Monday, June 10, 2019 Issue No 386 WWW.caymaniantimes.ky





Scranton Central Park development gets green light

• OPPOSITION SPEAKS - A6



Opposition addresses nonattendance at Anti-Corruption Seminar



Customs audit reveals room for improvement

Complimentary =
• WORLD WATCH - B1



NHS dominates Trump's UK visit

Cruise berthing bids under scrutiny by Government



Adventist Church Celebrates 125th Anniversary

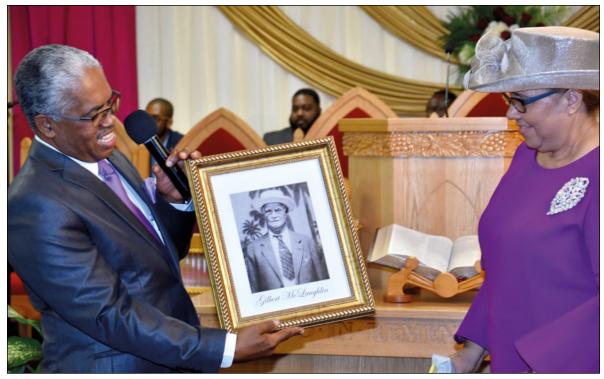
Leader of the Opposition urges

Last weekend was a time of celebration for the Adventist Church in the Cayman Islands as the faithful gathered at the humble East End Church to commemorate the denomination's unheralded arrival 125 years ago.

The local Adventist church traces its beginning to the return to Cayman in 1894 of the Islands' first Adventist convert, East End native Gilbert Magdaly McLaughlin, the great grandfather of Premier Alden McLaughlin.

The weekend-long celebrations began with a service on Friday night (May 31) and continued throughout Saturday, concluding with a social event at the district's Heritage Park on Saturday night (June 1).

... Continued story on page A5



Showing his pride in the accomplishments of the founder of the Adventist Church in the Cayman Islands, Pastor Reinaldo Dracket, president of the Cayman Islands Adventist Conference, displays a framed photograph of Gilbert Magdaly McLaughlin. The photograph now hangs proudly in the lobby of the church in East End, the birthplace of Adventism in the Cayman Islands. At right is Mrs. Nelda Rose Dracket.

Premier to halt port project



► Leader of the Opposition, Hon Arden McLean

The Leader of the Opposition on Friday wrote to the Premier to urge him to immediately halt undertaking any further contractual obligations in relation to the Cruise Berthing Facility Project and to highlight a growing pattern of autocratic governance.

Mr McLean, Leader of the Opposition said, "I have added the voice of the Opposition to calls for the Government to immediately halt undertaking any further contractual obligations in relation to the Cruise Berthing Facility Project. It is the only responsible course of action to take and Wednesday's announcement that "a historic milestone has been reached in the procurement process" adds urgency to the case.

Our Constitution which was approved by most voters allows for a People Initiated Referendum to be triggered by a 25% threshold. This threshold was set to discourage frivolous referendums and both the Premier and I wholeheartedly supported and campaigned for that provision in 2009.

... Continued story on page A2



EDITORIAL | COMMUNITY NOTICES

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Community Notices

Leader of the Opposition urges Premier to halt port project

... Continued story from page A1

It is therefore deeply disappointing that instead of welcoming the participatory involvement of the electorate, the Government is further entrenching its position to press on. For the Government to so wilfully disregard the hardwork and dedication of our fellow Caymanians, is a sucker-punch to the most basic principles of democracy and the spirit of good governance.

The Government's continued actions also potentially exposes the public purse to financial penalties. We have already been down that road with the GLF fiasco and don't need a repeat. The Caymanian people have already paid the price and seen first-hand what happens when decisions are rushed without the proper governance structure in place. Plans by the Government to stack the Public Accounts Committee with 4 government members and only 1 opposition member means that no objective scrutiny will be allowed during a period of some of our largest capital projects to date. Couple with the failure to bring into effect the Procurement Law and the Standards in Public Life, a worrying pattern is emerging.

As agents of democracy, we must sometimes stop and take a pause, (inconvenient as this may be for the Government), until the will and wishes of our electorate can be made constitutionally clear. Our people rightly expect their Government to govern with integrity, transparency and accountability. Anything less, is a disservice to our residents and the democratic principles we are meant to uphold."

Information on Scheduled Outage

Area : Sea View Road Date : Tuesday, January 11, 2019 Time : 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

CUC advises customers on Sea View Road in East End that they will experience interruptions to their electrical service on Tuesday, June 11 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Areas affected include all customers from the junction with Frank Sound Road and Sea View Road to Health City Cayman Islands including Cedar Lane, Tangelo Lane and Stirling Lane. Health City will not be affected by this outage.

Motorists are asked to drive with caution when utilising Sea View Road as CUC will have a number of vehicles and personnel in the area.



CUC apologises for this interruption, which is necessary to facilitate required overhead infrastructure upgrades to provide our customers with safe, reliable and efficient power.

For more information on the outage and streets affected, please contact CUC's Customer Service Team at 949-5200 or e-mail service@cuc.ky. (*)





Monday, 10 June

10.00.00 414	
12:00:00 AM	For the Record
2:00:00 AM	Cayman Classic Press Conference
2:32:46 AM	Governor Hurricane Message 2019
2:39:13 AM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
3:23:21 AM	News Update
3:33:21 AM	2019 DG 5k Press Conference
4:00:00 AM	Cayman's Maritime Heritage with the National Trust
6:00:00 AM	News Update
6:10:00 AM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
6:54:07 AM	National Gallery Cayman Islands Biennial
7:45:08 AM	Governor Hurricane Message 2019
8:00:00 AM	For the Record
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4:00:00 PM	Cayman's Maritime Heritage with the National Trust
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6:10:00 PM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
7:10:53 PM	National Gallery Cayman Islands Biennial
8:00:00 PM	For the Record new
10:00:00 PM	Cayman Islands Classic Press Conference
10:32:46 PM	Governor Hurricane Message 2019
10:39:13 PM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
11:23:21 PM	News Update
11:33:21 PM	2019 DG 5k Press Conference
	Tuesday, 11 June

Tuesday, 11 June

12:00:00 AM	Legislative Assembly 3 April 2019
1:28:40 AM	News Update
5:41:19 AM	Legislative Assembly 4 April 2019
9:41:57 AM	Legislative Assembly 5 April 2019
2:09:48 PM	Legislative Assembly 8 April 2019 pt 1
4:00:00 PM	Miss Lassie Documentary
4:24:33 AM	Governor Hurricane Message 2019
4:48:34 AM	Childhood Obesity at One Health Symposium
5:22:41 PM	George Town Revitalisation at RICS Conference
5:59:48 PM	News Update new
6:09:31 PM	Legislative Assembly 8 April 2019 pt 2-3
10:29:06 PM	Miss Lassie Documentary
10:55:01 PM	Childhood Obesity at One Health Symposium
11:22:51 PM	George Town Revitalisation at RICS Conference
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	Wednesday, 12 June
12:00:00 AM	For the Record
2:00:20 AM	Cayman Classic Press Conference
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2:39:13 AM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
3:23:21 AM	News Update
3:33:21 AM	2019 DG 5k Press Conference
4:00:00 AM	Cayman's Maritime Heritage with the National Trust
6:00:00 AM	News Update
6:10:00 AM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
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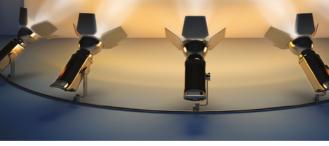
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Caymanian Times

Issue # 386

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Thursday, 13 June

12:00:00 AM	Legislative Assembly 3 April 2019
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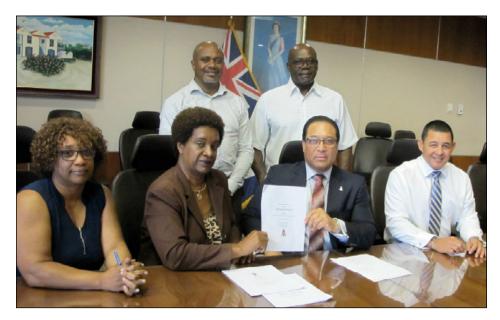
Friday, 14 June

12:00:00 AM	For the Record
2:00:00 AM	Cayman Classic Press Conference
2:32:46 AM	Governor Hurricane Message 2019
2:39:13 AM	RCIPS Crime Stats Press Conference
3:23:21 AM	News Update
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GOVERNMENT WATCH

CAYMANIAN TIMES

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Scranton Central Park development gets green light

Paving the way for improvements to what he termed a "haven in the midst of bustling George Town", Premier Alden McLaughlin told the Legislative Assembly last week that the Government had signed a peppercorn licence with the Central Scranton Community Committee to allow members of the committee to enhance and improve that public space.

Government purchased the Scranton Central Park, some 1.4 acres in central George Town off Shedden Road, at the end of 2019 with a view to giving local residents the opportunity to enjoy the public space. Now that the licence agreement has been signed, the Central Scranton Community Committee had permission to occupy, manage and carry out improvements to the original park site, plus land situated at Block 14CJ Parcels 22, 121 and part of 182, which is 1.4 acres off Myles Lane in George Town.

Having undertaken an extensive clean-up operation in the area earlier this year, the Committee had a variety of ideas and proposals to develop and improve park facilities for the local community and the general public, Premier McLaughlin stated. To help it achieve its goals, the Committee intended to seek volunteer donations of materials and labour.

"I have every confidence they will be successful," he said.

Premier McLaughlin said he appreciated the passion of the members of the Central Scranton Community Committee and thanked them for the diligence in working with Government to develop a solution that was a win for all involved.

The Premier outlined how the space had traditionally been an important gathering spot for the local community, as a spot to celebrate special events and birthday parties, as well as enjoy basketball games.

"Now, with the purchase of the land and the signing of the peppercorn licence with the Scranton Central Committee, residents in the community and the public at large can rest assured that an enlarged Scranton Park will continue to be this haven in the midst of bustling George Town," Premier McLaughlin confirmed.

The Premier said the move to empower the Committee to enhance their

environment was in keeping with Government's focus on enhancing public spaces, noting its efforts to enhance Smith Barcadere, create the South Sound Board Walk and purchase property in the Prospect area for a public park for the Red Bay and Prospect communities.

Premier McLaughlin thanked specific members of the Committee for their hard work, namely Dale Ramoon, Lucille Seymour, Anthony Ramoon, Cheryl Myles, Christine Burke-Richardson and Donna Wilson.

Suggestions for the park's improvement include enhancing the basketball court, creating a picnic area and establishing stalls for the sale of local produce. (?)

Cruise berthing bids under scrutiny by Government

Cayman's controversial cruise berthing project has taken one more step in becoming a reality as the deadline for the submission of the bids passed last week Friday 31 May at noon. In a speech to the Legislative Assembly last week, Premier Alden McLaughlin called this particular stage in the cruise berthing project "a historic milestone to have been reached in the procurement process".

While not revealing how many bids the Government had received, nor from whom, the Premier confirmed that evaluation groups had now been assigned their tasks to review, evaluate and score the bids received. man Islands, the Ministry, and financial and technical consultants," Premier McLaughlin advised.

Once the evaluation has taken place, there will be a preparation of an Evaluation Summary and Tender Assessment Report, which will be submitted to the Public Procurement Committee/Central Tenders Committee, Premier Mclaughlin said. Once that Committee has considered and provided their recommendation, a presentation and paper will be sent to Cabinet.

This latest move in the project's development comes at a time as campaigners, hoping to get Government to call a referendum on whether a cruise berthing facility should go ahead, work to get a petition of signatures verified. Premier Mclaughlin confirmed that the process to get the project this far had been "a very long haul over many years", and one that had been going on over three administrations and which had cost the country millions of dollars spent on expert reports, advice and time to get to this point.

Never the less, he said, "But it is good for the Cayman Islands that we are here.

At every point along the way we have advised the public where we are. I and the Hon. Deputy Premier have repeatedly reminded the public that Government needed to get to this final stage in the process in order to have final designs in hand, and having reached this point I look forward to publicly unveiling the plans, including costs, as soon as the successful bidder has been identified."



"This evaluation will be comprehensive and will involve the Major Projects Office, Port Authority of the Cay-



Premier Hon Alden McLaughlin



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LOCAL NEWS | POLICE NEWS | CAYMAN ARTS FESTIVAL

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CAYMANIAN TIMES



Airport Operations Manager Robert Harris leads Cayman Prep and High School students and faculty on a tour of the Airport Control Tower

CPHS Students Tour New Airport Terminal

The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which owns and operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA), was pleased to host a group of Year 10 students of the Travel & Tourism class of Cayman Prep and High School at ORIA.

Members of various CIAA teams provided the students with a practical learning experience, which included guided tours through the ORIA and General Aviation terminals, including a visit to the airport control tower, and an inside look at the various departments, functions and processes of airport operations. CIAA staff participants included CEO Albert Anderson, Marketing Manager Rhonda Verhoeven, Marketing Assistant Lena Thorpe, Airport Operations Manager Robert Harris, Customer Service Officer Arvin Haylock and Chief Safety Management Officer Andrew Mclaughlin.

"The students and teachers not only enjoyed but also learned much about the operations of an international airport," said Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands (CAACI) Deputy Director-General, Economic Regulation & Administration Nicoela McCoy who organised the tour. "This was the first IGCSE O'level Travel & Tourism class group to have this experience in recent times and it will probably lead to many other annual requests!"

The students are currently commencing a study module on tourism infrastructure and are set to sit their external IGCSE exams in Travel & Tourism next year. The CIAA wishes them all the best in their studies and academic learning.

Central Scranton Community Committee Given 5 Year License to manage Park

Statement by Kenneth Bryan MLA

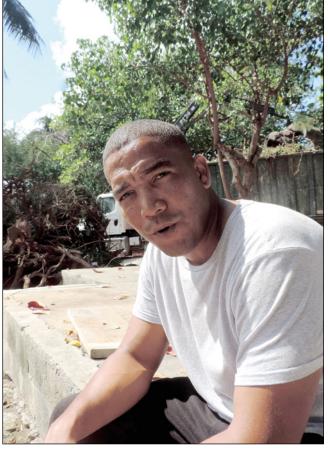
As the representative of the constituency of George Town Central I welcome the news that Government has agreed to my request with respect to the Central Scranton park as we learned today with the Premiers statement in the legislative assembly. The Government has now given the Central Scranton Community Committee (CSCC) authority to manage and carry out improvements to the park site through a peppercorn License.

The agreement will result in a larger area for the CSCC to use and occupy on behalf of the residents of George Town Central and the greater George Town.

This announcement by the Government, affirms that with cooperation, persistence and strong independent representation what we can achieve for our constituents.

I would like to congratulate the CSCC Chairman, Mr. Dale Ramoon and his committee members for their hard work and commitment to the community. It is their hard work and negotiation that made this agreement a success.

While there is much to celebrate, I am disappointed that the Government has only agreed to give control for five



Kenneth Bryan MLA

years and did not use other legislative means to give a longer occupancy period. I am concerned that the low number of years in the agreement shows the Governments lack of a long-term commitment to the residents on Central Scranton and their dreams for their community.

It is therefore my desire, along with the other members of the Official Opposition, to one day make this park a permanent fixture of the community and not the short-term fix that the Government has provided. P

Two weekends ago the RCIPS and Cayman Islands Customs and Border Control Service commenced a joint investigation into the movement of gold through the Cayman Islands. As a result of this investigation a small private plane along with a large quantity of cash has been seized in Cayman, and four for-

Plane and cash seized. Four Foreign Nationals Arrested

eign nationals arrested. They remain in custody.

The investigation is ongoing and is being conducted in conjunction with law

enforcement agencies in other international jurisdictions. P

Cayman Arts Festival aims at sending six students to New York

POLICE NEWS

By Lindsey Turnbull

Fulfilling its aim of promoting musical skills among Cayman's young people, Cayman Arts Festival is this year intending to send six students to the Luzerne Music Centre in New York for a monthlong summer camp tuition.

It is hoped that four students from John Gray High School and Clifton Hunter High School will be flying to the music school in the middle of June to attend the junior music camp and then one student from John Gray High School and one from St Ignatius should be attending the senior camp starting mid-July.

Cayman Arts Festival Director, Marius Gaina, is open about the need for funding the trips.

"Each year the Cayman Arts Festival aims to send at least one musically-gifted student to the Luzerne Music Centre as the exposure they receive while at the month-long summer camp improves their skills and increases their confidence no end," he confirmed. "This year we are aiming even higher and hope to send six young people to the school. This is a huge financial undertaking for us."

Each student costs the CAF US\$5,000 in airfare, accommodation and tuition fees for the month. Having built up a relationship with the school, Marius said they had been given a generous discount by the school of US\$10,000, so they have only had to find US\$20,000.

"We have managed to raise US\$17,000 through the CAF and also through students playing at supermarkets, etc. We are now on the final push to raise the remaining US\$3,000. I am therefore appealing to the community – if you are able to donate funds to this incredible cause the students would be so appreciative," Marius said.

Luzerne Music Centre was founded in 1980 by Philadelphia Orchestra cellist Bert Phillips and Steinway pianist Toby Blumenthal. Its aim is to provide world-class music instruction for passionate young people in a summer camp environment regardless of their financial circumstance. Musicians ages 9 to 18 come from all over the world to train at their campus located in the foothills of New York's Adirondack Park.

Students have been earmarked for the trip by the CAF. They include John Gray High School and Clifton Hunter High School students Jessie Hurlston-Watler, 14 who plays violin, Daniel Gayle, 13, who plays the viola, Kyla David, 13, who plays cello, cellist Zachary Allen, 13, and Dequan Smith, 16, an accomplished cellist who had been to the Luzerne Music Centre twice and is now planning to undertake his A-levels at the prestigious Wells Cathedral School in England in September. Dequan was the Butterfield Young Musician of the Year for 2019. Pianist Cameron Gilson, 16, who attends St Ignatius, was the runner up in the Young Musician of the Year award this year is the sixth student hoping to attend Luzerne this year.

"We hope that all six students are able to benefit from the incredible opportunity the summer camp offers them," Marius said. "It is a testament to the success of the summer camp, of course coupled with extensive practice, that students such as Dequan have been able to reach such a high standard in their musical skills."

If you would like to contribute to sending Cayman's youth to Luzerne this summer, please contact Marius Gaina at director@caymanartsfestival.com or call 922 5550. (?)



Students hoping to attend Luzerne Music Centre. Standing Daniel and Jessie, seated Kyla, Zachary and Dequan. Cameron is missing from the photo



LOCAL NEWS

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CAYMANIAN TIMES

Adventist Church Celebrates 125th Anniversary

... Continued story from page A1

Among the civic leaders who joined the church in marking its 125th anniversary were Premier Alden McLaughlin, descendant of the Adventist pioneer; the Hon. Dwayne Seymour, Minister for Health, Environment, Culture & Housing, and MLA for the closely connected Bodden Town; Leader of the Opposition and East End MLA Arden McLean; and MLA for neighbouring North Side Ezzard Miller.

Pastor Michael Smith represented the local church's Bahamas headquarters. Other key participants included Dr. the Hon. Linford Pierson, former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and Cabinet Minister, and now an elder of the George Town Adventist Church.

Dr. Pierson, whose late parents Varion and Cicely Pierson were among the early pillars of the district's church, formally presented the historic account of the founding of the Adventist Church in the Cayman Islands.

Dr. Pierson was recognized during the service on Saturday for his contribution to the recent refurbishing of the current church building.

In introductory remarks during the morning's services celebrating the 125th anniversary, Executive Secretary of the Adventist Conference, Pastor Jeff Jefferson spoke to the role the church has consistently played in community affairs: "We have steadfastly worked harmoniously with civic leaders and government," he said, recounting aspects of the church's community service and involvement.

In bringing greetings and congratulations on behalf of the Cayman Islands Government, Premier Alden McLaughlin reflected on his great grandfather's role in establishing the church that has grown from the Biblical "mustard seed," he said, to today's more than 6,000 members.

A young sea captain, pioneer McLaughlin had been converted to Adventism in Bonacca, Honduras, during a visit in 1894.

Returning to Cayman later that year, he soon built a small tabernacle that later gave way to a larger though still rustic building on land that he purchased. The current church, recently refurbished with the help of the community and members, today stands on the same plot of land.

Despite being the only baptised Adventist for 11 years, the sea captain remained faithful, the Premier said. It was not until 1905 when Pastor Frank Hall arrived from Jamaica that 20 persons, including pioneer McLaughlin's wife Rachel and their five children, were baptised.

In his remarks at the Saturday morning service, Premier McLaughlin said that he had not known his great grandfather, Gilbert, known in the district as Magdaly, who had died 13 years before he was born to Gilbert's eldest grandson son Alden McNee Mclaughlin.

The Premier said his great grandfather Magdaly persevered despite great opposition at the time because "he believed he had been specially appointed" to establish the church in the Cayman Islands.

Speaking of the growth of the church in the 125 years, the Premier said: "You have every reason to be proud; you have every reason to thank God; you have every reason to celebrate."



Cayman's Premier Alden McLaughlin, centre, is flanked by family members (left) and church officials (right) following a service at which the Premier spoke about his great grandfather's founding of the Adventist faith in the Cayman Islands. From left, are family of church pioneer Gilbert Magdelen McLaughlin—Mr. Glenn McLean, Mr. Locksley Gould, Mrs. Blanca Allen, Mrs. Carol Best-Gould, Mr. George Gilbert Allen, Mrs. Barbara Welcome, and Premier Alden McLaughlin—with, at right, church officials, Mrs. Nelda Rose



Premier Alden McLaughlin, second left, joined the Adventist Church in celebrating its 125th anniversary at its East End birthplace. The Premier is flanked by, from left, Pastor Michael Smith, who represented the church's headquarters based in the Bahamas; Pastor Reinaldo Dracket, president of the Cayman Islands Conference; and Executive Secretary Jeff Jefferson

The Adventist chain was broken in the family when the Premier's grandfather, Allen McLaughlin, for whom the East End Civic Centre is named, returned from teacher training in Jamaica. An Adventist at the time, he converted to the Presbyterian faith as the price for gaining his bride's hand in marriage.

The Premier said, however, that shortly before his grandfather's death he returned to his early teachings and called for an Adventist minister, and only "then was he totally at peace," adding: "Do not give up on me; I, too, will find my way back."

Following the Premier's remarks, Opposition Leader Arden McLean, MLA for East End, spoke briefly.

Mr. McLean said that he had "always been welcomed with open arms" by Adventist members and had developed special relationships with the district's Adventist pastors, especially Pastor Wesley Nyack.

The Leader of the Opposition said that the Adventist Church's leaders should be specially recognized for keeping the church "relevant" in the Cayman community.

Concluding remarks at the Saturday morning service, Pastor Michael Smith brought congratulations from the church's headquarters.

Pastor Smith said that he and his colleagues were "overjoyed to see how the church has grown" in the Cayman Islands, and that among the 32,000 members across the territories administered by the church in this area of the Caribbean region, Cayman constituted "a valuable part."

Speaking on Friday night, Mr. Ezzard Miller, outgoing Leader of the Opposition and the MLA for the adjoining North Side, said that he had always "admired the dignity, serenity,... and the quiet discipline" of Adventists.

Mr. Miller said that he was old enough to have known many of the pioneers, and had always been impressed with their "commitment, discipline, steadfastness, and community outreach."

These attributes have made Adventists "respected, loved and appreciated," Mr. Miller said, adding: "This community and the Cayman Islands owe a lot to the Adventist community. Cayman would not be where it is today without the contributions of Adventists."

He likened the beginning of Adventism to the lighting of a candle, saying that from that one candle, many candles had been lit, without loss to its original lustre. He wished the church continued success over the next 125 years.

The sermon for Saturday morning was delivered by Conference President Reinaldo Dracket. During his sermon Pastor Dracket highlighted the history of the Christian Church from the days of the apostles, to illustrate what it was that the Adventist pioneer saw that prompted his conversion and his determination in the face of the opposition he faced in the early days.

Pastor Dracket said that at the sermon in Honduras Magdaly had heard for the first time some of the biblical truths that were hidden during the Dark Ages of the Christian era (from 538 AD to 1798) and that were later discovered by reformers like Martin Luther.

Dracket, Conference President Reinaldo Dracket, Conference CFO John Wesley and his wife Tempora, and Conference Executive Secretary Pastor Jeff Jefferson

DCI Hosts "Staying on Top" Team-Building Retreat

The Department of Commerce and Investment hosted a team-building retreat for staff on Wednesday, 29 May 2019. Author of "The Joy in Business" and TEDx Speaker Joy Baldridge facilitated the training.

The day was themed "Staying on Top," as DCI seeks to maintain its reputation for providing exceptional customer service. As such, topics on the agenda included: team-building 2.0, innovative



DCI Director Ryan Rajkumarsingh and Retreat Facilitator Joy Baldridge at the team-building retreat on Wednesday, 29 May 2019 at Cannon Place

Call: 929-6455

time management techniques and effective communication systems.

Ms. Baldridge was effusive in her praise of DCI, describing the Department as "beyond belief."

She added: "talk about exceeding expectations, going the extra yard and above and beyond. DCI does it all!"

During the team-building 2.0 session, DCI staff learned the "four essential Cs" of effective collaboration: commitment, cooperation, communication and contribution. They learned keys to handling interpersonal conflict and the warning signs that could demotivate a team.

In the customer service focused portion of the retreat, staff contemplated the following modules: setting the foundations of outstanding customer service, rapport building, discovering opportunities to exceed expectations and active listening.

Ms. Baldridge explained the aim of the training programme was to "make the best even better and we accomplished that."

She elaborated: "DCI is the very best at what they do and they work so well together as a team that they are extremely impressive. Of course, all teams have their moments, but they have fewer of them and work through them faster to achieve the ultimate goal of providing



Staff from the Department of Commerce and Investment on their team-building retreat, themed "Staying on Top" on Wednesday, 29 May 2019 at Cannon Place

the best possible world-class customer service."

The afternoon session focused on advanced time and priority management, before teams went head-to-head in a scavenger hunt.

DCI Director Ryan Rajkumarsingh explained: "at DCI, we are conscious never to rest on our laurels. We know we must work hard to ensure we maintain – and surpass – the high standards we have set for ourselves when it comes to customer service. I was proud to see how

well our team worked together during the retreat and I am confident the skills they have learned will transfer over to make their dealings with our customers even better."

Ms. Baldridge summed up the day, saying: "it was an honour and a privilege to work with everyone at DCI. They definitely live up to their reputation and deserve all the awards and accolades they have been receiving."

The retreat took place at Cannon Place. $\textcircled{\sc op}$



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CAYMANIAN TIMES

OPPOSITION SPEAKS

PAGE A6 Monday, June 10, 2019 | Issue No 386

Opposition addresses non-attendance at Anti-Corruption Seminar

Opposition Members invitation to Anti-Corruption Seminar was sent to their non-operational 'Gov.ky' email.

Following a request from Cayman Marl Road to the event organizers, questioning whether the invite was sent, Ms. Deborah Bodden, Secretariat of the Standards in Public Life and Anti-Corruption Commissions, responded on 4th June saying, "It is with regret that I have become aware that the 'save the date' invitations which were sent to the Honourable Members of the Opposition went to 'gov.ky' email addresses. While these accounts appear in the email system, the accounts are not operational. We relied upon these addresses when sending out the emails and I have apologized for this unintended, administrative error."

Ms. Bodden added, "I take full responsibility for this oversight and have apologized to the Honourable Leader of the Opposition Mr. Arden McLean. I have also asked that Mr. McLean convey my apologies to the wider Opposition Members. This administrative matter is currently being rectified within our central email directory, to remove defunct accounts and to replace them with the active email addresses for the members so that this problem does not persist."

Mr. McLean, Leader of the Opposition said, "I am grateful to Cayman Marl Road News for reaching out to query the absence of the Opposition, and especially myself, as Leader of the Opposition. After all, our trust in the free press hinges on a commitment to accuracy and integrity in the pursuit of facts. I am therefore grateful to Ms. Bodden for acknowledging not only to Cayman Marl Road News, but other press outlets as well, that the 'gov. ky' address used to send the invite to the opposition members is non-operational".

Mr. Mclean also stated that, "although this mistake resulted in a missed opportunity for the Opposition to be involved in an important discussion on good governance for our country, we want to assure the organizers and the public that this Opposition remains committed to fighting corruption and we fully support the Commission in its efforts".



Cadets with flags

Address to the Legislature on the appointment to the position of Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to address this Legislature and the public at large on this the occasion of my appointment as Leader of the Opposition, and my first meeting as such.

Mr. Speaker, firstly allow me to thank my colleagues for bestowing such trust in me to lead the Opposition. I am humbled by their expressions of trust.

Next, I wish to thank my family for their support and belief in me over the many years of my political involvement. I could not do this without that support. Mr. Speaker, each of us who has taken it upon ourselves to get into politics knows the sacrifices our family makes, and the abuse they take, many times unwarranted. That is the nature of this calling. Yet they continue to support us. They must be applauded for taking it fully on the chin while still being supportive.

Last, but by no means least, the people of East End. The trust that was reposed in me on November 8th 2000 cannot be underestimated, nor do I take it for granted. I will forever be indebted to them and will do my best to represent them in this new role as I have done in other roles during the last 18+ years. Mr. Speaker, I well understand the role of the Leader of the Opposition. I understand that I will be called upon to participate in the governance of this country far greater than I have done before. As I indicated to the Premier in response to his congratulatory letter, I give my commitment, without reservation to work with the government on all matters pertaining to the wellbeing and advancement of our people and country. That commitment was also extended on behalf of the other Opposition members. There is much to be done; importantly, we need to ensure our people feel a sense of value in their day to day contributions and do not feel marginalized alone. They are why we are here. We have been given the responsibility to manage their country and that requires us working together to provide opportunities so that they may prosper and to ensure that the benefits of our development and growth extend to all our people, not just a select few. However, I also made it clear, and I repeat here, that I take the responsibility of holding the government accountable seriously and it is my intention to continue to do so, but not merely for the sake of opposition. In that vein, I also understand that the government has responsibility for the management and distribution of the resources of the country on the people's behalf and it is our job on this side of the aisle to ensure that the people receive value for money and that the resources are distributed in a fair and transparent manner. It is my hope, founded on the basic principles of democracy, that the government does not use or abuse its majority to disenfranchise the voices of the people that we in the Opposition was also elected to serve. Democracy expects that there will be differences, disagreements, and dissent. However through debate, discussion, and dialogue we find consensus. In essence Mr. Speaker, we in this honorable house, regardless of where we sit, are all legislators and were elected on

our ideas, ideals, and ideology. Let this Legislative Assembly reflect our mandate and the will of the people we were all elected to serve.

Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I would like to briefly address the matter of my becoming the new Leader of the Opposition and the discourse surrounding Independents.

Mr. Speaker, much has been said on these 2 matters. Let me first address the matter of change of leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the change of leadership in political circles is not a new phenomenon; indeed Mr. Speaker neither is it alien to our own landscape. While I understand that politics being what it is allows for opposite sides to capitalize on issues at hand, it should never be done at the expense of our founding principles.

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of clarity please allow me to show the other side. In our recent history we have had many leadership changes without the fanfare this one has attracted in his words, "... political infighting and personal ambition riddling the current opposition group".

But Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind him that there are always two sides to every story and the full picture cannot be viewed without both sides. That statement could very well have been made on the occasion of his rise to this position in 2012 also.

Mr. Speaker, this is one time the Premier could have learned something from you. The maturity that you displayed in not getting into the inner workings of the PPM at that time should have been commended and history has now shown that it should be appreciated. As I said Mr. Speaker, you displayed a great deal of maturity.

Mr. Speaker, be that as it may, let me enlighten those who are unaware of the role independently minded representatives have played in this country.

Mr. Speaker it is disingenuous and inllectually dishonest to dismiss the role of the independent in this country as has been done over the last month. Those who do not recognize that this country's development has been built in part by the independently elected and minded representative are living in wonderland. Mr. Speaker, those of us who have followed our political development know quite well that up until the early to mid 2000's members were elected to this Parliament as independent representatives. That is with the exception of a few teams or groups, but certainly there were no modern political parties until then. Indeed Mr. Speaker, with the exception of maybe 3 members here today we all started our elected careers as independents. Mr. Speaker, the cold truth is that even now this government is more diverse than the current opposition. This PPM led Unity Government is made up with people who have been members of different factions over the years.



Leader of the Opposition, Hon Arden McLean

somewhat justified when considering that every single member on the Opposition bench and others in this house was once a part of a political party but for various reasons chose to walk away so that their voices, their independent voices, may be heard.

Mr. Speaker, I could have reminded the Premier that 3 members of his current government are Independent members. Do they also lack the cohesion, industry and commitment to work in his

and the mas attracted

1. Many of us will recall when the late Thomas Jefferson was overseas on official business and upon his return Truman Bodden had taken over as the Leader of Government Business. There was no dissention, at least not that we saw. The country went on. Life went on.

2. When my good friend Kurt Tibbetts was removed as Leader of Government Business. The country went on. Life went on.

3. When the Premier was removed in 2012. The country went on. Life went on.

4. In 2013 following the general election, when a member of one political party joined the other to form the government, little was said or done. The country went on. Life went on.

5. In 2017, again following the general election when 2 established parties came together, along with independents, to form the Government. The country went on. Life went on.

6. In addition to those very public changes in leadership we can all remember in 2012 when the then Leader of the Opposition, Kurt Tibbetts, announced his resignation from that post. The people and the general public accepted that decision. The country went on. Life went on.

7. Indeed Mr. Speaker, when following the General Elections in 2017 it was anticipated that I would then take over the Leadership of the Opposition and my predecessor did, to this date no one knows why I did not become the Leader of the Opposition. But guess what Mr. Speaker, the country went on. Life went on.

Mr. Speaker, these leadership changes are in many instances done internally and everyone accepts their new role and we go on. If I may I will borrow the slogan from the PPM 2005 election to demonstrate why this is so: "For love of Country"

I now turn to the issue of Independents and their value. Suffice it to say we on the Opposition were disappointed in the manner in which the Premier embedded himself in the issue of the resignation of Mr. Miller from the role of Leader of the Opposition without first trying to ascertain the reasons for,

- PPM
- Independents
- UDP
- CDP
- C4C
- PNA

As such Mr. Speaker there is no room for the Government to criticize the Opposition for not being able to govern because its independently elected membership does not have the commitment. Nor is it fair to say that the Opposition does not have the level of cohesion, industry and commitment necessary to serve in the best interests of all the people of these Islands because it is made up of independents. There is no evidence to suggest that governance by a coalition of diversity can only be done by those who make up the current government and no one else. Truth be told, by the Premier's own admission, there are challenges within that coalition.

Mr. Speaker, I should point out that I was the first to publicly state that the horse trading we experienced post election 2000 could only be corrected by some type of formal structure. I am still of that view. However, we have seen the resurgence of the independents over the last 2 elections and the people's lack of confidence in outright parties, which is

Government?

Mr. Speaker, is that why one of his independent members who got elected on criticizing the PPM, the UDP, the CDP, and the cruise berthing facility has made a U-turn? Is that member not committed to their ideals?

Or Mr. Speaker, is that why one of his Independent members who campaigned for a freeze on work permits and stated during a Chamber of Commerce forum, and I quote "On day one, the first thing is to put a freeze on permits and sort out the unemployed". Was this done Mr. Speaker? I am only asking in light of the record number of work permits that has now been granted under this Government of which he is a member. Or is it another case where commitment was lacking.

I chose those two examples Mr. Speaker to remind the Premier not to judge the independent members on this side based on the behaviour on that side. As the Premier, he has the responsibility to protect the members on his team. He must also recognize that I have a similar responsibility in my role as Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, you yourself, and I must thank you for your efforts, worked very hard in the last sitting of the Legislative Assembly to bring all members of this house together to deal with an important matter that was facing this country. It goes to show, that when it matters, regardless of where we sit, we can work together.

Mr. Speaker, each of us in this house has one nineteenth of the responsibility to ensure that we build a Cayman where everyone is valued and no one is left behind. None of us, and I do mean none of us; can delegate that responsibility to anyone or any party. The oath that we took to sit in this house was done by us as individuals but we must find a way to work together.

I and my members on this side are committed to working with everyone TODAY, both inside and outside of this house to ensure a better Cayman TO-MORROW.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the time afforded me and despite our differences on many policy issues I look forward to working with the Government.

May God continue to bless these beloved Cayman Islands. (?)

LOCAL NEWS

CAYMANIAN TIMES

Monday, June 10, 2019 | Issue No 386 PAGE A7

Customs audit reveals room for improvement

By Lindsey Turnbull

A recently released report by the Auditor General outlines the improvements needed in order to bring Cayman's newly formed Customs and Border Control (CBC) department in line with modern-day needs. The report 'Customs in the Cayman Islands' reviewed how efficient and effective Cayman Islands Customs was at collecting revenue, protecting the border and managing its workforce, prior to the creation of the new CBC, which took place on 1st February this year.

It found the previous Customs department falling short on many fronts, including lacking a clear strategic plan and scoring poorly on the management of its employees. The report also highlighted that little progress had been made in implementing previous Auditor General recommendations to improve the policies and procedures for awarding revenue concessions or waivers. As a result, the Cayman Islands Government did not know how much revenue has been given up as a result.

While the report acknowledged that the previous Customs department had been able to beat its budget in the collection of duties and fines, it found the process for collecting revenues could be improved.

"It is also unclear whether the Government is collecting all of the revenue that it should as there continues to be significant weaknesses in the approach to awarding and managing revenue concessions," the report stated.

As far as the management of its workforce was concerned, the audit found the previous Customs department was failing in its management of its workforce: the use of sick leave was high, with hundreds of days lost to sick leave, as well as high amounts of overtime being paid. There was also no corporate training plan for staff and areas where existing training could be improved. As well as developing a workforce plan, the report said to help prevent corruption the CBC should improve its integrity management of staff and implement a regular rotation of staff.

"Customs makes a significant contribution to the Cayman Islands economy by collecting duties on imported and exported goods and also plays an important role in protecting our borders," Auditor General Sue Winspear said. "Despite this important role, Customs did not have a clear strategic plan, setting out its vision and objectives; nor did it have a workforce plan or performance management framework to support effective management of the business. It is important that the new organisation, Customs and Border Control, develops these strategic documents as soon as possible to ensure its effectiveness."

CBC response

While pledging its unequivocal commitment to implement the recommendations that were "feasible and funded", the CBC in response to the report, said that it should be read in context. The CBC stated that, at the time of the audit, the then Customs Senior Management Team had been in place for just over one year. Prior to that, the Customs department had seen significant change in its management team.

"In the three and a half years preceding August 2015 when the new Collector of Customs took up his appointment, the Customs Department had operated without a permanent Collector. During those three and a half years preceding 2015, the department had been led by four different Acting Collectors," the CBC said. "It was therefore understandable that when the new Collector of Customs took up his post in August 2015, he found a department that had been subjected to a number of conflicting and incompatible policies. Consequently, it was not surprising that there were many priorities that demanded his immediate action."

The CBC said that when Charles Clifford, then Customs Collector, took up office in 2015 he prioritised increasing revenue, improving relationships with law enforcement and implementing succession planning. As a result, the previous Customs department had consistently exceeded its revenue targets.

"In the past three financial years we have exceeded our revenue targets by \$10.4 Mil in the 2015/16 fiscal year, \$15 Mil in the 2017 fiscal year and \$22 Mil in the 2018 fiscal year," it said, adding that the report confirmed its "very positive operational results, including the positive results from many joint operations with the RCIPS and Department of Immigration".

In 2016, after a Senior Management Team was appointed, it began the transformation of Border Control in the Cayman Islands.

"This has been significantly enhanced by the merger of the Customs and Immigration Departments on the 1st February 2019," the CBC stated.

"The audit took place at a particularly challenging time for us as we were in the middle of a number of new initiatives at the time, including the roll out of a new IT Platform and intense preparations



Sue Winspear, Auditor General of the Cayman Islands

for the merger mentioned above," it confirmed. "As CBC continues its transformation from the traditional gate keepers approach to an intelligence-led risk management organisation, it will continually refine its business processes, intelligence and risk-based strategies using a variety of techniques, technology, training and development in order to provide the best means of identifying and addressing threats at the earliest possible point."

The Auditor General added: "It is encouraging that Customs has started to change the way it protects the borders by using a more intelligence-led and risk-focused approach. However, more needs to be done to embed the new approach."

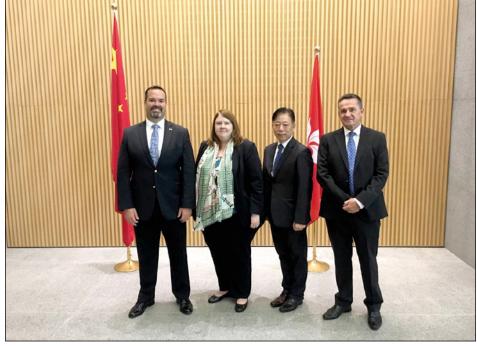
Cayman Delegation in Hong Kong for Talks

A joint team from the Governor's Office and the new Ministry of International Trade, Investment, Maritime and Aviation Affairs (MITIAMA) is in Hong Kong this week for talks with the authorities there.

The small team, led by Eric Bush, Chief Officer at MITIAMA and Matthew Forbes, Head Of the Governor's Office, is meeting officials in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government to agree plans for the opening of Cayman's new trade office in the city. In addition Bush and Forbes held talks with The British Consul General, Andy Heyn and his team who are supporting the new initiative and also met the Heads of Invest Hong Kong, the British Chamber of Commerce and representatives of Cayman Islands companies with offices in Hong Kong. The mission also sought to identify premises for the new office.

It is hoped that the new office will open in early October and will support Cayman companies not just in Hong Kong but also mainland China. Recruitment for the new head of the office is currently underway.

Head of the Governor's Office Matthew Forbes who was previously Deputy Consul General in Shanghai said "China is an important market place for Cayman companies and Hong Kong can act as a spring board for firms looking to do business there. It is important to establish relationships with the Hong Kong authorities and other partners who will be vital to the success of the office". Chief Officer Eric Bush commented, "we have had a great welcome in Hong Kong and laid the foundations for a successful opening of Cayman's new office in Asia. We are grateful for the support of the Hong Kong SAR Government and the British Consulate General in this venture. Having a physical presence in this fast paced and complex part of the world will help Cayman companies achieve their full potential and develop new opportunities in particular for our world class financial services sector." **•**



Eric Bush (Chief Officer at MITIAMA), Esther Blythe (British Deputy Consul General), Derek Lee (Deputy Director of Protocol, Hong Kong Government) and Matthew Forbes (Head of the Governor's Office)



Meeting with Philip Kung, Head of Business and Professional Services (far left) and Stephen Phillips, Director General, InvestHK (Second from Right)



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CAYMANIAN TIMES

LOCAL SPORTS | LOCAL NEWS

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Mt Pleasant and DC United hold edge in Cayman Islands Invitational U15 Youth Cup

The race for semi-final berths is taking shape after two day of play in the 2019 Cayman Islands Invitational U15 Youth Football Cup, with Mt Pleasant Academy of Jamaica and American side DC United sitting atop the table of their respective groups.

Tobago All Stars 1 Cavalier FC 2

In the first game in Cayman Brac on Wednesday (5 June), Cavalier FC from Jamaica edged Tobago All-Stars 2-1. It was Cavalier FC's first win of the tournament after dropping their opener a day earlier to Mt Pleasant.

CD Victoria 0 Mt Pleasant Academy 1

Jamaica's Mt Pleasant Academy registered their second win in as many games, holding their Central American opponents scoreless through the 70-minute match. Kevaughn Wilson's 27th minute goal was the difference-maker to see Mt Pleasant going top of Group 1 with one game to go.

Cayman Islands 0 DC United 2

Meantime, DC United rolled to their second consecutive victory with a 2-0 win over the Cayman Islands National

U15 Team in a high energy encounter. Sebastian Richardson broke the deadlock 14 minutes into the contest. Edwin Henriquez, scoring his second time in the tournament, added the other goal in the 60th minute.

Cuba 0 Portmore Utd 0

Jamaica's Portmore United remained undefeated through two games after a tactically sound contest against the Cuba National U15 Team. Following up on their 1-0 win versus the Cayman Islands a day before, Portmore United matched Cuba. Both teams created opportunities, but neither could find the back of the net. The result puts Portmore United in 2nd place in Group 2 on 4 points, while Cuba picked up their first point of the competition.

The teams return to action on Thursday for the final group stage matches in the tournament. In Group 1 in Cayman Brac, CD Victoria (Honduras) plays Cavalier FC (Jamaica) at 6:30pm, followed by Tobago All Stars (Trinidad and Tobago) vs Mt Pleasant Academy (Jamaica). In Group 2 at the Ed Bush Sports Complex in West Bay, the Cayman Islands faces Cuba at 6:30pm in a showdown of national sides preparing for the CONCA-



DC United players celebrate a goal in their 2-0 win over the Cayman Islands National U15 Team on Wednesday (Photo: Cayman Sports Buzz)

CAF U15 Championships this summer. That match will be followed by DC United (United States) vs Portmore United (Jamaica).

The top two teams from each group will advance to the semi-finals to be played at Ed Bush Sports Complex on Friday.

The Cayman Islands Invitational U15 Youth Football Cup is being hosted by West Bay Sports Foundation in partnership with the Cayman Islands Football Association and the Sports Association of the Sister Islands. Major sponsors include Cayman Airways, the Ministry of District Administration, Tourism and Transport, and the Ministry of Education, Youth Sports, Agriculture and Lands.

Admission to all games is free. 😚



DC United's Augustin Paull III keeps the ball away from Cayman's Jeremy Scott as he moves through the midfield (Photo: Cayman Sports Buzz)



Mt Pleasant vs CD Victoria – Mt Pleasant Academy (yellow) won their second straight game to move into first place in Group 1

Real Life Superheroes make an Appearance Before LEGO Movie

A social worker, high school counsellor, grandmother and a crime busting duo revealed their everyday powers at Child Month's Real Life Superheroes movie night.

The open-air event, staged by the Department of Children and Family Services' Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) unit on Saturday, 25 May 2019, was at Gardenia Court in Camana Bay. The evening event attracted several



 "Captain America" gets a prize at the Child Month Superheroes Movie Night from MASH Social Work Manager Tiffany Myles

young families. Social workers donned SW superhero capes and masks, as did one or two young movie goers.

Presenters Carol Robinson, Chris Murray, Paulette Hines and Royal Cayman Islands Police Service Officers Jonathan Kern and Celesiah Burke gave brief presentations. Each presenter explained how their jobs qualified them to be seen as superheroes who helped individuals in need and were important

for community wellbeing. The officers even brought one of the service's electric all-terrain vehicles (ATV). They spoke of the contributions made by those who serve and the impact such jobs and roles have in making Cayman a place we can be proud to call home.

Mr. Murray, who has been a school counsellor for 14 years, said: "Shortly before arriving here, I asked a teenager why school counsellors can be classed as superheroes and they replied "...because they save lives" I couldn't think of a better answer,"" he replied.



Superhero social workers at the Superheroes Movie Night to celebrate Child Month in May. (L-r:) MASH Social Work Manager Tiffany Myles with Social Workers: Melissa Alexander, Keisha Smith, Melissa Alexander, Carol Robinson, Diarmuid McEleney and Herlen Geopano



Police Officers Jonathan Kern makes a dramatic entrance at the Child Month Superheroes Movie Night before giving his presentation (Photos by Elphina Jones, GIS)

Social Worker Melissa Alexander was the event's emcee and held a fire question and answer session with young moviegoers about the presentations. Those who answered correctly got prizes.

The screening of the animated LEGO movie followed.

"Our presenters were a representative sample of Cayman's unsung heroes," said MASH Social Work Manager Tiffany Myles.

"Their presentations were delivered to inspire and motivate our young people. These times are particularly critical for children in relation to their future career goals because we cannot anticipate the challenges today's children will confront as grownups. Young people are turning their eyes to social media for examples of who they should be. Our event gave young moviegoers real-life superheroes in whose footsteps they can follow, to not only become upstanding

citizens but to also give back to the community that is raising them," she concluded.

During the intermission pizza, chips and beverages were given out. Children



Police Officers Jonathan Kern and Celesiah Burke give brief presentations on their mission as everyday superheroes to the young audience at the recent Child Month Superheroes Movie Night

also had the opportunity to take pictures with the real-life superheroes and were given masks to wear. Following the screening children were given superhero goodie bags. (?)

WORLD WATCH | LOCAL NEWS

CAYMANIAN TIMES

Monday, June 10, 2019 | Issue No 386

PAGE B1

NHS dominates Trump's UK visit

If there's one thing that President Donald Trump's second UK visit will be remembered for, it's the National Health Service (NHS).

Not that at any time during his threeday state visit he is known to have required the direct intervention of the NHS - and had it come to that, no doubt he would have marvelled at the quality of care.

Besides trading barbs with London Mayor Sadiq Khan, President Trump had trade on his mind and he quickly left no doubt that the NHS was "on the table" for any upcoming trade talks between the UK and the US.

And then, just as quickly, he back-tracked. Well...sort of.

The UK's much-treasured National Health Service was placed firmly on the negotiating table by President Trump's hand-picked US Ambassador to London, Woody Johnson (of the Johnson and Johnson pharmaceutical empire), during a television interview prior to the President's arrival.

Mr Trump himself reinforced that point of view when he stated in a joint press conference with outgoing Prime Minister Theresa May that as far as trade talks go, "everything is on the table. Nothing is off the table."

NHS treatment might have been required for the resulting apoplectic outbursts of disbelief - except from a handful including Trump-fan and arch-Brexiteer Nigel Farage whose new Brexit Party continues its single-agenda surge up the opinion polls.

But just as quickly as he had confirmed that the NHS was also 'on the table' of all things negotiable President Trump took it off...somewhat.

In a subsequent interview, released just hours after his now infamous "everything-on-the-table" and "phenomenal deal" affirmations, he had taken it off.

In a hasty back-pedal in the face of a stinging backlash from opposition MPs, even many in the business sector and the public - plus a later slightly more diplomatic distancing from the Prime Minister's Office - Mr Trump sought to reassure that the NHS might not be on his radar.

"I don't see it being on the table" he said, adding as if to appease those with lingering doubts, that he does "not consider (the NHS) part of trade".

But the doubts remain. His attempt at reassurance has not had the soothing or anaesthetic effect that President Trump might have wanted.

The prospect of an American style health-insurance still looms large in the eyes of many who are committed to resisting it, ensuring that the unique Britishness and access-to-all characteristic of the NHS does not become a profit-making enterprise.

The NHS set up in 1948 as a free-toall at point of delivery healthcare system along socialist ideals of the then postwar Labour Party government.

Although it currently already contracts out some of its services, there are concerns that the NHS is financially haemorrhaging and is suffering the effects of its own bloated administration.

While President Trump might have appeared to have rolled back from in-



cluding the NHS on the table of negotiations, the service may yet find itself on an operating table of sorts to staunch its own financial bleeding.

The NHS was a poster - in fact, a billboard - issue in the 2016 referendum with dubious claims that the UK sends £350 million weekly to the EU which could be used to fund the NHS instead.

That is now the subject of a court case against prime-minister hopeful Boris Johnson for allegedly endorsing it.

It's also a perennial hot-button political issue.

The NHS might be seen as potential rich pickings for the US pharmaceutical industry especially over drug procurements.

Already some foreign companies including a subsidiary of a US firm have contracts with some parts of its massive outsourcing system and procurements system. But any thought of 'privatising' this modern day 'jewel in the British crown' is seen as sacrilege.

There are already some suggestions for a possible two-tier health system with more opportunities for private healthcare for those who can afford it.

Private healthcare facilities operate in the UK along the NHS. However, the NHS is free at the point of delivery to all citizens.

The Overseas Territories benefit from this as well, albeit on a limited quota system which they continue to petition the British government to relax.

It's more than likely that any change to how the NHS operates could affect them as well.

As one opposition UK MP has cautioned:

"Let us not forget that the Americans have a system that checks your purse before it checks your pulse. That is the last thing we want in this country."

CPR Cayman Meets with H.E. Governor Roper in Preparation for Petition Submission

CPR Cayman met this morning with His Excellency Governor Roper in preparation for next week's submission of the petition for a people initiated referendum on the proposed cruise berthing facility, in accordance with Section 70 of the Cayman Islands Constitution.

Following the 24th May 2019 announcement that the community group had reached the constitutionally required 25% threshold on the petition, the group announced last week that they would meet with both Elections Supervisor Mr Wesley Howell and His Excellency the Governor, before presenting the petition to the Elections Supervisor, to seek guidance on the process and also seek reassurances on the verification process following widespread concerns from the public. All parties have acknowledged that they are navigating unchartered waters together in what will be the first People Initiated Referendum in the Cayman Islands, and possibly the first in any Overseas Territory. This will also be the first time that a petition is verified by the Elections Office. In 2011 the Constitutional Commission recommended the development of a Referendum Law, however, no such law has been passed to date, and the Elections Law also does not speak at all to Referendums. Following today's meeting with His Excellency, the petition is currently being prepared to be delivered to Elections



CPR Cayman Meeting with HE Governor Roper. L-R: Mario Rankin, Katrina Jurn, Shirley Roulstone, HE Governor Martyn Roper, Linda Clark, Melanie Harris, Johann Moxam & Mark Lewis

Office next week to begin the official verification process. The exact date and time is to be determined by the Elections Office and once confirmed we will invite the public and the media to share in this historic moment in the evolution of Cayman's democracy.

CPR Cayman is a grassroots initiative of concerned citizens advocating for a democratic approach to the decision-making for the proposed cruise berthing facility. More information can be found on CPR Cayman's Facebook page. People can also contact cprcayman@gmail.com.



PUZZLES | COMICS

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Sardinia

Sicily

Spain

Syria

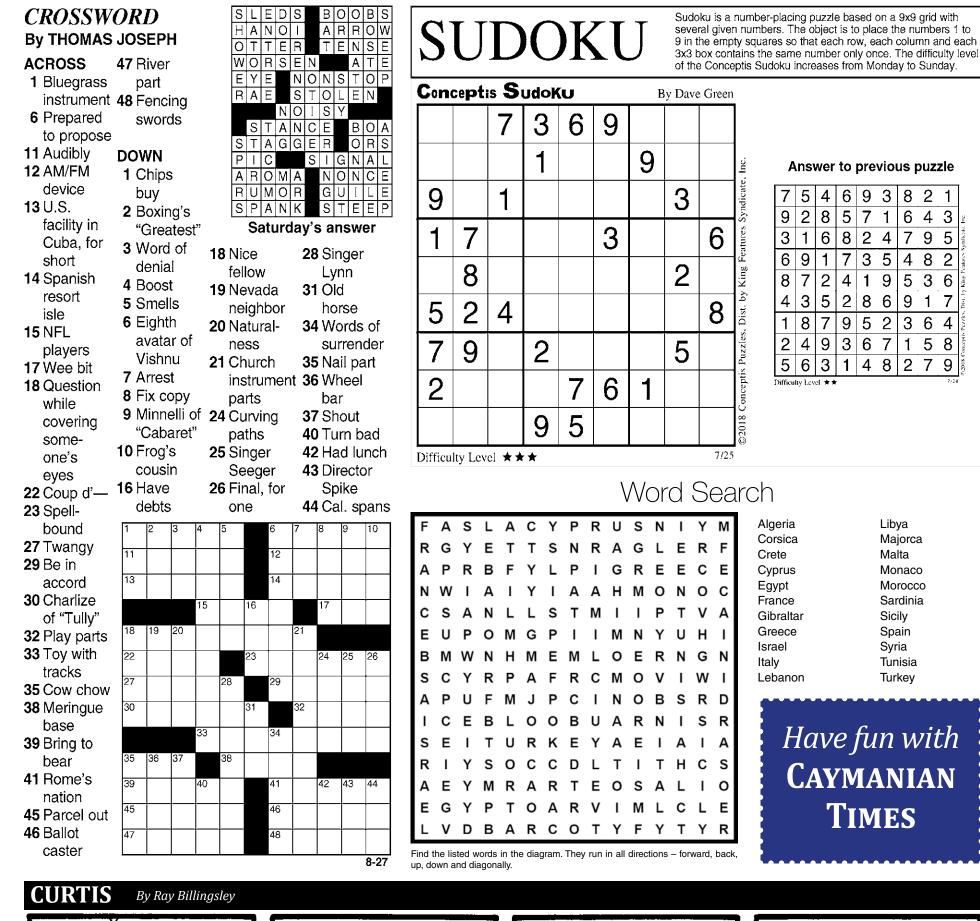
Tunisia

Turkey

3 5

2 3

7 1





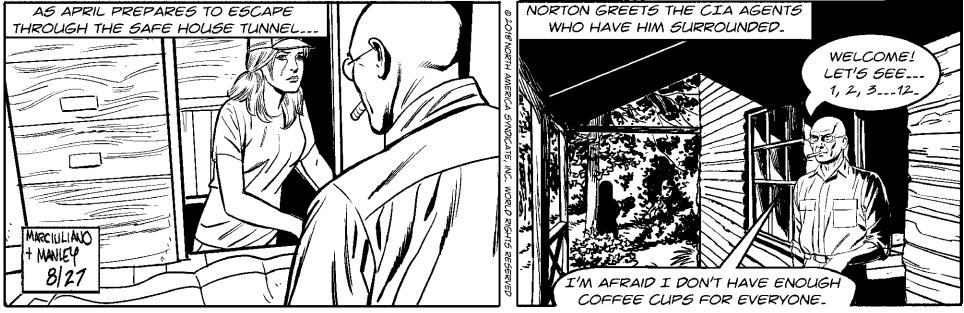




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