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## Young Brac musician wins RUBiS top student award

A passion for music and a love of sharing his musical talents with others meant West End Primary Student Kai Roberts, age 10, was awarded the RUBiS top student last week, at a ceremony honouring ten outstanding young people held at the George Town Yacht Club.

The RUBiS programme was first launched in 2015 and is open to students aged between 7 and 12 years. In order to be considered for the final selection, students needed to demonstrate excellence, passion and enthusiasm in any particular area of interest such as fine arts, performing arts, sports, STEM activities or academic achievement. In doing so, they stood the chance of winning a considerable amount of money to help them pursue their passion.

Nicolas de Breyne, Managing Director of RUBiS Cayman explained why Kai was chosen out of the 70 applicants who were then narrowed down to a talented bunch of just ten students

"Kai demonstrated not only a talent for guitar but also a desire to use his musical skills to bring joy to those



► RUBiS Top 10 Students

... Continued story on page A6

## CIBC FCIB opens mini branch at East End

By Lindsey Turnbull

Opposition Leader Arden McLean, MLA for East End joined Minister for Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure Joey Hew and senior executives from CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank last Wednesday for the opening ceremony of a brand-new mini

branch for the bank, located at the new Heron Place Health City Medical Complex at East End.

Colette Delaney, Chief Executive Officer with CIBC FirstCaribbean said the bank was very pleased to be able to support the local community in that lo-

... Continued story on page A3



► Left to Right (FCIB staff) Samuel McField-Morgan - Associate Director Retail Banking Channels, Mark I. McIntyre - Managing Director Cayman Operating Company, David Ritch - Executive Chairman, Colette Delaney - CEO and Mark St. Hill - Managing Director, Retail & Business Banking

## Elections Office Receives Petition



► Elections Office Supervisor, Wesley Howell, officially accept the People Initiated Referendum petition from Cruise Port Referendum group member, Michelle Lockwood (Photo by Jamie Hicks, GIS)

The Cayman Islands Elections Office met with the Cruise Port Referendum group on Wednesday, 12 June 2019) to officially accept the People Initiated Referendum petition signatures.

The handover took place at 2 p.m. outside of the Election Office.

Elections Office Supervisor, Wesley Howell, along with Deputy Supervisors Suzanne Bothwell and Sheena Glasgow, were given the documents by leaders with the Cruise Port Referendum group. Head of the Governor's Office,

... Continued story on page A4

**Caymanian Times**

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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## World Blood Donor Day Message

By Minister of Health, Hon. Dwayne Seymour

Each year the Cayman Islands is proud to join the global family celebrating World Blood Donor Day.

This year's theme "safe blood for all" seeks to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products. It is also a time when we express our appreciation for the generosity of those donors who help save millions of lives every year.

This creates an almost unimaginable demand for safe blood that can only be met through regular blood donations. There is no better way to ensure individuals and communities have access to safe blood transfusions whenever and wherever they are needed.

Many of you will already be personally aware of the kinds of situations which make a blood transfusion necessary.

These include:

- Women with pregnancy- and child-birth- associated bleeding;
- Children with severe anaemia;
- Patients with blood and bone marrow disorders, inherited disorders of haemoglobin and immune deficiency conditions;
- People with traumatic injuries in emergencies, disasters and accidents; and
- Patients undergoing advanced medical and surgical procedures.

We all know someone who lived through one of these experiences, thanks to the selflessness of our local donor community.

Yet there is always a need for more blood. As such the donor community is something that we must cherish and protect but also take steps to grow.

We can do this in part by ensuring the safety and well-being of blood donors. In particular ensuring safe and sufficient blood supplies requires the development of a nationally coordinated blood transfusion service based on voluntary, non-remunerated blood donations.

This is a goal which challenges many countries around the world. Here in the Cayman Islands we are fortunate to have



► Minister of Health, Hon. Dwayne Seymour

the Cayman Islands Blood Bank which was created 20 years ago to support the Health Services Authority.

This wonderful group works to grow the pool of voluntary donors; to act as a liaison between donors, the HSA and other organisations; as well as to encourage best practice surrounding blood donation.

As such, on this World Blood Donor Day, the Cayman Islands Government and the Ministry of Health are proud to recognise the life-saving work done by the team at the Cayman Islands Blood Bank.

Their contribution ensure that all persons in the Cayman Islands can access one of the most vital resources in the world at no cost should they have need.

I would urge anyone reading this, who is eligible, to join their ranks. Information about eligibility is available from [bloodbank.ky](http://bloodbank.ky). Interested persons should also visit the organisation's Facebook page to learn more about the vibrant community of local donors and how they can join.

On behalf of the Cayman Islands Government and Ministry of Health, we thank the Blood Bank and its members for their contributions, and look forward to another year of working together to enhance access to health services in the Cayman Islands. 🌐

## Department of Commerce and Investment (DCI) Closing Early

The Department of Commerce and Investment (DCI) would like to notify the public that their office will be closed on Monday, 17 June 2019 at 3 p.m., to facilitate a staff meeting.

DCI will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, 18 June 2019.

The Department of Commerce and Investment staff apologise for any inconvenience the closure may cause. 🌐

## Fraudulent social media reported

The Office of the Hon. Deputy Premier has notified the Royal Cayman Islands Police Financial Crimes Unit and the Cyber Crime Team, of a recent surge in fraudulent Social Media pages that has been contacting constituents and friends both in the Islands and overseas.

If persons have been contacted by someone perpetrating to be the Hon. Deputy Premier Moses Kirkconnell, we advise that you first report the fraudulent account to the Social Media Platform and then block the account. 🌐



► Hon. Deputy Premier Moses Kirkconnell



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Telephone: 345 916 2000  
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or [info@caymaniantimes.ky](mailto:info@caymaniantimes.ky)  
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### Monday, 17 June

- 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
- 3:30 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
- 6:37 AM 93rd Queens Birthday Celebration
- 7:44 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 8:00 AM For the Record
- 10:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 10:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 10:40 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference 2019
- 11:20 AM News Update
- 11:35 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 12:00 PM For the Record
- 2:00 PM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 2:30 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
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- 3:25 PM News Update
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- 6:10 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 6:40 PM 93rd Queens Birthday Celebration
- 7:45 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 8:00 PM For the Record
- 10:00 PM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 10:30 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 10:40 PM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference 2019
- 11:25 PM News Update
- 11:35 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference

### Tuesday, 18 June

- 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 2019
- 2:05 AM NGCI Biennial 2019
- 2:55 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 3:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 3:30 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 4:00 AM Sustaining Older Persons Lecture in full
- 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 Sustaining Older Persons Lecture in full
- 6:00 PM News Update
- 6:10 PM Finance Committee June 7 2019 pt 1
- 7:10 PM Miss Lassie Documentary
- 7:35 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 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, 19 June

- 12:00 AM For the Record
- 2:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 2:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 2:40 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference 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
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- 8:00 PM For the Record
- 10:00 PM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 10:30 PM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 10:40 PM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference 2019
- 11:25 PM News Update
- 11:35 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference

### Thursday, 20 June

- 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 2019
- 2:05 AM NGCI Biennial 10 April 2019
- 2:55 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 3:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 3:30 AM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 4:00 AM Sustaining Older Persons Lecture in full
- 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
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- 1:50 PM L.A. June 6 2019 p2
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- 6:00 PM News Update
- 6:10 PM Finance Committee June 7 2019 pt 1
- 7:10 PM Miss Lassie Documentary
- 7:35 PM 2019 DG 5k Press Conference
- 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

### Friday, 21 June

- 12:00 AM For the Record
- 2:00 AM Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference 2019
- 2:30 AM Governor Hurricane Message 2019
- 2:40 AM RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference 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
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CIGTV GUIDE FOR WEEK OF JUNE 17 - 21

# Errol Bush retires from Port Authority Board

Mr. Errol Bush, 80, has retired as chairman of the Cayman Islands Port Authority Board for personal reasons.

"I thank Mr. Bush for his loyalty to the Port Authority and the people of the Cayman Islands who depend on the Port for employment and the safe delivery of goods to our Islands," said Deputy Premier Hon. Moses Kirkconnell. "His service to the Cayman Islands has been invaluable."

Mr. Bush joined the Port Authority in 1979 as Deputy Port Director of Finance and became Port Director in 1986; a role he served in until December 2001. He was named chairman of the Port Authority Board under the Progressives-led Government in August 2013.

He reflected that he has seen many changes since he began his career with

the Port Authority, from implementing a computer system covering all aspect of the Port's operations, which integrate the tracking of containers, placement of cargo, warehouse management and financials; buying property to store containers in the Industrial Park area; development of the north and south cruise terminals; opening of the Port Authority's purpose-built facilities; opening of the Berkley Bush Cargo Distribution Centre in the Airport Industrial Park; and putting into place a plan that will come into effect next year to replace out-dated equipment with funds on hand.

Deputy Chairman Arek Joseph will serve as interim chairman. Cabinet will appoint a replacement for Mr. Bush as chairman of the Port Authority Board.



► Mr. Errol Bush (Photo courtesy Cayman27)

# CIBC FCIB opens mini branch at East End

... Continued story from page A1

cation, noting the synergies between Health City and CIBC First Caribbean.

"Health City is not just a hospital, it looks after the health of its patients in a holistic way, in the same way that we look after the financial needs of our customers," she said.

She went on to say that the face of banking was changing and CIBC First-Caribbean intended to lead the way in those changes, building on the legacy of the bank created by its founders 150 years ago. The bank had chosen East End for its new location because the area was "alluring, quickly developing and also warm and friendly" and the bank wanted to be the first financial institution to grace the area.

The new branch, called the Health City Service and Loan Centre, will not be open on Monday and will have opening hours that are different from the norm, in that they will be open from 1.30pm to 6.30pm Tuesday to Friday and also 9.30am to 1.30pm on Saturday as well.

There are two ATM machines for people to get cash in the location and staff will be working there to predominantly service loans and mortgage needs of their customers.

Minister McLean said that he had been looking forward to a bank branch

at East End for more than 20 years. He also hoped that, while the bank was not providing full bank services at the moment, it might consider to expand into a fully-fledged bank in time. He anticipated that the bank would be used by residents not just of East End but also by the neighbouring communities of North Side and Breakers as well.

Minister Hew said that the recent news of Morritt's expanding at East End, along with new Airbnb properties coming on line at East End and the success of the Wyndham property meant the location was on the cusp of development like never before and these developments highlighted how strong the economy was. As a result, he was pleased to see this new bank open because he felt it was very important for financial services to be in place at East End to provide for the needs of commerce in the area. Government had been working hard to meet the needs of small and micro businesses as well, he said.

"Banking should be equitable to everyone and entities based in East End now have the chance to grow their small businesses from the comfort and convenience of their own back yard," the Minister said. "I think the opening of this branch is a very positive step towards expansion in the eastern districts."



► CEO Colette Delaney; Minister for Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure Joey Hew and Managing Director, Cayman, Mark McIntyre inside the new CIBC FirstCaribbean Health City Service and Loan Centre

Mark St. Hill, Managing Director - Retail & Business Banking at CIBC First-Caribbean Barbados, said that the development of the bank had come about because customers had asked for a bank in that location, and the bank had listened and acted. He went on to say that the bank had been listening

to customer demands when it came to technological developments in banking and detailed the many ways the bank was providing digital solutions to modern-day banking needs. He said this, coupled with their staff, played an integral role in the success of the bank overall.

# Improvement continues but more still to do in Government Financial Reporting

On Thursday the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) published its compendium report "Financial Reporting of the Cayman Islands Government: General Report 31 December 2017" which summarises the results of the audits of 39 of the 44 public sector entities in the Cayman Islands. The audits for 5 entities and the consolidated Entire Public Sector (EPS) account for the eighteen month period 2016-17 are not yet complete. A decision was taken to produce the summary report now rather than wait any longer to best serve the public interest.

"The outcomes from our entity audits for 2016-17 so far, have seen 35 entities receive an unqualified opinion and four (The Ministries of Community Affairs and Human Resources and Immigration, Cayman National Cultural Foundation and the Health Services Authority) receive a qualified opinion and this continues the positive

trend seen over recent years with this being the highest number of unqualified opinions issued in one accounting period to date" said Sue Winspear, Auditor General. She continued: "Of the four entities receiving audit qualifications, this included two Ministries for failing to disclose the value of termination benefits paid to key management personnel which is a requirement of international public sector accounting standards. I am pleased to say that all four of these entities have subsequently received an unqualified opinion in 2018."

Ms. Winspear added: "It is also pleasing that all entities have produced an annual report to accompany their financial statements which helps contextualise and explain the financial results by telling the reader what they have achieved for the money they have spent. It is therefore disappointing that many of these insightful reports have not yet been laid in the Legislative Assembly so that people can see what was achieved during the period with public funds and this is a key recommendation I am making for improving accountability and transparency going forward."

The Auditor General makes a series of other recommendations including further improvements in financial management, governance and internal controls such as strengthening the management of related party trans-

actions, overtime and travel expenditures and building stronger functional leadership in Government to make for a

stronger, more efficient and effective public sector.


More information about this report can be obtained by con-

tacting Ms. Winspear at (345) 244-3201 or 938 3201.

The report is available at [www.auditorgeneral.gov.ky](http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.ky)

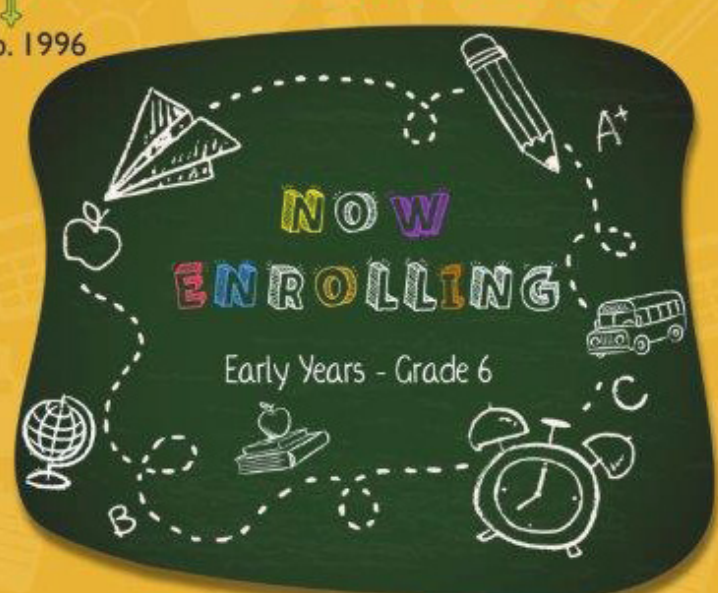



► Sue Winspear, Auditor General of the Cayman Islands




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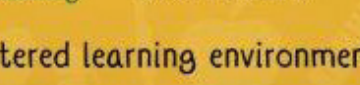
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Christ-centered learning environment



► Elections Office Staff met with Cruise Port Referendum group members (Photos by Jamie Hicks, GIS)



► The handover took place at 2 p.m. outside of the Election Office

# Elections Office Receives People Initiated Referendum Petition

... Continued story from page A1

Matthew Forbes, was also present to accept a copy of the documents on behalf of the Governor.

The Elections Office staff will now analyse and collate the names of petitions and conduct an independent verification of the document's signatures.

The door to door process will commence in approximately two weeks, however, persons are able to immediately visit the Elections Office to complete the verification process during regular office hours.

Over the next two weeks, the Elections Office will review the petition and organise the signatures based on districts and households; as well as ensure on

boarded staff members are adequately trained to carry out the official process.

Various methods will be used to confirm that the level of signatures meets or exceeds the required 25% (5,289) of persons registered as electors (21,155) in accordance with section 90 of the constitution.

Pursuant to the Cayman Islands Constitution Order 2009, the first step in the verification process is to ensure the provided referendum signatures correspond with the current electoral register.

Manual checks with petitioners will also be conducted by Elections Office officials to ensure signature validity.

As part of the aim to ensure the procedure is as fair, transparent and efficient

as possible, relevant persons are encouraged to contact the Elections Office to assist in the verification of the signatures.

Petition signers visit the Elections Office during regular office hours with their voter ID card or any other form of official identification, to verify in person to confirm their signature. Extended opening hours will be announced later.

Elections Office staff members will also make themselves available at various public locations throughout the Island. Details around this will be made public once finalised.

Mr. Wesley Howell strongly urges all electors who signed the petition to ensure their correct place of residence is registered with the Elections Office.

"Under the law, all persons must maintain updated registration details with the Elections Office," he explained. "With this referendum process, and an upcoming election year, it is vital that these details are kept accurate."

Mr. Howell concluded: "As we move forward, the Elections Office is fully committed to ensuring this process is as fair, accurate and transparent as possible. We will work expeditiously to conclude this verification process."

The Elections Office is located on the second floor of Smith Road Centre in George Town, and can be contacted at (345) 949-8047 or by email at office@elections.ky.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# MRCU Increases Ground Spraying

With aerial spraying unavailable for the duration of this week the Mosquito Research and Control Unit (MRCU) has strengthened ground control measures aimed at reducing the mosquito populations on Grand Cayman.

As such four fogging trucks have been out around the Island each night since

the MRCU plane last sprayed on Friday, 7 June 2019.

MRCU Director Jim McNelly, PhD, explains that the Department had experienced some procurement challenges after making the decision recently to change the chemical solution it uses in aerial spraying.

"A regrettable time lag between the depletion of the previous product and the arrival of the new product has meant that aerial spraying will be unavailable to us for up to a week-and-a-half. We understand any concerns the public may have, and in addition to increasing ground spraying during this period are working to land the product on Island as quickly as possible", Dr McNelly says.

He notes that the unavailability of aerial spraying has the potential to impact only nuisance mosquitoes, as MRCU has separate measures in place to control disease-carrying mosquitoes.

The MRCU plane is expected to resume flights on Grand Cayman next Wednesday, weather permitting. Prior to that aerial larviciding is scheduled to be performed on Cayman Brac and Little Cayman on Monday and Tuesday.



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# Cayman observes World Sickle Cell Day

The Cayman Islands joins the United Nations in observing World Sickle Day on Wednesday, 19 June 2019. Raising public awareness of the disease is the main objective of the day. Sickle cell disease is a chronic disorder with the condition present at birth. It is inherited when a child receives two sickle cell genes.

At present, there are 41 persons with sickle cell disease known to the Public Health Department.

While screening for sickle cell disease in the Cayman Islands has been in place since the early 1970s for high-risk families, and since the 1980s for school entry screening, routine newborn screening has been in place since 1997. This has helped in early identification of the sickle cell trait and disease with appropriate counseling and management.

"It is important to test for sickle cell trait as this information can help parents make informed reproductive choices. If someone has sickle cell trait, it is important to know if one's partner is also a carrier. If both parents are sickle cell carriers, with each pregnancy, there is a 25% risk of having a child with sickle cell disease," said the Health Services Authority's Genetics Coordinator Joy Merren.

A Sickle Cell Support Group meets three to four times a year. Patients and families receive information on management of the disorder as well as support. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 17 June, 2019 at 7:30pm



at the Women's Health Waiting Room. Dr Judith Nicholls will be speaking on "Approaches to Pain Management in Patients with Sickle Cell Disorder" and Dr Anna Matthews will be speaking on "Almost Sickle: The Sickle Cell Trait".

The public is invited and light refreshments will be served.

For further information, please contact Mrs Merren on 244-2630 at the Public Health Department.

## Sickle Cell Support Group Meeting

In acknowledgement of World Sickle Cell Day, the next Sickle Cell Support Group meeting is planned for Monday, 17 June 2019 at 7:30 pm at the Women's Health Waiting Room at the Health Services Authority. The speakers will be Dr. Nicholls who will be focusing on pain management and Dr. Matthews who will be focusing on sickle cell trait. The public is invited.

Light refreshments will be served.

For further information, please contact the genetics coordinator at joymerren@hsa.ky or phone 244-2630.

## What is Sickle Cell Disease?

Sickle cell disease is an inherited chronic disorder that affects red blood cells. It has a worldwide distribution, and is one of the most common genetic disorders.

All persons have two genes that make haemoglobin. Normal red blood cells contain haemoglobin A, a protein that helps red blood cells carry oxygen around the body. With sickle cell there is a different form of protein - haemoglobin S. With sickle cell disease, both genes are affected, causing severe symptoms.

## What is Sickle Cell Trait

When only one gene is affected, it is called sickle cell trait, or persons are called sickle cell carriers. Having sickle cell trait means that the person stays healthy under normal circumstances, and the main significance is that it can be passed down to one's children. However, under certain extreme circumstances, a person with the trait may experience complications as if having sickle cell disease. Persons with just the trait CANNOT later develop the disease.

Persons with the trait can, under extreme conditions, have some symptoms, so it is recommended that persons with sickle cell trait:

- Avoid high altitudes
- Avoid scuba diving and free diving
- Drink adequate fluids to avoid dehydration
- Pace themselves when exercising/playing sports
- Rest as needed when exercising/playing sports
- Seek medical care right away if feeling ill when playing sports
- Seek medical attention if blood is noted in the urine (haematuria)

## How to Find out if you have sickle cell trait

A blood test can be done to determine if a person has the trait.

## How is Sickle Cell Disorder Inherited

If a man and a woman are both sickle cell carriers, with each pregnancy, there is a:

- 25% chance of the child having the disease;
  - 25% chance of the child being completely free from sickle cell;
  - and a 50% chance of the child having the sickle cell trait, i.e., being a carrier
- If only one parent is a carrier, then there is a
- 50% chance of the child having the trait;
  - 50% chance of the child being completely free of sickle; and
  - NO chance of the child having the disease.

## What Symptoms Are Associated with Sickle Cell Disease?

- Anaemia, jaundice and gallstones due to rapid breakdown of the red blood cells
- Painful swelling of fingers and toes in babies
- Painful attacks of joints, back and abdomen as there may be damage to the bone marrow
- Infections may develop, such as pneumonia
- Leg ulcers may develop due to less oxygen to the lower legs

## Management of Sickle Cell Disease

- Full recommended immunizations plus pneumococcal vaccines
- Penicillin, starting from about 2 months of age to 5 years of age to help prevent serious infection
- Management of symptoms by using medications as needed
- Folic acid daily to help make new red cells
- Hydroxyurea for persons who meet the criteria

These are some of the management strategies. For further details, please consult your doctor.

# Blood import decrease moves Cayman in the right direction

With a decrease in blood and blood product importation and an increase in the number of local blood donors, the Cayman Islands Blood Bank confirmed that the country is moving in the right direction towards universal access to safe blood transfusion.

Five hundred and sixteen lives were saved or improved in 2018 as a result of blood transfusion. Many of these transfusions were the direct result of the contributions from donors in the Cayman Islands, who by the end of 2018 totaled a record number of 1,529 for the Blood Bank.

"World Blood Donor Day marked on Friday, 14 June, serves as a time to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood," the Cayman Islands Health Services Authority (HSA) Pathology Laboratory Manager and Blood Bank Manager Judith Clarke said. "We chose this opportune time to officially recognise and thank all the donors who have contributed towards this noteworthy achievement for our islands. It is through your donation(s) that lives in our community have been saved."

With a 19.4% increase of blood donors last year compared to 2017, the Blood Bank was able to import less blood and blood products from the United States. The Blood Bank reported a 31.8% decrease in red blood cell imports in 2018, which is the main imported blood product impacting the decline.

"This importation decline indicates that we as a country and blood bank are moving in the right direction," Ms. Clarke stated. "However, it would be remiss of me not to highlight the primary contributing factor to this accomplishment, which is due mainly to improved collaboration with corporate Cayman and the Cayman Islands Blood Bank."

"I would like to thank our donors, corporate partners and sponsors such as Generali Worldwide, the board and management of the HSA and the hard working staff of the laboratory and the Blood Bank for raising awareness of the universal need for safe blood in the delivery of health care. They have all performed very crucial roles directly and indirectly in the collection of blood," Ms Clarke added.

Despite all the progress made, with 30% of the population eligible to donate but only 2.4% donating blood, there is still much work to be done Ms Clarke noted.

The public is reminded that every day, someone, somewhere, needs blood. Transfusions of blood and blood products save hundreds of lives in Cayman every year including women with pregnancy and childbirth associated bleeding; children with severe anaemia; patients with blood and bone marrow disorders, inherited disorders of haemoglobin and immune deficiency conditions; people with traumatic injuries in emergencies, disasters and accidents; and patients undergoing advanced medical and surgical procedures.



► A staff of KPMG donates during the organisation's blood drive. The primary contributing factor to the increase in the number of local blood donors is improved collaboration with corporate Cayman and the Cayman Islands Blood Bank

To check if you are an eligible donor or to book an appointment to donate, please visit [www.bloodbank.ky](http://www.bloodbank.ky) or call the Cayman Islands Blood Bank at 244-2674. You can also walk-in. The Blood Bank is located on the second floor of the Cayman Islands Hospital and is open Monday - Friday 7:00am - 6:30pm and Saturday 9am - 5pm. It is closed on Sunday and Public Holidays.

# Rotaract Club of Grand Cayman installs 2019-20 Board

At a recent changeover ceremony, held at Pappagallo Restaurant, the Rotaract Club of Grand Cayman's new Board of Officers and Directors for the 2019-2020 year was officially installed by District Governor David Kirkaldy.

Mr. Joel Porter will serve as President of the Club for the upcoming year. In his Incoming President's speech, Mr. Porter stated that his goal for the year is to forge closer working relationships with the other Rotary and Rotaract Clubs in the Cayman Islands, as well as other service clubs and associations.

"We are all working towards the same goal, so why not work together more and pool our resources to make a great-

er impact in our community." Mr. Porter said.

"I'm looking forward to working with my board, as well as the other clubs, for a great year of service through collaboration. Together we can all achieve more."

Mr. Porter's goal is in keeping with the Rotaract District 7020 theme for the 2019-2020 year, "Impact Through Unity".

Since joining Rotaract in 2014, Mr. Porter has served as Community Service Director, Treasurer, and Vice President, and led many projects for the Club including partnerships with the Cayman Islands Blood Bank, NCVO and Meals on Wheels.

"For me, Rotaract has been a great way to meet new people and give back to our community whilst also focusing on my own personal and professional growth. I look forward to continuing the good work that our club has been able to achieve over the years and I'm excited to welcome new members to the Rotary and Rotaract family," he said.

Other Officers and Directors installed at the event include Vice President Darron Conolly, Treasurer Andrew Bloomfield, Secretary Kimberly McNamee and Directors Philipp Richter (Professional Development), Ornella Leahong (Sergeant-At-Arms), Kourtneigh-Michelle Nicholson (Club Service), Rhadica Wel-

come (International Service), Rhonda Coleman (Community Service), Brenda Martinez (Public Relations Chair) and Josh Saldeba (Fundraising Chair). Rebecca Gonez will serve on the board as Immediate Past President for the 2019-2020 year.

The Rotaract Club of Grand Cayman meet on Thursday mornings at The Greenhouse, 72 N Church St, George Town, Grand Cayman. Meeting times are 6:45am for a 7:00am start and go until 8:00am Those interested in joining Rotaract are encouraged to contact the Club by emailing [vp.rotaractky@gmail.com](mailto:vp.rotaractky@gmail.com) and can find out more at [www.rotaractky.org](http://www.rotaractky.org).



► RCGC President Joel Porter (Photo Credit: Matthew Fox Seales)



► RCGC Changeover Dinner 2019 (Photo Credit: Matthew Fox Seales)

# Suicide Bereavement Support Group Launches this June

## Latest Initiative from the Alex Panton Foundation

The Alex Panton Foundation (APF) announced this week that it is launching in conjunction with the Bethesda Counselling Centre, a bereavement support group for those who have lost loved ones to suicide. The group will meet every Monday from June 24th – July 29th from 6.15pm to 7.15pm at the Bethesda Counselling Centre, Unit 4, 68 Mary Street, George Town. The group is free to attend.

The mission of the group is to provide private and confidential grief support in a safe place, where people who have lost loved ones to suicide can share their experiences as they move through the healing process. The group also aims to provide participants with the necessary tools to understand the grieving process and help them through it.

The APF is a not-for-profit organisation with the primary objective of raising awareness of mental health illnesses affecting children and young adults in the Cayman Islands with particular focus on anxiety and depression. The APF collaborates with local organisations on numerous initiatives and the bereavement support group is the latest to be launched. Well-respected Consultant Clinical Psychologist Dr. Erica Lam sits on the Board of Directors for the APF and heads up the Clinical and Education Committee. The Committee supports the running of all the APF's community groups including supervision, clinical governance and resources. This support group has been made possible

by the generosity of Cayman National Bank, who are kindly sponsoring the initiative.

The bereavement support group will be facilitated by April Lewis, a licensed Mental Health Counsellor from the Bethesda Counselling Centre, who has over 20 years' experience in therapy and counselling. Ms. Lewis holds a Masters of Art degree in Christian Counselling and a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Ms. Lewis has worked with the Cayman Islands Government as a counsellor, for the Employee Assistance Programme as Director and installed one of the first online therapy programmes in the Cayman Islands.

"I am delighted to be working with the APF to launch and facilitate this support group. Suicide is such a sensitive subject and those who have tragically lost loved ones to suicide need all the support they can get to come to terms with their loss, and start the long road to healing," said Lewis. "As attendees will learn tools to help them through their journey, they will be surrounded by others who have experienced similar circumstances."

Speaking in support of this new initiative, Jane Panton, Chair of the Alex Panton Foundation, recalls the devastation of losing her son to suicide in October 2010: "I have experienced the deaths of loved ones and my parents through normal circumstances but losing my beloved son to suicide was like a wrecking ball that just kept swinging at me over and over again. Our immediate and extend-

ed family underwent extensive counselling in various ways and had our own small support groups. I was very fortunate to have most wonderful friends and family supporting me through this but I always felt like I was becoming too heavy for them and did not want to lean on them too much. I think through this support group, we can share our experiences without feeling like we are being burdensome to our supporter/listening ear. I hope to be at the first meeting to share my own experiences on my journey to healing." Mrs. Panton also is very grateful to CNB for jumping on board on the initiative for these support groups as the sponsor.

For more information on the APF Bereavement Support Group, please email [info@alexpantonfoundation.ky](mailto:info@alexpantonfoundation.ky)

### About the Alex Panton Foundation

The Alex Panton Foundation (APF) is a Non-Profit Organization founded by Jane and Wayne Panton in memory of their son Alex, who succumbed to the effects of severe depression at age 16. The APF's mission is to improve the mental health of children and young adults in the Cayman Islands through advocacy, awareness and support. It aims to provide hope and educational resources to those suffering from anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses, as well as providing information and support to friends, family, teachers, students, carers and the wider population. It also



► Ms. April Lewis, licensed Mental Health Counsellor from the Bethesda Counselling Centre

seeks to address discrimination and the widespread stigma of mental illness.

### About Bethesda Counselling Centre

"To provide professional, curative and preventative counselling/therapeutic intervention to facilitate healing and wholeness, within a caring environment modeled on Christ's view of the inherent worth and potential of each individual." – Ms. April Lewis.

# CAYMAN TEAMS RULE THE POOL AT INTERNATIONAL SEAPERCH CHALLENGE

After stellar performances at the regional SeaPerch Challenge in March, the John Gray Aqua Lasers and Layman E. Scott Brac Bots recently represented the Cayman Islands at the 2019 International SeaPerch Challenge in College Park, Maryland.

For both teams, the 2019 tournament marked their second time competing at the international level. The Brac Bots came in fourth overall in the High School Division and the Aqua Lasers came in eleventh place overall in the Middle School Division.

Similar to the regional competition held in Grand Cayman, the International Challenge includes three events that are combined for the overall score: Obstacle Course, Rescue & Recover Mission, and Engineering Notebook.

The Brac Bots stood out in the Rescue & Recover Mission, taking second place.

Following the competition, the Aqua Lasers spent the day exploring the museums and monuments of nearby Washington, D.C.

Presented annually by Dart Minds Inspired in collaboration with Maples Group, Women's International Shipping and Trade Association (WISTA) and London & Amsterdam, the Cayman Islands SeaPerch Challenge is a hands-on integration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) with applications both inside and outside of the classroom.

For more information, visit [mindsinspired.ky](http://mindsinspired.ky).



### EXECUTIVE QUOTES

Dart Senior Manager Education Programmes Glenda McTaggart: "These incredible results are testament to the time and effort the Brac Bots and Aqua Lasers put into designing, constructing and testing their underwater Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs). The level of competition was extremely high and they rose to the challenge."

Maples Group Partner Sherice Arman: "We are proud to continue our support of the SeaPerch Challenge. It is fantastic to be part of this important initiative that helps students in our community explore and engage in STEM activities. The response to this year's competition was brilliant and we congratulate and commend all those who participated in this year's challenge."

John Gray High School Aqua Lasers Coach Desmond White: "The International SeaPerch Challenge has become more and more challenging over the years, as teams look to experiment with new materials and innovative ways of making their Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) more efficient. Our Cayman teams have risen to the occasion and have proven that we are not just 'showing up' but are there to compete. This is a true testament to the quality of our local competition and I believe the performances this year will serve as added motivation for all our local schools which will no doubt further strengthen our performance at both the local and international competitions going forward."

Layman E. Scott High School Brac Bots Coach Michael Bryan: "As a school,

we look forward to the continued enrichment of our kids through this STEM program. We have seen the value of the programme and will continue to work with the students in the future in order to help them achieve better results. We do recognise that all this would not be possible with the help and commitment of our major sponsors, Dart and Maples, and so we express profound gratitude. It is hope that next year our kids will stand atop the medal podium."

Layman E. Scott High School Brac Bots Team Captain Kenny Ryan: "Like last year, we are aware that, for us to enjoy better results, we need to properly analyse all areas of competition critically, with special focus on the Engineering Handbook. We will be seeking to strengthen our weaknesses and improve our strong areas."

# Young Brac musician wins RUBiS top student award

... Continued story from page A1

around him and make a positive impact on the community, having already used his musical talents to help spread delight with the Lions and Leos Christmas Cheer Programme," he said.

Kai, described as a "model student" by his teacher, wins a \$5,000 grant from RUBiS to help him continue doing what he loves and an additional \$1,000 which he can donate to a club or school of his choice.

At the ceremony, Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands said she was thrilled to see the winner was from West End Primary School in the Brac.

"This shows that even if you're from a small school as long as you've got passion, faith, and are willing to work hard, you can be successful at whatever you put your mind to," the Minister confirmed.

Kai's Grade 5 teacher, Ms Diana Kennedy, said the young man possessed exceptional leadership abilities, and a high level of maturity and responsibility.

"Kai is not only dedicated to his school work but also participates in ex-

tra-curricular activities such as learning the guitar, singing, football and public speaking," she said.

No stranger to accolades, Kai won second place in the 2019 Lions Club Claudette Upton Keeley Public Speaking contest and has been awarded gold and silver in past National Children's Festival of the Arts speech competitions. He is a school prefect, active in his church participating in Pathfinder, Adventist Youth meetings and community activities.

The other nine finalists were Alzavia Goulbourne, 9, from Red Bay Primary School, Damoya Fearon, 9, from Red Bay Primary School, Hosannia O'Connor, 11, from East End Primary School, Jeleah Maize, 8, from George Town Primary School, Kaz Conolly Basdeo, 10, from Montessori By The Sea, Kezzia King, 12, from Triple C School, Naima Myles, 7, from George Town Primary School, Oral Michelin, 11, from The Lighthouse School and Tianna Ebanks, 10, from Prospect Primary School. They will receive \$1,000 each towards pursuing their passions.

"All the students really demonstrated their determination, dedication, drive and enthusiasm for their passion," Mr de



► RUBiS Top Student Grand Prize Winner-Kai Roberts

Breyne said. "Even at such a young age, these students are already developing skills like teamwork, goal setting and leadership, which will no doubt assist them in building bright and successful futures."

Mr de Breyne added that with the completion of the third RUBiS Top Student programme, the company will have donated more than \$56,000 in financial grants to more than 40 students in the Cayman Islands.



► A neat little lawn, and plenty of different, shade-loving plants

# Ideas for small spaces

Lots of people, especially if they live in one of Cayman's Condominiums, have very small gardens. But that is no reason why they shouldn't be just as lovely, in their way, as a big garden. A row of joined up homes in George Town, which backs onto an old strip of mature and overgrown woodland is a good example. Here you perhaps wouldn't have thought that anyone could do much with the narrow, communal strip of land at the back of the homes. But in reality, each homeowner or tenant has made it pretty, unique and wonderful. The dense shade from the big trees beyond helps make it lovely and cool, even in the hottest weather, and when one of the residents, Wendy George, showed me around, back of her home it was like stepping into another, secret world.

When you have a small space, you need to make the most of everything. Hanging baskets and of course plenty of pots – not just on the patio, but on tables as well, are ways of keeping things pretty, and in order. Wendy had got a number of plants arranged in pots around a lovely tall silver thatch tree.

"This is my little herb and vegetable garden here. I've got mint; I've got a tomato plant coming up, too," Ms George said. "That's one kind of thyme (small leaved) and this is another kind (big leaved) of thyme as well," she said, "and this is basil, which is an old plant, but its done me pretty well," she said. It's certainly nice having fresh herbs growing just a few steps away from your kitchen, and of course, some kinds of plant, like basil, or hot scotch bonnet peppers can be pruned and then they come back again.

"That's Cilantro they use it for cooking fish and I like its lovely aroma," she

said, rubbing a leaf between her thumb and forefinger. "Here is parsley and this is called chives or scallions...and this is my struggling kale plant. It's an experiment; I want to see if I can use it in salads."

Ms George even has a little lime tree, and next to it, a little lemon tree, each growing in a pot. At the back of her garden are the lovely, feathery fronds of the Areca palm, which forms a kind of visual screen. "This is my cherry tree, and the cherries are best when they are nice and dark," Ms George said.

Ms George likes to start plants growing from cuttings, and there is quite a lot of 'sharing' of cuttings going on between friends in the development. A few doors down, one of Ms George's neighbors also had some amazing ideas for small spaces. There were a total of four bird-baths there and the friend said she very much likes to see all the birds coming there for a drink and the bright yellow bananaquits add a splash of color, while they are having a drink and a splash in the bird baths. Gardens aren't just about flowers, but animals like birds or even frogs and insects can add interest, too.

"It's a very shady area with the woods behind, so there's not a lot of sunlight, so one of the things I've focused on is getting variegated leaves," the neighbor explained. Variegated leaves are a way of introducing some color where flowering plants would find it difficult to grow, because there is not enough light for them. Ferns of course do well in the shade too, and look so lovely.

On the patio are plenty of plants growing in pots: "These are called the Crown of Thorns – they are pretty hardy, and do well here," the neighbor said. "Unfortunately we do suffer from some



► Shade-loving flower

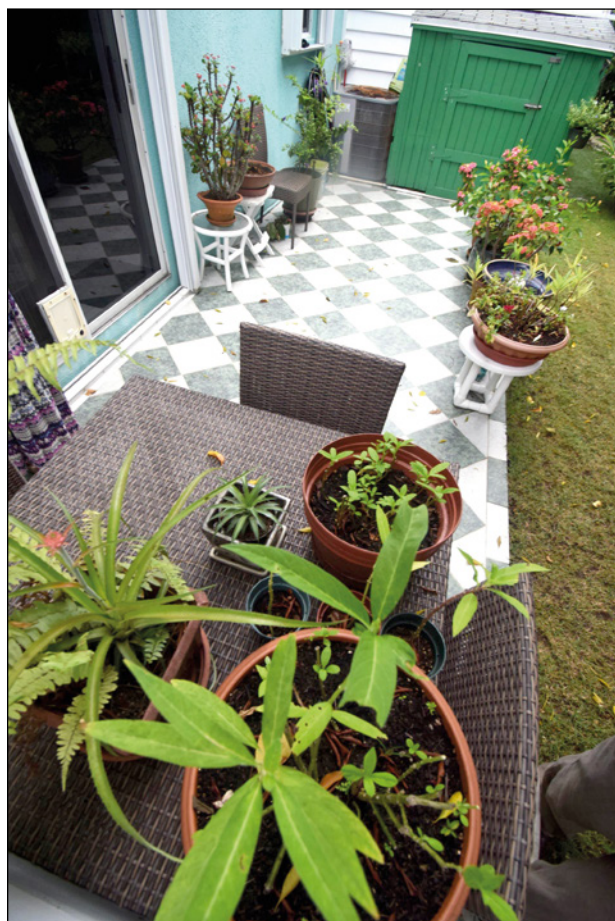
of the sooty mold from the trees which is all over the island. There is a nice little well-kept lawn, too.

Dwarf pineapples were growing in some borers and on a pot on the patio table, too. The neighbor is also growing Milkweed, which is the favorite food for monarch butterflies – so called be-

cause their chrysalis is distinguished by a wonderful golden 'crown' which surrounds them. Tadpoles too, were 'growing' in a plastic container full of rainwater: "I came out one morning and the bird baths were all full of tadpoles, so I just put them into a big tub to see what happens," she said. 🌱



► Plenty of pots and planters



► Tables can hold pots, too



► Pots help organize space

# THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD TO 10 DOWNING ST

Barring any surprises, come the week of July 22nd, former London mayor and foreign secretary, Boris Johnson will be selected (not elected) as the next British prime minister fulfilling what many observers see as a long-standing personal ambition.

That's of course if there aren't any further surprises.

Judging from the trend to date in this leadership campaign, it's very unlikely that there won't be any further surprises.

So far, the internal campaign within the ruling Conservative Party to find a replacement for outgoing leader Theresa May - who's had to cut short her tenure due to internal and external Brexit-related pressure - continues to churn out surprises with alarming regularity. And they have been both regular and alarming.

To date, an initial field of 13 hopefuls has been whittled down to seven (at press time) with the next stage of the elimination process scheduled for Tuesday, July 18th. It's likely that there could be further voluntary withdrawals before then.

And as the date for the eventual hand-over draws closer, the surprises continue to unwrap and unfold with startling regularity as the internecine warfare between in-house candidates heats up.

It even threatens to overshadow the rift between the ruling Conservatives on the one hand, and the main opposition Labour Party, the nascent but rapidly rising (though still unelected) Brexit Party, the resurgent Liberal Democrats and the Green Party.

It's a political spectacle of vast proportions and even more far-reaching implications for the country.

In a campaign rife with accusations of hypocrisy and double standards by many of the candidates, not only have previous utterances come back to haunt practically all of them with their eyes on the prime ministerial prize, so to have some of their escapades.

So far, we've had the forced, the calculatingly pre-emptive, the voluntary and otherwise strategic confessions of historical drug use by several candidates. Cocaine, cannabis and opium seem to have been the drugs of choice.

Ahead of the publication of a book which reveals a past indiscretion, Michael Gove, the current Environment Secretary has admitted to repeated use of cocaine in his twenties.

He has been criticised for initiating a policy while as Justice Minister to fire teachers found to have used the drug... although at the time he hadn't disclosed his own earlier cocaine use.

As a result of these revelations, the previously encouraging odds on Michael Gove succeeding Theresa May as prime minister have since taken a serious hit... in a manner of speaking.

Current Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, has admitted to cannabis use, while International Development Secretary Rory Stewart has confessed to taking opium.

There have also been admissions of cannabis use by other candidates.

In an uncomfortable television interview last week, Mr Gove tried to evade a question over the implications for travel

to America where one of the pre-clearance immigration questions is about the usage of Class A drugs, and whether he had truthfully reported that on any previous trips to that country...or if he will should he become the next prime minister, as unlikely as that now seems.

How that might affect, Trump-favourite Boris Johnson is also left to be seen.

Front-runner Johnson, the previous Foreign Secretary, had previously admitted to a close encounter with cocaine - although he said nothing was inhaled... as he had sneezed.

On his recent state visit to the UK, President Donald Trump had controversially waded into the debate about the next British prime minister by endorsing Mr Johnson as his favourite for the job.

But despite those distractions, it's Brexit - and what to do about it - which remains the core issue in this so-far single-agenda campaign.

While all have committed to 'respect the wish of the British people' by upholding the outcome of the 2016 referendum, just how to achieve that choice to leave the European Union remains an intractably divisive issue.

The polarising Mr Johnson says while he does not favour leaving with EU without a deal, he is still prepared to take the country down that road if he fails to secure parliamentary support.

That approach is considered by most of his opponents as irresponsible, undemocratic and a huge risk to the UK's standing as the fifth largest global economy.

However, there's more to running the country than the ubiquitous Brexit dilemma.

Any sitting prime minister will have to deftly navigate his way (the two female candidates have been eliminated) through the minefield of issues he will inherit from current caretaker prime minister Theresa May. Not least among those is a decision by the state-funded BBC to cut free TV licences to people over 75 years old - a powerful pensioners lobby.

Ever since Prime Minister May formally announced her resignation schedule on May 24th, the race to Number 10 Downing Street has been a sprint through an obstacle course littered with pressing issues, seemingly insurmountable challenges - and a revelation of embarrassing past indiscretions - for those with a tunnel-vision focus on the prized finish line.

Amidst all that is the opportunity to forge a path for 'global Britain' outside the European Union.



► Former London mayor and foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, which will be selected (not elected) as the next British prime minister

Mrs May officially stepped down as leader of the Conservative Party on June 7th kicking off the rush to replace her by an internal process within the ruling Conservative Party.

As is the current case with the defacto ouster of Prime Minister May (the same fate befell the other - and first - woman prime minister, Margaret Thatcher in 1990), and more recently when Tony Blair handed over the reins of power to Gordon Brown in 2007, a prime minister is being chosen without the input of the electorate.

Questions are now being raised about the need for a 'constitutional' change (the UK does not have a 'coded' constitution) to discontinue the system in which a prime minister is foisted on the populace without their vote.

It's noteworthy that one of those about to benefit from this very system of bypassing the voters on the way into the Office of the Prime Minister is Boris Johnson, the current front-runner in the race to replace Mrs May.

In another one of the many surprising twists and turns of the leadership campaign, Mr Johnson is being accused of hypocrisy after a column he had written several years ago surfaced this week showing him severely questioning the very system that could give him a short-cut into 10 Downing St.

As things stand, Mrs May might be on her way out, but the same divisive issues which heralded her exit will be waiting at the doorstep to greet the new tenant.

It might take another election to resolve this.

The world watches as this drama unfolds with all its labyrinthine twists and turns. 🌐



► 10 Downing Street, the headquarters of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

# SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DEBATE

Questions responded to by Prof. Eamonn Conway, Patrick Treacy SC and Dr. Van Nieuwenhove and published in Ireland in February 2015.

Collected in two parts and adapted for Cayman in 2019 by Bishop Nicholas Sykes.

## Question 2. What has same-sex marriage got to do with children's rights?

Answer. The main argument put forward by those seeking to redefine marriage is that it is only about publicly recognising the relationships of gay and lesbian people, and this is necessary in the interests of fairness and equality. It is argued that the issue has nothing to do with children, or with children's rights.

This is not true. The section of the Constitution that is most in danger of forced amendment refers to "the right of every unmarried man and woman of marriageable age (as determined by law) freely to marry a person of the opposite sex and found a family." It is clearly therefore not just about adult relationships. In fact, marriage has always been about more than the private relationship between the two individuals concerned. By looking to the courts or to other Cayman institutions to redefine marriage constitutionally, those advocating same-sex marriage are acknowledging that marriage is not just about the private relationship of the couple.

There are many kinds of special human relationships that nourish and sustain people. In the particular circumstances of our lives we can find ourselves deeply enriched by such relationships. But the State does not have or seek a role in publicly recognising them, not do we expect or demand that such relationships gain public recognition.

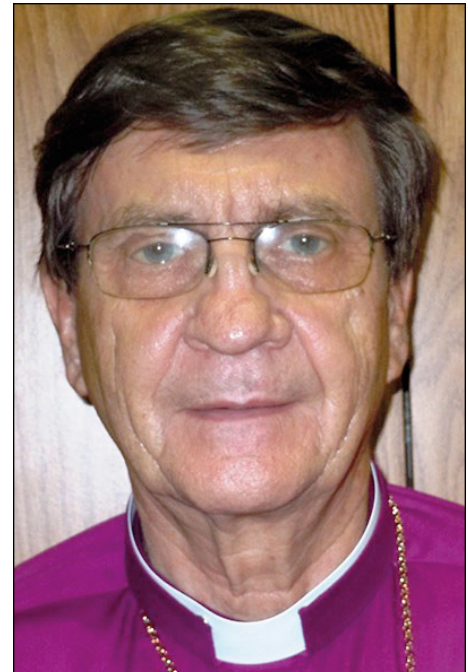
Why, then, is marriage different? The answer can only be that marriage, as between a man and a woman, plays a unique part in the public life of a community. This unique role is in bringing forth and nourishing new human life and in sustaining that life in the best possible way. Anthropologists wonder if the institution of marriage would ever really have evolved if young humans, as distinct from many other creatures, did not need such lengthy and sustained nurturing after birth.

It is true that some couples cannot have children. It is also true today many parents find themselves rearing children on their own; true also, that many children are reared without a relationship with their father or mother. Families and communities try to compensate as best they can in these circumstances. But we don't go out of our way to create these situations. We do not cease to wish that where at all possible a husband and wife would know the support and love of one another in rearing their children, and that a child would know and experience as closely as possible the love of a father and a mother. This we still see as the 'common good'.

It is this role that marriage plays in the common good that justifies it being singled out, protected and cherished in a special way. If it were only about the loving relationship of the couple, why would it need special constitutional protection?

## Redefinition

The proposed redefinition of marriage as a legal contract "without distinction as to their sex" is saying that the special role marriage has had until now in bringing forth and nourishing new human life, only possible between a man and a woman, that is, with distinction



► Bishop Nicholas Sykes

of sex, will be incidental to marriage. Moreover it is saying that it is a matter of indifference to us as a society whether a child is raised by a father or a mother, or by two men or two women, and more basically, by its biological parents at all. This is what we will be conceding and conforming to if our Constitution, in which as a State we repose our deepest values, is, along with our Marriage Law, changed externally or by the courts. Other legal changes are bound to follow, such as giving same-sex and cohabiting couples exactly the same rights to adopt children as married mothers and fathers.

## Reproduction

In due course, no matter how carefully the law seeks to regulate matters, technologies that until now have only been used to aid infertile heterosexual cou-

ples will be the ordinary means of reproduction for same-sex couples, who, biologically, cannot otherwise have children. Children could end up with several people they could properly refer to as their parents: The genetic mother who donated the egg, the surrogate mother who bore the child in her womb, the adopting lesbian mother, the father who donated the sperm and the adopting homosexual father. If the Constitution is changed by the courts or otherwise externally, with the inevitable and consequential changes in adoption law, all these kinds of parenting will have to be considered part of the 'new normal'. Experts have stated that in such situations the issue of legal guardianship of children will be very difficult to determine.

## Culture

Are these changes about adults' needs rather than the needs of children? Are they likely to contribute to a culture in which children are viewed as commodities? We have to remember that the culture that engulfs us all predisposes us to value personal self-fulfilment above virtually everything else.

We have therefore to conclude that the introduction of same-sex marriage will put the needs of some adults before the natural rights of children to a father and a mother. This cannot but be damaging to society in general and to the institution of the family in particular. Our Constitution makes the specific direction that "the Legislature shall proceed on the basis that a child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child." Then we must ensure as best we can that it is the Legislature that "shall proceed", under this binding obligation, rather than any other authority which is not so bound. 🌐



**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

- 1 Pack tight
- 5 Parody
- 10 Hum-dinger
- 11 "Yeah, right!"
- 12 Says further
- 13 Blackened
- 14 Spaghetti topper
- 16 Plane neighbor
- 20 Cooking class, for short
- 23 Stew sphere
- 24 Foils' kin
- 25 Diamond corners
- 27 Convoy member
- 28 Placid
- 29 Allen Ginsberg, for one
- 32 Incubator part
- 36 Snare
- 39 Lake near Buffalo
- 40 Castle parts
- 41 Dis-patched
- 42 Field pests
- 43 Fill completely

**DOWN**

- 1 Chowder chunk
- 2 Ill-mannered

- 3 Emmy winner Alan
- 4 Like some TV
- 5 Do refinery work
- 6 Sacred song
- 7 Wilder's "Town"
- 8 Galena, for one
- 9 Flowed into
- 11 Jacob's father
- 15 Honey bunch
- 17 Vaulted area
- 18 New driver, often
- 19 Move slowly
- 20 Tarragon or thyme
- 21 Andy's son
- 22 Large: Prefix
- 25 Sugar source
- 26 Naive
- 28 Bath bars
- 30 Pitched

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

**Yesterday's answer**

- 31 Fruit basket items
- 33 Open space
- 34 Gum flavor
- 35 Rose on the diamond
- 36 List-ending abbr.
- 37 Negative link
- 38 Binary base

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10					11				
12					13				
14				15					
		16					17	18	19
20	21	22					23		
24					25	26			
27					28				
29		30	31						
		32					33	34	35
36	37	38					39		
40							41		
42							43		

8-30

**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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/28

**Answer to previous puzzle**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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**Word Search**

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

- Quack
- Quaff
- Quail
- Quake
- Qualm
- Quark
- Quart
- Quash
- Quasi
- Queen
- Queer
- Quell

- Query
- Quest
- Quick
- Quiet
- Quill
- Quilt
- Quirk
- Quite
- Quoit
- Quota
- Quote

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

**SCHOOL IS RIGHT 'ROUND THE CORNER :GROAN: WE'LL HAFTA GET USED TO GETTING UP EARLY AGAIN!**

**I DIDN'T BREAK THE PRACTICE OVER THE SUMMER! I GOT UP EARLY EVERY MORNING!**

**CURTIS, YOU NEVER GOT OUT OF BED UNTIL NOON!**

**YEAH, SO? NOON IS EARLY FOR THE SUMMERTIME!**

**THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN**

By Stan Lee

**THE CLAW WON'T THANK YOU FOR SAVING US, SUWAN.**

**AND HOW WILL HE KNOW IF YOU DO NOT TELL HIM?**

**SHE'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT, FIST. THIS HOODLUM WILL BE OUT FOR HOURS.**

**BUT SURELY HE WILL REVEAL THAT Z ATTACKED HIM!**

**HE WORKS FOR THE KINGPIN - SO I DOUBT HE'LL BE EAGER TO REPORT HOW HE FAILED TO KILL US.**

**JUDGE PARKER**

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

**AS APRIL SLIPS BACK INTO SOCIETY...**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR CARD? YOU GET 20% OFF YOUR FIRST PURCHASE.**

**NO, THANK YOU.**

**NEDDY HAS A THOUGHT... WE NEED TO SAVE STEVE.**

**WHO? WAIT, WHAT?!**

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