Volume 7, Issue I Februa

February 2014



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If you pour a handful of salt into a full glass of water, will the water overflow the glass?

What's On Tap?

"Suppliers of the World's Most Popular Drink"

WAC Announces New Scholarship Recipient

The Water Authority-Cayman is pleased to announce the award of its scholarship for 2013/2014 to Mr Alexander Walton.

Mr Walton was awarded the scholarship to pursue a Bachelor's Degree, BEng (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering at the University of the West of England, Bristol.

Mr Walton is the son of Mr Joel Walton and Ms Tammie Walton of Grand Cayman. He graduated from St. Ignatius Catholic High School in 2009 with eight GCSE/IGCSE exam passes followed by one year of sixth form before going on to successfully complete the Foundation Certificate in Science and Engineering at Kaplan International Colleges in the UK in July 2013.

Mr Walton chose the field of engineering because he has always been curious to discover how things work and as a youngster was fond of pulling apart his toys and a variety of

other objects in order to answer that question. He is looking forward to applying his study of mechanical engineering principles and practice to his interest in desalination systems and how to make such systems more cost effective and efficient. He looks forward to returning to work with the Water Authori-



ty upon completion of his studies in three years.

The WAC scholarship is valued at up to Cl\$25,000/yr and was established in 2006 as a means of assisting young Caymanians in achieving their goals of higher education, particularly in subject areas relevant to water and wastewater management.

Message from the Director



I am pleased to congratulate Alexander Walton on being the Water Authority's Scholarship Recipient for this year and look forward to his return in three years to join our engineering team. The Water Authority was encouraged by the high calibre of appli-

cants and the number of young Caymanians wishing to pursue tertiary education in a technical field. We look forward to receiving more applications for next year's scholarship.

I am also very pleased to congratulate and

welcome back Jodiann Jackson, our 2010-2011 scholarship recipient, who graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Engineering in December 2013. We will share more information about Jodiann's experience in our next newsletter.

As we celebrate our thirtieth anniversary, I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the many Water Authority staffers who are committed to delivering quality tap water to our valued customers. In the issue we recognize four individuals who play a key role in the production, quality control and distribution of our water supply. We hope you enjoy reading about them.

- Dr. Gelia Frederick-van Genderen

Knowledge Zone

Water Quality: **Reverse Osmosis**

In the Cayman Islands, the Reverse Osmosis process has been used since 1989 to desalinate seawater (remove the salt from sea water to get fresh water) abstracted from deep wells. The water is treated, stored in reservoirs and distributed via the Water Authority's pipeline customers' network to homes.

Reverse Osmosis works by using pressure to force a saltwater solution through a membrane, retaining the salts on one side and allowing fresh water to pass to the other side. This wellknown process has been used to purify fresh water for medical, industrial and domestic applications since the early 1970s.

Desalination processes are very effective for water purification by removing healthrelated contaminants such as bacteria, viruses, and pesticides from the water. The product water of Reverse Osmosis, as applied by the Water Authority, removes more than 99.5% of the dissolved salts and is of a higher quality than World Health Organisation guidelines for drinking water quality.

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Suppliers of the World's Most Popular Drink.

The Water Authority was established in 1983 as a statutory body responsible for supplying wholesome and affordable drinking water to the people of the Cayman Islands. The Water Authority is also responsible for the proper treatment of wastewater and for the protection of the fresh groundwater lenses that exist throughout our islands. For more information about the Water Authority, visit www.waterauthority.ky.

Connect & Celebrate with us. Our team is working for you.

This year Water Authority-Cayman celebrates thirty years of service in the Cayman Islands. WAC wishes to remind residents of the many benefits of tap water. Drinking from the tap is healthy, it reduces plastic waste in the landfill, and is much less costly than bottled water.

Water is produced in the Cayman Islands by the reverse osmosis process. It is continuously tested for quality; treated for drinking safety and distributed via pipeline or water trucks. During this year-long celebration, WAC hopes that residents will learn more about the Water Authority's role and help recognize the people at work every day to bring water to you.



Allenger joined the Water Authority in January 2013 as Senior Operator at the Reverse Osmosis Plant, when the Water Authority took over the operation of the Lower Valley Reverse Osmosis Plant.

Allenger is responsible for the day to day running of the RO plant. He has completed various courses relevant to his field such as Electrical Training on Control and Instrumentation, Safe Electrical Troubleshooting, Maintenance Planning and Scheduling. Prior to being employed by the Water Authority, Allenger worked with Ocean Conversion (Cayman)/Consolidated Water as plant operator/manager.



Matthew joined the Authority in 2009 as Sample Collector. Rain or shine, he is out on the road collecting water samples He tests water from the reverse osmosis plants, water in the storage reservoirs, water pumped into the distribution system and water at various locations in the distribution system. Samples are tested on site immediately for several parameters and further testing is carried out by the Laboratory.

Matthew spends a lot of time on the road going to various places to collect samples; he does it with his great smile and positive attitude because he enjoys his work and wants to make sure that customers drink water of excellent quality.



Operator Norbert (Carlos) Scott

Norbert (Carlos) joined the Water Authority in February 2000. He is a conscientious employee willing to work past normal working hours to ensure that customers receive water in a timely manner. He regularly assists the Plant Operator with the maintenance of the Cayman Brac Reverse Osmosis plant.

Norbert completed the Water Distribution Class 1 certification course in 2006, and received a10 Years of Service Award in 2010.



Celebrating Senior Treatment and Distribution Operator

Brian Martinez

Brian joined the Water Authority in February 2003 as Treatment & Distribution Senior Operator. He was previously been employed with the Water Authority between June 1989 and December 1998, fi rst as Operator-Water Supply, later Water Supply Foreman and Superintendent).

Working behind the scenes, Brian performs a very important function by ensuring that our water meets strict quality standards. Additionally Brian monitors reservoir levels and maintains the various electrical/ mechanical equipment used in the water distribution system (eq, pumps).

Brian has completed various training courses and presently holds a Class IV Water Distribution Operator and Class IV Wastewater Collection Operator certification through The Caribbean Water & Sewerage Association Inc. (CAWASA) Programme.



- Graduate Enaineer (WAC Scholarship Recipient)