BEYOND THE PIPELINE

A Newsletter for Our Pipeline Communities

Young artistes showcase NGC Sanfest



What's Inside

Children participating at The National Junior Arts Festival (NGC SANFEST) 2016









TASSA

NGC RIGHT ON TRACK

CRICKET

SAFETY





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THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

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TTCB Grassroots Development Programme Fun Day 2016

Established in August 1975, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) plays a key role in the development of Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas-based energy sector.

As an investment graded company with an asset base of approximately US\$6 billion, which makes it one of the largest companies in the Caribbean in terms of assets, NGC purchases, sells and transports natural gas to the gas-based energy sector. Through the course of its business life, NGC has invested in more than 1,000 km of gas pipelines, on land and offshore, and industrial sites and ports. Through its subsidiaries, NGC has also established strong linkages in the upstream oil and natural gas business and downstream with industrial consumers. The latter is a customer base comprising power generation plants, petrochemical facilities, and a wide range of light manufacturing and commercial concerns, including Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

NGC's four principal subsidiaries comprise:

- Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL);
- National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (National Energy);

- NGC CNG Company Limited (NGC CNG);
- Trinidad and Tobago NGL Limited (TTNGL).

The contribution the Company makes to the national economy is substantial. Additionally, through its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes, NGC plays a key role in national development. Through our CSR portfolio many communities are impacted. Our support ranges from developing CSR programmes to partnering and supporting the initiatives of hundreds of non-governmental and community-based organisations through grants and contributions.

In this issue, you will read about how our social investments have helped an all-female tassa group, cricket, Police Youth Clubs and Track and Field to grow and thrive. Our support of festivals such as the NGC Sanfest and NGC Bocas Lit Fest is helping to preserve our heritage and encourage youth development. Do enjoy this issue.



Mr and Miss NGC Sanfest Teen Talent Competition 2016 continues to woo young artistes, showcasing the NGC Sanfest

NGC has been a longstanding sponsor of the National Junior Arts Festival, commonly known as NGC Sanfest. Now in its 46th year of existence, the festival was launched on September 18th and ran for the period September 26th to November 22nd, 2016. The theme was "Sanfest—The Divine Alternative To...". NGC Sanfest is an Arts Festival that targets children from primary and secondary schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago. Competition takes place in three divisions:

- Visual Arts
- Literary Arts
- Performing Arts (with three additional classes: public speaking, limbo dancing and social dances)

NGC Sanfest provides a forum for youth to develop artistic talents and contributes to the retention of indigenous art forms. The festival provided the early forum for performances by artistes who went on to become some of the nation's major artistes, including Machel Montano, Joanne Foster, Liam Teague, Michael Zephyrine, Faye Ali Bocas, Victoria Cooper, Megan Walrond, Sherma Andrews, Rondel Donawa and Frances Brooks.

NGC Sanfest has two (2) components, the Arts Festival and the Mr. and Miss NGC Sanfest Teen Talent Competition. The Mr. & Miss NGC Sanfest Teen Talent Competition is an integral part of the Festival. This part of the competition is open to male and female students between the ages of 13 and 19 who are registered students of secondary schools within Trinidad and Tobago. It showcases performances in dance, drama or music. The 2016 Mr. and Mrs. Sanfest winners were Nazim Mohammed from Pleasantville Secondary School and Shiparah Lewis from Arima North Secondary School. Shiparah

Lewis expressed great joy at her success. She said, "I felt ecstatic when I won. From a young age, I was always dancing and my mother encouraged me to take dance classes. I learned different types of dance such as folk, modern, ballet, limbo and presently I am learning to tap dance". She further stated that, "winning has given me courage and self-confidence to achieve my goals in the future." The winner of Mr. NGC Sanfest 2015, Fidelis Lwueke said, "NGC Sanfest was a blessing, I learned a lot about myself, including skills like self-discipline. The recognition and congratulations I received increased my positive attitude". Fideles also said that many people recognised his achievement in the competition and this has further motivated him to excel in all that he does. He is currently a Form Six student and hopes to pursue a medical degree.

Mr. Debie, Principal (Acting) at the Arima North Secondary School said, "Sanfest is an excellent festival. When Ms. Lewis entered the Finals and won, we were ecstatic." He also said that at the school they believe in holistic education and when students perform well it boosts their confidence. Being able to perform, compete and express themselves at this forum helps students to develop, grow and deal with challenges and the NGC Sanfest is the perfect outlet for this.

The discipline, self-expression and self-confidence developed through the Mr. and Miss NGC Sanfest Teen Talent Competition has helped numerous former contestants in their education or careers, both within and outside the Arts. Many competitors go on to tertiary education in a variety of fields and attribute NGC Sanfest as the catalyst for their development and that of young people in Trinidad and Tobago.



Mr. NGC Sanfest, Nazim Mohammed from Pleasantville Secondary School receives his prize from Mrs. Linda Belmontes, Former Teacher at St. Gabriel's Girls' RC School and Drama Judge for NGC Sanfest







Students from various schools participating in NGC Sanfest 2016





NGC Bocas Lit Fest – impacting lives

The NGC Bocas Lit Fest brings together writers and readers from Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean, and the wider world. NGC's support of the festival has grown from being that of a major sponsor in 2011, to title sponsor since 2012. For the past four years, the NGC Bocas Lit Fest has been one of NGC's flagship investments within its Corporate Social Responsibility portfolio. Attendance at the NGC Bocas Lit Fest grew from its inaugural 2011 figure of just over 3,000 to 6,500 persons in 2015. The festival allows the country and the region to showcase their talent and creativity via literature, films, music and speech. Authors, editors and publishers gather in Trinidad for this annual event, which is increasingly attracting persons

from Latin America, the wider Caribbean and its diaspora in North America and Europe. World-renowned writers such as Earl Lovelace, Derek Walcott, Monique Roffey, Olive Senior and Irvine Welsh have all attended and participated in previous Bocas Lit Fests.

After the NGC Bocas Lit Fest is over, we see the impact of this festival resonating in the lives of people. In our sister island Tobago, a book club called 'Reading with the NGC Bocas Lit Fest' was formed in 2015. They meet once a month and sometimes have extra meetings. One of its members is Ms. Shona Yaetes from Charlotteville who is fond of reading short stories and books on personal development.

She is one of the club's earliest members and attributes her personnel success today to joining the club.

Ms. Yaetes said, "The book club has helped me with my personal development, when I have conversations with the other members, my point of view changes from negative to positive. I read stories which provide solutions for things I need help with and can empathise. Since joining the book club, I have opened an eating place where I sell sweets under the name 'Ah Tobago Sweet Flavour'." She also said that she likes to meet with the group to share personal stories so they can work out different problems together.

NGC Bocas Lit Fest has three segments during the year. The first was held in Port of Spain from Wednesday 27th April to Sunday 1st May, 2016 at the National Library and the adjoining Old Fire Station. The second part of the festival was held at the San Fernando Hill from Saturday 12th to Sunday 13th November, 2016. The final NGC Bocas Lit Fest was held in Tobago with activities at the Scarborough Library and Gulf City Mall from Monday 28th November to Saturday 3rd December, 2016. On these days, children and adults were privileged to two exciting days of free reading, drama, spoken word, storytelling, discussion, music, games, films and book signings. The festival continues to foster interest in reading and writing and also promotes and celebrates Trinidad and Tobago's, as well as the Caribbean's literary achievements.

NGC T&T Sweet Tassa Band wins silver at the World Championships of the Performing Arts (WCOPA)

The NGC T&T Sweet Tassa All-Female Band, of which NGC is a main sponsor, walked away with 12 silver medals after competing in this year's World Championships of the Performing Arts (WCOPA). NGC T&T Sweet Tassa All-Female Band is the first all-female tassa group in Trinidad and Tobago.

The WCOPA is an international talent competition held annually in Hollywood. Bronze, silver and gold medals are awarded to winners in dancing, singing, acting, modelling, instrumentals, and a variety of arts in the junior age categories (15 and under) and seniors (ages 16 and over), for solos and groups. Additionally, the famed Millennium Dance Complex in North Hollywood, California and the prestigious New York Conservatory presents a total of over US\$130,000.00 in scholarships for Dramatic Arts School of Film and Television.

Sweet Tassa contended for several titles in the instrumental category at the WCOPA held in Long Beach Performing Arts Centre on July 15th,



Members of the NGC-sponsored Trinidad and Tobago Sweet Tassa All-Female Band – Lennita Kumar, Anuradha Bahall, Lenora Kumar, and Kimberly Ramlochan.

2016, competing against 62 other instrumental groups from across the world. Each group is permitted one minute of performance time in

each segment, but that was all the ladies needed to claim their place in the competition.

Lennita Kumar, Assistant Manager of the NGC T&T Sweet Tassa All-Female band said, "Before receiving sponsorship from NGC, the band had to spend time raising funds to enter competitions and for all other expenses. Now because we have secured funding from NGC, we are able to focus more on our performances at events and in promoting the band. NGC's assistance in training such as capacity building has allowed us to improve our communication skills with internal members and also external parties."

For many years, NGC has been sponsoring organisations, which promote the Arts, education and our local heritage. As such, we support the Trinidad and Tobago Sweet Tassa Enterprises and Bao Simba Entertainers, the latter incorporating tassa with African rhythms. NGC is proud to support the All-Female Tassa Band of the Trinidad and Tobago Sweet Tassa Enterprises. Congratulations.



Young cricketers benefit from TTCB's Grassroots Development Programme

NGC is a sponsor of the Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board's (TTCB's) Grassroots Development Programme. Our support of this initiative is geared towards building the sport of cricket by exposing youths from different age groups and different areas to valuable training and coaching. The Grassroots Development programme has been a feature of TTCB's cricketing programmes since 2000. The programme groups participants into three categories - Under 12, Under 13 and Under 15 - and is co-ordinated in the respective TTCB Zones. The Under-12 Programme is run in primary schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago and is expected to bring to the forefront, several young players recommended by the primary schools within the zones.

Grassroots coaching helps to identify and develop young cricketers for the next level of training and competition. It is conducted throughout Trinidad and Tobago and includes both boys and girls. The programme utilises national and other senior coaches in order to lend a high level of experience, knowledge and integrity. The programme also benefits the coaches as they are provided with the opportunity to further develop their skills and therefore make a positive contribution to communities.

Rondell Ramsaran is a coach in the Grasssroots Development Programme. He has been coaching for the past 10 years and is a member of the South-East-South Zone Cricket Council and head coach for the South East Cricket Grassroots Development programme. Ramsaran stated that, "players are benefiting from the programme. Before the Grassroots



Students of TTCB's Grassroot Development Programme, Fun Day 2016

Programme, our zone had no players in the finals of the youth tournament." He further stated that, "After introduction of the Grassroots Development programme, our team started becoming finalists and our players were being accepted into the national teams. For instance, in the last two years we've had four boys playing in the national Under-17 team and three boys playing in the Under-19 team."

Ramsaran also said that, "the Grassroot Development Programme is positively affecting the community. This year, we had coaches such as Killian Williams, David Williams and Rajendra Dhanraj. When parents, students and members of the Cricket Zonal Council heard this, they were very excited about the programme coming in their area and training their young boys. We had a good turn out."

NGC believes that sport is an avenue for holistically developing our nation's young people. Further, sport brings communities and the nation together and NGC is proud to help make this possible. The Grassroots Development Programme surely provides the opportunity for many more young cricketers to be trained for the future.



Increased participation for NGC Right on Track





The NGC ROT Development Programme supplements the school-based physical education programme. It provides infrastructural support to clubs, in the form of jumping pits and equipment. The programme also facilitates participation of larger numbers of primary school students in regional and zonal competitions. Additionally, NGC sponsors primary school games in Caroni, South Eastern and St. Patrick Educational Districts in our commitment to developing sports, basketball and track and field.

The NGC ROT programme now includes the National Association of Athletics Administrations (NAAA) Kids Athletics (Track and Field training) and the National Basketball Federation of Trinidad and Tobago (NBFTT) Mini to Masters Basketball programme components as feeders for the younger age groups. These partnerships have allowed the NGC ROT team to complete and record assessments and evaluations with a path to continuity.

Today, when the caravan goes to a community, coaches conduct track and field and basketball



training. Energetic youngsters are exposed to an enjoyable day of focused development. Communities in proximity to NGC's facilities, such as Couva, Moruga and Point Fortin have been the first beneficiaries. The caravan moves into the various counties quarterly. The programme was further expanded and is now open to institutions including the St. Mary's Home, St. Jude's, St. Dominic's, St. Michael's Home for Boys and the Youth Training Camp (YTC) whose gymnasium was restored by NGC and is now a multipurpose hall, allowing the institution to be very active in the Schools' Basketball League.

NGC ROT Coach, Clayton Williams said that "the programme seeks to target the young participants with the greatest potential to become talented athletes". The young athletes are trained, developed, and placed in clubs, or assigned a coach to work with them in their area. If there is no coach in the area, through the NGC ROT programme, a coach will be brought into the area with assistance given to start a club so there will be something ongoing for the athletes. A couple of clubs have started in Mayaro, Guayaguayare and Fyzabad. Coach Williams also stated there is a mandate now to "track athletes". It begins with placing athletes in clubs, NGC ROT would then liaise with the clubs and review the athlete's performance.

Alicia Busby Reyes, another NGC ROT Coach, said, "I started the NGC ROT programme in Tobago in the area of Track and Field. I was part of four circuits and I went on to be part of the in-house camp at UWI". She added that, "From NGC ROT I went on to compete regionally and internationally, and later to become an NAAA coach specialising in throws. NGC ROT has always been an open affair and the communities look forward to sending their children to participate".

Since 1999, NGC Right on Track has recorded 15,199 participants. It has formed or restored seven clubs; trained 88 coaches and made its mark in 105 communities and eight institutions. NGC is committed to the collaboration to bring coaches to communities, and communities to the programme.





NGC supports Couva Anglican Primary School's Literacy Intervention Programme

Every year, NGC allocates a part of its social responsibility budget to contributions. All requests for contributions are considered and undergo a rigorous screening process to evaluate and select recipients. The process takes into account factors such as project sustainability, opportunity for employee involvement, level of risk to NGC and level of positive impact on society. One of the contributions which NGC felt was a good way to give back to society, was towards a proposal for a literacy intervention programme at the Couva Anglican Primary School.

NGC agreed to support the programme and partnered with the Couva Anglican Primary School through Marilyn's Adult Literacy Coaching to initiate Phase I of the school's Literacy Intervention Programme. The main aim of the programme is to introduce students

to reading and writing strategies through the teaching of: Phonics, Sight Words, Word Structure, Vocabulary and Comprehension. Phase I of the programme resulted in 13 students benefiting from 90 hours of literacy instruction.

NGC deepened its commitment by sponsoring Phase II of the Literacy Intervention Programme, which ran from April – December, 2016. The school's officials selected 24 students from second year and standard one classes to participate in this phase of the programme.

Twenty-four students were assessed using the Ministry of Education's Informal Reading Assessment tool along with a basic form-filling exercise and phonological awareness subtests (adapted from the Dyslexia Association) to determine their reading level. Sixteen students were assessed at the frustration level, which meant that they were unable to read basic sight words and had difficulty with identifying vowel sounds in words. The remaining eight students were assessed at the instructional level, meaning that they were able to identify some sight words, single vowels and consonant sounds

Phase II of the programme aimed to teach those at the Frustration Level the basics of handwriting and the alphabet with a simplified phonic programme, while those at the instructional level were taught additional reading skills like syllabication (how to divide words into syllables), context clues, sight words and comprehension.

Principal of the Couva Anglican Primary School, Peter Padmore, said he is seeing the benefits of the programme. Teachers have indicated that students who were recommended to attend the literacy programme are now more fluent in their reading and are performing better in other areas of their schoolwork.

Mr. Padmore also said that parents are happy. He indicated that more parents have been attending meetings because they are seeing improvements in their children and want to support the programme. He remarked that one student, who completed Phase I of the programme, now assists other children to read on afternoons during the school's homework session held at the school on evenings.

Poor literacy skills have led to students becoming alienated from school and developing behaviours that do not facilitate proper learning. It is anticipated that through NGC's sponsorship of Phase II of the programme, the students would learn coping mechanisms and address other problems, thus initiating the process of learning and rebuilding of the students' lowered self-esteem.

Couva Police Youth Club participates in Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition



The drumology class of the NGC-sponsored Couva Police Youth Club (PYC) participated in the Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition in 2016. It was held at the Queen's Park Savannah on 8th September, 2016. The PYC competed against 163 other drumology groups and despite being the youngest group performing for the first time, they placed in the top 10 nationwide. The competition seeks to encourage a sense of national pride, community spirit and community upliftment through healthy competition and social interactions.

The Couva PYC has been engaged in drumology classes for over a year, under the guidance of

(Continued on page 9)



NAAATT contributing to T&T Olympics

At the 2016 Summer Olympics held in Rio de Janeiro, Trinidad and Tobago was represented by a contingent of 32 delegates, the largest number this country has sent in its history. Trinidad and Tobago registered athletes in eight competitions and for the first time, athletes competed in artistic gymnastics, judo and rowing. Among them were reigning Olympic champion, Keshorn Walcott, who won a bronze medal in the men's javelin throw. Ephraim Serrette, President of the National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT) commented that the 2016 Olympic performance was less than inspiring. In the future, NAAATT hopes with NGC's continued support to create avenues to improve performance and pursue development of athletics nationally.

The general mandate for NAAATT is for Track and Field to be recognised as the premier sport in Trinidad and Tobago and to increase the level of participation at all levels of the sport by all stakeholders. Mr. Serrette also said "the budget for sport needed to be revisited given the operating costs of the organisation.

With NGC's assistance, the NAAATT is able to continue with its strategic and developmental plans." In terms of administration, Mr. Serrette said, "The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) developed between NGC and NAAATT is consistent with the development of sport and building good governance, which is very important at this time. He added, "the sponsorship has allowed us to have some constitutional reform; we are registered as a non-profit organisation and we now operate with a business structure and a board. In the past, we had people volunteering from clubs without the necessary skills set that could help move the business of Track and Field. The reform has allowed us to separate the operations and business of Track and Field."

Under the MOU, there is an athlete support programme where once athletes meet the criteria they can receive financial assistance. In the last year, NAAATT selected six athletes, three males and three females across different events: sprints and hurdles, throws and jumps. The financial assistance they received helped to cover the cost of their preparation

for competitions. From the six athletes, Tyriq Hosford from Tobago, a 14-year-old Javelin competitor won a medal and broke the junior record in Javelin Throw Under-18 at the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) Games. Also, Jeminise Parris represented Trinidad & Tobago and won a medal in the hurdle competition. She said, "I have been under the athlete support programme for one year, this has assisted me in my preparation. I use the funds for massages, therapy, full medical check-ups, vitamins and nutrition". NAAATT is seeking to include more athletes in this programme.

Over the years, NAAATT has noted an increase in participation and growth in clubs. This increase is attributed to the NGC Right on Track (NGC ROT) programme where at the primary school level, the kids enter the developmental programme and are introduced to running, jumping and throwing. There is a progression from the kids' programme into the junior and senior level. Mr. Serrette commented that he is optimistic for the future and without NGC's support the plans under the MOU, strategic and developmental could not have been achieved.

(Continued from page 8)

tutor, Claude Neptune. These classes are cited within the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NGC and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) whereby NGC seeks to develop youth within various communities while also introducing them to various art forms.

According to Corporal Peter Cumberbatch, leader of the Couva PYC, "NGC has always been part of the youth club activities in Couva and has been doing a tremendous job in developing youths in the area. Drumology is one of several activities the Couva PYC is engaged in presently. March was the first time these children, ages eight to 17, participated in drumology with Mr.

Neptune, the main contributor to the children's success today. We entered the Prime Minister's Best Village Competition and we have done extremely well. They placed 10th out of 163 teams and that is tremendous success".

Parents praised NGC for supporting the Couva PYC. They have encouraged their children to participate in activities because they are seeing positive results. One parent, Sally Ann Modest said, "My children are shy but the club's activities are helping them to learn new talents, improve their socialisation skills and build their self-esteem".

NGC's ongoing sponsorship of four PYCs, namely those from Laventille Road, La Brea,

Couva, and Penal, allows volunteer members of the police service to reach out to young people in these communities. They use their leadership skills to involve young people in productive, worthwhile and fruitful activities, such as sports, team-building activities, field trips, Carnival workshops, dance, music and personal development workshops.

Solutions to Energy Brain Buster on page 12

Answer Key
1. True 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False
6. True 7. Ture 8. True 9.True 10. False



Full-scale emergency response drill exercise

According to Part 5 of the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act 2004, amended in 2006, industrial establishments are required to conduct drills frequently and keep records. Recently, NGC's Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Division completed a schedule of drills for the period 2016 to 2020. The Union Industrial Estate Gas Receiving Facility (UIE GRF) drill marked the initiation of the drill schedule/programme.

On Friday 25th November 2016, a full-scale emergency response drill exercise was conducted at the UIE GRF, La Brea. The objectives of the drill were to provide awareness and training, identify and remedy gaps relating to emergency response and to test NGC's ability to respond to various scenarios.

UIE GRF receives natural gas via the 5 km of 24" pipeline from the Rousillac Launcher Station, which receives natural gas from the 24" diameter valve at the 65 km marker off the

56" Cross Island Pipeline (CIP). The drill exercise was based on an emergency involving fire and an explosion at the facility where NGC's Incident Management and Incident Control Teams were both activated. External agencies and stakeholders, such as the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services (TTFS), Trinidad and Tobago Mutual Aid Scheme (TTEMAS) and the community were also engaged.

The exercise commenced at 10:30 a.m. and was completed in about one and a half hours. It was immediately followed by separate, brief post-mortems, where observers at the Incident Command Post and Emergency Operations Centre respectively, shared their feedback with the teams. After the official report is generated, a detailed drill post-mortem will be scheduled, where lessons learnt will be shared among the key internal players, to generate continual learning and improvement in NGC's Emergency Management System.

Recycling, a must for future sustainability

When we recycle, used materials are converted into new products, reducing the need to increase the consumption of natural resources. If used materials are not recycled, new products can only be made by extracting fresh, raw materials from the earth, depleting natural resources for future generations.

At NGC, the recycling initiative was one of the first initiatives of the NGC Eco-Phoenix Club, which started in 2008 with the recycling of dry cell batteries (through Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company [SWMCOL]). The programme then expanded to the recycling of glass bottles through Carib Glassworks who kindly provided NGC with a glass recycling bin for the free collection of bottles. The recycling initiative now includes the recycling of plastic bottles, toner cartridges, paper, fluorescent bulbs and aluminium tins on a bimonthly basis.

A quarterly recycling initiative was established to encourage employees to recycle/safely dispose of any electronic items they may have at home. Larger bins had to be procured to accommodate the increasing number of plastic bottles, paper and toner cartridges being recycled. Piranha International Ltd graciously assisted with the collection, recycling and safe disposal of all collected items on a bimonthly and quarterly basis.

Recycling bins were only available at NGC's Administrative Building, but now the programme has been extended to all NGC's facilities. Arrangements are being pursued to include the Tobago Gas Receiving Facility in the recycling effort.

Elana Thompson, Team Lead of the NGC Eco-Phoenix Club stated that, "Employees not only continue to bring in their items, but they actually look forward to the quarterly recycle drive where they can bring in any electronic items (laptops, old computers, etc.), paper-based items (old books, newspapers, telephone directories, etc.) and anything with a cord (e.g. television, fan, toys, etc.) to be recycled or safely disposed. We track our recycle data and the statistics are available on our Eco Phoenix Portal. The most recycled/ disposed items from the Company are fluorescent bulbs whereas the most recycled items from individuals are plastic and glass bottles."

Through the NGC Eco-Phoenix Club, we continue our efforts to recycle and hope to help conserve important raw materials and protect natural habitats in any way possible for the future.





NGC lights the La Savanne Recreation Ground

At NGC, we believe that strong communities make a strong nation. As a result, many of our Corporate Social Responsibility programmes are geared towards enriching public and community life. We therefore recognise that the availability of community infrastructure is critical to positive community life and NGC sees its programme of constructing and upgrading community facilities as a vital component of its social responsibility.

One community adjoining NGC's facilities upgrade programme is La Savanne located in the Mayaro/Guayaguayare area. NGC has had an active presence in this area for over 30 years. The Company's Beachfield facility, located in Guayaguayare, is the hub of NGC's aggregation of the natural gas received from the offshore transmission pipelines, which on reaching landfall and the Beachfield facility, traverse the countryside to gas-based installations and pipeline facilities along the Company's vast rights of way network. Additionally, NGC's slugcatcher at Beachfield is a major centralised natural gas and condensate processing facility.

In March 2016, NGC with T&TEC held a formal ceremony to celebrate the completion of the project - Upgrading of the Lighting System at the La Savanne Recreation Ground in Guayaguayare. NGC was a proud sponsor of the completed project in partnership with T&TEC. The million-dollar facility improvement included the installation of lamps and poles, electrical panels, the construction of a switch room, and the upgrade of overhead line infrastructure. According to the members of the La Savanne Village Council, the upgraded lighting system at the Recreation Ground is helping to foster a positive community spirit.

Before the upgrade of the lighting system, the activities offered at the recreation ground via community groups were limited to the day time/evenings, after school or work. Since the lighting upgrade, the recreation ground is in use every day of the week and activities end



Football game at night – La Savanne Recreation Ground

when the lights go off. The three main users of the recreation ground are the La Savanne Village Council, Guaya United Football Club and the Newlands Warriors Sports Club.

The La Savanne Village Council oversees management of the ground. Public Relations Officer of the Village Council, Colin Grant, stated that the Village Council hosted night cricket matches since the lighting of the ground. Some of the 2016 activities include a 'Men Who Can Cook' competition, Christmas treat for children on Christmas Eve and an open court forum for teenagers and young adults. Randy Hagley of the Guaya United Football Club said, "The community is benefiting 100% from the lights". His club uses the facility for practising and hosting games. The Newlands Warriors Sports Club also provides structured activities for boys and girls from the primary and secondary schools and anyone interested in an activity. After school, the children go home to complete their homework and then come to the recreation ground to participate in activities such as cricket, football and track. In addition, people that live in the community use the space for exercise.

Another positive outcome of the lighting system upgrade at the La Savanne Recreation Ground is an increase in economic activity. The groups that use the facility have been able to plan and schedule more activities. As a result, some members of the community use these opportunities for vending. Managing the activities at the recreation ground has inadvertently triggered the La Savanne Village Council to work closer and become a stronger unit while seeking to improve the quality of life in their community, truly a positive impact as a result of NGC's investment in the community.



Energy Brain Buster

TRUE OR FALSE

- 1. NGC has four principal subsidiaries.
- 2. National Petroleum is an NGC subsidiary.
- 3. Mr. and Miss NGC Sanfest is a talent competition.
- 4. The NGC Bocas Lit Fest allows the country and the region to showcase their talent and creativity.
- 5. NGC T&T Sweet Tassa All-Female Band is not the first All-Female band in T&T.
- 6. TTCB's Grassroots Development Programme is geared toward building the sport of cricket.
- 7. NGC Right on Track is a science-based programme that teaches Track and Field.
- 8. The Couva Police Youth Club is one of five Police Youth Clubs sponsored by NGC.
- 9. The Community of La Savanne is located in Mayaro/Guayaguayare.
- 10. TTCB's Grassroots Development Programme does not include primary schools.

Photo of the Month

