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## Trinis host biggest Carifesta



► Trinidad Carifesta is a grand celebration of culture

Trinidad and Tobago staged its biggest Carifesta events last week, a wonderful extravaganza celebrating the region's arts, music, heritage and culture. Writers, performers, poets, dancers and musicians from the region attended a diverse range of fabulous events.

No one could doubt the enthusiasm of contingents from the French-influenced Caribbean in their high-energy performances at Carifesta XIV at Queen's Park Savannah, Port of Spain on Tuesday night.

It was an invaluable experience to see singers, dancers, musicians and dramatists who were Caribbean but spoke French and French Creole.

Those featured were Guadeloupe and Martinique, colonies of France, but in addition it was a revelation for many TT nationals to see how French the cultures of Dominica and St Lucia are.

The mix of Caribbean and French flair was epitomised by Dominica's lady of song, Ophelia Marie, singing in French/French Creole the song 'Dingolay'



penned by the late Tobago-born Winston "Shadow" Bailey.

It was truly a night to look out for similarities and differences in song, dance and dress between the francophone and anglophone areas of the Caribbean, plus the bilingual/bridging territories of St Lucia and Dominica. For example, while performers' Carnival costumes could easily be envisioned within a Trinidad-

ian band, also being worn by many artists was the madras fabric so typical of the French-influenced islands.

Martinique offered a small band of five or six members including a female singer and an excellent flute soloist, all with very eclectic offerings.

See more Caribbean Briefs on page B1 >>

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### OPPOSITION SPEAKS — A6



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New Primary school curriculum unveiled

### OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE — A8



Promotions at Ogier in Cayman

## Grand Opening of new Superior Auto Apprenticeship Centre

By Christopher Tobutt

It was a milestone, not only for Superior Auto, who have consistently, and over many years, taken on apprentices in auto mechanics, but also for the Cayman Islands, because at last, the

Island has its very own apprenticeship training facility. It was a story of a dream finally turning into reality.

Superior Auto Apprenticeship Center is dedicated to providing the

... Continued story on page A8



► (L-r) Joan Findlay, director of HEART Trust/NTA, Education Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connelly, Superior Auto's Denise DeMercado, HEART Trust/NTA's Kenesha Campbell and Superior Auto's Mark DeMercado

## Then and Now: Early twentieth century tourist spot



By Beth Turnbull

According to an article in the Nor'Wester from March 1980, 1929 saw the arrival of the first known tourist in the Cayman Islands. At age 25, Welshman Leslie Powell and his friend Jack Self were on their first tour of duty with Barclays Bank in Jamaica. They boldly asked management for a two-week vacation and set sail onboard the Cimbocho ship headed for the Cayman Islands. The article records how Powell remembers "a vivid impression of scores of white butterflies greeting us."

... Continued story on page A5



## Caymanian Times

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Back to School Drive - School Supplies

The PRB Community Group will be hosting a back to school drive to assist the Prospect Red Bay community children and schools ensuring they have the supplies for a successful start of the school year.

Once items are collected they will be sorted and shared between the two schools so that the teachers can distribute to those kids who require the help/ assistance.

See link of items provided from DCFS and we will also be accepting Lysol spray, wipes, Hand sanitizer, etc... Composition books will be supplied by the Ministry of Education.

A **DONATION BOX** is located at the Seafarers Hall and items can be dropped off between 7am and 3pm weekdays.

Please contact any of the Executive members for collection or drop off of any donations.

Or bring supplies to the next monthly meeting on **Monday 2nd September 7pm** Seafarers Hall.

Or email prospectcommunity345@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/819616778184529/posts/1888971031249093?s=585119008&sfns=mo>

## Text Message Circulated NOT from CI Postal Service

The Cayman Islands Postal Service has received numerous calls this afternoon (Tuesday, 20 August 2019) from customers who received a text message claiming to be from the Post Office and displaying the Postal Service Logo. The text message claims to

be about a promotion, with a Galaxy phone as the give-away.

The Postal Service categorically denies sending out any such message nor does it have such an ongoing promotion.

The matter is being investigated. 🌐

## Planned Works – Restricted Traffic Shamrock Road

Water Authority – Cayman wishes to advise its valued customers and the motoring public that the Authority will be restricting traffic movement along Shamrock Road, near the intersection with Agricola Drive, on **Sunday 25 August from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm**, to facilitate planned works.

Traffic management will be set up to direct the flow of traffic in the

area. All motorists are asked to drive with caution to ensure their safety, as well as that of the Water Authority staff.

The Water Authority appreciates the patience and understanding of its customers and the public as it undertakes these works, and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause. 🌐

# COMMUNITY VOICE

## SHADES OF ‘BIG BROTHER’



► Pastor Alson Ebanks

In a recent opinion-piece of mine I cautioned against conflating the concepts of disapproval with hate, which has become a mainstream practice in the liberal media, and, through the process of ideological osmosis, is rapidly being accepted as the standard thinking modality. Here I wish to point out some of the latent dangers in this approach to public discourse and the dissemination of ideas.

First (in order, not necessarily priority) when disagreement is classed as hate and approval is equated with love, there is created an environment in which approval and being “liked” is more important than truth. Consequently, bad ideas will gain ascendancy over beneficial views simply because they have popular approval. And as someone has accurately stated, bad ideas produce bad results. In the words of the ancient prophet, Isaiah, “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness... (Isaiah 5:20).”

Secondly, when the notion that disagreement means hate and approval means love becomes a dominant or “trending” worldview, it allows for the proliferation of popular but dangerous ideologies by preventing both sides being given equal exposure. This moral and social pathology is then exacerbated when it is “policed” not only by governments but by mega-businesses, such as Facebook or Amazon, result-

ing in shutting down and denying the public dissemination of “non-trending” points of view. This new phenomenon of thought control by global, private entities adds a new but worrying slide towards the Orwellian dystopia controlled by “Big Brother.”

Equally worrisome is the realisation that such an environment as I am describing, and which is fast becoming the dominant scenario in western nations, plays neatly into the hands of disingenuous and deviant politicians, who wish to control public discourse and free expression of ideas in order that their private agendas and megalomaniac designs may bear fruit.

In conclusion, in the odd chance that some reader may be wondering why such “theorising” as this merits publication, I would simply say that my time is too valuable to deal with social theories, but equally too valuable to not draw our attention to dangerous social and moral trends. The subject matter of this essay is one such danger. (Pastor Alson Ebanks) 🌐

### Monday, 26 August

- 12:00 AM Official Funeral for The First Governor of the Cayman Islands
- 1:50 AM News Update
- 2:00 AM CCA/CACB Anti-Corruption Conf 3 June 2019
- 3:09 AM News Update
- 3:20 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 3:30 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 3:55 AM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 4:00 AM Cayman's Maritime Heritage with National Trust
- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:10 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:40 AM Special Commemorative Town Hall Ceremony
- 7:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 7:35 AM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 7:45 AM DEH - Antimicrobial and the Environment
- 8:00 AM For the Record
- 10:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
- 10:30 AM Special Commemorative Town Hall Ceremony
- 11:25 AM News Update
- 11:35 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
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- 11:35 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference

### Tuesday, 27 August

- 12:00 AM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
- 1:20 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 1:30 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 2:00 AM News Update
- 2:10 AM Cruise Berthing and Cargo Facility Press Conference
- 3:20 AM News Update
- 3:30 AM DEH - Antimicrobial and the Environment
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- 7:50 AM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 8:00 AM Legislative Assembly July 24 2019
- 1:40 PM News Update
- 2:00 PM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference May 1 2019
- 2:50 PM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 2019
- 3:45 PM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 3:52 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 4:00 PM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
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- 5:30 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:00 PM News Update
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- 7:20 PM News Update
- 7:30 PM DEH - Antimicrobial and the Environment
- 7:50 PM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative
- 8:00 PM Legislative Assembly July 25 2019
- 11:35 PM News Update
- 11:45 PM DEH - Antimicrobial and the Environment

### Wednesday, 28 August

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- 2:00 AM CCA/CACB Anti-Corruption Conf 3 June 2019
- 3:09 AM News Update
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### Friday, 30 August

- 12:00 AM Official Funeral for The First Governor of the Cayman Islands
- 1:50 AM News Update
- 2:00 AM CCA/CACB Anti-Corruption Conf 3 June 2019
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CIGTV GUIDE FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 26 - 30

# NiCE Pilot Project Explores Another Approach To Handle Sargassum

The extended National Community Enhancement Project (NiCE), which ran August 5 to 16, successfully explored another approach for handling the clean-up of sargassum at several beaches across Grand Cayman.

A small crew of six persons worked in tandem with a selection of beach cleaning equipment to remove influxes of the seaweed along the coastline at South Sound Boat Launch Ramp and Board walk areas, Frank Sound Boat Launch Ramp, Coe Wood Beach in Bodden Town, Cayman Kai Public Beach, North Side and Colliers Beach in East End.

Some of the equipment used included a skid steer, back hoe and beach tech marina.

In instances where it was difficult to separate the seaweed from the sand, the sargassum was taken to a government location to be dried, sieved and the sand transported back to the beaches by the Recreation, Parks and Cemeteries Unit.

Minister of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Hon. Joey Hew commended the crew members, Project Manager Lois Kellyman and the National



► Coe Wood Beach in Bodden Town before the clearing of sargassum



► Coe Wood Beach in Bodden Town after clear-up of sargassum

Roads Authority for the excellent work completed within the short timeframe. "Cleaning the sargassum manually is not sustainable. This approach worked well with the combination of manual la-

bour and machinery. We have received positive feedback from members of the communities who noted the stark difference they have seen in the clean-up of our beaches," he stated.

The Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure is leading a multi-agency task force that has been set up to review the sargassum issue and map a way forward. 🌐

# Solicitor General Appointed

Cayman Islands Government's new Solicitor General is Ms Reshma Sharma, who was appointed to the position from 1 August 2019 following a rigorous open recruitment process.

Ms Sharma is currently Acting Attorney General, a post she has held at varied times in the absence of the Attorney General, is also the Portfolio of Legal Affairs' (POLA's) Chief Officer with responsibility for all operations of the Portfolio including budget and personnel matters.

Acting Solicitor General from 1 June 2017 to 31 July 2019, Ms Sharma served in the Portfolio of Legal Affairs (PLA) as the Deputy Solicitor General from June 2016 to her present appointment. Prior to that, Ms Sharma was employed in the PLA as Senior Crown Counsel and Crown Counsel I (with responsibility for Treaties and Conventions), following her joining the CIG in May 2005 as Crown Counsel.

At that time, Ms Sharma brought with her rich experience in public administrative and constitutional law (both in litigation and advisory matters) gleaned in her native Trinidad and Tobago. This was while she served with the Solicitor General's Chambers in the Ministry of the Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago as State Counsel I-III and subsequently Acting Senior State Counsel.

In her subsequent time in the Cayman Islands, Ms Sharma built further on her considerable experience through her work in provision of advice to CIG entities, statutory authorities and other public bodies. Her work here has covered a wide range of subjects including immigration, civil aviation, employment, procurement, intellectual property, and especially, human rights.

She conducted litigation on numerous matters before the various tiers of Cayman Islands' Courts as well as statutory tribunals including the Immigration Appeals Tribunal, Labour Tribunal and Roads Assessment Committee. Notably,

her work in this regard has covered a range of constitutional and public administrative law matters, involving novel and often complex issues, as well as matters of considerable public interest.

Some of the human rights litigation in which she has been involved has raised novel points of law in the Cayman Islands under the CI Bill of Rights provisions in the Constitution Order, 2009.

These include the first same-sex marriage challenge in the CI, the first challenge involving age/nationality discrimination under the Bill of Rights, the compatibility of statutory immunity provisions excluding claims in medical negligence with the Bill of Rights and the challenge to the closure of a portion of the West Bay Road.

Ms Sharma was also actively involved in human rights training conducted by CIG in collaboration with the Commonwealth Foundation for the public service and civil society, and for civil servants as part of a Constitution Sensitisation Committee.

Additionally, during her years of service in the Cayman Islands, she has also engaged in the review, preparation and negotiation of contracts of varying complexity and technical subject-matter, some of which relate to large capital development projects in Grand Cayman including re-development of roads infrastructure and the development of medical tourism facilities.

As head of the Treaties and Conventions Unit in the Attorney General's Chambers, she coordinated work on conventions extended to the Cayman Islands such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and more recently, worked on the extension of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

In the field of international cooperation, Ms Sharma serves as counsel to the Central Authority under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty between the



► Ms Reshma Sharma is appointed as the new Solicitor General in the Portfolio of Legal Affairs

US and the UK and is also responsible for matters arising under the Hague Convention on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters.

Ms Sharma served as a member of the Cayman Islands Water Authority for many years. She is currently a member of the Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group, the Law Reform Commission and the Cayman Islands Child Safeguarding Board.

Ms Sharma was admitted to practise law in Trinidad and Tobago in October 1997. She also has a Masters of Law Degree (Commercial Law) from the University of Aberdeen, part of which included Oil and Gas law.

Commenting on her appointment as Solicitor General, Deputy Governor Hon. Franz Manderson, MBE said, "I am delighted that an attorney of the calibre of Ms Sharma has been appointed to this position within the Cayman Islands Government. Ms Sharma has served our Government admirably in all the years she has served in the public sector. I look forward to her continued sterling service to the people of these Islands."

Attorney General, Hon. Samuel Bulgin, QC, commented: "I hold Ms Sharma in high esteem for the probity and intelligence she brings as a professional in the Portfolio of Legal Affairs. Her attention to detail and subtle nuances when dealing with even complex matters has been an invaluable asset within these Chambers. I congratulate on her attaining this important position in government and welcome her expertise in the service of the people in the coming years."

Commenting on her new assignment, Ms Sharma said, "I am deeply honoured by this appointment and grateful to both the Honourable Deputy Governor and Honourable Attorney General for their confidence in my ability to lead this Portfolio and its talented and dedicated staff."

"It has been an incredible privilege to serve the Government of the Cayman Islands over the past 14 years and I look forward to this new chapter and the experiences to come. There will be challenges ahead but with the collective best efforts of my staff, the Portfolio will continue to strive for excellence as part of the journey towards a world-class civil service." 🌐

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► It's time to get your child back into a sleeping routine



► Healthy eating is essential for young minds



► Family meals should be nutritious

# Four easy ways to restart your child's school routine

Summer vacation is almost over, much to the relief of many parents. It's time to get the kids back into the school routine but don't wait for the day before school begins to do so. It is recommended that parents start the process at least two weeks before. Here are a few tips to get that school routine going.

**1) Get your child back into a regular sleep pattern** by waking him/her up 10 - 30 minutes earlier each day. Starting a consistent bedtime and setting that alarm to an earlier time should reset the sleep pattern.

**2) Get back to healthy eating.** You may have skipped the routine of healthy, on time meals or allowed your child to have extra chips, sweets and other fun foods that are not necessarily healthy, during the summer. Studies show that children who eat a nutritious breakfast

can function better during the school day.

**3) Wean them off the electronic devices.** If your child has been on their iPad/tablet/phone/play station for long hours during the summer, start limiting the hours of daily use.

**4) Shift your child's brain back to "academic" mode.** Many children have not done any reading or number work for almost two months! Encourage them to read at least 30 minutes to one hour daily depending on their age. There are free worksheet downloads on the internet for tables and other numeracy practice

Both parents and children are most probably starting to feel a bit anxious about returning to school. The anxiety can be reduced by planning and setting up manageable routines. [f](#)



► Back to school supplies

# Scholarships: grasp the opportunity

For students leaving school in 2021 and planning to further their education, it is not

too early to start thinking about scholarship opportunities. They can be in the Cayman

Islands or in North America. Whether it is an apprenticeship in a skilled trade or study at college or university, there are many scholarships available from governmental, non-governmental organisations and private sector companies.

Sometimes, students miss out because they apply too late, are unaware of the academic requirements or are simply overwhelmed by the application process. Some schools offer counseling and mentoring programmes to guide students towards their career choices. Students are advised on the appropriate courses to study and are also provided with internship opportunities. Ask if this is available at your school.



► Scholarship applications don't have to be formidable



► Aim Higher mentoring is very successful

One such programme is the Aim Higher school-based mentoring programme that offers trained support and advice to 40 selected students enrolled at John Gray High School. The programme is designed for those who need help achieving their

potential, with the goal being to help students map out their career paths and further their educational opportunities. For more information on the programme, contact Laura Hatfield at [LHatfield@solomonharris.com](mailto:LHatfield@solomonharris.com) or at 949 - 0488. [f](#)

FIRST 100 PEOPLE TO TURN UP GET A FREE T-SHIRT

**HOPE FOR TODAY FOUNDATION**

# 5K WALK/RUN FOR RECOVERY

**29th September 2019**

Starting at Seven Mile Public Beach  
Walk: 6pm / Run: 6:15pm

**TICKETS: \$10**

**Prizes:** Staycation at the Holiday Inn • Staycation at the Westin Dinner for 2 at the Lobster Pot • **Plus many other prizes!**

**Contact:** Brent 928-9099 or Chris 326-6783 • [www.caymanhopefoundation.com](http://www.caymanhopefoundation.com)

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## Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce – Career Guides 2019

The Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce produces an annual, comprehensive Careers Guide booklet that has a wealth of information on internship and scholarship programmes. The opportunities are out there. Start early. Plan

your school year accordingly and focus on achieving the academic success needed to obtain a scholarship. Check out the social media pages of the companies that offer scholarships for the necessary information. [f](#)



► The Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce Expo supports aspiring students

THEN & NOW

*As a continuation of this popular series, we thought we would explore one of Cayman's most important economic drivers, that of the tourism industry. Because this is such a big topic, we have split the article into three parts and this first article looks at how the concept of a tourism industry first began to gather momentum just less than a century ago.*



► Cayman's cruise tourists arrive by tender nowadays

# Early twentieth century tourist spot

... Continued story from page A1

He continued: "In Grand Cayman we received much kindness and hospitality. We swam at West Bay and hiked to the North Sound and out on the Bodden Town road. ...It was a wonderful experience..."

It wasn't until a few years later, however, that people started noticing the Cayman Islands' potential as a tourist destination. Sometime between 1934 and 1941 it is documented that Commissioner Cardinal never ceased telling people that, "Grand Cayman has what is probably the most perfect bathing-beach in the West Indies," as stated in the Who's Who Business Guide 1991.

The Annual Colonial Reports record 1937 as the year that saw the beginning of the tourism industry, no doubt spurred on by the success of the visit by the Atlantis of the Royal Main Lines Limited, whereby 343 tourists embarked in George Town for the day in February 1937. Before the end of that year, it was reported that a second ship, the Arandora Star of the Blue Star Line, visited Cayman in February of the following year. The Annual Report also documents the greater number than usual of yachts visiting in 1937, as well as a larger number of visitors compared with previous years. Thus, the tourism industry was showing signs of early growth.

In 1952 the first hotel in the Cayman Islands, the Bay View Hotel, was built as recorded in Beautiful Isle Cayman.



The Annual Colonial Reports record eight hotels on Grand Cayman and one on Cayman Brac by 1960. In total, these hotels offered less than 300 beds, however the report predicts this number would rapidly increase due to the number of hotels in the planning stage. The Bay View Hotel offered the lowest

winter rates at around £3 per day for a single room. Other hotels, such as the Beach Club and Colony and the Gallion Beach Hotel, charged £7 and £8 respectively per day. The 1960 Colonial Report mentions the attractions of the Islands including the "bathing beaches, the incomparably clear water and weather".

But there was little by way of tourism infrastructure to tempt visitors other than these attractive natural elements. In addition to hotels there were a few

boarding houses and cottages available for rent. Until this point, Little Cayman was seldom visited by tourists, however 1960 also saw the beginning of Little Cayman's development. A group of Americans acquired land on the beach and began the construction of accommodation for fishermen.

By the end of 1965 the tourism industry had become an important factor in the economy of the Cayman Islands, which will be discussed further in our next article.



► George Town still holds on to some historic buildings

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# New Primary school curriculum unveiled at the Annual Educators' Professional Welcome

Minister of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture & Lands (MEYSAL) Honourable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, and senior members of the Department of Education Services (DES) unveiled the new national curriculum for primary schools and a host of other exciting developments at the Annual Educators' Professional Welcome event, held at John Gray High School on Monday 19th August, 2019.



The annual event welcomes all new and returning educators of the Cayman Islands Government Education System to a new school year, discusses the major plans and sets the strategic focus. This year's highlight was the announcement of a new curriculum for all government primary schools, with a forward-thinking STEM and computer science focus, as well as an enhanced, localized Social Studies curriculum. The new curriculum covers the entire suite of subjects such as, English, Math, Science, Art & Design, Computing, Design & Technology, Spanish, Life Skills, Music, Physical Education and Religious Education.

After the opening prayer, National Anthem and National Song, Miss Cetonya Cacho, Acting Chief Officer of MEYSAL, welcomed approximately one thousand attendees comprised of education professionals and government officials to the event. Mrs. Tammy Hopkins, Acting Director of the DES was then introduced. Mrs. Hopkins announced that 80 new teachers had been appointed both locally and from various jurisdictions. Mrs. Hopkins also spoke to several internal promotions that had been made for

the new school year, before moving onto the extensive process that had been undertaken to develop and implement the new curriculum adapted from the 2014 English National Curriculum. "We are committed to driving excellence in order to be a world class education system. In October 2018, the Cayman Islands Curriculum Implementation team was formed and began work on a new curriculum. We reviewed the English National Curriculum for suitability for the Cayman Islands, and where to include local elements," continued Mrs. Hopkins. "Amendments were made to our social studies curriculum to include our Caymanian culture, history and citizenship, [and] we reviewed the core subjects including science, English and Mathematics. Our output was a gap analysis of each year group, comparing the standards of the old national curriculum to the new Cayman Islands curriculum."

One quote from the Acting Director of the DES summed up the feeling across her department, "This has been an intense journey that reflects a true collaboration of efforts between the Ministry, DES and our educators."

Following Mrs. Hopkins, His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper took the stage to deliver his support for the new curriculum, and for the efforts being made across MEYSAL and DES for improvements and enhancements across the government schools this year. "My aim is to visit all schools in Grand Cayman over the coming year and give you an opportunity to show what you are doing to deliver world class education" stated the Governor. "I fully support, under our excellent Deputy Governor Franz Manderson, this vision of a world class civil service. All of us should strive to be genuinely world-class, and I think we're on the right track."



Following the Governor, the Honorable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands took the stage to deliver a moving motivational speech and to provide more details on the ministry's operational activities in preparation for the new school year, notably in response to calls for additional resources for schools, and a return to the textbook system that had been removed previously. "Now that we are confident that morale is up, we have moved to the next level of our journey, and we have invested, with the full support of the cabinet led by the honorable Premier, into resources such as computers for every single teacher under our public administration. They will be in possession of their own laptop in the schools," stated the Minister who also added, "I did

promise you that we were going to get text books back into the classroom. Science books have previously been delivered to all of their destinations in our schools. We can already see the upward mobility in the science related areas. I am not just satisfied with that though. I want science coaches available to every single primary school and we will be working to make sure the necessary assistance is there. I am also happy to report that my team at the Department of Education Services worked extremely hard to procure and organise new resources. We spent just under a million dollars getting these new resources related to the new curriculum. Implementation. Such as 'Power Maths' to name one of the resources that will be used in our schools. We have also conducted additional training for all our teachers. We are truly excited about the implementation of the new curriculum for the upcoming school year."

The Minister then encouraged everyone to work hard and to work together to reach success under the new curriculum. "It's going to take each one of us working in this room, hand in hand, heart in heart, to make it become a reality; and as President Obama said, yes we can, and yes we must, ladies and gentlemen!"

During the event, there was a tribute and moment of silence for two education professionals who passed away over the summer break, the late, Ramoutee Chattoor and Monty Larrew. 🇧🇷



# Opposition speaks on referendum and constitutional change

By Christopher Tobutt

Hon. Arden McLean, Leader of the Opposition and representative for East End, was joined by fellow Opposition members Kenneth Bryan, MLA, Alva Suckoo, MLA, and Chris Saunders, MLA, in an attack on the government's handling of the people's-initiated referendum concerning the proposed new cruise berthing facility, as well as the way it has handled the issue of proposed constitutional change.

posed changes which dealt with "Overreach," by the UK government with respect to legislating for the Cayman Islands, with respect to legislating for the Cayman Islands. We believed then, and we believe today that any proposed legislation affecting the lives or livelihoods of the people of the Cayman Islands should not be promulgated or implemented by the United Kingdom, without first consulting the people of the Cayman Islands via their elected representative."

"We have called this press conference to address a number of concerns relating to the governance of the country, particularly the constitutional changes, and the people - initiated referendum," Mr. McLean said.

Later in the meeting, Mr. McLean expanded on some of his ideas regarding correct governance:

"On the matter of the proposed constitutional changes, we have listened intently as the Premier...addressed the talks and the circumstances leading up to the talks which were held in December 2018. Unfortunately, while they have explained that we were aware of the proposed changes, they have not let the country know that they did not have consensus on all the proposals. "It should be noted that all the opposition-supported aspects of the pro-

"I did not agree with parliamentary secretaries, for instance. Parliamentary secretaries are constitutionally required to follow the government, thus in a small parliament like ours, we then corrupt the whole democratic process by using those same people to go on public accounts committees and elections, because they are part of the government; of the executive and I did not support that...there must never be interference with the domestic part of it and the wishes of the people. "Turning on the matter of the People's initiated referendum, we, like the rest of



▶ Left to right: Kenneth Bryan, Alva Suckoo, Arden McLean, and Chris Saunders

the country recognise that the referendum is imminent, and we would like to congratulate those individuals who worked so hard to reach this historic milestone.

the voters. They are the bosses. And no one in the workplace would deal with their bosses like that.

While we believe this provision in the constitution is a vital part of ensuring that our people participate in the governance of the country, we are mindful of the absence of a law that defines the process of a people's initiated referendum. To that end we encourage the government to propose one, which we will happily contribute to."

"The moment this process started, and we recognised that there was not a referendum law, we know the Government of the day was not going to pass a referendum law. Now we are in a situation where we are coming close to the threshold, and we are in uncharted territory, simply because we have no law to govern such an important process."

When asked about his views about the way the referendum has been handled, MLA for Bodden Town West, Chris Saunders answered, "With complete disrespect to the organisers. At the end of the day these are still citizens of the Cayman Islands, and one of the things that we, as opposition members believe, is that the highest political office in this country is not a politician or premier, it is actually

Deputy Opposition Leader Alva Suckoo said: "It is a real slap in the face to democracy when you see the way that Government operates with regard to their response to the petition. I have seen them spending Government money fighting not a referendum, but a petition, and their negative campaign that is going on to convince people to remove their signatures from the petition. All those things give us a lot of cause for concern." 🇧🇷



▶ Hon. Arden McLean



▶ Chris Saunders, MLA

# Prison Officer awarded prestigious UK Scholarship

A prison officer has been selected as one of this year's Chevening Scholars.

Tamekia Young, a supervisor in the Rehabilitation Unit at HM Prison Northward will be heading to the UK in September to study an MSc in Addiction at Kings College London.

The mother of two is one of 1,500 people from around the world handpicked for the year-long scholarship.

Sponsored by the Governor's Office, applications have just opened for the next cohort in 2020/21.

Chevening Scholarships offer full financial support to study for any of the 12,000 master's degree courses available at over 150 UK universities.

His Excellency The Governor Martyn Roper said: "Many congratulations to

Tamekia. I wish her every success and look forward to hearing how her studies will support her role at the prison.

"Chevening Scholarships provide a fantastic opportunity not only to increase your qualifications but also to meet like-minded people from around the world and have the chance to build knowledge and exchange information in a stimulating environment.

"With our world facing countless challenges, the role that the Chevening community plays in building bridges and collaborating across borders is more important than ever.

"The UK has world leading universities and I want to see even more Caymanians going to the UK universities and taking advantage of the home fees available"

Prison Director Steve Barrett said: "This is a great opportunity for Tamekia to take time out to focus on an area of study that will have great value to us here at the Prison Service particularly as we move towards trauma-informed services and interventions. And it will also give her the chance to explore in depth how addiction affects people and how countries around the world deal with similar situations."

Tamekia said: "I feel very blessed to have been chosen for this scholarship - it's an amazing opportunity that I prayed for over the last 15 years and God has answered my prayers.

"In the Cayman Islands we are seeing an increase in people affected by addiction and we need to work to influence positive change in individuals to encourage them and empower them to lead law abiding lives. It's well known that when people are able to make positive changes in their lives it creates a safer environment for all.

"I want to continue my work as part of that process - to be an agent of change and to provide guidance and help to individuals faced with addiction problems."

Chevening Scholarships are funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and over 50,000 people have taken advantage of the programme in the last 35 years.

There are more than 1,500 scholarships on offer globally for the 2020/2021 academic year, demonstrating the UK's long-standing commitment to developing the leaders of tomorrow.

Further information on the Chevening Scholarship programme is available from [www.chevening.org/scholarships](http://www.chevening.org/scholarships)

To apply go to [www.chevening.org/apply](http://www.chevening.org/apply).



► Tamekia Young looks forward to continuing her studies in the UK



► His Excellency The Governor Martyn Roper (centre) congratulates Tamekia Young (right) along with Prison Director Steve Barrett (left)

Applications for the 2020/2021 education year are now being accepted. The deadline is 5 November 2019.

Chevening also runs a range of fellowship programmes for mid-career professionals. You can find out which programmes are open at [www.chevening.org/fellowships](http://www.chevening.org/fellowships)

# DCI Hosts Workshop for Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones

The Department of Commerce and Investment (DCI) hosted a training session for dealers in precious metals and stones (DPMS) on Thursday, 15 August.

The evening outreach workshop provided attendees from the precious metals and stones industry with information pertaining to their obligations under anti-money laundering, counter-terrorist financing and proliferation financing regulations.

The goal of such outreach events is to ensure the industry is compliant with international standards and, as a result, protects the Cayman Islands from being placed upon the "grey list" by CFATF.

The Minister for Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure Hon. Joey Hew thanks the industry for their strong turnout at the workshop.

"It is essential that the Cayman Islands as a jurisdiction does everything possible to meet its international obligations. This is why the Hon. Premier has designated the implementation of CFATF recommendations a matter of national priority. DCI, in its framework as DNFBBs regulator, has a vital role to play in helping DPMS and real estate agents, brokers and developers to strengthen their anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing frameworks as a matter of utmost urgency," the Minister adds.

He stresses: "failure to comply could lead to greylisting and this is not an option."

The session began with a welcome from the Ministry's (Acting) Chief Officer Tamara Ebanks. Ms Ebanks reiterated the importance of the workshop and stressed that DPMS should look to DCI for support as the industry regulator, which the department has been since March 2017.



► FRA Director RJ Berry talks workshop attendees through SAR filing process



► Attendees are trained on "All Things AML" by DCI Head of Compliance and Enforcement Claudia Brady

The Head of the Anti-Money Laundering Unit (AMLU), Francis Arana then presented attendees with details of a National Risk Assessment (NRA) that Cayman has conducted, to better understand the level of risk the industry faces when it comes to money laundering, terrorist and proliferation financing. He detailed the ways in which illicit cash can be converted into legitimate and difficult to trace products, such as precious metals and stones.

Building on Mr. Arana's presentation, Deputy National Coordinator for Government's Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group (AMLSG) Justine Plenkiewicz discussed targeted financial sanctions (TFS) and proliferation financing (PF) within the context of the DPMS industry in the Cayman Islands.

Workshop attendees were then instructed on their responsibilities for supporting national compliance with the CFATF recommendations, which are the global standard for combatting money laundering, counter-terrorist financing and proliferation financing.

This included a demonstration from the Director of the Financial Reporting Authority (FRA) RJ Berry, on how dealers should fill out Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs). He detailed the reasons for maintaining up-to-date and thorough records, particularly when there is a transaction that raises a red flag in their business. Examples included customers attempting to run several credit cards for a single purchase, or buyers wishing to make a purchase with a large sum of cash.

In the last session of the evening, the group was educated on how DCI will evaluate their actions in the event of suspicious activity. Head of Compliance and Enforcement for DCI Claudia Brady illustrated how dealers can set up their own AML/CFT frameworks and the ways to conduct a risk assessment (RA) for their businesses. She reminded the attendees that DCI will conduct regular onsite and offsite monitoring of the industry, to ensure compliance.

Ms Brady then hosted a Q&A session, in which attendees could ask questions

of the panelists anonymously. Dealers were given a feedback form to help shape future outreach events and to better assist the DCI team in providing support to the DNFBBs.

Director of DCI, Ryan Rajkumarsigh reveals the workshop was attended by around 70% of registered entities and applauds his team for their many efforts to drive attendance.

"We are also providing a video link of the session to all DPMS, so they can review any complex subject areas again. The small number of dealers who were unable to attend will be invited to further workshops and also encouraged to view the video session," Mr Rajkumarsigh explains.

The Director also reminds DNFBBs that the next outreach session hosted by the department will be on Thursday, 29 August. This mandatory session will focus on the requirements of real estate agents and brokers. Interested stakeholders are asked to contact [enforcement@dc.gov.ky](mailto:enforcement@dc.gov.ky) to register their attendance.

## POLICE NEWS

### Police Assist Vessel at Sea

Just before 8:00AM on Tuesday, 20 August, police received a report that a vessel with four persons on board had been travelling from Tampa, Florida, to Grand Cayman when their family members on island lost contact with them. At the time that contact was lost, the vessel had been located just outside of Cuba.

The Joint Marine Unit along with the Air Operations Unit deployed to locate the vessel. The US Coast Guard was also notified and their assistance requested. An emergency positioning beacon on the vessel was activated by those on board, and picked up by the US Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center in Miami. With the assistance of the coordinates provided, the Air Operations Unit helicopter crew were able to locate the vessel approximately 70 miles outside of the Cayman Islands. Contact was established and the vessel was found to be in good condition and the occupants in good health.

It was established that the vessel did not have sufficient fuel to return to the Cayman Islands. The police helicopter then returned to Grand Cayman and a private vessel was organized by the boaters, carrying the fuel needed to make the journey home.



► The police helicopter assisted in co-ordinating the fuel exchange.

The AOU helicopter crew launched again in the afternoon and helped co-ordinate the locations of the two vessels, meeting them approximately 40 miles off the coast for the fuel transfer.

The vessel arrived to Grand Cayman just after 9:00PM last night. Their arrival was monitored by the JMU until a safe arrival was confirmed.

### RCIPS Warns of Fake Email

The RCIPS would like to alert the public that someone has been accepting complaints from the public and corresponding with members of the public regarding police matters using the email address [Bobden.lason@rcips.ky](mailto:Bobden.lason@rcips.ky). This email address is false. The RCIPS does not currently have an employee by the name of Larson Bobden and this email address does not exist in our official directories.

The RCIPS also does not have a Complaints Unit that is located at the Elizabethan Square in George Town. Complaints against police officers must be sent to the Professional Standards Unit, located on Windjammer Plaza, Walkers Road or through the Ombudsman Office located on Anderson Square, George Town. For more information on both the offices, visit our website [www.rcips.ky](http://www.rcips.ky) or the website of the Ombudsman at [www.ombudsman.ky](http://www.ombudsman.ky).

If you receive any correspondence from this email address, we advise that you do not respond or click on any links that you may receive, but instead report the matter to the police immediately.

Please note that formal complaints can also be submitted at any police station.

The RCIPS thanks you for your cooperation.

# Promotions at Ogier in Cayman

## Patrice Stewart hires Vashti Ramgeet hires

Ogier in Cayman has promoted Patrice Stewart to Assistant HR Manager and Vashti Ramgeet to Senior Administrator in Ogier Global, Ogier's corporate administration business.

Patrice joined Ogier in September 2017 and this is her second promotion at the firm. In 2019 Patrice studied for and passed her PHRI certification and was named Top Young HR Professional of the Year in the Cayman Islands Society of Human Resources Professionals Awards. Patrice has played a key role in the growth of Ogier in Cayman to over 100 employees.

Vashti joined Ogier Global in January 2018 and plays a key role in the corporate administration business in a client facing capacity. She is praised by colleagues and clients alike for her focussed approach.

Practice Partner James Bergstrom said:

"We are delighted to see the well-deserved progression of Patrice and Vashti. Ogier in Cayman continues to go from strength to strength thanks to the quality of our people, and we continue to be committed to recognising, developing and rewarding local talent." 🌐

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# Grand Opening of new Superior Auto Apprenticeship Centre

... Continued story from page A1

Cayman Islands with qualified automotive technicians and tradesmen with the required knowledge, skills and attitude to meet the needs of the automotive industry.

Pastor Bentley Robinson opened in prayer: "We pray Father for the great success of this program, we pray, O lord, for great wisdom, and knowledge and understanding, we pray you will protect all of those who will be involved."

Master of Ceremonies Graham Crisp said: "Thank you for coming to celebrate this milestone; this wonderful occasion where an idea was born, and now it is in reality. I would like to congratulate Mark and Denise DeMercado for all their hard work. They did not quit on their dream of having a facility for the Caymanian youth, to be able to obtain a career in auto mechanics. They saw that there was a need for skilled auto mechanics on the island, and there was no recourse but to hire from abroad. It is upon this premise that Mark and Denise decided to establish a training programme to recruit and train locally.

"Superior Auto training program was established so students who are mechanically inclined can learn, work, and make discoveries. It will provide substantial and organic growth for this island. The fruits of the future mechanics, plumbers, carpenters and other skilled

artisans would be produced right here in this Island."

Denise DeMercado said: "When you're inspired by some great purpose, your mind transcends limitations; your consciousness expands in every direction, and you find yourself in a new, great and wonderful world

"Today we cut the ribbon, and continue on our journey to deliver an internationally recognised and certified programme in automotive repair technology and other marketable skills, underpinned by the Jamaican-German Automotive School, JAGAS and Heart Trust.

Our students will learn mathematics and English, technical drawing and numerous courses of skills of an expanded programme including furniture-making, plumbing, air conditioning, and technology, to name a few. We have come this far because of all the individuals, agencies and stakeholders who took the time to believe in us; who have come to understand the value of our vision and walk with us."

Just before the ribbon was cut, Education Minister Juliana O' Connor-Connolly came to praise the hard work, vision, and dedication to Cayman's young people which was behind the new building and all it stood for.

She spoke about the need to invest in, and believe in young people, and issued a challenge too: "For far too long, we have talked, we have criticized, our young people. Will you commit to bring-



► (L-r) Joan Findlay, director of HEART Trust/NTA, Education Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Superior Auto's Denise DeMercado, HEART Trust/NTA's Kenesha Campbell and Superior Auto's Mark DeMercado

ing your vehicles here for these young people to work on. Is your confidence level colossal enough?"

One of the previous students, Sean Reid said: "I went through the Superior Auto Training Programme and I graduated and I managed to move on after that and get employment at Cayman Airways. It was the Jamaican-German Automotive School course, and it covered

every aspect you can think of, including suspension, air condition systems, gasoline and diesel engines, how to repair them, and how to diagnose them. I started in 2015 and I graduated in 2016."

Two of the classrooms were named after two previous students, Damian Rose and David Ebanks, who both, sadly, passed on shortly after finishing their training. 🌐



► Sean Reid



► Denise DeMercado



► Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

# Jamaican road fatalities alarming

Jamaica's road fatality rate is 19 percent higher this year than last and causing immense concern with the government.

Since the start of the year, 273 people have died on Jamaican roads which means that the government has already revised its hope of under 300 dying this year.

Kenute Hare, Director of the Road Safety Unit, fears that projected numbers show an increase as motorcyclists and pedestrians continue to be the road users most being killed on the roads.

"Road users must obey the rules of the road at all times. We cannot afford

to lose anyone else, slow down and save lives as we approach the new school year," Mr Hare pleaded.

The RSU is again appealing to motorists to reduce their speed and exercise greater caution on the nation's roads.

"We are appealing to drivers to cut their speed and look out for vulnerable road users. Never overtake at a bend or at a junction or unnecessarily; never drive in a manner that will prove offensive to other road users," he said.

Additionally, Hare is again urging that all drivers fasten their seat belts and ensure that their passengers do the same. 🌐



► Jamaica's road fatalities are at a record high

# Dominica tops places to settle again

Dominica's Citizenship by Investment Programme is acknowledged as the number one country to settle in according to the just released 2019 Confederation of British Industry Index.

Published by the Financial Times' Professional Wealth Management magazine, the special report ranked the Commonwealth of Dominica as the best country in the world to obtain economic citizenship from for the third consecutive year.

Dominica maintained its top position in the independent study by scoring full marks in five of the seven factors against which programmes are typically assessed.

Dominica excelled in terms of due diligence; ease of processing; citizenship timeline; mandatory travel or residence; and minimum investment outlay. Financial experts noted that Dominica is leading the way in terms of CBI integrity and accountability with respect to real projects for native citizens, so much so that European Union member states like



► Dominica's Scott's Head is one of its nicest attractions

Malta and Cyprus are said to be replicating the Dominican model.

Dominica's programme is hugely important to its economy, helping mitigate the devastating damage wreaked by Tropical Storm Erika in 2015 and Hurricane Maria in 2017. Two years later, tourism numbers are soaring, exceeding pre-Maria levels by over 11 percent.

It has bounced back remarkably, inspiring confidence from world-leading brands rushing to open their hotels in Dominica. 🌐

# Antigua welcomes more New Yorkers

Antigua tourism is doing so well that JetBlue is increasing its flights from New York to the island.

JetBlue is set to launch a big expansion to Antigua's VC Bird International Airport. The New York City-based carrier will be adding two additional flights from New York to Antigua every week, according to Tourism Minister Charles Fernandez.

That will mean nonstop flights from New York to Antigua and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

"The increase in this carrier's capacity will be a welcome boost for our weddings and honeymoon market. It will ensure that adequate airlift is available to support the marketing efforts of both the Tourism Authority and our hotels ahead of the busy Thanksgiving holiday in the United States, which signals the start of the winter season," said Colin C. James, CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

"This has been one of the most successful months in airlift for us this year," Mr Fernandez said. "The overall feedback from our airline partners, this year, is that they have seen strong demand



► Antigua's capital St John's is enjoying record visitors

for our product, particularly during the summer months, largely as a result of the over 500 rooms that we have added within the last few months; and our robust summer campaign #WhatCool-LooksLike."

Those new rooms are highlighted by the recent debut of the new Royalton Antigua.

The JetBlue expansion comes as Antigua has seen renewed airlift growth, most notably with Virgin Atlantic's recent announcement that it would be adding an additional daily flight from the United Kingdom. British Airways will also be offering daily service year-round to Antigua beginning next summer. 🌐

# Barbados tourism records set

Barbados enjoyed its recent Crop Over season which helped its tourism industry significantly. Barbadian superstar singer Rihanna enjoyed Crop Over as usual.

Tourist arrivals in Barbados are up by just over five percent for the first seven months of the year and the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. is pressing ahead with initiatives to achieve a record-breaking year.

As the island continues its recovery from the regional fall-out from the 2017 hurricane season, the BTMI is aggressively pursuing new cruise marketing and product development initiatives, which have resulted in the months of February, March, April and July recording increased cruise arrivals, the release said. It is anticipated that these initiatives will contribute to longer term growth.

The highest growth for the first half of 17.6 per cent was recorded in the Central and South America market, followed by the United States at

10.9 percent. Germany and the United Kingdom also performed favourably with increases of 8.5 and 7.9 percent, respectively. 🌐



► Rihanna always attends Crop Over

# St Kitts crops blighted by monkeys

St Kitts and Nevis farmers are at their wits end as green vervet monkeys continue to ruin their crops by eating them.

The monkeys are as iconic as St Kitts and Nevis' historic fortresses and black sand beaches, but they are causing the agricultural industry major problems by munching their way through crops from mangoes and watermelons to squash and cucumber. So indiscriminate are their taste buds, research indicates three in four of the country's farms are now affected.

Balancing tourism, which accounts for almost two-thirds of the country's Gross Domestic Product, against the need to feed the human population, is a peculiar dichotomy.

Monkey numbers have exploded in recent years since the collapse of the sugar industry which kept them largely confined to the mountains, feeding on cane and culled by rangers.

With fruit trees also lost to hurricanes, the monkeys have gradually



► St Kitts and Nevis crops are blighted by monkeys

made their way down from the hills and into residential areas.

Not only are they believed to now outnumber their human counterparts with estimates of up to 60,000, they routinely outwit them too.

Frustrated farmers' attempts to frighten the dexterous monkeys away from their fruit and veg with scarecrows, rubber snakes and fake birds of prey in mimicry of their natural West African predators are consistently thwarted. But the monkeys are not easily fooled. It may lead to major culling of the animals, much like the Cayman Islands has culled its vast iguana population. 🌐

# Grenada police working with US

Grenada has launched a security initiative in conjunction with the United States which will help the Grenada police force monitor and capture criminals better.

The United States government, in collaboration with the government of Grenada, launched a Police Records Management Information System that will help the Grenada police force to improve data management and analysis.

The PRMIS system will be piloted in three police stations namely; St Paul's, St George's Central and St George's South

and will ultimately strengthen police response to support crime reduction through measures such as geo-mapping crime and victim and offender profiling.

The system, a key component of the United States Agency for International Development's CarISECURE project, uses standardized crime and violence data to foster evidence-based policy and programming across nine Caribbean countries, including Grenada. These countries will benefit from customized software that generates high-quality data. 🌐



► Grenadian police are using US detection technology



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