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Cayman's present-day tourism industry

Referendum date is December 19th



► Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship "Oasis of the Sea"

Full story on page A4 >>

Community effort to keep Cayman Clean

By Lindsey Turnbull

Officials from various sectors of the community gathered last Thursday to witness the unveiling of the Chamber of Commerce's latest arm to their Cayman Clean initiative, the placing of the first specially designed trash receptacle at Smith Cove.

The Chamber's Cayman Clean initiative was set up to prevent littering and to beautify the island and is an action item on the Chamber's advocacy agenda and an action plan under community development. The initiative, led by Councillor Nelson Dilbert and past Secretary Roz Griffiths, has seen HM Prison Service, the Ministry of Environment, Parks Cemeteries and Recreation Unit, the Department of Environmental Health and Cox Lumber all band together to create these new bins that, it is hoped, will help to keep Cayman's public spaces clean.

Marlon Watson, Prison officer, Workshop Instructor, Her Majesty's Cayman



► l-r: Marlon Watson, Prison officer, Workshop Instructor, Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS); Roz Griffiths, CAYMAN CLEAN committee member; Joe Shelter, General Manager, Cox Lumber Company Ltd; Wil Pineau, CEO, Chamber of Commerce (front kneeling); Angello Roye, Foreman, Department of Environmental Health; Debert Dawes, Foreman, Collections, Department of Environmental Health; Chris Kirkconnell, President, Chamber of Commerce; Steven Barrett, Prison Director, Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS); Nelson Dilbert, Councillor, Chamber of Commerce and CAYMAN CLEAN chair (kneeling); Aduke Natalie Joseph-Caesar, Deputy Director, Rehabilitation, Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) (front); Andrea Bodden, Policy Advisor for Environment and Housing, Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing; Nancy Barnard, Chief Officer, Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing

... Continued story on page A3

Talk on the Street Flashback: Will the petitions be verified, and what will happen after that?



With the recent news of the petition to hold a referendum on the cruise port being almost completely verified, a questions came to mind. Our reporter wanted to check the public's pulse on this issue. The specific question posed was, "Will the petitions be verified, and what will happen after that?" Below are the responses of 15 individuals.

Joe, Caymanian, 35:

"I think that the government will cooperate and let the referendum happen. They believe it won't pass anyway."

Nigel, Caymanian, 48:

"The government will fight it the entire way. Ultimately, they will lose, though."

Miguel, Caymanian, 62:

"There will be no port. We the people will stop that."

... Continued story on page A4

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EDITORIAL

The Caymanian Times – Cayman’s independent community newspaper

We read with interest the Compass’ move to collaborate with Government and its new stance as a more community-focused newspaper. In its six years of operation, The Caymanian Times (formerly Cayman Weekly) has striven to be just that, and more, concentrating our focus locally to bring coverage of local news and events. We have gradually built up strong support from the local population who enjoy our impartial reporting, our passion for local news and our efforts to inform, educate and sometimes entertain. But crucially we have always maintained our independence, something which we

believe has been vital to our success. Being a community newspaper means we do have to present issues to our readers that might be at odds with the present Government of the day and we do not shy away from presenting these issues to our readers. Independence is the cornerstone of a free press which, in turn, is at the heart any democracy. The Caymanian Times intends growth for this media outlet as we launch our new website which we hope our readers will appreciate, as we continue to strive to improve the way we enlighten our readers on local news that affects the local community. 🌐



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COMMUNITY NOTICES

DCI Reminds Tobacco Licence Holders to Renew the Certificate of Registration

Tobacco licence holders are reminded to avoid late fees. The deadline for the submission of applications for renewal of the Certificate of Registration is 1st November 2019. Annual registration renewal fees are CI\$500 for a retailer, CI\$750 for a cigar bar and CI\$5,000 for a wholesale distributor.

Application submissions for Grand Cayman must be done at the Department of Commerce & Investment’s Business Licensing Counter, located on the first floor of the Government Administration Building. The counter is open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. A valid trade and business licence is required to renew, along with written notification of changes made since the last registration. These might include: the dealer’s contact details, business location, ownership and trade of products information.

Renewal of the Certificate of Registration for Cayman Brac and Little Cayman must be submitted at the DCI Office located in Cayman Brac: Bodden and Bodden building, Stake Bay between the hours of 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Friday.

Applications submitted after 1st November 2019 and up to 31 December 2019 will attract a late fee of an additional 50 percent of the registration fee. Applications submitted after December 31st and up to 31 January 2020 will incur a late fee of an additional 100 percent of the registration fee. After 31 January 2020 and up to 30 June 2020, applications will attract a late fee of an additional 200 percent of the registration fee.

Any registered dealer who does not apply for a renewal by 30 June 2020, is reminded to cease all tobacco sales immediately. In order to resume dealing in tobacco products, a new application for a Certificate of Registration is required, along with the requisite application fee.

Applications can be downloaded from the Department of Commerce and Investment’s website, www.dci.gov.ky.

For more information, contact DCI’s Tobacco Administrator, Ms Samone Morgan at smorgan@dci.gov.ky or call Mrs. Bodden-Arch on 948-2400. 🌐



Kiosks Offer Company Information

General Registry has made the names of directors and their alternates of any company incorporated in the Cayman Islands available for inspection as of 1 October.

This information is now available, in addition to other basic company information that has been available for public searches since the 1960s, including company name, the status and type of company, the registered office, the date of registration and the company registration number.

The initiative has been launched in response to the latest Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) peer reviews of the Cayman Islands, which noted the Cayman Islands did not provide directors names, whereas this is common practice in most other countries.

The Companies (Amendment) Law 2019 was published in August granting any person the ability to inspect a 'list of names' of the current and alternate directors of a Cayman Islands company. In addition, the law was amended to reduce the time within which a Cayman Islands company must notify the Registrar of changes to its directors and officers from 60 to 30 days.

Registrar General Cindy Jefferson-Bulgin elaborated by noting, 'it

has always been the legal responsibility of all directors and service providers to ensure that the directors changes are made in a timely manner and we wish to reiterate the July change in the timeline for providing those updates. Penalties for failure to file changes will apply, as it is extremely important that the Registry database is current'.

Only the names of the directors and their alternates are available for inspection. No other personal details will be provided, and the searcher must have the correct registered name of the company to execute the search.

Anyone seeking the names of directors or their alternates of a Cayman entity can request an inspection through credit and debit-card accepting kiosks outside the Registry office, or inside by paying cash at the counter. The fee is CI\$50 per search. The kiosks have been separated from other Registry databases in alignment with cyber-security best practices.

A large number of searches are conducted regularly for other basic information and the Registry has prepared in the event that there is a large response to this newly available information. 🌐



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Community effort to keep Cayman Clean

... Continued story from page A1

Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS) supervised inmates at Northward on the project.

He explained that the inmates used treated lumber donated by Cox Lumber to create these aesthetically pleasing units, and designed them with an arch on the top to allow the rain to run through. Mr Watson said that it had been a rewarding experience for the inmates, a project that has been part of their vocational development.

"Most of them came and didn't know how to read a tape measure," he said. "We go through the practical and the theory with them. We have about fifteen in the workshop, not everybody is directly involved, but most of them. We have them working on a variety of things. We'll have a crew working on the garbage bins; we'll have somebody else building park benches."

Mr Watson indicated that the benches at Smith Cove were also built by the prison crews.

So far, the inmates had produced ten receptacles, with more in the pipeline, he advised.

Chamber Counsel member Nelson Dilbert is the chair of the CAYMAN CLEAN



► Nelson Dilbert, Councillor, Chamber of Commerce and CAYMAN CLEAN chair and Marlon Watson, Prison officer, Workshop Instructor, Her Majesty's Cayman Islands Prison Service (HMCIPS)

initiative. He advised that he worked closely with past secretary Roz Griffiths on the project

"We are a community of business owners who help out on the business side but we also want to give back to the community. There are things that we

do all year and this is just one offshoot that we were going to start on Earth Day which unfortunately came up against some delays. It's a campaign that we are going to keep adding to throughout the year, adding more and more bins to more public areas across the island. We

really appreciate what the prison has done. Their work is beautiful stuff, really top notch," he confirmed.

Chamber CEO Wil Pineau led the applause for the prison and the inmates, "the people that we don't see who created the receptacles" he said, adding, "The inmates are an important part of this whole programme. We could have gone out and we could have bought the structures but we thought it was going to be more of an impactful way for people who are in our prisons to give something back to society so we really appreciate all the inmates who put their hands on any of the ten original structures."

Mr Pineau said the Counsel would decide if they were going to build even more structures to take them out into the districts.

"We've started first in George Town. So, thank you (to Parks and Recreation) for agreeing where to put them because having the structures without collection doesn't work. We are starting in this location because it's very public and the hope is, we can go to other public beaches as well. You tell us where you want these placed and hopefully, we can get the resources and the funds to get them to you," he concluded.

NATIONAL TRUST PARTNERS WITH CUC ON ENVIRONMENTAL, CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

The National Trust has joined forces with public electric provider Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) to reinstate its Bat Conservation Programme, which protects all nine of Cayman's native bat species.

The Bat Conservation Programme is two-fold, providing education for the general public and local farmers on the importance of bats and how they positively impact our ecosystem, and safely removing bats from home roofs and encouraging their relocation to bat houses which are installed on a nearby pole. CUC will lend its assistance in the pole installation work associated with the bat houses.

"Bat houses are quite large and weighty and installation requires the help of a bucket truck, which CUC can provide us," said Stuart Mailer, Environmental Programmes Manager at the Trust. "If there isn't an existing pole to which we can fix the bat house, CUC will see to this as well."

The partnership comes at an opportune time as the bat breeding season ends in mid-November. "Bats are extremely vulnerable to extinction because they usually bear only one pup each year; it can take many years for a colony to establish itself," added Mailer. "It is illegal to remove or disturb bats from home roofs during the breeding season - June 1 through November 15 - when baby bats would be separated from their mothers and left to die."

The Trust also partners with CUC on their Mangrove Education Programme, an initiative that they've generously sponsored with Martin Keeley and the Mangrove Education Project for almost 20 years. The Mangrove Education Programme gives students of every Year 5 class across both public and private schools the opportunity to learn about the importance of our mangrove ecosystems during an all-day interactive lesson plan. Using the scientific method, the students learn about how the wet-

lands benefit human populations and, on the following day, they experience the ecosystem firsthand during a boat excursion. The National Trust Education manager provides the delivery of the programme in Grand Cayman.

Manager of CUC's Environment Health and Safety department, Joni Kirkconnell says "CUC has been a partner with the National Trust for many years. We are pleased that the Bat programme has restarted and we continue to witness the success of the Mangrove Education programme which has been highlighted as one of the programmes children in the primary schools readily recall. We remain committed to protecting our environment."

Earlier this year, the Trust announced its plans to create a gated bird sanctu-

ary overlooking Malportas Pond, which forms part of the Central Mangrove Wetland and is an internationally-recognised Important Bird Area. The vision for the bird sanctuary - a bird hide, interpretive signage and public telescopes - will also become a reality thanks to the Trust's partnership with CUC.

Nadia Hardie, Executive Director of the National Trust comments, "We are so grateful to CUC for their ongoing support on so many key conservation initiatives. These corporate partnerships are crucial to helping the Trust deliver on their mandate and we are grateful to CUC."

To learn more about the National Trust's Bat Conservation Programme, Malportas Pond and the educational outreach programme, visit national-trust.org.ky.



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2019 PIRATES WEEK FESTIVAL - SHIPWRECKED!

The Pirates Week Festival Office is proud to announce the official theme of the 2019 festival is "Shipwrecked", this in an effort to incorporate the Cayman Catboat – an integral part of the islands' history – and linking Caymanian culture and heritage to the fantasy festival.

"The Cayman Catboat Club is thrilled to play a more central role in this year's Pirates Week," said Cayman Catboat Club President, Jerris Miller. "We can't reveal too much about our involvement but by partnering with the Festival, we aim to bring awareness to the historic and cultural value of the Catboat in our country's history."

The Catboat Club has long been a part of the annual festivities, displaying the boats at District Heritage Days as well as sailing them in the harbour during the festival season.

The Pirates Week Festival is the largest event in the Cayman Islands calendar, annually drawing over 35,000 spectators for the duration of the 11-day festival. During this time, the islands are transformed into a mass of colour and revelry, with over three dozen different events being hosted over three weekends, across all three islands!

The Pirates Week Festival is administered by the Tourism Attraction Board of the Cayman Islands.

Those looking to participate in the festival or become a sponsor in any way, can email events@piratesweekfestival.com.

If you would like more information about this topic, please email marketing@tab.ky.

"People can also look forward to seeing us on Monday 11th November as we sail around the Hog Sty Bay, showcasing our restored and newly built Catboats," said Mr. Miller.

The Pirates Week Festival office is proud to partner with the Cayman Catboat Club and Cayman Maritime Heritage Foundation," said Pirates Week Festival General Manager, Melanie McField.

"We want to celebrate the men and women who work hard in restoring these boats to pristine condition and who spend their teaching children of Cayman history. Many people will note the fantasy and fun of Pirates Week, but we very much want to promote our islands' history and culture; the catboat is very much a part of that history," she added.

This year marks the 42nd annual Cayman Islands National Festival Pirates Week and festivities kick off in Cayman Brac from 1st to 3rd November, move to the nation's capital in Grand Cayman from 7th to 11th November and the pirates wind things down in Little Cayman from 15th – 17th November. On the events calendar once again, is a showcase of pirate revelry, costume contests, parades, 5k Run, pooch parade, children's fun day, food, music, and fireworks to name a few of the events happening during the festival season.

"With more than three 40 events held across all three islands; it truly has something for everyone. We encourage people to check out our events calendar online and come out to the event that best suits your passion or simply come to all of them!" commented Ms. McField.

District Heritage Days

The District Heritage Committees will once again highlight unique aspects of their individual districts, with cultural



displays, traditional food and fun activities for children and adults.

The District Heritage Days will take place this year from 12th – 16th November.

"We want people to take note of the shift in District Heritage Days, this year beginning on Tuesday and ending on Saturday. Come out and support your district, meet with the artisans, bring the little ones and expose them to all things culturally significant to the Caymanian people and their traditions," she said.

The District Heritage Day schedule is as follows:

- East End: Tuesday, 12th November
- West Bay: Wednesday, 13th November
- North Side: Thursday, 14th November
- Bodden Town: Friday, 15th November
- George Town: Saturday, 16th November

To learn more, log on to the website www.piratesweekfestival.com. Here you can find out about the more than 40 events being held throughout the festival season, sign up as a volunteer, food

or craft vendor in Grand Cayman or Cayman Brac.

People will also find information on the deadlines to enter one of the sporting events; sign up as a vendor in Grand Cayman or Cayman Brac, or enter the Cardboard Regatta, Pirates Pooch Parade or the National Song Competition.

The public is also encouraged to follow Pirates Week on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for real time updates.

Sponsors

The Pirates Week Festival is pleased to have the support of these major sponsors for the 2019 events:

- AI Rentals
- Ace Hardware
- Cayman Airways Ltd.
- Bacardi
- Cayman Islands Department of Tourism
- Hurley's Media Ltd.
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Culture
- Tourism Attraction Board

A complete list of sponsors can be found on the www.piratesweekfestival.com

Students Present Royal Caribbean President with Global Petition Signed by over 200k

Students from Protect Our Future met with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines (RCCL) President and CEO Mr Michael Bayley on Wednesday 2nd October to express their concerns about the proposed cruise berthing facility and presented a petition signed by over 200,000 people around the globe who are standing with the people of the Cayman Islands to call for an end to the cruise lines plans to dredge George Town harbour reefs for a cruise port.

The petition, which continues to gather momentum, gaining over 30,000 signatures in just the past week, will continue until the matter is resolved.

The student leaders of Protect Our Future who attended Wednesday's meeting were Steff McDermott, Dejea Lyons, Lilly Langevin, Ben Somerville and Connor Childs.

Protect Our Future: <https://www.instagram.com/protectourfuture.eco/>

Petition: <https://www.rainforest-rescue.org/petitions/1178/dont-trash-coral-reefs-for-the-cruise-industry>

Extracts from Protect Our Future's presentation is included below.

LILLY:

Protect Our Future is the voice of the youth. We are an outlet in which the youth of Cayman are able to voice their opinions regarding environmental issues and be heard by all members of the community.

Our goals are to maintain sustainability on our beloved island, while still being cognizant of the importance of economic growth.

Our beaches and reefs are what make our island world-renowned. Our mangroves are what protect our island from utter destruction in the occurrence of a storm and our waters are what make Cayman such a great tourist attraction.



Without the protection of these crucial ecosystems, our island will not only be destroyed, but become obsolete.

CONNOR:

Protect Our Future is the voice of the youth. We do not have a vote, but every major national decision affects us. We are the future generation of this island and we understand its value.

DEJEA:

As a Caymanian, not only by birth but from past generations, I have been told tales and have seen the evolution of our seas. If this port is built you are not only stunting the evolution of our waters but you are erasing the tales my dad told about him and his friends diving through under water caves or the

amazing submarine rides my mom took to witness the complex yet exhilarating ecosystems below. Building this port takes away our history and the tales that have been told, but it also takes away the tales that can be told.

Protect our Future believes, as evidenced by the petition signed by over 5,000 people of the Cayman Islands forcing a referendum on the cruise berthing facility, that the people of the Cayman Islands care about their environment and deserve to have their say.

STEFF:

The referendum shows that our island is still in the hands of the people. We know our value and we ARE part of

... Continued story on page A5



TALK ON THE STREET

Talk On The Street: Petition Verification? And Then What?

... Continued story from page A1

Jean, Caymanian, 68:
"It will be verified and the referendum will happen. I don't think it will pass though."

Wayne, Caymanian, 53:
"The whole thing will pass."

Vernon, Caymanian, 55:
"I don't know what will happen. I just know that I don't want the port."

Keith, Caymanian, 21:
"Everybody is saying that the referendum is going to happen. I agree. But, whether it passes is another question."

Lee, Caymanian, 46:
"I hope it passes. We can't afford to destroy any more of our environment."

Leslie, Caymanian, 51:
"I hope it does. And I hope that the people vote against the port too."

Barbara, Caymanian, 43:
"We need the port but I think it will be stopped."

Michael, Caymanian, 42:
"I hope that it is verified so I can get a chance to have my say at the polls. I'm for the port, by the way."

Chester, Caymanian, 35:
"The government is hell bent on this port, but I think the referendum will happen."

Bobby, Caymanian, 47:
"If there is a God, then the port will be stopped."

Eric, Caymanian, 40:
"The government has tried everything to stop this, but it is fate. The people will speak loudly at the polls."

Gina, Caymanian, 31:
"I hope it is, and I hope that the Caymanian people vote their conscience and strike down the port deal." 🌐

Referendum date set for 19 December

2019 Referendum 6 Week Programme

Latest Date	Detail	Days	Weeks	Notes
8-Oct-19	Gazettal of the Referendum Bill	-28		21 Day notice + 7 days to pass the bill, assent Law and gazette
5-Nov-19	Legislation (Referendum Law Gazetted)	-2		
6-Nov-19	Issuing of Writs	-1		The writ sets - The Question, Date/time for the opening and closing of the polls, The date for the return of the Writ to the Governor
7-Nov-19	Proclamation Declaring Referendum Day	0		
11-Nov-19	Planned 1st Postal Ballot Issue	4	0.6	
7-Dec-19	Deadline for Receipt of Postal Ballot requests	30	4.3	
9-Dec-19	Last Postal Ballot Issue	32	4.6	12 Days before polling Day - Section 3 (3)
10-Dec-19	Mobile Voting (BT)	33	4.7	
11-Dec-19	Mobile Voting (WB, GTN)	34	4.9	
13-Dec-19	Mobile Voting (Little Cayman)	36	5.1	
12-Dec-19	Mobile Voting (George Town)	35	5	
13-Dec-19	Mobile Voting (NS, EE, CYB)	36	5.1	
19-Dec-19	Referendum Day	42	6	

Government has announced the date for the referendum to determine whether the cruise berthing and upgrade to the port facility should go ahead, the 19th December, 2019. This date is earlier than the anticipated January date, which means the latest group of people who have registered to vote will not be able to participate in the referendum.

In gazetting the Referendum Bill, Government also outlined the question which will be put forth to the voting public: "Should the Cayman Islands continue to move forward with building the cruise berthing and enhanced cargo port facility?" The response to the question will be a simple 'Yes' or 'No'.

In a statement, Government advised that the referendum day will be a public holiday, but that licensed bars and similar establishments will be permitted to remain open to minimise disruption during the holiday season.

In wording this very important question, Government said it had no precedent to follow and there was no guidance given in the Constitution, but that they followed common sense and natural justice principles to ensure that the question was clear and simple, easy to understand and written in plain language, to the point, unambiguous and neutral, which meant the wording should not create any encouragement for voters to

consider one response more favourably than another and should not mislead voters.

In order to ensure that the question was democratically posed, Government was guided by the Council of Europe's Commission for Democracy Through Law (the Venice Commission) in its Code of Good Practice on Referendums. The Attorney General was also consulted in the development of the question and external legal advice was also sought.

Government also wanted to ensure that the referendum question reflected the intention of the petitioners, specifically Cruise Port Referendum Cayman (CPR). However, Government said that while CPR focused solely on cruise berthing, it wanted to include the question as to whether the voting public also wanted an enhanced cargo port as well, which, they said, had always been an intrinsic part of the Government's plans. As the two projects went hand in hand, they were both addressed in the referendum question.

The choice of date was based upon the legal process required in order to conduct a referendum, the statement said, with sufficient time needed to allow the Elections Office to plan for and carry out their duties - including providing for postal and mobile voting.

The statement concluded by saying that Government looked forward to settling this issue and determining whether the country supported continuing to move forward with building the cruise berthing and enhanced cargo port facility.

Government to stop running its own English Language Testing

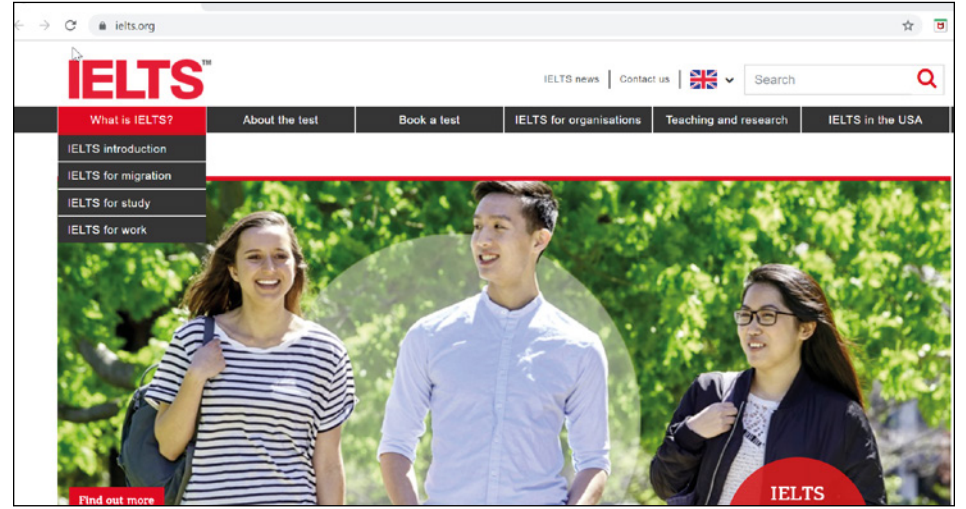
The newly developed Workforce Opportunities and Residency Cayman (WORC), the Government agency that took over responsibility for work permits from the old Department of Immigration, has advised that it will no longer be conducting English Language Tests as of 14th October.

Any person wishing to work in the Cayman Islands on a work permit who is from a non-English speaking country is first required to take an English Language Test to prove that they have a basic understanding of the English language. This is to make sure they can take care of themselves and their families while they live in Cayman and can assimilate quickly into society.

Up until this point, the English Language Tests (or ELTs) were carried

out by the Department of Immigration (now WORC), but this proved to be an impractical method for testing, with applicants suffering long waits because of understaffing in the administration of the tests. The system had also found to be open to corruption, with a continuing court case ongoing in relation to the ELTs.

To remedy these issues, WORC will accept test results from two global providers: International English Language Test Systems (IELTS) and Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC). There is also a local testing centre, at Modern Business Solutions, located at the Grand Pavilion Commercial Centre, with more information to be found at: <https://mbscayman.com/toEIC/>



WORC has stated that it will accept a passing grade at band A2, a grading that is reflective of the Common European

Framework of Reference for Languages which identifies this grade as a basic user of English.

Students Present Royal Caribbean President with Global Petition Signed by over 200k

... Continued story from page A4

this process! These decisions will not be dictated to us.

This port construction will directly weaken our own island's protections from natural disasters. Are you aware that we have lost significant areas of our mangroves, our seagrass continues to be removed, and now, our reefs are under attack.

The wrecks of Balboa, and The Gamma in George Town Harbor provide cultural significance and links to our heritage. Destroying historical sites that are ages old so to ensure that a few more tourists can step on our shores for mere hours, directly contradicts our National Conservation Law and Royal Caribbean's own motto.

BEN:

Protect our Future appreciates that there are various economic

benefits that may profit the Cayman Islands from the building of the cruise berthing facility. However, our organization strongly believes that based upon available research, the economic benefits are far outweighed by the negative consequences to the environment and economy both to the Cayman Islands and more globally.

With the proposed cruise berthing facility being sanctioned to remove approximately 68,000 square meters of sea bed, there will be detrimental effects to the entirety of Cayman's surrounding marine ecosystems.

According to the Central Caribbean Marine Institute, under the assumption that there will be a minimum of 1 foot of dredging for the entirety of the proposed twelve acre site, this equates to a volume of roughly 522,720 cubic ft of sediment being removed. With the removal and disturbance of

such a large amount of sediment, the proposed dredging zone will not only be impacted, but rather there will be further negative implications to the surrounding area including.

All adjacent reefs to the sanctioned zone will have thousands of pounds of sediment settle upon them, thereby killing them over time. In addition, all of the marine life that is sustained by the reef will be impacted, either killing them or forcing them to relocate to other environments, which in turn impacts the ecology of that new environment.

Water visibility and clarity will be reduced materially. With such large amounts of sediment being disturbed, surrounding waters will visually become "cloudy" becoming less appealing to incoming tourists off the cruise ships, but more importantly divers. To further understand the importance of tourism and related dive industries to Cayman:

Additionally, under the proposed construction of the cruise berthing facility, more than 12 acres of coral will be removed. The removal of such a large amount of reef has extreme global effects. As the Central Caribbean Marine Institute states, "corals across the Caribbean region typically suffer 80% mortality within two years of relocation." With such a low probability that the coral relocated will survive, the removal of these reefs will lead to their eventual death.

CIGTV collaborates with Compass to share their content

The Cayman Islands Government TV (CIGTV) has come to an agreement with the Cayman Compass to share community based news content.



Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin said "I'm very happy that an agreement has been reached with the Cayman Compass.

"The agreement enables CIGTV and Compass Media to create and promote a sense of community, providing access for more people to community news through print, broadcast and digital platforms."

Cayman Compass publisher Kathleen Capetta said: "We are thrilled to be working collaboratively with the Government to bring important independent community news to a wider audience."

"This partnership comes as we relaunch the Compass and its multi-media platforms at the heart of the community."

Donna Bush, CIGTV News Director, said: "Our goal is to provide the best content available for viewers both locally and internationally. Working in partnership with others is important to this. We have recently added national weather updates to our CIGTV news segments by partnering with the National Weather Service. This collaboration with the Compass is another exciting venture enabling us to bring even more community based content to our viewers'."

CIGTV provides a valuable source of community based news across its channels and encouraging content sharing such as through this collaboration goes some way towards filling the gap left by the recent closure of a local television station. Whilst it is a positive effort to fill a media void in terms of community content, Government is not subsidising or paying for any of the content. The arrangement is not exclusive and CIGTV continue to welcome video content from the local media and community partners. Please contact donna.bush@gov.ky to discuss.

The content-sharing arrangement with Compass will begin on Monday 7th October to coincide with the relaunch of the Cayman Compass.



Camana Bay offers multiple ways to show your support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a 31-day worldwide campaign to raise awareness of the disease. Camana Bay is supporting the cause this October by providing those who live, work and play at Camana Bay multiple ways to support various charities and this worthy initiative.

Share your support online

Head to the Camana Bay Town Centre for photo opportunities after dark. The sky will glow all month long, as the lights in the Town Centre are switched to pink in recognition of this month of awareness. Snap a selfie in front of the pink lights and let your friends know why you support Breast Cancer Awareness Month when you post your photo. If you share your image with the hashtag #CamanaBay you might see your photo reposted on the Camana Bay social media channels, and you will be entered into our giveaway for a CI\$25 Camana Bay Gift Card!

Get a little physical

All are encouraged to join ENERGY Essential Fitness at the Arts & Recreation Centre in Camana Bay and sweat for the cause at Pilates for Pink. Pilates for Pink is an annual fundraiser, now in its 13th year, in support of the Cayman Islands Cancer Society. This year's event will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, 4 October 2019. Participants can get in a workout with friends and know they are making a difference in the process.

Show your love with your locks

Join Eclipse Hair Design & Day Spa and The Lions Club of Tropical Gardens for their 19th Annual Cut-a-Thon on Sunday, 20 October 2019. This annual fundraiser and hair drive starts at 2 p.m. at Eclipse Hair Design & Day Spa in Camana Bay. There is the option of donating 10 to 12 inches of hair or making a monetary donation that will benefit The

Lions Club of Tropical Gardens Breast Cancer Awareness fund.

Support in style

Devon and Jones support cancer research by donating a portion of every sale towards research for a cure. The Camana Bay Visitor Centre is proud to support the Cayman Islands Breast Cancer Foundation with the sale of Camana Bay-branded shirts by Devon and Jones. T-shirts cost CI\$15 each and all proceeds from these sales will be donated to the Cayman Islands Breast Cancer Foundation.

Donate in cash

Life moves pretty fast, and for those who are unsure of how to give, or where to give, but want to help this Breast Cancer Awareness Month – there is a donation box available at the Camana Bay Visitor Centre. All donations will be passed along to the Cayman Islands Breast Cancer Foundation.

Give a gift with a little extra meaning

Camana Bay has made it easier to give a gift – twice! – this October with Breast Cancer Awareness-branded gift cards. Ten per cent of the proceeds of the sales of these cards will be donated to the Cayman Islands Breast Cancer Foundation.

ABOUT CAMANA BAY

A destination within a destination, Camana Bay is a vibrant town located in the heart of Grand Cayman in the Cayman Islands, a British Overseas Territory.

Situated on 685 acres between Seven Mile Beach and the North Sound, this mixed-use master-planned community is one of the first examples of New Urbanism in the Caribbean.

Developed by Dart Real Estate, Camana Bay offers more than 650,000 square feet of commercial office and retail space as well as 63 luxury apartments availa-



► Pilates for Pink celebrates its 13th annual fitness celebration with Pilates for Pink in the Arts & Recreation Centre at Camana Bay



► Show your support for Eclipse Hair Design & Day Spa's 19th annual cut-a-thon, benefitting the Lions Club of Tropical Gardens

ble for long-term lease, public spaces for all to enjoy, world-class shopping and dining, as well as family-friendly entertainment, events and attractions.

For more information, visit camana-bay.com and keep up with the latest developments on Facebook and follow us on Instagram.

Deloitte continues to lead in Information Security Management with ISO 27001 certification

Following a successful independent audit performed by BSI Group (The British Standards Institution), Deloitte retains the highly sought-after ISO 27001 certification for the third consecutive year.

ISO 27001 is a leading international standard, defining requirements for information security management of the firm's and their clients' confidential information. Deloitte's offices in the Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands and Trinidad & Tobago obtained their certification of ISO 27001 compliant organizations in May 2017.

Taron Jackman, Risk Advisory Leader for the Caribbean and Bermuda Countries (CBC), commented on the successful result of the 2019 audit "Obtaining and maintaining this certification requires a great effort from every person



at every level of the firm. It demands developing and implementing rigorous information security policies and processes; ongoing testing, controls and system updates; as well as annual ex-

ternal audits of all people and processes involved in information management. This milestone supports and reinforces Deloitte's leadership position in the Information Security Management space,

and furthers our commitment to client confidentiality and service excellence".

This certification applies to the firm's offices across the region, including their Forensic Investigation, Analytics & Cyber Security Lab and their disaster recovery, business continuity and data-hosting center "Deloitte Resilience Center"; both facilities located at Citrus Grove Building in Grand Cayman.

To be certified as ISO 27001 compliant confirms that Deloitte has integrated a strict Information Security Management System (ISMS) in its business processes, and that information security and client confidentiality are part of the cornerstones of the firm's activities. The ISMS is an approach that ensures a high standard of security that is maintained by Deloitte employees, and supported by IT systems and processes throughout the organization.

Governor Confirms Commonwealth to Observe Cruise Port Referendum

His Excellency The Governor, Martyn Roper OBE confirmed today that the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA - UK) had been invited and has agreed to send an observer mission to the Cayman Islands for the forthcoming People's Initiated Referendum on the cruise berthing facility.

CPA UK regularly, in its role as secretariat for CPA's British Islands and Mediterranean Region, carries out and supports election missions across the Commonwealth. Since 2010, CPA UK has organised short-term Election Observer Missions (EOM) and Election Assessment Missions (EAM), and has supported a number of organisations in sourcing observers to participate in missions. They were last in the Cayman Islands in 2017 to observe the general election. The organisation is a signatory

to the Declaration of Principles of International Election Observation and Code of Conduct for International Election Observers, signed at the UN in 2005.

Governor Roper commented: "I am very pleased the CPA (UK) has agreed to observe the referendum. CPA-UK is highly respected in electoral observation and brings lots of experience. International observation of elections and referendums is an important means of providing an independent assessment. Since this is the first people's initiated referendum in the Cayman Islands, they will also help us to learn lessons for the future. The Cayman Islands has a good track record of organising free and fair elections and referendums and I want thank the Elections Office for all the excellent work they are doing to prepare for the referendum."



► His Excellency The Governor, Martyn Roper OBE



► Dreamcatchers dancers perform a lively quadrille at the International Day of Older Person Garden Party at Pedro St. James on Tuesday, 1 October



► Junkanoo reveler interacts with attendees of the International Day of Older Person Garden Party at Pedro St. James on Tuesday, 1 October

OPM Garden Party Blossoms Into Afternoon of Recognition, Fun

Historic Pedro St. James, with its manicured lawns, dramatic sea views and iconic great house, was the elegant venue for this year's International Day of Older Persons Garden Party. Hosted and organised by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the sunny, outdoor event attracted nearly 300 seniors.

The inaugural event of the activity-filled month-long Older Persons Month observance formally opened with the National Song sung by Savannah Primary School choir. Mrs. Maureen Idalee Scott from Cayman Brac gave the opening prayer. Master of Ceremonies DCFS Deputy Director Rayle Roberts welcomed attendees including Community Affairs Councillor Austin Harris, Councillors David Wight and Barbara Conolly, MLA for North Side Ezzard Miller and former MLA Kurt Tibbetts.

Councillor Austin Harris tendered the Minister of Community Affairs' apologies before delivering an Older Persons Month Message. He spoke of the commitment of the government and the DCFS to work towards improving the lives of seniors and gave a special mention to the observance's sponsors.

"The theme for this month's appreciation of those aged 65 and older is 'Positive Ageing'. I believe that it reflects the continuing focus of the Ministry of Community Affairs and Department of Children and Family Services to promote and assist our aging population.

"We know for a fact that people are living longer, not just in the Cayman Islands, but the world over, as such your Coalition Government of National Unity stands firm in supporting the Older Per-

sons Law, 2017 that promotes, protects and advances the well-being of older persons and underpins the ambitions of the Cayman Islands Older Persons Policy (2016-2035). Specifically, the law seeks to promote, for our seniors, access to services, social inclusion and anti-discriminatory practices."

Councillor Harris then welcomed the Ministry's new Deputy Chief Officer, Joan West-Dacres, on her first day of work.

Ministry of Community Affairs' Chief Officer, Teresa Echenique and DCFS Director Paulinda Mendoza-Williams also introduced and recognised the Ambassadors for 2019.

This year's ambassadors: Mrs. Beulah McField, Mr. John E. Ebanks, Mr. McFarlane Conolly, Mrs. Beulah McField and Mrs. Idalee Scott were present. The Director read out their biographies, outlining distinguished community service track records, before the Chief Officer congratulated them, giving each their plaques. The ambassadors, including Mrs. Scott who attended with other seniors from the Brac, received warm applause.

Formalities completed, attendees either watched or took part in the Garden Party activities including dancing to the Regeneration Band. Guests took part in a cake walk, a fresh local produce raffle - officiated and contributed to in part by Mr. Tibbetts, and a fancy hat competition. Attendees were regaled by the amusing antics of the wildly costumed junkanoo and watched: quadrille dancing by Dreamcatchers, a greasy pole trial. They also sampled Chef Thomas Tennant's Lion Fish fritters at the Tom Foodery's food tasting stall.



► (L-r) Councillor Barbara Conolly, DCFS Director Paulinda Mendoza-Williams, Older Persons Month Ambassador Beulah McField, Older Persons Month Ambassador McFarlane Conolly, Older Persons Month Ambassador John E. Ebanks, Ministry of Community Affairs Chief Officer Teresa Echenique, Older Persons Month Ambassador Mrs. Idalee Scott, MOCAs Deputy Chief Officer Joan West-Dacres and Councillor David Wight at the International Day of Older Person Garden Party at Pedro St. James on Tuesday, 1 October

Attendees then had a buffet dinner with cool-down beverages, served by the Lions Club of Grand Cayman members, and other volunteers, which afforded more opportunities for socialising. Attendees also visited the Public Service Pensions Bureau (PSPB) and Cayman Islands Hazard Management stalls for advice and giveaways. PSPB is one of Older Persons Month major sponsors and paid for the event's catering.

The garden party ended with a vote of thanks and closing remarks by Mrs. Mendoza Williams.

"Today we celebrate International Day of Older Persons and launch the month-long series of events to celebrate Older Persons Month. I wish to express sincere appreciation to our many sponsors, public and private sector partners and departmental staff for making today's event such an unqualified success."

Harking back to the current OPM theme she said: "In recognising our older persons, let's not forget it is our civic duty as a community to ensure they age positively. As a nation: our social care, economic and cultural structures must be inclusive of our older persons."



► (L-r) DCFS social worker Jasmine Powell escorts Ms Olive Miller helped by colleague Pat Halan at the International Day of Older Person Garden Party at Pedro St. James on Tuesday 1 October



► The cake walk competition was one of many activities for seniors at the International Day of Older Person Garden Party at Pedro St. James on Tuesday 1 October



► The International Day of Older Person Garden Party, the start of Older Persons Month, was a great event for catching up with old acquaintances

Gas Price



Location	Gas Station	Regular	Premium	Diesel
East End	Eastern Star Rubis (Woody's)	4,54	—	4,45
NorthSide	Jack's Esso (Jack's II)	4,6	4,96	4,44
Bodden Town	Lorna's Rubis	4,56	4,96	4,5
Bodden Town	Mostyns Esso	4,53	4,91	4,41
Savannah	Savannah Rubis	4,66	4,96	4,5
Red Bay	Barcam	4,56	4,95	4,46
Red Bay	On The Run (Brown's Red Bay)	4,58	4,91	4,46
George Town	Peanuts	4,59	4,96	4,5
George Town	Jose's Escape	4,59	4,96	4,55
George Town	Refuel **	4,45	4,7	4,24
George Town	Esso Tigermart 4 Way Stop (JS) H&B 11	4,58	4,96	4,48
George Town	Eastern Avenue Rubis	4,66	4,96	4,5
George Town	Walkers Rd. Rubis	4,66	4,96	4,5
George Town	On The Run (Mike's Walkers Rd.)	4,58	4,96	4,46
George Town	On The Run (Brown's Industrial Park)	4,58	4,91	4,5
George Town	On The Run (Mike's 7 Mile)	4,58	4,96	4,46
West Bay Rd.	H & B Esso (H&B 1 Seven Mile)	4,58	4,96	4,48
West Bay Rd.	7 Mile Rubis (AA 7 Mile)	4,59	4,96	4,22
West Bay	Hell Esso	4,58	4,96	4,39
West Bay	Esso 4 Way Stop (Four Winds)	4,61	4,78	4,31
George Town	Scotts Landing	—	4,99	4,55
Cayman Brac	West End	—	5,04	4,87
Cayman Brac	Tib Mart	—	5,04	—
Little Cayman	Village Square	—	5,97	6,02

Lowest Prices	Grand Cayman	4,45	4,7	4,22
Highest Prices	Grand Cayman	4,66	4,96	4,55



** Ethanol Blended Gasoline - 87 Octane - E10
* Information courtesy Ofreg

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THEN & NOW

This is the third and final part of our Then and Now series on tourism, bringing you from the 1980s up-to-date with Cayman's present-day tourism industry

Cayman's present-day tourism industry

By Lindsey Turnbull

This is the third and final part of our Then and Now series on tourism, bringing you from the 1980s up-to-date with Cayman's present-day tourism industry.

In her 'Anatomy of a tourism success story' written by Barbara Currie Maguire in the May 1981 Nor'wester magazine, Ms Maguire says "during the past five years, the Cayman Islands has emerged as the Caribbean's fastest-growing tourism destination."

This was the opinion of Mr Luther Miller of the Barbados-based Caribbean Tourism Research Centre, who had visited the Cayman Islands earlier that year as part of a regional study on the overall profile of North American Tourists.

In the Eighties, the friendliness of the people, the stability of the government and the sound economy, coupled with proximity to mainland US and business opportunities that were rapidly growing were all considered reasons for Cayman's superior growth in its tourism product, according to Miller. However, he warned that territories in the Caribbean had offerings which duplicated themselves, such as the spectacular beaches and turquoise seas. He ventured that they needed a product in order to attract visitors, and Cayman clearly had already established itself as a tourism destination because the number of repeat visitors it already attracted, proving that theory, he said.

Integral to the development of the tourism product were planning, promotion, and monitoring of the industry and they formed the basis for a continued success story, he felt. Cayman's Tourist Board and then Department of Tourism (evolving as a result of the 1974 Tourism Law) were created to do just that. This law provided for a Tourism Advisory Council and a Hotel Licensing Board, all of which created the background for a quickly-developing tourism industry. The island also benefitted from a growing number of daily international flights bringing visitors into Cayman from all over the US via various hubs connected directly to Cayman.

Tourism statistics from four decades ago provide further evidence for the phenomenal growth in tourism in the Cayman Islands. By 1980 there were 120,241 visitors arriving by air and 60,873 visitors arriving by cruise ship for a combined total of 181,110 that year.

In 1986 the DoT started promoting the Cayman Islands on US TV with the tagline, 'Our people are our best asset'. In that year Grand Cayman also saw the opening of two important hotels: the Hyatt Regency and Treasure Island Resorts. These two moves proved significant because just one year later air arrivals increased by 26 per cent, the largest single increase year-on-year for a decade.

At the turn of the century, Cayman's tourism product dramatically unfolded, aided with the opening of some luxury resorts, such as the Westin opening in December 1995, adding hundreds more guest rooms to the tourism offering. The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman's opening was delayed by the onset of Hurricane Ivan in 2004, eventually opening in early 2006, bringing a five-star luxury resort into Cayman's tourism mix.

2001 saw the formation of the Cayman Island Tourism Associ-

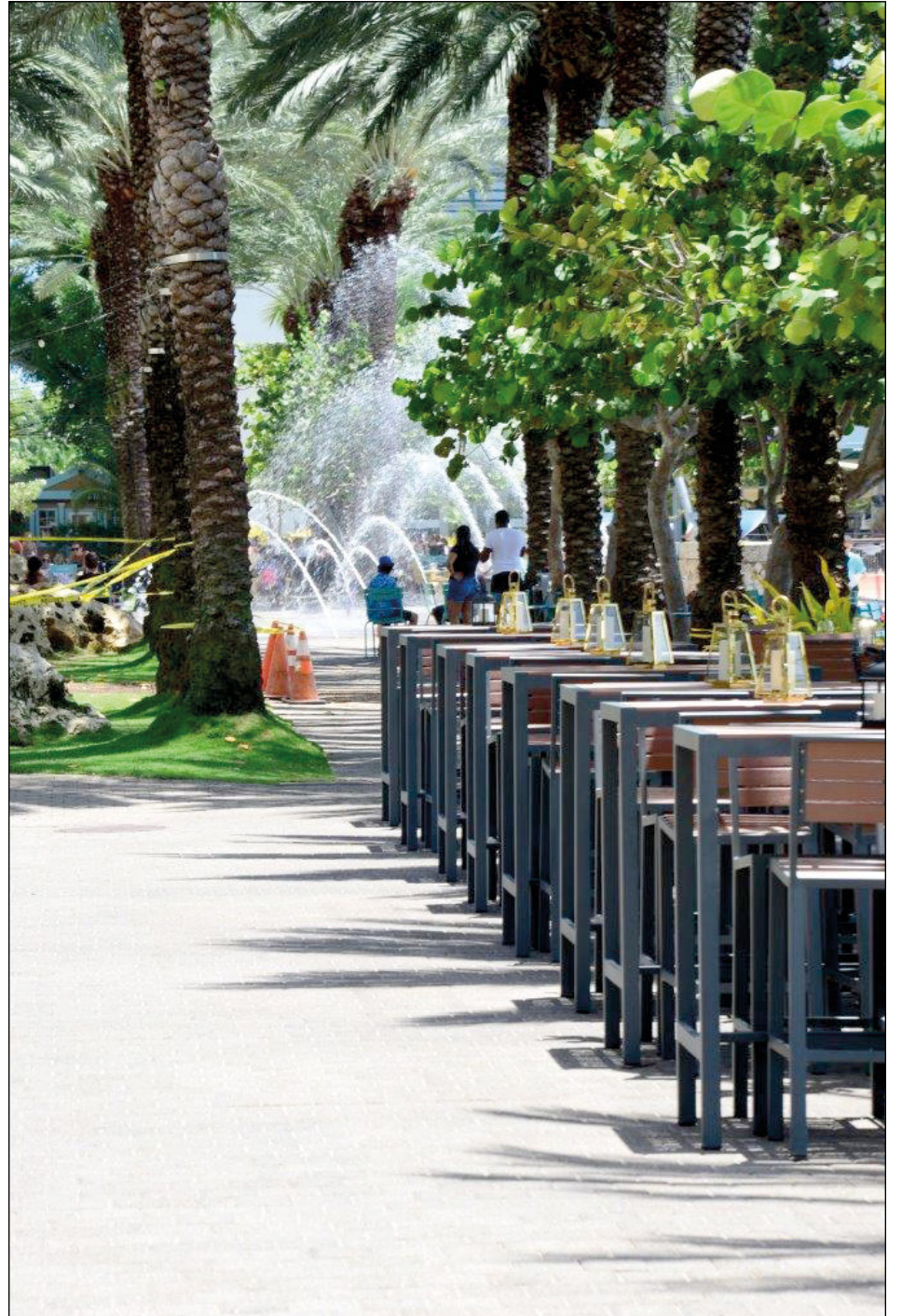
ation, a non-profit association representing all aspects of tourism-related business. It was formed through an amalgamation of the Cayman Tourism Alliance and the Cayman Islands Hotel and Condominium Association.

In 2005, possibly one of the most significant moves in Cayman's recent development took place - breaking ground at Camana Bay. The first tenants to anchor their space at Camana Bay were the movie theatre, Books & Books and Café del Sol (now Starbucks), immediately providing visitors to the newly developing town with plenty of reasons to visit. Offices quickly followed, as did restaurants, residences and retail outlets, rapidly creating a centre point not only for visitors but a place for locals to enjoy as well. In 2010 Camana Bay won the Governor's Award, its innovation and sustainability being recognised at the first annual Governor's Award for Design and Construction Excellence.

In 2016 Cayman upped its hotel offering again, with the opening of the Kimpton Seafire in November of that year. The opening marked the boutique hotel company's first move into the international luxury resort market and Cayman's first new hotel in more than a decade.

Statistics highlight the increasing numbers of visitors looking to enjoy Cayman as their holiday destination over the most recent decade: in 1996 Cayman saw 373,200 air arrivals from visitors. That figure leapt to 418,400 in 2017. But Cayman has also seen significant numbers of cruise ship passengers interested in making Cayman part of their vacation itinerary. In 1996 there were 800,300 cruise ship visitors to Cayman's shores and in 2017 that figure was 1,728,400. Today, the question as to whether to expand Cayman's cruise ship offering by developing a new port to accommodate larger cruise ships is a hot topic of discussion for the country.

The success of Cayman as a tourism destination shows no signs of faltering, with air arrivals almost topping half a million last year and almost two million cruise visitors, making 2018 a record-breaking year. Increasing arrival numbers for 2019 show no signs of abating either, and, with two new resorts scheduled to begin construction in the coming months, the Hilton and the Grand Hyatt, Cayman seems poised to continue this growth well into the new decade. 🌐



► Seven Mile Beach in 1968 from the Denny Ranson collection (Photo credit: the Cayman Islands National Archive Photographic Collections)

► Camana Bay has added a whole new dimension to tourism

Bahamas Gov't Described as Savage and Cold-Hearted for Moving to Deport Migrants Affected by Hurricane

Local human rights group, Rights Bahamas says it has placed international human rights groups on alert as the government moves to expel immigrants affected by Hurricane Dorian which devastated Abaco and Grand Bahama last month.

They say the move will cause statelessness, affect children and deny many their legal right to citizenship.

When the Category 5 hurricane tore through the northern Bahamas September 1 to 3, it destroyed many shantytowns in Abaco which were home to migrants – some legal, others illegal.

Addressing Parliament yesterday – the first sitting since the powerful hurricane – Prime Minister Dr Hubert Minnis served notice to “all those who are illegal that they can leave voluntarily or they will be forced to leave”, a day after Immigration Minister Elsworth Johnson insisted that hurricane shelters would not be used by illegal immigrants “to circumvent the law”. Attorney General Carl Bethel had also called for migrants who have lost their jobs because of Hurricane Dorian to leave the country.

The warnings came on the heels of previous assurances from Johnson that given the humanitarian situation facing the country after the hurricane, authorities would not be going after illegal immigrants.

“We condemn this sudden about-face from the government’s earlier declara-

tion that it will not target migrant the victims of the storm, and denounce the scheme for what is clearly is – a shameful attempt at political posturing aimed at currying favour with xenophobic elements of the populace,” Rights Bahamas said in a statement.

“Rights Bahamas has alerted international human rights groups to the government’s savage, cold-hearted and illegal plan to expel migrants affected by Hurricane Dorian, as outlined by Attorney General Carl Bethel....Bethel’s call... is hollow and disingenuous. How will those who have lost their property, their money and probably their travel documents manage to leave? This is nothing more than a precursor and excuse for an exercise of mass illegal deportation without due process.”

The group said the migrant population was among the most gravely affected by the storm and chastised the government for wanting to “kick them when they are at their lowest, and heap further misery on their heads, just to score cheap political points”.

“It is utterly unconscionable to further target, victimise and scapegoat people who have lost everything, including loved ones, in this shameful manner. Are they to have no time to even mourn in peace?...The government’s actions are the definition of discrimination and inhumanity.”



► Prime Minister Dr Hubert Minnis served notice to “all those who are illegal that they can leave voluntarily or they will be forced to leave”.

The group added that the move would undoubtedly affect hundreds of children of migrants born in the Bahamas, effectively denying them the right to Bahamian citizenship as mandated by the constitution.

“Once expelled with their parents, we all know that they will never be allowed back in to access their birth right. For many, this could mean being rendered stateless if their parents have passed away and/or and they have no way to prove their connection to whatever

country our government is planning to expel them,” Rights Bahamas said, urging all its international partners to vocally condemn the declaration by the Bahamas government.

The group said it was also reporting the matter to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, with a view to seeking precautionary measures to protect the migrant population in the Bahamas from arbitrary and illegal actions. 🌐

Virgin Atlantic Providing Increased Airlift for Barbados on Heels of Thomas Cook Collapse

Government has announced its plan to deal with any major fall out due to the recent collapse of Thomas Cook Airlines.

Minister of Tourism and International Transport, Kerrie Symmonds has revealed that Virgin Atlantic Airways will now provide increased flights, totalling 30,000 seats, to Barbados over the upcoming winter season.

When Thomas Cook Airlines folded on September 23, it put some local hoteliers at risk of losing over 60 per cent of their winter bookings. Symmonds noted that Thomas Cook was also an important partner to the island’s cruise sector and disclosed that the British cruise line P&O Cruises, which homeports in Barbados, stood to suffer as it depended heavily on airlift from the defunct British airline.

“Thomas Cook provided Barbados with 23,500 passengers over the last winter season and was contractually obligated to provide 27,000 seats across winter....Of that maximum capacity of seats, we would have shared the service with Antigua, St. Lucia and Tobago,” he said.

The Tourism Minister said following discussions with Virgin Atlantic, the airline announced that Barbados would benefit from increased airlift.

There will be an additional weekly flight from Manchester with 455 seats; and two flights from London Gatwick which will bring the total number of

weekly flights from Gatwick to nine during the winter season.

“The 27,000 seats which had been put into jeopardy immediately upon the collapse of Thomas Cook are now defended and we will be in a position in fact to benefit from 30,000 seats via Virgin Atlantic to Barbados, and they will not be shared by any other destination,” Symmonds said.

“For those who wish to access those other Caribbean countries, the opportunity will exist for them to fly to Barbados for onward connections to those other CARICOM member states, so that Barbados will act as the hub in the Eastern Caribbean for all Virgin Atlantic passengers who would have been using these flights and obviously all dislocated Thomas Cook passengers.”

The Tourism Minister added that discussions were underway with Virgin Atlantic to provide mix-used scheduled flights to Barbados.

“We are anticipating that we would be able to have mix-used scheduled flights so that a percentage, [of] an aircraft [let’s say] carrying 240 passengers, half of them maybe set aside to carry the cruise passengers and then the other half would be for those regularly scheduled flights for long stay.

“The important thing has been to use the increased capacity to make sure we are able to adequately satisfy the demand on the cruise side... now that



► Virgin Atlantic Airways will now provide increased flights, totaling 30,000 seats, to Barbados starting November 1

Thomas Cook is completely obliterated from the landscape,” he said.

Symmonds further noted that while he was in Ireland last week, he and other tourism officials met with Aer Lingus to discuss the possibility of partnering with the Irish airline to provide both scheduled and chartered flights to fill the void left by Thomas Cook’s collapse.

He revealed that P&O Cruises had also begun discussions with Aer Lingus and that “they are satisfied the discussions are going well”.

“Aer Lingus is a potentially useful partner for Barbados. It comes out of Ireland; it is well known....It has very

close links with the upper middle class who are doing a lot of long-term leisure travels these days,” he noted, adding that the numbers out of Ireland needed to be sufficiently stimulated.

The Minister added that the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association was looking to launch a Barbados Cares Campaign geared towards offering dislocated Thomas Cook passengers in the UK market discounted vacations under certain circumstances.

“The simple philosophy is it is better to have the business at a discount than not to have the business at all,” Symmonds surmised. 🌐

Venezuela Vice-President Speaks out Against ‘Coup E’etat’, US\$130 Billion Lost to ‘Economic Terrorism’

Venezuela’s Vice-President has criticized administrations that have recognized National Assembly president Juan Guaidó as leader of the South American country.

Addressing the UN General Assembly, and without referring to Guaidó by name, Delcy Rodriguez Gomez called his self-declaration as interim president this past January a “coup d’etat” and “an unspeakable twisted stumbling block on our historic path”.

“This Member of Congress is an imperial puppet. He does not exist in Venezuelan politics. He is a criminal element who has been introduced to breach the peace in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela,” she said.

“This self-proclamation was followed by recognition by a majority of governments of this unequal world; perhaps one of the worst mistakes in the diplomatic history of these countries.”

Rodriguez began her speech by expressing gratitude to speak “in this house of the international community”. Climate action has been one of the major themes of this year’s general debate,



► Delcy Rodriguez Gomez, Venezuela’s Vice-President addresses the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly’s General Debate. (Photo Credit: UN/Cia Pak)

where all 193 UN Member States have a voice.

Highlighting international cooperation in preserving the environment

“which has been affected by the devastating capitalist model”, Rodriguez expressed solidarity with The Bahamas in the wake of Hurricane Dorian and railed

against “the barbarous commercialization of the Amazon, led by the President of Brazil”.

The Vice-President said Venezuela also supports the urgent need to fight against poverty and inequality.

However, she noted “a new kind of terrorism” which does not involve weapons but “the dominance of the dollar”.

She said this “economic terrorism” punishes millions in the drive to “enforce doctrines of regime change and to steal the resources of nations”.

“Economic terrorism against Venezuela has caused a nine-fold drop in its income. Between 2015 and 2018, the total losses for the Venezuelan economy reached \$130 billion because of the brutal blockade imposed by the United States, which is a shameless robbery of all our resources.”

Rodriguez said the US has also “flexed its imperialist claws” against “kindred” revolutions in Cuba and Nicaragua.

She called on the US to exert “less arrogance and more tolerance and coexistence with the other free nations of the world.” 🌐

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Hundreds of Dorian victims still missing

Hurricane Dorian pulverised part of the Bahamas a month ago and officials say there are still at least 600 people missing.

Bahamian Prime Minister Hubert Minnis said the number of those missing has significantly dropped in the past weeks and the death toll has risen.

Earlier figures released by the government indicated that about 1,300 people were unaccounted for. The official death toll across the Bahamas stands at 56, Mr Minnis said.

Dorian flattened homes after it made landfall Sept. 1, leaving thousands with no power, running water and a widespread damage resembling a war zone.

Authorities fear the number of victims will skyrocket in the coming weeks.

"We know that there are considerably more lives lost because there are still 600 missing,"

Mr Minnis said at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. "Because the rising then receding ocean water swept away young and old with their homes."

Medical teams on aid trips to Grand Bahama say they smell the carnage as they drive to the east end of Grand Bahama. They say some bodies may be trapped under mountains of rubble where houses once stood. Others may have been washed away in the storm surge and their bodies only recently surfaced on land.

In the past weeks, tens of thousands of residents were displaced, with thousands fleeing to the United States.

The Bahamas government has announced plans to hire local companies to conduct extensive debris removal in the hardest-hit areas. 🌐



► It will take years to recover from Dorian's devastation

Jamaica and Harvard look at cannabis

The Jamaican government is teaming up with Harvard University to establish a Phytomedicine and Medical Cannabis Institute.

The facility will tap into Jamaica's rich marijuana cultivating heritage and create new pharmaceutical products for export markets. The government hopes this research partnership will make Jamaica more competitive in the flourishing global cannabis industry.

Audley Shaw, Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, said Jamaica's rich botanical diversity and its long-standing expertise of growing cannabis leaves it well placed to thrive within this emerging global industry.

Mr Shaw declared that the partnership with Harvard University will help it take plant-based medicine and extracts to a new dimension, while driving eco-



► Jamaica should benefit from medical cannabis

nomie development as well as health-care.

A team from Harvard International Phytomedicine and Medical Cannabis Institute is currently touring Jamaica.

Last year Jamaica made its first legal export of marijuana extract oil to Canada. Mr Shaw called it an important first step in establishing Jamaica as a global leader in an industry that is increasingly being legalized and regulated across the world. 🌐

Elderly Trinidadians being murdered

The Trinidad and Tobago government is worried by the increasing number of elderly citizens being murdered or disappearing for ever and the perpetrators are often family members.

Fifty-two elderly people aged 60 years and over were murdered in Trinidad and Tobago since January 2018, claimed the T&T Police Service. Of the 32 cases this year, six people were arrested and charged, one of which was a family member of one of the victims.

In 2018, 20 murders were reported, seven of which were detected with ten people arrested and charged, one of whom was a family member. Since 2016, eight percent of the victims of serious crimes in T&T have been senior citizens.

Janelle Sebastian-Reyes, an officer at the Victim Witness and Support Unit, who spoke at a special session held



► Trinidadian police are stretched by its crime levels

on World Alzheimer's Day, Sept. 21, said the data shows that the elderly have been victims of assault by beatings, threats and breach of protection orders, murders, rape and other sexual offences, burglaries and break-ins, fraud offences and larceny. In the past three years, 229 older people were reported missing and 53 of them have not yet been found. 🌐

Guyana tackles corruption culture

Guyanese citizens are optimistic about their country's progress in combating corruption, although Guyana still faces major challenges to prepare itself to manage its newfound oil wealth.

Transparency International included Guyana in its Global Corruption Barometer for the first time this year, providing an important monitor of the country's situation in the run-up to the 2020 elections.

The study reveals that 40 percent of Guyanese believe that corruption is decreasing, and 67 percent believe that the government is handling the struggle well.

Reasons for their optimism include increased freedom of the media to criticise the government, the move to make petroleum contracts publicly available, and the dismissal of corrupt officials.

Other policies praised by the report are the introduction of anti-money



► David Granger introduces anti-corruption measures

laundering laws and the creation of various agencies to monitor corruption in public life.

Guyana has put fighting corruption at the top of its political agenda since the 2015 elections, when David Granger's APNU-Alliance for Change coalition defeated the People's Progressive Party that had held power for 23 years.

The PPP had become notorious for corruption cases involving members who used their political power to profit from state contracts and resources. Mr Granger triumphed on a platform that promised investigations into corrupt officials and the creation of institutions to promote government accountability.

However, Guyana has faced political uncertainty since Granger narrowly lost a no confidence vote in December 2018. After a lengthy court case found the vote valid, Mr Granger was compelled to call new elections by March 2020. 🌐

Dominica increases CBI attraction

Investors seeking second citizenship from the Commonwealth of Dominica will soon have another option available under the island's world-leading Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Programme. In his latest budget address presentation, Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit revealed that another hotel will be built in Dominica, alongside the six luxury CBI hotels that are either already open, ready for launch or under progressing construction.

The new resort will boast 130 rooms, conference facilities, bars and restaurants. PM Skerrit said that the project will be located on the Public Works site along the west-coast Leblanc Highway. It will complement the cruise village and new port while diversifying hotel locations so that different communities in Dominica can directly benefit from it.

The anticipated hotel will operate under Dominica's CBI Programme. Introduced in 1993, Dominica's CBI Programme has now become the world leader within the economic citizenship industry, according to FT's CBI Index. The initiative allows outsiders and their families to acquire second citizenship either by making a one-time contribution



► Dominica's CBI programme attracts rich citizens

into a government fund or buying into pre-approved real estate. Applicants interested in the former must make a non-refundable investment of at least US\$100,000 into the Economic Diversification Fund. The real estate route to Dominican citizenship renders a variety of internationally branded properties to choose from, including Marriott, Hilton and Kempinski. Along with gaining Dominican citizenship, successful applicants will also benefit from increased global mobility, diverse business opportunities and the right of future generations to inherit their citizenship.

Revenue generated from the CBI Programme contributes to Dominica's national development in key areas like ecotourism, healthcare, education and climate resilience. 🌐

Barbados Sailing opens to masses

The Caribbean race season's opening regatta is now to be known as Round Barbados Sailing Week, which replaces its former title, the Mount Gay Round Barbados Series. Organised by Barbados Cruising Club in association with Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc and Mount Gay, Round Barbados Sailing Week 2020 runs from Jan. 17-23 is expected to once again attract top class competition.

The headlining 60nm Mount Gay Round Barbados Race gives crews a chance to win their skipper's weight in rum if any of the 20 records are broken. This all-comers sprint around Barbados traditionally takes place on Jan. 21, Errol Barrow Day - a public holiday to celebrate the birthday of the first Prime Minister of Barbados and 'father of independence'. Given the day's significant status, the party vibe throughout the island is legendary with crowds of locals and visitors annually flocking to the best vantage points to watch the



► Barbados is expanding its Sailing Week options

race as it unfolds down the rugged Atlantic coast.

The organisers have changed the format to make it more accessible for locals and novice sailors to lose the elite tag sailing generally has. Not only have they come up with a well-balanced format for locals to join in the fun and have a go, but they have also enhanced Barbados Sailing Week's strong competitive appeal, to give racing enthusiasts new challenges on the racecourse. 🌐

BVI attracts foodies for a month

British Virgin Islands is preparing for its annual Food Fête, which runs throughout November.

BVI Food Fête spotlights award-winning chefs from across the US and the Caribbean. It starts on Nov. 7 and the events pair islands with local flavours for the ultimate combination of food, sun, and sea. The hotly anticipated line up for 2019 includes chefs Adrienne Calvo from Miami; Lamar Moore from Chicago; John Mooney from DC; and Kerry Heffernan of NYC. You can also taste the creations of local stars like Ariq Flax-Clarke, Brentfield Lettsome, and Digby Stridiron from St Croix.

It's a fitting festival for the British Virgin Islands. Two years after Hurricanes Irma and Maria, the BVI are back to doing what they do best—enjoying the good life. In this geographically



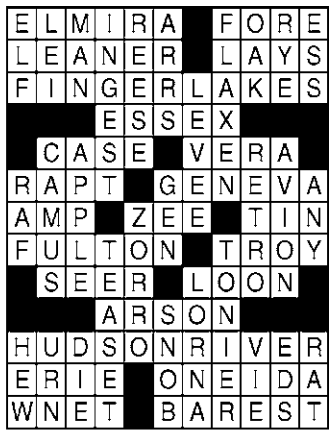
► BVI Food Fete is one of its biggest attractions

blessed archipelago of 60 islands and bays dotting the Caribbean Sea, the main islands—Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, and Jost Van Dyke, along with a handful of super-exclusive private islands—are known for serving up gorgeous beaches, smooth sailing, and luxury hotels. It's also where serious food lovers go for authentic Caribbean flavours, top-notch restaurants, and perfectly mixed cocktails. 🌐

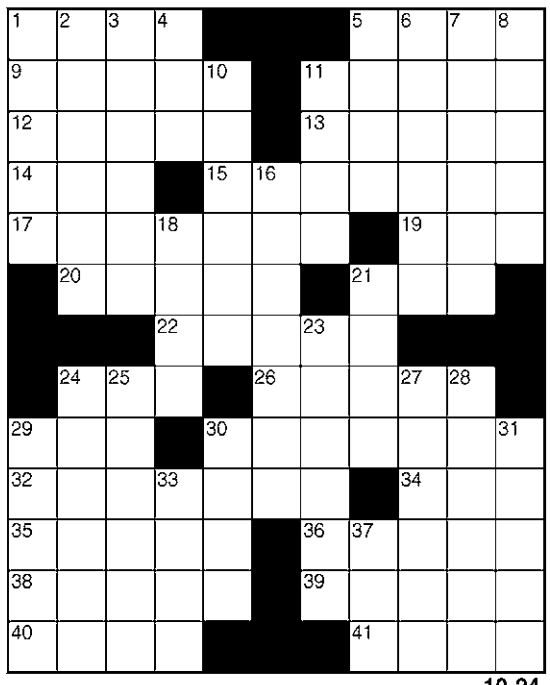
CROSSWORD

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

- ACROSS** 38 V fliers
 1 NBA star Anthony, familiarly
 5 Golfer Norman
 9 Rust, for one
 11 Irritate
 12 Roused from slumber
 13 Mayflower name
 14 Summer in Paris
 15 Opposing opinion
 17 Remote
 19 "Sure thing!"
 20 Puts on ice
 21 Nourished
 22 Fancy feather
 24 Take in
 26 Deceitful people
 29 "So that's it!"
 30 Swell
 32 Break up, in a way
 34 Homer's bartending pal
 35 Paid for a hand
 36 Quite impressed
- DOWN**
 1 Did a yard job
 2 Strangely different
 3 In this manner
 4 Poem of praise
 5 Styling stuffs
 6 Late flight
 7 Made flat
 8 Polite chaps
 10 Ultimate goal
 11 Days gone by
 16 Pancreas product
 18 Hit the bottle
 21 Accomplishment
 7 Made flat
 8 Polite chaps
 10 Ultimate goal
 21 Accomplishment
 23 Botched
 24 Black eye
 25 Spring holiday
 27 Newly fashioned
 28 Deceived
 29 Maxim
 30 Miami — County
 31 Title documents
 33 Porgy's love
 37 Essence



Yesterday's answer

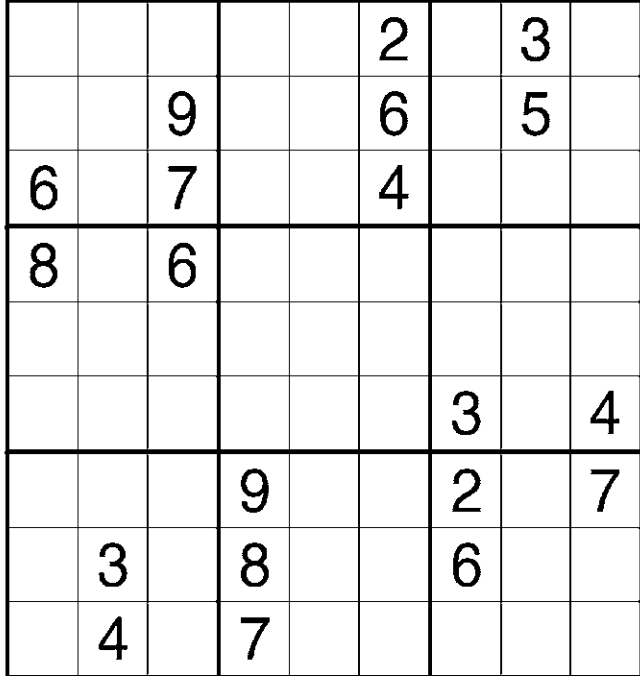


SUDOKU

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



Difficulty Level ★★★

9/13

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Word Search



- Affected
- Boastful
- Conceited
- Condescending
- Disdainful
- Haughty
- Imperious
- Lofty
- Lordly
- Nosed
- Pompous
- Proud
- Sneering
- Snobbish
- Snooty
- Strutting
- Swanky
- Toffee
- Uppish
- Vain

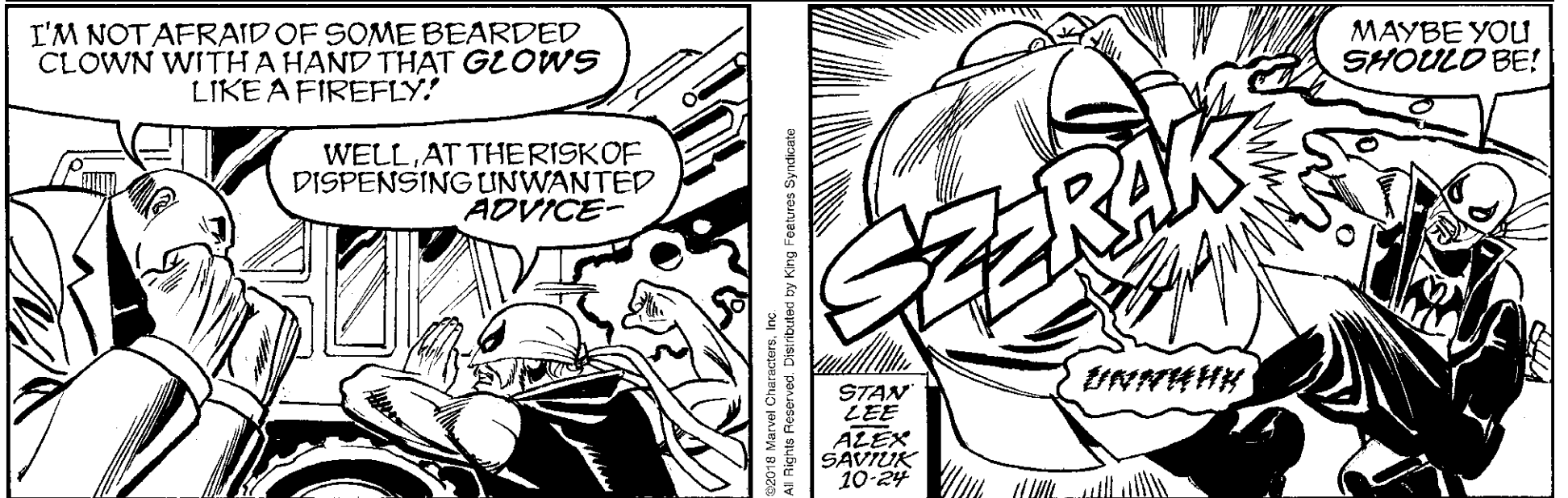
Have fun with **CAYMANIAN TIMES**

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

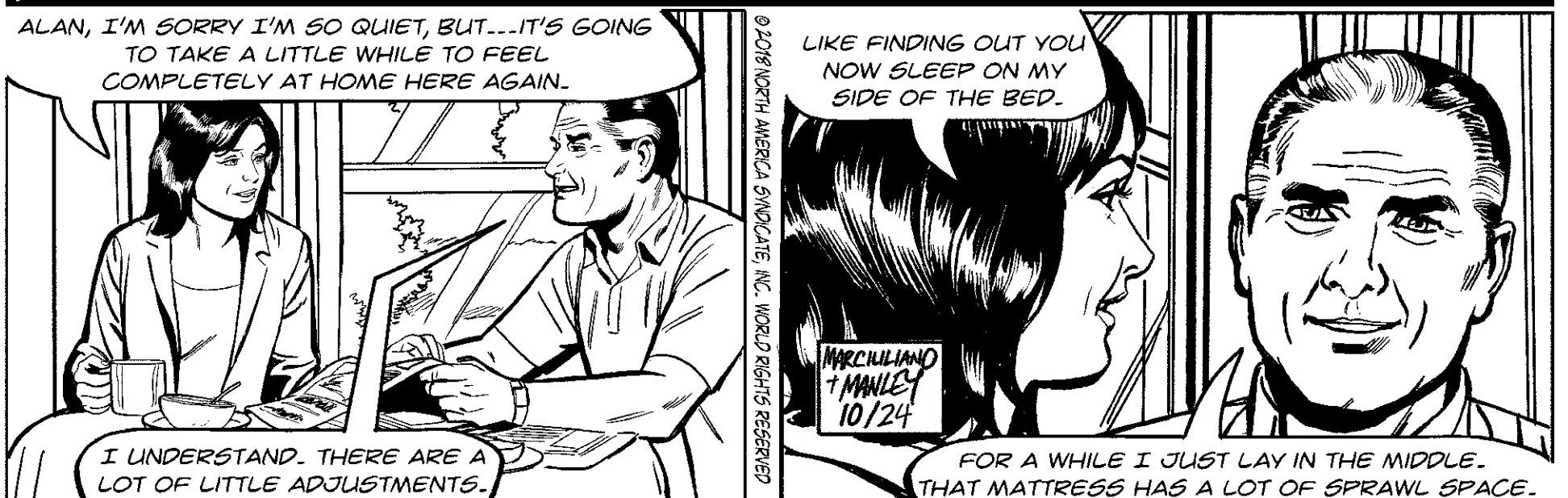
CURTIS By Ray Billingsley



THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





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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)
- Speaker Bush Elected to Global CPA Executive (4 hour ago)
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- Trudeau tries to recover from race row (3 hour ago)
- Philippines debates permitting divorce (3 hour ago)

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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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Venezuela's neighbours vote for action
 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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