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Cayman does not need to become a high-rise jungle

The 2nd annual Chamber of Commerce Economic Forum, held last week, provided over 200 attendees, including several Government and business leaders with the forecasted economic outlook for the remainder of 2019 as well as key issues facing local businesses.

During his opening remarks, Chamber President, Chris Kirkconnell, called for a review of the term limit policy, stating that over 70% of their members who responded to a recent online survey did not support the current policy.

“The survey received a good response from a cross section of business sizes and from a cross section of the Cayman economy,” Mr Kirkconnell said. “The respondents really showed us that they are unhappy with the current term limit policy that requires work permit holders to apply for permanent residency or leave the islands after nine years.”

“At the Chamber of Commerce, it is one of our key objectives to provide a collective voice for our members. Through the survey, our members have made it clear that the current term limit policy is disruptive to organisational stability; does not increase available Cayman employees and, while the route to citizenship



► Chamber President, Chris Kirkconnell, gives opening remarks at the 2019 Economic Forum

... Continued story on page A3

Premier signs CDEMA agreement



► Premier Hon Alden McLaughlin signs the CDEMA document, with (L-r) Lord Ahmad, H.E the Governor, Martyn Roper, and Hon. Tara Rivers

Full story on page A7 >>

Montserrat's Premier addresses United Nations Committee



► Hon Premier of Montserrat, Donaldson Romeo

Full story on page B2 >>



Caymanian Times

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COMMUNITY VOICE

Caymanians, Your Voice Matters!

We just celebrated Father's Day, and I remember with both pride and sadness my Daddy—that's what I called him, even as a grown-up. I'm proud that my Daddy was a brave Caymanian who served his country and the whole free world in fighting against Nazi tyranny. I'm proud that he never felt that the world owed him anything, but that he owed his family, his country and the world the duty to be a responsible, hard-working man, and that whatever he gained in life would be by the sweat of his brow. My Daddy was one of those men who braved the hazards of war and of nature on the high seas in order to build the economic foundation that has produced our present financial prosperity. He was so proud that I was the first one in his family over several generations to have the privilege of getting a university education, and extra proud to attend the university graduations of several of his grandchildren as well.

My daddy loved his country. After sailing the globe and being exposed to many different cultures, he recognised that there was something special and unique about the land of his birth—so much so, that even though he gained U.S. citizenship, he never owned one square inch of American soil; Cayman alone was home to him.

Yes, I remember my Daddy today with pride, but also with sadness. But not just sadness because I no longer have him with us. Sadness because if he was alive today, he would be greatly distressed at what appears to be the present trajectory of our islands. He asked the question while he was alive that needs to be shouted from the housetops today, "Who are we developing for?" And maybe, "Why does



► Pastor M. Alson Ebanks

everybody who came here from someplace else, and doesn't want to leave, want to remodel Cayman after the place they don't want to return to?" Oh, my Daddy was not afraid to speak his mind. He was a fighter, in more ways than one. (Now, I hope you don't mind me speaking my mind from time to time; I've got a little bit of Ducksy Carley in me.)

Any Caymanians still feel moved to stand up and speak up? Any of you think that taking a stand for marriage and family, as I have publicly, is so important that you won't let yourself be pressed down and pushed down by foreign ideologies, but instead will add your voice—and maybe your presence—whenever and wherever the bugle sounds the alarm? We sold our beach land to outsiders for pennies, sold our swamp to outsiders for pennies, sold our voice to the Civil Service for pennies; what else is there? If my Daddy was here, I know where he would be when the bugle sounds the alarm. On July 1st, he would stand up for our Constitution, and for Cayman. Will you?

Pastor Alson Ebanks ☪

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Needs Assessment Unit: Grand Cayman Office Closures

The Needs Assessment Unit's (NAU) Grand Cayman Office will be closed on **Friday, 28 June 2019**, to resolve a maintenance matter. In addition, the

office will be also close on **Friday, 12 July 2019**, for a staff function.

The NAU apologises for any inconvenience these closures may cause. ☪

Health Care Directive Form Available Online

Individuals wishing to communicate their decisions regarding their future health care are advised that the required form is now available on the Ministry of Health's website at www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky.

The form allows individuals to express specific advance health care directives and/or appoint a proxy to make health care decisions on their behalf should they become mentally incapacitated in the future.

Scenarios where an individual may consider completing a directive include if the individual does not wish to undergo a specific type of treatment or, if they become terminally ill or, if the individual wishes to decline life-sustaining treatment.

The form also helps to avoid future concerns regarding which family member is authorised to make health care decisions on behalf of their relative, should that person be unable to express their own wishes.

In instances where an individual decides to appoint a proxy as part of their directive, that person is expected to act consistently with the directive-maker's wishes.

Health care directives will only take effect once the individual/directive-maker is deemed to be mentally incapacitated by a doctor.

An individual's directive can be revoked at any time whilst the person is mentally competent. This must be done in writing, signed and dated.

Health care directives can only be made by individuals over the age of 18, who are currently considered mentally competent by a doctor.

Individuals wishing to make a directive are advised that, once they have stipulated their requests, the document is then required to be signed by two witnesses, one of whom must be a doctor and neither can be the individual's beneficiary nor proxy.

Once signed, individuals are advised to give a copy to the hospital, a family member and their proxy, if they have identified one.

The form will also be available to collect in person at all three hospitals in Grand Cayman, Faith Hospital in Cayman Brac and the district health centres.

Individuals are encouraged to contact the Ministry of Health on 244-2318 or 244-2377 or visit the Ministry's website (www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky) if they have any questions. ☪



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Monday, 1 July

- 12:00 AM For the Record
- 2:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
- 2:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 2:40 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference May 1 2019
- 3:25 AM News Update
- 3:35 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 4:00 AM Cayman's Maritime Heritage with National Trust
- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:10 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:40 AM 93rd Queens Birthday Celebration
- 7:44 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 7:50 AM NiCE Project An Overview of the Winter 2018 Initiative new
- 8:00 AM For the Record
- 10:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 2019
- 11:00 AM CCAICACB Anti-Corruption Conf 3 June 2019
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Tuesday, 2 July

- 12:00 AM 93rd Queens Birthday Celebration
- 1:05 AM News Update
- 1:15 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 1:20 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference May 1 2019
- 2:05 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 2019
- 3:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
- 3:35 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 4:00 AM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
- 5:20 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 5:30 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:10 AM L.A. June 5 2019 p1
- 8:00 AM L.A. June 5 2019 p2
- 11:50 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 12:00 PM L.A. June 6 2019 p1
- 1:40 PM News Update
- 1:50 PM L.A. June 6 2019 p2
- 3:30 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 4:00 PM Sunrise Adult Training Centre The Lion King
- 5:20 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 5:30 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:00 PM News Update
- 6:10 PM Finance Committee June 7 2019 pt 1
- 7:10 PM NGCI Biennial 10 April 2019
- 8:00 PM L. A June 7 2019 pt 2
- 9:50 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 9:55 PM L. A June 7 2019 pt 3

Wednesday, 3 July

- 12:00 AM For the Record
- 2:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
- 2:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
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- 11:00 PM CCAICACB Anti-Corruption Conf 3 June 2019

Thursday, 4 July

- 12:00 AM 93rd Queens Birthday Celebration
- 1:05 AM News Update
- 1:15 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 1:20 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference May 1 2019
- 2:05 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 2019
- 3:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
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Friday, 5 July

- 12:00 AM For the Record
- 2:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 7 May 2019
- 2:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 2:40 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference May 1 2019
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- 3:35 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
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CIGTV GUIDE FOR WEEK OF JULY 1 - 5

Chamber of Commerce President calls for review of term limit policy and cautions against developing into a high-rise jungle on Seven Mile Beach

... Continued story from page A1

should be encouraged, there could be an opt out option to allow individuals to remain here, subject to work permits."

"We plan to work closely with the current administration to have these concerns properly reviewed and addressed," Mr Kirkconnell said.

Mr. Kirkconnell addressed the forum theme "creating a sustainable economy" and shared the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Many of these goals are being addressed in the Government's Strategic Policy Statement, he said.

Mr Kirkconnell shared members concerns about the 'iconic tower' being proposed by DART. He said he has spoken to many businesspeople from all industries and from companies of varying sizes and an overwhelming consensus is that Cayman does not need to become a high-rise jungle.

"We are already pushing our limited with the current building height restrictions and Caymanians from all walks of life, including members of the Chamber Council all seem to agree that a 50, 80 or 100 story tower or skyscraper planted directly in the heart of Seven Mile Beach is not only not a sustainable way forward for our island, it is not needed nor wanted by the larger community."

Many other business leaders and government officials provided insight into the current and projected state of the local economy.

Hon. Roy McTaggart, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, said Cayman's gross domestic product (GDP) was at 3.4% in real term for 2018, with a positive growth predicted for the coming years, and overall unemployment was down to 2.8% in 2018 from 4.6% in the previous year. Minister McTaggart also reported that Cayman's Economical Performance for the first quarter of 2019 in which the country has had a \$215.4 million surplus.

Director of Tourism Rosa Harris reported that more than 40,000 stayover visitors arrived in the Cayman Islands in May which was the first time in Cayman's history that this mark had been reached. She also unveiled the new 'Dream in Cayman' marketing and promotional campaign which includes beautiful underwater images and animation.

Answering questions from the audience, Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, Deputy Premier, Minister for District Administration, Tourism and Transport, revealed that the selection of the firm to construct the new cruise berthing and cargo improvement project would be announced in three weeks.

Sharon Roulstone, Director of Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman (WORC), outlined details of the new WORC strategy which would include a new paperless system. She was joined by Dr Stacy McAfee, President of UCCI, and Dan Scott, Chairman of the



► Hon. Roy McTaggart, Minister of Finance and Economic Development

Educational Council, to discuss work place readiness and education in the Cayman Islands.

JC Calhoun, Managing Broker at Coldwell Banker, Paul Byles, Economist & Director of FTS, Justin Howe, Executive Vice President of Real Estate Development and Operations for Decco, DART Development, and Richard Hew, President and CEO at Caribbean Utilities Company Limited, participated in a panel discussion on the topic Cayman at a population of 100,000. They agreed that rapid population growth presents challenges to the infrastructure including schools, roads, social services and public safety. They cautioned that population growth should be steady rather

than rapid so that it does not negatively impact the quality of life that Caymanians and residents have come to enjoy which is the reason why the Cayman Islands are so appealing for residents, visitors and investors to live, work and invest.


"We are extremely grateful to Chamber members for taking the time to attend the forum as well as the panelists and speakers for sharing their views on the forum theme," Mr Kirkconnell said. "We would also like to thank our amazing sponsors, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, DART, Cayman First, The Department of Tourism, Coldwell Banker and CUC, for making this event possible." 📍



► Sharon Roulstone, Director of Workforce Opportunities & Residency Cayman (WORC), speaks during a panel



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Great Grand Daughters: Sherol, Sherena, Sherese, Rhea, Ruth, Alara, Elaina

Great Grand Sons: Aiden, Ronin

In-Laws: Crystal, Joseph, Blanca, Ishmael, Eve

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Cayman Searches for Top Rapper

July is the month for local rappers to prepare their unique summer musical rhymes and hooks, as Cayman's music-industry leaders begin a new search for a Caribbean version of Fresh Prince or Snoop Dogg. A "National Rap-Off" is being held by the Cayman Music and Entertainment Association (CMEA) during this time, to identify those locals with "mad skills on the microphone".

To enter, interested persons must submit a recording of an original rap-song that is less than five minutes long. It must be submitted by or before Sunday 14th July, 2019, either as an mp3 audio file or as a video. Song entries may be delivered in two ways: either emailed to cmeainfo@gmail.com or submitted on a jump-drive to the Cayman Craft Market office (upstairs the Cayman Craft Market (CCM), George Town waterfront). There is a CI\$50 entry fee to participate which includes membership into the CMEA.

CMEA President Jeân - eric "Notch" Smith explained the rationale behind this unique venture into this most popular foreign genre: "This will broaden, and compliment, our efforts to develop our local talent especially the new generation of musical artists many who seem to gravitate toward this genre. We devised this plan after we collated the information and feedback required for the National Cultural and Heritage Committee 2018 Survey, and realized that the majority of current local musical production is leaning towards the hip-hop and rhythm and blues (R&B) styles of expression.

Local judging and selection of July's winner is only the first step in an exciting travel-and-development-opportunity for the winning rapper. Mr. Smith noted, "The actual prize, in addition to the bragging rights, is an all-expenses-paid trip to Los Angeles in September 2019 for a development and mentorship programme which will include professional training, industry-exposure and demo-production."

The trip will offer exposure and training at a music symposium, which will include participating in panels which will feature top international artists, major label execs, A&R representatives, managers and publishers. Partner agencies in this mentorship are the Ministry of



► Matt Brown and Ben Hudson

Culture, the California-based Fuel Concept House, and 1500 Sound Academy. This summer's hip-hop talent search is part and parcel to the CMEA's previous efforts to revive the National Song Com-

petition, which was reintroduced to the Pirates Week National Festival last year but which is limited to Caribbean styles of music. Even so, other local talent who will attend the Los Angeles event are

performer Matt Brown, who won the 2018 National Song Competition; and producer Ben Hudson who was responsible for producing the winner and third runner up songs. 🌐

Michelle T going for Grammy

By Chris Durrant

The Cayman Islands Gospel Queen Michelle T who is wrapping up her three months promotional tour of the USA has recently been informed that her new CD "Blessings All Over Me" will be submitted for the 62nd Grammy Awards consideration.

Her new CD was released online March 1st, 2019 by VPAL Records one of the largest distributors of reggae music

in the world. Yard Man Music CEO Chris Durrant, Michelle T's husband & manager has signed distribution contract with VPAL for Michelle T both gospel CDs.

The first was "Here Is My Praise" which was released back in 2016. Both CDs are available on iTunes, Amazon music and all other major digital music platforms. The new released 12 tracks CD "Blessings All Over Me" was produced by Ernel Earlington at Mountain Of Gold Studio in Atlanta Georgia and it

includes collaborations with her brother Anthony Malvo, veteran gospel singer Claudelle Clarke, Ancient Priest, Yvonne Johnson and singer/producer Ernel Ex-worldian.

"Blessings All Over Me" was launched at the Light of the World Christian Fellowship on March 31st, 2019 which was very successful. The blessings could be felt in every corner of the sanctuary which was filled to capacity and organizers had to carry more chairs to accommodate the overflow of audience. Following the success of her launch Michelle T went on her three months USA promotional tour that started in Atlanta and continues to New York, New Jersey, South Florida and the final leg in Connecticut, she is scheduled to return home to her awaiting family and fans on the 1st of July.

"I am very thankful for the good Lord who has strengthened me over the years to continue to do his work," says Michele t. "I am totally overwhelmed by

the fact that VPAL has chosen my CD to be considered for the Grammy Awards. It shows that the gospel of Jesus Christ is acknowledged by persons within the music industry. I just want to say many thanks to my producer Ernel Earlington for producing basically all the songs on the CD. Also, my husband who has been the wind beneath my wings throughout the years. My family, pastor, and fans who really keep me going."

Her next event will be at the Jamaica 57th Independence Celebration Gospel Fest at the Lions Center, George Town, Grand Cayman, on Sunday 4th August, 2019 starting at 6:00 p.m., featuring ministers such as Sandra Brooks, Prodigal Son, Kevin Heath, Chozenn, Preaching Policeman from Jamaica, and a host of Cayman based artists including MC Basillia Barnaby-Cuff.

"My endeavour is to continue spreading God's blessings to the four corners of the earth," Michelle added. 🌐



POLICE NEWS

Veteran Uniform Inspector takes on new position as Head of Traffic and Roads Policing Unit

Effective last week, Inspector Dwayne Jones assumed the role of Head of the RCIPS Traffic and Roads Policing Unit, replacing Inspector Ian Yearwood. Inspector Yearwood has rotated out to other uniform management duties in the Service, after three productive years managing RCIPS's traffic enforcement.

"Last year's traffic enforcement numbers skyrocketed under Insp. Yearwood's leadership, thanks to increased operational planning and resources," said Insp. Jones, "and I am glad to say that the RCIPS will be increasing these resources even more going forward. It

is clear from the numbers of accidents and DUIs continuing to occur across the islands that more enforcement is still needed. I am excited to lead the TRPU as it continues to grow and takes on these bigger goals and challenges."

Insp. Jones has accumulated diverse experience in both uniform and detective policing since he joined the RCIPS in 2003. He has worked in various roles, including as a shift inspector in George Town, an area commander in Bodden Town, a sergeant in the Criminal Investigations Department investigating serious crimes, and as a sergeant in the Professional Standards Unit investigating potential breaches of conduct by fellow officers. During this time he also earned his law degree from Cayman Islands Law School, and is in the process of obtaining his Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Psychology with the University of Essex.

Insp. Jones described the priorities for the TRPU going forward, adding, "What is most important for us now is to make sure increased enforcement is delivered in the form of a wider multiagency approach that includes education and road engineering objectives, while giving due attention to the outer districts and the Sister Islands as well as George Town. Doing all of this in collaboration with other departments and community groups is also extremely important."



► Inspector Dwayne Jones



► Inspector Jones at the TRPU

Police respond to Burglary-in-Progress in East End early on Thursday morning

Just before 5AM on Thursday morning, 27 June, the 9-1-1 Communication Centre dispatched police to a report of a burglary-in-progress at a residence on Queens Highway in East End. People inside the residence had awoken to intruders in the house, going through belongings. Up to three men, masked and dressed all in black, were seen inside the residence with one of them carrying what may have been a handgun. The intruders then departed with no one harmed.

Police responded to the location, confirmed the safety of the people inside the residence, and carried out checks of the area, but no one was apprehended.

It was determined that a camera and a quantity of cash had been taken.

Police are asking that anyone with any information contact Bodden Town CID at 947-2220, or to submit a tip anonymously directly to police <http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip> or through Crime Stoppers at 800-8477 or online <http://www.crimestoppers.ky/home/>.



rcips.ky/submit-a-tip or through Crime Stoppers at 800-8477 or online <http://www.crimestoppers.ky/home/>.

Vehicle Fires on South Sound Road in George Town

Just after 5AM on Thursday morning, 27 June, police and other emergency services were dispatched to an address on South Sound Road, George Town, where it was reported that two vehicles in a parking lot were on fire, and that the fire appeared to be spreading to other areas of the property.

Fire Officers immediately began extinguishing the fire; afterwards a fire investigator examined the scene. No one was injured during the incident, however two (2) cars were damaged and a tree was burned in the fire.

A joint investigation between the RCIPS and the CIFS has been launched into this matter. Anyone with any information is asked to call GTPS at 949-4222. Tips can be submitted anonymously directly to police on this website <http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip> or externally through Crime Stoppers at 800-8477 or online <http://www.crimestoppers.ky/home/>.

Flooding Incident at Owen Roberts International Airport

The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which owns and operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA), issued a statement Wednesday regarding the flooding incident that occurred at the airport on Tuesday, 25 June 2019.

The incident occurred during a period of heavy rainfall at approximately 2:00 p.m., at which time this extreme weather event overwhelmed the airport's 220,000 gallon water cistern used primarily for fire protection and irrigation. The cistern is supplied by rain harvesting through roof drains, which is one part of the Authority's sustainability efforts at ORIA.

The cistern was near capacity prior to the heavy rainfall, which in turn caused an overflow of water into a deep well. This quickly reached capacity by the exces-

sive rainfall, eventually exceeding the capacity of the cistern and ultimately causing the flooding in the terminal. The flooding was not a result of any roof leaks or water ingress under doors.

At no time was there more than one inch of water in the terminal. The main affected areas were a portion of the departure hall and utility rooms. Crews were mobilized immediately to mitigate the cistern levels by using ancillary pumping equipment and to address the flooding clean up.

An airport action team has been mobilized as an incident response to identify the flooding causes and solutions. Mitigation measures are being put in place to ensure it does not happen again. The Authority considers this a priority due to seasonal weather patterns that we are currently experiencing.



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► Head of HSA's Accident and Emergency Department Dr Elizabeth McLaughlin collects a King Vision laryngoscope from Rotary Central Cayman Islands President William Inniss on behalf of EMS Manager Stephen Duval



► Nurse Manager of HSA Critical Care Unit Karen Pinnock collects a King Vision laryngoscope from Rotary Central Cayman Islands Past President Ravee Kapoor



► Senior Emergency Room Physician Dr Rajesh Prathigudupu collects a King Vision laryngoscope from Rotary Central Health Initiative Chair Zelta Gayle

Rotary Central donation enhances treatment of critical patients at HSA

A donation from Rotary Central Cayman Islands will help the Cayman Islands Health Services Authority (HSA) improve life-saving treatment of critical patients having difficulty breathing due to obstruction in their airways.

The service club generously donated three new video laryngoscopes to the Cayman Islands Hospital Accident and Emergency, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Critical Care Units. A video laryngoscope is a crucial lifesaving tool used to assist with intubation (a process to assist patients with breathing) for trauma and surgery. The equipment is inserted into the mouth of the patient, allowing doctors and medical personnel to get a clear view of the throat.

"I have worked with HSA's finest emergency medical technicians and paramedics who have seemingly performed miracle intubations on patients who have extremely difficult airways such as motor vehicle accident victims with head, neck and face trauma," said Rotary Central Health Initiative Chair Zelta Gayle, who also works as an emergency room registered nurse at the HSA. "It is the intention that these laryngoscopes will augment their emergency services in advanced airway management."

The King Vision laryngoscopes provide a clear, high quality real-time view of patient's airway and minimize the risk of injury among patients with throat tumours or with changed anatomy from trauma. It maximises the medical provider's chance of first-attempt success and minimizes the intubation time, improving the success rates of very challenging intubations. It also facilitates the removal of foreign objects from the upper airway, prior to the option of surgical airway intervention.

"Rotary Central and the Health Services Authority have shared an excellent relationship in the delivery of healthcare over the years," Ms Gayle stated. "With the dedicated participation of the HSA and major establishments on the island, Rotary Central has provided annual island-wide health screening of almost 8,000 people over the years. The club has also facilitated the



► Rotary Central Cayman Islands representatives presents HSA's senior managers and clinical heads of the Accident and Emergency, Emergency Medical Service and the Critical Care Units with three new video laryngoscopes

Diabetes Educators course for 19 nurses and pharmacists, supported the Cayman Islands Blood Bank and donated modern Spacelabs Healthcare monitoring equipment for the Emergency Room. The donation of the three King Vision Laryngoscopes is just another example, and Rotary Central intends to continually identify needs and donate as is possible."

Immediate Past President of Rotary Central Susie Bodden said she was delighted that during her year as president she was able to support the acquisition of laryngoscopes for the HSA. "This initiative was put into motion after Rotarian Zelta Gayle, who works at the HSA as an emergency room nurse, informed our

board of the need for the laryngoscopes to aid advance airway management."

"The donation of the three King Vision laryngoscopes to the Health Services Authority will enhance the services being offered by the Accident and Emergency, Emergency Medical Services and the Critical Care Units, where every second in advanced airway management is crucial," said HSA Medical Director Dr Delroy Jefferson. "This is another example of the outstanding partnership established over many years between the HSA and Rotary Central Cayman Islands in support of our commitment to delivering high quality healthcare services to our community." 🌐

Three Young Caymanians Enlist in Health Ministry

Three recent Caymanian additions to the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing are helping to strengthen its work to provide world class policymaking and administrative services to those sectors.

The employees who have all joined the Ministry over the last several months include Policy Advisor Alanis Linwood, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Kenisha Lumsden and Accounts Officer I Cody Ebanks.

Fascinated by medicine and health from an early age, Alanis Linwood says she decided to pursue a career in public health after attending the World Affairs Seminar (WAS) in 2014, as the Cayman Islands Representative of the Rotary Club.

Following the WAS conference, Alanis received a government scholarship to pursue a bachelor's of science degree in health and human sciences at Durham University in the United Kingdom. She went on to complete a master's degree in public health (MPH) at Imperial College London specialising in 'health services and systems'.

Her current responsibilities include assisting with the development, improvement, and implementation of laws and policy arising from the health related subject areas within the Ministry's portfolio. There are also been opportunities for more direct engagement with the community, such as an awareness-raising photo-opportunity organised with the Cayman Islands Cancer Society on World Cancer Day.

Meanwhile Kenisha Lumsden joined the public sector for the first time ear-

lier this year looking for an opportunity to give back to the country while expanding her skillset.

Before taking up her duties as deputy chief financial officer for the Ministry of Health's accounts team in February 2019, Kenisha had previously worked for private sector financial services firms.

To date she has found the transition exhilarating.

"I started right in the middle of the financial year end and the budget planning process. As a result I have been learning a lot in a short space of time! Fortunately my management team and colleagues have been very supportive of my transition period," she remarks.

Kenisha recently completed her Certified Public Accountant certification and is licensed in the state of New Hampshire. In addition she holds a master's degree in business administration with a concentration in finance from Nova Southeastern University.

Also on the accounts team Cody Ebanks brings 10 years of private sector experience to his new job as an accounts officer I at the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, with responsibility for payment processing, accruals and other finance related duties.

Describing himself as patriotic, the new civil servant says that working for the public sector, and hence the people of the Cayman Islands, had long been an ambition. "When the opportunity came up I jumped on it," he states.

His self-declared affinity and aptitude for numbers are evident from his progression up the career ladder of the



► Policy Advisor Alanis Linwood, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Kenisha Lumsden and Accounts Officer I Cody Ebanks

accounting sector over the last several years, from assistant at an auto body shop, to accounts representative at a local bank and, most recently, a sales representative at a shipping firm.

Cody has a bachelor's of science degree in business administration and accounting from the University College of the Cayman Islands. Within the next five years he plans to earn a master's in business administration degree, as well as the certified public accountant (CPA) qualification.

Welcoming the young people to the team Chief Officer Jennifer Ahearn notes that she is extremely happy to have

these three well-qualified and enthusiastic young Caymanians join the Ministry team.

The Chief Officer adds that since coming on board at the Ministry these individuals have all demonstrated that they embody the Civil Service core values of "passion, integrity, and professionalism" that this will stand them in good stead to "make the lives of those we serve better."

Deputy Governor Franz Manderson says that he is proud to welcome three bright young Caymanians to the Civil Service, and commends the Ministry for its continued commitment to training and employing Caymanians. 🌐



FBC Volleyball League Champions

The First Baptist Church Volleyball Club's indoor league came to a climax two Saturdays ago, with the top two teams in the men's, women's, and coed divisions competing in the championship games. If the title of champions and the bragging rights weren't enough, the addition of the incredible prizes courtesy of Dolphin Discovery, Smoothie King, and Performance Lab definitely upped the ante. The athletes were grateful for the Gatorade provided throughout the semis and finals thanks to Progressive Distributors generous contribution.

The women's division has defending champions Clyde Built Knights scheduled to play their rivals, Sprint. The Knights had a lot more riding on this game because they had been recently dethroned by Sprint during the previous

PVC Volleyball league. With a solid attack led by Chante Smith, Russela Jalbuena, and Carmen Picante, the Knights failed to return the ball, which ultimately cost them the first set 25-19. The Knights wanted nothing more than revenge, so they came out in full force in the second set. Senior National Team player, Jessica Wolfenden, came out swinging and team Captain Brittany Balcewich followed suit earning them a 25-17 victory. Despite their best efforts the lady Knights lost in the third set 15-9. With two back to back championships under their belts it looks like Sprint is the team to beat going into the National Volleyball League expected to take place in the fall. Although Spike Girls were eliminated from the running by the Knights, they went on to earn the bronze medal in the consolation finals.

With the nets raised and the fans waiting in great anticipation, the Coed teams took to the court to find out who would be taking home the hardware: Combined Power or JJR Restaurant. Combined Power had the winning combination in the first set with veteran Daniel Patico and Lalaine Shirley working hard together to secure the win against JJR Restaurant. Although they had lost the first set 25-20 JJR Restaurant were still in it to win it. They put up a valiant fight and played long rallies, point for point. Unfortunately the attacks from Ramesh Mg and Russela Jalbuena were not enough to bridge the gap, so ultimately they fell short by a mere three points, 25-22, to Combined Power. The third place team was Hot Chocolate who took home the Bronze medal.

Last but not least the men's division got underway, with Burger King Knights and Cayman Mechanical Company stepping onto the court to settle who the reigning champs would be. Cayman Mechanical Company's team worked like a well-oiled machine, so it was no surprise when they won the first set 25-19. Keeble Knight, Craig Henry, and David Wood's versatile attacks from all over the court played an integral role in that first set. Unimpressed by the outcome, Burger King Knights set their heavy hitters Richard Campbell and Olney Thompson to work in the second set, in order to narrowly clinch the lead 25-22. Riding of the momentum of the second set the Knights easily won with a 15-8 lead over their opponents. The hosting team FBC Saints would later go on to take the title of third place.

Premier signs CDEMA agreement on RFA Mounts Bay

By Christopher Tobutt

Premier of the Cayman Islands, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, signed a Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) document on the deck Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) Ship Mounts Bay. The Premier had been joined on board ship by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, along with His Excellency The Governor, Martyn Roper as well as other dignitaries and government leaders, both from Cayman and from across the Caribbean. CDEMA is a regional inter-governmental agency for disaster management in the Caribbean Community.

It was a fitting place to sign such an agreement which facilitates the coordination of emergency response and relief efforts amongst participating countries, because of the ship's recent history in bringing swift relief to Overseas Territories that were hit by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria two years ago. Just before the signing, Lord Ahmad recalled that time: "When Hurricane Irma and Maria hit, this vessel, RFA Mounts Bay,

became a legend in its own right. I remember I was sitting as Minister for the Commonwealth over in the Pacific, when I received a phone call from the Governor of the BVI, Gus Jasper. I knew Gus from his days at Number 10, and he said to me, 'Minister, half the roof of my residence has just blown off and the prison walls have come down.' We saw how quickly HMG came together across all departments, but also how the military answered within 24 hours of the disaster hitting Anguilla. I am delighted that the Premier of Anguilla is here as well, and then on to other parts of the Territories as well including the BVI and Turks & Caicos. I am delighted that RFA Mounts Bay continues to be deployed and tomorrow morning we will see an exercise demonstrating its capabilities.

After the signing, The Premier, The Governor, Lord Armad and Hon Tara Rivers all took part in a special sunset ceremony, which is a long-standing tradition in the Royal Navy. During the evening three young people, Jack Paolini Olivier Zimmer and Richard Weber part



► Dignitaries watched the sunset ceremony

of a Cayman-Based group called Protect Our Future were honored by Lord Ahmad and the Premier and the Governor.

RFA Mounts Bay has been deployed in the Caribbean area since 2017, The UK maintains a year-round presence in the Caribbean. RFA Mounts Bay is currently on her 2019 Hurricane season patrol, supported by the Royal Navy Wildcat HM2 helicopter. Earlier that afternoon, during a tour of RFA Mounts Bay, Lieutenant Lee Holborn purpose and its capabilities: "Its primarily a land-to-surface warfare helicopter, but equally adaptable to disaster relief operations. It can move people around as well as equipment to places which would otherwise be impossible to get to after a hurricane," he said.



► RFA Mounts Bay

During a tour below deck were a large number of impressive vehicles, all in a long line. They can be driven right onto a large landing vehicle called a Mexifloat, and then deployed across the Caribbean in case of a hurricane or other natural disaster. There were diggers, trucks, quad bikes, command and all-terrain vehicles. The exact kind of vehicles to be landed are decided upon according to the nature of the task at hand.



► H.E the Governor sat in the Wildcat Helicopter



► Below decks, a long line of disaster relief vehicles await deployment



► The view from high up on the ship's bridge

Cayman Airways goes cashless at USA cargo and airport locations

Cayman Airways is advising customers that, effective Monday July 15, 2019, the airline will be going "cashless" for all transactions at all of its cargo and airport locations in the United States.

As of July 15, 2019, all Cayman Airways locations in the USA will accept payment by debit or credit card only. This will apply to all payments normally processed at ticket counters and cargo facilities, including baggage fees, Business Class upgrades, and other ancillary purchases.

Passengers with upcoming travel to the USA who anticipate not being able to pay by debit or credit card, may visit a Cayman Airways ticket office in the Cayman Islands and prepay for the necessary charges by cash. This must be done prior to departure.

Additionally, most airport locations also have third party cash-to-card vending machines available should these be required by passengers.

Cayman Airways thanks all passengers for their cooperation and understanding, in the airline's ongoing commitment to providing safe processes and procedures for all financial transactions.



BARBADOS CULINARY TEAM TOPS TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN COMPETITION

Barbados was named the Caribbean National Culinary Team of the Year, while Jason Thomas Ao of the Cayman Islands was crowned Caribbean Chef of the Year when the 2019 Taste of the Caribbean competition results were announced last night at Hyatt Regency Miami.

Taste of the Caribbean featured 14 Caribbean destinations, competing in a friendly but intense battle for cooking supremacy.

The culinary tournament was held in conjunction with the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association's (CHTA) annual industry conference, the Caribbean Hospitality Industry Exchange Forum (CHIEF) from June 21-23, and the Caribbean305 culinary and cultural consumer celebration on Saturday.

The teams included the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Grenada, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos.

Hazen Rolle of the Bahamas was crowned Caribbean Junior Chef of the Year; Rajasekar Ravindran of Turks and Caicos Islands named Caribbean Pastry Chef of the Year; while Bonaire's Dhanesh De Kok and Elise Weerstand took home the glory in the beef and chocolate competitions respectively.

The Cayman Islands' Dimuth Munasingha reigned supreme in the seafood category.

The Caribbean Bartender of the Year award went to Jurnick Merced of Curaçao, and his nation also won Best Vodka Drink. Trinidad and Tobago won Best Non-Alcoholic Drink, St. Lucia captured Best Rum Drink, while Cayman Islands won Best Mystery Bar Drink.

Grenada won the Josue Merced-Reyes Spirit of the Competition award, while Floris van Loo of Bonaire took home Tony Mack Spirit of the Competition honors.

"We congratulate this year's Taste of the Caribbean participants, their national hotel and tourism associations, team managers and sponsors for an exhibition of excellence, competitive spirit and camaraderie," said Patricia Affonso-Dass, President of CHTA. "The future of food and beverage in the region is undoubtedly in good hands."

For the full list of winners, visit www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com/2019-taste-of-the-caribbean-winners

High resolution photos are available upon request.

Taste of the Caribbean's host sponsor was Interval International, while House of Angostura® was the Bartender of the Year sponsor. Event sponsors included The Best Dressed Chicken, Certified



► Jason Thomas Ao of the Cayman Islands is the 2019 Caribbean Chef of the Year

Angus Beef®, Figment Design, Food Export USA - Northeast, Marketplace Excellence, MasterCard, OBMI, RAK Porcelain, U.S. Meat Export Federation, U.S. Pork, and the United States Virgin Islands Department of Tourism. Product sponsors included Angostura® Orange Bitters, Certified Angus Beef®, Food Export USA - Northeast, Halperns' Purveyors of Steak and Seafood, PromiseLand,

RAK Porcelain, Superior Farms, U.S. Meat Export Federation, and U.S. Pork. For further information, visit www.chtataste.com.

About the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA)

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) is the Caribbean's leading association representing the interests of national hotel and tourism associations. For more than 50 years, CHTA has been the backbone of the Caribbean hospitality industry. Working with some 1,000 hotel and allied members, and 33 National Hotel Associations, CHTA is shaping the Caribbean's future and helping members to grow their businesses. Whether helping to navigate critical issues in sales and marketing, sustainability, legislative issues, emerging technologies, climate change, data and intelligence or, looking for avenues and ideas to better market and manage businesses, CHTA is helping members on issues which matter most.

For further information, visit www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com.



► Hazen Rolle of the Bahamas was named Caribbean Junior Chef of the Year. From left is CHTA's CEO Frank Comito, President Patricia Affonso-Dass and judge Peter Olsacher



► Rajasekar Ravindran of Turks and Caicos Islands was named Caribbean Pastry Chef of the Year. From left is CHTA's Frank Comito and Patricia Affonso-Dass, and judge Augusto Schreiner



► Barbados took the number one team spot at Taste of the Caribbean



► Caribbean Bartender of the Year Jurnick Merced of Curaçao celebrates in Miami

PIRATES WEEK
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“PIRATES SET TO INVADE HONDURAS CARNIVAL”

The Cayman Islands will once again have representation at the Feria Juniana Carnival this weekend in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

It has been over a decade since the delegation known simply as the “Cayman Islands Band” made its first appearance in the Honduras carnival circuit. First travelling to La Ceiba, the group gained popularity and began receiving invitations to attend other carnivals held in the outer cities of Honduras.

Griscela Ebanks, who along with her team has been arranging the trip for 16 years says carnival organizers for San Pedro Sula saw the Cayman Islands Band in La Ceiba and in an effort to grow their event, invited the delegation to attend.

“The Cayman Islands Band receives quite a bit of coverage on Live TV and in the past has even been highlighted online and in local newspapers for its unique blend of pirate and carnival characters. The exposure is vast nationally and internationally,” said Ms. Ebanks.

This is the fourth year Pirates Week General Manager Melanie McField will be attending. With Saturday’s Feria Juniana estimated to have around 400,000 spectators she explained the benefits of having a presence in the Central American Carnival.

“Latin America is a growing audience for our tourism product and with direct airlift to the area, we are seeing more interest in travel to the Cayman Islands reciprocated for Pirates Week and the local carnivals,” she said.

The 20-member delegation, which leaves Friday 28th June includes award winning costume designer Reba Dilbert, local pirates Darvin Ebanks, who captains the Bloody Bay Buccaneers; Orneil Galbraith, Captain of the Las Tortugas Pirate Krewe as well as Radio Cayman’s “DJ Silver Fox”, Paul Akal; Pirates Week Festival staff and other revelers.

Ms. Ebanks thanks supporters for their dedication over the years, “We have to take this opportunity to thank Deputy Premier, Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, Cayman Airways, Cayman Carnival Batabano, Pirates Week and of course Reba Dilbert for her work on costumes.”

The Cayman Islands Band also made an appearance in this year’s Punta Cana Carnival in the Dominican Republic in February.

About Pirates Week

Spectators will also enjoy a series of parades and fireworks displays, street dances, costume contests, sporting competitions, happy hours, a celebration of traditional foods, music and much more, stretching across all three islands.

Pirates Week 2019 will start in Cayman Brac on Friday 1st November, move on to Grand Cayman on Thursday 7th November and finish up Sunday 17th November in Little Cayman and will be another 11 fun filled days of mock “pirate invasions” and celebration of our culture and heritage!

We start the Grand Cayman festival with a fantastic happy hour and kick-off party on Thursday 7th November and on Friday night, the festival goes off with a bang with a spectacular firework display that is not to be missed! After the fireworks, we move straight into the annual festivities; there’s no better place to be in the Caribbean.

Immediately following the Grand Cayman festivities, the island will celebrate its well-loved District Days! Over the span of five days, each district in Grand Cayman will celebrate the aspects that make these beautiful islands so unique.

2019 District Days will be held between 12th and 16th November and are as follows:

- Tuesday, 12th November - East End
- Wednesday, 13th November - West Bay
- Thursday, 14th November - North Side
- Friday, 15th November - Bodden Town
- Saturday, 16th November - George Town

If you would like more information about this topic or would like to sponsor an event, want to join in on the ‘pirate invasion’ or volunteer for the festival office or volunteer for this year’s festival, please contact Lori at 949-5078, email info@piratesweekfestival.com.

Become a fan of the festival on Facebook (facebook.com/CaymanIslandsPiratesWeekFestival) or follow us on Instagram (instagram.com/piratesweekcayman).



► PiratesWeek delegation in San Pedro Sula Carnival 2018



► Pirates at San Pedro Sula Carnival 2018



► Miss Cayman and Batabano revelers in Costume at 2018 San Pedro Sula Carnival

Speech to the UN C 24 Committee in NY

by Hon Premier Donaldson Romeo on June 25th 2019

(The 22nd Anniversary of the Fatal volcanic eruption of June 25th 1997)

Madamme Chair,

Today, 1:10 pm, marked twenty two years to the minute since the volcanic eruption of June 25th 1997, killed nineteen people in Montserrat. It is therefore a highly symbolic honour for me to address this Assembly today, not only as Premier of the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat, but as an eyewitness to the opening scenes of this ongoing tragedy.

Some would like to forget this event, and to leave it in the past. But the painful reality for us Montserratians is that **the past has NOT passed**. Twenty two years on, we continue to live with man-made consequences of a natural disaster.

Nelson Mandela, was right: we must rightly understand the past if we are to act wisely in the present and build a sound future.

In 1998, after investigating the June 25 fatalities, Her Majesty's Coroner concluded that HMG and the GoM had contributed to the deaths of 11 persons because of:

- the failure of local and British authorities to provide alternative land in the safe area for farmers
- the deplorable conditions in the public shelters that led many to remain in the danger zone rather than return to them
- the continuing operation of the airport downhill of the volcano, despite elevated volcanic activity in the days immediately preceding 25th June 1997.

Regarding the pressing need for land and housing in the safe zone, Her Majesty's Coroner declared **twenty-one years ago:**

"Some efforts have been made in this direction but one has only to count the months since the crisis began — over forty, and note the fact that there are still approaching 400 people in the shelters, as well as hundreds more in overcrowded shared accommodation, and yet more in involuntary exile overseas, to see that the British Government response has been unimaginative, grudging and tardy. [...] It is still simply inadequate to the scale of need. [...] I hope that he [Prime Minister Tony Blair] will now take personal charge and instruct his officials that the necessary funds must at last be provided to enable sufficient land to be acquired for adequate and decent housing to be constructed."

(Inquest conclusion, 31st December 1998).

Similarly, in 1998, the UK Parliamentary Committee that oversees the UK Overseas Aid Department, wrote that:

"in the case of Montserrat we do not merely have the unfortunate losses of a few thousand individuals but an imperilled society. The normal rules cannot apply".

By the time that HMG, under great media pressure, started the funding of housing projects in the safe zone, thousands of homeless Montserratians were already fleeing the island, to Antigua and the UK. In the UK, welfare, social, educational, health, housing and other needs were and continue to be met at UK British standards for thousands of evacuees, while those remaining on Montserrat have continued to struggle on a regime of aid relentlessly kept at survival level. This has contributed to a continuing loss of population, especially of our youth.

Despite 500 million pounds of aid over the years (mostly, basic annual budget support) the pattern of delays continues. The GoM has consistently remained 60% dependent on the UK for its recurrent budget and over 90% for its capital budget. Responsibility for this must be shared between Montserrat and the UK which has more breached than observed (**"More honor'd in the breach than the observance"** – Hamlet Act 1 Scene IV) the clear, legally binding mandate of the UN Charter, Article 73, to **"ensure [...] political, economic, social, and educational advancement"**, and again to **"promote constructive measures of development"**.

For, despite UK policy commitments such as the FCO 2012 White Paper that **"reasonable assistance needs of the Territories are a first call on the UK's international development budget,"** there has been a persistent problem of start, stop, study, restart, stop then start again for essential projects.

There has been a tendency to construct inadequate, temporary and sometimes knowingly inappropriate key infrastructure, such as the new airport, substandard housing, and the only secondary school compound – creating present and future burdens for the Government and people of Montserrat.

Knowingly inadequate social welfare benefits have been set for vulnerable senior citizens, and for a fraction of the working poor who are more often single mothers. Salaries for public servants have also been rigidly fixed despite accumulating inflation, leading to a steady brain drain, mostly benefiting the UK.

The Government of Montserrat has little or no funds to address years of backlog maintenance of its own buildings and social housing. Year after year

new spends which could address these and other essential recurrent challenges are denied, preventing the GoM from fulfilling its legally binding responsibilities.

Yes, the UK did recently agree to fund a 30 million pound, five year capital programme including a hospital and health care programme, housing, school improvement, airport runway and road improvement, fibre optic cable, and, combined with EU funding, the 21.5 million pound port development project was also recently launched. But that is after a 22 year struggle, and with zero commitment to addressing the shortfall or other basic and parallel development needs.

This is why I extend thanks on behalf of my people for the pivotal December 7, 2018 General Assembly resolution on Montserrat. I also thank the Committee of 24 and the UK Government for agreeing to the upcoming visit to Montserrat, Antigua and the UK, which will allow the unfiltered voices of Montserratians to be heard on the record. I also specifically request that the Committee, through the UN's good offices, assist GoM in coordination with HMG regarding the following:

- creating a charter of good governance that will set a framework for democratic self government, for structured consultations with stakeholders, for guiding reforms, for enhancing transparency and for managing our relationship with the UK,
- associated public education and constitutional review, towards improved self-governance and resolving our status as a non-self-governing territory,
- developing proper whistle-blower and ombudsman mechanisms (as a part of improved governance),
- a programme to retain police officers, trained teachers, nurses and other highly skilled people,
- a timeline and funded plan to adequately house some 400 remaining evacuees living on Montserrat and still waiting for decent, affordable hurricane-resistant housing,
- a repopulation programme for Montserratians living in exile overseas who wish to return (as was promised when they were offered the evacuation package 22 years ago),
- a comprehensive, balanced immigration plan,
- the completion of road infrastructure that will upgrade roads and will allow for power, water, communication and fiber lines to be placed underground,
- timely delivery of key housing, hospital, port (sea and air) infra-

structure which are adequate and allow for future growth

- the development of geothermal power at affordable cost to the people, which, combined with the fiber optic bandwidth, will attract job creating industries
- a comprehensive education and health programme with adequate infrastructure, equipment and staffing
- adequate facilities for library, cafeteria, sports, and cultural activities and for students and youth
- training for scientifically and technically inclined students, youth and adults
- a decent welfare package for the aged and vulnerable
- a neutral, UN-supported facilitator on island to observe and aid with required negotiations, agreements and implementation of projects that will assure social, educational, health care, youth development and resilient economic growth out of dependence and colonial rule.

Volcanic activity has declined significantly, and through geothermal power, millions of tons of sand, and our accessible, half-buried town, our enemy (in the timeless words of Bob Marley) has now become our friend. Our emerald hills and sparkling springs, our green forest trails and grey sand beaches are as beautiful as ever, if not more. Nature is doing its part, collaborating with the Almighty, to work all things together for good. What about us humans?

For the burning question is no longer: **"Who (the British or Montserratian Government) is more responsible for twenty-two years of short sighted and ill-considered decisions, for chronic mismanagement, corruption and ignoring scientific advice?"**. But rather: **"Are we (Montserrat and UK governments, assisted by the UN C24 Committee) willing to work together to turn tragedy into the triumph of good will?"**

Montserrat is inhabited by a peaceful, warm and friendly people, resilient and hardworking. Twenty-two years have taught us, the hard way, that handouts of fish are not enough. Montserratians are asking for help (with the support of the Special Committee on Decolonization) not only to learn how to fish, but to acquire the nets, hooks, rods, lines, bait and boats, yes the equipment, infrastructure and good governance that will allow us to establish ourselves in the fishing business for generations to come.

On this tragic anniversary, I cannot think of a better memorial to those who died, or a greater gift to those suffering still but hoping against hope. 🌍

The image shows a laptop on a desk displaying the Caymanian Times website. The website header includes the logo, date (16th April 2019), and navigation tabs for Home, Entertainment, Community Notices, Local News, Community, Government, and More. The main content area features several news articles, including 'Community Officers and DoA Recover Over 80 Chickens Suspected to be Used in Cock Fighting. One Man Arrested' and 'Fatal Vehicle Accident Thursday Morning on ETH'. A cartoon pencil character with glasses and a red cap is positioned in the bottom left corner of the image, holding a notepad.

For a complete update of Local News, Notices and Events, log on to
www.caymaniantimes.ky
The only website that allows you to download your daily news and upload your advertisements

UN Human Rights Chief Calls on Venezuela Government to Release People Detained for Peacefully Protesting

The High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet has called on the Venezuela Government to release all those detained for peacefully protesting and announced that a team from her office would remain in Caracas to monitor the human rights situation.

Speaking at the end of the first-ever official mission to Venezuela by a UN human rights chief, which came at the invitation of the embattled Nicolas Maduro administration, Bachelet – a former two-term president of Chile – said the Government had agreed the new Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) team would provide technical help and advice and “continue to monitor the human rights situation in Venezuela.”

“In my meetings with victims and their families, their deep yearning for justice for grave human rights violations was made painfully clear,” she said. “I sincerely hope that our assessment, advice and assistance will help strengthen torture prevention and access to justice in Venezuela. The Government has also agreed that my team will be guaranteed full access to detention centres to be able to monitor conditions and speak to detainees.”

Bachelet met President Maduro and other senior ministers, as well as the opposition leader, Juan Guaido, who declared himself interim president in January, sparking a deepening political crisis in the deeply divided country, which has now seen more than four million Venezuelans flee across the border.

“I also met victims of human rights violations and their families,” said Bachelet. “The man who told of his brother’s

torture, humiliation and killing by hooded FAES security officers in a raid on his house – and the many other heart-broken families whose loved ones suffered a similar fate...The mother whose 14-year-old child was shot during demonstrations on 30 April this year. People who suffered horrific torture in detention.”

She said she had also met “victims of violence against Government supporters. A mother whose young son, a Government supporter, was set on fire during the 2017 protests and spent 15 agonising days in hospital before he died.”

All had testified to “how astonishingly the humanitarian situation in Venezuela has deteriorated, including with regards to the rights to food, water, healthcare, education and other economic and social rights.”

Around 75 per cent of the national budget is now going on social programmes for all, she said, “however, we have heard from Venezuelans who are fully employed – many in the public sector – who have difficulty affording medicine and adequate food.”

The human rights chief said the health situation “continues to be extremely critical”, citing rising costs, lack of availability of medicines, and a rise now in teenage pregnancies, with maternal and newborn mortality rates also ticking up.

“I have called on the Government to ensure that essential data related to healthcare and other economic and social rights is made available to enable all actors to accurately assess and seek to adequately manage the situation,” Bachelet said.



► UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet

Highlighting a recent strengthening of UN agencies on the ground, she said she had discussed the need to address the causes of the multiple crises, while also expressing concern at the crippling effect of sanctions imposed by the United States on oil exports, and gold trading, which “are exacerbating and aggravating the pre-existing economic crisis.”

She called on leaders “across the spectrum” to find a way to ease the suffering of the people: “The crises can only be resolved through the meaningful, sincere participation and inclusion of actors from various sectors of society.”

“The fate of more than 30 million Venezuelans rests upon the leadership’s willingness and ability to put the human rights of the people ahead of any per-

sonal, ideological or political ambitions,” Bachelet said, adding that she understood the mood of national scepticism, after years of decay and turmoil, that any political compromise is possible.

“Holding firmly to entrenched positions on either side will only escalate the crisis – and the people of Venezuela cannot afford further deterioration of the situation in the country.”

“I call for bold steps towards compromise, to set aside short-term wins for medium-term and long-term gains for the entire country,” she added, with reference to discussions between Government and opposition, underway in Norway. “The talks can succeed, as long as they are inclusive and those involved respond to the very real urgency to ensure their success.”

UN Security Council Approves Political Mission in Haiti, Ending UN Peacekeeping Role

The United Nations (UN) Security Council has approved a resolution to create an “Integrated Office” in Haiti, designed to support the country’s government in strengthening political stability and good governance.

The office, named BINUH, will replace the 15-year long peacekeeping mission, MINUJUSTH, on October 16.

BINUH will be run by a Special Representative, who will assist the Government of Haiti with planning elections; training the Haitian National Police on human rights; responding to gang violence; ensuring compliance with international human rights obligations; improving prison oversight; and strengthening the justice sector.

Speaking on behalf of the United States, which drafted the resolution, Acting Ambassador Jonathan Cohen, described the adoption of the resolution as “a historic moment”, but said that US was “clear-eyed” about the challenges that lie ahead, and recognized that a successful transition in Haiti will depend on the Government assuming responsibility for a range of issues, including ensuring free and fair elections, a reduction in gang violence, and the protection of human rights.

He added that close coordination between UN entities, international partners, and others invested in Haiti’s success, will be necessary, and that “constructive and inclusive dialogue”, will “lay the foundation for a sustainable future for all Haitians”.

Haitian Chargé d’Affaires Patrick Saint-Hilaire, said that the creation of BINUH was “a step in the right direction”, and pressed the UN to ensure that all Haitians enjoy stability, human rights, democracy and the rule of



► The 15-year long peacekeeping mission, MINUJUSTH, will be replaced in October. (Photo: UN)

law, adding that he wanted the new Office to be ready to tackle the many difficulties faced by the country.

He also raised the subject of climate change, citing the crisis as one of the many risks facing Haiti, alongside cholera, national disasters and “even hunger riots”.

Some top diplomats in the UN Security Council had also expressed their disappointment that the resolution did not stress Haiti’s vulnerability in the face of climate change.

Germany’s Ambassador to the United Nations, Christophe Heusgen, pointed out that, since 2011, the Security Council has repeatedly made clear its concern that the effects of climate change may aggravate existing threats to peace and security.

He added that, in Haiti, climate change is a “threat multiplier”, which could further destabilize the country, and “create new conflicts over increasingly diminishing resources and derail efforts in peace-building and stabilization.”

Parliament in Jamaica Passes Legislation to Establish Country’s Largest Single Pension Plan

The House of Representatives has passed the Tourism Workers Pension Bill, which seeks to establish a defined contribution pension scheme for hospitality industry workers.

Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett said the scheme will be the largest single pension plan in Jamaica and, arguably, the Caribbean, and a landmark development for the country’s workforce.

“It will involve in excess of 300,000 workers which will represent one-fifth of the total workforce of Jamaica. That accumulation of affordable capital will present an opportunity for investment and for capital distribution for all sorts of development in the country,” he said.

The Minister said the Government is “excited about the prospect of Jamaica offering to the world, a model of social security for the workers of the tourism industry”.

He further noted that it represents the Administration’s commitment to the social market arrangement, which aims to ensure that the appropriate legislation and regulations are developed to protect the vulnerable.

Bartlett argued that the Bill and, by extension, the scheme is coming at time when the sector is experiencing unprecedented growth.

“Globally, the trends are there that 1.4 billion visitors are going across borders; last year, they spent US\$1.7 trillion in more than 200 countries. You recall that here, in Jamaica, we broke all records, and last year, we had US\$3.3 billion earned from just over 4.3 million visitors,” he said.

The legislation will come into effect by an appointed day notice made by the Minister and published in the Gazette.

The pension scheme will require mandatory contributions by workers and employers, with benefits payable at age 65 years or older.

The Financial Services Commission will have regulatory oversight of the scheme, in accordance with the provisions of the Tourism Workers Pension Act, the Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) Act, and the Financial Services Commission Act.

The scheme’s establishment is consistent with the Government’s focus on



► Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett said the scheme for tourism workers will be the largest single pension plan in Jamaica and, arguably, the Caribbean. (Photo: JIS)

creating a social security network within the tourism sector.

It is one component of a three-point human capital development plan for industry workers, which also includes training and capacity building.

Some of the persons who will benefit include: rafters, craft traders, bus and taxi drivers, spa operators, housekeepers, and groundsman who are not directly employed in tourism, and are self-employed in some cases.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 46 Kitchen collection
1 Put away
5 Green hue

DOWN 1 Work byproduct
2 Señor's squiggle
3 Burger topper

17 Miscalculation
19 Beast abode
22 Incites

24 Part of many a scandal
25 Issue port
27 Writer Fleming fellow

30 Court worker:
33 Because of
34 Beginning

35 Calls for
37 Yemen
38 Uncool fellow

42 Jazz variety



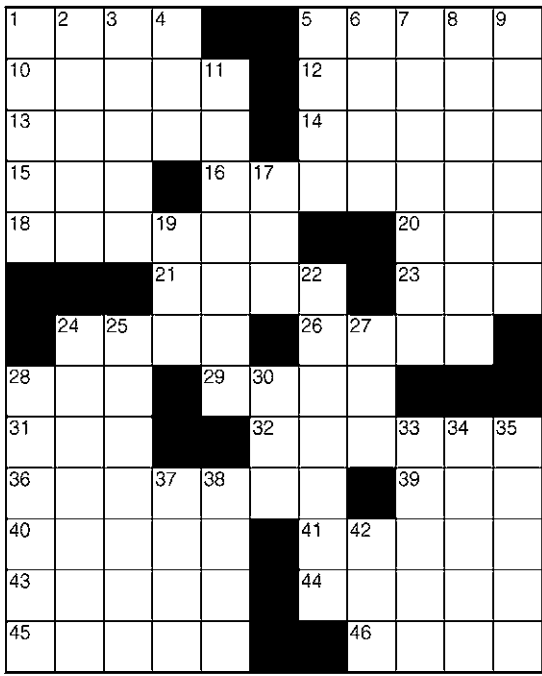
Yesterday's answer

29 Long account
31 Egg cells
32 Muscle connector

36 Lease signers
39 French article
40 Market action

41 More than plump
43 External
44 Famous

45 Forgo frugality



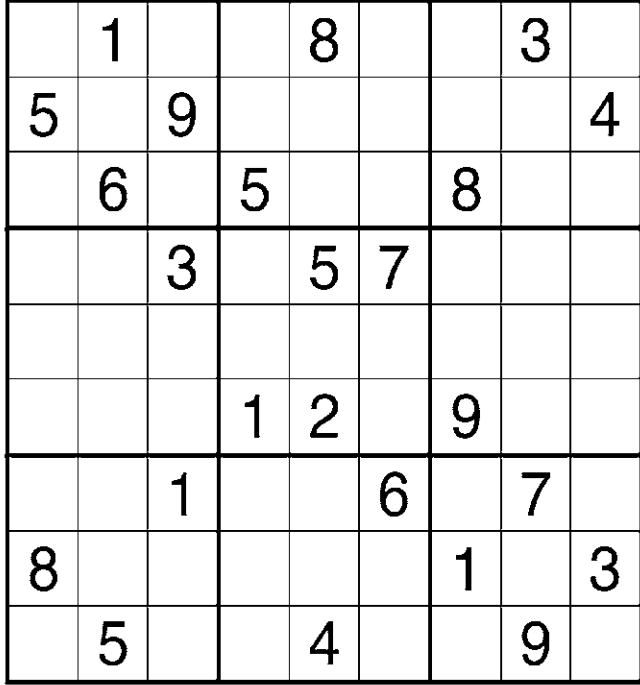
9-6

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

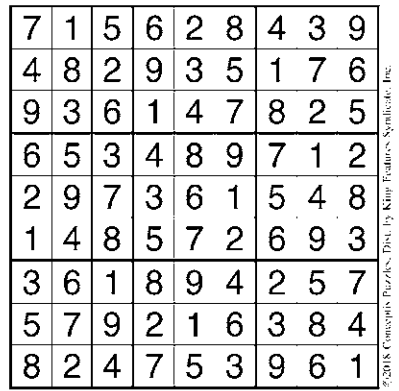
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/03

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★★

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Word Search



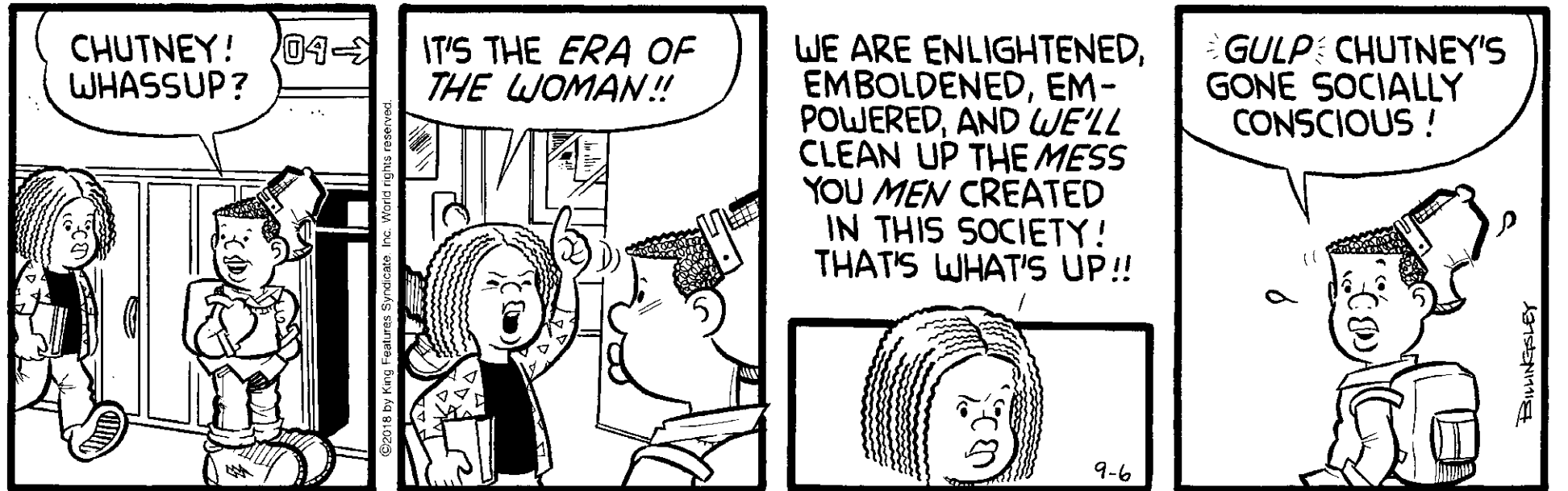
- Facelift
- Facility
- Faint
- Faith
- Falsity
- Feint
- Feisty
- Felicity
- Feminist
- Ferocity
- Fiat
- Fiction
- Fidget
- Fiesta
- Fifth
- Fight
- Fillet
- First
- Fist
- Flight
- Friction
- Fright

Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

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

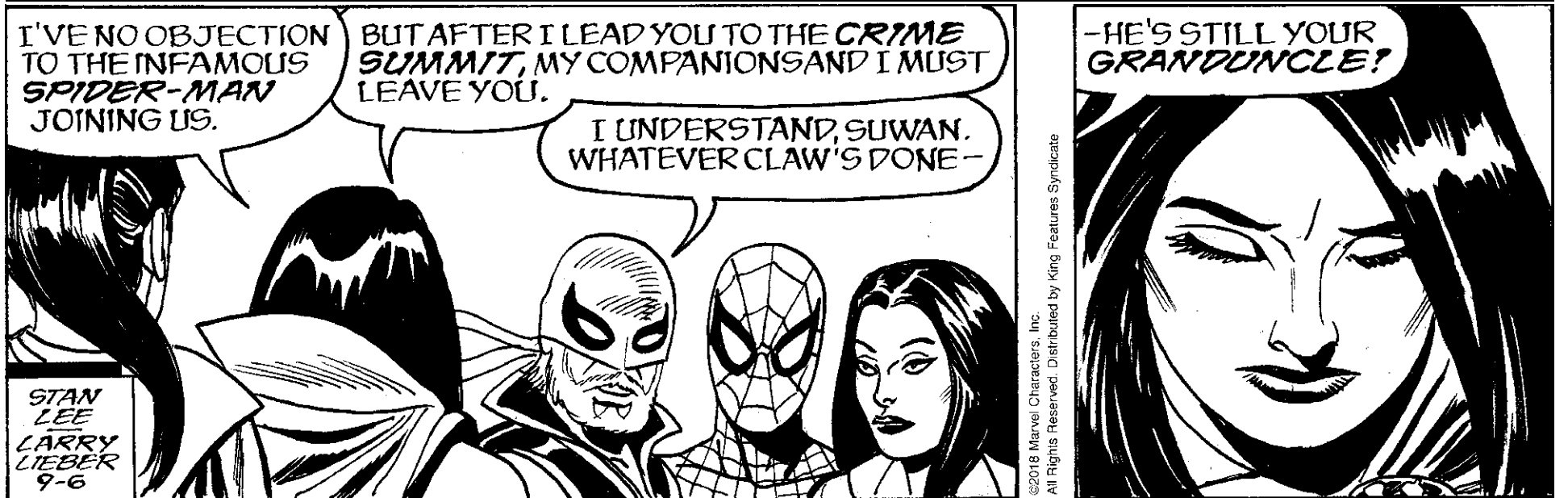
CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



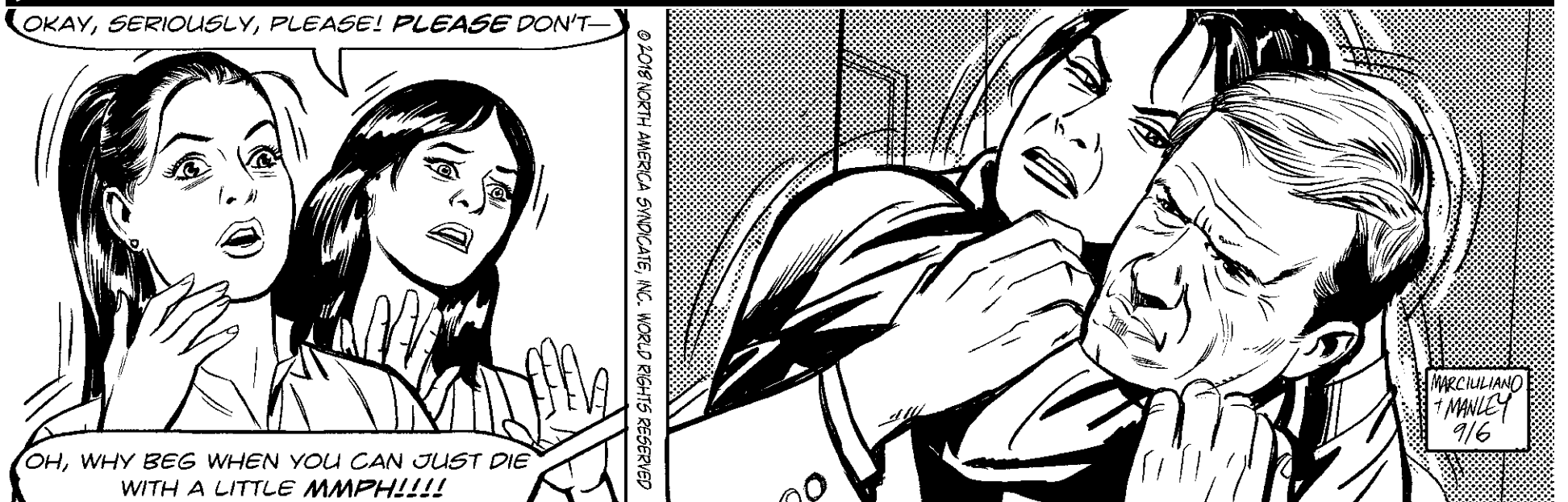
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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