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Complimentary =



When common sense prevails

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COMMUNITY NOTICE — A2



LOCAL NEWS — A4

Governor meets the Cayman Heart



TURBULENT TIMES FOR LIAT

STEM AWARDS CELEBRATE LOCAL EDUCATORS

The Dart Minds Inspired Award for Excellence in Teaching STEM was held on May 2 at the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands to recognise outstanding educators in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics - collectively known as STEM.

Dart Education Programmes Senior Manager Glenda McTaggart says the Award for Excellence in Teaching STEM is Dart's way of celebrating educators who have made a significant, positive difference in their students' lives through STEM teaching.

"It recognises superior teaching, innovative instructional practice, high educational standards, creation of productive learning environments, and the ability to inspire and motivate students," she says.

St. Ignatius Catholic School teacher Von Ryan Abrantes received the High School Award, Island Montessori teacher Lune Vermeire the Elementary School

... Continued story on page A3



► Minds Inspired STEM Teacher Awards

Prison Service (HMCIPS) to increase their educational portfolio

Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) is set to increase the educational portfolio offered to incarcerated persons in 2019.

In the months ahead the HMCIPS will build on its already wide catalogue of existing courses offered through the rehabilitation unit, with new programmes that expand its focus on vocational training and preparation for re-entry.

HMCIPS Director Steven Barrett says the prison will introduce a number of new workshops including plumbing, electrical training, auto mechanic repairs and appliance repairs.

"We are keen to ensure that these work opportunities are integrated with our education portfolio. It is less about the nature of the work, although that is important, but it is more about the competencies that will be developed for those who participate in these programmes; competencies that will be industry transferrable," Mr. Barrett com-

Training will be provided by prison officers who are trained and certified to deliver these vocational courses, in conjunction with the University College of the Cayman Islands using City & Guilds and the Institute of the Motor Industry curriculum and certification

... Continued story on page A3



Batabano: Party and Colour on the Streets



▶ Mauve, blue and violet, brighter than a parrot's feathers

By Christopher Tobutt, **Local Correspondent**

One 'O' Clock, Seven Mile Public Beach, and it was time for Batabano, Cayman's biggest and most anticipated street carnival to begin. "Are you Ready?" The DJs asked the mas bands looking like warriors from a strange and wonderful solar system, from with the huge trucks with sound systems loud enough to rock the whole block like an earthquake. Yes, we're ready. Let's go!

Shining, shimmering and shaking in the sunshine, the huge parade finally came alive like a magical iridescent anaconda woken from a slumber by a new spell, the parade

... Continued story on page A6



EDITORIAL

When common sense prevails

Trinidadian soca songstress Destra Garcia proclaimed in her timeless hit 'Fly' that "is all about unity, togetherness, carnival time we love de jamming, all ah we collectively".

In recent years, the unity of Cayman's carnival scene has seen three distinct festivals populating the social calendar during the month of May: Batabano, Braccanal, and more recently, CayMas.

Revelers were given a choice of which of these carnivals to attend. Sponsors, too, were torn. And two consecutive weekends of jamming along West Bay Road, which meant roadblocks and diversions for the rest of the community trying to avoid the revelry.

Many questioned why two carnivals were needed on Grand Cayman, especially with the other competing with a smaller event on Cayman Brac. In an island of 60 thousand plus people, have both of these events led to the dilution of the experience.

Enter government to mediate and bring unity that the carnival experience is about. News came Friday that both Batabano and CayMas will come together in 2020 for one carnival experience. With the carnival experience



growing in recent years, there is the potential for a greater kaleidoscope of colours and festivities in the spirit of

Road users looking to avoid the traffic hiccups associated with a party on the island's busiest roadway no longer have the headache of navigating the masses on consecutive weekends.

Let's hope all parties will make this work collectively and displaying unity and togetherness that carnival is all about.

Having the Ministry of Culture, through the Cayman National Cultural Foundation, take over from the Ministry of Tourism makes sense because although one of the aims of the carnival experience is to attract visitors, this should ensure a certain "Caymanianness" is on display, especially with it now being called a national carnival. 🏈





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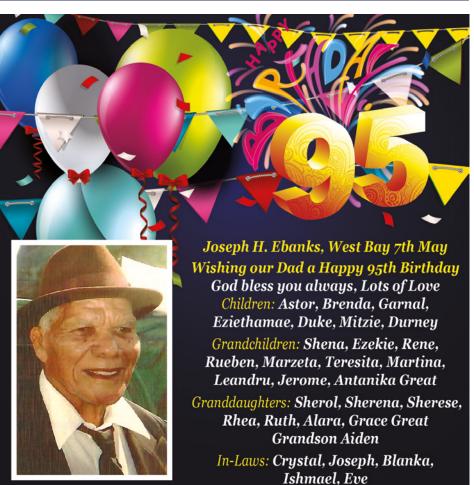
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COMMUNITY NOTICE



Health Services Authority achieves major milestone – a Clean Audit

The Cayman Islands Health Services Authority ("HSA") announced they have received an unmodified/unqualified (clean) audit opinion from the Auditor General for the HSA's 2018 financial statements.

A clean audit opinion means financial statements are free from material misstatements (an unmodified audit opinion) with no material adverse findings regarding financial operations or non-compliance with legislation. A clean audit opinion is the best outcome that can be obtained.

This goal was one of the HSA Board's main strategic priorities for 2018, and follows the HSA's public commitment to the Legislative Assembly and Public Accounts Committee that it would achieve this standard for the 2018 fiscal year.

In pursuing this commitment, the Board and management deployed sustained initiatives to improve the quality and reliability of the HSA's financial information. Major contributors to the HSA's improved financial health include (and are not limited to) strengthening of, and ongoing training around, our policies and procedures; improved processes around collections; and ongoing monitoring of accounts receivable bal-

Financial managers, physicians, clinical professionals and staff at all levels worked collaboratively to implement various recommendations from Deloitte and the Auditor General. Areas of focus included: finance and supply chain management; revenue and budget management; asset management; and general control programmes. Implementation of those recommendations was a key factor in realizing this outcome.

HSA Chairman, Jonathan Tibbetts, says the achievement was driven by strong leadership commitment at the Board and management level, and commended the staff for reaching this mile-

"The achievement of this first unmodified audit opinion is a major accomplishment for the HSA and a testament of our commitment to accountability and reform which has been reflected in other areas of improvement since this Board was appointed. This includes reaching and sustaining a 90-day cash reserve as mandated in the HSA Law for the first time since the inception of the HSA; improvements in clinical outcomes and performance metrics; and providing better access to timely healthcare through facility improvements and expansion."

"We appreciate the diligent work done by every single employee," Mr. Tibbetts added. "The organisation recruited the right people, put together strong teams and designated 'champions' to lead various tasks, groups and initiatives to achieve this outcome. This helped to inspire everyone around the shared goal and the importance of achieving an unmodified audit opinion".

HSA CEO Lizzette Yearwood paid tribute to the exceptional work of the staff who embraced the challenges and worked collaboratively in making this historic achievement possible. "Our talented and dedicated workforce came together in implementing strong internal policies and business practices to resolve complicated financial management issues leading to the achievement of this unmodified audit opinion," Ms. Yearwood said.

Ms. Yearwood expressed her appreciation to the Minister, Ministry, and Board for their vision and support, in addition to all of HSA's staff, past and present, for their hard work and dedication to achieve this goal.

Recording the transactions for over 1,000 daily patient encounters facilitated by almost 900 staff across all three Islands, delivering diagnostics, therapy and pharmaceutical supplies creates a complex business environment for the HSA. However, Ms. Yearwood pointed to the implementation of strong, effective internal control measures, development of comprehensive policies and the commitment of staff as the critical pieces that led to the outcome.

"We are very conscious that the hard work is far from over and this achievement poses an even greater responsibility upon us all to maintain our financial integrity with unmodified audit opinions in future years," she said.

"As always, we continue to focus on delivering the best quality care to our patients, from reduced error rates to shorter wait times and improved patient satisfaction."

Health Minister, Hon. Dwayne Seymour congratulated the tremendous work of the Board and the HSA management and staff in achieving this mile-

Auditor General, Sue Winspear confirmed the unmodified/unqualified audit opinion and congratulated the HSA on this achievement. ③



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STEM AWARDS CELEBRATE LOCAL EDUCATORS

... Continued story from page A1

Award, and Cayman International School teachers Jeff Szeryk and Krista Finch received Merit Awards.

The teachers were nominated by their peers and evaluated through a blind selection process. The selection panel consisted of a representative from the Dart Scholar Selection Committee, a Ph.D. level industry professional in

a STEM field, a member of the US National Science Teachers Association and retired principals from Cayman and overseas

As the recipients of the 2019 Excellence in Teaching STEM awards, Abrantes and Vermeire will attend a STEM educators conference compliments of Minds Inspired and receive a cash award of US\$1,000. The award also included a US\$3,000 grant for each

school to enhance its STEM educational resources.

Minds Inspired's focus on STEM is grounded in the Dart family's belief that these subjects are essential for success in and beyond the classroom. Dart Executive Vice President with responsibility for community development Pilar Bush says teachers are fundamental to inspiring and nurturing students' passion for STEM learning.

"Teachers play a pivotal role in developing a passion for STEM subjects," she says. "It matters to us that students are inspired and prepared, and we know that teachers are the epicenter of students' learning. Excellence in teaching is critical to their engagement and willingness to pursue challenging STEM subjects"

For more information, visit mindsinspired.ky.

Prison Service (HMCIPS) to increase their educational portfolio

... Continued story from page A1

The full suite of programmes is scheduled to commence in June 2019 and run on a six-month cyclical basis. Inmates will complete all of the core competencies such as basic math and English for the workplace, employability skills training, life skills, interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence as well as the programmes which they are assessed to need as per the psychological assessments.

Current vocational programmes already underway include the woodwork shop, the agricultural project and the Fresh Start construction industry training programme.

The Fresh Start construction industry training programme is run in collaboration with private sector partners Phoenix, Clan Construction and Encompass. The programme is ongoing with 14 men currently enrolled.

In 2018, 16 inmates enrolled in the Fresh Start rehabilitation programme, four of whom participated in the Release on Temporary License (ROTL) programme, which allowed them to be released into the community with certain restrictions once they secured employment with one of the Fresh Start companies.

The woodwork shop project trains inmates in health and safety, hand and power tools operations and the construction of many items including picnic tables, garbage can holders, park benches, swings, etc. HMCIPS is also piloting a new course in barbering which will provide inmates with the opportunity to gain a certification in barbering.

The prison farm provides another training environment and 15 inmates are currently receiving formal instruction in agricultural science. In 2018, crops from the farm earned \$16,000 from sales to supermarkets and other local vendors. Focus is also placed on the cultivation of creative talents, and over the course of the last year male and female inmates submitted 150 pieces of art and craft work to three different shows.

Deputy Director of Rehabilitation, Ms. Aduke Joseph-Caesar, says the overall goal of vocational training is to reduce inmates' risk of recidivating by teaching them marketable skills they can use to find and retain employment following release from prison.

"This type of hands-on training can make a huge impact as it enables inmates to participate in apprenticeship programmes and connect with prospective employers, giving them access to jobs that provide reasonable salaries that help to stabilise their lives after release," she explains. "In addition, some vocational training programmes include opportunities to put in man hours which count towards industry-recognised credentials and certificates."

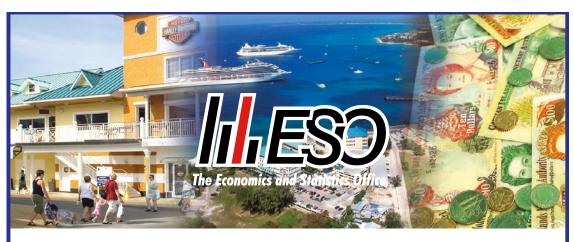
The vocational training augments more traditional academic courses. Last year more than 100 inmates completed online courses, 5 passed the Caribbean Examinations Certificate Exam, 3 completed tertiary education degrees in areas ranging from theology to continuing education, while three enrolled in higher learning. An additional 25 inmates completed university and college level certificates are considered to the continuing education of the complete continuing education.

To facilitate the planned growth in training opportunities for inmates the Prison Service is looking to expand on the number of community partnerships in which it engages Home Affairs Minister Hon. Tara Rivers explains.

"The more public and private sector partnerships can be developed, the greater the ability to assist inmates with the transition from prison back into the community as fully contributing citizens. The Government is extremely grateful to those who have partnered with the Prison Service, and we look forward to expanding this network so that together we can reduce reoffending and the strain that it places on the criminal justice system, families and the community," Minister Rivers concluded.

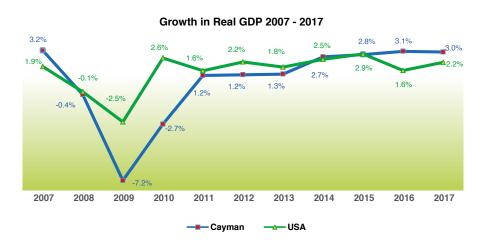
Public and private organisations interested in partnering with HMCIPS to support expanded training and work experience opportunities for inmates should contact the Prison Director Mr. Steven Barrett at steven.barrett@gov.ky.





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?

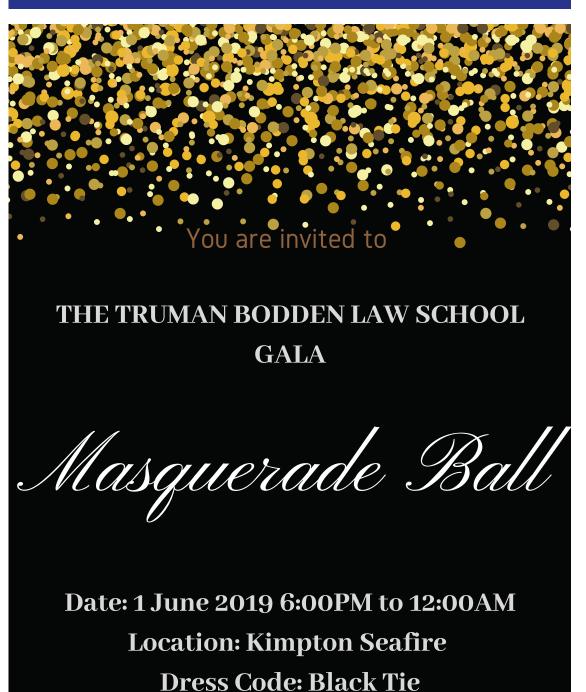
The annual System of National Accounts (SNA) survey collects the information necessary to measure the health and performance of Cayman's economy and its various industries.

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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CIAA Hires Six New Airport Security Staff

The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA) is pleased to announce today that six new airport security staff have been hired at Owen Roberts International Airport. The CIAA recruited Caymanians Barrington Oliver, Randy Ebanks, Jarhett Watler, Richard Seymour, Andy Rives and Chevar Taylor on 15 April 2019.

After passing a final exam, the new recruits completed two weeks of on-

the-job training where they carried out their duties in safeguarding civil aviation operations within the Cayman Islands against unlawful interference.

"We are very pleased to have them on board and would like to congratulate the young officers for all their hard work and success in the future," said Aviation Security (AVSEC) Training Supervisor Mrs. Delia Roper.



► From left, AVSEC Training Supervisor Delia Roper, Recruits Barrington Oliver, Randy Ebanks, Jarhett Watler, Richard Seymour and AVSEC instructor Owen Bailey. Front row from left Andy Rives and Chevar Taylor

H.E. Governor Roper and Mrs. Roper meet the Cayman Heart Fund

Special guests and members of the Cayman Heart Fund (CHF) Board of Directors recently hosted a welcome lunch for the H.E. Governor Martyn Roper and Mrs. Lissie Roper.

"Since certifying the Cayman Heart Fund as an Non-Profit organization in 2007 by H.E. Governor Stuart Jack, the Governor of the Cayman Islands has always been our Patron of Honour, explained CHF founder, Emeritus Mrs. Suzy Soto, "we were so pleased that

H.E. Governor Roper and Mrs. Roper are willing to continue the tradition as Co-Patrons of the CHF.

H.E. Governor Roper said, "We greatly enjoyed meeting the Chairman and staff from the Cayman Heart Fund for a briefing about the excellent work that they do across the Islands. Both Lissie and I are delighted to be Patrons of CHF and keen to support their work".

"Cardiovascular disease (CVDs) are the number 1 cause of death globally:

more people die annually from CVDs than any other cause. Our mission is to improve the cardiovascular health of all in the Cayman Islands through education, influence and support which form the basis of our work", stated Board Chair, Mr. David Dinner. "We are pleased to have this support and recognition from H.E. Governor Roper and Mrs. Roper."

The CHF is a non-profit, non-government organization incorporated under the Companies Law (2007 Re-



► Lunch with Governor Roper

vision). Our aim is to alert, reduce and help prevent Cardiovascular Disease (CVD).

Since 2007 the CHF has worked diligently in the community making progress in raising awareness about Cardiovascular Disease and helping the people of the Cayman Islands understand their risk factors. We achieve this through our free community health screenings,

education, training and by providing medical equipment and services to the public.

Together we can make a difference in the fight against cardiovascular disease.

Contact the Cayman Heart Fund for information about our programs and events by emailing info@caymanheartfund.com or visit our website at: www.caymanheartfund.com

YMCA Launches Annual Support Campaign

On April 4th, the YMCA of the Cayman Islands has launched its 10-week, annual fundraising campaign to provide access to the variety of youth character-building programmes they provide. Also known as the "Caring Campaign", funds raised provide financial assistance for all segments of the community to attend Y Day Camp, the Extended After-School Programme (EASP), Teen Leadership, and participation in the new YMCA Ropes Challenge Course. As a charitable, non-profit organisation, the Y relies on this community support each year to positively impact youth in our community, regardless of their current financial circumstances.

▶ Dam Marie Dr. Cridland & lunch with Governor Roper

"Every year, the Y relies on the generosity of individuals and businesses to support our work and provide pro-

grammes and services, especially for those who require financial assistance," explained Greg Smith, CEO of the YMCA. "Each donation, however big or small, has an impact in the life of a child. The community has been very supportive of the Y, which provides affirmation that we are addressing challenges that resonate with many people. Beyond fundraising, the Y uses this time of year to share the message of not just what we do, but what we stand for, which is at the heart of all we do". Smith added, "there is not one social challenge we face as a community that cannot be vastly improved by instilling core values such as honesty, respect, and responsibility in our young people. Every programme the Y offers is a tool to develop these values".

Support our Work and provide pro Values ?

▶ Adventure camps run by the Y give kids the opportunity to learn new things like archery

The new Board Chairman, David Watler, stated "the Y is truly humbled and grateful for the strong community support", which he also believes is a result of focusing on the most pertinent issues of our society. "We look forward to continuing our mission to inspire youth, build character and strengthen community. We want everyone who supports the Y cause to know they are making a sound investment in our community, and we accept the responsibility that comes with it to maximise the return."

Mr. Watler added that any amount can make a difference, and the entire volunteer Board of Directors and staff of the Y contribute to the campaign. "We have many part-time staff who don't make a large salary, but still support the campaign because they see first-hand the results the programmes have on our youth". Setting aside the cost of a cup of coffee once a month can help send a child to camp or teach them to swim, having a powerful impact".

The EASP is a partnership with the Ministry of Education, serving up to 1600 students from public schools across Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac, while the Teen Leaders training reaches 75-plus young people between the ages of 13 to 17. The Day Camps provide a safe and well-supervised environment for over 750 kids during summer and school breaks, plus the new Ropes Challenge Course is helping individuals improve critical communication, team-building, trust, planning and problem-solving skills.

One parent who has benefited from the annual campaign donations stated "Financial assistance from the Y has



► After School cooking club is one of the offerings of the Y Extended After School Programme

allowed my daughter to participate in the most rewarding spirit/self-esteem building and skill learning opportunities that any child would benefit from in so many different ways. The impact of each of the team leaders and counsellors has offered her a complete sense of belonging."

For more information about the YMCA Cayman Islands' Caring Campaign, log on to www.ymcacayman.ky, email info@ymcacayman.ky or call 926 9622



▶ The Teen Councilors in Training is the Ys teen leadership programme



► Y Camp Leaders enjoy connecting time with young Y campers



▶ A music therapy session by CMEA members proves popular with residents and staff of the Golden Age Home (Photos by Elphina Jones, GIS)

Music Session Strikes the Right Note with Golden Age Residents

Residents at the Golden Age Home in West Bay enjoyed a live music session as part of a new Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Cayman Music and Entertainment Association (CMEA) initiative.

The performance on Thursday, 2 May 2019 was the first, in what is planned as a series of regular events and singalongs at several of the DCFS' residential homes, according to the department's Director Paulinda Mendoza-Williams.

Musician and producer Stuart Wilson (acoustic guitar), and Elon Ebanks Jr. (electric guitar) sang a medley of self-penned ballads and well-known hymns, accompanied by Robert Ebanks (bongo drums). Encouraged to join in, several of the home's residents and staff sang and clapped in time to the songs.

"DCFS is extremely excited about our partnership with the Cayman Music and Entertainment Association," Mrs. Mendoza-Williams explained.

"The Association has agreed to provide music therapy to the residents of our facilities. We instinctively know that music soothes the soul and brings joy. Now increasing clinical evidence shows that music therapy can also reduce stress and anxiety and enhance emotional, physical and cognitive health. The department expects this to be a long and mutually beneficial relationship with CMEA members," the director added.

Following the performance, one of the most enthusiastic participants said, "Well it was a real treat, I must say."

"It couldn't have been better. I wish it could have gone on longer. I particularly liked Some Sweet Day I'll Fly Away and "What A Friend I have in Jesus," she noted.

Fellow Golden Age Home resident agreed saying. "It was very nice. It gave us a great experience and was very entertaining."

CMEA's President, Jeán-Eric Smith, attended the event with the Ministry of Community Affairs' Chief Officer, Teresa Echenique, and the DCFS Director.

He confirmed that his association was keen to see the volunteer music therapy programme rolled out across the Cayman Islands.

"CMEA is a non-profit organisation and part of our remit is to provide social outreach of this kind. All members are required to perform at at least one charitable event a year, so we are pleased that we can fulfil that obligation of giving back to our community by working closely with the DCFS," he said.



► Residents and staff of the Golden Age Home enjoy live music from



▶ Residents and staff of the Golden Age Home in West Bay enjoy live music from CMEA members



▶ (L-r:) Robert Ebanks (bongo drums), Stuart Wilson (acoustic guitar), and Elon Ebanks Jr. (electric guitar) of the Cayman Music and Entertainment Association perform a medley of self-penned ballads and well-known hymns during a music therapy session at the Golden Age



► Doris Reid talks to CMEA musician Elon Ebanks Jr. in the company of Community Care Worker Angela Brooks and Ivy Lee Smith





▶ Blaze of yellow and crimson feathers set the street on fire!

▶ Black, beautiful feathers

Batabano: Party and colour on the Streets

... Continued story from page A1

danced and wove its way all the way down West Bay Road into the heart of George Town.

Tribal, Fresh, Illusions and Renegade Mas Bands looked fantastic. There were more bands than ever, it seemed, and newcomers, Local Carnival, looked great too. Royal blues, bright greens, angel wings danced shone and flapped while feathers and bejeweled head-dresses sparkled. Wow! No wonder hundreds of people stood around the sides of the road with the cameras and phones ready to record the scene.

Maggie and her friend Danielle were ready. "My most favorite thing is the music. I love to check out the costumes with the different colors every year. We like to set up our little setup on the side of the road with all our friends. We just love it!" Maggie said. Danielle said: "I just got here today I come from Canada, but I have been living in Korea for the last year. I have never seen anything like this before, it is just colorful. There's grinding, there's dancing. I just love it all."

"If you don't like Soca, what are you doing here?" one of the DJ's asked, them said amidst a flurry of confetti. It was like being in the middle of a Soca-rainbow.

Daniel Bodden, an experienced street carnival king, had a huge and magnificent costume more than 12 feet across. Black and red and white wings and feathers looked really great.

Finally, as shadows began to get long, the tired masqueraders made their way into George Town where there was the traditional food and drink stands. Just right to help replenish all that lost energy, ready to party into the night.





► Carnival Superheroes



Costumes were wonderful



▶ It was a huge procession



National Conservation Council

Public Notice: Proposed changes to hunting season



White winged dove (Zenaida asiatica)



Blue winged teal (Anas discors)

The National Conservation Council (NCC) is seeking public comments on a plan to change hunting seasons for the white-winged dove (current season October-March - proposed season August-September) and the blue-winged teal (current season September-April - proposed season October-December). The public consultation period will end on 15 July, 2019.

Copies of the proposal may be obtained at the Department of Environment (DoE) offices at 580 North Sound Road or online at www.doe.ky

Any comments on the proposal may be received at the DoE offices, mailed to PO Box 10202, Grand Cayman KY1-1002, or sent via email to ConservationCouncil@gov.ky.



▶ Part of the Latin flavor to this year's carnival

CILLA Girls Softball - Game Report

Scotiabank 6, Coldwell Banker 5

CILLA Girls Softball resumed on Tuesday, April 30th, as Scotiabank rallied with six runs in the final inning for a dramatic comeback win over first-place Coldwell Banker.

Coldwell Banker scored four runs in the first inning to take the early lead. Annie Hawkins, Kenia Rostran and Madison Malice all had infield singles to load the bases. Aydis Rostran had a 2 RBI single to bring home Annie and Kenia and one out later Lili Anne Aleria had a 2 RBI single to score Madison and Aydis. Coldwell Banker loaded the bases again, but failed to score any additional runs. Scotiabank loaded the bases in their half of the first inning on walks by Martina Watler and Krystal Morales-Ebanks and a single by Shay Windsor. Coldwell Banker's Deandra Bush struck out three batters to prevent any scoring.

Coldwell Banker added their fifth run in the second inning as Annie Hawkins walked and scored on a solid single to right field by Aydis Rostran. Once again Scotiabank did not score in their half of the second.

In the decisive third inning Coldwell Banker loaded the bases on walks by Lili Anne Aleria, Eowyn Hawkins and Chadene Brooks. With two outs Scotiabank first baseman Krystal Morales-Ebanks made a fine catch on a line drive to end the inning, giving her team one final chance.

Scotiabank were down, but not out! In the bottom of the third Shayna Pitta walked and one out later Clara Ramos brought her home with an RBI single. Carmella Ylagan drew a walk then Shay Windsor hit a three run homer to right centre field, narrowing the gap to 5-4. Krystal Morales-Ebanks singled and Calissa Ylagan walked to put two runners on with just one out. Stephanie Menko was next and she hit a rocket to right field that deflected of a fielder's glove and brought home Krystal with the tying run. The throw back to the infield got away, allowing speedy Calissa to sprint home with the eventual winning run in a 6-5 thriller!

Scotiabank deserve huge congratulations for not giving up and making a great comeback!

Scoring by inning:

0,		_				
TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
Coldwell Banker	4	1	0	-	-	5
Scotiabank	0	0	6	-	1	6

Kirk Freeport 13, Scotiabank 6

Leadoff hitter Aleigha General was 4 for 4 at the plate and Deandra Whiteman struck out a season high eight batters to

lead Kirk Freeport to a 13-6 win over Scotiabank on Wednesday night.

Kirk Freeport scored five in the first, with Aleigha and Deandra both crossing home, as well as teammates Raina Myles, McKenna Knapik and Akeyla Ebanks. The big hits were Deandra's 2 RBI double and Akeyla's RBI single.

Scotiabank bounced right back with five runs of their own in the bottom of the inning. Clara Ramos, Krystal Morales-Ebanks and Calissa Ylagan all walked and scored, while Carmella Ylagan and Shay Windsor singled and scored. The key hit was Stephanie Menko's bases clearing single.

Kirk Freeport scored eight runs over the final three innings, with Aleigha and Akeyla each scoring their second and third runs of the game. Substitute Nathania Simpson added two runs and Sofia Watler had a big hit to drive in three runs in the fourth inning.

Scotiabank added a loan run in the third on a double by Shay and a single by Calissa but their bats were held in check by Deandra's pitching as she struck out six batters over the final three innings.

The defensive play of the night was made by Carmella of Scotiabank. While pitching she fielded a sharp grounder, looked the runner back to third, then



Scotiabank Girls

turned and fired a perfect throw to first base to put out the batter.

With the victory Kirk Freeport is now just half a game out of first place with a quarter of the season left to go, while Scotiabank already is focused on the end-of-season tournament.

Games continue on May 8th and 9th at the Field of Dreams, with first pitch at 6:30 pm.

Scoring by inning:

		U				
TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
Kirk Freeport	5	1	2	5	-	13
Scotiabank	5	0	1	0	ı	6

Current Standings:

		U				
TEAM	Won	Lost	Tied	RF	RA	GB
Coldwell Banker	5	2	1	69	51	0
Kirk Freeport	5	3	1	80	81	0.5
Scotiabank	2	7	0	77	94	4

Youth leagues return with playoffs and FA Cup games

Action returned in the 2019 Cayman Islands Football Association (CIFA) youth leagues this past Saturday, May 4 with FA Cup quarter final games in the Girls Under 11 league and playoffs in the Boys Under 11 league.

In the quarter finals of the Girls Under 11 FA Cup, newly crowned league champions Sunset FC Fusion booked their place in the semi finals with a convincing 3-0 victory over a very competitive Scholars ISC outfit. A hat trick from league top scorer Olivia Thorpe sealed the win for the 'ladies in orange'.

In the second quarter final, Sunset FC Stingrays defeated Sunset FC Blue Iguanas 5-1 thanks to a hat trick from Emily Woolf and a goal each from Maddison Leadbetter and Victoria Seguin.

Both Sunset teams move on to the semi finals and will face each other this Saturday, May 11 for a place in the final. The other semi final will see Academy SC play George Town SC.

In the only Girls Under 13 league game, Academy SC Mermaids got past Roma Fusion SC 2-0 with goals from Lea Santos-Smith and Kenza Ngiruwonsanga In the Boys Under 11 league semi final playoffs, 345 FC I defeated their club mates 345 FC II 5-0 with two goals from Harry Narborough and a goal each from Jagger Alban, Jamie Price and Christo Durrant.

In the second semi final in what proved to be the 'match of the day', Sunset FC Warriors scored a thrilling 1-0 victory over Academy SC Wanderers to seal their place in the final.

With 'serial goal scorer' Jaxon Cover leading the charge for the Warriors, Academy SCs backline, anchored by Liam Whiteside, were in for a very busy morning. Uncharacteristically for young Cover, his usual dominance with and confidence on the ball were not there for much of the game, partly because the Academy SC Warriors' midfield were constantly harassing him whenever he got the ball.

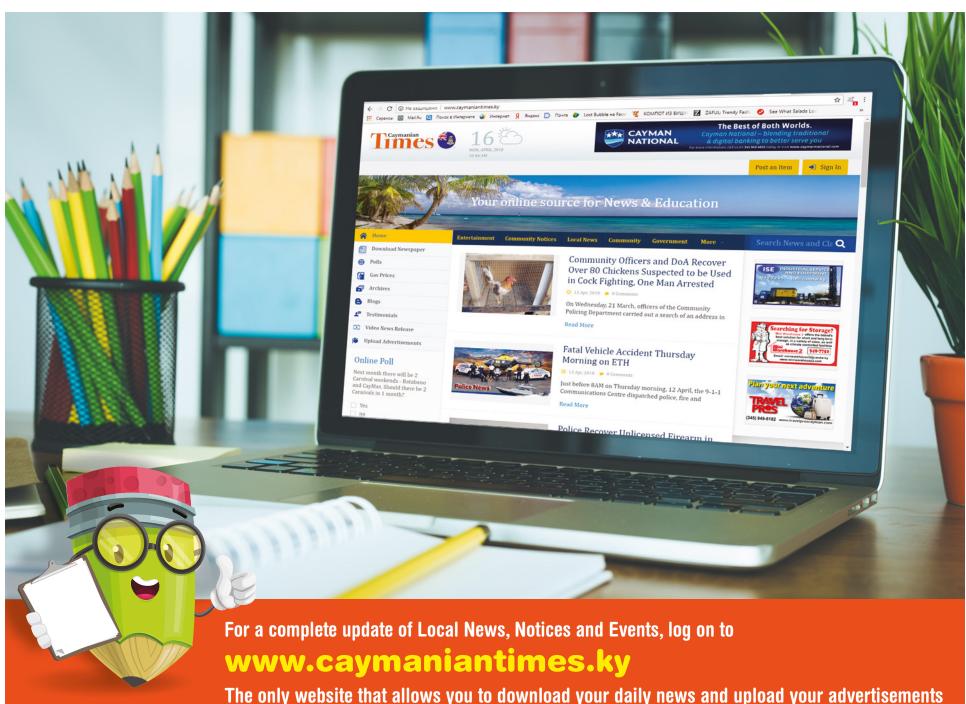
Academy SC Wanderers were doing their best to contain the Warriors' potent offence, but a lapse in concentration in the 44th minute allowed Jaxon Cover to 'jet' off on one of his mazy runs, drifting past a few defenders before slamming the ball into the corner of the Wanderers net to seal the win for Sunset and a place in the playoff final against 345 FC I on May 11.



► Olivia Thorpe (orange) scored all three goals as Sunset FC Fusion defeated Scholars ISC 3-0 in the Girls Under 11 FA Cup

In the Boys Under 11 league consolation playoff, Latinos FC secured a spot in the final against Cayman Brac FC as they defeated Sunset FC Makos 3-0 thanks to two second half goals from Jahrez McKenzie and a lone strike from Mark Ebanks.

A full schedule of CIFA youth league action continues this Saturday, May 11 with the Girls Under 11 FA Cup semi finals, Boys Under 11 league playoff final, third-place and consolation final and Boys Under 13 and Boys Under 15 league action.







▶ British businessman Richard Branson

TURBULENT TIMES FOR LIAT

By Michael L Jarvis, **ÚK Correspondent**

Reports that British businessman Richard Branson could be on the verge of rescuing the eastern Caribbean government-owned airline LIAT from almost certain financial demise, have set off a wave of speculation about the future of the beleaguered carrier.

LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport 1974 Ltd) has, over the sixty-three years of its existence, become synonymous with air travel in the eastern Caribbean.

Love or loathe it, label it 'Leave Island Any Time' or 'Luggage In Another Terminal', one way or another almost everyone who has travelled between the islands has at some point flown on LIAT - or have otherwise had a LIAT experi-

The airline has created its own space in the psyche of the islands. LIAT has become an institution.

Is that now about to change?

LIAT has weathered many storms since it was set up and based in Montserrat in 1956, by the St Kitt's-born aviator Frank Delisle. It no longer flies to the

Over the years it has seen involvement by the then BWIA (British West Indies Airways) - from 1957 to 1971, followed by a brief courtship with another British carrier, Courtline until that venture folded in 1974 when Courtline went bankrupt.

It was then that eleven Caribbean governments from Jamaica to Guyana

stepped in, the result being LIAT (1974 Ltd).

It took another decade before it realised a profit but since then, despite several cash injections, restructurings, and a virtual management revolving doors, LIAT has been struggling to stay airborne financially.

There were always wrangles over the level of service and whether the investing governments were getting value for their money in their own country's in-

National priorities and preferences slowly eroded the concept of regional integration with some governments, especially the larger shareholding countries, placing more emphasis on domestic flag carriers.

LIAT is now battling headwinds again, this time possibly its most challenging, which could lead to the vital regional carrier being grounded due to dire financial straits.

The suggestion that it might take a maverick of the global airline industry to rescue LIAT from possibly its most turbulent period in its sixty-three years history, will come as a relief to flyers but most probably a reality check for the current shareholding governments.

Details are not clear of the touted Richard Branson involvement, but a statement from the Office of the Prime Minister of Antigua & Barbuda quotes a senior government official as saying that an option might be to expanding LIAT rather than scaling it down.

LIAT is hardly in a position to negoti-

A statement on its website quotes current CEO Julie Reifer-Jones, its first female boss, confirming that "despite the challenges facing the airline, it continues operating its daily flight sched-

She also noted that "there are ongoing discussions with Governments across the LIAT network about the need for all the territories served by LIAT to contribute through a Minimum Revenue Guarantee Model."

But Reifer-Jones, the most recent in a string of CEOs to have attempted to set LIAT on a more profitable financial flight path, admits that "the pace of these discussions has been slower than anticipated but the company remains optimistic that the discussions will be concluded shortly."

That was dated April 29th. The Branson arrived on the scene a few days later. In recent months there have been repeated calls from the airline for cash injections by the current shareholder

governments to keep LIAT flying. At one stage when it was feared that it would be grounded, pilots took a pay

LIAT's dire financial circumstances are said to be based on a stifling debt of \$US 60 million and there's a demand by management for an urgent \$US 5 million injection to keep it flying.

In the global scheme of things that level of debt for a regional airline should be manageable.

But LIAT seems to have exhausted almost all of its funding options and is now looking to its shareholder governments for a bailout.

That's where the fractures begin to

Barbados which currently owns practically half of the airline with 49 per cent of the shares, has warned that it "does not intend to be LIAT's atm" (automatic teller machine).

It has been reported that Barbados has been having private talks with what have been called "European interests" concerning air transportation. Speculation is rife as to where that could be headed.

Just a few days ago, an Antigua and Barbuda government minister has confirmed that his government would buy Barbados's shares in LIAT if that country wanted to divest them.

If that were to go through it would put Antigua in an even more dominant position in LIAT than Barbados currently is, with or without a Branson injection, as it would control over 60% of

Antigua and Barbuda would also be the biggest player and have the most significant voice in decisions regarding air travel in the eastern Caribbean.

It currently holds 12 per cent of LIAT's

Dominica which holds around nine per cent has warned that while it's prepared to help out, it does not have a "largesse of funds".

Non-shareholders Grenada and St Kitts & Nevis have offered to put in some money, although act amounts and terms have not been disclosed.

But St Lucia, another non-shareholdr which even under several previous administrations has been one of LIAT's biggest critics, maintains that it will not make any funds available without a guarantee of major changes to the airline's structure.

A suggestion from the government of St Vincent and the Grenadines, an 11 per cent shareholder, is for the Caribbean Development Bank(CDB) to sell the three of the LIAT planes it holds as security for a loan it made to LIAT.

LIAT currently operates a fleet of 10 aircraft, down from 18 previously, serving its 15 regional destinations. In the past few years it had cut back on some of its routes and flights.

The CDB, the region's top lending and economics advisory institution, is concerned that LIAT's demise could have a serious knock-on effect for regional economies.

The airline provides a crucial travel link and airlift for business travel, family and cultural ties, but most importantly tourism which underpins the economy of most of the islands.

The Richard Branson option looks like LIAT's last chance, but will it fly? 😚

THE Caribbean Air

Stabbing Incident in George Town

On Saturday Police were dispatched to the scene of a stabbing incident that took place on Edward Street in the vicinity of the George Town Library.

Two men were stabbed during an altercation. One of the men were taken to a hospital by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the other turned up at the George Town Police Station, where a second EMS ambulance was dispatched to transport him to a hospital as well.

The man that turned himself in is a 52-year-old-man of Bodden Town, and the other, a 22-yearold-man of George Town was also arrested in connection to this incident.

On Sunday one man was arrested and is currently in custody pending further enquiries.

Both injured parties are believed to be stable at this time and to have sustained non-life-threatening-injuries.

Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward and provide information regarding the incident. Anyone with information is encouraged to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Burglary in Frank Sound this Morning

At about 2:30 on Wednesday morning, 1 May, officers were dispatched by the 9-1-1 Communications Centre to a report of a burglary at an address on Frank Sound Road. A woman had been at home with her children, when she was alerted to the presence of a man unknown to her. The man had entered the residence and was attempting to take a handbag. The woman confronted the man and a struggle ensued, during which she was able to retrieve the bag. The man fled the residence on foot in the direction of the Frank Sound Church of God. The woman received a minor scratch during the struggle.

The suspect is described as being about 5' in height, and of brown complexion. He

was wearing a red t-shirt, dark shorts, a cap, white socks and dark shoes.

The matter is currently under police inves-

Anyone with any information on this incident or who may have seen anything suspicious in the Frank Sound area early this morning is asked to contact **Bodden Town CID** at **947-2220**.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our **Confidential Tip Line** at 949-7777, or via our website http:// www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip. Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Miami-based call centre of Crime Stoppers at 800-8477(TIPS), or online https://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=681.







Woods will roar again at PGA

Masters champion Tiger Woods could have "10 years left" as a competitive player, says Rory McIlroy.

Woods broke an 11-year drought to win his 15th major at Augusta National last month, to edge closer to fellow American Jack Nicklaus' record of 18.

Asked if Woods can match Nicklaus' haul, four-time major winner McIlroy said: "I think so. It rejuvenates and re-energises that narrative. Tiger could be competitive at Augusta for 10 years if his body holds up."

The Northern Irishman added: "A lot of people were comparing it to Jack in 1986 (when he became the oldest Masters winner at the age of 46), everyone knew that was going to be his last major championship."

Woods looks set to continue his recent resurgence though. He challenged for major titles at both the Open Championship and US PGA Championship in 2018 before winning his 80th PGA Tour event - and first in five years - at the Tour Championship last September and then claiming his fifth Masters Green

However, former world number one McIlroy, 30, said he believed the 43-year-old American's career was over when the pair had lunch together two years ago.

"It was March 2017, just coming off the back of another surgery, and all he was thinking about was quality of life, watching his kids grow up, being able to play soccer in the back yard," said McIlroy who needs to win the Masters to join an elite group of players that includes Woods, to have won all four of the sport's majors.

"His mind wasn't even on golf, which sort of told me, 'He's thinking this could be it', and from stories that I've heard, at the champions dinner at Augusta that year, he was saying the same things, maybe not playing competitive golf

"To think in two years what's happened, it's incredible. It's a big deal to come back from what he has, and I don't think people quite appreciate what has

Woods usually plays a smaller tournament between majors, but he does not appear to be doing that this time as the PGA Championship starts on May 16.

He was hitting balls on a driving range in Florida last week, dispelling concern



▶ Tiger Woods is preparing for the PGA Championship

that he is too injured to play. Moved from August, the PGA Championship has a new calendar position between the Master's and the US Open.

Woods said in an interview with Golf TV last week that he hasn't done much since his historic Master's win.

"I haven't started doing anything," Woods said. "I've just been laying there. And every now and again, I'll look over

there on the couch and there's the jacket. Yeah, I did pull it off."

Teeing up at Bethpage Black in New York, the PGA Championship 2019 will be played at one of the most challenging public golf courses in the country. Bethpage previously hosted the US Open in 2002 and 2009. Despite his reluctance to play before the tournament, Woods is the odds-on favourite to win it at 17-1. ③

Windies up to eighth in one-day rankings

West Indies have been handed an unexpected rankings boost ahead of the World Cup, after overhauling Sri Lanka to climb to eighth in the ICC One-Day International charts.

Windies gained four ratings points to move to 80, while Sri Lanka remained on 76, following the annual update which saw the removal of the 2015-16 results and those between 2016 and 2018 computed at 50 percent.

For the Windies, the rise comes on the back of their outstanding performance in the recent five-match series against world number one, England, when they snatched a 2-2 tie.

That series result saw them draw level on 76 points with the Sri Lankans but remain in ninth spot. They can further solidify their new ranking when they face hosts Ireland and Bangladesh in a

Tri-Nations Series in Dublin this week. Poor results there, however, especial-

lv against seventh-placed Bangladesh could see the Windies slip back to ninth again heading into the World Cup, which runs from May 30 to July 14.

West Indies have spent recent years languishing at number nine and it resulted in them missing out on automatic qualification for the World Cup.

England, meanwhile, remain the topranked side, but will need to beat Ireland and Pakistan in their upcoming series to enter the World Cup at the summit.

India are second after gaining one ratings point, while South Africa have overtaken New Zealand to claim third place, with the Black Caps dropping to fourth.

In the Test rankings, West Indies are now just behind seventh-placed Pakistan after gaining five points following

the annual update.

The Jason Holder-led unit are now on 82 points, but only two behind seventh-placed Pakistan who dropped four ratings points.

India top the rankings with 113 points, but lost three ratings points to see their gap on second-placed New Zealand shrink to two points after the Black Caps gained three

Gayle to lead Tallawahs at Sabina Park

West Indies batting star Chris Gayle has signed a deal with Jamaica Tallawahs as their marquee player for the 2019 Hero Caribbean Premier League, set to start in September.

Gayle, who will be 39 in September, is the leading T20 batsman of all time with over 10,000 runs. He is also the leading CPL run scorer with 2,111 runs and will re-

he led to victory in 2013 and 2016. The franchise will be playing all their games in Jamaica, after playing three matches in Florida last year which annoyed many Jamaicans who wanted to see their heroes at Sabina Park.

Gayle, a former West Indies Test skipper, is one of the world's best cricketers, especially in the T20 version. He led Jamaica to two titles but has since been representing St Kitts and Nevis Patriots, where he captained them to the play-offs in successive years while making the finals in 2017.

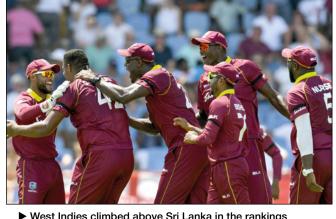
The CPL will not be playing any games in Florida for the 2019 season due to poor attendance. The Tallawahs



► Chris Gayle will help sell out the crowds at Sabina Park

turn as captain of the Tallawahs, which 2018 matches against Guyana Amazon Warriors and Trinbago Knight Riders drew strong support for the visitors in Florida but not the Tallawahs, which sparked criticism from captain Andre Russell. The third match played by Tallawahs in Florida against Barbados Tridents only drew 700 people compared to sell-out crowds at Sabina

> Gayle will be playing the World Cup - after which he is expected to retire from ODIs - having ended the IPL in good form this year. Before the weekend, he had scored 462 runs in 12 innings at a strike rate of 158.76 and average of 42, with four half-centuries, for Kings XI Punjab. 😚



West Indies climbed above Sri Lanka in the rankings

Alvarez heads for billionaire club

Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez is looking to retrace old ground after unifying the middleweight division with a points victory over Daniel Jacobs in Las Vegas.

The 28-year-old Mexican - now beaten just once in 55 fights - took Jacobs' IBF belt to add to his own WBC and WBA titles.

Boxing fans will now be hoping to see Canelo face another American, WBO middleweight champion Demetrius Andrade, to become the undisputed middleweight king.

"Nobody in Mexico has ever done that, won all four belts in one division, so that's my motivation," Alvarez said.

However, Canelo said he was open to meeting Kazakh fighter Gennedy Golovkin for a third time. The two drew their first bout in 2017, then Canelo took a controversial points victory a



▶ The Bugatti Chiron costs \$4.3 million

year later. "If he wants to do it again, I'll beat him again," he said.

Alvarez is easily the biggest sports star in Mexico where boxing is only second to football in popularity. His projected career earnings could see him join the billionaire boys club — with sporting members including the only man to ever beat him in the ring, Floyd Mayweather Jr, Tiger Woods and Michael Jordan.

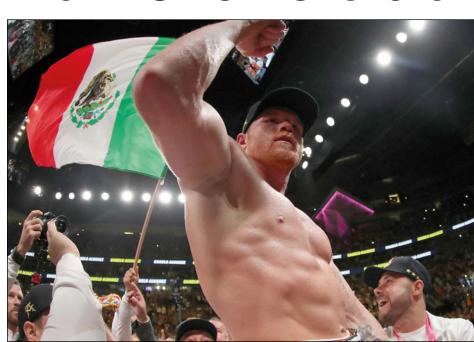
It's no wonder streaming service DAZN signed the father of three, on a multi-fight deal of around \$520 million in 2018, said to be the richest sports contract in history.

While he doesn't have the outrageous personality of Mayweather, or the knockout factor of Muhammad Ali, DAZN felt he was a worthy investment. His next nine fights will be streamed exclusively by them.

The fact that Alvarez pulled in around \$1 million in pay-per-view money for his fight against Golovkin gave him an excellent platform to say he's the biggest draw in boxing today.

Despite his rather bizarre fashion choices, once flying in a private jet in a panda suit, he's a poster boy for adver-

Alongside basketball whizz Steph Curry, Alvarez fronts campaigns for sportswear giant Under Armour, peddling their boxing range.



Saul Alvarez is Mexico's biggest sports star

Alvarez boasts an equally impressive garage full of supercars as Mayweather.

He recently dropped \$4.3 million on a Bugatti Chiron — the world's fastest car on the road.

Only 500 are in existence, and Alvarez joins a select group of owners including Cristiano Ronaldo who can be reassured their investment is well spent, with value in those cars rising yearly.

And that's not all. You will find parked behind the gates of his Guadalajara mansion a Mercedes SLS AMG Black Series, Lamborghini Aventador, Mustang 500 Eleanor, Mercedes-Benz G63 AMG 6x6, Ferrari Testarossa, AMG C64 biTurbo, Rolls Royce Ghost, Ferrari 458 Italia, McLaren P1, Porsche 911 GT3 and a Lamborghini Gallardo (Renazzo Vorsteiner edition). Total value of all that lot? Around \$15.6 million. ③

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/

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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

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

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Senorita Sister Spinster Wife Woman

Have fun with **CAYMANIAN** TIMES

Niece

CURTIS By Ray Billingsley









FROM LITTLE MISTAKE

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN By Stan Lee

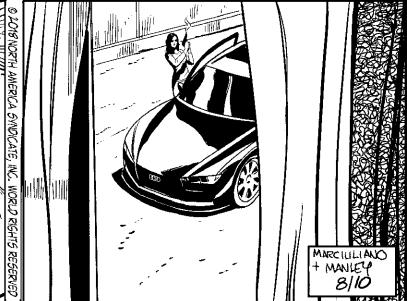




JUDGE PARKER By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley







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