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380 Planning Permissions granted

● CRUISE PORT REFERENDUM — A7

Keep up to date on the Cruise Port Referendum signature verification

Visit Elections.ky for regular progress updates

# of Elector Signatures Submitted for Verification	# of Verification Forms Received	# of Signatures Remaining to be Verified	# of Verification Forms Remaining to Reach 5,121*	% of the Required Signatures Received	Date & Time of Last Update of Verified Count
5,637	3,705	1,932	1,587	70.0%	July 30th, 9am

* 5,121 Signatures Required (50% of 10,242 registered electors + 1,200)

ELECTIONS OFFICE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

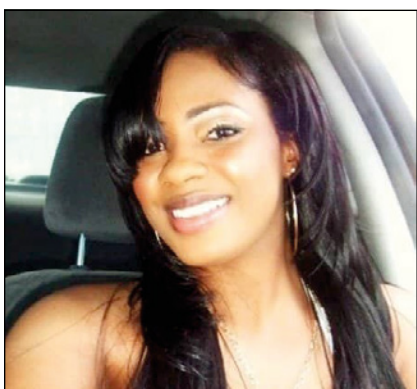
70% of Signatures verified - 76 petitioners declined

● SPOTLIGHT ON TOURISM — A9



Creating a Culture of Service Excellence

● POLICE NEWS — A10



RCIPS: Investigation ongoing into Kerran's disappearance

● GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS — B3



British pound slumps again

Get ready for Miss Teen 2019

Five beautiful young ladies – the contestants for Cayman Islands Miss Teen 2019 pageant arrived at Grand Old House in grand, old-time style on Saturday 27 July for their Sashing Ceremony, where each contestant is provided with a sash from their sponsor.

The ladies looked resplendent in their evening dresses, each one a different colour, just like the strands from a wonderful living rainbow. One by one they ventured to the podium to tell the world about themselves, and exactly why they should be the next Cayman Islands Miss Teen Queen.

Contestant 1, Ashley Gooden, 16, said, "Good evening. I am proudly representing the agricultural and historical district of Bodden Town." Ashley attends Cayman Prep and High School where she is taking her A levels. After she leaves school, Ashley said she would like to become a school teacher, as well as a psychologist.

Contestant 2, Jada Bodded, 16, from Bodden Town who is currently pursuing her Associate degree at UCCI, describes herself as being an "Active" person. She served as the sports captain for many years while attending Clifton Hunter High School and plays flag football for the Giants as well.



► Left to Right: Amelia Lamie, sponsored by Grape Tree Cafe; Ashley Gooden, sponsored by APS security; Sade Parchment sponsored by Impressions Beauty Salon; Jada Bodden sponsored by Partyville, and Monina Thompson who had an anonymous sponsor

... Continued story on page A4

Details on cruise facility revealed

Government named Verdant Isle Port Partners last week as the preferred bidder selected to build and maintain the George Town Cruise Berthing Facility, a consortium of four individual companies: McAlpine Ltd, Orion Marine Construction Inc. Carnival Corporation Ltd and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Now that the bidder has been named, the Ministry of Tourism provided details this week as to how much the project will cost and what it will look like.

According to a press release, VIPP were selected as the preferred bidder following a detailed analysis of the bid by the Ministry of Tourism, the Port Authority, PWD's Major Projects Office and specialist consultants KPMG, Hatch, Royal Haskoning DHV, and Appleby/Pinsent Mason's who provided technical, financial and legal services during the procurement process.

Environmental impact

The Ministry said that the design would minimise environmental impact because it would be built on two-finger piers constructed on pilings which would allow the sea and marine life to move freely underneath. Pilings are commonly used all over the world in the construction of piers and bridges situated over water, the release said.

At a press conference on Monday, Tourism Minister Moses Kirkconnell said it was understandable that the potential impact to the environment had been a cause of concern because Cayman's natural environment was integral to the viability of the country's tourism product.

"As a responsible government we made a commitment from the outset

... Continued story on page A11



► Proposed CBF with ships at berth

Sargassum clearance continues with a team of NiCE workers



► A team of National Community Enhancement (NiCE) Project workers will be employed shortly for a further stint of sargassum clearing in the worst affected areas

The Minister for Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Hon. Joey Hew informed the Legislative Assembly that a team of National Community Enhancement (NiCE) Project workers will be employed shortly for a further stint of sargassum clearing.

His (Thursday, 25 July) statement updated members following the completion of this month's initiative (8-19 July), advising that more than 200 tonnes of the seaweed had been collected. Sargassum clearance was targeted and took place in heavily affected areas

... Continued story on page A6

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1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
BATABANO PLAZA
WEST BAY

EDITORIAL

The Potential Divide: Caymanian vs. Non-Caymanian

The Cayman Islands is a melting pot of cultures. This situation is common around the globe as many foreign nationals leave their homeland for better employment opportunities or to find a life partner. The Cayman Islands is no exception and in the past 30 years many non-Caymanians travelled to these shores for a better wage and also to avoid paying income taxes in their countries.

These migrants were welcomed as they were able to fill the workforce gaps that existed for a nation with a developing financial industry.

Today, the chickens have come home as they say, as many Caymanians are finding it difficult to secure jobs that are filled by non-Caymanians. The daily complaints and concerns aired in the media is evidence to this potential

divide as some Caymanian employees experience resistance in the workplace.

There has to be a balance and we wish for that day we can all get along.

Non-Caymanians form an essential component in our economic model, but on the other hand, Caymanians should not be sidelined. This media source will always publish articles that seek to unite all residents in an attempt to avoid the disastrous division that may result if the current employment situation is not resolved.

Everyone wants a piece of the pie. It is better to share your piece than to build walls to prevent others from taking what they need to survive.

It is time to eliminate the potential divide and work together for the good of all.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Saturday Night Live in George Town Event

The George Town Revitalisation Initiative would like to notify the public that the first Saturday Night Live in George Town event will take place on Saturday, 3 August 2019 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Hog Sty Bay.

The event will create a modern downtown waterfront atmosphere filled with live music, local artisans and tapas-style Caymanian food.

Bring your family and friends and enjoy a celebration of the beautiful city of George Town.





EVENT DETAILS

WHAT A celebration of food, music and culture

WHEN Saturday, August 3, 2019
4pm to 11pm

WHERE Hog Sty Bay, George Town



"Saturday Night Live In G.T."

Celebration of Culture • Music • Food



In keeping with the revitalisation of George Town, this event is aimed at creating a modern downtown waterfront atmosphere filled with live music, art, artists, local artisans, tapas style Caymanian food served from food trucks, and stalls of downtown restaurants and small businesses under the beautiful sunsets of Hog Sty Bay.

Bring your family, friends and come enjoy a celebration of our beautiful city of George Town.



COMMUNITY NOTICE

Delays Possible as WORC Staff in Training

Customers of Workforce Opportunities and Residency Cayman (WORC) department may experience some service delays as front counter staff will be on training for the next few weeks.

The training is underway to ensure that all staff members are trained in the new processes that are in place at

the department (which is an amalgamation of former sections under Immigration and the National Workforce Development Agency).

WORC apologises for the inconvenience this may cause members of the public and seeks their patience during this time.

Zero Customs Duties for Electric Vehicles

The Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure has announced incentives to encourage more environmentally friendly vehicle ownership across the Cayman Islands. Customs duties applied to electric and hybrid vehicles are to be greatly reduced.

The announcement was made by the Minister of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Hon. Joey Hew, at the Legislative Assembly last Thursday (Thursday, 25 July 2019).

Electric vehicles, which cost \$29,999 or below, now attract zero tariffs to consumers importing such vehicles for personal use. While individuals importing hybrid vehicles, of \$29,999 or below value, for personal use will now pay 10% in import tariffs.

Those importing commercial vehicles will also see the tariffs of electric and hybrid vehicles reduce (to as little as 5% and 12% respectively).

Bicycles also no longer attract any customs duties, as do electric motor cycles and electric bicycles.

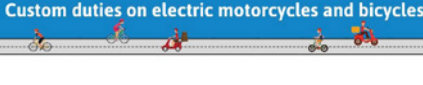
A full breakdown of the updated customs duties is available at gov.ky and on the Ministry of CPI Facebook page.

In the future, the Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure plans to work closely with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development as well as the Customs and Border Force Agency to conduct biennial reviews of the tariff structure.

The reduction in tariffs mean choosing to import an electric or hybrid vehicle over a fossil fuel alternative will now offer further financial incentives in addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fewer trips to the gas station.


There are approximately 160 electric vehicles already licensed to drive on Cayman's roads. By making this change, the Ministry addresses a key strategy

Custom duties on electric motorcycles and bicycles



0%

custom duty on **electric motorcycles, electric bicycles and push bicycles**



for the department to encourage a greater share of fuel efficient, electric and hybrid vehicles.

"The Ministry of CPI recognises that the transportation sector has vast potential for energy efficiency and energy conservation," the Hon. Joey Hew said during a speech at the Legislative Assembly.

"We see this initiative as a kick start to assist our citizens with switching to low emissions vehicles for the wider social and environment benefits to be gained from reducing greenhouse gases and petroleum dependence", he continued.

Feedback the Ministry received from the private sector suggested that businesses were waiting to see what action the government would take regarding the transition towards green energy.

With the reduction in tariffs, along with the expansion of Grand Cayman's electric vehicle charging station infrastructure, the Ministry hopes this serves to strengthen the public's confidence in the future of electric vehicles on the island.

This announcement forms part of broader energy efficiency initiatives under way as part of the National Energy Policy. The government is also planning to transition its own fleet to more fuel efficient or electric options, where practical, in the future.

Custom duties on electric and hybrid vehicles			
PERSONAL USE		COMMERCIAL USE	
Electric vehicles	Hybrid vehicles	Electric vehicles	Hybrid vehicles
\$1 - \$29,999 0% duty	\$1 - \$29,999 10% duty	\$1 - \$29,999 5% duty	\$1 - \$29,999 12% duty
\$30,000 - \$60,999 5% duty	\$30,000 - \$60,999 12% duty	\$30,000 - \$60,999 10% duty	\$30,000 - \$60,999 15% duty
\$61,000 - \$99,999 10% duty	\$61,000 - \$99,999 15% duty	\$61,000 - \$99,999 15% duty	\$61,000 - \$99,999 17% duty
\$100,000 & above 15% duty	\$100,000 & above 17% duty	\$100,000 & above 17% duty	\$100,000 & above 20% duty

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CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT



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Caymanian Times

Issue # 409

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The Cruise Berthing and Port Facility Delivers Many Wins for Cayman



Pedestrian view of the CBF



The CBF will be built on pilings allowing water and marine life to flow freely.

- ✓ World-class infrastructure at no cost to the public purse.
- ✓ Environmental impact significantly reduced.
- ✓ No upland development – this means no retail or commercial space operated by cruise lines.
- ✓ Costs less than CI\$200 million which includes the cargo port expansion and upgrade.
- ✓ Safeguards the future of the cruise industry.
- ✓ Protects existing jobs and creates more of them.
- ✓ Built by a consortium comprising a trusted developer and industry partners.
- ✓ Managed and owned by the Port Authority on behalf of the people of the Cayman Islands.

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Visit the CBF website at www.SupportOurTourism.com

For all the facts, news and latest information and get daily updates on our Facebook page.

Get ready for Miss Teen 2019

Miss Teen Sashing Ceremony at Grand Old House

... Continued story from page A1

Contestant 3 Monina Thompson 18, from George Town uses three words to describe herself: "Goofy, compassionate and ambitious". Currently completing her Associate degree at the UCCI Monahas played an active role in a number of service clubs and has been Vice President in Key Club, as a member of Interact. Monina has always loved taking part in sports, especially swimming, and made to CARIFTA in 2014. "The only

limitations there are, are the ones we set on ourselves," she said. "Go so for what you choose even if it scares you"

Contestant number 4, 17-year-old Amelia Lamie from Bodden Town described herself as "A team player, committed, outgoing." Passionate about art, she would love to be either an architect or a lawyer in the future. Amelia loves singing, and would like to use her voice as a source of inspiration to others, she said. "It doesn't matter what you look like on the outside, what truly mat-

ters is who you are on the inside," she said.

Contestant number 5, 17 year old Sade Parchment West Bay described herself as: "Ambitious, generous and open-minded." Sade is currently pursuing a degree in Social Studies at the UCCI with the hope of furthering her education in the areas of social work and Family Law. When she was at high school Sade was a prefect, and also involved in the Junior Achievement. Her hobbies include playing basketball and softball,

singing and volunteering at the humane society. Sade wants to bring awareness of helping those in need and also would like to be a role model to those who are insecure about certain aspects of themselves.

After each young lady was sashed by their sponsor, the Miss Teen Crown, sponsored by The Finishing Touch Jewellery was unveiled, and everyone enjoyed a wonderful banquet, fit for a princess. The pageant will take place on Saturday August 24th at the Lions Centre

12 CIFEC Students graduate as Certified Health Care Aides

(CIFEC) Health Care Aide Pinning & Certification Ceremony

Twelve young ladies from the Cayman Islands Further Education Centre received their Health Care Aide certification on July 25, 2019. CIFEC has been in partnership from 2010 with the Health Services Authority (HSA) to offer this program. The students who are enrolled in the BTEC Health & Social Care course also do a twelve week training program with the HSA which enables them to become certified Health Care Aides. The stu-

dents completed eight weeks of theory lessons taught by a certified nurse and four weeks practicum at the George Town hospital where they practiced the skills learnt.

Dr. Hazel Brown, Chief Nursing Officer stated that she no longer looks outside of this program for Health Care Aides. Mrs. Carol Sue Ryan, retired Public health nurse from Cayman Brac was the instructor for this year. She has taken the course to a new level by having students trained in fire safety. CIFEC was privileged to have her work with these young ladies as she not only served as an instructor, but also a mentor.

At the certification ceremony held on July 25, 2019 the students were all pinned in addition to receiving their certificates. Nurse Ryan encouraged the students to always put God first in all that they do. The students receiving their Health Care Aide Certification were: Victoria Carmola, Ericka Dixon, Aliceanna Ebanks-Romero, Shakeilia Ebanks, Brianna Kerr, Britannia Liking, Krystal Morales-Ebanks, Zayda Rankine,



► Health Care Aides 2019 Graduating Class



► Britannia Liking presenting students' remarks

Aleek Rose, Shadai Solomon, Ornella Thomas and Vivian Worrell.

CIFEC Director, Mrs. Delores Thompson, says "It is exciting to be able to train students to fill this role at the HSA. CIFEC is looking for other partnerships where the school can train students to take up roles

in the workforce." CIFEC also offers an apprenticeship program with PWD, and this past school year a successful pilot programme in watersports was offered. The programme will now be added to the cadre of apprenticeships offered by

the school. These programmes prepare students for the workplace and provide them with opportunities for higher learning. At the end of the academic year seven students from CIFEC received scholarships from Rotary to attend UCCI.



► Principal Delores Thompson presenting certificate to Aliceanna Ebanks-Romero

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THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY PLANNING PERMISSIONS GRANTED DURING FIRST TWO QUARTERS OF 2019

Director of Planning at the Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Haroon Pandohie informed members of the development community that the Department

approved 380 planning permissions during the first two quarters of 2019, with projects valued at \$523,186,171.

Six hundred and fifty-nine planning permits, valued \$205,349,385, were issued for the same period.

Mr. Pandohie was speaking at "Business After Hours", an informational and feedback session hosted by the Department of Planning at the Family Life Centre recently (Wednesday, July 25). Also in attendance were Alan Jones, Chief Officer and Tristan Hydes, Deputy Chief Officer at the Ministry of Commerce Planning and Infrastructure.

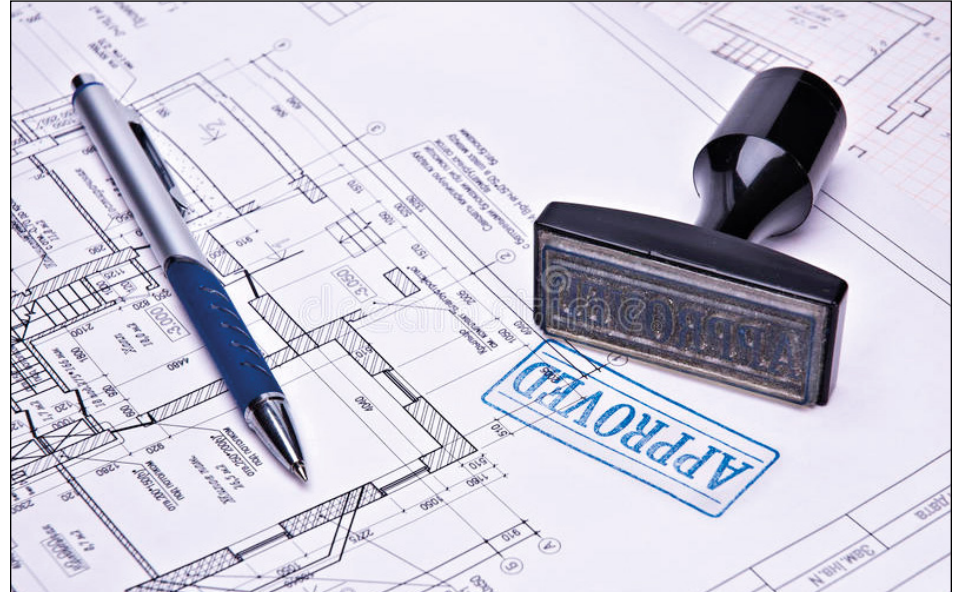
Mr. Pandohie also stated that the Department was focused on improving customer interface with the online planning system.

"Every service offered by the Department is available on the planning portal. Our objective is to enhance the efficiency and quality of our service while reducing the amount of paper involved in the planning process and instances in which applicants have to resubmit information", he said.

He further noted that efforts were being made to speed up the timeframe for applications and streamline the process for applying for planning permissions to the permit process.

The online planning system currently allows clients of the Department to apply for permits online, and to track permit related plan reviews and inspections. In addition to logging into the system to view information, key status updates are automatically sent to customers via email.

Some of the key features of the system include applying for various permit types online, uploading of electronic



plans and drawings, tracking of plan reviews, requesting and tracking of inspection requests and tracking of plan reviews.

The Department of Planning will host other information sessions to connect with stakeholders and keep them abreast of issues which affects them.

Ministerial Statement on Completion of NiCE Summer Project

... Continued story from page A1

including South Sound Boat Launch and Broadwalk areas, the Frank Sound Launch Ramp and Coe Wood Beach in Bodden Town.

"While the crews were able to clear and maintain the beaches free from sargassum on some occasions, we recognise that this is an ongoing situation which will require continuous effort," he explained.

"Consequently, the Ministry of CPI has decided to extend the NiCE programme for a further two-weeks as part of a pilot programme which will involve a small

	District
George Town	186
West Bay	138
Bodden Town	76
North Side	48
East End	38
Total	486

	Gender
Male	296
Female	190
Total	486

	Age
18 to 35	210
36 to 60	214
61 and over	62
Total	486

crew with additional equipment. This approach will assist us to better assess the resources required to manage the problem."

Minister Hew reiterated that a National Sargassum Plan was being developed by to resolve the phenomena. He mentioned that a multi-agency task force had been headed up by his Ministry to review the issue and that information was being gathered and assessed to map a way forward.

Minister Hew also detailed the other types of beautification work undertaken, and presented the following NiCE Summer 2019 statistics (see attached tables).

In closing the Minister thanked all the individuals, agencies and Ministries involved in the success of the most recent project.



SUNSET F.C.
Men's 6's Football
Tournament

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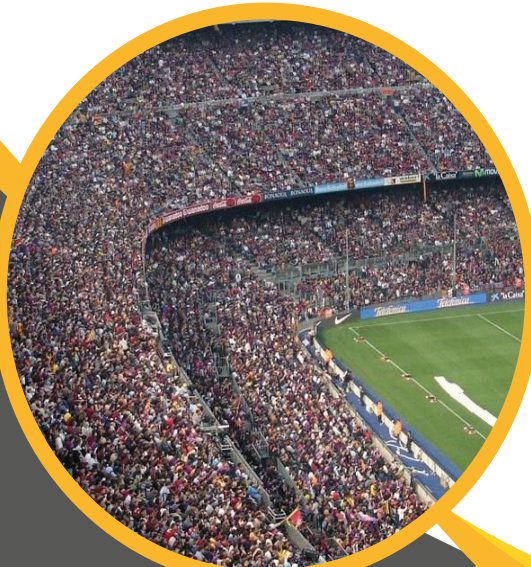
To Register your Team please e-mail GThacker@sunsetfccayman.com
(Only 16 Teams will be allowed to enter so it will be on a first come first served basis.)

Entry Fee: CI\$325 Per Team
Trophy and \$250 cash prize for Winners of The Sunset Cup. Non-cash prizes for Winners of The Sunset Plate.

Deadline for Payment is August 23rd.
Online at Bank of Butterfield – Sunset Football Club, Account 02201033892
Thank You.

SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2019 @ CAMANA BAY SPORTS COMPLEX FROM 9.30AM UNTIL 6PM.

Each Squad will consist of 10 players participating in 3 group games and then either the Sunset Cup or the Sunset Plate Knockout Competitions (depending on group position)



Updated Figures & Summary Submissions

As the verification process on the cruise port referendum petition signatures moves forward, the Elections Office would like to inform the public on its current progress.

As of 9a.m. today (Tuesday, 30 July 2019), the Elections Office reports a total of 3,705 petition signatures have been confirmed, out of a total submission of 5,637 petition signatures to be verified.

Through the collection of signature verification forms, officials have now reviewed 70% required to meet the constitutional requirement of 25% of registered voters (5,292 signatures). Officials confirm that 76 petitioners have declined to sign the official verification forms.

The Elections Office continues to accept petition signatures submitted by the CPR group and is in some cases receiving verification forms in advance of the next CPR submission. In the latter cases, persons have stated that they recently signed the petition and have asked for their signatures to be verified at the Elections Office or at our local supermarket verification booths, in advance of the CPR submitting the signatures for verification.

With each submission, the CPR group has reported and the Elections Office has confirmed a number of signatures that were excluded from verification. These excluded signatures are not included in

submitted totals or verified totals. The following is a summary of the two CPR submissions:

- **On 12 June 2019**
 - 6,053 signatures were delivered by the CPR group during the official handover
 - 241 of those signatures, the CPR reported as being multiple submissions (persons signing more than once)
 - 374 signatures, the CPR reported as not corresponding with the current electoral register (signatures from non-voters)
 - **5,438** - the total signatures submitted by the CPR for verification.
- **On 11 July 2019**
 - 229 signatures were handed over by the CPR group
 - 16 of those signatures were reported to be multiple submissions
 - 14 of the signatures were reported as not corresponding with the current electoral register
 - **199** - the total signatures submitted by the CPR for verification.

Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Wesley Howell, notes: "With each of the submissions, the CPR performed its own assessment on its petition signatures to help in ensuring validity of the process; and the CPR team worked to eliminate the names of non-voters, in keeping with section 70 of the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009.

Keep up to date on the Cruise Port Referendum signature verification

Visit Elections.ky
for regular progress updates

# of Elector Signatures Submitted for Verification*	# of Verification Forms Received	# of Signatures Remaining to be Verified	# of Verification Forms Remaining to Reach 5,292**	% of the Required 5,292** Signatures Received	Date & Time of Last Update of Verified Count
5,637	3,705	1,932	1,587	70.0%	July 30th, 9am

*5,438 submitted June 12th + 199 submitted July 11th
**Constitutionally required 25% of the 21,116 registered electors = 5,292

"I would like to thank the CPR team for their continued support in helping to expedite the verification process."

The Elections Office continues to provide weekly progress reports to His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper. The summary facts are then shared with Cabinet members.

Officials will continue with its various verification methods to review the

1,932 signatures currently remaining to be verified.

In order to meet the constitutional requirement with 25% of the 21,116 registered electors, a total of 1,587 verification forms still need to be confirmed.

For more information on the verification process and details on how interested persons can verify their signature today, please visit www.elections.ky/cpr.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Dear Editor

I won't try to speak for the Christian community or any other community for that matter, but I am a Christian, I have a voice and I need to say something.

There are so many times in life when as Christians we have to pray about something or we have to try to determine what Jesus would do. Then there are times when neither is necessary. Those times are when we simply need to ask what did Jesus say, and what did Jesus do and then to honor and obey him we repeat his words and model his behaviour. Our only prayer in these circumstances is that we would speak with love as he would.

When the adulterous woman was brought to Jesus, he modeled instantly what we should also do with regard to sin--any kind. First he took time; he didn't rush to speak, secondly he challenged those around him to examine themselves, thirdly he showed love and compassion, and as her accusers slinked away, he said, "Neither do I condemn you..." This is the heart of love that Jesus expects us to model for everyone if we are his followers.

But that was not all he said. He also said, "Go and sin no more." so while he was showing love to this immoral woman, and challenging her accusers, he was also identifying her lifestyle as sinful and he charged her in more gentle words to stop it.

Jesus upheld all of the moral laws of the Old Testament and in fact he raised them to a higher, more demanding level. That is why he says if a "man lusts after a woman" (and vice-versa) he has committed adultery although no act has been committed. He would not have condoned homosexuality because the Scripture said it was sin.

Right here we have a clear indication of what Jesus would do and what Jesus would say. We can say and do no less. Certainly the New Testament soundly condemns homosexuality while encouraging us as Christians to be loving, compassionate, and accepting of people even if we have to condemn their behaviour/lifestyle. There are people in my circle that are heterosexuals but have a life style that is clearly condemned by scripture. I love and respect them, but I can't accept their life-style.

If our Christian community did not respond to this unbiblical behaviour, we would be dishonoring our Lord. And how can we put man and his desires

before God. It surprises me that any member of this community would think that we should accept this in the name of rights and not say anything, when we have a very clear example from Scripture. What kind of Jesus followers we would be if we remained silent? I cringe at the way some Christians have responded to this challenge--that attitude is not pleasing to the Lord, but I also know many Christians that feel exactly as I do that while we must condemn certain lifestyles, all people deserve our respect. That is Scriptural too!!

Furthermore, there are reasons other than religious ones why same sex marriage is not advisable. In every community, every country that has ever contemplated same sex marriage, there has been resistance from both Christians and non-Christians. It is no different here. Same sex marriage cannot found a family. To found something is to start it. A same sex couple MUST seek a member of the opposite sex to establish a family, but together they can't start it, can't "found" it. Even here the pure definition of "family" is being changed to exclude one parent, while nature, nurture, and experience show us that the strongest unit of a family is a father, a mother, and children. Many things may happen to change that dynamic, such as death or divorce, but it is still proven to be the best definition with the best results, particularly for the children. Just think of the "father" element that is missing when a child has two mothers and the "mother" element that is missing when a child has two fathers. That child is cheated!!! It is unnatural, and unfortunate for the children in these relationships. Men and women were made to complement each other. We are different not just physically. We each bring a major gender difference to the home.

Homosexuals are human beings just like the rest of us. There is no reason why there should not be mutual respect. I interact with homosexuals (even in my personal circle) and I have never made them feel that they are less than I am. As a Christ follower I am to be a positive influence in the lives of everyone I meet. I see them as people who deserve my respect and love, but they also know that I cannot condone their lifestyle anymore than I can condone adultery or fornication, because all sexual sin is a violation of God's moral law.

If people want to choose these lifestyles, it is their

choice. God made us free moral agents, but that does not mean that everything we choose is right. Sexual sin is always a wrong choice before God.

I would encourage both same sex marriage supporters and opponents to listen to Dr. Michael Brown's lecture on same-sex "marriage" delivered in the Faroe Islands, January 23, 2016. You'll find it at <https://youtu.be/sw7WO131hcg>. Dr. Brown was scheduled to debate two parliamentary members who were in favor of redefining marriage but they dropped out a few days before his trip so he gave this lecture instead. He doesn't quote Scripture once, but he gives multiple reasons why same sex marriage is a serious societal problem.

Support for leaving marriage between a man and a woman is also given by the World Court of Human Rights of Strasbourg - France. Here is their recent judgment.

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/european-human-rights-court-rejects-gay-marriage>

The following is a commentary highlighting the facts of that judgment:

"Unanimously, the World Court of Human Rights has established, verbatim, that "there is no right to homosexual marriage." The 47 judges of the 47 countries of the Council of Europe, which are members of the full Court of Strasbourg (the world's most important human rights court) issued a statement of great relevance that has been surprisingly silenced by information progressivism and its area of influence. In fact unanimously the 47 judges approved the ruling that "there is no right to homosexual marriage." The sentence was based on a myriad of philosophical and anthropological considerations based on natural order, common sense, scientific reports and, of course, positive law. Within the latter in particular, the judgment was based on Article 12 of the European convention on Human Rights. This is equivalent to the articles of human rights treaties, as in the case of 17 of the Pact of San Jose and no 23 of the International Covenant on

Civil and Political Rights. In this historic, but not disclosed resolution, the Court decided that the concept of family not only contemplates "the traditional concept of marriage, that is, the union of a man and a woman", but also that they should not be imposed on governments to "obligation to open marriage to persons of the same sex". As for the principle of non-discrimination, the Court also added that there is no discrimination, since, "States are free to reserve marriage only to heterosexual couples."

While we don't need courts and sociologists and anthropologists to tell us that same sex marriage is not a good idea, it is heartening to know that our position, based on God's word, is supported. I believe we can and must maintain love and respect for all people but we must also continue to hold fast to Christian values. Both of these are Biblical. Same sex marriage is definitely not a part of God's plan and I pray it is never legalized in the Cayman Islands.

Kind regards,
Marjorie Ebanks

A note to our clients

Interest Rates Adjustments on USD Credit Facilities

Effective 2 August, 2019, CIBC FirstCaribbean will amend its KYD and USD Prime Rates from 5.50% to 5.25%.

This amendment is in response to the decrease in the US Federal Funds rate announced by the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee in the United States on 31 July, 2019.

Should you have any queries speak with your Branch or Relationship Manager.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

CIMA is hosting College Bound students

2 August - The Cayman Islands Monetary Authority is hosting a student mixer on Friday, 2 August at the Marriott Beach Resort from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. This interactive platform will give college bound students (ages 16 - 25) a chance to meet potential employers, learn about the importance of the financial services industry and how it contributes to the standard of living in the Cayman Islands. The event will include refreshments, prizes and giveaways. For more information or to RSVP, visit cima.ky or call 949 - 7089. Register by July 26th.

Cayman Brac Summer Football Camp

2 - 5 August - The Sports Department of Cayman Brac is hosting a summer football camp from Fri-

day 2 to Monday 5 August from 8am to 12 noon for children ages 7 - 16 years old. For more information, call 948 - 8382.

National Trust Kids' Summer Camp

2 - 9 August - The National Trust continues its Summer Camp. The summer camp will teach kids about Cayman's natural and historic heritage and how they can save it! This camp is for children ages 7 - 12 years old and costs \$250 for Trust members and \$300 for non - members. This includes lunch, snacks and daily field trips. Contact 749 - 1121 or email cchilds@nationaltrust.org.ky.

Culture Reading Challenge

2 - 15 August - Keep your kids reading for summer! The Cayman Brac Heritage House and Cay-

man Brac Public Library Culture Reading Challenge is taking place August 2nd through the 15th. Call 948 - 0563 for more information.

Summer Story Time

2 - 31 August - The Cayman Islands Public Library in Bodden Town is hosting Summer Story time with Uncle Vic every Saturday from July 20th through August 31st at 1030am. For more information, call 947 - 0966 or email boddentown@caymanlibraries.com.

Alvin McLaughlin Collection Exhibition at the National Museum

2 August - 30 November - Visit the Cayman Islands National Museum to view the collection of East End resident Alvin McLaughlin. Mr. McLaughlin's collection is used to showcase the individuality, culture and heritage of the East End district. The museum is opened from Monday to Saturday and schools can book tours. There

is free entry to residents every Saturday. For more information call 949 - 8368 or email info@museum.ky

Saturday Night Live (SNL) in George Town

3 August - The George Town Revitalisation Initiative invites the public to the first Saturday Night Live in George Town event on Saturday, 3 August 2019 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Hog Sty Bay. The event will create a modern downtown waterfront atmosphere filled with live music, local artisans and tapas-style Caymanian food. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a celebration of the beautiful city of George Town.

Soldier Sundays - Crab Racing

4 August - Participate in the Caymanian tradition of Soldier Crab Racing on Sunday 28 July at the Royal Palms Beach Club, West Bay Road. This is a fun way to help the NCVO in its goal to raise \$1.6 million dollars by October. Participation donation is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Visit ncvo.org.ky for more information.

East End United Church's Vacation Bible School

5 August - The East End United Church will be hosting their Vacation Bible School from Monday 5th. to Friday 9th August from 9am to 1pm at the Church all for ages 4 through 18. Registration starts at 8:30am on August 5th. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Call 947 - 7522 for more information.

Free HIV Screenings

6 August - The Public Health Department has extended its hours for free HIV screenings. The free testing is now available from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. every Tuesday at the Cayman Islands Red Cross on Huldah Avenue, George Town. Call 949 - 6785 for more information.

Community Chess

6 August - Join the Cayman Chess Club at The West Indies Wine Company, Camana Bay for a complimentary chess class and open challenges weekly. Anyone can learn play and enjoy chess; even complete beginners. Start time is 5:00pm. Call 640 - 4000 for more information.

Suicide Young Men at Risk Presentation

7 August - The Alex Panton Foundation (APF) in conjunction with the Community Affairs Ministry invites everyone to a presentation on Young Men at Risk on Wednesday, 7th August from 6:30pm to 8pm at South Sound Civic Centre. Email info@alexpantonfoundation.ky for more information.

Learn to Code for free!

12 - 16 August - Code Cayman is launching Youth Code 2019, its first one-of-a-kind computer programming course that will inspire Cayman's next generation to break into the technology by learning to code. The program is free to all students between the ages of 12 - 17 years old but space is limited to 20 participants to ensure one on one tutoring. To register, contact info@codecayman.com, visit www.codecayman.com or call 233 - 0445.

Summer Fun Family Day at the National Gallery

17 August - Join the NGCI Education Department for its free family fun art activities based on the exhibition Tropical Visions. Art activities will be available for children of all ages and self-guided activity booklets can be collected at reception for families to use as they explore. Admission is free and open to all ages. Call 945 - 8111 or email info@nationalgallery.org.ky for more information.



► Summer Fun Family Day at the National Gallery

Commit to be Fit

Fitness starts in your mind. Ask any athlete or fit person what the number one secret is to his success at fitness, and he will tell you it is commitment.

Commitment means that you are in it for the long haul. Commitment rises above bad days, hectic schedules and volatile emotions. Commitment hangs in there when you don't want to do it, when you don't feel like doing it and when you don't have time to do it.

True commitment doesn't depend on how you feel. It depends on your integrity and on living for the purpose you have set for yourself.

Are you committed to get fit?

No Weekend Warriors

Committing to be fit eliminates the weekend warrior syndrome. You may know a weekend warrior. He is the per-

son who does little physical exercise during the week, but when the weekend arrives, he blasts out of the gate like a stallion on Derby Day. In a desperate attempt to make up for his sedentary behavior all week, he goes to the gym or hits the pavement, pushing himself to the limit.

The result, however, is not what he expects.

He will likely end up with an injury, because his muscles, tendons and joints are not conditioned for the intensity of his exercise.

But he is also not getting in shape, because he is not committed. Physical fitness depends on consistency. And consistency requires commitment. It takes consistent, near-daily exercise to cause your body to make the changes that bring about fitness. For example,

your joints and tendons will strengthen, your aerobic base will improve as your body becomes more efficient at utilizing oxygen and ridding itself of carbon dioxide, and your endurance will increase.

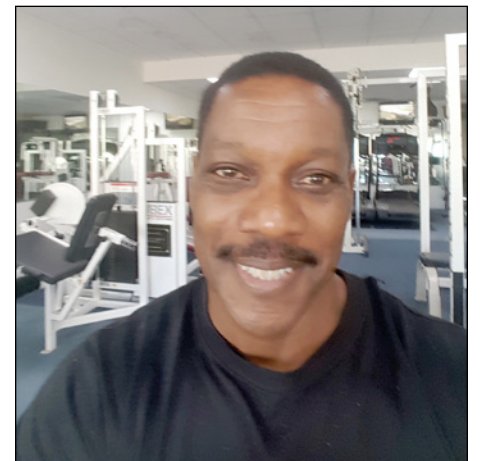
In fact, **that** you do something consistently is as important, or maybe even more important, than **what** you actually do. Even if you are just doing low intensity walking, doing it every day is infinitely better than doing something more strenuous only occasionally.

But the real rewards come when you not only commit to intense workouts, but you also commit to being consistent with those workouts.

Commit

In order to get fit, you do not need expensive clothes, fancy home-gym equipment or a complicated workout plan.

What you need is commitment. **If you are committed, the rest of the pieces will fall into place.**



► Ernest Ebanks

You can start today. Don't overthink this. Just start, and commit to doing something every single day.

Call Ernest at Body Shapers Fitness Studio 325-8696 or email bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com, get started on a training program that's best for you.

IMPROVING ACID LEVELS

Last week we looked at the importance of ensuring that there are adequate levels of stomach acid. We also discovered how crucially important this is to the proper digestion especially of proteins and minerals. So, as promised here are some really great ways to ensure this is occurring.

LIQUID NUTRITION - At least half of your daily meals should be in liquid form, either a shake or a smoothie. Protein shakes are pre- metabolized and, therefore, does need much acid to digest. If you determine you have low acid levels then you should have at least 1-2 protein shakes daily.

USE GINGER - I use this with each of my meals, as well as, in tea form. According to Dr. Jockers, " 2-3 cups of ginger tea daily can enhance the acid level of the stomach."

SUPERHYDRATE OUTSIDE OF MEALS - I am a great believer in complete hydration. Good hydration helps bowel mobility.

DRINK VERY LITTLE - In meals containing meat, stop liquids at least half hour before. This will reduce any potential dilution of the gastric juices and allows better digestion. The same applies

for after a meal. Hold off on water for at least half an hour. I seldom drink liquids while eating.

USE APPLE CIDER VINEGAR - It's healthy to pour some lemon juice and ACV on your meat and veggies. This helps in pre- metabolizing the food for easier digestion.

AT THE BEGINNING - Eat your protein foods at the beginning of the meal. Salads and veggies should be eaten along with your protein, not separate.

FERMENTED VEGGIES - One of these should be eaten with your protein meal. These include sauerkraut, kimchi and ginger to name a few.

FERMENTED DRINKS - They include coconut water and kefir. They help to decrease the bacteria load especially the bacteria in the stomach, H-PYLORI. Keeping this under control allows the body to produce enough stomach acid.

LARGEST MEAL - According to Dr. Jockers, " this should be eaten when you are relaxed. Relaxing before the meal is key to improving stomach acid production."

So, there you are guys. Try these and see what a world of difference your digestion would make.



World Strongman Coming to Cayman

Englishman Eddie Hall, 2017 World's Strongest Man and reigning Guinness Book of Recordholder for heaviest strongman deadlift (500 kg/1,102.3lbs, 2016), will be coming to Cayman to participate in the first ever Cayman Islands Strongman Competition. The event will take place on Saturday, 5 October at the Lion's Centre from 12pm to 5pm and individuals and teams will be able to enter to compete for strongman titles in various categories such as the Atlas Stone lift, Farmer's Walk, Deadlift, Tire Flip and Bearing of the Cross. There will also be strength competitions for kids and Hall will do demonstrations.

The competition is being hosted by the Cayman Islands Powerlifting Organisation, a group of heavy lifting and train-

ing enthusiasts, many of whom train at Cayman Islands Barbell Club. Some of the proceeds from the Strongman Competition will go to local charities Cayman Heart Fund, the Alex Panton Foundation and the Anti-Bullying Foundation as well as assist Cayman's powerlifters with expenses for overseas competitions.

"The powerlifting community here in Cayman is small but we're passionate and we're growing. Some of our members and athletes - particularly the younger ones - have found the sport to be an effective outlet for dealing with personal physical, emotional and mental challenges they are facing. This competition will be a great boost for their self-confidence and help prepare them for upcoming competitions," said

Cayman Islands Powerlifting President Tony McInerney.

Eddie Hall himself has a similar story to some of these athletes and he goes around the world sharing his experience with the hope that he can inspire and help others. I believe this is what attracted him to this particular event, and we want to make sure as many youths as possible have the opportunity to hear about his incredible journey."

McInerney says that while in Cayman, Hall, also known as "The Beast", will talk to students about his struggles with anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts and how he found purpose, happiness and success through powerlifting.

"I'm really looking forward to coming to the Cayman Islands and getting

to meet everyone. I hope my story will help others see what can be achieved through dedication and hard work," said Hall of his upcoming visit. "I hope everyone has been training hard to put on a great show for the crowd in a couple months and I'll see you soon!"

Admission to the Cayman Islands Strongman Competition is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under. Food and drinks will also be on sale.

For more information or to register to compete, contact Tony McInerney on 925.5335 or tony-mac@candw.ky



► Tony McInerney



► Worlds biggest deadlift stack



► Eddie Hall

Creating a Culture of Service Excellence

"Culture is simply a shared way of doing something with a passion." - Brian Chesky, Co-Founder, CEO, Airbnb

In the hospitality industry, a service-oriented company culture is a common denominator among the most successful businesses. Think of it this way - a company culture is like the operating system of a company. How is your business's operating system? Could it use a system update? Maybe a tune-up?

WHAT IS A COMPANY CULTURE AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT THE WORKPLACE?

A company's culture is its personality; it defines the environment in which employees work and the experience guests will have while they patronize your business. It includes a shared set of beliefs and values, especially work environment, company mission, ethics, expectations, and goals. A positive company culture fosters collaboration, teamwork, and loyalty. Employees who fit into their company's culture do their best work and serve customers with personal excellence. According to Forbes, happy employees are on average 31 percent more productive, and they found that companies that successfully engage their employees can reduce their turnover rate by 54 percent. Once your company's culture is in place, it can drive how you hire, how you work with customers, and how you spend your time creating new services or even building new hospitality businesses.

WHY IS CREATING A COMPANY CULTURE IMPORTANT?

A hospitality business is made up of several departments with different functions. Each of these areas has its own individual daily tasks, but all share common values and expectations. Having one shared vision for the entire staff helps the business stay focused, so it stays on track to accomplish its goals. Creating a company culture will

sustain and develop the business moving forward. Conversely, an ineffective culture can bring down the organization and its leadership. Disengaged employees, high turnover, poor customer relations and lower profits are examples of how the wrong culture can negatively impact the bottom line.

HOW DOES A HOSPITALITY BUSINESS CREATE A COMPANY CULTURE?

Define and uphold your culture

First, agree on a common definition for culture and define your business's core values. It's important to clarify how you conduct business and interact with each other. It's also an excellent team exercise to involve employees in the process of creating the mission, vision and core values of the company. It will provide a sense of ownership among the team.

Establish a vision

You can easily forget the business you're in if everyone doesn't rally around your vision. In hospitality, we are in the business of serving customers. It shouldn't matter what your role is - CEO, housekeeper, or anybody in between - everyone in the organization should be focused on the vision you and your team set in place. It's important for management to ensure that resonates.

Hire people who can uphold your vision

Culture is less about policy and more about people, especially in the hospitality business. Find and hire people who can commit to your company's values and the service culture your business represents.

Align your people

Creating a culture takes intense work, and the alignment of all employees. Your alignment should focus around the principles of who you are, how you behave, and what your most important priorities are.

Disperse decision-making

Trust your teams on the ground and on the front line to have the knowledge and information to make good decisions to serve your customers, and ultimately, propel the business.

Offer Extras

Perks or extras reward team members who go above and beyond to exemplify the business's vision. Invest in educating employees and keeping them healthy by offering special learning and fitness benefits. Perks can help instill the corporate

culture. This is something that creates appreciation and loyalty amongst the team and makes them better in the workforce.

COMMUNICATION KEEPS EVERYONE INFORMED AND ENGAGED

Communication is crucial whether it is a small business or a large multi-location business. With many people performing various tasks in various departments, everyone should have a common goal of taking care of the customers. In order to truly accomplish this, the team must work together and communicate constantly. The last thing you and your team want is for something to be forgotten or slip through the cracks.

CHALLENGES BEHIND CREATING A COMPANY CULTURE

It's easy to educate employees about a business's mission and goals as part of the orientation process when they are first hired; however, it cannot stop there. Continuous training should occur in all departments, as this constant reinforcement will ensure the company culture is at the top of everyone's mind.

THE TRUE WORTH OF A COMPANY CULTURE

A hospitality business with the right employees who truly understand the goals and vision of ownership and management creates an environment

where people feel like they are part of a team. Employees will have a sense of belonging, which in turn creates a happier, more productive work environment. If the employees are happy, they will make your guests happy.

For assistance with creating and implementing your business's service-oriented company culture, contact Brooke Meyer of Caymer International, a Grand Cayman-based hospitality and tourism consulting and advisory firm. She strives to provide clients a systematic approach to managing their company's and identifying business improvement opportunities. www.caymeragroup.com or info@caymeragroup.com



► Brooke Meyer

CFI

GIRLS' UNDER 14 CHALLENGE SERIES

\$5 PER MATCH NIGHT

5 - 9 AUGUST

TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX

5 AUGUST 2019 - TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX
5:00 P.M. ST. LUCIA VS. CURACAO

7:00 P.M. CAYMAN ISLANDS VS. BARBADOS

7 AUGUST 2019 - TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX
5:00 P.M. BARBADOS VS. ST. LUCIA

7:00 P.M. CAYMAN ISLANDS VS. CURACAO

9 AUGUST 2019 - TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX
5:00 P.M. CURACAO VS. BARBADOS

7:00 P.M. CAYMAN ISLANDS VS. ST. LUCIA

CIFA
CFU Caribbean Football Union



Mission House Brunch for Government Minister

A special surprise Birthday brunch was held at the Mission House in Bodden Town for Minister of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, the Honorable Dwayne Seymour, JP, MLA on Sunday, 28th July.

The celebration was an opportunity for officials, family and well-wishers to wish the Minister a happy 50th and also to extend their gratitude for his efforts on their behalf.

About 150 persons filled the lawn outside the popular historic landmark, with the smell of food and the sound of light music permeating the Island breeze.

"This was totally unexpected," remarked Mr. Seymour, adding that he was pleased with the venue selection for the event. He also thanked the National Trust for hosting the event at the Mission House.

Mr. Seymour's constituents make up the area known as Bodden Town, East.

Known in Bodden Town as, 'a man of the people,' individuals came from near and far to participate in the celebration.

A celebration for the Minister was also held the night before at the Mango Tree in George Town, featuring performances from local musicians.

The Mission House in Bodden Town is one of the Cayman Islands' National His-

toric Sites and is owned by the National Trust for the Cayman Islands.

The Mission House has just now become available to be rented for events.

However Tours of the Mission House have been happening at the grounds for several years.

The House was the place where missionaries who brought the gospel to Cayman resided. 📍

CUC hosts the Sunrise Adult Training Centre for their annual Cinema Outing

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) and long-time friends of the Sunrise Adult Training Centre went to Regal Cinemas, Camana Bay for the annual summer movie outing this month.

Members of the training centre chose the latest Marvel Movie, "Spiderman far From Home." Over 35 members who attended were treated to popcorn and soda, which were handed out by CUC volunteers and summer interns prior to the start of the film.

This annual event provides the opportunity for CUC's summer interns to participate in the Company's community involvement programme and to get an

appreciation of how important it is to give back to the Grand Cayman community.

Lacey Barnes, summer intern in CUC's Corporate Communication Department said, "I enjoyed accompanying the members of Sunrise Adult Training Centre to the movies. I think volunteering in the community is very important. It's a rewarding feeling to see where you have made someone's day so much more enjoyable."

The team at the Sunrise Adult Training Centre look forward to this annual outing and encourages other local companies to continue to offer support to the centre and its trainees. 📍



▶ CUC volunteers and summer interns and members from the Sunrise Adult Training Centre at the cinema

POLICE NEWS

Traffic Accident Following a Wounding on North Sound Road

Just before 1:45AM on Monday, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a report that two men had been engaged in a dispute at Vic's Bar located off North Sound Road, which led to one of the men being seriously injured.

On the arrival of the police, both parties involved had left the location. The injured man attended the hospital for treatment for life-threatening injuries. He remains in hospital in critical condition.

Following the incident on North Sound Road, at about 2:34AM police and other emergency services were dispatched to a church located on Frank Sound Road, where it appeared that the driver of a red Kia Picante had lost control and collided with columns in front of the church and the vehicle stopped on top of the column. The driver received injuries and first aid was rendered by members of the public prior to the arrival of emergency personnel. He was transported to the hospital where he was treated for serious but non-life-threatening-injuries.

Officers had reasonable cause to believe that the man who was involved in the collision on Frank Sound, a 24-year-old from North Side, was involved in the stabbing incident at the bar on North Sound Road and he was arrested on suspicion of wounding with intent. He was also warned for intended prosecution for several traffic offenses including DUI and driving whilst disqualified. 📍

Detectives Appeal for Public Assistance on 8th Anniversary of Disappearance of Kerran Baker

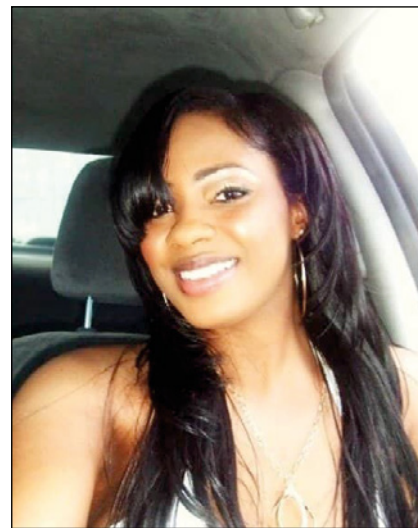
Wednesday, 31 July 2019 marks the eighth anniversary of the disappearance of Kerran Baker, who was 25 years old and living in Bodden Town when she went missing on Sunday, 31 July 2011.

Detectives with the Serious Crime Review Team have reactivated the investigation into Kerran's disappearance in recent months, and are treating it as a murder inquiry. They are now appealing for any information, however small, someone may have about what happened to Kerran.

"Unsolved serious crime cases are never closed," said Derek Byrne, Commissioner of Police, "but they may not be actively investigated for a period of time if all enquiries and leads have been exhausted. Our Serious Crime Review Team serves the critical function of ensuring that we remain conscious of developments and pursue any new leads that emerge over time. Families like Kerran's still suffer from not knowing what happened no matter how much time has passed, and they deserve to know."

The facts of Kerran's disappearance are as follows:

On **Sunday 31 July, 2011, 11:25AM**, the RCIPS received a missing person's report from a friend of Ms. Kerran Baker, then aged 25, who lived in the Lower Valley area of Bodden Town. Kerran, who was originally from Jamaica, had been



living in the Cayman Islands since 2008 and was employed as a Clinical Nurse with Premier Clinical Care.

Kerran, who was affectionately known to her friends and family as "Kerry Berry", had been answering texts and WhatsApp messages up until 7:45PM on Saturday, 30th July. The last known images of Kerran were located on the CCTV of the airport location of Foster's Supermarket in George Town; the footage shows Kerran entering the store around 7PM wearing a dark-coloured leggings, a dark-coloured blouse and sandals.

The following day, Sunday, 31 July, her vehicle, a white 1996 Honda Civic, was found opposite Pedro Castle at the perimeter of the cemetery. The vehicle

was found after she had been reported missing. A search carried out that day at her apartment on Arrow Drive in Bodden Town yielded forensic evidence causing investigators to believe that a struggle involving Kerran had occurred at that location.

Lead investigator into the matter Detective Constable John Southern says, "Kerran was clearly a friendly, sociable young woman who had many friends. Her friends are still grieving her, and her parents are still devastated by her loss and seeking justice for their daughter."

Detectives with the Serious Crime Review Team are asking anyone who may have any information about Kerran's disappearance, or anything they think could be relevant about the days leading up to her disappearance, to contact **Detective Constable John Southern** during business hours at **649-4501** or by email **John.Southern@rcips.ky**. Information can always be shared anytime by calling George Town Police Station at 949-4222 or confidentially on this **website** <https://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip>.

Cayman Crime Stoppers are also offering a reward of up to **\$10,000** for information that leads to an arrest and charge in Kerran's case. Anonymous tips can be submitted through Cayman Crime Stoppers by calling **800-8477** or through the Submit a Tip function on the Cayman Crime Stoppers **website** <https://bit.ly/32Zbsln>. 📍



Details on cruise facility revealed

... Continued story from page A1

of this project that we would ensure any plan that was approved would be built in a way that minimises the environmental impact, while delivering the greatest benefit to our people and to this country. I believe we have delivered on those commitments," he said.

Mr Kirkconnell said the footprint of the new pier design was more environmentally friendly than the 2015 scheme submitted for environment impact assessment.

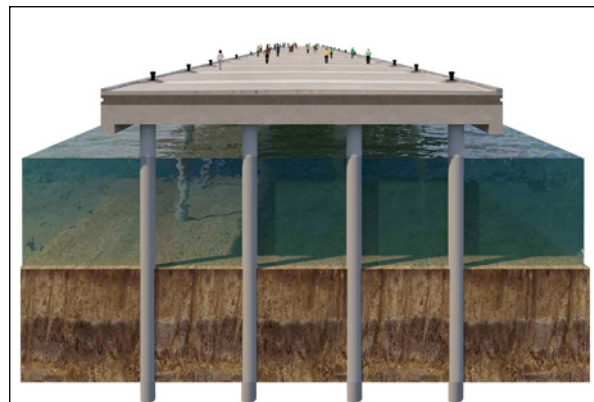
"The new design has the piers pushed out into deeper water which means we will need to do less dredging and less coral relocation. There will be no dredging in Hog Sty Bay," he confirmed.

Cost

Government revealed that the cost of the project, which includes enhancement of the cargo port facility to accommodate higher volumes of cargo, would be less than CI\$200 million. The Minis-



► Proposed CBF pedestrian view



► Proposed CBF - construction on pillings

try went on to outline that the project would be carried out under a Design, Build, Finance, Maintain (DBFM) arrangement which would be financed by the preferred bidder. In this way, they said the country would receive a two-pier berthing facility and enhanced cargo port without the government having to provide any loans, bonds or guarantees. The Port Authority would continue to operate and manage the facility

and four cruise lines would enter into preferential berthing rights for the new piers.

Money to pay for the project would come from a portion of the passenger fee which is charged for each passenger brought to the new port, to be paid to the preferred bidder over 25 years. The share of the existing passenger fee currently paid to the Port Authority and the Environmental Protection fund would remain unchanged, government said. After 25 years when the investment has been repaid, that portion of the passenger fee would be remitted to the Port Authority, increasing the revenue that Port Authority receives per passenger.

Mr Kirkconnell said the cost was set at this level because the cargo port needed to be upgraded at the same time.

"Had we not needed to upgrade the cargo port the cost to provide the country with a first-class berthing facility would be reduced," he said. "But our port is 40 years old and operates under conditions that are cramped, inefficient and less than ideal. It needs to be upgraded to be able to handle the higher volumes of cargo we need to provide for our growing country."

The Tourism Minister also underscored that the Port Authority would

continue to operate and manage the cargo port as well as the new cruise terminal and there would be no increased upland development.

"This means cruise lines will not own or operate any retail or commercial space within the cruise terminal. From the inception of the project Government has maintained that George Town is our upland development to ensure that the money cruise passengers spend while onshore continues to provide maximum benefit to the local economy," he said.

Mr Kirkconnell said that the evolution of the mega ship had changed the face of cruising in the Caribbean and Cayman was faced with the choice of either preparing to embrace this reality or accepting that we would be left behind.

"After 40 years of being in the cruise tourism business Cayman is distinct within the region for not having a berthing facility. Rather than being an attribute, this presents a serious risk and will ultimately place our cruise tourism industry in jeopardy," he said. "The cruise lines are our customers as well as our industry partners and it is in our country's long-term best interest to provide a berthing facility that will positively impact employment and ultimately inject millions of dollars into our economy." 🌐



► Hon Alden McLaughlin, Hon Moses Kirkconnell, and StranBodden

US Government Coordinates IP Training Through CIPO

The Cayman Islands Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) worked with United States Government enforcement agencies to stage regional intellectual property (IP) training in the Cayman Islands.

CIPO, which falls under the remit of the Ministry of Financial Services, coordinated the enforcement training through the Homeland Security Investigations division. The sessions, which took place 23-26 July on Grand Cayman, focused on investigations and enforcement operations, specifically concerning counterfeit goods and their connection to transnational organised crime.

Financial Services Minister Tara Rivers addressed the opening of the conference and stated the strength of Cayman's IP regime factored into the US Government's decision to stage its training sessions in the Cayman Islands.

"Our ability to enforce IP rights has not gone unnoticed by our biggest trade partner, the United States of America," Minister Rivers said. "Our IP regime has been modernised over the last decade and offers a full suite of IP rights protection."

Government also recognises that offering legislation to preserve creations is



► Minister of Financial Services, the Hon. Tara Rivers, addresses attendees



► The training sessions featured representation from around the region

not only crucial for businesses in today's global economy, but a necessary part of Cayman's contributions to international law enforcement investigations that span multiple jurisdictions," she said.

Leading last week's training were US Government officials from the Department of State, Homeland Security, Customs and Border Patrol, Department of

Justice, the Patent and Trademark Office and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center.

They instructed members of Cayman's law enforcement agencies, along with representatives from the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, St. Lucia, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, and Jamaica.

The US Government usually conducts regional IP training in developing countries in Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia. This training is provided to foreign law enforcement, customs officials, prosecutors, regulatory officials and judges charged with enforcing IP crime in their respective jurisdictions. 🌐

Ogier back for a third year as title sponsor of Cayman Stroke and Stride

The Cayman Islands "Stroke and Stride" series supporting young triathletes and the Special Needs Foundation is back with a bang this August.

The event is spread over three races on the first three Wednesdays in August, each including a swim and a two-mile run - the swimming distance increasing each week from 400m to 600m and finally 800m. The races will start at 5.45pm at Sunset House, with the event designed to be accessible to runners and swimmers of all levels and no special equipment is required.

Ogier's Cayman Practice Partner James Bergstrom said:

"This is a fantastic community event and we're very pleased to be able to continue our support. There will be a great contingent from the Ogier team taking part as usual, and we look forward to raising as much as possible to support these incredibly worthwhile causes. Good luck to everyone taking part!"

Race Director Johann Prinsloo from the Cayman Islands Triathlon Association added:

"We are very excited to continue the third year of our partnership with Ogier this year to promote an active lifestyle in Cayman and simultaneously support such a great cause. Our annual event at Sunset House has become well known for its great atmosphere - both on and off the race course - and 2019 promises to be another great one!"

Entry fees for individuals are \$15 per race or \$35 for all three. Entry fees for teams are \$25 per race or \$60 for the series. Participants must be members of the Cayman Islands Triathlon Association, which costs \$15 annually and is available at registration. The minimum age on race day is 13 years and under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Please note there will be no in person registration on race day, so all participants must register in advance



► Cayman Stroke and Stride 2018

using the link below. To enter the Stroke and Stride please register here: [https://](https://www.caymanactive.com/registrations/strokeandstride)

www.caymanactive.com/registrations/strokeandstride 🌐

Political Parties: How they live and Die

In a recent paper entitled 'Best Practices of Effective Parties' the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs outlines a triangle of three critical areas: internal democracy, outreach and transparency.

A political party that values internal democracy will have its leaders trained in party rules, regulations and values. The members and leaders work together to develop and refine platforms and policies and the leaders and candidates are selected freely, fairly and according to party rules. These parties value both vertical and horizontal internal communication.

Transparency is another important best practice of political parties on the cutting edge. These parties develop and implement monitoring strategies to ensure accountability to party members, voters and society. They report financial contributions, expenses, assets and funding sources to party members and the public. In terms of outreach, these political parties recruit members from various sectors of society and develop targeted outreach messages.

These best practices keep political parties alive, but nothing beats the quality of leadership that a party has. Party leaders who are grounded in democratic values and are known for their integrity are good for political parties. They must be able to articulate a compelling vision for the society they wish to lead, and have the ability to put together a team of persons, and the structures and processes to make the party function and have the support of a wide cross section of their societies.

The founders of political parties usually do so with the intention that they would be around even after they themselves have gone 'into the good night.'

However, the Caribbean, not to mention globally, is littered with the demise of political parties. Some, like the National Democratic Movement in Jamaica and the New Jewel Movement of Grenada, began with some goodwill and support, but soon after, disintegrate or went into oblivion, to be remembered mostly by historians.

Some political parties live only for a short while because they were solely instruments to realize their founder's desire to get into office. Having neither a system for nor commitment to intra-party democracy, they soon wither. Political parties, to survive, must adapt

and remain relevant to the needs and wishes of the people. They must encourage contest and election of its leaders, so that they do not become dominated by one individual, usually one with an 'I am the hero' mentality.

For such parties, when that individual, usually the founder loses an election or dies, the party disintegrates, or if they continue to exist for some time longer, in the minds and lives of citizens, they are dead.

Traditionally, in the Caribbean, third parties are formed after that of the two main parties and usually do not do well at the polls. This is due mainly because of the nature of the first-past-the-post elections dominated usually by two main political parties, which swap places as they dominate each election.

To survive, like all social institutions, political parties must constantly renew themselves through the incorporation of new ideas, new leadership, new programmes and by constantly listening to the people, continue to change and adapt, while holding on to core and fundamental principles. They must understand the changing nature of social forces and, critically, learn and relearn the complexity of voting behavior.

Having said this, are these the reasons for the failure of Cayman's first political parties?

Strong nationalist sentiments were behind the formation of political parties in the other Caribbean countries. The crucible of events of the 1930's in the Caribbean was the broad context of the formation of modern political parties in the Anglophone Caribbean. However, Roy Bodden, Caymanian historian, argues that it was not until 1962 that nationalist sentiments were experienced in Cayman's politics and that this was best seen in Ormond Panton and his National Democratic Party which was formed in 1962.

According to Bodden, prior to this time, Cayman Politics was under the stranglehold of the merchant establishment, a small local elite of whites and near whites, the sons of 'those 19th C settlers who established themselves as traders, merchants, sea captains and land holders.' Bodden says that these men by the 1950's had entrenched themselves in Caymanian society, 'that not only did they have a monopoly on politics but it was this group which set the societal values and cast the template

for standards in economy, politics and religion.'

The social agenda of the establishment, Bodden writes was racist, and the political agenda was one where the 'white establishment nominated the membership of the Justices. He explains that in the Vestry also, 'leadership came from the white oligarchy and it was no secret that these vestrymen worked closely with the white justices to preserve their own interests as entrepreneurs and petty capitalists.'

Essentially, Bodden's view is that prior to 1962, politics in the Cayman Islands was one based on a patronage system controlled by prominent family names which had emerged in the 19th and early 20th C. For Bodden, the lateness in the arrival of political consciousness in the Cayman Islands, in comparison to the other British Caribbean territories, was due mostly to the fact that this establishment based on the 'nexus of power, influence and money' also 'manipulated exploited social class, skin colour and ideological preference.'

For Bodden, such a self-serving merchant elite establishment was content with female disenfranchisement and keeping the majority politically naive.

With this background, explained by Bodden, we can now seek to understand what actually explains the death of the Cayman Vanguard Progressive Party, formed as Cayman's first political party in on August 8, 1958. As important as Ormond Panton is in the political history of the islands, it was Warren Conolly who formed the first political party. Panton's National Democratic Party was formed in 1962 and was to have far greater impact.

Bodden dedicates one chapter of his book, **Patronage, Personalities and Parties, Caymanian Politics from 1950- 2000** to the emergence and fate of the Cayman Vanguard Progressive Party.

The CVPP was formed, Bodden explains, 'by a group of men who were not part of the establishment but were mainly black and colored elements of the Caymanian society, some of Jamaican descent while others like their Jamaican counterparts, held no ties to the merchant elite.' Most of its membership came from George Town but also from other parts of the island.

The founders, writes Bodden, were generally well educated and had experi-



► Dr. Livingston Smith is the Vice President and Provost of UCCI

ences outside of Caymanian society. Duly registered in August 8, 1958, the President was Warren Conolly, Vice-President Warren Conolly, Secretary Sydney Piercy, Assistant Secretary Florence Cayasso and Treasurer Bertram.

Bodden characterizes that response to the formation of this party as 'the enduring death rattle between a dying system of old patronage and the birth pains of a new parliamentary democracy.'

The merchant establishment, he explains, engaged immediately in a smear campaign especially focusing on the fact there were Jamaicans involved in organizing the party with the suggestions that there might be suspicious intentions.

The CVPP contested the 1959 elections but won not even one seat. For Bodden, the results did not reflect lack of ideas or vision on the part of the CVPP leaders, but that the merchant elite used all means necessary to ensure that they did not change the status quo.

This party did not recover from this embarrassing loss at the poll. Bodden's final sentence, 'The CVPP, while it may have deserved a more auspicious and longer existence, voluntary confined itself to the trash heap of history. The collective appears not to have survived the melt down, and there is no record of any official comment or any post mortem.'

New sustainable community takes shape

Grand Harbour seems to be the focus for interesting new developments just now, the latest catching potential buyers' eyes is Periwinkle, offering a total of 94 units, some of which are two to three bedroom cottages, four to five bedroom townhouses and four to five bedroom waterfront townhouses, the latter complete with a 30 foot dock included.

Following the design principles of Camana Bay, Periwinkle is embracing the new urbanism design concept that makes use of shared spaces, creating a buzzing thriving community with a focus on sustainable living, rather than simply constructing a row of houses. While offering privacy and seclusion for owners, it is also hoped that residents will develop a real sense of place at the same time. A stand out point is the development's focus on sustainability, with an intention to obtain LEED certification which will be the first for a development of this kind in the Cayman Islands.

Vince Budesa, Sales Associate with RE/MAX Cayman Islands gave some background to what sets this new development out from the crowd.

"With so many new residential projects to choose from, buyers often look closely at the reputation of the developer before they consider purchasing newly constructed homes. Unfortunately, flaws in design and workmanship tend to appear long after completion, when



the developer is out of the picture. Under the stewardship of Mr Heber Arch, when you meet the development team at Periwinkle, you immediately sense their passion and their desire to do things right the first time," he advised.

Vince called development a painstaking process because so many people

have their hands in the process from when the first shovel goes into the ground until completion.

"I've spent many years working for a development company prior to my arrival in Grand Cayman. I advise my customers to purchase new homes based on quality, value and location. If you look closely at Periwinkle, I believe that you will find it excels in all three categories," he said.

Construction costs are on the rise and it's become more expensive to build new homes in Grand Cayman these days, Vince added.

"Periwinkle offers great overall value and additional savings derived from its energy efficient construction, smart appliances and solar power," he confirmed.

Indeed, developers say that solar power will be the main source of energy for homes, street and dock lighting and Periwinkle kitchens will be powered by

natural gas and fitted with appliances that have the highest energy efficiency ratings.

Potential buyers should note that Phase I of this project contains 24 units, 10 of which (cottages) are already completed and sold. The remaining 14 units are sold and under construction to be completed this summer. Vince advised that there is one waterfront canal unit available (MLS 409616) with a list price of CI \$1,150,000 for a 3,750 square foot unit with a 30 foot dock which will be completed in September 2019. There is no pricing currently available for Phase II, but that should be released soon.

Vince assesses that Periwinkle should appeal to a mixed bag of buyers, including young families, professionals and definitely buyers interested in sustainability. The community is also dog friendly.

Contact Vince Budesa at RE/MAX for more information on 5167464.



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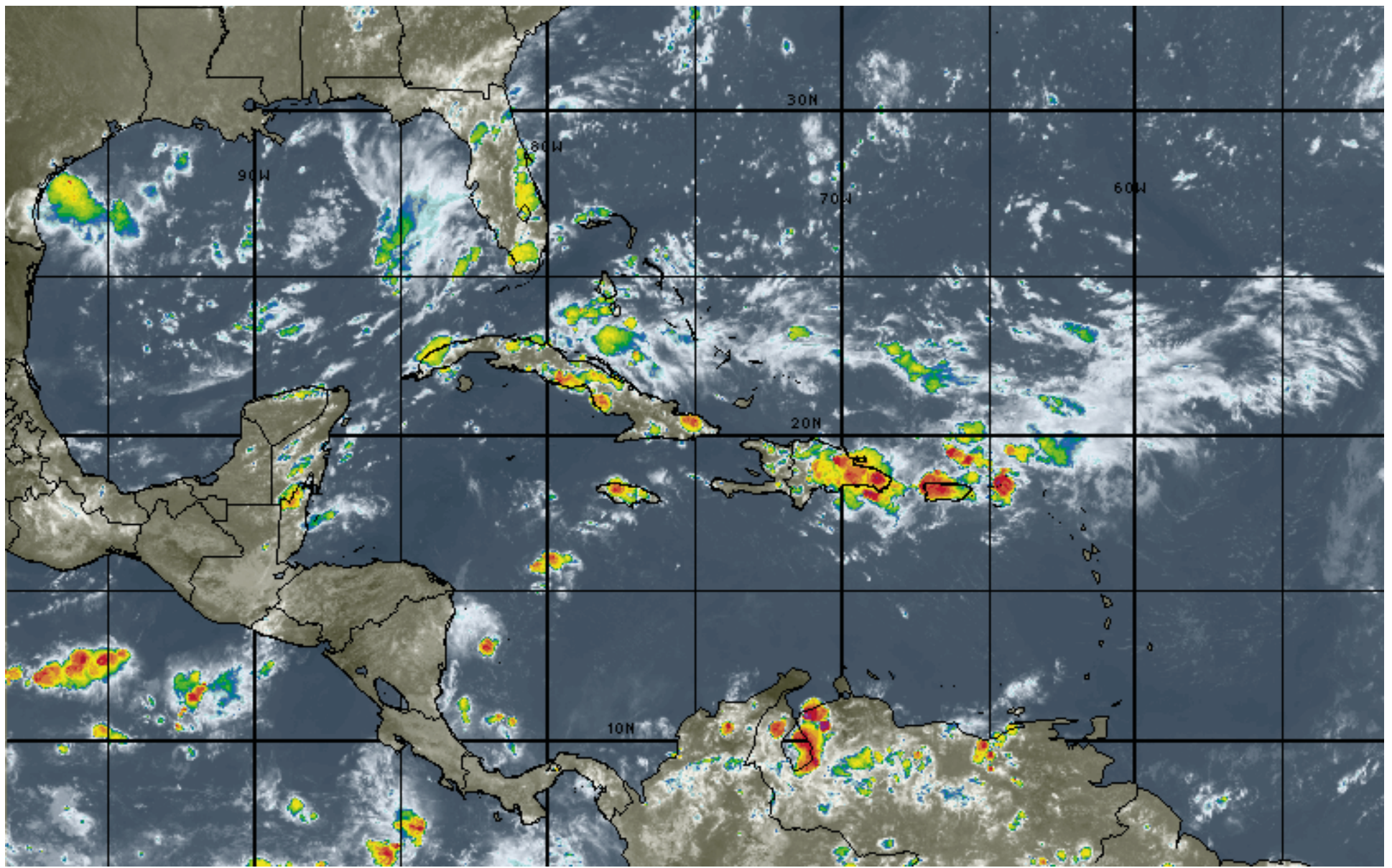
WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
86°/82°F	87°/83°F	87°/82°F	87°/82°F	87°/83°F	85°/84°F	86°/84°F
A shower and t-storm around	A couple of showers	Partly sunny, a shower	An a.m. thunderstorm in spots	A p.m. thunderstorm in spots	A t-storm around in the p.m.	Mostly sunny

TROPICAL UPDATE


Atlantic Tropical Cyclones and Disturbances

For the North Atlantic...Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico: Tropical cyclone formation is not expected during the next 5 days. [NOAA]



OBITUARIES


The Family of the Late **Geoffrey Mathews** regret to announce his passing on Friday, 19 July 2019.



A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Jasmine.

Condolences can be registered at www.boddenfuneralservices.com & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



Bodden Funeral
"A source of comfort in a troubled time"

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION

Who is Jesus Christ?

By The Rev'd Christopher Pierce
Rector, Saint Alban's Anglican Church,
George Town
www.churchofenglandcayman.org

him of the encounter. He was nothing short of mortified...you see, he, like most people was confused about just who Jesus is..

Everyone has an idea about Jesus Christ but not everyone has a true understanding of him. Many think of him as merely a good teacher. Some view him as nothing more than a historical religious figure whilst others seem to understand him as a swear word. Which is yours?

The bible is very plain. Jesus is the second person of the godhead. God incarnate. These are words we find being used to describe him in Colossians 1:15-20: "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature: **16** For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: **17** And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. **18** And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. **19** For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell; **20** And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

In my last parish, I had privileged responsibility for the religious education in two primary schools. Both were set in picturesque locations with wonderful staff. It was the one day of the week I truly looked forward to because the children were eager and always full of surprises. At the beginning of one year, there was a new student. She was 5 and as I found out, quite precocious.

The year before, I'd found what I still think is the best children's bible in existence, "The Jesus Storybook Bible." I showed the book to the kids, it was quite colourful but most importantly it stuck to the biblical text, and she asked what the name was...so, I told her. She gasped and put her hand over her mouth and said, "My mom says I can't say that word because it's a bad word." I missed her point and repeated the name and she repeated what her mom had said. Then it dawned on me, her mom had told her it was wrong to say the name Jesus... the girl's dad came immediately to mind and I recalled that he used Jesus' name as a swear word or as some form of verbal punctuation with great liberality. Any conversation with the man was peppered with Jesus this or Jesus that...but it was Ireland and that was the way many people spoke.

Her dad and I got along very well and I took the first opportunity to privately tell

So if you look at the biblical description of Jesus, you find that he is not just a good teacher, or a moral being, or a great ethicist, no that description says he is much more. It says that Jesus was the creative agent of the Godhead in regards to creation and that he is so important, so powerful, that he holds everything in all the world together.

In the 2nd chapter of his letter to the Christians in Philippi, the Apostle Paul explains further. "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; **11** And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

So who is Jesus Christ? He's the one to whom we will all answer. Are you ready? 🙏

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Gloria Valentine Taylor, who passed away on Monday, July 29, 2019. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Gertrude Gooding, who passed away on Wednesday, July 31, 2019. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Regional Response Needed to Curtail Growing Sargassum Threats, Says Jamaica's Tourism Minister

Jamaica's Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett, says a strong collective regional effort is needed to curtail the rapidly growing threats posed by the influx of sargassum seaweed in the Caribbean.

Among the interventions he is proposing, is the development of a comprehensive scientific initiative to devise the most efficient way to collect sargassum in the open sea without harming the ecosystem.

He was speaking at a regional roundtable forum at the University of the West Indies Regional Headquarters in St Andrew, under the theme: 'Sargassum and the Caribbean: Resilience, Innovation and Solutions'.

Bartlett noted that "masses" of sargassum, which have washed onto beaches along the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf of Mexico and the tropical Atlantic, have smothered coral reefs, and trapped several species of marine life. Additionally, he said the influxes have adversely impacted tourism, fishery and nautical activities such as diving, kite surfing and windsurfing, which have contributed to, among other things, economic instabili-

ty within coastal communities dependent on these engagements.

The Tourism Minister further pointed out that sargassum has destroyed colonies of mangroves which has, in the process, contributed to the demise of turtles and fish species, and impacted human health due to decomposition of algae and the release of hydrogen sulfide.

He said the Caribbean has been experiencing "colossal influxes" of sargassum over the last nine years.

2011 marked the start of the influx of the sargassum seaweed, and it continued in 2014 and 2015, but reached unprecedented levels in 2018, with more sargassum affecting the Caribbean for a longer period of time than previously observed.

The phenomenon is believed to be driven by a combination of man-made and natural factors that Bartlett indicated include: climate change and increased sea surface temperature; change in regional winds and ocean current patterns; the increased presence of Saharan dust; and nutrients from rivers, sewage and nitrogen-based fertilizers.

Experts have warned that sargassum influxes will become the new norm which, if not dealt with urgently, will cause irreversible long-term damage.

"Currently, a mass of sargassum algae, measuring 550 kilometres in length, roughly the same size as Jamaica, is affecting the Mexican Coast and stretches all the way south along the Yucatan Peninsula to Belize," Bartlett said, noting that sargassum influxes



have been having adverse effects on national and regional economies with substantial loss of livelihoods and economic opportunities, primarily in the fisheries and tourism sectors over the last eight years.

"It has already been estimated that tourism has dropped as much as 35 per cent as a consequence of sargassum algae washing up on a 480-kilometre-long stretch of otherwise pristine Caribbean beaches."

He pointed out that colleague Tourism Ministers and industry stakeholders across the Caribbean have voiced growing concern about the seaweed's unsightly appearance, visitor complaints, the cost of removal, and the possibility of reputational damage.

Citing a Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association survey, Bartlett said in recent months, some regional establish-

ment have been receiving queries and cancellations from prospective guests.

Some hotels directly impacted by sargassum are also incurring huge costs for cleaning up and other related activities. In 2018, the estimated clean-up cost was US\$120 million.

Studies show that while sargassum is an essential habitat for some species of fish and invertebrates and provides shelter and food for sea turtles and commercially important fish like tuna, excessive quantities can result in beach erosion and negatively impact marine life.

The seaweed merges into large mats and is transported by ocean currents towards the Caribbean, washing up on beaches throughout the region. As it accumulates and decomposes on the seashore, it becomes highly pungent and attracts insects.



► Jamaica's Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett

St Kitts & Nevis, Dominica Moving to Decriminalize Marijuana

The St Kitts and Nevis and Dominica governments are following the lead of some of their Caribbean neighbours to decriminalize marijuana for medicinal and scientific, religious and recreational purposes.

Although Dominica's Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit did not give a date, he said yesterday during his presentation of the 2019-2020 Budget that, "having regard to the empirical data and the growing international importance of medical marijuana and the world trend for the decriminalization of marijuana for medicinal, religious and recreational use, that the government should bring to the Parliament for consideration, legislation to decriminalize the possession of marijuana."

The legislation would allow for the possession of not more than one ounce of marijuana. Anyone who has been convicted of marijuana possession for that amount would also have that struck from their record, Skerrit disclosed.

Meantime, in the St Kitts and Nevis National Assembly yesterday, Prime Minister Dr Timothy Harris introduced the Drugs (Prevention and Abatement of the Misuse and Abuse of Drugs) (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to pave the way for the regulated and controlled use of marijuana/cannabis for medicinal and scientific, religious and recreational purposes in the twin-island federation.

The amendments follow Cabinet's establishment of a National Marijuana Commission to ascertain the views of citizens and residents on cannabis use. The commission was led by Chief Medical Officer Dr Hazel Laws, and found unanimous agreements for the decriminalization of marijuana in the Federation. The commission also recommended a phased approach to the establishment of a marijuana industry.



Since then, the High Court has ruled that some prohibitions on cannabis use outlined in the Drugs (Prevention and Abatement of the Misuse and Abuse of Drugs) Act, Cap 9:08, were too broad and inconsistent with the Constitution.

The amendments taken to Parliament yesterday were in response to that.

Prime Minister Harris promised to give special support and priority to locals interested in pursuing marijuana cultivation and trade within the confines of the law.

The government has also put together a group of experts to provide technical support to further advance the work towards the decriminalization of cannabis and the establishment of a marijuana industry.

The Cannabis Core Committee of experts will focus on ensuring that the St Kitts and Nevis cannabis legislation is the most modern and progressive in the region, and advise on the necessary systems to make the

industry a real and substantial one that contributes to the health and wellness of the people, creates jobs and helps generate income.

"The establishment of a modern industry requires a lot of work and preparation and especially one which has to date been part and parcel of deeply held ideas regarding its use, its legitimacy, and even its legality a lot of work still remains to be done," said Prime Minister Harris.

The committee will be chaired by Dr Wycliffe Baird who "has been involved with the government of St Vincent and the Grenadines with their cannabis legislation and industry and he has done work in Africa in relation to this, so he comes to the committee already prepared and knowledgeable with regard to this particular activity", Harris said.

Members of the Cannabis Core Committee are also drawn from the critical stakeholder groups such as the Christian Council, the Rastafarian community, the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the youth, the Office of the Attorney General and comprises a number of cannabis experts.

Other members of the committee are Ras Eli X Freeman; Melvin Marcelo Agard; Dwayne Hendrickson, CARICOM Youth Ambassador; Kara Daly, representing the Chamber of Industry and Commerce; Cannon Dwane Cassius, representative of the St Kitts Christian Council; Senior Crown Counsel Tashna Powell, representing the Office of the Attorney General; Allison Isaac, Parliamentary Counsel, Office of the Attorney General; and Ras Iroy, Chairman of the Organization of the Rastafarian.

Members of the Cannabis Core Committee held their first meeting yesterday.

Another Tropical Wave with Potential to Develop is Under Watch

There is another tropical wave that forecasters are watching, with projections that it could develop into a tropical depression in another week.

It's currently located several hundred miles southwest of the Cabo Verde Islands and is producing widespread cloudiness and showers over the eastern tropical Atlantic Ocean.

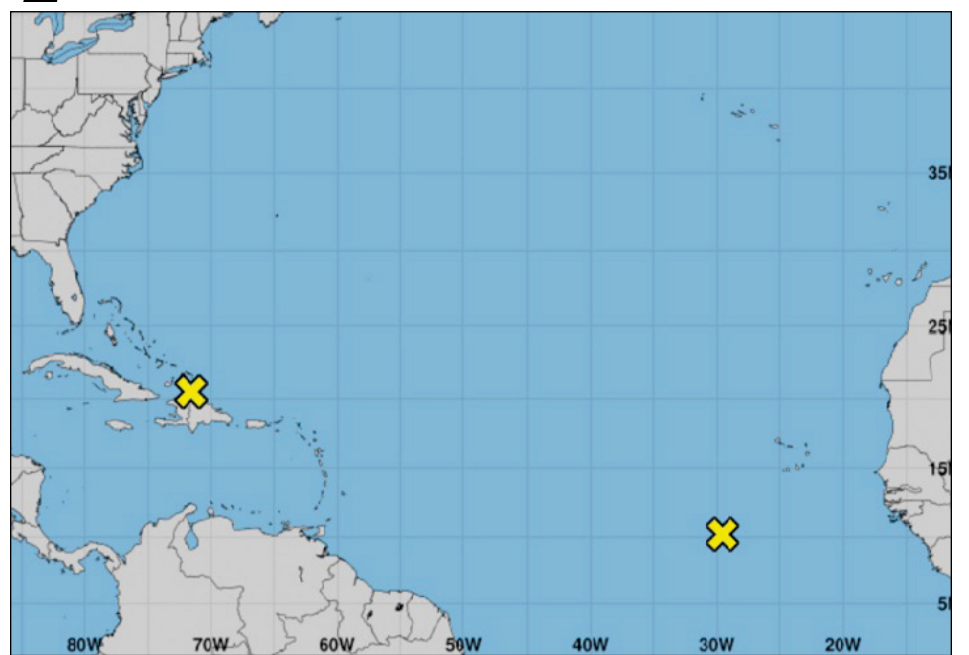
While no significant development of the system is expected for the next few days while it moves westward at about 15 miles per hour, the National Hurricane Centre (NHC) in Miami says it has a 50 per cent chance of developing through the next five days.

It said upper-level winds are forecast to gradually become more conducive, and a tropical depression could form by early next week several hundred miles east of the Lesser Antilles.

Another tropical wave which developed over the weekend - but has much lower development potential (10 per cent through five days) - continues to produce disorganized showers and thunderstorms stretching from Puerto Rico to the southeastern Bahamas.

That disturbance is forecast to move northwestward to northward during the next several days, producing locally heavy rainfall over portions of the Greater Antilles, the Bahamas, and Florida. Conditions could become marginally conducive for development over the weekend while the system turns northeastward off the southeast US coast.

The next storm to develop during the 2019 Atlantic hurricane season will be named Chantal.



GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

Debate curdles over dairy issue

Canadian politicians are embroiled in health food facts which could have a bearing on the forthcoming general elections.

A change to Canada's national food guide has become a surprise issue in the run-up to the October elections.

In January, Health Canada released an updated food guide that eliminated a daily dose of dairy as a requirement for a healthy diet. Most dieticians heralded the move, but it was slammed by the dairy lobby.

Conservatives have accused Justin Trudeau's Liberals of kowtowing to "ideologically driven" philosophies like veganism. The new guide said water should be everyone's beverage of choice and got rid of food groups - including dairy - altogether. The guide also specifically listed chocolate milk for contributing to the childhood obesity processes.

Last week, Conservative leader Andrew Scheer promised to overhaul the food guide to restore dairy's importance. It said people should eat a variety of minimally processed food,



► Chocolate milk is a surprising political issue

including daily servings of protein like dairy.

"I truly do believe that chocolate milk saved my son's life," Mr Scheer joked after taking a question from a dairy producer. "The idea that these types of products that we've been drinking as human beings and eating as human beings for millennia - that now all of a sudden they're unhealthy - it's ridiculous."

Mr Trudeau immediately called Mr Scheer out, accusing him of "declaring war on Canada's food guide".

Hondurans to get 20,000 jobs from Mexico

Mexico's government announced it would help Honduras create 20,000 jobs by the end of the year and support its coffee farmers as the two countries seek to curb migration to the United States that has created tensions with US President Donald Trump.

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador and his Honduran counterpart, Juan Orlando Hernandez, pledged on Saturday to work together to lift prosperity in Central America, where poverty and violence have fuelled an exodus of people north.

That migration has angered Mr Trump, who has made border security a priority, and issued economic threats against Mexico and Central America if more is not done to contain the flows.

Mr Hernandez said he was hoping a "great international coalition for mass job creation" in Central America could be forged, while Mr Lopez Obrador stressed that Mexico would support the region with funds and employment schemes.

Mr Lopez Obrador said Mexico would assist Honduran coffee farmers, whose



► Honduran coffee farmer will benefit

businesses have suffered this year from a drop in international prices. "We'll help improve coffee production in whatever is needed," he said, "so you have no problem selling coffee."

Mr Lopez Obrador said schemes he has championed in Mexico to create jobs via youth apprenticeships and tree planting would come to Honduras too. There has been a surge this year in migrant apprehensions on the US southern border with Mexico. Most of the people caught trying to enter the United States illegally come from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Cuba upgrades Wi-Fi - at a price

All Cubans can now have Wi-Fi in their homes, as the island's government extends internet access even while trying to maintain control over its version of what it terms as "the truth" and to defend its legitimacy.

"Cubans support and defend the revolution in every domain, both in the real and the virtual worlds," Ernesto Rodriguez Hernandez, vice minister of communications, said.

In his eyes, the internet and social media are tools to "position the truth of Cuba, not to manipulate things," giving them a key role in the political and ideological battles being fought at a time of sharp diplomatic tensions with the United States.

The telecommunications sector in Cuba, once one of the world's least connected countries, has changed more than any other in the past year.

Since December, when mobile phones gained 3G connectivity, an active online community has sprung up on social networks, often questioning the government about the challenges of daily life on the island.

Since July 22, Cubans have been able to import routers, register their equipment, and then create private Wi-Fi networks connected to signals from



► Cubans have better, but expensive Wi-Fi

state-controlled operator ETECSA. No longer do Cubans have to go to centralized public sites to connect.

"The objective of the country is to provide wider and wider internet access to the entire populace," Mr Hernandez said.

But the technical requirements set out by new legislation appear to put an end to the informal networks created in recent years by groups of residents. Such control is the "sovereign right" of the Cuban state, Mr Hernandez said.

And connecting is not cheap - \$1 an hour, an exorbitant amount in a country where the average monthly salary is \$50. The lowest 3G rate is \$7 for 600 megabytes.

For weeks, hundreds of Cubans have been campaigning on social media under the hashtag #Bajenlospreciosdeinternet (#Lower the price of the internet).

Philippines now worse for environmental deaths

The Philippines has replaced Brazil as the most murderous country in the world for people defending their land and environment, according to research that puts a spotlight on the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte.

More than three defenders were killed across the world every week in 2018, according to the annual toll by the independent watchdog Global Witness, highlighting the continued dangers facing those who stand up to miners, loggers, farmers, poachers and other extractive industries.

The latest global total of 164 deaths was down from 2017's peak of 201, a decrease that campaigners partly put down to growing focus on the subject by indigenous groups, NGOs, the United Nations and the media.

But Global Witness said companies and governments were increasingly using non-lethal tactics to quash dissent, including criminalisation and threats, while killings remain at an alarmingly high level.



► Philippines needs to improve its environment issues

For the first time since the annual toll began in 2012, Brazil did not top the list. The number of defenders murdered in South America's biggest nation fell in 2018 from 57 to 20. This was partly due to an overall decline in homicide rates across the country, but also came ahead of a transition of power and rising international attention. Last year the UN environment programme put more pressure on governments to protect defenders and organised a conference in Rio de Janeiro to push for international recognition of the human right to a healthy environment.

British pound slumps again

The British pound has continued to fall on currency markets as the government insists that the UK is prepared to leave the European Union without a deal.

Sterling hit a fresh two-year low of \$1.2120 against the dollar on Tuesday, before recovering some ground. The currency also slid against the euro, falling to €1.0881 at one point.

The fall in the value of the pound means UK tourists heading abroad could face a "horrendous summer", according to one currency expert.

Under new Prime Minister Boris Johnson, the government has toughened its stance on a no-deal Brexit, which it has said is "now a very real prospect".

The pound - which was trading at about \$1.50 against the dollar before the EU referendum in June 2016 - has dropped by 2.4 percent since Monday, when a spokeswoman for Downing Street said that the UK would not enter talks with Europe unless the so-called Irish backstop is scrapped.



► The British pound is struggling against other currencies

She said that because the EU has said it is not willing to renegotiate on this point, "we must assume there will be a no-deal Brexit on 31 October."

It follows comments at the weekend by Michael Gove, who wrote in the Sunday Times that the government was now "working on the assumption" of a no-deal Brexit.

Mr Johnson appeared to strike a slightly softer tone on Monday when he said he would "hold out the hand" and "go the extra thousand miles" to strike a new Brexit deal.

However, it was not enough to stop the slide in sterling.

Venezuela hit by \$1.4bn court order

Venezuela could lose its largest United States asset after a court allowed a Canadian gold miner to seize shares of Citgo Petroleum Corp's parent to satisfy an arbitration award.

A US federal appeals court on Monday rejected an appeal by Venezuela's state-owned oil company to set aside an order allowing a Canadian gold mining company to seize shares in its US refining unit, Citgo Petroleum Corp.

Unless reversed on appeal or blocked by the Trump administration, the decision would allow Crystalex to auction the shares to satisfy Venezuela's unpaid debt of \$1.4bn to the Canadian company. That means the country, in the grip of its worst recession, could lose control of the refiner that processes Venezuelan crude into desperately needed hard currency.

It also complicates efforts by interim President Juan Guaido to retain control of Venezuelan assets including Citgo while waging a power struggle with current leader Nicolas Maduro for lead-



► Venezuela relies heavily on its Citgo income

ership of the country. Mr Guaido has asked US President Donald Trump to bar creditors from seizing the country's assets.

"At this stage, the only action that could stop Venezuela from losing Citgo is either a successful US Supreme Court appeal, which appears unlikely, or a decision by Trump to issue an asset-protection order as Guaido has been requesting," Francisco Rodriguez, chief economist for Torino Capital, said.

"The UN can also help," added lawmaker Rafael Guzman, part of the opposition-led National Assembly's finance committee. "We are going to push for all of them."

Biles perfects most difficult move

Simone Biles is the greatest woman gymnast there has ever been. That statement is not up for debate, the facts speak for themselves. She is only 22 but has already surpassed all records set before. And the amazing thing is she probably hasn't even peaked yet.

A video showing Biles performing an incredible flip that no other woman has ever executed during a competition is going viral at present.

The four-time Olympic gold medalist performed the jaw-dropping flip during a training session ahead of the GK US Classic in Louisville, Kentucky, last week.

In the clip, which has racked up over 500,000 views since it was shared on Twitter, Biles is seen perfecting a triple-twisting double tuck - a move that no woman has done in a competition to date, according to the Olympic Channel, but it was previously done by a handful of male gymnasts.

It was first demonstrated by Ri Jong-Song of North Korea, during a routine at the Athens Olympics in 2004. The impressive move involves doing two flips before three twists, all while remaining in a tucked position.

Biles proved that she can execute it perfectly. She even rebounded out of the

flip, which shows that she has the right amount of power to complete the triple-twisting double tuck.

Biles has packed in a lot since her birth on 14 March 1997, in Columbus, Ohio. Simone and her sister, Adria, were raised by their grandfather Ron and grandmother Nellie, after their mother's struggle with substance abuse problem.

Ron and Nellie eventually officially adopted the girls, and Biles calls her grandmother "Mom." Nellie has been a constant source of support through Biles's rise. Simone said: "She encourages me and never lets me feel down about something for too long."

Biles discovered her talent at an early age. She visited a gymnastics centre on a field trip with her day care group, noting: "While there I imitated the other gymnasts, and Coach Ronnie noticed. The gym sent home a letter requesting that I join tumbling or gymnastics." Very soon, Biles was on her way to developing those natural gifts. Standing only 4ft 8in, her low centre of gravity is a huge plus. But like all great athletes, her work ethic is phenomenal.

Biles went from a novice competitor in 2007, aged 10, to a junior champ within a few years and won her first world all-around title in 2013, aged 16.



▶ Simone Biles is already the greatest gymnast ever at 22

Three years ago, the US women's gymnastics team, dubbed the "Final Five" dazzled audiences worldwide en route to nine Olympic medals at the Rio Games. Biles won four golds and a bronze and expectations were so high that bronze was received with huge disappointment.

After making history in Rio, Biles took two years off from competition to experience life outside the gym. In the time between the 2016 Olympics and the 2018 US Classic, the most decorated American gymnast ever stayed busy. Biles wrote a memoir, finished fourth on the Dancing with the Stars TV series, performed with the Houston Texans cheerleaders, adopted a French bulldog puppy and travelled to picturesque beaches around the world.

When she returned to the gym in August 2017, Biles began with conditioning and basics, but a video USA Gymnastics posted to YouTube eight months later teased never-before-seen upgrades that topped what she performed in Rio.

At the US Classic last July, she won the all-around, vault, floor and beam titles. A month later, she became the first American woman to win five national all-around titles and the first to sweep

every event title since Dominique Dawes did the same in 1994. She rewrote the record books once again at the 2018 world championships by winning her fourth world all-around crown, golds in the team, floor and vault competitions, silver on the uneven bars and bronze on the beam.

It's safe to say that, barring serious injury, Biles is a lock for 2020. Now training under Laurent Landi, the coach who guided Madison Kocian to a silver on the uneven bars in 2016, Biles is a serious medal contender in all events. She continues to upgrade her skills ahead of Tokyo, as shown in videos posted on Instagram and her domination of the 2019 US Classic last week. She seemingly has no ceiling.

As she said herself, comeback Biles is better than the 2016 Olympic champ. She has earned five Olympic medals, four of them gold and has 20 world championship medals.

Biles is only tied with Svetlana Khorkina of Russia for most world championship medals. Biles has 14 gold medals while Khorkina has nine.

Up next Biles are the US Nationals in Kansas City, Missouri next week where she will compete for her sixth US title. Few are betting against her. 🌐



▶ Biles took time out to appear in Dancing with the Stars

Brathwaite upbeat for India clash

West Indies T20 captain Carlos Brathwaite is expecting a stern challenge from India when the two sides meet in the US for their upcoming Twenty20 series this weekend.

The Windies meet India in the first T20 in Lauderhill, Florida, on Saturday and again on Sunday. The third and final T20 will be played on Tuesday in Jamaica.

In recounting the last time the two teams met in the US, Brathwaite said the contests were fiercely contested, with 400 runs being scored in one game.

"I'm expecting similar fight, similar grit, similar competition between the two teams. Obviously, West Indies and India have had good battles in the past and I expect nothing less in the two games in Florida," he said.

Brathwaite said he was excited to have the services of Sunil Narine and Kieron Pollard at his disposal and would be counting on their knowledge and experience.

The two Trinidadians were recalled to the 14-man squad after a hiatus from the regional outfit.

"They are two leaders in the dressing room and it's a joy to have them back with their vast experience and ability,"



▶ Carlos Brathwaite believes Windies will beat India

he said. "They are winners — both have won the ICC T20 World Cup for West Indies and they have also won franchise tournaments around the world, including the Caribbean Premier League.

"So we are hoping to portray that positive flair and brand of cricket, and for them to share their knowledge and ideas and also bring that energy to the team."

Brathwaite said he was also looking forward to the addition of newcomer Anthony Bramble. He said the exciting wicketkeeper/batsman was exactly what the West Indies were looking for.

"We needed a second keeper. Shai Hope has been rested and Nicholas Pooran has been elevated to the lead keeper for this series. So, Bramble came into the reckoning and I'm happy to see him get an opportunity." 🌐

Lin breaks down over free agency status

Jeremy Lin, who became the first Asian-American player to win an NBA title while playing for the Toronto Raptors last season, cried in a TV interview over the fact that he is struggling as a free agent.

"Every year it gets harder," said Lin during an emotional interview at an event in Taiwan. "There's a saying, and it says once you hit rock bottom, the only way is up, but rock bottom just seems to keep getting more and more rock bottom for me.

"So, free agency has been tough. Because I feel like, in some ways, the NBA has kind of given up on me."

Lin rose to fame in 2012 with a sudden series of dominant performances that helped the New York Knicks notch a stunning win streak. His remarkable run was dubbed "Linsanity."

But the 30-year-old's career has been side-lined by injuries and inconsistency since his breakout.

The player just wrapped his ninth season in the NBA, with the Raptors after he was traded from the Atlanta Hawks. At least he can boast a championship ring after the Raptors upset the odds and beat the Golden State Warriors. The Harvard grad has jumped from team to team throughout his pro basketball career, playing for eight franchises so far.

Lin averaged about 3.4 minutes in the 2018-19 playoffs and only played one minute during the NBA Finals.



▶ Jeremy Lin could never recapture his 2012 form

While some criticised him for receiving a ring despite barely playing, others defended him for the hard work it took to get there in the first place.

Some have credited Lin's success with helping Asian-American athletes fight racist stereotypes and preconceptions about their skills. Meanwhile, he must focus on staying healthy and finding a team who wants him. 🌐

Sane edges towards Bayern move

Bayern Munich coach Niko Kovac is "very confident" the Bundesliga champions will finalise a deal for Manchester City's Germany winger Leroy Sane, 23. It looks like Sane will leave the Etihad for a regular spot at Bayern.

City have identified Real Sociedad's 22-year-old forward Mikel Oyarzabal as Sane's replacement and are willing to pay the Spain international's \$75 million release clause.

Wales forward Gareth Bale has been left "furious" by Real Madrid president Florentino Perez's decision to call off his proposed move to Chinese side Jiangsu Suning.

Perez decided the 30-year-old Welshman was too valuable to lose cheaply, with Jiangsu

Suning set to sign him on a free transfer. Bale was set to earn an incredible \$1m a week.

Crystal Palace have turned down an offer from Everton for Ivory Coast winger Wilfried Zaha. The Toffees have made a \$55m cash-only bid for Zaha, with no players offered in exchange to their Premier League rivals.

Palace want \$60m up front for the 26-year-old and have concerns about how Everton want to structure the payments in any potential deal.

Lille winger Nicolas Pepe, 24, will complete his \$72m transfer to Arsenal this week if French champions Paris St-Germain do not try to make a late move. 🌐



▶ Leroy Sane looks set to leave Manchester City

CROSSWORD

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

- ACROSS**
- 44 Conjure up
 - 1 Nest holders
 - 6 Hands over
 - 11 Mindful
 - 12 Left, on a liner
 - 13 Game piece
 - 14 Bender
 - 15 Diner food
 - 17 Terminate
 - 18 Wine holder
 - 20 State frankly
 - 22 Rhythmic sound
 - 23 Stunned
 - 26 Districts
 - 28 Met performer
 - 29 Takes one's sweet time
 - 31 Neither follower
 - 32 Portent
 - 33 Blocks
 - 34 Skippy skirt
 - 36 Gloomy
 - 38 Tennis star Agassi
 - 40 PC operating system
 - 43 Girder material
- DOWN**
- 1 Back muscle
 - 2 — Jima
 - 3 Maroon 5 song
 - 4 Fracture
 - 5 Posted
 - 6 Fare carrier
 - 7 Series show
 - 8 Maroon 5 song
 - 9 Therefore
 - 10 Dance move
 - 16 —
 - 18 Niger neighbor
 - 19 Mystique
 - 21 Brewery sights
 - 23 Spot in the sea
 - 24 Tear along
 - 25 Screws up
 - 27 Looks up to
 - 30 Break off
 - 33 Impetus
 - 34 Schooner part
 - 35 A fan of
 - 37 Brewery creations
 - 39 "Evil Woman" group
 - 41 Luau strings
 - 42 Struck out

PAGE	SLUICE
AMOS	CANCUN
LEAP	AGREED
ENLIST	TEE
LEE	RACER
ABIDE	SLOMO
BEN	AID
BEEPS	MELTS
ASSET	ARM
SENORITA	
BATTLE	ANEW
ATOLLS	TEAL
REPEAT	ASKS

Yesterday's answer

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

5						6		9
		6		2	3			
1			4					7
	3			9		8		
	8						1	
		9		8			5	
	7				6			4
			1	7		5		
3	1							8

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/16

Answer to previous puzzle

6	4	7	8	2	3	1	9	5
9	2	3	7	1	5	6	4	8
5	1	8	4	9	6	7	3	2
1	9	2	3	6	7	5	8	4
3	6	5	1	8	4	9	2	7
8	7	4	9	5	2	3	6	1
2	3	6	5	7	8	4	1	9
7	8	1	6	4	9	2	5	3
4	5	9	2	3	1	8	7	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

Word Search

U	W	Y	R	E	P	R	E	P	P	I	H	C	R	N
I	Z	R	A	P	A	S	P	E	R	W	G	L	E	D
V	R	E	P	P	I	R	B	E	H	P	R	I	P	R
F	F	P	P	Q	A	G	P	O	H	G	U	P	P	O
R	U	P	E	Z	I	P	P	E	R	P	R	P	I	P
R	K	I	R	Z	A	P	W	D	G	E	N	E	N	P
O	E	K	T	N	E	H	W	I	P	F	G	R	C	E
A	W	P	S	R	I	D	Y	P	S	Z	K	E	H	R
S	H	V	P	P	C	F	I	P	G	F	T	T	O	U
R	H	N	P	U	L	L	P	E	S	K	O	T	P	U
E	O	E	C	I	S	R	E	R	M	A	P	V	P	H
P	R	Z	P	V	N	D	P	Z	E	Y	P	L	E	P
R	I	P	K	R	E	P	P	A	N	P	E	P	R	E
R	E	P	P	O	C	X	E	G	Y	P	R	X	E	U
R	O	D	D	V	P	O	R	F	P	E	R	I	B	R

- Chipper
- Chopper
- Clipper
- Copper
- Dipper
- Dropper
- Flipper
- Kipper
- Nipper
- Pepper
- Rapper
- Ripper
- Sapper
- Slipper
- Snapper
- Supper
- Topper
- Whipper
- Whopper
- Zipper

Have fun
with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions – forward, back, up, down and diagonally.

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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