

We worked very hard to restore the resort back to its full luster in preparations for a busy Festive season, however despite all our best efforts our Festive season was not as busy as we usually enjoy. We were very concerned about the winter season. In the New Year, our January was moderate, but Mother Nature came to our aid and provided the boost we needed with a severe winter up north driving everyone down to the sunny and warm islands.

We are still working to complete the projects (i.e. roof membranes) of last year and have smaller projects this year in our never ending efforts to enhance the guest experience and the entire property.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM.

Thank you for believing in us, and we look forward to seeing you at The Sands for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Mona Beeson



## The Sands' 20th Anniversary Celebration

As many of you know, the Sands is turning the big 2-0 this year and we are very excited to announce that we will be having an event named "Don't Stop the Carnival" to celebrate this auspicious occasion on Saturday, December 15th! Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you will be able to attend. A "Save the Date" notice will be sent out shortly and more details will be provided in the coming months.



## Ms. Shirley Musgrove Awarded

On Thursday, March 8th, Ms. Shirley was awarded the Longest Serving Private Sector Employee for the Turks and Caicos Islands! This award was presented to Ms. Shirley by the Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration & Border Control, the Honorable Sean Astwood! Please be sure to congratulate Ms. Shirley when you next see her!

Welcome to New Members of our Stellar Staff



**Lovely Julian**

Housekeeping Supervisor / Hired February 2, 2018



**Mark Wilkinson**

Maintenance Manager / Hired August 28, 2018



**Glenda Jones**

Accounts Receivable / Hired October 2, 2017



**Ariella Castillo**

Accounts Payable / Hired December 1, 2016



## From the Strata Board Chairman

*g*reetings all,

I'd like to begin by thanking The Sands and The Hartling Group teams for their extraordinary efforts in getting our resort up and running so quickly after being hit by a Category 5 hurricane. Also our financial group has worked tirelessly with our insurance company to cover as much of our insured losses as possible. My appreciation to you all for a job well done!

Our signature beach palapas which were destroyed by the storm have finally all been replaced. We have also added more pool and beach umbrellas which are always in high demand. Additional pool and beach staff have been added to meet the increasing needs of our guests and owners. We have hired a full time security guard to provide us with the needed presence around our pools and the beach. Beach vendors were becoming a problem and hopefully you will notice this activity has been minimized.

Starting May 5th we began the large project of the replacement of the roof membranes and tiles that were damaged by the hurricane. This project should run through mid August. In addition, most of the gutters that were destroyed have all been replaced. The landscaping crew continues to do an amazing job and our grounds have never looked better.

New lighting on all the buildings, pools, and grounds were installed and have added to the look and security of our property. A new chlorination and water treatment system has been installed for our pools. I think you will find the pool water is consistently clearer and cleaner than in previous years.

We have had a challenging year, but I believe we have accomplished a lot. Hopefully many of you will be at our June AGM. I look forward to seeing you there where we will provide you with additional information.

Please let us know what you think of our new newsletter format?  
Cheers!



Miles Hamm  
Strata Board Chairman



SUI-REN at The Shore Club

Parallel23 at The Palms



## Owner Discount Cards



**W**e are pleased to announce the official launch of the Owner Appreciation Program! Each owner will receive an Owner Appreciation Card which entitles you to 20% discount on Spa Services and Retail Shops, 10% discount on Food and Beverages at The Palms and The Shore Club! Additionally, you may also use your Appreciation Card at the following local restaurants – The Vix, Garam Masala, Chopsticks and Solana and receive a 10% discount there as well!

## Annual General Meeting Thursday, June 14th, 2018

**T**he Sands at Grace Bay's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 14th, 2018 at 8:30 AM in the Hospitality Lounge. We encourage you to attend if possible. We will be having dial-in capabilities for those who are interested in participating in the meeting but are unable to attend. More information to follow shortly.

## Procedure for A/C and Lights for Owners Upon Arrival

**F**or those of you new to the Sands, please note that we have a procedure where the air conditioning system and lights will be off upon your arrival to conserve energy, thus reducing costs. If you wish to have yours on upon your arrival, please let Joan Hagan know. The resort standard for air conditioning is that when units are not in use, the temperature will be set at 78 degrees.

## Owner Parking

**W**e realize that many of you have personal vehicles that you leave here on the island when not in residence at the Sands. As you can imagine, we have very limited parking space at the resort and per the Strata Corporation #25 By-Laws, we must ask you that when not in residence, you either find an alternate location for your vehicle or ask us to relocate it to our parking area at the Corporate Area which is located in the Village at Grace Bay. Please note that we are not responsible for any loss or damage to the vehicle.





## U.S. News & World Report Ranks The Sands a Top Resort

On the island of Providenciales, The Sands at Grace Bay stands as a tropical haven flanked by 12 miles of Grace Bay's white sand. The Sands' 114 air conditioned suites are decorated in beige and blue, and each contains separate sleeping and living areas, along with a kitchenette and a furnished balcony. Couples and families alike can bask along the wooden deck of The Sands' free-form pool or go paddle boarding in the ocean. Meanwhile, scuba divers and snorkelers can explore the nearby barrier reef, which teems with sea turtles, eagle rays and even the odd shark or humpback whale. When salt, sun and sand have worn you out, grab a bite to eat at Hemingway's, which serves up everything from huevos rancheros in the morning to filet mignon at night. Guests rave about the restaurant's fare, but some recent guests do warn about the lack of variety on the menu for those staying on long vacations.

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### Grace Bay Beach Featured in USA Today Online

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### The 18 Best Islands to Visit in the Caribbean in 2018

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### The Best Honeymoon Destinations in the Caribbean

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## Daylight Saving Time Returned March 2018



**T**HE REINSTATEMENT of daylight saving time (DST) returns the Turks and Caicos Islands to the same schedule as most of the eastern United States and Canada.

Effective from Sunday, March 11, 2018, the TCI adjusted time one hour forward until the autumn when it falls back.

The change was announced by the Government after having conducted what they termed “extensive consultations” across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

On July 19, 2017 following these consultations, which took place online, cabinet took a decision to reintroduce the seasonal time change in the Islands.

Daylight saving time is observed during the summer months and standard time, otherwise known as local time during the winter months.

The move comes three years after the PNP government took a decision in 2014 to not observe DST as of March 8, 2015.

At that time, it was reported that the change to permanent DST would give guests and residents later sunsets for tourism related activities during the winter months.

Minister of Home Affairs Vaden Williams said that the return to DST was due to complaints from parents.

*“This is something that residents and visitors alike in the community have been asking for...”*

*“Children go to school and their parents are concerned about their children being out early in the morning and it being too dark.”*

*“I welcome it (the reinstatement of DST) and I believe that the community will welcome it also.”*



Source Turks and Caicos Weekly News, August 28, 2017