



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 29 August 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

Isla Nanton celebrates 100th birthday

Port-of-Spain --- Ms Isla Nanton celebrated her 100th birthday on August 25, and according to Trinidad and Tobago's latest centenarian, persons have to keep praying. "I live a happy life with God. Once persons do the right thing, they will too" said Ms Nanton who resides at the Jofekell Home for Mama and Papa. The new centenarian usually spends her day colouring and praying. However, to celebrate the milestone, Ms. Nanton spent her day singing joyful songs and reminiscing on the 'good old days' with her relatives and loved ones.

Also visiting the centenarian was Inspector of the Division of Ageing, Ernest Webster. Ms Nanton was presented with an array of gifts, including her Certificate of Achievement and Honour, personalised birthday cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company, and two hampers sponsored by NAMDEVCO and Jamieson.

Ms Nanton, also known as 'Miss Izzy' and 'Sweet Granny', was born in St Vincent and moved to Trinidad when she was in her early twenties. Presently, she has four children, five children and three grandchildren, and considers each and every one of them to be her biggest accomplishment. According to some of her relatives, "Ms Nanton was a hard worker for her entire life. She worked hard to ensure all of her children were educated. She spent most of her life as a chief, cook and bottlewasher, the ideal homemaker. She would make tamarind balls, sugar cake and the best pigeon peas ever"

During the celebration Ms. Nanton also took the time to impart words of advice to the younger generation, "My advice is easy. Just pray, eat well and obey the rules."

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour our latest centenarian and encourage family and loved ones, Members of Parliament, Local Government representatives, friends, and neighbours to salute our nation's centenarians by registering for the Programme. Persons may visit the Ministry's website at www.social.gov.tt and complete the online form or print a downloadable form for completion. Completed forms may be dropped off at the nearest Social Welfare Office or emailed to the Division of Ageing at opic@social.gov.tt. For more information, persons may contact the Division of Ageing at 623 – 2608; Ext 2002 to 2009 or 800-OPIC (6742).

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Ms Isla Nanton poses with her Certificate of Honour and Achievement



Ms Nanton's daughter presents her mother with a thoughtful card during the celebration



Owner of Jofekell Home for Mama and Papa wishes Ms Isla Nanton a happy birthday



Mr Ernest Webster, Inspector of the Division of Ageing presents a cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company to Ms Isla Nanton