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WEATHER FORECAST



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Some sun, a shower in spots

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HCCI SURGERY REPAIRS GUATEMALAN BABY'S HEART

Niasha Brady is new PWD Deputy Director



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The Impact of the US Interest Rate Increase

The Federal Reserve Bank (The FED) on December 19, 2018, announced that it would raise the range for its benchmark interest rate of 2.25 - 2.50%. This is the ninth recorded increase since the Fed began to raise rates in December 2015.

Interest rate increases produce ripple effects on the means by which businesses and consumers access credit to run their operations and manage their finances. Consumers inevitably pay more for funds to make purchases and businesses encounter higher cost to maintain and/or expand their operations as well as to fund payroll and other employee costs.

An increase in the Fed's rate instantly drove a rise in the Prime Rate, which signifies the credit rate that banks offer to their most credit-worthy clients. The prime rate is the foundation on which other types of consumer credit are grounded, as a greater prime rate means that banks will increase fixed, and variable-rate lending costs when gauging risk on less credit-worthy businesses and consumers. Case in point, all of Cayman's local Class "A" banks, the latest being Cayman National Bank have announced CI\$ and US\$ Prime interest

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Weather Systems affecting the cayman Islands



Official Weather Source of the Cayman Islands

January

Weather charts indicate that a cold front moved across the Cayman area on January 9th 2018. The system supported cloudiness and showers with an accumulation of 0.56 measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport on January 9th 2018.

Weather charts indicate that a cold front moved across the Cayman area on January 14th 2018. The associated high pressure system supported fresh to strong north to northeast winds and rough seas from January 13th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from January 13th 2018 until January 16th 2018.



Weather charts indicate that a cold front moved across the Cayman area on January 18th 2018. The associated high pressure system supported fresh to strong northerly winds and rough seas from January 17th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from January 17th 2018 until January 21st 2018.

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the Gulf of Mexico supported fresh to strong northeast winds and rough seas from January 25th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from January 25th 2018 until January 28th 2018.

Weather charts indicate that a cold front moved across the Cayman area on January 30th 2018. The associated high pressure system supported fresh to strong northerly winds and rough seas from January 30th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning

... Continued story on page 5



SEVEN MILE BEACH
WATERFRONT
WALKERS ROAD
TOWN CENTRE PLAZA
RED BAY

ORIGINAL CHICKEN FRIES



NEW CRISPY
pretzel
CHICKEN FRIES

EDITORIAL

Bigger and Better

Readers would have noticed the growth in the size of the Caymanian Times over the past few years.

As we welcome 2019, we aim to take our place as an International Newspaper Brand with our unique design and content.

We will remain impartial and politically neutral with the content of our articles whilst keeping the focus on local issues, employment and education.

As the new year arrives we will continue to maintain our approach to controversial topics that need to stay in the forefront and not be swept underground.

Our Saturday Edition will be re-launched in the near future with its unique focus and readers will notice the new increased size of the papers and images.

Our articles will be categorized and the following will be included in our regular editions:

- Education
- Healthcare
- Personal Finance



- Technology
- Travel
- Gardening
- Community Voice
- Government Watch
- Opposition speaks
- Health & Wellness
- Sports
- And much more

We will also double our distribution to 15,000 copies per week and these will be available in over 300 locations, all publications and Death Announcements will be complimentary as we continue to give back to our residents and our community.

We wish to express our gratitude to our supports and readers who made the journey with us and wish all a Happy and Prosperous 2019.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Kite Accident Message From White Sand Water Sports

Having read in the newspapers of the sad passing of Mr. Thomas Downer, the US citizen, who lost his life in East End on 27th of December from a kiteboarding accident, we too at White Sand Watersports would like to offer our condolences.

However, we have also read many misleading comments insinuating that our company was involved in some way with this tragedy.

To Clarify, Mr. Downer was never one of our customers, and we do not operate out of Colliers Public Beach. We offer training for our customers who are

new to the sport of kiteboarding, with a strong emphasis in safety, before they graduate to becoming an independent kite boarder. We pride ourselves in the product we offer and believe it shows with our 5 star TripAdvisor rating, and certificate of excellence received 7 yrs in a row.

Mr. Downer was enjoying his own time, not with our equipment from the Public Beach. This is truly a tragic lost for his family, and we extend out deepest sympathy, no one should have to suffer a lost over the Holidays.



Find out more when you call us at 938-3487 or visit us at unit 8B Alexander Place DorcyDrive (Next to Smiles Dental). Website: www.fitnesspluscayman.com

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Cayman Islands Government statement on The Netherlands blacklisting

The Cayman Islands Government regrets that the Kingdom of The Netherlands has chosen to break from other EU Member States to pursue a "blacklist" of 21 jurisdictions, including the Cayman Islands, based solely on the criteria of having a lower corporate tax rate than any EU Member State.

This "blacklisting" does not take into account Cayman's demonstrated adherence to international standards for tax transparency, or participation with the OECD's BEPS Inclusive Framework, and ignores our engagement with the EU's Code of Conduct Group over the last two years to address their concerns regarding economic substance.

The Cayman Islands Government regrets the unjustified "blacklisting" and rejects it as wholly lacking in fairness and credibility. It is unfortunate that The Netherlands has chosen to attempt to



divert criticism of its own tax practices by attacking the legitimate tax regimes of other jurisdictions.

Putting aside this unfortunate action, the Cayman Islands continues its long-standing commitment to adhering to global standards, and to working with the global community to improve their effectiveness.

DEH Working Double Shifts to Remedy Collection Schedule

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is working double shifts today (Thursday, 3 January 2018) through Saturday, 5 January, to address delays in garbage collection in George Town and the Eastern Districts.


As a result the Department expects to return to its normal garbage collection schedule beginning in West Bay on Monday, 7 January. Officials say additional shifts will be added if need be to meet this goal.

Delays in the schedule arose in late December when three trucks had to be

taken out of service. The vehicles are currently awaiting parts to be shipped from overseas. DEH is currently working with the Department of Vehicle and Equipment Services to ensure that repairs take place as quickly as possible.

The Department of Environmental Health apologises to residents in the affected areas. Any persons with garbage collection issues outside of those stated above should make contact with the DEH office by calling 949-6696, or emailing dehcustomerservice@gov.ky.





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► Niasha Brady, PWD Deputy Director Operations

PWD Appointments New Deputy Director

A new year brings new opportunity for Niasha Brady as she takes on her new role of Deputy Director Operations with the Public Works Department (PWD) on 1 January, 2019.

Mrs Brady is a product of the succession planning initiative which begun at PWD several years ago. She was identified as a likely successor for the new role of Deputy Director Operations; as such she took part in several training and development initiatives to enhance her academic and practical competencies. After a multi-faceted evaluation process Mrs Brady was selected for the role.

"My congratulations to Niasha on this very well-deserved promotion to the new post of PWD Deputy Director Operations. Niasha has demonstrated over and over again that she has the drive, determination, skillset and now the experience to perform to a very high level in this role," exclaims PWD Director Max Jones.

"I'm particularly delighted that we have been able to fill this senior post with a promotion from within PWD. This is a testament to the hard work PWD has been doing for a number of years in succession planning and in developing individual, customized career development plans for key employees," Mr Jones adds.

Mrs Brady is a true trailblazer, taking on leadership roles in a traditionally male-dominated field. She was the department's first female Senior Project Manager and will be the first female Deputy Director of Operations for PWD.

In her new role Mrs Brady will strategically manage a restructured Operations Division of the Public Works Department and lead the four Core Sections of the Department which are 'Project Management', 'Consultancy Ser-

VICES', 'Facilities Management' and 'Recreation, Parks & Cemeteries'.

She will also provide senior management support to the Director, including recommending strategic directions regarding the core sections and providing complex operational support. She will also monitor PWD customer/client satisfaction and ensure that that PWD provides world class service to its clients, and take on the role of Acting Director of PWD when required.

"I am very excited and also very humbled by this opportunity. I wish to say a huge thank you to those who have supported me along the way. It's my pleasure to continue to work with the PWD team to build upon the existing framework of the department in support of its mission to become the service provider of choice to all government agencies," expresses Mrs Brady.

"It will be our goal to continue to improve our focus on providing our customers with high quality, professional and reliable World Class service," she adds.

Mrs Brady has been an employee of PWD for approximately eleven years and has worked as Project Manager, Acting Senior Project Manager (Major Projects Office) and Senior Project Manager. Over the past year, she has been carrying out the role of Acting Deputy Director, (Development & Planning). She will continue to work closely with the Major Projects Office, managing the Long-Term Residential Mental Health Project.

She possesses a Master's Degree in Construction Management, a Bachelor's degree in Architecture and holds a Project Management Professional Qualification (PMP); she is also a Chartered Project Management Surveyor (MRICS) and is an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (ACI Arb) 🌐

Incredible Sailing Adventurer Dawn Riley to Speak at Sailing Club

Dawn Riley, one of the world's best known adventurer-sailors, the pioneering CEO of a winning America's Cup team and current America's Cup challenge "American Magic" participant, will be speaking at an exclusive event at the Cayman Islands Sailing Club Saturday 12 January.

Dawn was the first American, male or female, to race in three America's Cup and two Whitbread (now Volvo) Round-the-World Race Sailing teams. She also won the 1992 America's Cup and a handful of World Championships.

Her professional resume is outstanding: she served as president of the Women's Sports Foundation, founded by Billie Jean King; she was the 1999 Rolex Yachtswoman of the year, 2002 IC 45 Work Championship, the first two-time winner of the Santa Maria Cup, crewed on the Maxi Yacht Morning Glory which set the all-time course record in the 1996 Sydney to Hobart ocean race; she was the team captain of America3 in 1992 and skipper of Heineken, the all-woman team in the 1993-94 Whitbread Round the World Sailing Marathon.



► Dawn Riley

Her sometimes harrowing experiences on the ocean provide for some entertaining sea stories, and her professional success as a leader, manager and team-builder are insightful for business audiences. Dawn has presented as a television host and at hundreds of corporate events, including those for BMW, Oracle, Microsoft, and Franklin Covey.

Tickets to see Dawn speak are \$25 and all proceeds go the Sailing Club and their various programmes including those dedicated to youth. To book your spot, email hello@fountainhead.ky or call 949-8188. 🌐



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The Impact of the US Interest Rate Increase on the Cayman Islands Economy

... Continued story from page 1

rates increases respectively from 5.25% to 5.5% effective January 7, 2019.

As a consumer an interest rate hike mainly affects you because, when you get a loan you're going to pay more interest. Contrarily, money market and credit deposit (CD) rates rise because of the increase in the prime rate. Theoretically, that should increase savings among businesses and consumers since they can earn a higher return on their savings. However, debt holders may opt to settle their financial obligations to offset the higher variable costs related to credit cards, car and home loans or other debts.

Credit card interest rates immediately follow increase in the prime rate. The Bankrate's latest 3-month trend have rates hovering at 17.59%. Any loan that's linked to a benchmark, e.g. an adjustable rate mortgage (ARM), for example, would rise immediately. Although fixed mortgage rates, savings, certificate

of deposit (CD) rates, usually move with interest rate hikes, it's not a direct correlation. 1-Year CD rates for \$25,000 average about 0.88% and 5-Year CD rates average about 1.46% depending on the bank/institution. Consumers should shop around to find the best offers.

Interest hikes are generally good news for banks themselves as it tends to increase their profits. However, for the rest of the business sectors the opposite occurs as an interest rate eats up profitability. Their cost of capital for business expansion increases - bad news for small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) when profit margins are already being squeezed.

Furthermore, increased borrowing costs usually affects consumer spending. Higher credit card rates and higher savings rates due to better bank rates generates a decrease in consumer impulse buying. Therefore, an interest rate increase could produce reduced revenues, smaller profit margins and greater costs - a potentially toxic mix.



Businesses can adapt to interest rate changes to guard against negative effects and capitalise on positive ones. Interest rates can be an indicator to either grow your business or retrench it.

With the Federal Reserve Bank projecting fewer and more gradual increases in bank rates in future years, it is important

that businesses act now by reexamining their business plans and funding strategies, in order to limit the impact rising interest rates could have on them.

Since interest rate hikes have a widespread effect so individuals too should plan accordingly such that they limit the impacts on themselves. 🌐

Why You Need Risk management

Business growth requires a solid foundation that includes prudent risk-management. The principle is simple - Normally, when you cut your risk, you cut your losses and increase profits.

One of most important things SMEs (small to medium-sized companies) can do to avoid risk of failure is to create a risk management plan that recognizes risks and adopt procedures to handle them. Not doing so is like heading out to sea in an unseaworthy ship - meet bad weather and you will be spending more time trying to stay afloat than sailing, diverting essential resources from the main business.

The list of business risks is large and risks are generally categorised under regulatory risk, market risk, credit risk and environmental risk but there are a few that are mainly predominant among SMEs. These include:

Bad debtors; Negative cash flow; Inventory risk; Strategic risk; Property and equipment risk (machinery and equipment failures); Personnel (high staff turnover; loss of key staff members, security of data and intellectual property); Theft; Cyber risk; Fraud; Natural and man-made disasters.

Luckily for SMEs, entire industries have been established to help manage risks such as human, property and equipment risk and workplace safety (the insurance industry) and bad-debtor risk (the factoring industry, rating agencies and debt collection agencies).

But some risks are particularly difficult to manage, especially for small companies, and usually involve a human factor. Three especially problematic areas are:

- Fraud
- Human capital
- Cyber risk

Fraud

Fraud is increasing within SMEs. The incidence of fraud has increased worldwide since the global financial crisis, and SMEs are being increasingly targeted. While poor internal controls can be blamable, these can still be a slight defense against the dedicated thief. The time to be most cautious is when household debt servicing ratios rise and during times of decreasing GDP.

Human capital risk

Companies that manage people well are poised to beat those that don't by 30% to 50%, so human capital risk is a big issue for SMEs. Bad hiring selections translate to poor customer service; revenue and marketshare losses; competitive disadvantage; higher production costs; brand risk; and legal liability. Great workplaces, superior leadership, good life work balance and cross training are all strategies SMEs can use to target the human-capital weaknesses of big companies.

Then there's an issue that's incredibly important, such as insurance--specifically, "key man" insurance.



Key man insurance is simply life insurance on the key person(s) in a business. In a small business, this is usually the owner, the founders or perhaps a key employee or two. These are the people who are crucial to a business--the ones whose absence would sink the company. You need key man insurance on those people! The reason this coverage is important is because the death of a key person in an SME often causes the immediate death of that company. In a tragic situation, key man insurance gives the company some options other than immediate bankruptcy.

Cyber risk

Cyber risk is another beast. Some banks offer firewall services for customer credit-card details and many SMEs are using these cyber shelters. Alternately, best practice is to stay current with cyber risks; train staff, ensure software is updated, establish a strong policy on BYOD (bring your own device); use strong passwords; have a strict employee transition policy and be careful of strangers appearing as delivery men or utilities servicers. Increasing numbers of companies offer support in this field and many security specialists hold seminars for SMEs. 🌐

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ANNUAL SUMMARY OF WEATHER SYSTEMS AFFECTING THE CAYMAN ISLANDS 2018

... Continued story from page 1

for the system from January 30th 2018 until February 1st 2018.

The total measured accumulation of 1.44 inches or 0.60 of an inch below the normal 2.04 inches of the 30 year average for January.

February

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the western Atlantic Ocean supported fresh to strong northeast winds and rough seas from February 07th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from February 07th 2018 until February 16th 2018.

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the western Atlantic Ocean supported fresh to strong northeast winds and rough seas from February 19th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from February 19th 2018 until February 23rd 2018.

The total measured accumulation of 0.61 of an inch or 0.89 of an inch below the normal 1.50 inches of the 30 year average for February.

March

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the southwestern United States supported fresh to strong northeast winds and rough seas from March 27th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from March 27th 2018 until March 29th 2018.

The total measured accumulation of 0.29 of an inch or 1.03 inches below the normal 1.32 inches of the 30 year average for March.

April

No significant weather systems for April.

The total measured accumulation of 0.49 of an inch or 0.78 of an inch below the normal 1.27 inches of the 30 year average for April.

May

Weather charts indicate that an upper level trough on May 14th 2018 supported the development of daytime showers with an accumulation of 0.54 of an inch or rainfall measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that an upper level trough interacted with a surface trough to produce an area of cloudiness and showers over the northwest Caribbean on May 21st 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 3.84 inches on May 21st 2018, 1.56 inches on May 22nd 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued flood warnings for the event.

Weather charts indicate that a broad area of low pressure formed west of the Cayman Islands on May 23rd 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued marine warnings for the event and measured a rainfall accumulation of 0.71 of an inch on May 23rd 2018.

Weather charts indicate that Subtropical Storm Alberto formed west of the Cayman Islands on May 25th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather

Service issued marine warnings for the event and measured a rainfall accumulation of 1.13 inches on May 25th 2018 and 0.66 of an inch on May 28th 2018.

The National Weather Service recorded 10.80 inches for the month or 4.84 inches above the long term average of 5.96 inches. The total was the highest May rainfall total since 2012.

June

Weather charts indicate that an upper level trough interacted with a surface trough to produce an area of cloudiness and showers over the northwest Caribbean on June 12th 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 0.68 of an inch on June 12th 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

The total measured accumulation of 2.34 inches for the month was 3.86 inches below the 30 year average for June of 6.20 inches.

July

Weather charts indicate that a tropical wave moved across the Cayman area on July 11th. The system produced an accumulation of 0.52 of an inch as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

The measured accumulation of 1.2 inches for the month was 4.58 inches below the 30 year average for July of 5.78 inches.

August

Weather charts indicate that an upper level low pressure system produce an area of cloudiness and showers over the northwest Caribbean over the Cayman area on August 3rd 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 1.31 inches on August 3rd 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that an induced trough interacted produce cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on August 12th 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 1.27 inches on August 12th 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that an upper level low pressure system produced cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on August 20th 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 1.12 inches on August 20th 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that a tropical wave moved across the Cayman area on August 22nd 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 0.56 of an inch on August 22nd 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

The total measured accumulation of 5.81 inches for the month or 0.09 of an inch below the 30 year average for August of 5.90 inches.

September

Weather charts indicate that a tropical wave and an upper level trough interacted to produced

cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on September 9/10 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 3.41 inches and 2.64 inches on September 9th and 10th 2018 respectively as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that an upper level trough produced cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on September 13 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 1.98 inches on September 13th 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that the remnants of Tropical Storm Isaac produced cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on September 17/18th 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 1.49 inches and 2.64 inches on September 17/18th 2018 respectively as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

The total measured accumulation of 13.5 inches for the month was 4.76 inches higher than the 30 year average for September of 8.74 inches.

October

Weather charts indicate that an upper level trough produced cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on October 02 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 0.62 of an inch on October 02nd 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that a low pressure system over the southwest Caribbean produced cloudiness and showers over the Cayman area on October 11 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 0.56 of an inch on October 11th 2018 as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the western Atlantic Ocean supported fresh northeast winds and rough seas from October 18-19th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from October 18-19th 2018.

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the western Atlantic Ocean supported fresh northeast winds and rough seas from October 21-22nd 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system from October 21-22nd 2018.

The total measured accumulation of 3.12 inches for the month was 5.53 inches below the 30 year average for October of 8.65 inches.

The total rainfall amount for 2018 through the end of October is 39.50 inches with a deficit of 7.86 inches (30 year average through October is 47.36 inches).

November

Weather charts indicate that a tropical wave moved across the Cayman area on November 5th 2018. The system produced an accumulation of 0.98 of an inch on November 5th as measured by the Cayman Islands National Weather Service at the Owen Roberts International Airport.

Weather charts indicate that a high pressure system over the southern USA supported fresh northeast winds and rough seas from November 11-12th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine warning for the system for the period.

28-30
Weather charts indicate that a cold front moved across the Cayman area on November 28th 2018. The system supported fresh northeast winds and rough seas from November 28-30th 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued a marine advisory for the system for the period.

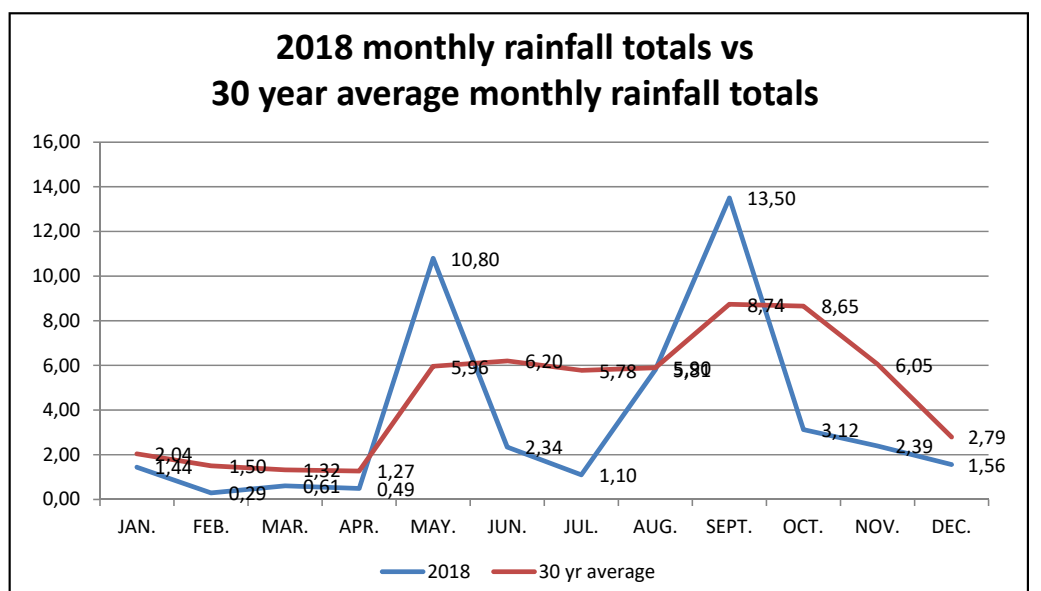
The total measured accumulation of 2.39 of an inch is 3.66 inches below the 30 year average for November of 6.05 inches.

December

Weather charts indicate that a strong cold front moved across the Cayman area on December 21st 2018. The system supported fresh to strong northwest winds and very rough seas from December 20-31st 2018. The Cayman Islands National Weather Service issued marine warnings for the system for the period. The Port and west coast of Grand Cayman was battered by large waves resulting in flooding of the main roads leading to road closures along portions of the capital.

The total measured accumulation of 1.56 inches is 1.23 inches below the 30 year average for December of 2.79 inches.

The total measured accumulation for 2018 was 43.45 inches or 12.75 inches below the 30 year average. The driest month of the year was February with 0.29 of an inch recorded and the wettest was September with 13.50 inches recorded. The annual rainfall graph can be seen below. 🌧️



POLICE NEWS

New Year's Eve Traffic Enforcement Operations Lead to 4 DUI Arrests

Last Monday, 31 December, the RCIPS conducted intensified traffic enforcement operations aimed at combatting drunk driving and other dangerous behavior on the road during the New Year's Eve celebrations.

As a result of these operations, there were four arrests made for DUI on the morning of 1 January. Three of these arrests came as a result of proactive traffic stops, while one person was arrested following a single vehicle collision. At least one person arrested had a breathalyzer reading of over twice the legal limit.

The RCIPS once again partnered with the National Drug Council in support of the New Year's Eve Purple Ribbon Bus Campaign. According to the NDC, over

1,400 persons made use of the service in Grand Cayman, while several others did so in Cayman Brac.

"We are grateful to the members of the public who chose to ride the Purple Ribbon Bus," said Inspector Ian Yearwood, Head of the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit. "By taking advantage of the service and choosing not to drink and drive, they helped to make the roads that much safer for themselves and other road users."

Overall, 47 arrests were made for DUI during the holiday season, including those arrests made on New Year's Day.

"Safety on the road is always our number one concern when we conduct our traffic operations," added



Inspector Yearwood, "and we are pleased that once again we were able to greet the new year with no serious injuries or road fatalities following New Year's Eve celebrations. Our focus now turns to the rest of 2019, as we continue our proactive approach to cracking down on drunk driving, speeding, and other traffic violations that threaten the safety of our roads." 🌐

Three (3) Vehicle Collision Involving an Ambulance

Just before 7AM on Friday morning, 4 January, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a report of a motor vehicle collision involving three (3) vehicles, one of which was an ambulance that was in the process of responding to an emergency call with its blue lights and siren on. There was no patient in the ambulance at the time of collision.



Two persons involved in the collision received what is believed to be non-life-threatening-injuries and were transported to the hospital for treatment.

The matter is currently under police investigation and anyone with any information is asked to call the Traffic Management Unit at 649-6254 and speak with PC Matthew Thomas. 🌐

Altercation at West Bay Road Bar, 1 Arrested for Assault GBH

Shortly before 02:00AM on Tuesday, 1 January, officers on patrol on West Bay Road were alerted by a member of the public to an altercation taking place at a bar on West Bay Road just south of Seven Mile Public Beach. Upon arrival officers observed a large group of persons outside of the bar and identified a woman who was behaving in a disorderly manner, engaged in an argument with several other people. Officers observed the woman, age 47 of George Town, strike a man known to her in the face and subsequently arrested her on suspicion of being drunk and disorderly and assault ABH.

As officers effected the arrest, the man, age 25 of George Town, began behaving in a disorderly manner towards officers and was also arrested on suspicion of being drunk and disorderly. He was later granted bail.

It was later ascertained that the woman had assaulted another woman at the location before officers arrived. The victim suffered various abrasions, along with lacerations to her eyes, and was taken by private vehicle for treatment. The woman who had been arrested earlier was further arrested on suspicion of assault GBH. She has been bailed as investigations continue. 🌐

Baptist Health announces new PET facility

Baptist Health International has announced that a brand new PET (Positron Emission Tomography) and CT (Computerized tomography) facility, especially useful for people who have been diagnosed with cancer, will be available right here in the Cayman Islands. The new piece of equipment which will soon be operational at the Smith Road Centre in George Town is likely to be used by at least half of the 900 or so people who currently have to travel to the US for their essential regular imaging and diagnostic tests, according to Mario A. Mendez, M.D, Baptist Health International's Corporate Vice President and Chief Medical Officer. Baptist Health anticipates that the new facility, complete with a back-up of highly-trained expert staff, will not only help local people obtain the specialist help that they need without all the trouble and expense of having to travel to the US, but will also help turn Cayman into a medical destination, so that people from all around the region will be able to come here for their tests.

"We are very excited about the inauguration of the PET and CT Imaging Center and the opportunity to provide the people of the Cayman Islands and throughout the Caribbean with this advanced imaging technology," said Dr. Mendez. "At Baptist Health, we are committed to delivering an exceptional patient experience through high-quality, compassionate care in conjunction with the latest technology. The future of Baptist Health focusses on quality and



► The site of the new facility in Smith Road

innovation. We are dedicated to making investments that improve the experience of our patients, for example the Miami Cancer Institute which opened its doors in 2017 and now offers one

of the world's most comprehensive and advanced radiation and oncology programs including the first proton therapy facility in South Florida, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

The center is expected to help facilitate communication and collaboration between doctors on the island and in

... Continued story on page 7

Baptist Health announces new PET facility

... Continued story from page 6

the region, along with Baptist Health specialists. When the new facility opens, it will be possible to refer patients from



► Dr. Mario A. Mendez

the region to Grand Cayman for their PET and CT imaging needs. Baptist Health officials are also hoping that the opening of the new center will help reinforce the institution's commitment to cultivating relationships with international physicians, medical institutions and associations, as well as insurance organizations.

Although getting such a sophisticated and expensive piece of machinery (the new machine will cost about 1.6 million dollars) has really been part of a tremendous team effort, it is Managing Director of Baptist Health in the Cayman Islands, Rebekah Brooks, R.N, who began to take the idea and run with it about three years ago. She saw, firsthand, the tremendous difficulty experienced by some of the Cayman



► The new PET machine

patients in repeatedly having to travel to the US: "I decided that it was really needed to support the oncology patients particularly because they have to go overseas for their test. It's on a regular basis too, so its every three to six months. This causes problems for the oncology patients because they and are not feeling so great. They often have to



► Rebekah Brooks

have a companion or family member to travel with them and the expense alone, as well as the disruption to them was really significant. So we tried, from a Baptist Health International perspective to support the Cayman physicians, and the Cayman Community. It's an investment to Cayman that we think is really important," she said. 🌐

A LIFE-CHANGING CHRISTMAS GIFT: SURGERY REPAIRS GUATEMALAN BABY'S HEART

A toddler from Guatemala celebrated Christmas with a new chance at a normal life after surgery in a Cayman Islands hospital to correct pulmonary valve stenosis, a congenital heart defect.

Nicolas Garcia-Granados was admitted at Health City Cayman Islands with the serious heart condition, and immediately underwent a six-hour open-heart surgery that was highly successful.

Baby Nicolas was born with a rare genetic condition called Noonan Syndrome, characterized by distinctive facial features, short stature, heart defects, bone malformation, and other symptoms that affect the quality of life and the patient's development.

Due to this syndrome, the baby was born with a severe pulmonary valve stenosis (narrow pulmonary valve) and he also had a hole in his heart.

"When Nicolas was born he was very pale, he was practically blue, it seemed that he didn't get enough oxygen to his lungs, in fact he never cried", said Carlos Garcia-Granados, the patient's father.

Nicolas underwent his first intervention in Guatemala, a catheterization to dilate the pulmonary valve. However,

this procedure was not successful and his doctors determined that Nicolas required a delicate open-heart surgery that was unavailable in his home country.

Nicolas's family began their journey to find a caring and affordable hospital that could perform his complex surgery. The options included the United States (with a high budget of US\$250,000), Colombia, Argentina, and the Cayman Islands. According to the family, the final decision wasn't really a matter of cost; it was more a matter of destiny.

"Since the first contact we made with Health City, the staff was very friendly, without complications, but the decision was really made thanks to the recommendation of a friend who brought his baby to this hospital with a serious condition in his heart. The baby had a diagnosis of 72 hours to live, and here they saved his life. That's why we decided to come to Cayman," Nicolas's father said.

Upon his arrival at Health City, Nicolás was evaluated by Dr. Sripadh Upadhy, Senior Pediatric Cardiologist, who confirmed the child's serious health condition, and stated that he needed an open-heart surgery.



► Baby Nicolas Garcia-Granados was born with severe pulmonary valve stenosis and a hole in his heart, due to the congenital Noonan Syndrome. He wasn't getting enough oxygen to his lungs. However, just before Christmas, he received life-changing surgery at Health City Cayman Islands, and will not need further operations to live a healthy life

Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil, Clinical Director and Head of the Cardiothoracic and Vascular Department in Health City performed the six-hour procedure, which solved all of Nicolas's heart problems by closing the hole in his heart and correcting the pulmonary valve stenosis.

"The procedure was highly successful. Nicolás recovered surprisingly fast. He will be able to live a normal life and will not need any other surgery in the future," Dr. Sripadh confirmed.

Baby Nicolás's relieved relatives expressed their gratitude to Health City Cayman Islands.

"The days went by so fast that it was amazing for us to see him recover so quickly. We feel blessed to be together ... We want to thank God and this hospital for all they have done for us," said Nicolas' mother Stephanie Rodriguez.

About Health City Cayman Islands

Health City Cayman Islands, the vision of renowned heart surgeon

and humanitarian Dr. Devi Shetty, is supported by Narayana Health, one of India's largest private healthcare systems. Health City, only the second hospital in the Caribbean to receive the Joint Commission International's "hospital accreditation", provides compassionate, high-quality, affordable healthcare services in a world-class, comfortable, patient-centered environment. Offering healthcare to local, regional and international patients, Health City Cayman Islands delivers excellence in adult and pediatric cardiology, cardiac surgery, cardiac electrophysiology, medical oncology, orthopedics, sports medicine, pediatric endocrinology, gastrointestinal and bariatric surgery, neurology, interventional neurology and neuro-diagnostics, neurosurgery, minimally invasive spine surgery, gynecology, urology, pediatric allergies, colorectal surgery, dental, sleep lab and pulmonology services.

For further information, visit www.healthcitycaymanislands.com. 🌐



► Baby Nicolas Garcia-Granados with his family following his recovery

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Mariners
- 7 Coin's place
- 11 Statue setting
- 12 Skin opening
- 13 Shrewd
- 14 Computer symbol
- 15 Prime minister Gandhi
- 17 Be thrifty
- 20 Jockey's garb
- 23 Freud topic
- 24 Soup cracker
- 26 Amp plug-in
- 27 Verb for you
- 28 Last letter
- 29 Slanted type
- 31 Cochlea setting
- 32 Stylist's spot
- 33 Track figures
- 34 Hospital worker
- 37 Take it easy
- 39 Bleak
- 43 Finished
- 44 Glacial period
- 45 Gum masses
- 46 Skin art

DOWN

- 1 Pouchlike part
- 2 Angled pipe
- 3 King beater
- 4 Studio output
- 5 Flat
- 6 Bully's target
- 7 Verve
- 8 Confined to one area
- 9 Coronado's gold
- 10 Top rating
- 16 Archipelago makeup

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

Yesterday's answer

- 17 Truck stop sights
- 18 Heartburn
- 19 Spoken
- 21 Massage
- 22 Prophetic ones
- 24 Virtuous fellow
- 25 Curved path
- 30 Solitary sorts
- 33 Beginning
- 35 Fix text
- 36 Costa
- 37 Near the ground
- 38 Gardner of film
- 40 Yoga need
- 41 In the past
- 42 Zodiac cat

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11								12			
13								14			
			15					16			
17	18	19				20			21	22	
23				24	25						
26				27					28		
29			30						31		
32									33		
		34				35	36				
37	38					39			40	41	42
43									44		
45									46		

6-13

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

5/22

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★

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Word Search

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

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

- | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------|--------|
| Baht | Escudo | Mark | Soldo |
| Bolivar | Euro | Peseta | Sucre |
| Cent | Florin | Peso | Thaler |
| Crown | Forint | Piastre | Yen |
| Cruzeiro | Franc | Pound | Yuan |
| Dinar | Gourde | Rand | Zloty |
| Dollar | Groat | Rouble | |
| Drachma | Krone | Ryal | |
| Ducat | Lira | Shekel | |

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

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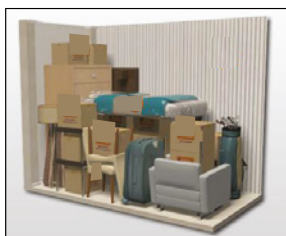
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A **4 x 7** (approx. 25 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of a small room or large closet, such as:



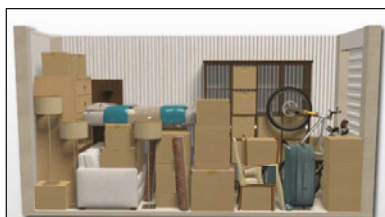
- Chairs
- Small desks
- Filing cabinets
- Files
- Bookcases
- A few boxes

A **6 x 9** (approx. 50 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of one room such as:



- Couches
- Chairs
- Chest of drawers
- Lamps
- A few boxes

A **6 x 13** (approx. 75 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of two rooms such as:



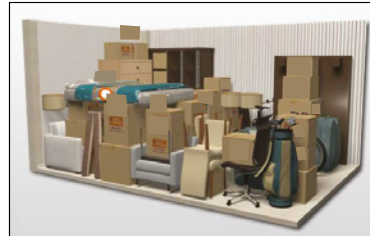
- Mattress sets
- Sofas
- Chest of drawers
- Bookcases
- Desks

A **10 x 10** (approx. 100 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of three rooms such as:



- Mattress sets
- Sofas
- Armchairs
- Dining room sets
- Multiple boxes

A **10 x 15** (approx. 150 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of four rooms such as:



- Mattress sets
- Sofas
- Armchairs
- Dining room sets
- Chest of drawers

A **10 x 20** (approx. 200 sq. ft) storage space can hold the contents of five rooms such as:



- Mattress sets
- Refrigerators
- Washers/dryers
- Many boxes

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