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Opposition concerned by Cruise Line Executives visit



Opposition Leader Hon. V. Arden Mclean J.P. on Tuesday expressed the Official Opposition's complete disappointment and concern with the Government and Carnival Cruise Lines executives who have descended on Grand Cayman to hold meetings. Sources have conformed to Opposition members that the meetings were held by invitation only and appear to be focused on convincing others to support the project.

The Opposition members have now become deeply concerned at what appears to be the cruise lines deliberate meddling and interference in local political issues. This would be the second occasion where they have appeared on island to influence public opinion regarding the cruise berthing project. One year ago, both Carnival and Royal Caribbean sent executives to attend a public meeting held by Hon. Minister

Kirkconnell. The meeting was supposed to be an opportunity for members of the public to discuss their concerns with their elected representatives and were disappointed and angered that potential bidders of the contract were imposed on them at the last minute. The inclusion of the potential bidders were a departure from established best practices

... Continued story on page A4

Strongman Event This Weekend

Sports and fitness enthusiasts will be testing their strength and endurance this weekend at the first ever Cayman Islands Strongman competition, which takes place on Saturday, 5 October at the Lion's Centre from 1pm to 6pm. Englishman Eddie Hall, 2017 World's Strongest Man and reigning Guinness Book of Records holder for heaviest strongman deadlift (500 kg/1,102.3lbs, 2016), is in Cayman for the event and will wow spectators with various demonstrations.

Hundreds are expected to come out and watch individuals and teams com-

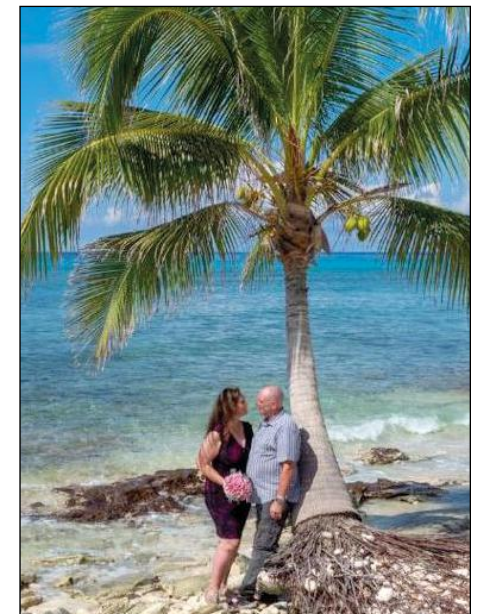
pete in five of seven events: the atlas stone (mandatory); deadlift (mandatory); farmers walk; tire flip; carry and load medley; heart walk; and bearing the cross. The top 3 teams overall and top 3 individual male and female in each category will receive medals. There will also be simulation activities for children who want to experience 'kid size' strongman elements.

While in Cayman, Hall, also known as "The Beast", will speak at the Be Strong! Youth Rally, an event for year

... Continued story on page A8



A Wedding in Paradise



By Flynn Bush

September, 2009 was set to be a very special time for Lisbeth and Keld Christenson. The Danish couple has painstakingly made plans to take a cruise to Grand Cayman; the ultimate goal was a beautiful wedding on the beach. Ar-

... Continued story on page A3

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EDITORIAL

Heavy rains and floods forecasted

The peak of the hurricane season may have passed but the tropics are still active. During the next few days, residents of the Cayman Islands will experience heavy rains and flooding as we have been told to expect a 40% - 60% chance of showers and thunder. This will be caused by a broad area of low pressure along with the movement of a tropical wave across the Western Caribbean which will help support showers and thunder across the Cayman area.

According to the National Weather Service, showers may be locally heavy at times. Winds will be Southerly at 5 to 10 knots with higher gust and the sea state will be slight to moderate with wave heights of 2 to 4 feet.

The fifth hurricane of the 2019 Atlantic hurricane season roared into the record books late Saturday when it became the strongest storm ever observed so far north and east in this part of the Atlantic Ocean.

We are not out of the woods yet as we are eight weeks left from the end of

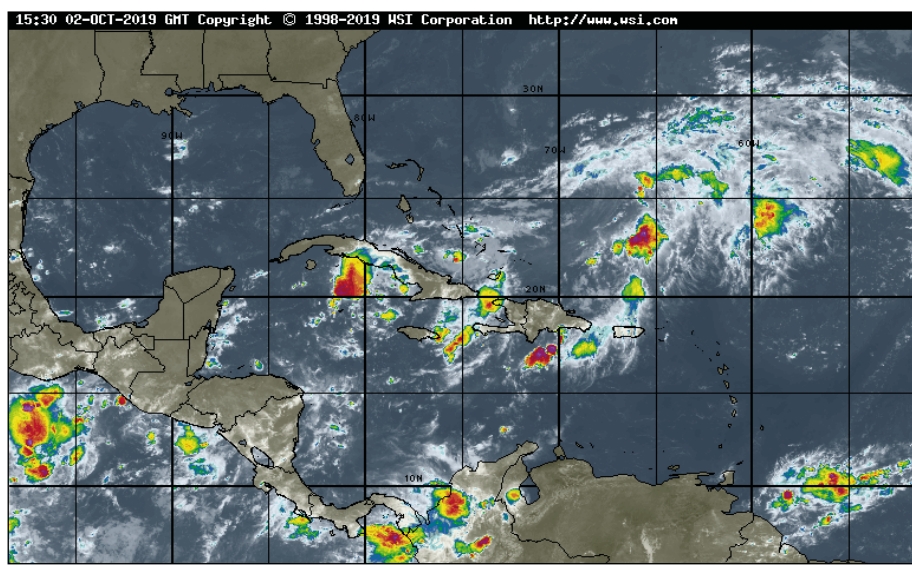


the 2019 hurricane season

Residents should have completed their hurricane preparations and use this opportunity to prepare their cisterns, patch leaks and check their rain gear.

The Cayman Islands is prone to flooding as this photo shows. The picture was taken one day after hurricane Ivan had passed in 2004, and shows the Cayman National Roundabout in Georgetown under water.

Residents are encouraged to pay attention to media sources on a regular basis for updates and changing weather patterns that may disrupt daily living during the next 2 months. Caymanian Times will publish weekly tips that will keep our readers updated during the 2019 season. 🌐



Same Sex Marriage on Center Stage in Court of Appeals

The Court of Appeals is now mulling over its decision regarding same-sex marriage in the Cayman Islands after a three day hearing in a landmark case that has not only reverberated locally but around the world.

Chantelle Day and Vickie Bodden are now awaiting the decision of the Court of Appeals after the hearing's completion on 30th August.

The couple received a favorable ruling in initial proceedings, which took place in March of this year and culminated in the Cayman Islands' Chief Justice Anthony Smelly ruling that the definition of marriage as between a man and a woman was unconstitutional and violated multiple rights.

The Chief Justice's ruling led to celebrations for proponents of gay marriage in the Cayman Islands at the time and plans for a wedding day were announced by the couple. However, not everyone shared this sentiment and the chief justice's decision was soon delayed after the CI government announced its intention to appeal the decision.

In addition to being granted an appeal, a successful application for a 'stay' of any scheduled same-sex marriage/wedding until the conclusion of the appeals hearing was also granted.

During last month's three day hearing of the CI Government's appeal, attorneys for the government argued that the chief justice exceeded the scope of his powers of modification under Section 5(1) of the order which brought the Constitution into effect.

In the Chief Justice's initial ruling, he opined that failure to provide legal recognition of same-sex relationships violated the right to a private and family life, the right to freedom of conscience, the right to freedom from discrimination, and numerous other rights under the Cayman Islands Constitution.

He also accepted the couple's position that the government's failure to amend the law to bring it in line with the Bill of Rights meant that it was the court's duty to modify the law.

During the recent proceedings, the couple's attorney Jonathan Cooper said, "Marriage is a fundamental human right," going on to tell Reuters and international press that, "It feels highly inap-



► (L-R) Chantelle Day and Vickie Bodden leaving the Court House in George Town, Grand Cayman

propriate to force (the couple) through a further appeal process, when the chief justice in the case in the high court was clear that they were entitled to marry."

Cayman Islands Premier Alden McLaughlin has not commented on the appeals process publicly.

He has been on record previously, stating the islands' constitution - which respects the right "to marry a person of the opposite sex" - was designed to reassure Christians that "marriage would retain its traditional definition as the union between a man and a woman".

Currently there are no countries in the Caribbean where same-sex marriage or civil unions are allowed, according to global LGBT+ rights groups.

Though some overseas territories of the United States and the Netherlands - both countries where gay marriage is allowed - do allow it.

Legalized in Bermuda in 2017, same-sex marriage was later banned in parliament. That court battle is ongoing and the appeal by Bermuda's government will be heard in London's Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The cases in Cayman and Bermuda could have far reaching implications for Britain's other Caribbean territories, and no doubt, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos Islands will be watching closely.

A decision is expected in the matter of Chantel Day and Vickie Bodden is expected in October of this year. 🌐

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Department of Environmental Health Advises of Changes to Collection Schedule

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is working to catch up with its residential collections schedule following mechanical issues with collections vehicles last week.

As a result this week (1- 5 October 2019) collections across Grand Cayman will take place one day later than scheduled, as follows:



Tuesday, October 1, 2019

- Northwest Point Rd. to Fountain Rd., Watercourse Rd.;
- West Bay Clinic container Boggy Sand Rd. to Town Hall Rd., Powell Smith Rd., Rev. Blackman Rd., Watercourse Rd., Hell Rd.;
- Kelly's Bar container Mount Pleasant route starting from the West Bay Fire Station, Willie Farrington Dr., West Church St., Rev. Blackman Dr., Garston Smith Dr., Mount Pleasant Rd.;
- Barnett Cl. to inside Anderson Dr.;
- Central Town-garbage and containers from Plantana, Condo to Harbour Heights, Crystal Harbour, Governor's Harbour to West Bay Fire Station. Safe Haven, Canal Point Rd.;
- Anderson Dr. entrance to Pappagallo, Conch Point to Meadow Ave, The Shores, Batabano Rd.;
- Small roads in West Bay;

- From IMP to Morningside Dr. in Prospect Dr.;
- From Jose Gas Station on Crew Rd. to Tropical Garden entrance.;

Friday October 4, 2019

- The Frank Hall Homes of the East-West Arterial (in the area of the Patrick Island), Anise Estates, Shamrock Rd- from Ocean Club to inside Spotts Newlands;
- From Spotts Newlands entrance to inside Pedro Castle Rd. The Frank Hall Homes off the East-West Arterial (Adventure Street);
- Shamrock Rd- from Tall Tree to Will T. Dr. entrance (side roads included);
- Hirst Rd.- from Edison Dr. to inside Moonbeam Dr. (continue left to Elderberry Dr.);
- Hirst Rd. - From College Cl. to Windward Dr.;
- Moonbeam Dr. (on the right- Nathan Merren Dr. Candlewood Dr. to Brushwood Way) North Sound Estates;

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

- Eastern Ave., Swamp, Godfrey Nixon Way;
- South Church St., then turn onto Walkers Rd. to Denham Thompson Way;
- Walkers Rd., Goring Ave. to inside Denham Thompson Way;
- Central Town, Elgin Ave, Hospital Rd. Mary St., Scranton, Myles Rd., Rock Hole, North Sound Way;
- West Bay Rd.- from Watler's Rd. to Snug Harbour;
- North Sound Rd. from Red Gate Rd to the end, Breezy Way, Shedden Rd., Smith Rd. Templeton Pine Lake.;
- Seymour Dr. to Web Rd., Brinkley Dr., Swallow Ln., Wahoo Cl., Merrendale Dr., Ms. Keppie Ln., Casper Walk, Short Ln., Theresa Dr.;

Saturday October 5, 2019

- Shamrock Rd -from Will T. Dr. to Northward Rd. entrance via Star Apple St., Hudson Dr. Figtree Rd, Northward Rd.;
- Will T. Dr. to Northward Rd. entrance via Shamrock Rd. including side roads;
- From the entrance of Northward Rd. to Belford Estates via Condor Rd.;
- Shamrock Rd. - from the entrance of Condor Rd. to inside Midland Acres.;
- Bodden Town Rd. from the entrance of Midland Acres to John McLean Dr.;
- Austin Connolly Dr. - from the entrance of John McLean Dr. to Old Man Bay then from the entrance of Hutland Rd to Cayman Kai.;
- Frank Sound to Hutland Rd.

The DEH apologises to residents in the affected areas, and urges those with specific issues to call 949-6696 or email dehcustomerservice@gov.ky. 🌐

Thursday, October 3, 2019

- Central Town, Windsor Park, Banana Walk;
- Prospect Point Rd., Mangrove Ave, Mahogany Way, Patrick Island, Prospect Dr.;
- Marina Dr. plus side roads;
- Randyke Gardens, Halfway Pond, Bobby Thompson Way to Oak Mill St.;
- South Sound Rd, Old Crewe Rd., Legacy Dr., Tropical Gardens, containers in Tropical Gardens;

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Danish Couple Finally Get Cayman Wedding

... Continued story from page A1

rangements had already been made with Mrs. Joy Basdeo of Simply Weddings. It was to be a day that they would both remember for the rest of their lives. Instead, what preceded this day was memorable for all the wrong reasons.

As fate would have it, while the couple was in Florida in order to embark on their cruise, their rental car was broken into. The thieves took all of their possessions, including Lisbeth's dress and both their wedding rings. Brokenhearted, the couple salvaged what they could of their dream and got married in a rushed civil ceremony before returning home to Denmark.

Years passed but Lisbeth and Keld still held on to the dream of a wedding on our shores. They kept in touch with Mrs. Basdeo, and vowed to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary in Grand Cayman. This time, god willing, there would be no detours or distractions.

Dreams really do come true, albeit a little delayed sometimes, and this

was one of those dreams. On Monday, September 23rd, their anniversary, the couple sailed into Grand Cayman on a cruise. As they disembarked the Carnival Conquest, Simply Weddings was waiting to pick them up. In just a few short minutes, they were transported to Consuelo's Beach. There, they renewed their vows in a beautiful Cayman style ceremony. It was utterly amazing and inspiring.

Mrs. Joy Basdeo, who officiated the ceremony, was touched as well. "This is a beautiful story," she stated. "It is a really beautiful love story." The others who present would agree. Of course, pictures were taken and champagne toasts were made; all adding to the memories.

Now, Lisbeth, who is a Health and Safety Offshore Supervisor with General Electric, and Keld, who is a firefighter with the Danish Air Force, are seasoned travelers who have taken many exotic vacations all around the world. However, this island has laid claim to a special in both their hearts. It was an initial



dream to get married her but, now it is a place that signifies their love; true and everlasting. Because of that fact, the

couple are already planning a return visit to the Cayman Islands. Perhaps it will be on their eleventh anniversary. 🌐

Tourism Statistics Show Decline in Cruise Arrivals

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (1 October 2019) Newly released tourism performance statistics show that cruise passenger arrivals for the first half of the year are down by six percent. Other than January and April 2019 which saw increases of 24.12 percent and 2.17 percent respectively, cruise passenger arrivals have declined for every month of this year when compared to 2018. For the month of August 2019 cruise passenger arrivals were down 7.5 percent compared to August 2018.

"The decline in cruise arrivals is disappointing but not unexpected, said Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, Minister for Tourism. "A significant number of Caymanians are employed within our cruise sector so when passenger numbers go down month after month, these are the people that feel it the most."

The Ministry has been advising the public that arrivals would fall as islands recover from the damage sustained during the 2017 hurricane season. As more of the region resumes normal operations this is the reality but knowing it was expected is providing little comfort to those whose livelihoods depend on cruise passengers.

"The reality is that our economy is service based and we depend on the market being brought to our shores. If that market declines we don't have many options for our people to fall back on to maintain themselves and their families", the Minister said.



▶ Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, Minister for Tourism

"Government has an obligation, one that it takes very seriously; to do the very best we can to provide our people with stable employment and opportunities to be successful. In the case of stayover tourism, strategies were implemented to level out seasonality and this is paying dividends through record breaking arrivals year round. Months that were historically viewed as 'slow season' are now bursting at the seams with visitor arrivals, which translates into increased and dependable income for businesses and workers in that sector of our service and hospitality industry."

"The berthing facility would enable similar results to be accomplished in the cruise sector, the Minister continued. "As well as allowing the larger Oasis class ships to dock in George Town, cruise ship arrivals could be scheduled more consistently throughout the week which would assist in managing capacity and provide a steady and dependable income for cruise industry workers."

As more of the mega-class ships replace the smaller, older vessels currently operating in the region, the Cayman Islands, as the only destination in the Caribbean and Central America without a berthing facility, is expecting to see cruise arrivals decline over time.

Royal Caribbean President and CEO Michael Bayley echoed the Minister's sentiment in a recent interview with a local news outlet.

"Cayman is a popular destination. We have been coming to Cayman for 50 years and hopefully we will continue to come for another 50 years, but at the end of the day you have to look at the reality of it. If we can't create the infrastructure and facilities to better receive the guests as our ships get bigger, it is not unrealistic to think that volume of guests and the number of ships will decline," Bayley said.



The Ministry of Tourism is planning a public meeting for later this month to discuss the cruise berthing facility

and details will be announced soon.

For more information related to the cruise berthing project,

please visit site www.supportourtourism.com or connect via Facebook/[supPORTourTOURISM](https://www.facebook.com/supPORTourTOURISM). 🌐

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Government Restates Support for One Cayman Carnival

The Ministry of Culture has reiterated on Tuesday, 1 October 2019) that the Government approved weekend for Grand Cayman Carnival is the second week of May (9 May, 2020).

After lengthy deliberations, the Government, earlier this year, decided that the most suitable schedule for Cayman Islands carnivals would be: to hold junior carnival on the first weekend in May; Grand Cayman adult carnival (both Batabano and CayMas parades) to run over the second weekend in May; and Braccanal, the Cayman Brac carnival, on the third weekend in May 2020.

Government initially proposed the simultaneous staging of the two carnivals for a number of reasons. Key among these was to avoid the cumulative loss of business experienced by Grand Cay-

man merchants in the Seven Mile Beach area associated with road closures on



two consecutive weekends. Road closures also create a strain on police resources.

Another aim was to allow Braccanal to be held on a weekend during which no similar events would take place on Grand Cayman.

While Government appreciates the dynamic professionalism and cultural contributions of all Carnival mas bands, it feels compelled to maintain its support for the combined carnival (adult) parade.

"We remain open to constructive dialogue with all carnival organisers. At the same time our position is that any developments must take place within the framework of one Cayman Carnival. The arrangements that all parties agreed following a year of discussions still offer the best way forward for all stakehold-



► Culture Minister Dwayne Seymour

ers. It also provides a sustainable foundation for the continued growth of local carnivals", comments Culture Minister Dwayne Seymour, adding "Our larger Caribbean neighbours also have one Carnival." 🌐

Over 3,000 Vehicle Owners Benefit from DVDL's Amnesty

Over 3,000 vehicle owners have already benefited from the Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing (DVDL) six-month amnesty which started 29 April and runs until Friday, November 1, 2019.

Of that number, 2,399 vehicles which had expired registration at the start of the amnesty have subsequently been relicensed by owners. Six hundred and seventy five (675) vehicle owners utilised the amnesty to suspend their vehicles' registration, and one hundred and ninety four (194) vehicle owners voluntarily terminated their vehicles from the register.



The amnesty provides for a waiver of fees for persons who have accrued a backlog for unlicensed vehicles. It is also aimed at reducing the number of derelict and abandoned vehicles across the country.

Minister of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure Hon. Joey Hew states that the amnesty is a temporary relief that the Government is providing for those

who have accrued fees going back to Hurricane Ivan in some cases. "Vehicles owners should make use of this waiver so that they can come back into compliance," he notes.

Director of Licensing at DVDL, Mr. David Dixon says that once the amnesty process ends, customers will no longer be able to benefit from the write off of fees. "We have a month to go before the end of the amnesty so we want to encourage persons to make use of the opportunity to catch up with their back fees without costs or penalty," he emphasises.

After the amnesty ends on November 1, all vehicles with expired registration will be terminated in an effort to clean up the DVDL's register.

In addition, the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service will continue to undertake enforcement efforts to ensure proper registration of vehicles pursuant to the Road Traffic Law and Regulations. Those motorists found in violation will be prosecuted.

There are several ways for vehicle owners to benefit under the amnesty.

Persons who wish to relicense, sell or transfer ownership of their vehicle can visit one of DVDL's offices to have their vehicle inspected. They can then relicense and avoid paying the fees that have accrued during the unlicensed period. Customers who choose to relicense, sell or transfer ownership are reminded to keep their registration plates.

Those customers who have vehicles that are not roadworthy can visit one of DVDL's locations to suspend their vehicle until repairs are complete and it is ready for use. Customers who suspend



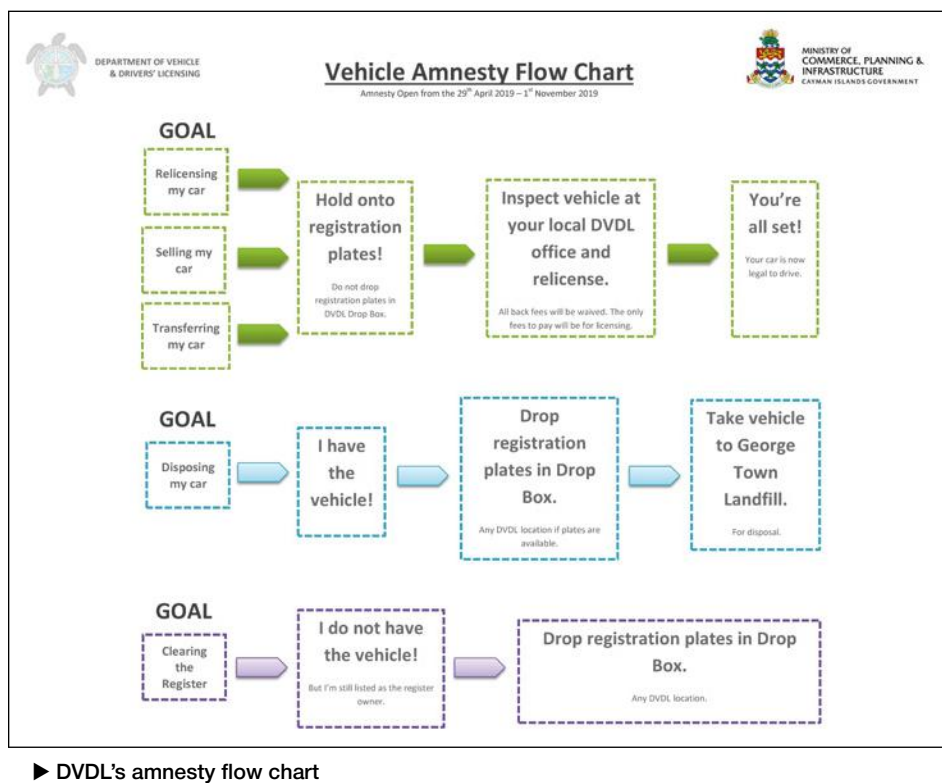
► Red Bay Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing

their vehicle's registration should also keep their plates.

Where a vehicle is not in the owner's possession, such as circumstances where it may have been destroyed in a natural disaster, owners can drop those plates off at any DVDL location if they still have them. If owners do not possess plates for vehicles that are no longer in their possession, they can visit the DVDL Crewe Road location or contact 945-8344 for further guidance.

The DVDL encourages all owners of derelict vehicles to dispose of their cars and trucks responsibly at the George Town Landfill, if they no longer wish to drive them. Persons can be fined or imprisoned under the Cayman Islands Litter Law for vehicles left derelict and abandoned.

In addition to the opportunities being available under the amnesty, members of the public are reminded that they can renew their vehicle's licence online via DVDL's website at www.dvdl.gov.ky or through the e-services portal: www.eservices.gov.ky. 🌐



Opposition Members Deeply Concerned by Cruise Line Executives Visit

... Continued story from page A1

and brought the entire procurement process into disrepute as a result of the perceived conflicts.

Mr. Mclean expressed his concern that the Deputy Premier is now running the real risk of completely losing any remaining confidence from the public that the cruise berthing bidding and selection process was run fairly and transparently. There has been no final contract signed, and with the referendum now imminent, the Opposition members feel that the latest visits by the cruise lines is tantamount to political subversion and may even be a violation of local and United States laws.

"I am very concerned that the Deputy Premier would encourage this visit at such an inappropriate time. The Country is preparing for the referendum and here we have the 'Selected bidders' arriving in Cayman to influence public opinion."

Mr. Mclean questions, "Are they here as visitors under the Immigration law? Or do they have valid work permits? This is very concerning and is perhaps the biggest insult to the intelligence of the Caymanian people. The Government has now gone too far and this needs to stop now."

Mr. Mclean added, "I doubt any of the other Cabinet members and Government backbench have the fortitude to stand up to the Premier and take this matter seriously, but let me remind all concerned that there is a law

in the United States call the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act which allows the US Authorities to take serious action against corporations and their accomplices who operate contrary to the law, and if this sort of behaviour continues we will write to the U.S. Department of Justice. These corporations need to understand they are required to stay out of local politics, more specifically they need to stay out of the upcoming Peoples Initiated Referendum, it is not their business."

Bodden Town West MLA Mr. Christopher Saunders also questioned the case for the port in light of recent events as reported in the Jamaican media where the total cruise passengers that arrived at Jamaica's three main ports for the month of June 2019 decreased by 27.9% to 66,552. Alternatively, the Cayman Islands which is also on the western itinerary, with one port and no piers, welcomed 104,527 cruise passengers which was 37,975 or 57% more than Jamaica.

Mr. Saunders questioned the logic of the PPM led government by asking, "Why can't the Premier and his other colleagues learn from the mistakes made by Jamaica? The people of the Cayman Islands have worked hard to earn their place as leaders in the Caribbean and to become followers at this late stage is a recipe for disaster. The cruise lines already gave Jamaica a six for a nine and is now trying to do the same to the Cayman Islands. Enough is enough."

Deputy Opposition Leader, MLA Alva Suckoo added,



► Deputy Opposition Leader, MLA Alva Suckoo

"Once again we see what little regard this Government has for the wishes of the people. A group of citizens have bravely exercised their constitutional rights in calling for a People Initiated Referendum and the Governments next move is to disrespectfully ignore their voices and invite their business partners in to deny the people a fair vote and outcome. I am saddened and deeply disappointed in our colleagues on the other side and can only hope that there are a few among them who will stand up to this level of treachery and disrespect."

Mr. Mclean reiterated his call for a fair, open and transparent referendum process, and condemned what appears to be the Governments unrelenting acts of interference and voter manipulation. He added, "We will not stand for this insult and disrespect for the Caymanian people. If



► Opposition Leader Hon. V. Arden Mclean J.P.

the Government does not see the harm in allowing these super rich corporations to waltz in here, try to buy our islands, and attempt to influence the referendum results in their favour, it is because they do not want to see it. We call on the Government to cease and desist immediately. The Opposition has endorsed overseas Observers as the best course to ensure a fair referendum, our hope is that we will never rue the day when our democratic process becomes like many other countries in the world." 🌐

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Older Persons Garden Party at Pedro St. James

By Christopher Tobutt

There's nothing like meeting up with friends you haven't seen for a while, and that was what was happening at a lovely garden party for older people at Pedro St. James, put on by the Ministry of Community Affairs and Department of Family Services.

MLA Austin Harris gave everyone a warm welcome: "It's wonderful to be here today to recognise the international day of older persons and kick off a month of activities that will be dedicated to the true jewels of the Caribbean, our senior citizens," he said. "The theme for this month in appreciation of those who are 65-and-older, is 'Positive Ageing,' and I think that theme reflects quite nicely the continuing focus of the Ministry of Community Affairs and the Department of Children and Family Services to promote and assist our aging population.

Next, it was time to officially recognise the wonderful work by the 2019 Older Persons Ambassadors, who each came up onstage to receive a lovely, engraved crystal plaque from Chief Officer of Community Affairs, Ms Teresa Echenique, while Ms Paulinda Mendoza-Williams read out a brief biography of each one.

The first Ambassador to come forward was John Ebanks from North Side: "In 1969 Mr. Ebanks went to work for the Public Works Department as a truck driver, and worked his way up through the ranks to asphalt plant operator. He then became supervisor of the roads' construction with over 100 men under his leadership...Being a people's person he was inducted into the Lions Club of Grand Cayman, and worked his way up to Club President," Ms Mendoza-Williams said.

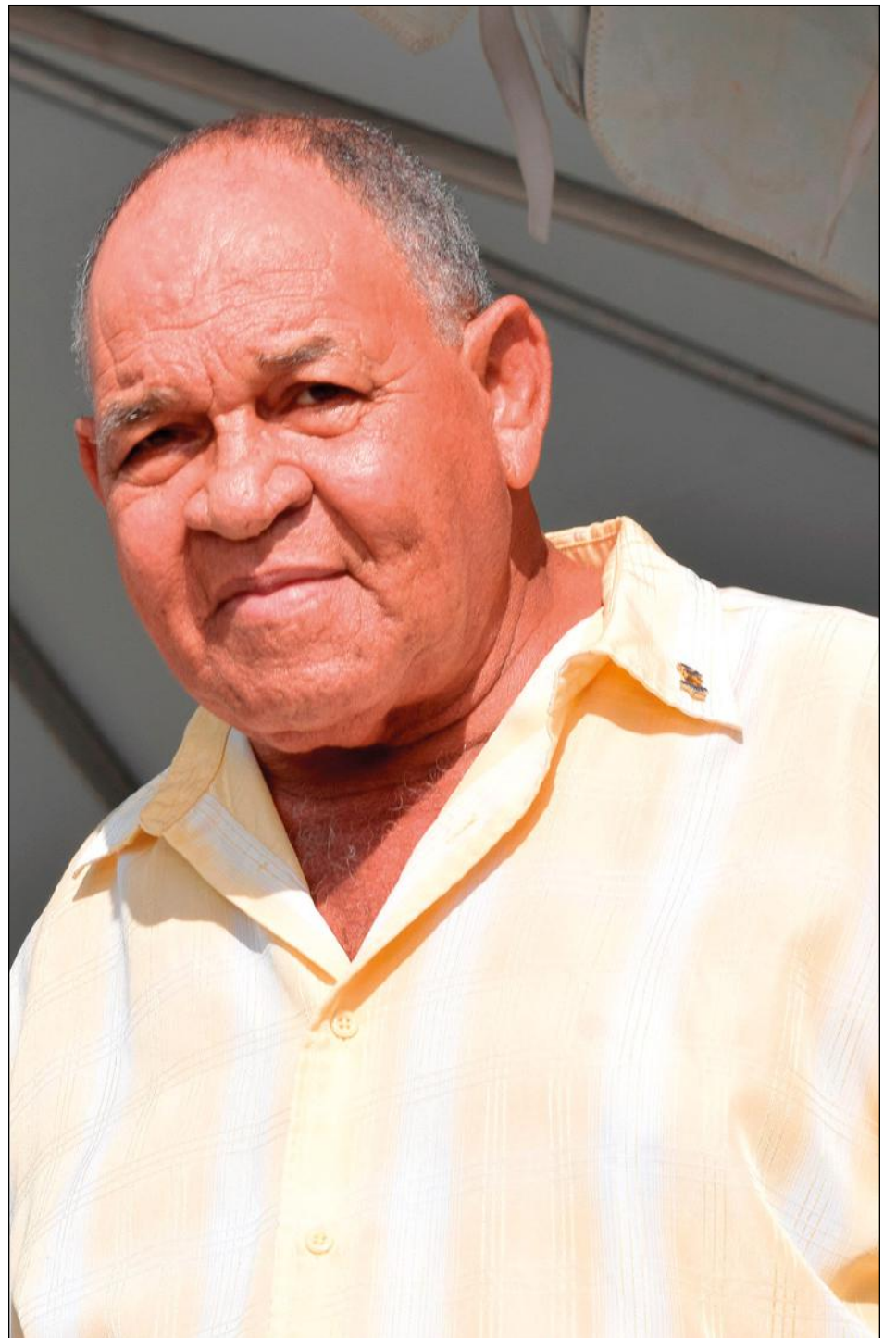
... Continued story on page A7



► Dancing!



► Ambassador Beulah McField



► Older Person's Ambassador John Ebanks



► Older Person's Garden Party at Pedro St James



► The Regeneration Band got people dancing

... Continued story from page A6

Beulah Mcfield came next. "A mother of three and grandmother of 5, In 1993 she received a call from God to start an afterschool programme in George Town. With 2000 dollars as a gift from one of her children, who said 'Do what God told you to do,' she opened Rehoboth Afterschool Enrichment Centre in October 1994. Since then that afterschool has served thousands of children," Ms Mendoza said.

McFarlane Conolly from East End was next: "McFarlane Conolly is the epitome of service to others above self. A retired career banker, he now devotes his time to helping others not only in his community, but throughout the island. He is a committed Christian who is constantly studying the Word of God with a view to being better able to help people," Ms. Mendoza said.

Maureen Idalee Scott was the final Ambassador to be recognised: "She is presently a very active member of

All Nations Pentecostal Church, and says she prays daily for God to give her strength to help others. A very caring, talented and wise individual, Mrs Scott loves helping anyone in need, and donates food and clothes to any good cause," Ms Mendoza said.

It was time for the fun and games to begin, and the very first game (and it was really a lot of fun) was the cake walk. Former Leader of Government Business, and now officially an Older Person too, Kurt Tibbetts came up onstage with some funny banter as he dipped his hand in the special bag of raffle tickets, for the produce raffle. Mr Tibbetts was one of several people who had donated produce from his garden.

There was more entertainment, and more fun to come. There was "tom foolery," and food tasting, and a hat competition too, to see who had the loveliest and most original hat. Then dinner was served and it tasted really good, as Caymanian home-cooking should. 🌐



► The Cake Walk was lots of fun



► Ambassador Maureen Idalee Scott



► Ambassador Beulah McField



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Creating Sensory-Inclusive Guest Experiences



Dubbed one of the leading and largest hotel industry events in the world, the 2019 Lodging Conference, held in Phoenix, Arizona last week was bustling as hotel owners and executives from around the globe came together to strategize about development, finances, franchising, management, construction, design, and operations. More than just a conference, the entire event served as a think tank where everybody in attendance had the opportunity to join in the conversation, discuss issues, and solve problems that we face in our industry.

As a conference sponsor, Cayman-based Caymera International was fortunate to have an opportunity to gift two conference registrations along with exhibition space to a non-profit organization called Sensory City. This enabled the organization's founder, Tanya Acosta, a Boston-based Speech Pathologist and mom of a child with a disability the access to discuss and advocate for a growing issue in our industry; Sensory Processing Accessibility and her mission to create sensory-inclusive hotels, resorts, airports, museums, restaurants and attractions for guests with Cognitive or Sensory Processing Disabilities such as ASD/SPD (Autism Spectrum Disorder/ Sensory Processing Disorder).

Did you know? Individuals – or our future guests, who have autism, PTSD, dementia, and ADHD all benefit from sensory consideration? And, how about these figures: In the U.S., Cayman's number one inbound market - 13 million people have PTSD, 1.5 million people have Autism, 5.7 million adults have dementia, and 6.4 million children have ADHD.

Sensory City's mission is to implement custom solutions that promote comfort, reduce judgment, and overall facilitate less complicated travel experiences for families with loved ones with special needs, who love to travel. And, what better forum to give them an opportunity to do so - than a global hotel industry event?

During a preliminary conversation, I had with Tanya, I learned a lot. I also had an 'AH HA' moment. Back in mid-August, I wrote a column about Accessible Practices for Guests with Disabilities. And, regrettably, I didn't include practices for sensory processing accessibility - not for any other reason than my own lack of overall awareness. And, since then, I've come to realize, after many conversations and much research; it's not just me- the overall hospitality and tourism industry is greatly lacking in this area leaving these individuals and their families completely under-served, which is why Caymera International has become an official partner of Sensory City. We want to change this, increase awareness throughout the industry and make businesses inclusive, not just for those with visible disabilities, but also those with less visible disabilities as well. In partnership with Sensory City, we are now able to offer our tourism partners:

Sensory Friendly Training

We offer industry specific training for employees at your location or via webinar. These workshops include information about the populations that present with sensory issues. We provide strategies for welcoming and including guests who have less visible disabilities and focus on how a business can adapt their space in order to promote the safety, communication, and comfort of individuals with unique sensory needs. In ad-

dition, we offer autism awareness training, sensory friendly training for people of different professions. Our industry specific trainings are appropriate for airport, attractions, hotel and resort, restaurant and museum employees.

Custom Picture Books-Social Stories

Custom made Social stories (picture books) explain your location in pictures. Children with autism often have difficulty with transitions and adjusting to new spaces. They often "think in pictures" and are visual learners. Hence, visual supports and social narratives designed to show people with autism what to expect at the hotel or establishment and how to access its services are critical to making their experience as pleasant as possible.

Each customized order will include several laminated copies. These can be available for distribution to families upon arrival and a digital copy is provided so that guests can read it prior to arrival. Having this in advance can prepare an individual to transition smoothly to an unfamiliar place.

Site Analysis

Our experts will do a walkthrough of your site and provide a list of recommended modifications that your business can implement yielding your space the ability to accommodate the diverse needs of individuals with sensory considerations.

Sensory Friendly Certificate

A custom "sensory friendly" certificate and a decal for your window and our website are provided. This defines your business as a certified sensory friendly space. Additionally, we can provide marketing materials and a consultation with your marketing team in which we supply the phrasing and keywords necessary to attract and welcome individuals with autism to your establishment.

Comfort Kit & Safety Kit

Sensory challenges often require sensory items for comfort. We pro-



► Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International

vide sensory kits that contain a hand-picked supply of sensory friendly toys, safety items such as outlet covers and door alarms, weighted blankets or lap pads and noise-reducing headphones. These allow your establishment to offer a selection of calming and soothing items in order to accommodate individuals with sensory needs.

Did you know that there is now a Yelp-like app that lists all the locations that are sensory-friendly? We can offer businesses a sensory-friendly certification and list sensory friendly venues on these sites.

For questions or for information on how to become sensory-friendly, email info@caymeragroup.com.

Stay tuned for more updates and insights from the Lodging Conference next week.

Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International, a Caymanian-owned hospitality and tourism consulting and advisory firm. She's an industry veteran and holds a master's certificate in Hospitality Management from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY and has also earned continuing education certifications in Hotel Real Estate and Asset Management, Digital Marketing, and Revenue Management from Cornell University. Visit Caymera at www.caymeragroup.com or email info@caymeragroup.com for more information.



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CI Strongman Event This Weekend

... Continued story from page A1

7 to 9 students from both the public and private high schools, which will take place on Friday, 4 October at the Lion's Centre from 10am to noon. Hall will talk about his struggles with anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts and how he found purpose, happiness and success through powerlifting. Also on the agenda for the rally is former Miss Teen Latecia Bush, rapper DLMND and Isaiah Bodden who will perform a skit entitled 'If Anxiety had a Voice'. In addition, Hall will travel to the Brac on Thursday to talk to students and spread his powerful and inspiring message

"I am excited to be a part of the first ever Cayman Strongman competition. I've already had such a warm welcome to the Cayman Islands and I'm looking forward to sharing my story with everyone on Friday and Saturday. I hope it will encourage people and motivate them to be strong, no matter what they're going through," said Hall.

The CI Strongman competition and Be Strong youth rally is being hosted by

the Cayman Islands Powerlifting Organisation. Some of the proceeds from the Strongman Competition will go to local charities Cayman Heart Fund, the Alex Panton Foundation and the Anti-Bullying Foundation as well as assist Cayman's powerlifters with expenses for overseas competitions.

Admission to the Cayman Islands Strongman Competition is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under. Doors open at 1pm and competition begins at 2pm. Food and drinks will also be on sale.

For more information or to register to compete, contact Cayman Islands Powerlifting Organisation President Tony McInerney on 925.5335 or tony-mac@candw.ky or visit www.strongman.ky.

The CI Strongman competition is presented by Monster Energy and sponsored by Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture & Lands, Hurley's Media, Generali, Accountability Services, Ltd, MAC Plumbing & Maintenance Services Ltd, Kelly Holding Events & Communications, Hopscotch Productions, FastSigns and GNC.



► Tony McInerney (middle) flanked by Eddie Hall (L) and UK Bodybuilder Calum Raistrick (R)



► Jean-eric Smith (left) and TAB representative, Candace Ransome-Grant (far right) celebrate the achievements of the Cayman Craft Market vendors

“CRAFT MARKET CELEBRATES VENDORS’ ACHIEVEMENTS”

The Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) and management of the Cayman Craft Market is proud to celebrate the achievements of its vendors who recently underwent the Aquila Centre for Cruise Excellence Training.

The Aquila workshops held in August, were coordinated by the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) and hosted locally by the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism. Twenty vendors received the internationally recognised certification through the Front Line and Customer Service Workshop.

The Aquila company is a Canadian tour operator and FCCA approved trainer based in Saint John, New Brunswick with 35 years of experience in the travel industry and over 30 years of providing shore excellence to the cruise industry. The company’s certification programme offers training programmes in the areas of Tour Operator Excellence, Tour Guide Excellence and Port Excellence, all designed to help the key players in cruise destinations around the world achieve

excellence in their ports, tours, guides and businesses.

“We are optimistic the workshop will better prepare the vendors for their interactions with visitors this coming winter tourist season and beyond,” commented Cayman Craft Market manager, Jeán-eric Smith.

The training also coincided with the Market’s 19-year anniversary; having first been established in 2000 at the old Almond Tree Restaurant site (on North Church Street). The TAB acquired the Cayman Craft Market in 2005 and soon after, relocated the market to its current South Church Street location only five minutes from the port.

“The Market has been encouraging entrepreneurship of local artisans for almost two decades now and we’ve helped several cottage industry businesses anchor themselves within the business community. We feel it is fitting to continue to develop the talents of the vendors who make the Market a friendly place to visit and to shop” added Mr. Smith. 🌐

Attending the service excellence workshops on behalf of the Cayman Craft Market were:

- Charles Bush
- Karalyn Bush
- Lucindy Bush
- Faith Campbell
- Yvonne Chambers
- Veron Dell
- Erma Graham
- Mya Grant
- Wilson Jean Louis
- Franklin Manderson
- Rosemary McBride Miller

- Melba Miller
- Janet Minzett
- Tracy Mullings
- Paul Newman
- Jane Schirn
- John Schirn
- Jeán-eric Smith
- Cassilda Terry
- Ivolyn Thomas
- Tracy Thomas

The Cayman Islands Tourism Attraction Board (TAB) is responsible for managing the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park; the National Historic Site, Pedro St. James; the Cayman Craft Market and the Hell Geological Site as well as the Pirates Week National Festival.

For information on the TAB or its agencies please email marketing@tab.ky, call 949-6999 or visit the website www.tab.ky and its social media sites (below).

- <https://www.facebook.com/TourismAttractionBoard>
- <https://www.facebook.com/CaymanIslandsPiratesWeekFestival/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/pedrostjames>
- <https://www.facebook.com/QEIIIBotanicPark/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/caymancraftmarket/>

Experiential Learning: Work Force Readiness in Action

This brief article does not wrestle with making a distinction between experiential education and experiential learning. As quoted in the New World Encyclopedia, The Association for Experiential Education regards experiential education “as a philosophy and methodology in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills and clarify values”.

Experiential learning is best defined as that process through which students develop knowledge, skills, and values from direct experiences outside a traditional academic setting. This experience does not negate the importance of the theoretical aspects, but makes theory come alive. The advantages of this approach to learning have been written about for centuries, but more recently by such philosophers and theorists of education as John Dewey, Kurt Hahn Kurt Lewin, Jean Piaget and Paul Freire.

On the face of it, it appears elementary and obvious that learning is reinforced when the student is not merely receiving a theoretical experience but is also having a direct ‘experiential’ relationship with the subject matter. When the learner is active in the learning experience, the experience itself becomes more riveting and the likelihood of retention dramatically increases. Nevertheless, the experiential process does not end with the actual doing, but is followed by reflection so that the experience is processed and understood in a reflexive way. In this construction of knowledge, experience reinforces theory and rationality is blended with doing.

This approach to learning changes the role of the teacher and the student. As noted in the Education Encyclopedia : ‘ Teachers facilitate the transfer of learning from the experiential activity to the real world, structure the process of reflection for the students in order to derive the most learning from the experience, and ensure that the learning outcomes are reached. Some educators call this shift a move toward student-centered teaching, or a child-centered curriculum. Overall, it means that the students are placed at the center and the teacher’s role is to develop methods for engaging the students in experiences that provide them with access to knowledge and practice in particular skills and dispositions. The role of the student is transformed in relation to the role of the teacher. Therefore, the student role becomes more active and involved, with additional responsibility and ownership over the process of learning.’

The link between experiential learning and work readiness is pretty obvious. Employers need well-trained, job-ready graduates and so the more students are immersed in applicable work experience, the better.

In the US, The National Association of Colleges and Employers identified the top skills employers are looking for from recent college graduates in 2018. In order: problem-solving skills, ability to work in a team, communication skills, leadership, strong work ethic, analytic/ quantitative skills, verbal communication skills, initiative, detail-oriented, flexibility/adaptability, technical skills, interpersonal skills, computer skills, creativity, friendly/outgoing personality, tactfulness, entrepreneurial skills/

risk-taker and fluency in a foreign language. The top-five are problem-solving skills, ability to work in teams, written communication, leadership, and a strong work ethic. These are similar to the top ten list of essential 21st Century Employability Skills unearthed by the New World of Work: adaptability, analysis/solution mind-set, collaboration, communication, digital fluency, entrepreneurial mind-set, empathy, resilience, self-awareness and social/diversity awareness. The New World of Work (NWoW) is a 21st-century employability skills curriculum being taught at over 50 community colleges in California. The curriculum provides instruction in 10 key competencies, using work-relevant content.

Classroom experiences are crucial in developing and honing these skills, but, ultimately, it is real-life experiences in workplace settings that will truly prepare our students for employment.

Experiential learning, that is the knowledge and skills acquired and developed outside the traditional collegiate setting by means of experiences including, but not limited to, study abroad programmes, internships, undergraduate research, service-learning, scholarly and creative activities for which the student has not received academic credit, as well as professional work experiences and professional development self-study programmes are vital.

The University College (UCCI) is taking a leading role in providing experiential experiences for its students. It insists that each of its academic department ensures that its students, regardless of the programme they are pursuing, gain appropriate workforce involvement and experiences. It stipulates that where



► Dr. Livingston Smith is a Professor at the University College of the Cayman Islands. He is also Director of the CXC Education Volunteer programme

appropriate, competency-based assessments be used to determine workforce readiness and that at least two forms of experiential learning are part of the programmes offered by each department.

The University’s emphasis on experiential learning can be seen in such activities as internship placements, the CFA challenge, social work seminars and practicums, work based learning certificate programmes and badging, nursing clinical, travel abroad initiatives, library internships and multiple others. In doing so, it seeks to assure employers of the job readiness credentials of its graduates. 🌐

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cayman Arts Festival presents Martin Roscoe – the piano concert

3 October - Martin Roscoe is unarguably one of the UK's best loved pianists. His career has spanned over four decades and he is renowned for his versatility at the keyboard, and concerto, recital and chamber performances. You can see him in concert on Thursday October 3, 2019 at the Saint George's Anglican Church. Entrance is USD \$35 for adults and USD \$10 for students. There is also a Family Package for 2 adults and 2 students that costs USD\$75. For more information, call 922 – 5550 or email enquiries@ caymanartsfestival.com

Older Persons Gym Day

4 October - As part of the celebration of Older Persons Months, Bliss Yoga will be hosting a yoga session from 1:0 to 2:15pm. To register, call Bliss Yoga at 949 – 9642 and for a list of all the activities for Older Persons Month, go to dcfcs.gov.ky or call 949 – 0290.

Breast Cancer Gala Dinner

5 October - The Breast Cancer Foundation is holding its main fundraising event - the Gala Dinner on Saturday 5 October at the Ritz Carlton from 6pm to 11pm. The keynote guest speaker is Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York. The Gala Dinner is a fabulous event, a night filled with glamour, fun, auctions – live and silent – great entertainment. Tables available are 10's or 12's, tickets are CI\$350 which covers a three-course meal and wine along with welcome bubbly. Call 923 – 1135 or 936 – 1135 or

email info@breastcancerfoundation.ky for more information.

Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching

5 October - Join the Chamber and the Ministry of Education as they recognise teachers in our community that go above and beyond. There will be a Drinks Reception and three course dinner at the Kimpton Seafire Resort and Spa on Saturday 5 October beginning at 6pm. Regular tickets are CI\$125 and teacher tickets are CI\$75. Attire is formal. Check caymanchamber.ky for more information.

Walk for the Cure 5K

6 October - CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank is hosting its 8th Annual Walk for the Cure event on Sunday October 6th from Seven Mile Public Beach starting at 6:30am. Registration is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children ages 3 to 11 and free for those under the age of 3. There will be refreshments and prize giveaways after the walk. All proceeds will benefit the Cayman Islands Cancer Society. Donations are accepted as well to the Walk for the Cure account. Register by 3pm Saturday 5th October at any of the bank's branches or contact Shadden McLaughlin at 815-2405 / shadden.mclaughlin@cibfcib.com or Joy Anglin at 815-2407 or joy.anglin@cibfcib.com

Soldier Crab Sundays - Crab Racing

6 October - Participate in the Caymanian tradition of Soldier Crab Racing on Sunday

at the Royal Palms Beach Club, West Bay Road. This is a fun way to help the NCVO in its goal to raise \$1.6 million dollars by October. Participation donation in \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Visit ncvo.org.ky for more information.

West Bay Breast Cancer Awareness

7 October - The Lions Club of Tropical Gardens hosts a breast cancer awareness meeting at the John Grey Memorial Church Hall, West Bay beginning at 7pm. Mammogram vouchers will be available for eligible persons.

Brac Bingo

8 October - Bingo Night for older persons will take place on Tuesday 8 October at the Aston Ruddy Civic Centre from 7 to 9 pm. Call Annie Rose Scott at 925 – 9872 or 916 – 7310 for transportation.

Bodden Town Breast Cancer Clinic

9 October - The Lions Club of Tropical Gardens hosts a daytime breast cancer awareness clinic at the Bodden Town District Health Clinic at 10am. Mammogram vouchers will be available for eligible persons.

Opening Reception for Bendel Hydes – A Retrospective

10 October - The National Gallery invites everyone to an evening reception to celebrate the opening of Bendel Hydes' latest showing. Call 945 – 8111 or email info@nationalgallery.org.ky for more information.

Little Cayman Tour

11 October - As part of Older Persons Month, a tour of Little Cayman followed by a social will be held on Friday 11 October. For

more information, call Annie Rose Scott at 925 9872 or 916 7310.

Traditional Craft Class: Old-Time Caymanian Songs

12 October - The National Trust invites you to come out and to The Mission House on Saturday 12 October from 10am to 12:0pm to learn some good ole time Caymanian songs. Cost is CI\$35.00 for adults and CI\$20 for children. Call (345) 749-1121 or email info@nationaltrust.org.ky for more information.

Brenda Tibbets – Lund Walk/ Run

13 October - The annual Brenda Tibbets – Lund 5K/10K Walk/Run takes place on Sunday 13 October from the Seven Mile Beach to Hemmingways and back. The first 400 registrants can collect shirts and gift bags from the Lions Club of Tropical Gardens Pink Shop in Elizabethan Square from 10am to 4pm daily, EXCLUDING WEEKENDS. The organisation with the most participants will win the Corporate Cup. Runners will be officially timed to give participants their individual times for completing the course. Walkers will not be timed. Age group winners in the run will receive 1st 2nd and 3rd place trophies.

Cayman Islands Veterans Association

19 October - The 8th annual veterans benefit dinner/dance takes place at Grand Cayman Marriott Beach Resort, held to full military etiquette. The event is a fundraiser for veterans and recognises Cayman's veterans, heroes, current service members, local police, fire service and seamen. Contact Andrew McLaughlin at 916 5317 or caymanislandsveterans@gmail.com for more details. 📍



▶ 2018 honorees of the Golden Apple Awards

4 Body Changes From Eating low Carb

Have you ever stopped to wonder what would happen to your body if you stopped eating refined carbs?

It's no secret that refined and processed carbs contribute to weight gain, and so reducing the amount of these in your diet would logically lead to a leaner, fitter you.

But is it true, or is it hype? And is it really worth giving up your carbolic ways?

Here's what really goes down when you give up refined carbs...

Body Change #1: You BURN FAT

When you stop eating simple carbs your body no longer has readily available calories to burn, and so it clicks over into burning stored fat as energy. This means that your pants will start feeling looser around your waist and thighs.

Body Change #2: You FEEL LESS HUNGRY

Fat burns longer and slower than simple carbs and so your energy stores will take longer to deplete. This means that you'll find yourself skipping that afternoon pick-me-up snack and powering through until mealtime without hunger pains. You'll also notice that it takes longer to feel hunger in the mornings after waking up, once you've cut the simple carbohydrates and refined sugars out of your diet.

Low Carb Body Change #3: You HAVE MORE ENERGY

Living on a diet of simple sugars and refined carbohydrates puts your body in a continual energy roller coaster. Right after you eat your energy is high and then, whoosh, an hour later your energy



▶ Ernest Ebanks

levels crash. All of that changes once you cut out those simple carbs. The low carb meals that you switch to are filled with nutrient dense foods that sustain your energy levels for hours at a time, saving you from that frustrating roller coaster.

Low Carb Body Change #4: Your STOMACH GETS FLATTER

Probably the most coveted of the low carb body changes...once you've been off of simple carbs for a few weeks your stomach will visibly become flatter. It's a well-deserved reward and one that will keep you motivated to continue your healthier eating habits.

While eating healthy, nutritious meals is awesome, don't forget that exercise is half of the battle when it comes to getting and staying fit. Call Ernest at 325-8696 or email bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com today and we will get you started on the exercise program that will reshape your body once and for all! 📍

IN YOUR KITCHEN

It is said and quite rightly so that if your liver is not doing well then you are not doing well also. You see, your liver performs more than 500 critical biological functions. It makes more than 13,000 beneficial chemicals and hormones. It manages more than 50,000 enzymes and compounds that you need for great health. It processes everything you eat and drink, including medications and supplements. What a tremendous amount of work being done by this critical organ. It's imperative, therefore, to ensure its health and functions.

Yes you can eat more fruits, vegetables and legumes. But an even greater boost are these two awesome kitchen products.

EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL - It's a great fixture today in many heart-healthy eating plans. Dr. Steven Gundry, renowned Cardiologist says, "my wife and I have a tablespoon with each meal." Research into EVOO shows it has specific perks for your liver. "A compound called hydroxytyrosol in the oil has been shown to reverse the sins of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, (NAFLD)." Dr. Victor Marchione. The oil also increases bile production which is essential



for digestion and bowel regularity. I have a tablespoon with each of my meals.

The second powerhouse is **GARLIC** - It's touted greatly for its allicin content, an antioxidant with several potential therapeutic uses. Where liver health is concerned it's a beneficial source of providing sulphur and selenium. Sulphur is believed to have the ability to activate liver enzymes to help remove toxins, while selenium can help clean your liver so that it functions better. After all filters need to be cleansed regularly. For even more benefits use them to cook cruciferous veggies, while at the same time adding your desired spices. 📍

Ministry of Community Affairs Appoints New Deputy Chief Officer

The Ministry of Community Affairs is proud to announce the appointment of Joan West-Dacres as its new Deputy Chief Officer.

Mrs. West-Dacres, who starts work today (Tuesday, 1 October), is already used to working in a high-profile public sector job. Until recently as Director of the National Drug Council (NDC), she was instrumental in initiating and developing the research methodologies the Council now uses to help stakeholders develop programmes and policies that are based on accurate and locally relevant data.

"I am delighted to welcome Mrs. West-Dacres to our interdisciplinary team," says the Ministry's Chief Officer Teresa Echenique.

"Her professional qualifications made her an outstanding and compelling candidate. She brings with her a counselling, social work and strategic leadership competencies that will be invaluable in helping the Ministry reach new levels of service provision and accountability," she concludes.

Councillor for Community Affairs, Austin Harris, is equally pleased about the new senior appointment.

"We are thrilled to have Mrs. West-Dacres join our dynamic team at the Ministry of Community Affairs. We believe that her skills and previous experiences will enable the Ministry to achieve its ambitious goals and reach new heights."

During her 12-year tenure as NDC Director (2007-2019) she constantly advocated for legal reform to ensure a preventative and proactive approach to drug and alcohol abuse. Most recently, this included providing feedback on the Liquor License Law revisions and Bullying Policy and Legislation development.

"What has been most significant for me is the building of partnerships with stakeholders and working collaboratively with relevant agencies. It's important that efforts are united and streamlined for efficiency and effectiveness in our work," the Florida International University alumna explains.

Asked what her most important achievement was at the NDC, the Deputy Chief Officer states that: "One of the biggest accomplishments I can speak to was the implementation of a National Anti-Drug Strategy, which saw the purchase and implementation of the mobile and airport scanners in a joint effort

between the NDC and the then Customs agency."

With more than 20 years of experience, mainly in the social and community-related sectors of the Cayman Islands, the Deputy Chief Officer has legacy knowledge of the local social services landscape. Additionally, she has a bachelors and masters degree in social work and a certificate of advanced study in evaluation on top of her 12 years managerial experience. The latter qualification includes budgeting, financial management and human resources offering an invaluable skillset at Ministry level.

Mrs. West-Dacres is looking forward to working with Chief Officer Echenique and the Ministry team to implement their current goals.

"I am excited about developing strategies to support our most vulnerable persons and ensuring they can contribute successfully to our communities. In addition, I am looking at what synergies can be developed to have a more cohesive and strategic approach to the efforts of the Ministry which will allow for more effectiveness and efficiency in what is undertaken."



► Ministry of Community Affairs' new Deputy Chief Officer Mrs. Joan West-Dacres

Mrs. West-Dacres adds that she applied for the key post because of the strategic and policy initiatives which are the focus of the Ministry of Community Affairs.

"This work is long-term and you don't always see quick results and I am looking forward to working with the team to ensure positive long-term outcomes to our communities," she concludes. 🌐

NATIONAL TRUST CONSERVATION PLANNING WORKSHOP BRINGS BLUE IGUANA PROGRAMME PARTNERS TOGETHER

The National Trust recently held its first comprehensive planning exercise to lay the groundwork for its 2020-2025 Species Recovery Plan for the Blue Iguana. The workshop brought together over 20 local and international stakeholders and specialists in the field for the first time in 10 years with the focus of refining the vision for the Blue Iguana programme. During the workshop, the Trust and its stakeholders also discussed updating and developing objectives for habitat management, understanding the breeding and dispersal of the wild populations and meeting ever-increasing threats to Blue Iguana survival from invasive species and disease.

Luke Harding, Operations Manager of the Blue Iguana programme, said: "We're fortunate to be working in partnership with major international conservationists as well as those on the ground here in Cayman. The workshop was a great opportunity to network, brainstorm, share our experiences and ultimately determine what is best for the livelihood of the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana and what steps will be essential for a successful Phase II."

Paul Calle, Chief Veterinarian and Director of the Zoological Health Programme at the Wildlife Conservation Society and one of the participants in the workshop, has been actively involved in

the programme for over 15 years and regards the experience as the highlight of his career.

Calle's colleague Kenneth Conley also participated in the workshop. He is the Senior Pathologist at the Wildlife Conservation Society and has been analysing tissue samples of the Blues and communicating with the team for many years, but it was his first visit to the Cayman Islands. "The workshop offered me a much deeper understanding of the programme and the threats facing the species."

Before the team settled into their intense three-day workshop, they spent a morning visiting the National Trust's Colliers Wilderness Reserve, Salina Reserve and the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park, the Trust's three chosen Blue Iguana release sites. At the Salina Reserve, attendees hiked to the latest land addition, which was recently purchased by the Royal Society for Protection of Birds in conjunction with the Rainforest Trust and leased to the National Trust, where they were fortunate to see an adult male Blue Iguana in the wild.

While the Trust reached its primary recovery goal last July of releasing 1,000 Blue Iguanas into the wild, the achievement is only one step towards a much larger goal for the endemic iguana's long-term survival and co-existence



with the rapidly growing population and development around the protected conservation areas.

The workshop was funded by Trust using funds from the Darwin Plus Initiative Grant it secured in 2018, with contributions from the Department of Environment (DOE) and Wildlife Conservation Strategy, and brought together international industry experts from the San Diego Zoo, the Wildlife Conser-

vation Society, the Institute for Conservation Research, the Fort Worth Zoo and the Conservation Specialist Planning Group; local partners from the DOE, QEII Botanic Park and Island Veterinary were also present.

In addition to delivering the 2020-2025 Species Recovery Plan, the workshop will update the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2009 for the Blue Iguana. 🌐

New Chief Officer for MEYSAL

Ms Cetonya Cacho has been appointed as the new Chief Officer for the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands (EYSAL).

Ms Cacho was Acting Chief Officer in the Ministry of EYSAL since 24 Aug 2018 until 1 Aug 2019 when she took on the role permanently. Prior to this, she had served as Deputy Chief Officer from March 2014 to August 2018.

She began her career as a teacher after graduating from the University of Miami with a double bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Psychology. At the age of just 28 years, she became Principal of Bodden Town Primary School.

In January 2012, she was appointed Manager of Initial Teacher Training in the Ministry of Education. During this time, her focus was on broadening the training opportunities available to Caymanians wanting to pursue a career in education and undertake relevant further education right at home.

She led the development and implementation of internationally recognised qualifications, including a bachelor's degree in Primary Education and a Post Graduate Professional Certificate in Education offered by the University College of the Cayman Islands.

Since becoming the Deputy Chief Officer of the Ministry of EYSAL, Ms. Cacho led a number of legislative and regulatory reforms in the education field. In particular, the Education Law, 2016 and associated Regulations, 2017, were both revised under her direction.

The redevelopment of the Education Law was based on the current and perceived future needs of the education system as well as on regional and international legislation and best practices. Ms Cacho worked in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to help shape the final law.

Additionally, she led the process for the Baseline School Inspections for all 16 Government schools in the Cayman Islands over a one-year period.

As Chief Officer of the Ministry of EYSAL, Ms Cacho now manages the largest Ministry in Government with 1,039 members currently on staff.

Ms Cacho has a master's in Business Administration from the University of Southampton where she focused on Higher Education Management and graduated with Distinction. She is currently in the process of continuing her education and pursuing a Doctorate in Education from the University of Durham.

Commenting on Ms Cacho's appointment as Chief Officer, Deputy Governor Hon. Franz Manderson, MBE said, "I am extremely pleased to see someone with such a passion and enthusiasm for her field placed in this role as Chief Officer. Ms Cacho has a wealth of invaluable experience helping to create greater opportunities for our future generations. I look forward to her continued successes in this role as she serves the people of these Islands."

The Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands, Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly added, "Ms. Cacho is extremely dedicated, strategic and process-minded. I am particularly impressed by the positive impact she has on her team. She is extremely supportive and committed to ensuring that they are equipped with everything they need to perform and serve in their roles well. I am not surprised by her professional accomplishments to date. Chief Officer Cacho epitomizes world-class, service leadership and rises to the occasion whenever she is called upon to do so. Unequivocally her initial calling was to Education and it has undoubtedly, manifested effectively into all the portfolio areas now under her responsibility."



► Ms Cetonya Cacho is appointed as the new Chief Officer of the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands

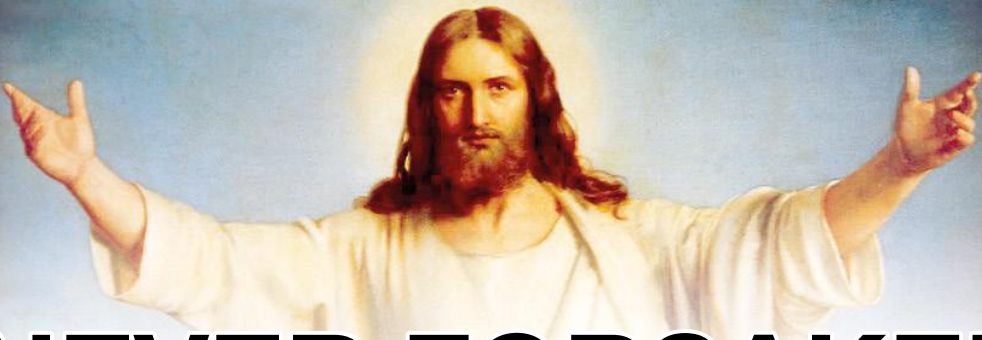
Commenting on her new appointment, Ms Cacho said, "I am honoured and grateful to continue working as the Chief Officer of the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands. To be able to lead the team towards delivering a world class service is extremely rewarding for me.

"To date, my own professional motto has always been: 'Everything I do is for the benefit of the children I serve'. I plan to use this to help empower others to be the next successful leaders of the Cayman Islands and global competitors on the world stage." 🌐

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
87° / 81°	86° / 81°	86° / 81°	87° / 82°	87° / 82°	87° / 82°	87° / 83°
Variable clouds with showers	Variably cloudy with showers	Variable clouds with showers	A morning shower; cloudy	A stray a.m. t-storm; cloudy	Cloudy with a thunderstorm	Downpours in the afternoon

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION



NEVER FORSAKEN

Russian writer Fyodor Destoyevsky said, "The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons." In an online article investigating the top 8 Deadliest Prisons in the World, in one of them all prisoners were held in solitary confinement. We are intended to live and relate to one another in communities. Therefore, solitary confinement is truly harsh. Solitary confinement is the said agony our Lord suffered when He was forsaken on the Cross. Matthew 27:46 He creid, "Eli, Eli, Lama sabachthani." Translated this means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? As he suffered and died under the burden of our sins, he has promised us, "I will never leave you nor forsake even to the end of the age." Jesus endured solitary confinement so to speak so that we can never be alone nor abandoned.

OBITUARIES

Churchill's Funeral Home


We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Gregory Washington Walters, who passed away on Saturday, September 21, 2019. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Klaffine Morna Miller, who passed away on Tuesday, October 01, 2019. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home


We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Trella Marie McRae, who passed away on Wednesday, July 31, 2019. Details of a Thanksgiving Service will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Sybil Bodden who passed away on Thursday, September 19, 2019. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Churchill's Funeral Home, 328 Eastern Avenue, George Town, Grand Cayman on Sunday, October 6, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Viewing: 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Interment at: Dixie Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

The Family of the Late **Bradshaw Edward Hill Taylor** regret to announce his passing on Saturday, 21 September 2019.




A funeral service will be held 4:00 p.m. Saturday, 5 October 2019 at the William Poochie Memorial United Church.

Interment will follow in North Side Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at www.boddenfuneralservices.com & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page

Bodden Funeral
"A source of comfort in a troubled time"

The Family of the Late **Rena Cherrill (Jackson) Reid** regret to announce her passing on Sunday, 22 September 2019.



A Service of Remembrance will take place on Saturday 5 October 2019 at The Aston Rutty Civic Centre, Ashton Reid Dr. Cayman Brac. at 9:30 am, viewing will take place 1 hour prior to the Service

Interment will follow at the Creek Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at www.boddenfuneralservices.com & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page

Bodden Funeral
"A source of comfort in a troubled time"



► L-R: HSA Medical Director Dr. Delroy Jefferson, Intouch Health Specialist Manager Shawn Quebedeaux, Intouch Health Agent for the Caribbean Region Carole Appleyard and VP of the Cayman Islands Seafarers Association John Douglas with the next generation InTouch Health RP-Lite 4 telemedicine robot

CI Seafarers Association upgrades hospital's 'Sally' telemedicine robot

The Cayman Islands Seafarers Association (CISA) recently upgraded the state-of-the-art medical robot that provides physicians and medical specialists overseas immediate remote access to patients at the Cayman Islands Hospital in medical emergencies and for consultation on various medical issues.

The next generation InTouch Health RP-Lite 4 telemedicine robot, nicknamed 'Sally', is equipped with a more sophisticated software than its predecessor. It is more responsive and features a higher definition two-way camera and microphone allowing physicians the capability to remotely observe and interact with patients and medical staff as well.

The telemedicine device further enables fast secure remote access to specialists in other countries to quickly and, in real-time emergency or other situations, facilitate complex diagnoses without incurring the costs, inconvenience, wait times and potential risks associated with transferring patients overseas.

"The Cayman Islands Seafarers are happy to be able to contribute the upgraded model of the InTouch Health RP-Lite 4 telemedicine robot to the HSA and are proud to have invested in bringing this world-class technology home to the Cayman Islands for the benefit of our people," said John Douglas, Vice President of the Cayman Islands Seafarers Association. "In addition to facilitating the saving of lives, this significant contribution serves the purpose of cutting down on medical transfers overseas."

"Telemedicine is one of healthcare's fastest-growing initiative," said HSA Chief Executive Officer Lizzette Yearwood. "Through the support of the Cayman Seafarers Association, we are able to continue paving the way towards the digitalization of healthcare, which will enable us to deliver smarter, more patient-centered care. The 'Sally' robot is a powerful telemedicine tool that will help us to be better prepared for the future as the demand for healthcare in the Cayman Islands continues to grow."



► Cayman Islands Seafarer Association representatives (L to R): Christen Suckoo, Deniston Tibbetts & John Douglas meet with HSA Medical Director Dr Delroy Jefferson and HSA CEO Lizzette Yearwood to sign MOU



Primary School Netball Rally Opens Season

By Flynn Bush

Last Friday, September 27, the primary school netballers were in action at

the Truman Bodden Sports Complex. A total of ten Under-11 teams competed to determine who would win the Rally Championship this year. The action was intense, although good spirited, and the players showed real progression as the day went on.

The rally is a traditional way to begin the netball season, and this year it featured a vast majority of the teams who will be competing in the league. This is the first chance for them to play this year, and so it would have been expected that the skill execution would be a little rusty. However, for some of the teams, that was not the case. A prime example was Cayman Prep who exhibited a high level of play as they blazed through their group



stage. They ended up winning Group 1, with Savannah and St. Ignatius tied for second. On the other side, Bodden Town Primary ruled the roost, winning Group 2. George Town Primary placed second to them.

So now, the stage was set for the semifinals. On adjacent courts, playing simultaneously, it was to be Cayman Prep versus George Town Primary and Bodden Town Primary facing Savannah

Primary (Savannah got the spot due to a tiebreaker over St. Ignatius). The tension was mounting.

On court one, George Town and Prep played fast; each side attacking with gusto. In the end, a hard fought victory belonged to George Town and they had secured a place in the final. Meanwhile, on court two, Bodden Town Primary was displaying its dominance and its physical presence. Ultimately, it was too much for Savannah and the team from the country's first capital moved on to the title game.

Since both teams in the final had faced each other in the group stage, there was familiarity. In that round, Bodden Town had prevailed convincingly. This outcome was to be no different as George Town, not for a lack of effort, were unable to match the pace and physicality of the Bodden Town squad. The rally champion was crowned, Bodden Town Primary School. This left George Town as Runner-up, and both Cayman Prep and Savannah as Third Place finishers.

With the completion of the rally, the action now moves to the league season. Games are set to commence on October 4, with a total of 14 schools competing for the title. This total also will include a team from Cayman Brac, which is competing for the first time in quite some time. Good luck to all. 🍀



POLICE NEWS

CI Financial Investigation Agencies Participate in Asset Recovery Workshop

On the 11 & 12 of September, representatives from several Cayman Islands agencies with stakes in financial investigation and international asset recovery participated in a Domestic and International Asset Recovery Workshop. The workshop, which was attended by representatives from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Financial Reporting Authority, RCIPS Financial Crime Investigation Unit, Joint Intelligence Unit, and Joint Crime Task Force, served to improve the agencies' knowledge and capabilities around investigating and recovering assets involved in financial crime cases, especially in instances where international cooperation is necessary.

The workshop was led by International Asset Recovery Advisor, Jill Thomas, who has previously worked with agencies such as Europol. It was organized as part of government's efforts to bolster the island's financial investigation capabilities, in response to recommendations made in

the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force's most recent report.

The two day workshop centered around a case-based scenario which required the agencies to work together on an investigation into the assets of two defendants, where the assets had to be traced both domestically and internationally. One benefit of this approach was that the more experienced attendees were able to share their prior positive experiences and knowledge with the others. In addition, the attendees were able to identify and discuss gaps in Cayman's asset recovery legislation and procedures, in order to identify temporary workarounds and priority areas for improvement.

Following the workshop, all of the participants stated that their knowledge had increased significantly as a result of having attended.

In addition, an international asset recovery manual was prepared on

... Continued story on page B2



► Crown Counsel Garcia Kelly (Middle) and FCU Financial Investigator Dean Murray (Right) represented Cayman at the ARIN-Carib AGM in early September

POLICE NEWS

CI Financial Investigation Agencies Participate in Asset Recovery Workshop

... Continued story from page B1

behalf of the jurisdiction, following on from the two day training, to ensure a streamlined approach by all agencies to such matters and that the recovery of the proceeds of crime, both domestically and internationally, is prioritized.

"The Financial Crimes Focus Group, as part of its mandate to ensure an efficient and effective approach to the recovery of the proceeds of crime organized a workshop lead by Mrs. Jill Thomas," said Detective Chief Inspector Richard Barrow, who oversees the RCIPS Financial Crime Investigation Unit. "The workshop featured key members of various agencies and allowed for a multiagency approach to be taken to the recovery of the proceeds of crime. The participants all expressed their appreciation for the guidance provided and looked forward to using the skills learnt in their day to day activities."

Cayman is also a member of the Asset Recovery Inter Agency Network for the Caribbean (ARIN-CARIB), a network of law enforcement and judicial practitioners in the field of asset tracing, freezing, seizure and confiscation, which has the goal of using these techniques to take the profit out of crime in the Caribbean.

Two representatives from Cayman attended the network's Annual General Meeting earlier in September, prior to this local training.



► International Asset Recovery Advisor, Jill Thomas

Crown Counsel Garcia Kelly gave a presentation at the AGM in relation to the use of the network by the Cayman Islands in a large money laundering case, and Cayman was nominated as a member of the ARIN-CARIB steering group.

"The 3rd AGM of the ARIN-CARIB has been dubbed a success. It was an opportunity to recommit to the purpose of the Network and take a look at how far it has come since its inception. It was a beautiful experience and the opportunity to sit

and discuss issues relevant to the region in the area of Asset Recovery was quite exquisite," said Mr. Kelly.

"At the AGM I made a presentation in relation to the importance of the network. The presentation was geared towards looking at typologies within the region and examining how best to address what seems to be a growing trend. The presentation was well received and has been considered a success story in relation to the work of the ARIN-CARIB Network."

Juvenile Arrested Following Stabbing Incident in West Bay

Just after 7:15PM on Tuesday, 1st October, police were informed of an incident that was said to have taken place on Kings Road, West Bay where an altercation between two females was said to have taken place in the area. This altercation resulted in one person receiving what appears to be a stab wound.

Shortly after the incident was reported to the police a juvenile female was located and arrested on suspicion of assault GBH and booked into custody, where she remains pending further investigation.

The injured party involved in this incident is currently receiving treatment for what is believed to be serious injuries, however, she is said to be stable at this time.

The matter is currently under investigation at this time by the West Bay Police Station's CID Team. Detectives are encouraging anyone with information regarding this incident to contact the West Bay Police Station at 949-3999.

WIN
GIVEAWAYS





SATURDAY, 12 OCT. 2019

THE ARC, CAMANA BAY

11AM – 5PM



CISBA
CAYMAN ISLANDS
SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

FREE
TO ATTEND

GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

Philippines targets eco campaigners

President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs and declaration of martial law in an island territory are being used as a pretext to attack people defending their land and environment in the Philippines.

The resource-rich archipelago in south-east Asia is the world's most murderous country for people who oppose logging, destructive mining and corrupt agribusiness. At least 30 people were killed in the Philippines last year, following 48 in 2017, dislodging Brazil from the top spot for the first time since the independent watchdog Global Witness began monitoring in 2012.

In Palawan, illegal logging is the dark side of the tourism boom as the island province rushes to construct hotels and resorts. At least 12 local environmentalists have been murdered since 2004, including Ruben Arzaga, the head of El Nido village, who was shot in September 2017 by illegal loggers.

Global Witness said the threat against defenders in Palawan has escalated with Duterte's brutal campaign against



► Philippines logging is despised by eco campaigners

illegal drugs. Some environmental activists have been erroneously named on a list of "narco-politicians" created by Duterte's administration.

"The president's brutal 'war on drugs' has fostered a culture of impunity and fear, emboldening the politically and economically powerful to use violence and hitmen against those they see as an obstacle or a threat," the report said.

The report says the same is true for attacks against people opposing the coal industry, illegal mining, and corrupt agribusiness around the country. Many deaths involve armed men on motorcycles, the same modus operandi employed in the war on drugs. 🌐

Canada real estate 'too unaffordable'

Canada's aspiring property owners overwhelmingly feel they have little or no chance of ever being able to afford buying a home.

Nearly two-thirds of residents in the capital Ottawa say their city is becoming too expensive, but that's still lower than the average rate reported in a national survey of the affordability of Canadian cities.

In Ottawa, 63 percent of respondents said the city is too costly, still far below the 87 percent of Vancouver residents who say they can't afford their city and just below the national average of 67 percent.

Ottawa placed sixth out of the 10 cities surveyed about affordability by pollster Forum Research, behind Vancouver, Toronto (82 percent), Mississauga (77 percent), Calgary (69 percent) and Montreal (68 percent.)

Halifax and Saskatoon (tied at 58 percent), Edmonton (52 percent), and



► Vancouver is Canada's most expensive city

Winnipeg (51 percent) were all considered to be more affordable than Ottawa by their residents.

Perhaps not surprisingly, young people aged 18-34 were the most likely to say Ottawa is too expensive (70 percent) and also the least likely to own their own home.

The survey showed the average rent in Ottawa is C\$1,156 a month. Rents in Mississauga average C\$1,669 a month — the highest of any of the 10 cities surveyed — while rent in Winnipeg was the cheapest with an average of just C\$876 a month. 🌐

Cuba builds new luxury hotel

Cuba will soon have another luxurious Kempinski Hotel, its third, on the island desperate for tourism income.

The new Gran Hotel Bristol by Kempinski, scheduled to open by year's end in Old Town Havana, is the result of a newly signed management contract with Grupo de Turismo Gaviota SA, the owning company of the already opened Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski La Habana and the soon-to-open Cayo Guillermo Resort Kempinski.

Located one block from the Capitolio and only two blocks from the Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski, the new hotel is a full restoration of a century-old building and former hotel where, in the 1930s, Cuban traders enjoyed a unique 'one-day-free' stay. It was also known for being ahead of its time, offering such

oddities for the time as private bathrooms and telephones in each room.

Today, its 162 rooms and suites, including the Presidential suite, boasts contemporary décor and all the modern comforts of home. Guests can also enjoy five restaurants and bars, two boardrooms and a gym, and a rooftop infinity pool from where they can take in panoramic views of the historic Old Town.

"Converting another Havana landmark with an impressive history into a contemporary hotel full of luxury and elegance will strengthen our importance in this part of the globe," said Martin R. Smura, CEO of Kempinski Hotels. "Gran Hotel Bristol will be an appealing place to stay for the modern traveller right in the heart of the pulsating city of Havana." 🌐



► Cuba will soon open the new Gran Hotel Bristol

Honduras farmers suffer from drought

Rising numbers of farmers in drought-stricken Honduras could be forced to leave their homes unless support for rural communities is ramped up to help struggling families better cope with extreme weather and climate change, UN officials have warned.

Honduras declared a national emergency last month due to a severe drought that has decimated staple-crop harvests of beans and maize by up to 80 percent in some areas of the poor Central American nation, according to government figures.

Nearly half a million Hondurans, many of them small farmers, are struggling to put food on the table, according to two UN agencies, the World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Dennis Latimer, FAO's Honduras representative, said his organisation was "very worried", as a large percentage of farmers had lost their harvest from the first planting season and would struggle to recover during the second.

"We are in a crisis because of climate change," he said. "Patterns are being



► Honduras has endured five years of drought

disturbed, and we have long periods of drought, followed by very intense short periods of rain. So we have to be able to adapt to these new climate patterns."

Climate change has been high on the agenda during last month's gathering of world leaders at the United Nations. But for Honduran farmers, dealing with the impact of climate change-linked droughts has already become the new normal.

Honduras is reeling from five years of consecutive droughts, affecting more people and different parts of the country. 🌐

Harry and Meghan sue newspaper

The British royal couple Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are so frustrated by negative media coverage that they are suing a UK newspaper who published a private letter between her and her father, Thomas.

The Duchess of Sussex has begun legal action against the Mail on Sunday over a claim that it unlawfully published one of her private letters. She is a mixed-race American and the couple feel that racism is the main reason behind what they perceive as a negative campaign against them.

In a statement, the Duke of Sussex said he and Meghan were forced to take action against "relentless propaganda".

Prince Harry said: "I lost my mother (Princess Diana) and now I watch my wife falling victim to the same powerful forces."

A Mail on Sunday spokesman said the paper stood by the story it published and would defend the case "vigorously".

Law firm Schillings, acting for the duchess, accused the paper of a campaign of false, derogatory stories.

"I've seen what happens when someone I love is commoditised to the point that they are no longer treated or seen as a real person," Harry said.

It is not the first time the royals have taken legal action against the press. In



► Meghan and Harry feel victimised by the British media

2017, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge were awarded \$93,000 in damages after French magazine Closer printed topless pictures of the duchess in 2012. A French court ruled the images had been an invasion of the couple's privacy. 🌐

Venezuela banking on crypto trading

Venezuela may not just be using its own cryptocurrency to dodge the consequences of international sanctions. The country's central bank is testing the possibility of holding on to cryptocurrencies to help the state-controlled oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA. The firm has troves of bitcoin and ethereum, and moving that money to the central bank might let it pay suppliers and avoid "potential blocks" from conventional channels that would come with either direct crypto payments or regular money.

The bank is likewise considering proposals to count cryptocurrencies toward international reserves that have plummeted in recent years.

It's unsure where Petroleos got the bitcoin and ethereum, let alone how much it has. There's also no guarantee that companies would accept



► Venezuela is relying on cryptocurrency for economic boost

such a move when crypto's relative anonymity and the potential for money laundering leads many other banks to hold off. That's not even including the potential for further trade restrictions. This is a desperate effort to sustain Venezuela's economy (and thus the Maduro government), and it may ultimately amount to a risky experiment even if it goes ahead. 🌐

Clippers need fit Leonard and George

Kawhi Leonard, the former San Antonio Spurs player who has joined the Los Angeles Clippers this season, was booed by fans at the Rams football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday in Los Angeles.

A fan who attended the game shared a video of the booing when the NBA star was shown on the stadium's jumbotron.

"Kawhi just got booed," @RPM-Sports18 tweeted. "Damn. The Lakers-Clippers rivalry is gonna be lit."

Leonard, who led the Toronto Raptors to the NBA championship last season, is no stranger to derision as he received a rude welcome from San Antonio back in January when the Raptors played the Spurs at the AT&T Centre.

It was Leonard's first in San Antonio after he forced a trade from the Spurs after playing in just nine games in the 2017-18 season because of a mysterious right thigh injury.

Leonard was not the only Clippers player to get a hostile reception.

Paul George was greeted by boos at a Bellator MMA event Saturday at The Forum in Inglewood, California, too.

Leonard played only 66 regular-season games in leading the Raptors to their first NBA title.

"Last year I was going in with an injury that I was dealing with the year before; it still was lingering and we knew I had to be healthy going throughout the season and making it to the playoffs," Leonard said. "This year I'm feeling good and feeling way better than I was at the start of last season."

Coming off the second Finals MVP performance of his career, his priority is adding to his postseason accomplishments. "Right now," he said, "it's getting the Clippers to the Finals."

But the Clippers might enter the season without fielding one of their two star signings.

George expects to miss all of training camp and return around November after having surgery on his left shoul-



► Kawhi Leonard hopes to repeat his MVP form



► Paul George is injured until November

der. The Clippers have not outlined a formal timetable on George's pending return. During the Clippers' media day Sunday, George also did not share his expectation about possibly missing the Clippers' season opener against the Los Angeles Lakers on Oct. 22.

Still, George considers his health to be "pretty good," he still plans to participate in non-contact drills and "all the scripted stuff" in training camp. He travelled with the Clippers for their week-long preseason trip to Hawaii, which includes an exhibition against the Houston Rockets on Thursday in Honolulu.

This is a big season for both. Leonard and George sounded receptive about playing for Team USA next summer in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

"Right now, I do want to play," Leonard said. "But right now, I'm taking one step at a time and right now that's getting the Clippers to the Finals."

Leonard and George are the latest stars, joining LeBron James, Anthony Davis, Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and James Harden to express interest in playing in the 2020 Olympics Games. Not that that should be surprising. Team USA finished in seventh place in this summer's FIBA World Cup. A handful of stars skipped the games through injuries, free agency or wanting to maximize offseason recovery, including James, Davis, Curry, Thompson, Harden, George, Kevin Durant and Draymond Green.

"When the time comes, I would love to be a part of the Olympics and represent but this comes first obviously and getting through this year and giving everything to this year," George said. "Hopefully by June, we're the last team standing. I'll deal with it at that point. It doesn't matter if we go all the way, if I'm healthy. As long as I'm healthy, I'm in. I want to be a part of that group."

Warriors smash all before them

Guyana Amazon Warriors are the most outstanding team at 2019 Hero Caribbean Premier League. They extended their campaign to eight wins from eight matches with a 19-run win over defending champions Trinbago Knight Riders at the Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad on Monday. The Warriors have been in majestic form throughout the CPL so far.

The Knight Riders appeared out of it at 91-4 with just six overs remaining and still needing 95 more to overhaul the Warriors 185-6. But Kieron Pollard and Darren Bravo went on a six-hitting spree that almost them over the line.

They came up short, though, with Keemo Paul's 19th over in which only singles came from the last five balls easing the Warriors' fraying nerves before Tahir bowled Pollard for a sensational 71 from 38 balls with three balls to go and 21 still needed to at last finish the contest.



► Romario Shepherd made a cameo stance

The final winning margin of 19 runs also highlighted the significance of Romario Shepherd's late cameo with the bat in the Warriors' innings – he smashed 32 not out from 13.

Yet another win for the Warriors meant they guaranteed themselves top spot in the regular season with two games to spare, while the Knight Riders still have work to do to secure their own place in the top two and the safety net of a place in Qualifier 1.

Lyles stakes claim as world's fastest

Noah Lyles winning gold in the men's 200 metres final at the world championships in Doha, Qatar, running 19.83 seconds, was no surprise. The 22-year-old American has been dominant for the past two years. Andre de Grasse of Canada finished second in 19.95, while Alex Quiñones of Ecuador finished third in 19.98.

Lyles, the reigning 200m US champion, has only lost once since the 2016

Olympic Trials. Fellow American Michael Norman beat him four months ago in Rome. Since then, Lyles claimed both the 100m and 200m crowns at the Diamond League Finals, the first athlete to win both titles in the same season.

Christian Coleman won the 100m in Doha and earned the right of claiming to be the world's fastest sprinter, but Lyles has a strong claim too.



► Noah Lyles is the world's fastest at 200m

Gore, 36, is Buffalo's vintage charger

Buffalo Bills running back Frank Gore did more than become the fourth man in NFL history to rush for over 15,000 career rushing yards in Sunday's 16-10 loss to the New England Patriots.

Gore, by virtue of his 109-yard rushing performance, became the first 36-year-old in 40 years to rush for over 100 yards in an NFL game.

The last running back that age to accomplish that feat was MacArthur Lane, who rushed for 144 yards on 17 carries in Kansas City's loss to the Buffalo Bills.

Gore, who broke the season's 1,500-yard barrier on a 41-yard scamper, is showing no signs of slowing down in his 15th NFL season. Through four games, he has rushed for 273 yards and two touchdowns while averaging 4.5 yards per carry. Over the last two games, he's rushed for 185 yards while averaging nearly six yards a carry for the Bills, who are 3-1 after nearly upsetting the undefeated Patriots on Sunday.

"Blessed you know, I'm blessed," Gore said of reaching the 15,000-yard mark. "The hard work, loving the game and

thanks to all the guys who helped me get it – my offensive linemen, my receivers, my coaches. Now I just want to keep playing ball."

Gore also spoke of joining Hall of Fame running backs Emmitt Smith, Walter Payton and Barry Sanders as the only running backs in NFL history to rush more than him. While he was only 4 when Payton retired, he was old enough to watch Smith and Sanders dominate the NFL rushing scene during the 1990s when either one would win the next eight NFL rushing titles. Smith also won three Super Bowls while being league MVP honours in 1993. Sanders was league MVP in 1997 while becoming only the third running back in league history to rush for over 2,000 yards in a single season.

"It's big, especially coming out of college with injuries to two ACLs and a lot of guys doubted me saying I wouldn't be in the league for three years and I'm still going, having fun, still having success," Gore said. "It's a blessing to be mentioned with those guys, when I was



► Frank Gore is defying the odds

coming up, they made me want to be a running back."

Gore, assuming he stays healthy, will pass Sanders for third place on the all-time rushing list later this season. He is currently 248 rushing yards behind

Sanders, who was just 30 when he played his final NFL game.

While Sanders decided to end his career relatively early, Gore has no intention of hanging up his cleats anytime soon.

CROSSWORD

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

- ACROSS**
- 42 PBS station of the New York area
 - 1 Mark Twain's New York home
 - 7 Course cry covered
 - 11 One-pointer in horse-shoes
 - 12 Puts down Cayuga, Seneca, and others
 - 15 County of northeast New York
 - 16 Job for Poirot
 - 18 Designer Wang
 - 21 Enthralled
 - 22 City on one of the 13-Across
 - 24 Guitar blaster
 - 25 Last letter
 - 26 Light metal
 - 27 New York county named for an inventor
 - 29 Seat of New York's Rensselaer County
 - 30 Visionary
 - 31 Diving bird
 - 32 Fiery crime
 - 34 It flows past Albany
 - 40 Buffalo's county
 - 41 City between Syracuse and Utica
- DOWN**
- 1 Hobbit helper
 - 2 Floral garland
 - 3 Fellow
 - 4 Eat
 - 5 Singer Della
 - 6 JFK listings
 - 7 Blond
 - 8 Solid wood
 - 9 Site of New York's Playland park
 - 10 Curvy letter
 - 14 Dike's kin
 - 16 "The Stranger" author
 - 17 The Big — (New York City)
 - 19 Stylishly quaint
 - 20 Par — (airmail label)
 - 21 U.K. fliers
 - 22 Mil. bigwig
 - 23 One or more
 - 25 Hero with a sword
 - 28 China collection
 - 29 More upscale
 - 31 "— Doone"
 - 33 Elitist
 - 34 Chop down
 - 35 Omate vase
 - 36 Game cube
 - 37 Compete
 - 38 Mag. workers
 - 39 Maze runner

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

Yesterday's answer

- 16 "The Stranger" author
- 17 The Big — (New York City)
- 19 Stylishly quaint
- 20 Par — (airmail label)
- 21 U.K. fliers
- 22 Mil. bigwig
- 23 One or more
- 25 Hero with a sword
- 28 China collection
- 29 More upscale
- 31 "— Doone"
- 33 Elitist
- 34 Chop down
- 35 Omate vase
- 36 Game cube
- 37 Compete
- 38 Mag. workers
- 39 Maze runner

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 Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/12

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Word Search

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

- Apple
- Boot
- Clam
- Duck
- Eagle
- Fairy
- Goat
- House
- Ink
- Jeans
- Kilt
- Lemon
- Mask
- Nose
- Oboe
- Pants
- Quilt
- Rose
- Seal
- Tiger
- Umbrella
- Vest
- Wand
- Xylophone
- Yacht
- Zebra

Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

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

CURTIS By Ray Billingsley

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN By Stan Lee

JUDGE PARKER By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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Should the Cayman Islands Government move ahead with plans to build a new Cruise Port?

VOTE NOW



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

COMMUNITY VOICE

Letter to the Editor: Kudos to the RCIPS

It was pleasing to hear of the RCIPS' Day of Action on Thursday August 15th. Judging by the abundance of accidents, many due to reckless driving habits, I would suggest that there continues to be further checks solely targeting the roads.

2 hour ago

Most popular News

- Infrastructure Minister Convenes Emergency Meeting To Discuss Traffic Congestion Issues (3 hour ago)
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Local News



3 hour ago

Infrastructure Minister Convenes Emergency Meeting To Discuss

Minister of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, Hon. Joey Hew, recently (Monday, September 16), convened an emergency interagency meeting to discuss solutions to the traffic congestion issues affecting the Eastern Districts across Grand Cayman.

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 Cayman Finance recently celebrated the culmination of the fifth year of its

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 12 finalists have been selected for the 2019 Golden Apple Awards which takes

3 hour ago

Politics



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At US urging, leaders from numerous Latin American countries on Monday voted to crack down on members of Venezuela's socialist government who have committed acts of corruption, human rights abuse and drug trafficking.

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