Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Issue No 378

www.caymaniantimes.ky



Complimentary =



Water Authority welcomes home new graduates



Traffic not affected by airport upgrades

BUSINESS — A5



**Local Business Owners Learn from International Digital Marketing Experts** 

• WORLD WATCH — A8



BVI backs off Belongership bill

## CayMAS — an explosion of color and creativity

**By Christopher Tobutt** Local Correspondent

Starting at Eden Rock at 130 and working all the way along North Church Street, past the Harbour Centre, all the way up West Bay Road and finishing at Public Beach, CayMAS carnival was a sight to behold. There must have been several thousand taking part and it was a big turnout for the event which is Cayman's second street carnival apart from Batabano, which took place at the beginning of May. Next year, there will just be one official carnival again, so everyone was making the most of it.

And it was a real spectacle. Shimmering and shining in the sun. The costumes were truly amazing. They all looked as if they had come out of the ancient civilizations of Africa and South America. Lost Cities of the Ancient World was a strong theme in the parade. The Lost City of Atlantis costume was in cool blues, and then there was Eldorado, the mythical city made out of gold, with beautiful dark yellows and golden hues as the kings and queens of the ancient world danced among us. There were crowns, there were tiras, and there were lots and lots of long, beautiful feathers. It was a true celebration of life and joy and fun, just as a good carnival should be.

... Continued story on page A6



▶ CayMAS carnival was an explosion of color, music, costume and fun

## **165 Move Ennances Client Experience**

The Department of Counselling Services (DCS) and two of its units have relocated to their new home at 87 West Apollo House on Mary Street, George Town. The Family Resource Centre (FRC) and the Counselling Centre (TCC) co-located last week. The Department's third entity is the Caribbean Haven Residential Centre in Breakers.

According to the FRC's Programme Coordinator, Charmaine Miller, the relocation serves several long-held goals.

"We have co-located because we share some mutual clients and this allows us to adopt a more

... Continued story on page A2



▶ The Department of Counselling Services' new offices in the West Apollo Building, Mary Street, George Town (opposite JEC Property Consultants) (Photo by Elphina Jones, GIS)

#### Cayman talent at Caribbean 305



▶ There will be a fine selection of food and drink

#### By Ron Shillingford **International Correspondent**

The Cayman Islands is set to participate next month in Caribbean 305, South Florida's premier Caribbean culinary and cultural celebration.

It returns to Miami on June 22 at Mana Wynwood, a new location for the annual event.

Cayman is world renowned for its culinary excellence and this is another opportunity to showcase our fabulous food and drink alongside some of the Caribbean's best.

Featuring flavours from around the region, Caribbean305 spotlights award-winning chefs and mixologists from Cayman and the other member countries; Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Grenada, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos. The event will also feature cultural influences from Antigua and Barbuda and the Dominican Republic.

The guests, who will be welcomed by Moko jumbie stilt walkers and carnival dancers in full-feathered regalia, will also enjoy live Caribbean entertainment, including reggae, soca, salsa and zouk.

... Continued story on page A4



### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

## National Day of Preparedness Statement

By Minister for Financial Services & Home Affairs, Hon. Tara Rivers, JP MLA

"On Monday, May 20th the Cayman Islands will observe its National Day of Preparedness with this year's theme: "Preparedness makes sense and saves lives!"

The primary purpose of observing the National Day of Preparedness is to highlight the importance of being ready for the upcoming hurricane season and other natural disasters. The day is observed on a public holiday, Discovery Day, so that all residents can have the opportunity to review their respective family plans and identify anything that requires attention, to ensure the highest level of personal preparedness.

Like many countries, the Cayman Islands are vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards including hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis and floods. With the beginning of hurricane season swiftly approaching on June 1st, it is especially important that residents are prepared because planning ahead can save lives!

As the Minister responsible for Home Affairs, I therefore urge all residents to not only evaluate your family and business plans, but also identify how you can help to prepare your community and assist in the event that a hazard strikes.

In addition to ensuring that your family's hurricane supplies are well stocked, you can enhance your family's level of preparedness by taking small steps, such as discussing your personal plans with all family members so that everyone knows what to do and what to expect; installing carbon monoxide detectors; reviewing your home and business insurance coverage to ensure that your premiums are up to date and starting your own emergency savings

For those interested in helping in their neighborhood or district, you can become a member of a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) or sign up to become a trained shelter volunteer or a shelter manager. These critical elements of our national disaster preparedness and recovery mechanism are dependent on the support and participation of the public, and every volunteer makes a difference when a hazardous event occurs.

If you missed the opportunity at Cost-U-Less last weekend, you can receive up-to-date preparedness information in person when you visit AL Thompsons this coming Saturday, May 18 and Kirk Home Centre and Uncle Bills next Saturday, 25 May. Representatives of Hazard Management Cayman Islands will be on hand to meet with



▶ Minister for Financial Services & Home Affairs, Hon. Tara Rivers, JP MLA

residents, provide disaster awareness information and answer any questions that you may have.

We are all familiar with the popular axiom: "an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure;" and we appreciate the sponsorship of our community outreach initiatives by these and other local merchants, as we strive to strengthen the resilience of our families, businesses and our community and create a "culture of preparedness."

If you would like to obtain more information about how to improve your preparedness plans or to sign up with a CERT Team or as a shelter volunteer, please visit www.caymanprepared.ky

Thank you and may God continue to bless our beloved Cayman Islands, through Hurricane Season 2019 and beyond."

## **Dept. of Counselling Services** Move Enhances Client Experience

... Continued story from page A1

strategically joined-up approach," she

"Given that FRC and TCC run some complementary services, it helps to have both parenting and counselling-related services sited in the same building. Clients can now move from one section of the department to the next to access enhanced services more easily than ever."

The offices, located across from JEC Property Consultants, now have further client-focused benefits. More spacious

than their former open plan location on North Sound Road, FRC's parent coaches now each have their own offices to allow for individualised parenting services for families in more private settings. Also, with the increased space, the FRC has the flexibility to run more programmes

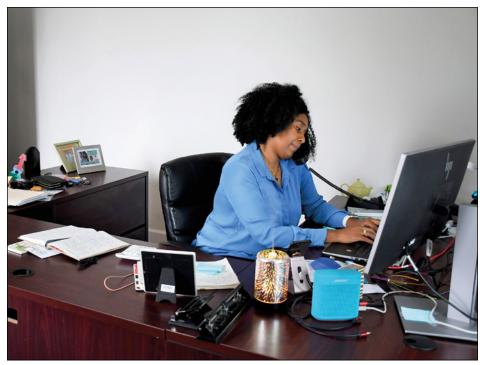
"The move is already promoting more collaboration between our agencies," said DCS Director Judith Seymour.

"Another advantage is that we have been able to greatly increase face-toface meetings with clients. Previously both the FRC and TCC found that there was high demand on the one evening we offered walk-in services after regular working hours. We have now added a second evening and opened up other spaces during the week. In addition, other changes have made our office hours more responsive and more client-friendly while allowing greater scope for synergy between our programmes," she concluded.

Revised intake hours are significantly increased, and are now offered on Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Commenting on the move, the Minister for Health, Hon. Dwayne Seymour said: "The co-location shows the department's commitment to advancing one of Government's key outcome goals, which is having stronger communities and support for the most vulnerable."

The co-location is part of the DCS's wider client-centred approach, which includes its newly-launched multi-agency website, www.dcs.gov.ky 😚



▶ FRC's Programmes Coordinator Charmaine Miller in the West Apollo Building, Mary Street, George Town (Photos by Elphina Jones, GIS)



▶ The FRC's new nursery at their offices in the West Apollo Building, Mary Street, George



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## **CBC Officers Receive Nefarious** Financing Awareness Training

Sixty one Customs and Border Control (CBC) officers were trained to better track, tackle and deal with specific kinds of financial crimes that they could encounter at entry and exit points of the Cayman Islands. These include the possible transportation of cash or Bearer Negotiable Instruments (BNIs).

The training sessions were conducted as five, intensive one-day workshops by the CBC training unit at CBC Headquarters located at the Airport Road Office complex.

The trainers were from several government agencies that deal with such matters: CBC's Deputy Director (Training), Mr. Marlon Bodden and Anti Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Compliance Officer, Mr. Martin Bodden Jr; Head of the Anti-Money Laundering Unit, Mr. Francis Arana; Senior Policy Analyst in the Attorney General's Chambers, Mr. Duwayne Lawrence and Financial Reporting Authority's Cayman Islands Sanctions Coordinator, Ms Kim

Compliance Officer Bodden explained that the officers received training to get enhanced awareness and sensitisation in handling border control related procedures for currency transportation, anti-money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing.



▶ A group of Customs and Border Control (CBC) officers undergo training at the CBC Office on Airport Road as part of five one-day educational workshops (Photo Supplied)

They were also trained to better deal with persons arriving from jurisdictions that currently face international sanctions (such as Iran or North Korea), he elaborated.

CBC Director, Mr. Charles Clifford noted that the training was in response to the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) mutual evaluation report that resulted in the Cayman Islands being placed on a 12-month period of observation. Director Clifford also stated that this awareness training had been previously delivered to new employees as part of the Department's training strategy.

"We are focused on providing training and pertinent knowledge and development for our officers, who are border control agents at entry and exit points of the Cayman Islands such as at airports and seaports, so that they are well equipped to deal with standing procedures and key processes," Mr. Clifford

"And we will continue to ensure our officers constantly improve their skills to remain vigilant as they undertake to uphold all the procedures in place for protecting our borders, and the people of the Cayman Islands, against increasingly sophisticated crimes," he added. 😚

## **WAC Welcomes Home New Graduates**

The Water-Authority Cayman family has grown with the return of two of its scholarship recipients, Chynna Retumban and Kristina Powell.

Ms. Retumban was the Authority's 2014/2015 scholarship recipient. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry for Drug Discovery from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom. The Authority continued its support of Ms. Retumban when she went on to receive a Master of Science in Green & Sustainable Chemistry from the University of Nottingham, gaining honours for both degrees.

During her summers Ms. Retumban participated in the Authority's summer internship programme. Ms. Retumban was also the 2013 and 2014 winner of the Rotary Science Fair. She joined the Authority as a full-time employee in March of 2019 as a Laboratory Technician II with the Water Resource & Quality Control Department.

"The Water Authority's support throughout my studies has been very appreciated. I'm ready to take all that I have learned and use it to be an asset to the Authority and the wider community," notes Ms. Retumban. "I feel very lucky to have had this opportunity," she adds.

It's a sentiment shared by fellow scholarship recipient Kristina Powell.

"There are a lot of students who don't have the privilege of getting a scholarship. I'm grateful to the Authority for my scholarship because it allowed me to really focus on my studies," explains Ms. Powell.

Ms. Powell was the Authority's 2016/2017 scholarship recipient. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems. from the University of Tampa. During her time at university Ms. Powell was inducted into three academic honour societies; Beta

Gamma Signma (business), Alpha Iota Mu (IT) and Phi Kappa Phi (all disciplines). She also participated in the Authority's summer internship programme during her school breaks. She joined the Authority as a fulltime employee in January of 2019 as an Applications & Network Support Specialist (Designate) with the Information Systems. Department and is currently pursuing a Master degree in Cybersecurity.

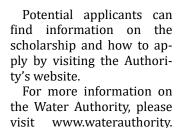
In addition to welcoming back its two scholarship recipients, the Authority is also celebrating the achievements of its Senior Development Control Technologist, Kodie Scott. Mr. Scott who was promoted to his current position at the beginning of 2019, recently completed his Master of Science in Public Health (Global Health) in December 2018 with the support of an educational sponsorship from the Authority.

"I'm thankful to the Authority for its support. Being able to move forward with my education has helped me to take on challenges of my new role, and will have a positive impact on the work of the Authority," notes Mr. Scott.

"We're so proud of achievements of Chynna, Kristina and Kodie," explains Water Authority Director, Dr. Gelia Frederick van-Genderen.

"Investing in the future of our young people is incredibly important to the Authority. We are pleased to see our young Caymanians progress in their education, particularly in the STEM fields, and look forward to seeing Chynna, Kristina and Kodie grow with the Authority," she adds.

Every year the Authority offers a scholarship of up to CI\$30,000 to a suitably qualified Caymanian student. The deadline for applicants for the 2019 scholarship is Friday, 31 May.



\* \* \* The Water Authority is the statutory body responsible for the management of water and wastewater in the Cayman Islands. The Administrative Headquarters is located at 13G Red Gate Road, George Town, Grand

ky.

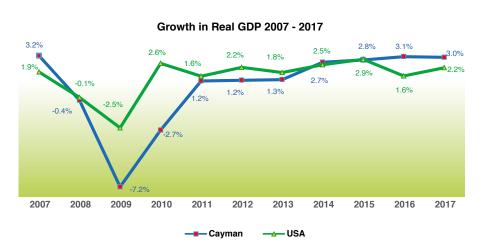


▶ (L-R) Kristina Powell and Chynna Retumban



#### **Business Survey 2018 Your Response Matters!**

In 2017, Cayman's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) continued to outpaced the growth for the USA albeit at a marginally slower rate.



#### How did this change in 2018?

The annual System of National Accounts (SNA) survey collects the information necessary to measure the health and performance of Cayman's economy and its various industries.

The survey runs from April 8th to June 7th 2019.

Data collected for the SNA survey is **CONFIDENTIAL** under the Statistics Law (2016 Revision) and is **EXEMPT** from the Freedom of Information Law.



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► The Jamaican stand is always popula



## Cayman talent at Caribbean305

... Continued story from page A1

Caribbean 305 offers the opportunity to learn more about travel in the region while meeting Caribbean tourism representatives and also a chance to win free trips to Caribbean destinations throughout the night.

"We look forward to our third edition of Caribbean305, which is a wonderful event to celebrate the region's culture garnished with some of the finest culinary talent available anywhere," said Frank Comito, director general and CEO of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association, producers of the event. For

more than 50 years CHTA has been the backbone of the Caribbean hospitality industry.

Working with some 1,000 hotel and allied members, and 33 National Hotel Associations, CHTA is shaping the Caribbean's future and helping members to grow their businesses. Whether helping to navigate critical issues in sales and marketing, sustainability, legislative issues, emerging technologies, climate change, data and intelligence or, looking for avenues and ideas to better market and manage businesses, CHTA is helping members on issues which matter most.

Patrons can sample a wide variety of tapas-style treats, an open bar and Caribbean music at Mana Wynwood, located in a trendy area of Miami known for its dynamic street art, restaurants and entertainment.

"This is the perfect event for foodies, Caribbean travellers as well as the Caribbean diaspora," said Mr Comito.

Caribbean 305 VIP tickets cost \$125 per person and include one-hour early access to the event at 7pm, a separate VIP check-in area, welcome cocktail, a premium goody bag, access to a VIP lounge area with an exclusive, private bar and passed tapas service, additional seating and unlimited food, drinks and entertainment.

General admission tickets are \$75 online - \$100 at the door - and include access to the event from 8-11pm with an all-inclusive experience of unlimited drinks, food and entertainment.



▶ Moko jumbie stilt walkers will be at Caribbean305



► Coconut delights are promised

# Traffic shouldn't be affected by airport upgrades

September and October of this year will see extensive improvements taking place to the Owen Roberts International Airport airfield on Grand Cayman, however officials at the Cayman Islands Airports Authority said that there will be no impact or change to the road system around the airport during the upgrades.

The CIAA recently announced that work would take place beginning 2 September on the airfield, including extending the runway to the west, filling in the ponds within the airfield's perimeter, repaving the existing runway and upgrading the perimeter fencing.

During the upgrade, the airport's sole runway will be closed eight times during September and October, taking place every Monday evening at 10:00 pm after the last flight of the day and reopening the following Wednesday at 6:00 am before the first flight movement of the day.

But while this work takes place in an already congested part of Grand Cayman, traffic should not be impacted at this time.

"During the implementation phase, heavy construction equipment will be entering and existing the aerodrome at a few access points. This may or may not affect the flow of vehicular traffic, dependent upon the time of day. Other than that, there should be no effect," officials at the CIAA stated.

As a reminder to the public, the dates for the scheduled ORIA runway closures are as follows:

Closure 1: Monday, 2 September 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 4 September 6:00 a.m.

Closure 2: Monday, 9 September 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 11 September 6:00 a.m.

Closure 3: Monday, 16 September 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 18 September

Closure 4: Monday, 23 September 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 25 September 6:00 a.m.

Closure 5: Monday, 30 September 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 2 October 6:00 a.m.

Closure 6: Monday, 7 October 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 9 October 6:00 a.m.

Closure 7: Monday, 14 October 10:00 p.m. - Wednesday, 16 October 6:00 a.m.

Closure 8: Monday, 21 October 10:00 p.m. – Wednesday, 23 October 6:00





# Local Business Owners & Leaders Invited to Learn from International Digital Marketing Experts at Yello Digicon 2019

On Monday May 27th industry experts, marketing leaders and business owners will once again converge to learn, network and share at the 2nd annual Yello Digicon at the Grand Cayman Marriott Beach Resort, 8:30am – 1:30pm.

This year's theme "Unleash Your Digital Potential" is an invitation to local businesses to seize the readily available digital marketing solutions that will enable their business to grow, improve their brand exposure and compete more effectively locally, regionally and internationally. Yello Digicon will feature five dynamic international marketing speakers to share best practices, case studies, tips and advice on how to maximise returns on investment and identify the digital marketing and social media investments that will increase conversion and drive customer retention

Amongst the list of headliners for Yello Digicon are; Brad Peterson, Senior Vice President of Global Business Development, Matchcraft , Sterling McKinley, Digital Marketing Speaker & Strategist, Chris Bryant, Creative Director of Empire Studios, Lisa Pierson, Lead Conversion Copywriter , Copy Hackers Agency and Andrew Leonard, Digital Marketing Specialist from one of the Big Four Tech Companies, unveiled at the conference.

"We are pleased to present at Yello Digicon 2019, some of the best Digital Marketing minds who will be sharing a wealth knowledge to help local businesses deliver break-through results and power their marketing strategy", shared Melanie Shambaugh, Yello Media Group's Marketing Manager. She further explained that "Yello Digicon provides local business with the opportunity to learn how to build their awareness, expand their online reach, generate new business and seizing new opportunities".

Attendees can expect, in-depth, trend-forward digital marketing conference with several practical takeaways and ideas to give them the competitive advantage online.

With the rapidly evolving marketing landscape, knowledge sharing has become of the fastest ways for businesses to avoid the pitfalls of navigating the Digital landscape. Registration is complimentary for Yello Media group customers. Yello Digcon 2018 was fully booked last year, so we encourage the business community to register early to secure their space.

To register visit www.digiconcayman. com or www.findyello.com. Please contact Melanie Shambaugh at 345-814-1762 or mshambaugh@yellomg.com with any questions.

#### About Yello Media Group

Yello Media Group is the leading provider of digital media and marketing

solutions operating across 20 countries in the English-speaking Caribbean and Central & South America. Their digital solutions and directory products create seamless connections with businesses and their customers online and offline.

With decades of advertising expertise, Yello is the most celebrated Google AdWords Partner in the Caribbean, Central & South America receiving three consecutive awards for Google Display and Mobile Champions. Yello's diverse mix of digital solutions such as SEM, Website Development, Social Media Management, Online Videos and Display Advertising helps businesses build awareness, expand reach and generate leads.

In 2018 they were one of five companies recognised internationally by Google for their innovation in Search & Display Advertising in the Caribbean and Latin America.



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FINAL WEEK TO REGISTER







► CayMAS carnival was an explosion of color, music, costume and fun

## CayMAS — an explosion of color and creativity

... Continued story from page A1

Kalabra mas band lead the parade, and then there was Q. Movement, Hurleys Group, Chicken Run, Renegade Mas, Iconz, the Pirates Week group, and Swanky International. Huge trucks headed each new group of revelers, blasting out high-pressure Soca Music that you didn't just listen to, you felt with your whole body. Everywhere, people

danced and partied, and it was still only the beginning. Some lined up on one of the walls by the beach, between the Fish Market and the Lobster Pot. They gyrated and dance, as the sun shone through their colorful feathers.

It is thirsty work dancing in the hot Cayman sun, and most of the participants as well as the bystanders had bought their bottles of water with them. But the parade didn't slow down,

and the several thousand participants weaved their way along the West Bay road, looking like a river full of brightly colored jewels.

But there were other costumes, too. I saw several pirates there, and some other costumes too. I saw an Old-man of the sea – a sailor of old, and some other amazing costumes, from fantasies and story books. There was even a small dinosaur at the side of the road.

Around the Museum area were many marquee tents selling craft items, as well as traditional local food. Rice and beans and fish were on the menu. Carlene Carter was selling an eclectic mix of little ornaments, crosses, bags and decorative items made from silver thatch. Rose May Ebanks was there too, with a table full of bags and baskets and traditional wide-brimmed hats, all made from Silver Thatch.









► CayMAS carnival was an explosion of color, music, costume and fun

## CILLA Girls Softball - Game Report

#### Kirk Freeport 12, Scotiabank 7

CILLA Girls Softball continued on May 15th, as first place Kirk Freeport scored at least two runs in every inning on their way to a convincing 12-7 victory over Scotiabank.

Kirk Freeport took a 3-0 lead after one inning on three infield hits and a couple of missed chances by Scotiabank. The key hit was a 2 RBI double by catcher Raina Myles.

Scotiabank's Shay Windsor scored in the top of the second on a single and two throwing errors by Kirk Freeport, allowing her to sprint all the way home.

In the bottom of the inning Kirk Freeport scored four runs, all after two were out. McKenna Knapik and Sofia Watler singled, Deandra Whiteman walked, and Keirsten McLaughlin was hit by a pitch, scoring McKenna. Raina Myles followed with her second RBI hit of the night, and all three runners scored when the ball was misplayed in the outfield.

Scotiabank failed to score in the top of the third, but Kirk Freeport tallied three more runs. Amiya Tahal singled, Sade Parchment was hit by a pitch, Nathania Simpson walked, and McKenna Knapik hit into a fielder's choice. Sofia Watler lined a 2 RBI single to right field, scoring Sade and Nathania, Deandra Whiteman doubled to left field, scoring McKenna.

In the fourth inning Raina Myles belted a triple deep to left field and scored on a throwing error back to the infield. Amiya Tahal scored the final Kirk Freeport run when she walked and scored on a Scotiabank error later in the inning.

Scotiabank rallied with six runs over the final two innings to make the final score a bit closer. In the fourth inning, Carmella Ylagan singled and Stephanie Menko walked. Grace Liesman had an RBI single and Calissa Ylagan had an RBI grounder. In the fifth inning Kris Maxine Aleria, Shayna Pitta and Janey Veilleux all walked to load the bases. With one out, Carmella Ylagan hit a ball to the out-



► Kirk Freeport - League Champs

field, which evaded two fielders, allowing all four runners to score on the play.

The defensive play of the night was made by Kirk Freeport's Deandra Whiteman and Sofia Watler, who combined to pick off a Scotiabank runner who did not return to first base in time. Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
Scotiabank	0	1	0	2	4	7
Kirk Freeport	3	4	3	2	ī	12

#### Kirk Freeport 10, Coldwell Banker 2

Deandra Whiteman allowed just two runs over four innings as Kirk Freeport clinched the regular season title with a 10-2 win over short-handed Coldwell Banker, who finished the game with just eight players.

Kirk Freeport scored four runs in the first, aided by five walks. Aleigha General, McKenna Knapik, Sofia Watler, and Deandra Whiteman all walked to start the inning, and singles by Nathania Simpson and Raina Myles brought them home for a 4-0 lead.

Coldwell Banker scored two in the bottom of the inning on a single by Madison Malice and a homer to right-centre by Aydis Rostran. Zhanna McDonald and Abby Schutte followed with singles but Deandra Whiteman induced a pop-fly from the next batter to record the third

Neither team scored in the second inning, as Coldwell Banker relief pitcher

Zhanna McDonald retired Kirk Freeport in order, while Deandra Whiteman had an impressive inning as well.

Kirk Freeport added two runs in the third inning as Akelya Ebanks hit a double to bring home Deandra Whiteman and Raina Myles.

Coldwell Banker failed to score for the rest of the game, while Kirk Freeport finished with four more runs in the fourth inning. Aleigha General led off with a homer down the left field line, and teammates McKenna Knapik, Deandra Whiteman and Nathania Simpson crossed home later in the inning.

Congratulations to Kirk Freeport on winning the regular season championship, led by their excellent coaching staff of Jessica Pawlik, Monica Watler, Tania Knapik and Stephanie Watler!

Coldwell Banker and Scotiabank play in the final regular season game on Wednesday, followed by a mini-tournament beginning on May 25th. Coldwell Banker and Scotiabank will play to determine who will face Kirk Freeport in the final.

Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
Kirk Freeport	4	0	2	4	0	10
Coldwell Banker	2	0	0	0	0	2

**Current Standings:** 

		_				
TEAM	Won	Lost	Tied	RF	RA	GB
irk Freeport	8	3	1	109	93	0
oldwell Banker	5	5	1	74	74	2.5
cotiabank	3	7	0	90	106	4.5

► Raina and Deandra, Kirk Freeport

#### Gender Affairs Unit Supports Females n ICT through Women Code Cayman

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) drive growth and innovation worldwide, and can yield socio-economic benefits for both the community and economy. ICT has permeated all aspects of life, and many professional jobs in a variety of fields incorporate a digital technology component, therefore ICT qualifications give persons an advantage in a competitive job market, in addition to providing career mobility.

Based on this premise, and to help reduce the gender gap in the ICT/digital sector, the Gender Affairs Unit (GAU) has partnered with Cartan, Cayman Enterprise City (CEC), and Walkers. They along with a committed group of volunteers in the ICT professions are providing the pilot course: 'Introduction to Programming', which offers an avenue for women and girls to learn to write computer code.

The course, the first formally conducted by the Women Code Cayman programme, is in its eighth week; with 30 women registered and most of them attending regularly. With the overwhelming response to the open invitation, the free weekly workshop quickly reached its maximum capacity. The course has recently moved from its original location at CEC's Strathvale House to The Greenhouse on North Church St.

in George Town, and occurs at 7pm every Wednesday.

Workshop Facilitator Brandon Caruana of Cartan Group LLC said: "It has been amazing to see how many people in Cayman are interested in learning how to write software, build tech companies and help Cayman become an island of innovation. The response to our first Code Cayman programme has been overwhelming and has inspired us to roll out several more programmes including Youth Code Cayman."

Walkers' partner and Code Cayman volunteer, Melissa Lim, stated: "At Walkers we understand the importance of technology and are proud to be a founding sponsor of Code Cayman, which aligns well with our firm's culture. The ability

to code opens a world of opportunity for the Cayman community and also helps to position the jurisdiction as a hub for technological advances. We see ourselves as innovators and are pleased to work with like-minded businesses and the Cayman Islands Government to support the next generation of Cayman coders."



▶ (L-r:)Representatives of the Founding entities of the Women Code Cayman programme: Brian Tang (Cartan Group LLC), Bianca Mora(Cayman Enterprise City), Brandon Caruana (Cartan Group LLC), Melissa Lim (Walkers) and Andre Ebanks (Ministry of Community Affairs' Gender Affairs Unit)

Workshop creator and Public Engagement Officer, Bianca Mora of Cayman Enterprise City asserted: "We are all about shaking up the male-dominated tech world by fostering avenues for women to develop tech skills and access opportunities that are being created within CEC's Cayman Tech City."

"I have found this training fascinating! Coding enables people to collaborate and solve problems in an effective manner," said workshop participant Paola Juarez-Robinson. "I want to learn how to code and be able to apply it beyond my computer. As you type you create. Coding is empowering!"

André Ebanks Deputy Chief Officer of the Ministry of Community Affairs with responsibility for the Gender Affairs Unit stated: "This initiative is additional evidence of the power of community fellowship, whereby diverse sectors of society work creatively and collaboratively to enhance lives."

Workshop participants span a wide age range, a variety of occupations, and are at different stages in their career path. There are no pre-requisites to attend this free course except curiosity, an interest, and access to a laptop.

Registration continues in preparation for the next series. Interested persons can register by emailing info@codecayman.com, or b.mora@caymanenterprisecity.com.

For further information, go to http:// women.codecayman.com/.



▶ Women Code Cayman class participants





## BVI backs off Belongership bill

#### By Michael Jarvis **UK Correspondent**

In a situation that bears close, if not necessarily striking resemblance to the United Kingdom's Windrush immigration crisis, the British Virgin Islands, a UK Overseas Territory, has found itself in the midst of an almost similar imbro-

New premier Andrew Fahie, less than three months into his tenure, has had to shelve plans to 'regularise' the status of non-nationals who have been living and working in the territory, some for well over 10 years, a key qualifying period for 'belongership status'.

Premier Fahie, who took office in March, had embarked on the 'regularising' the immigration status of hundreds of foreigners as one of his main election campaign promises.

But Fahie, who claims there are assassination threats against him - though not said to be related to his immigration policies - has had to abruptly halt his plans in the face of a mounting outcry.

There have been citizens' demonstrations on claims that the process he is putting in place is unlawful.

Even within his own legal circles, concerns had been raised that what he was pursuing was more of an amnesty which carried additional legal uncertainties.

At issue is the British Virgin Islands' strict Belongership criteria.

On the government's website, it's stated that a person becomes eligible for Belongership status after an initial residency period of ten years.

"Applicant must be of good character. Must not be less than eighteen years of age. Has been ordinarily resident in the territory for a period of not less than ten years immediately prior to his application. Has held a Certificate of permanent residence for at least one year immediately preceding the date of his application. Has in his/her application, restated your intentions of making the territory your permanent home and has satisfied

the board if Immigration that it is your intention to do so."

Regularising the status of hundreds of non-nationals who were existing in a state of immigration limbo was a key campaign pledge of Premier Fahie's Virgin Islands Par-

It would also enable those

BVI law stipulates that a person must have acquired 'belonger status' as a require-

But earlier this month when it set the 'regularising process' in motion, the government immediately ran into a storm of by local pressure groups.

a registration period from May 13th to May 31st for eligible non-nationals, following which their applications will be processed with a decision expected by July this year.

picketed.

Other sentiments expressed a fear that the expected sudden addition of potentially large numbers of persons to the Voters Register could tip the political balance and have other ripple implications across the population.

The BVI population is a little over

The voters register in February's elecion was 15,038 with a turnout of 9,720 or 65%.

The proposed addition to the Voters Register was expected to considerably increase the voter base, among other things.

But, in launching his government's 'regularisation plan' for non-belongers on May 7th, Premier Fahie sought to allay concerns about the assumed implications.

ty(VIP).

persons to vote.

ment for voter registration.

criticism and opposition led The plan called for having

But protests erupted, the Premier's office was even

> He brushed aside concerns that "we're going to increase our population by 10,000 people or 15,000 people overnight."

"The quick answer is no," he declared, adding that, "most of the folks who are going to be regularised, they're here al-

He had also set out to reassure existng citizens of the territory that "those indigenous that would be feeling disenfranchised, it is not, it is really adding

But the pressure was unrelenting.

It was also feared that the move by the government, which was already going through the motions in the BVI parliament under the broad title of "A Clear Path to Regularization Residency and Belonger Status", might have been at risk of violating the territory's constitution.

Questions were also raised over whether the law, once passed, would be 'assented' by the territory's British Governor/Queen's Representative.

In the end, much to the satisfaction of campaigners, the government backed down.

During a sitting meeting of the territory's Legislative Assembly this past Friday when the bill was expected to be passed into law, it was summarily withdrawn by Premier Fahie for further public consultations.

"I realized that we want more public dialogue on this matter and we are willing Mr. Speaker, based on the voice of the people, and sitting with the people for and against, to make sure that we hear the people a little more," Premier Fahie declared to the legislature and people of the British Virgin Islands.

This development comes just days after the British gov-

ernment rejected a recommendation from the UK's parliamentary Foreign Affairs Select Committee(FAC) for automatic voting and electoral rights for all British citizens in the Overseas Territo-

The FAC had also criticised Belongership status as discriminatory.

But the British government sided with he OTs using that system by stating: "We understand the (territories') concerns, sensitivities and historical background on this issue."

"We will continue to support and encourage consistent and open political engagement on Belongership and its territory-specific equivalents, whilst respecting the fact that Immigration decisions are primarily a matter for OT governments," it added. ③



► Andrew Fahie, The British Virgin Islands Premier

#### CDB, Partners support St. Vincent and the Grénadines in geothermal energy drive

St. Vincent and the Grenadines took a major step towards a cleaner and more secure energy future on Monday, May 6, launching a multi-million dollar geothermal energy-drilling project made possible with financing mobilised by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

CDB secured USD 27 million (mn) in financing for the project through contributions from partners, including the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), the European Union's Caribbean Investment Facility (EU-CIF) and the Government of New Zealand.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, Vice President (Operations) of CDB, Monica La Bennett shared the context behind the Bank's heightened involvement in of the renewable energy sector in recent

"Over the past five years, the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency has been the focus of the Bank as a means of increasing energy security in many of our Borrowing Member Countries. The cost of energy in the Region is among the highest globally; and this impacts our competitiveness, [and] growth prospects and makes us vulnerable to oil price volatility. Thus, CDB has been supporting the use of our natural resources- solar, wind and geothermal to produce clean and lower cost energy," said La Bennett.

The Vice President thanked CDB's partners for their "vision and ... willingness to collaborate" on the project as well as the "scale and timeliness" of their various contributions. These contributions included:

· A package of resources worth USD 16.3 mn through IDB, consisting of an IDB loan, a grant from the Global Environmental Facility, and contingently recoverable grant resources from the Clean Technology Fund. IDB provided its financing under the Sustainable Energy for the Eastern Caribbean Facility, a joint programme with CDB.

• An investment grant of £4 mn from

• A grant of EUR 4.9 mn from EU-CIF under its Geothermal Risk Mitigation for the Eastern Caribbean Programme, and;

• Technical assistance from the Government of New Zealand, allowing for the engagement of experts to provide technical, advisory and managerial sup-

In recalling the journey towards the start of geothermal energy drilling, Prime Minister the Honourable Dr. Ralph Gonsalves pointed out that his Government originally owned a 25% stake in the St. Vincent Geothermal Company Limited. However, he noted that the Government was able to increase its shareholdings, thanks to grants and concessional loans received from various partners like CDB.

"These grants positioned ourselves to have greater ownership for the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines through increased equity contribution



that would result in a decrease in the price to electricity consumers," said Prime Minister Gonsalves.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines is the first country to benefit from investment funding under GeoSmart, CDB's initiative to mobilise and provide appropriate technical expertise and concessional financing to support the various stages of geothermal energy development projects in Eastern Caribbean Countries.

#### About the Caribbean **Development Bank**

The Caribbean Development Bank is a regional financial institution established in 1970 for the purpose of contributing

to the harmonious economic growth and development of its Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs). In addition to the 19 BMCs, CDB's membership includes four regional non-borrowing members -Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela and five non-regional, non-borrowing members; i.e., Canada, China, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom. CDB's total assets as at December 31, 2017 are USD3.02 billion (bn). These include USD 1.64 bn of Ordinary Capital Resources and USD1.38 bn of Special Funds. The Bank is rated Aa1 Stable with Moody's, AA+ Stable with Standard and Poor's and AA+ Stable with Fitch. Read more at caribank.org. 😚

# Coca Cola Heir Leaves St Kitts After Getting Bail on Drug Charges; Threatens to Sue Prime Minister

The Greek billionaire who is heir to the Coca Cola fortune yesterday left St Kitts and Nevis where he is facing drug charges, but not before warning Prime Minister Dr Timothy Harris that he and his government would be slapped with a multi-billion-dollar lawsuit over the arrest.

Alkiviades 'Alki' David flew out of the twin-island federation after paying the EC\$300,000 (US\$111,010) bail imposed on him when he appeared in court yesterday, charged with possession, intent to supply, and importation of \$1.3 million worth of cannabis.

The charges were laid after an investigation into the discovery of cannabis on his private jet when he arrived at the Robert Llewellyn Bradshaw International Airport last Tuesday, along with American businessman Chase Ergen with whom he is in a cannabis business venture. Irish actor Jonathan Rhys Meyers and his family had also been travelling with David and Ergen.

The 51-year-old billionaire was arrested by members of the Anti-Narcotics Unit at the airport when he tried to leave last Thursday, and he was subsequently charged. He was initially granted EC\$30,000 (US\$11,101) bail and or-



▶ Alki David (left) former St Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Dr Denzil Douglas, and Chase Ergen on the tarmac in St Kitts last month. The photo accompanied SwissX's announcement of David and Ergen's consortium

dered to surrender all travel documents and report to the police station daily.

When David appeared in court yesterday, the bail amount was increased to the EC\$300,000 (US\$111,010) but his travel documents were returned to him and he was free to leave the country. He must return for another court appearance on September 23.

Before his court appearance yesterday, David had gone on a profanity-laced social media tirade. In one of the videos he posted, he shook a clenched fist and, in a comment directed at the Prime Minister, said: "Mr Harris, PM, you're going to get a fisting, baby. Literally a legal fisting like no other. Stand by."

He is insisting that the plants he had on his plane were hemp and were related to his plans for a new legal cannabis business in St Kitts and other parts of the region. He and Ergen had announced last month that they had formed a consortium which specializes in cannabidiol (CBD) medicines and they hoped to develop the legal cannabis market in Eastern Caribbean countries including St Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, and Antigua and Barbuda.

In the press release on April 30 when the formation of the consortium was announced, it was stated that the first

plane load of hemp seed for a designated parcel of land totaling 300 acres would arrive on Thursday, May 2.

On Monday, at a press conference at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort where he used strong and sometimes foul language, David said the plants and seeds had been declared to Customs and other relevant government agencies prior to his arrival, in accordance with local procedure, and he insisted that after exhaustive testing nothing illegal was found.

And he made clear his intention to take legal action, as he suggested that Prime Minister Harris was behind his arrest, following a meeting he had with him on Sunday at the Park Hyatt Hotel.

"It was a very civil meeting, very polite meeting, I sat down opposite him. It was very, very nice; we sat and talked for 15 minutes. I left. I was being asked to do something I didn't want to do, so I left. Chase [Ergen] went in and started having conversation with him. A bunch of witnesses who work there saw his guards pick Chase up and take him out, and the next thing you know he's being

arrested for drugs, for cocaine, which is Ketamine, which is his medicine that has been taken away from him and he's now languishing in jail," David said on Monday. Ergen was subsequently released without charge.

"So let me tell you, Mr Harris, what's gonna go down. There are three lawyers here from the UK and they're gonna take you down, Sir; you don't do that to me or to my friend."

"What he's done is illegal, it's wrong and it's unconscionable. I took on four of the biggest companies in the United States and I beat them after seven years of lawsuits, just out of principle, nothing else, because they called me a liar. Mr Harris here has a whole new thing coming at him," David added.

A statement from David's company, Swissx – a cannabis and CBD business based in Gstaad, Switzerland – said the lawsuits against Harris and the government would be filed in St Kitts this week.

Asked to elaborate on his claim that talks with Harris broke down after the Prime Minister asked him to do something he did not wish to do, David declined to do so at the advice of members of his legal team who were in the back of the room where the press conference was being held.



► Alki David being arrested at the Robert L Bradshaw International Airport

When David and Ergen announced the formation of their consortium last month, they said their plans included purchasing agricultural land and partnering with farmers to create a cooperative entity modelled after the ones in Switzerland. At that time they said the consortium had already had its first meetings with business and government leaders across the region and would be expanding its outreach this month.

They added that the consortium would create thousands of jobs and also tap into the rich cultural history and cannabis know-how of the strengthening Rastafarian movement in the region.

"The Eastern Caribbean is in perfect position as cannabis shifts from being an illegal \$400 billion business globally to a legal one worth ten times that. It will be the Silicon Valley of cannabis, the Wall Street, the Hollywood," David had said. "Ultimately we are bringing cannabis back to its birthplace."

Ergen had added: "St. Kitts-Nevis and its neighbours are ideally situated to produce the highest quality CBD in the world. We have no doubt we will be able to double their GDPs within a matter of years as the region takes its rightful place in a market that is literally changing people's lives."

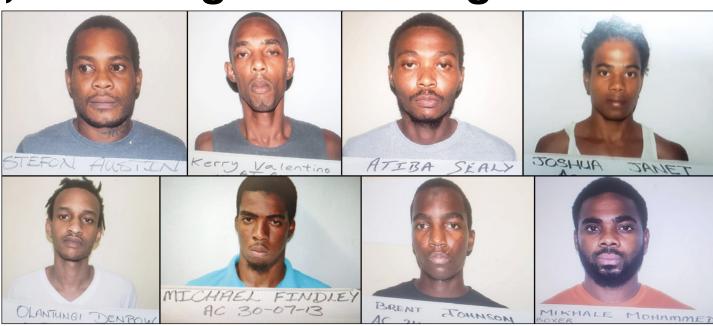
## Nationwide Hunt On As Eight Escape Prison in Trinidad, Including Seven Alleged Killers



Seven accused murderers are among eight inmates on the run after breaking out of the Golden Grove Prison in the east–west corridor of Trinidad and Tobago last night.

And Prison Commissioner Gerard Wilson has warned that the escapees are considered dangerous.

The eight men – Micheal Findley, Olatunji Denbow, Mikhail Mohammed, Atiba Sealy, Kerry Valentino, Joshua Janet, Brent Johnson and Stefon Austin – had all been in the same cell in the south upper block of the prison. They



escaped through a hole in the wall from their cell.

Sealy is the only one not facing a murder charge. He is accused of five counts of armed robbery, and two charges of

possession of a firearm and ammunition.

"My concern at this time is for the safety and security of the citizens out there because in my view these persons are notorious, I know them and I know they can do harm. My concern is that we recapture them as soon as possible," Wilson said on local radio this morning.

#### Jamaica Prime Minister Announces Measures to Deal with Prolonged Drought

As Jamaica continues to grapple with a prolonged drought, Prime Minister Andrew Holness has announced several initiatives to improve the supply of water to the Corporate Area and the south-eastern parish of St Catherine, estimated to cost US\$160 million.

Among the new measures he announced yesterday is the construction of a 15-million-gallon-per-day water treatment plant in St Catherine.

The new plant will be established under a public-private partnership (PPP) arrangement, with the private entity being responsible to finance, design, construct, operate and maintain this plant and to sell water to the National Water Commission (NWC).

The total cost to develop the project and construct the new water treatment plant is estimated at US\$60 million.

"The project will take 24 months, and we have received the approval from the Public Investment Management Committee (PIMC)," Prime Minister Holness told the House of Representatives.

He pointed out that the private partner – a consortium consisting of a local bank

and international construction company in water infrastructure development – will have 45 days to complete negotiations with the Government, after which they will break ground and start construction.

Holness also advised the Lower House that the project is contiguous with the divestment of the Central Wastewater Treatment Company (CWTC), which owns the Soapberry Wastewater Treatment Plant in St Catherine.

Other projects the Prime Minister announced include the installation of 2.7 kilometres of 16-inch-diameter ductile iron pipeline from Stanton Terrace to Marescaux Road, replacing the old cast iron pipes, at an estimated cost of US\$12 million.

"The design for this pipeline is completed," he said.

In addition, plans are in place for the installation of 3.0 kilometres of 16-inch transmission mains from King's House gate (East Kings House Road) to West Kings House Road at its intersection with Constant Spring Road.

"This will strengthen the flexibility of supplying areas that are mainly supplied

by the Constant Spring Water Treatment Plant with water from the Mona Water Treatment Plant. This is estimated to cost US\$12 million," Holness said.

He further informed that the very old seven-inch diameter pipeline between the Norman Manley Airport roundabout and Port Royal is in a very bad condition and is leaking.

Holness emphasized that this main has to be upgraded to increase the carrying capacity to Port Royal to support the planned developments there, adding that it is the intention to install about 10 kilometres of 12-inch pipeline at a cost of approximately US\$15 million.

The Prime Minister also informed that the pipeline that transfers water from the Seaview Water Treatment Plant to serve the upper sections of Jack's Hill, such as Jubba Spring, Sunset Avenue, Tavistock Heights and Skyline Drive, is in urgent need of replacement.

"It is planned to install a 10-inch diameter pipeline at a cost of US\$5 million. Then we will have to do Six Miles to North Street, and that will see the installation of 12 kilometres of varying-size



► Prime Minister Andrew Holness

pipes from 24 inches to 36 inches of ductile iron transmission mains that traverse along Spanish Town Road to Glenmore Road," he said.

He noted further that this will increase transfer capacity and flexibility within the system.

The Prime Minister also announced the installation of five kilometres of 24-inch diameter transmission mains along Washington Boulevard to allow for improved capacity and flexibility in water distribution.

## George and Gobert in MVP running

Oklahoma City Thunder forward Paul George is among the finalists for the 2018-19 NBA Most Valuable Player award and the Defensive Player of the Year award.

The NBA announced three finalists for the MVP, Defensive Player of the Year, Coach of the Year, Sixth Man of the Year, Most Improved Player and the Rookie of the Year award.

Along with George, Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo and Houston Rockets guard James Harden are also up for the MVP award after each posting stellar years.

Meanwhile, Utah Jazz centre Rudy Gobert joins George and Antetokounmpo as the three finalists for the DefenAs for George, the six-time All-Star figures to have stiff competition for each award. Although the awards have already been voted on by a panel of media members, those two categories were

sive Player of the Year award. Gobert is

the defending DPOY winner.

dia members, those two categories were highly competitive.

George was viewed by many as a strong candidate for MVP in the first half of the season before he struggled with shoulder injuries towards the end of the season. The 20 year old Californ

half of the season before he struggled with shoulder injuries towards the end of the season. The 29-year-old Californian finished second in scoring behind James Harden with a career-high 28 points per game. He also added 8.2 rebounds and 4.1 assists in 77 games for the Thunder.

Antetokounmpo just trailed George in scoring with 27.7 points per game while he also had 12.5 rebounds and 5.9 assists per game for the Bucks. The MVP race is more likely to come down to Antetokounmpo and Harden.

Nevertheless, George finished first in steals with a career-high 2.2 per game and is viewed as one of the best two-way players in the NBA. He led the NBA in deflections (3.8) and loose-



▶ Paul George had a brilliant season with Oklahoma

balls recovered (2.1). George finished 14th in defensive rating.

He is the first player in the NBA since Michael Jordan during the 1988-89 season to average as many points, rebounds and steals in a single season.

George has never won either award before and will be hopeful of breaking that record when the winners are announced on June 24.

Gobert has the chance to repeat as the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year. The 26-year-old Frenchman is 7-ft tall. He is ranked second in the league in total blocks (187) this season and second in defensive win shares (5.7). Behind Gobert, the Jazz were the second-best defence in the NBA during the regular season, behind the Bucks.

"He's a guy that reminds me of a Mark Eaton, Dikembe Mutombo, Alonzo Mourning," Hall of Famer Charles Barkley said of Gobert. "If you're a great player, I don't worry about one guy stopping me. But if you're playing against a great shot blocker, you have to know where he is. Because even if you beat your man, you know have to beat two guys."

# Holder tries to iron out flaws

▶ Rudy Gobert is one of the Defensive Players of the Year

West Indies are in training camp in the United Kingdom this week in preparation for the start of the World Cup there next week.

Captain Jason Holder said that his side is looking to correct the flaws exposed in their defeat to Bangladesh in the Tri-Nations Series in Dublin, Ireland last week.

West Indies lost both group games to Bangladesh and then suffered a five-wicket defeat to them in Friday's final at The Village, after failing to defend 210 in a match reduced to 24 overs per side. Their two wins in the tournament came against hosts Ireland.

They travel to the Rose Bowl in Southampton on Saturday to start their final preparation for the World Cup and will be joined by members of the squad who missed the Tri-Nations Series due to Indian Premier League commitments.

"We've got some time in Southampton before we prepare for those two official warm-up games of the World Cup," Holder said. "So, there's more than enough time to put things right and for those guys to come in and get acclimatised to the conditions and hopefully we can hit the ground running come our first warm-up

West Indies travel to Bristol where they face New Zealand on Sunday in their first official warm-up before taking on South Africa two days later at the same venue.

They clash with Pakistan in their World Cup opener on May 31 at Trent Bridge in Nottingham.



▶ Jason Holder believes West Indies can win the World Cup

## Hero Kompany re-joins Anderlecht

Vincent Kompany said the surprising move of joining Anderlecht as player-manager is the "most passionate yet rational" decision he has ever made after leaving Manchester City.

The 33-year-old Belgian has signed a three-year deal with the Belgian club after 11 glorious years at Etihad Stadium, eight of which he spent as club captain.

Saturday's 6-0 FA Cup final win over Watford was Kompany's final game for City, after winning four Premier League titles, two FA Cups and four League Cups.

In a post on Facebook, the veteran defender said leaving City "doesn't feel real".

"Countless of times have I imagined this day," he said. "After all, the end has felt nearby for so many years. Man City has given me everything. I've tried to give back as much as I possibly could."

Kompany announced his move to Anderlecht marked the "return of the prince". "I want to share my knowledge with the next purple generations" said l

purple generations," said Kompany, who first joined Anderlecht at the age of six.

"With that, I will also put a bit of Manchester in the heart of Belgium."

He scored his final goal against Leicester on May 6, a brilliant strike from 25 yards that was voted goal of the season on BBC Match of the



▶ Vincent Kompany had tremendous success at Man City

That victory took City to within one win of the Premier League title, which they sealed on the final day of the season with victory at Brighton.

"The time has come for me to go now," Kompany said. "As overwhelming as it is, I feel nothing but gratefulness. I am grateful to all those who supported me on a special journey, at a very special club."

## Wilder promises Joshua fight will happen

Deontay Wilder repeated he is willing to meet Anthony Joshua in a unification heavyweight bout after the 33-yearold American demolished another opponent in the first round on Saturday night

The WBC king successfully defended his belt for the ninth time after he easily dispatched mandatory opponent Dominic Breazeale inside a round at the Barclay Center, New York. The devastating knockout extended Wilder's unbeaten record to 41 wins and a draw from 42 hours

Wilder vowed to get it on with AJ after his emphatic stoppage - insisting he is desperate to avoid another Lennox Lewis vs Riddick Bowe scenario when the public desperately wanted to see them fight as pros but it never happened.

Wilder mentioned he could be at Madison Square Garden on June 1 to watch Joshua face Andy Ruiz Jr, claiming it is his "obligation" to face the WBO, WBA and IBF champ.

Wilder was ringside commentating at Wembley for AJ's enthralling bout against Wladimir Klitschko in 2017.

He was also scheduled to be ringside for Joshua's unification clash against Joseph Parker in Cardiff but pulled out after he was told he wouldn't be allowed to enter the ring to square off with the Brit.

But he could be allowed to face off with the 2012 Olympic gold medallist should AJ beat Ruiz Jr as pressure grows for the duo to finally do battle.

Matchroom promoter Eddie Hearn recently revealed that a bout with Joshua and Wilder may not happen until 2021, claiming the American could face Luis Ortiz and Adam Kownacki in his next two fights.

Wilder, who drew with Tyson Fury in his previous fight in December, is adamant they will come face to face in the ring, telling Sky Sports: "It will happen. I believe in all my heart it will happen." But he did admit that he has "obligations".



▶ Deontay Wilder looked devastating in his latest fight

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#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

**37** Gun, as a

38 Bread ring

40 Hirsch of

"Milk"

43 Rock's

42 Laughable

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**DOWN** 

1 On the

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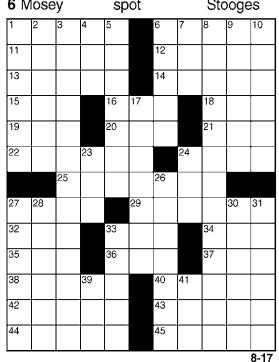
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33 Wastes time

39 Break off **41** One

of the Stooges



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.

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#### Word Search

UDVNABSOKEDNS RSOWLMNBSSVLHS EEFSSEARRINGST POGUAKGYECVAWE HUKUNNGCSOOVL ISEHITDI LRSLNGWALNPHMN SSNCWDLELFGMSU SSEGLGVSESFSUA TTBOOKENDSUAG VOTNLAGNLPSMCL LBMEOWITCYUBVK GISTBVSKLTRHCC GATEPOSTSFSNHS

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

Bookends Sandals **Boots** Shoes Clogs Skates Cufflinks Slippers Earrings Sneakers Gateposts Socks Gauntlets Spats Gloves Spurs Leggings Stockings Mittens

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