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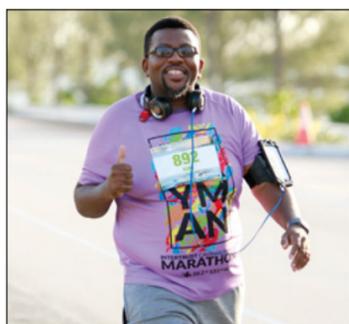
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Cayman Marathon This Weekend!

DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT: a delicate dance



The word 'sustainability', like the phrase 'climate change' tends to get so overused that one could be justified in wondering if, like the concerns over the environment, it too faces a threat of extinction.

However, with 'sustainability' factored into almost every facet of modern life, permanent, irreversible damage, if not an extinction-level threat, is indeed a clear, present and long term danger.

And that goes hand-in-glove with concerns about climate change.

Conventional wisdom suggests a balance between development and preserving the environment. It's a worthy ideal.

If there's no environment, there's no development; neither the built environment or the more crucial human development.

The simple point is this; the price of development should not be the sacrifice of the environment.

Development and the environment have become the defining issues of our time.

How much development is enough development, and at what point is development determined to have reached its saturation point?

The challenge for governments and their electorate the world over is in

... Continued story on page A2

Official Opposition urges NO on Referendum Day

Members of the Opposition, including Leader Arden McLean, Deputy Leader Alva Suckoo, along with MLA's Chris Saunders, Anthony Eden, Kenneth Bryan and Bernie Bush, all got together at Savannah Primary School on Monday evening, to oppose the new port berthing facility at Savannah Primary School on Monday evening, urging people to vote "No" on Referendum Day.

Anthony Eden, Representative for Savannah, spoke first. He has already seen how bad the traffic was in George Town, even when five of the smaller cruise ships were in port, he said, so it would be even worse when the new facility enables even more cruise ship passengers to disembark: "It's a great turn-off for the stayover

... Continued story on page A7



► Opposition members

New Cartier Store Opens



► New Cartier Boutique opens

What is being referred to as the premier Cartier store in the Caribbean had its official opening on Saturday, 30th November at the Bayshore Mall in George Town.

The new architectural concept of the store, which has been in plans for several years, is the first in the Caribbean, according to organizers.

"For this event, we brought one of a kind, high-end pieces of jewelry and most of the designs were inspired by the Caribbean, everything is meant to remind you of the Caribbean," noted Cartier's Latin American and Caribbean President Bruno Carraz.

... Continued story on page A5





1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
SPINNAKER SQUARE
SHAMROCK RD.



1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
PASADORA PLACE
SMITH RD.

1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
BATABANO PLAZA
WEST BAY

EDITORIAL

DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT: a delicate dance

... Continued story from page A1

making that determination...and distinction.

In this context the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) listed by the United Nations are crucial.

From poverty to partnerships they all revolve around a central theme; the environment.

In the pursuit of development, especially towards acceptable and affordable standards of living, external factors are inescapable.

This is particularly notable in small societies exposed and dependent on the outside world for trade, specific skills and expertise, investment and other forms of funding.

Each country and society aspires to global standards of living for its citizens and residents.

Governments across the globe place their political fortunes on their promises and commitments to better the lot of their constituents.

But that must come with an equal focus on preserving the environment.

While the built environment is an indicator of development - and a requirement in many respects - the natural environment is the lungs, lifeblood and filter of a society.

That makes environmental impact assessments so critical.

Cold, hard, indisputable and often-times uncomfortable facts which stand in the way of a developer's dream and a government's goals must be balanced against the long-term sustainability of a society.

The Caribbean along with the rest of the world is littered with well-intentioned projects gone awry with costly corrective environmental recovery bills, or in some instances where the damage is irreversible.

The threat to the natural environment including wildlife habitats has to be balanced against the pressures and demands of development.

It's a delicate balance and a delicate dance.

But when the two converge and this delicate dance is meticulously choreographed, the result is just awe-inspiring 'trippin' the light fantastic'.

More importantly, it benefits both 'development' and the environment.

And...it's sustainable.

The Cayman Islands could be on the cusp of that with the new cruise pier project.

It's just a matter of getting the balance right in the dance between development and the environment.



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COMMUNITY NOTICES

DVDL Office Closures to 2020

The Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing (DVDL) wishes to notify the public of its upcoming opening hours:

- **Thursday, 19 December** - Offices closed for Referendum Day
- **Friday, 20 December** - Offices closed for staff function

Business will resume as usual at the West Bay and Breakers locations on Saturday, December 21, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and at the Crewe Road location, Monday, December 23, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- **Tuesday, 24 December** - Offices closed at noon for Christmas Eve
- **Tuesday, 31 December** - Offices closed at noon for New Year's Eve
- Offices will be closed for Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day



Customers are reminded that they can renew their vehicle licence online via DVDL's website at www.dvdl.gov.ky or through the e-services portal www.eservices.gov.ky.

Visa Offices in Jamaica and Honduras Holiday Hours

Customs and Border Control wishes to advise the public of the holiday hours for the Visa offices located in Jamaica and Honduras.

The **Jamaica Visa** office will be closed the week of Christmas, **December 23rd to December 27th**, re-opening for normal business on December 30th.

The **Honduras Visa** office will be closed from **December 23rd, re-opening on January 3rd** for normal business.

Applicants are reminded that the sponsor must come in with all the required documents, which are a job letter and bank statement, in order for their applications to be processed and payment accepted.

Passport & Corporate Services Office Closes Early for Staff Event

The Passport & Corporate Services Office wishes to advise the public that they will close at 11:00am on Friday, December 13th to facilitate a staff event.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. The office will reopen as normal on Monday, December 16th.

Elections Office Pause Referendum Preparations

Following the decision taken by the Grand Court today, 3 December 2019, to delay the referendum, the Elections Office has paused preparations relating to the People-Initiated Referendum Regarding the Port.

Accordingly, all postal ballot requests received to date that have not yet been issued will be held securely pending further developments from

the Grand Court. All postal ballots that have been received or that are being returned to the Elections Office at present will also be kept securely.

All other activities relating to the referendum such as mobile voting are also suspended. Additional guidance will be issued by the Elections Office as the legal matters proceed through the Grand Court.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE

Saturday, December 7 - 8am to noon

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Issue # 463

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COMMUNITY VOICE

An Irreconcilable Juxtaposition

I thought long and hard before I committed myself to type my gut response to the bold headline and article on page two of the *Weekend Living* section of the Cayman Compass, Friday, 29 November 2019. A major cause of my hesitation was the premonition that instead of wise and principled action being taken to address my concerns, instead there would be an almost-certain accusatory reaction to my opinion. And yes, it is just an opinion — but more than an opinion; it is a concern, and a well-founded one.



► Pastor Alson Ebanks

“Despite the recent increases among women, men who have sex with men saw the highest share of primary and secondary syphilis cases in 2018” (usnews.com).

“While anyone who has sex can get an STD, sexually active gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are at greater risk. In addition to having higher rates of syphilis, more than half of all new HIV infections occur among MSM” (CDC).

“Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men are the population most affected by HIV in the United States. In 2017, adult and adolescent gay and bisexual men made up 70% (27,000) of the 38,739 new HIV diagnoses in the United States (US) and dependent areas” (CDC).

If the three quotes above are not sufficiently disturbing for us to re-think the wisdom of glamorising sexual deviance, the following data should trouble us beyond merely knee-jerk reactions to my daring to question the wisdom of what I consider to be an irreconcilable juxtaposition of ideals.

“While sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) affect individuals of all ages, STDs take a particularly heavy toll on young people. CDC estimates that youth ages 15-24 make up just over one quarter of the sexually active population, but account for half of the 20 million new sexually transmitted infections that occur in the United States each year” (CDC).

You are naturally free to form your own conclusions — both about the above content and about my reaction to the gala. 🌐

I simply found it hard to harmonise the mental cacophony created by the idea of a gala featuring “drag” (Dinner, Drinks & Drag...dahling!) as a fundraiser for the Cayman AIDS Foundation. Ok, I know that “drag” in itself could merely be a sort of eccentric entertainment on certain occasions, but my primary cause for concern is that in the present social context in these islands, “drag” may be interpreted as being synonymous with sexual and gender confusion, in the first instance, and secondly serves to promote the normalisation of sexuality-without-boundaries in an already oversexed culture — and doing it in the face of the rising scourge of STDs, including HIV infections. And yes, I know that AIDS is transmitted other than solely by sexual activity, but there is no denying the link between risky sexual behaviour and the increase of all STDs, including HIV. The data is available for all who care to read it and apply it with wisdom for public health purposes. To highlight my concern, I include a number of direct quotations for your consideration, most of which are from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We need a better port

Dear editor:

Now that we are hearing the facts directly from the developers we can see that certain things that were being said were not true. I don't think people were intentionally spreading things that were false but I believe that because we did not have the information we were guessing and there was a lot of speculation about certain things. After hearing the recent presentations we now know that there will be 30% less footprint in the port area so less damage is being done and that the Eden Rock site will NOT be destroyed at all. In fact Eden Rock is almost the distance of 2 football fields away from the edge of the construction area.

It now seems that Seven Mile Beach is not going to be damaged either. To be honest I never believed it would be based on the earlier reports.

The developers will no longer use a hydraulic dredging process which everyone says is more harmful, they will now be using a manual dredging process which is better for the environment.

Because of all the anchoring during all these years with the cruise ships anchoring further out, a lot of our port area has already been damaged exten-



sively over the past 40 years. Having the ships come in to shore will decrease that harmful anchoring.

Even though the government will give up \$2.32 from the passenger fees towards paying for the port, they will get more passengers so their total revenues will not be reduced but will actually INCREASE slightly over the 25 years. To be honest, even if the revenues are a bit less we will still only be paying a small amount and not anywhere close to the amount we need to build the port.

If we can get a better port facility and we are not losing any money then I think it's a good idea. We will need a better port for both cruise passengers and our cargo for the future.

Gracey Johnson 🌐

Triple C School CELEBRATES 78 YEARS



CUBA MISSION TRIP



As reported by Mr. Benjamin, Spiritual Life Director, our mission trip to Havana, Cuba, from November 6th-10th was amazing! The missions team was comprised of 18 people, including: 10 students from our Youth Experiencing Salvation (YES) Club, 4 teachers, a teacher's spouse, two pastors of our Church of God Chapels in Cayman Brac and Frank Sound, and Justin French, Assistant Pastor. The YES Club students, who had to write an essay to qualify for the trip, has a membership of over 100 middle and high school students and over 40 elementary students.

The four days were filled with great experiences as we walked the streets witnessing, greeting people, and showing random acts of kindness. Additionally, we rode the public bus, shared the gospel, and expressed the love of Jesus in very practical, simple ways. We also attended the Church of God Convention as well as several other local churches, where we were blessed with the opportunity to render the Spanish version of "God is so Good" on two occasions. Our students were amazed at the believers' hospitality, their love and passion for Jesus, and their expression of worship to God in the midst of daily challenges. Our teachers and students were significantly impacted, being reminded of the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37-38, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

KPMG BRAIN BOWL WINNERS



Triple C School won the KPMG 8th Annual Brain Bowl. This is a Cayman Islands academic tournament that is held among the 12 high schools in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. The Brain Bowl is a competition, like unto the television game show, Jeopardy, that tests the areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Caribbean History, and Current Events. Our team consisted of five seniors pictured from left to right: Nasier Levy, Michael Hancock, Gabriella King, Denise Suico, and Manusri Prabhakar. Mr. Lankford, Vice Principal for Secondary, Mrs. Scimone Chin, Business and Careers teacher, and Mrs. Mable Richardson, Principal and Chief Administrative Officer, are also pictured.

Mr. Lankford coached the team in strategy but, of course, their teachers, who contributed to the students' success in the Brain Bowl, are also to be commended for a job well done enabling students to acquire first place in this notable, academic competition. Emily Stookey and Jason Nehra are Physics, Marine Biology, and Chemistry teachers whereas Stephany Blake and Marcus Patterson are Advanced Placement Literature and Calculus teachers respectively.

Christmas Lighting Safety Tip

#5



Make sure the strings of lights you are using outside have built-in fuses on the lines. In most cases, these fuses are located in the actual plug.



Contact 911 in the event of an electrical emergency

Premier and Government await Judicial Review

In a statement on Tuesday, the Hon. Alden McLaughlin said that his concern that the referendum on Government's proposed cruise berthing and cargo port project would be delayed has been realised.

"As I have been saying for the past few weeks, the referendum was at risk," Mr. McLaughlin said. "We will now need to await the judicial review in January before having a clear idea as to the way forward. I do believe the majority of

the country was prepared to go to the polls and vote in the referendum on the 19th of December, which will remain a public holiday as it is now too late to rescind it."

Grand Court Judge Tim Owen granted leave this morning to apply for judicial review and provisionally scheduled a full hearing for 20 January, 2020. He indicated the referendum should be delayed until after a judgment is delivered. 



► Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin

Water Authority Laboratory Accreditation Extended

Following another successful audit by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), the Water Authority Laboratory's Accreditation has been extended through November 2021.

This accreditation ensures that the Laboratory meets the A2LA's ISO 17025:2017 accreditation standard.

"The 17025 ISO accreditation standard was revised in 2017 and focuses on technology developments. This pushed us to stay abreast of new technologies in our field" explains Laboratory Manager Marcela Martinez-Ebanks. "It also ensures that as we deploy new technologies, we maintain the highest degree of integrity while pro-

tecting customer confidentiality," she adds.

The standard emphasises staff competency and is more aligned with current global trends in the management and leadership of human capital; moving the Laboratory away from linear management to a more agile structure for managing processes and resources.

The Laboratory's accreditation was expanded to ensure reliable testing of corrosion-related parameters in drinking water; specifically, iron, copper, lead and zinc. Globally, public concern has grown regarding these parameters.

"Our distribution network is primarily PVC, and there is no historical use of lead pipes in



the Cayman Islands. However, we do use metal fittings and encounter buildings with internal

copper piping, so the Authority felt that it was prudent to add these parameters to its scope of accreditation," explains Ms Martinez-Ebanks.

In addition, the Laboratory is now accredited to test hydrogen sulphide in air. Ms Martinez-Ebanks explains that this is a significant milestone for the Laboratory.

"This is the first parameter in air for which we received accreditation. The Authority has been approached about hydrogen sulphide, as it smells like rotten eggs. It is released into the air from natural processes in groundwater, wetlands, lakes and ponds. The Authority obtained equipment and developed the methods to test hydrogen sulphide in air. The accreditation for this parameter ensures that the data we collect is robust and reliable."

Water Authority Director Gelia Frederick-van Genderen expressed her appreciation for the Laboratory. "The continued and expanded accreditation means a lot to the Authority; it is independent recognition and

confirmation of the high standard, professionalism and reliability of the Laboratory and I congratulate Marcela and her team on all the hard work and long hours to pass the audit successfully."

The A2LA accreditation was approved until 30 November 2021, following which the Authority will undergo another external audit to continue the accreditation. The Laboratory's certificate of accreditation (A2LA certificate number 1931.01) may be viewed on the Authority's website. The Laboratory undergoes external audits every two years to maintain its international accreditation.

The Laboratory carries out quality control testing of the Authority's potable water supplies and the treated effluent of the wastewater treatment plant. It also provides testing services to Government agencies, the private sector, and the general public.

For more information on the Water Authority, please visit www.waterauthority.ky. 

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BREEZE/FUSION 5K - CAYMAN BRAC

From as early as 5:30 a.m. residents began assembling at the Public Beach area to participate in the 4th annual **BREEZE/FUSION 5K Walk/Run event**. This year's event was the largest since its inception.

When participants registered they were given a bag with accessories, as well as, a T- SHIRT with the theme of the event, and the various sponsors. Of the 100 participants, 50 of them were school children who were sponsored by Deputy Premier, Hon. Mr. Moses Kirkconnell. Minister for Education, Youth and Sport, Hon. Mrs. Juliana O'Connor Connolly sent her apologies for not being able to attend as she had a previous engagement.

Present for the event from Breeze Cayman were Dean, Director Norma MacField, Deputy Director Ms. Paulette, Paul, Lyn and Raymond Singh the organizer responsible for the event.

The team was extremely delighted to see the overwhelming support and attendance this year. According to Dean, "It's getting better each year. The fund raising from this year's event will again go towards a notable charity endeavour."

Director Mrs. Norma MacField who was totally delighted at the turnout said, "it's a joy to see this event growing so quickly especially the presence of the young people. That's refreshing. Special gratitude to the Deputy Premier, Mr. Moses Kirkconnell for his sponsorship of the children and the supermarket for providing water. Thanks also to the other local businesses for their contribution."

Main organizer, Mr. Raymond Singh was also delighted to see how the event is blossoming. "We started this 13 years ago in Grand Cayman, and this is our fourth



outing to the Brac. Funds raised this year totalled C\$1,500 and will go towards Childhood Cancer Initiative, an undertaking of the Leo's Club of Cayman Brac. We are very pleased to have the Cayman Brac Backyard Farmers group with us this year as evidence for the drive to self- sufficiency in food production. Our special thanks to all the sponsors from Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. We could not have done this without their contributions. Thanks also to the RCIPS, THE Red Cross, Lions Club and District Administration."

Each participant was given a medal when they crossed the finish line. There was a great deal of cheering when it came to the presentation. The winner in the male category was High Schooler, Sean Douglas Valentine while his sister Dihjany was the first place winner in the female category. The first primary

school student to cross the finish line was Garrison French from West End Primary School. Medals were also awarded to participants in different age groups. The drawing of raffle prizes followed the presentation of trophies and medals. 4D's Rentals, The Brac Snack Shack, Optical Outlook, Barry's Golden Jerk and celebrate Cayman donated gift vouchers, certificates and gift bags.

To culminate this fantastic event, special thanks were expressed to the main sponsors, District Administration and Tourism, Roma United Sports Club, Yellow-We Know Cayman, Cayman National Bank, Subway Green Machine, RVC Physiotherapy and Chiropractic, Cayman Water and Dasani.

There was great enthusiasm and excitement amongst participants as they undertook the event.

Youth Cricket in the BRAC

Malachi - "The sessions were awesome. I learnt quite a few skills. The coaches were fantastic and willing to help us."

Criston - "I enjoyed the sessions. The coaches were full of knowledge that they imparted to us. Hopefully they can come again."

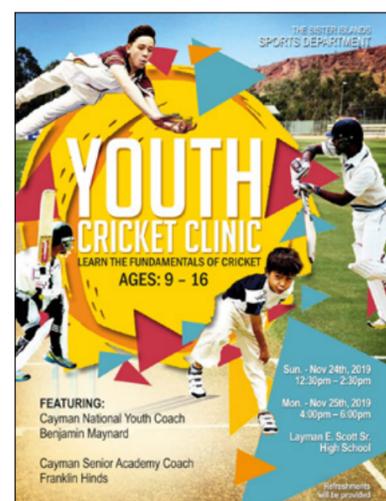
These were some of the responses from the young cricketers who participated in the two day sessions held on the playground of the Layman E Scott Senior High School on the Brac.

There was a great sense of expectation and urgency with the boys who turned up on both days for this special occasion. A total of 14 boys ranging in ages from 8-

14 attended. Local coaches Ashton Fergusson and Greg Shepherd, both police officers, were joined by national coaches Franklin Hinds and Benjamin (Bengie) Maynard, from the cricket academy on Grand Cayman. They were delighted to be on the Brac and were especially pleased with the discipline and motivation of the youngsters. Speaking to the coaches, they said, "the objective of the sessions were to promote the game on the Brac, encourage interest in this particular and exciting sport, and to identify talent with a view of promoting them into a national programme. We have seen quite a few talented youngsters with whom we desire to work with on a reg-

ular basis so that they can be inducted so to speak into an advanced programme. No doubt these guys are very talented," they concluded.

In attending the sessions we were truly impressed with the level of professionalism amongst the coaches, as well as, their unflinching efforts to cultivate these values into the youngsters. The sessions demonstrated to the guys that no matter what type of sport it is, discipline and consistency are the two building blocks for success. The youngsters enjoyed both sessions tremendously and are hopeful that as soon as the New Year starts, the coaches can be brought over again.



Coaches Fergusson and Shepherd have been at the forefront of hosting practice sessions every Monday evening. Their commitment in this regard is admirable. Their mission is to broaden the nature of this magnificent and exciting sport, and to reach as many youngsters as possible. They are hoping that girls will eventually become a part of the sessions.

It is noteworthy that the efforts of the coaches and the future of the game has the full backing of the Sister Islands Sports Association (SASI), and Cayman Cricket Association.



New Cartier Boutique Comes to GT

... Continued story from page A1

Mr. Carraz added that Cartier's partnership with Kirk Freeport spanned some 23 years.

"We are very happy to keep building on our story in the Cayman Islands," he exclaimed.

Vice President of Kirk Freeport Chris Kirkconnell noted that the boutique was first class in every respect and something that had brought a great deal of pride to everyone involved.

The retail space includes dedicated men's and women's watch and jewelry salons, as well as a diamond salon, a lifestyle space and private VIP Salon.

The full range of Cartier creations - from signature jewelry collections including Love, Panthère de Cartier, Juste un Clou, Santos and Trinity de Cartier - to iconic Cartier timepieces such as Santos de Cartier, Tank and Panthère are also available.



► Bayshore Mall now houses new Cartier store



► Guests enjoy the grand opening of the new Cartier Story in the Bayshore Mall



► (L-R) Cartier Latin American and Caribbean President Bruno Carraz and Vice President of Kirk Freeport Chris Kirkconnell

A variety of accessories, leather goods, fragrances and other creative collections under the Cartier umbrella are in-stock at the store.

Founded in 1847, Cartier is one of the most famous luxury brands in the

world, dedicated to the design and manufacture of exclusive collections of fine jewelry, watches and prestigious accessories, distributed through almost 300 Cartier jewelry stores worldwide.

Kirk Freeport has been a premier retailer of duty-free jewelry, watches, fragrances, leather, accessories, crystal and china in the Cayman Islands since 1972.

Organisation's Response To Comments Made By Anthony Eden And Ezzard Miller Regarding Dr Leonardo Raznovich During The Legislative Assembly Meeting Of 22 November 2019

On 22 November 2019, during a meeting of the Legislative Assembly, MLAs Anthony Eden and Ezzard Miller took aim at Dr Leonardo Raznovich, an esteemed lawyer and human rights defender who has assisted Colours Cayman for years now in advocating for the rights of LGBTQIA+ people in the Cayman Islands, including the legalisation of same-sex marriage.

Eden and Miller both called on the Attorney General for the deportation of Dr Raznovich after much lambasting and accusing him of "bad-mouthing people" in an obvious attempt to smear his good name and threaten his and his partner's livelihood.

Our organisation views this behaviour as a blatant and gross abuse of power. Are we to believe that any lawyer or individual advocating for the rights of LGBTQIA+ people is at risk of facing deportation or being ostracised somehow by our own government? We cannot stand idly by and allow such transgressions to occur without ramification.

As such, we formally request an apology from both Mr Eden and Mr Miller as well as the Premier, Hon. Al-

den McLaughlin for this abhorrent behaviour and to state clearly that the Cayman Islands Government will not tolerate nor promote a witch-hunt directed at lawyers, activists or defenders of human rights of any kind residing in the Cayman Islands. Failing that, we request that His Excellency the Governor publicly offer assurance that Colours Cayman's lawyer, Dr Raznovich, will continue his work without hindrance from the Cayman Islands Government.

Lastly, with regards to the statement made by Mr Eden that "same-sex marriage is not a human right," we would politely suggest he pull his head out of the sand and recognise that our organisation, often with the assistance of Dr Raznovich, has been working alongside other prominent and respected local organisations and government agencies who would undoubtedly claim otherwise.

Rest assured, we will continue to defend and fight for the rights of our LGBTQIA+ community in spite of such comments and wholeheartedly support Dr Raznovich in his efforts.



About Colours Cayman

Colours Cayman is a locally operated non-profit that aims to foster a safe and comfortable social environment for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual (LGBTQIA+) community of the Cayman Islands by building a network of local businesses and public venues free of discrimination and harassment towards anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights as Human Rights and promote the inclusion and equality of LGBTQIA+ persons in the Cayman Islands and throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. 🌐

CNCF Brings Back Gimistory International Storytelling Festival

Some of Cayman's favourite performers will return to beaches and parks on all three islands this November and December to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the very popular Cayman Islands International Storytelling Festival, Gimistory. After a year's hiatus, the events will take place from 29 November until 7 December 2019, helping to usher in the Christmas holiday season by reminding attendees of some of the simpler things in life such as sitting in Granny's backyard listening to stories. Gimistory is a free event presented by the Cayman National Cultural Foundation (CNCF) which brings together over 2,500 people from virtually every sector of Cayman's multi-generational and multi-national community, in addition to visitors from abroad, who return time and again.

Scheduled to appear this year is storyteller Amina Blackwood-Meeks from Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago Extempo performer Philip Murray aka Black Sage and calypso band David Bereaux & Friends, The Storycrafters from the US and local storytellers Matt Brown, Quincy Brown and Virginia Foster. More names will be confirmed closer to the event.

Past Gimistory audiences will be familiar with some of this year's international storyteller lineup, who have been regaling Festival attendees with stories and music for years.



► David Bereaux



► Matt Brown

Amina Blackwood Meeks describes herself as a "Jamaican-born, Caribbean national, bonafide Citizen of the World". She is a writer, director, performer, and custodian of the oral tradition as well as a lecturer-researcher-farmer, widely acknowledged for her instrumental contribution to the recent renaissance of the art-form of traditional Caribbean storytelling. A teller of traditional and contemporary tales, her deep, rich, dramatic and deliberate voice brings stories from the heads of the ancestors, connecting ancient wit and wisdom with modern needs. (Source: <http://aminablackwoodmeeks.com/index.php>)

David Bereaux is a Vintage Calypso Artist who began his professional performing career in 1991 in the calypso musical play entitled "Sing the Chorus." Since then, he has done numerous theatrical productions before his career as a Vintage Calypso Singer took off in 1995. The David Bereaux and Friends Vintage Calypso Ensemble is now a well-established Vintage Calypso Band doing performances all over the Caribbean. David himself has toured numerous times across North America and Europe.

Black Sage, a title holder on the Trinidad & Tobago carnival Extempo stage, is also a regular Gimistory performer. Extempo is a lyrically improvised form of calypso in which performers take turns at ad-libbing in song on a theme randomly chosen by their audience. They often engage in a humorous "war of words" with other calypsonians adept at the artform. This type of storytelling is always a hit with Gimistory attendees.

Barry Marshall and Jeri Burns, PhD have been working together as The Storycrafters since 1991. They are the 2018 recipients of the National Storytelling Network's "Circle of Excellence" Award. The Storycrafters have produced twelve award-winning CD recordings. Their 2018 book, "Storytwisting", published by Parkhurst Brothers Publishers, was the winner of the 2019 'Storytelling World' Award.

In addition to their work as performers, Jeri and Barry are healing storytellers at the Stamford CT Hospital psychiatric unit and were adjunct college faculty at Southern CT State University. They perform and teach their art form in schools, libraries, and other venues all over the US and internationally in the Caribbean and the British Isles. They have been featured performers at storytelling and folk festivals nationally and internationally.

Jeri and Barry believe in the time-tested wisdom of traditional stories and share that wisdom with today's audiences. They strive to honour world cultures by telling the old stories in respectful ways, often integrating the musical instruments, songs or dances indigenous to that region.

Caymanian Matt Brown is a gifted public speaker and talented performer. He utilises his degree in Professional Recording Arts and Social Studies to write and perform his own music, but is equally gifted on stage, receiving accolades for his work in Gimistory and Rundown. In 2017, he was chosen to represent the Cayman Islands at CARIFESTA 13 in Barbados, acting in the lead role of the drama, "Playground" by Frank McField.

He developed his own media company and brand, Geezum TV, which has produced an animated children's show, Bobo & Teedee, a comedy sketch variety show which is now carried by Tempo networks and is seen in over five million households internationally.

Brown is excited about the Festival's return. "Gimistory is coming back with all the audience's favourites! It's really several shows in one. Your eyes and ears will be glued to the stage. No holding back this time. I'm bringing out some new ideas for you and I can't wait!"

Born on Cayman Brac, Quincy Brown started singing solos in church at age six and performing Louise Bennett pieces at age 12 on the Harquail Theatre stage for National Children's Festival of the Arts. He has won many awards in the performing arts over the years in theatre, drama, speech and singing. In 2017 he marked his 25th anniversary on stage. A CARIMAC trained radio broadcaster, he has worked for Radio Cayman, Vibe 98.9FM and Rooster 101.9FM as an

announcer, DJ and News Reporter. This year will be Quincy's "COME BACK" to the Rundown Production after seven years of absence. He is a Cultural Tourism Ambassador at The Owen Roberts International Airport and hosts his own show on the internet called "Brac Caribbe Gardens." He is often invited into schools as a Storyteller sharing Caymanian stories and Caymanian folksongs with students. His voice can be heard on many commercials on radio and he's often asked to be The Master of Ceremonies for various shows.

Better known as "Auntie V" at CNCF's annual Gimistory Festival and on "Caymanian Stories" aired on Radio Cayman on Saturday mornings, local storyteller Virginia Foster's other creative outlets include ceramic art, fashion designing, conducting storytelling workshops, and mounting culture and heritage exhibits of her many private collections in schools and other venues. Ms. Foster received an Emerging Pioneer Certificate at the Heroes Day Award Ceremony in January 2014 and is a 2012 recipient of the CNCF Gold Star for Creativity in the Arts.

"Cayman's audiences look forward to the entertainment CNCF has been bringing to their doorsteps every year, as we tour through the districts with stories and music to kick off the holiday season," said Marcia Muttoo, CNCF Managing Director. "The purpose of the Festival is to provide family entertainment for locals and visitors in a relaxed setting; pass on the tradition of storytelling; build the local population of storytellers; encourage reading, writing and performing; share a variety of stories (and stories through music) from Cayman and the world; celebrate local food culture and encourage and celebrate community involvement in arts and culture. We look forward to getting back on the road and engaging with the community."

Dates for Gimistory 2019

- Friday, 29 November - Agriculture Grounds, Cayman Brac
- Monday, 2 December - Gerald Smith Park, North Side
- Tuesday, 3 December - Coe-Wood Beach, Bodden Town
- Wednesday, 4 December - East End Public Beach, East End
- Thursday, 5 December - Little Cayman Beach Resort, Little Cayman
- Friday, 6 December - Jefferson Beach, West Bay
- Saturday, 7 December - Smith Barcadere, George Town

All shows begin at 7:00pm. Fried fish and fritters will be on sale.

For more information about Gimistory call 949.5477 or email cncf@artscayman.org. 🌐



► Quincy Brown



► Storyteller - Virginia Auntie V Foster

Official Opposition urges NO on Referendum Day

... Continued story from page A1

visitors who contribute 80 percent of the revenue," he explained. One of Mr. Eden's main concerns was the possibility that the development would result in sand being eroded from Seven Mile Beach, which was, he said, our biggest tourism draw.

Next to speak was Shirley Rolston who is a member of CPR Cayman. "I am not an activist," she said, "I am a humble and proud Caymanian." She had, she said, "jumped onboard," to help the CPR, as soon as she was asked to do so, because she said that over the years she had seen, "So much slipping away from us."

"Cayman is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, so it must be poor management why these problems continue to escalate and our people are being disenfranchised at every turn,"

she said, urging the people to keep up the momentum by coming out to vote on Referendum Day: "For those who may be sitting on the fence let me tell you our cruise tourism has been growing sustainably the piers will not guarantee jobs. Having piers is not going to guarantee that our cruise tourism will continue to grow. People will get off here because Cayman is the gem of the Caribbean," she said.

Chris Saunders spoke next. He explained that he had scrutinized some of the figures given out by the government, by comparing them with official statistics from cruise ship tourism across the region. In all given scenarios, he said, the Cayman Islands was already up in the top bracket for favorable cruise ship statistics, and so the government's claims regarding all the anticipated improvements that the new facility would bring therefore sounded hollow.



► The meeting



► Bernie Bush

West Bay North representative, Bernie Bush said: "Vote no. Do this for your children and for your grandchildren."

Representative of George Town Central, Kenneth Bryan said: "This boils down to one word: Trust. Do you trust this Government?" Mr. Bryan urged people to trust their gut instinct, in view of the way government had treated them, by calling them names such as 'rascals' and by withholding information. "It's not that cruise tourism is bad, but cruise is the inferior tourism product to stay over tourism. We have created a high-end product," he said, "These are the people who used to come and buy condos, not hamburgers and fries."

Representative for Newlands, Alva Suckoo said: "Just Google: 'Port of Miami Dredging,'" he said, "You will find that the latest dredging project has dec-

imated the coral there." Next Mr. Suckoo turned his attention to the way in which the Government had handled the referendum: "They went on the offensive against the people, to fight against the people of this country," he said, claiming that they had also attacked the scientists from the Central Caribbean Marine Research Institute, who had written a report questioning the effectiveness of the proposed coral transplantation program.

Opposition Leader Arden McLean, said was actively encouraging people to vote "No." He was, he explained, not in favor of the government undertaking such a project, when they should be focusing on other things: "Ladies and gentlemen it is wrong, the schools are not finished," he said. "I want you to make this a referendum on them - they have failed you," he said.



► Kenneth Bryan



► Shirley Rolston



► Arden McLean

Maples Group Announces Leadership Appointments

The Maples Group is pleased to announce that, following its biennial management elections, Jonathan Green has been appointed as its new Global Managing Partner, with effect from 1 December 2019.

Jonathan, who will assume the role for two years, succeeds Alasdair Robertson, who has served as Global Managing Partner since 2015. Alasdair will return to full-time practice as a Finance partner, with a focus on supporting the transition to the new leadership, both at Group and practice level.

A well-regarded and "very knowledgeable" lawyer according to the Chambers and Partners Global Guide, Jonathan joined the firm in 2003, during which time he has held various leadership roles, including his most recent position as head of the Cayman Islands' Funds & Investment Management team. "It has been a privilege to be the firm's Global Managing Partner and I have thoroughly enjoyed the role," said Alasdair Robertson. "I am proud to say that the Group has experienced exceptional growth and development during that time which is testament to the hard work, commitment and valuable input by all of my colleagues globally. I extend my warmest congratulations to Jonathan, who is an incredible talent and who has demonstrated the necessary leadership skills to lead the Group into the future."

Alasdair will also handover his responsibilities as Chairman of the Group's fiduciary, fund, entity formation

and management, and regulatory services businesses to Kieran Walsh, while Scott Somerville continues in the role as Chief Executive Officer.

Jonathan Green added, "Alasdair has done an outstanding job as our Global Managing Partner and I am both honoured and excited to take over the position. The Maples Group is a fantastic organisation with ambitious plans for the future and I look forward to continuing to work with our leadership teams and our exceptional employees to achieve our goals and provide our clients with the highest quality global service that enables them to accelerate and grow."

A number of new leadership appointments were also made to the Group's global management team this year:

- Cayman Islands**
 - Matthew Gardner, Cayman Islands Managing Partner
 - Tina Meigh, head of the Cayman Islands' Finance team
 - Michael Richardson, head of the Cayman Islands' Funds & Investment Management team
 - Chris Capewell, head of the Cayman Islands' Regulatory team
- Dublin**
 - Colm Rafferty, co-head of the Dublin Corporate team
 - Karen Killalea, head of the Dublin Employment team
- London**
 - Heidi de Vries, London Managing Partner
 - Harjit Kaur, head of the London Funds & Investment Management team



► Jonathan Green has been appointed as new Global Managing Partner

- Hong Kong**
 - Matt Roberts, head of the Hong Kong Corporate team
- Global Practice Group Heads**
 - Scott Macdonald, global head of the Finance group
- Global heads of the firm's major practice areas, Edward Miller (Corporate), Jon Fowler (Funds) and Aristos Galatopoulos (Litigation) will continue to serve in their respective roles.
- The following also retained their roles as **Local Office Managing Partners:**
 - Richard May (BVI)
 - Nicholas Butcher (Dublin)
 - Tahir Jawed (Dubai)
 - Chris Byrne (Jersey)
 - Johan Terblanche (Luxembourg),
 - Mark Western (Hong Kong)

- Michael Gagie (Singapore), who also continues as head of the firm's BVI law practice globally.

These appointments come at a particularly exciting time for the Maples Group as it closes out yet another remarkable year. Over the last 12 months, in addition to celebrating its two thousandth employee, the Group consolidated its offerings, at Maples and Calder and MaplesFS under a single brand, now called the Maples Group. The opening of several new offices brings the Group's global presence to 18, further demonstrating its strong commitment to servicing a multinational client base and choosing locations that facilitate time zone efficiencies and enable a seamless, multilingual service.



Customer 2020: Is Your Hospitality Business Future Ready or Reliving the Past?

A lot has changed over the years, but if you ask today's customers, a lot has stayed the same. According to an Accenture Global Consumer Pulse Research Study, which has annually tracked the intentions and actions of customers around the world for the past decade, digital technologies have continued to shape customer behavior and needs to the point at which all customers have become digital customers -albeit ones who move at different speeds. Yet it also shows that businesses have struggled to keep pace with these changes. So much so that customers still encounter confusing websites, staggering call wait times, and difficulty solving their problems no matter which channel they use. It all adds up to increased customer switching, and revenue opportunities for the competition.

What can be done to capture a greater share of that opportunity for your business? It starts by becoming a "multi-speed customer business." Such businesses have moved beyond the one-sized-fits-all customer approach. They avoid incremental improvements in favor of more impactful "do-it differently" programs that are guided by their test and learn expertise. And, most importantly, they master an integrated approach to both analog and digi-

tal channels that match the speed and preferences of multiple customer segments. By providing interaction capabilities that appeal to traditional as well as digital-savvy customers, these businesses drive customer retention and attract new customers who are leaving slow-footed competitors.

The Emergence and Evolution of The Non-Stop Customer

Research shows dramatic changes during the past 10 years in how customers learn about businesses and brands, purchase products and services, and access customer service and support. Consumers now:

Use more digital channels than ever: Five years ago 78 percent of customers used at least one online channel when prospecting. Today 88 percent do - and four in 10 want even more digital interaction than what businesses are providing.

Look for more options and more businesses to serve them: Two-thirds said the number of businesses or brands they consider for purchases has increased significantly compared with 10 years ago.

Do greater "due diligence" before buying - the first time and the next

time: Compared with 10 years ago, seven in 10 agreed they make much more informed buying decisions.

Listen more to what others say - a whole new definition of "word of mouth" compared with 10 years ago. Just over half rely much more on other people's reviews and experiences to inform their buying decisions.

Seek quicker resolution and fewer hassles - and if businesses don't move faster, the customer will move on. Nearly two-thirds said they use online channels across sales, marketing and service because of their speed and convenience, while just over half said they have become more impatient and they want their buying decision process to be fast with minimal effort.

The rise of digital has given customers more and more options for interacting with businesses they patronize. As a result, businesses must be quick to recognize when and how these channels fit customer preferences in developing or mature markets and then change their operations as needed to avoid falling short of consumers' expectations, and consequently missing out on substantial revenue growth opportunities.

In next week's column I'll provide eight trends highlighted that businesses struggle to keep pace with customers



► Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International

and actions that can be taken to win and keep customers.

Brooke Meyer is the managing partner of Caymera International, a Caymanian-owned hospitality and tourism consulting and advisory firm. Visit Caymera at www.caymeragroup.com or email info@caymeragroup.com for more information. 🌐

Tertiary Education: Critical for the Present and Future

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.

Whereas these skills can be developed in various settings, they are best honed in the tertiary education space especially when done with appropriate workforce involvement and experiences.

The benefits of University education are well known and governments across the region must aim to dramatically increase the percentage of their citizens who study at this level. A little over half of the population of Singapore are university graduates and this must be the aim of our governments in the region.

For example, some 15% percent of the Jamaican workforce has tertiary level training and so has some way to go. Though Barbados spends six percent of its GDP on education and has attained a literacy rate of 98%, one of the highest in the world, it has some way to go, from its current 25%, to have half of its population university level trained. Some 23% of Caymanians have college degrees.

A World Bank Report on the subject says that Higher education fosters

growth, reduces poverty and boosts prosperity.

The report says that 'a highly skilled workforce, with a solid post-secondary education, is a prerequisite for innovation and growth: well-educated people are more employable, earn higher wages, and cope with economic shocks better.' It continues- 'Higher education benefits not just the individual, but society as well. Graduates of higher education are more environmentally conscious, have healthier habits, and have a higher level of civic participation.'

'Also, increased tax revenues from higher earnings, healthier children, and reduced family size all build stronger nations. In short, higher education institutions prepare individuals not only by providing them with adequate and relevant job skills, but also by preparing them to be active members of their communities and societies.'

In addition to these benefits is the fact that tertiary education, more than any other level, must teach and develop the skills of critical thinking. These skills are vital for the sustenance of our democratic practices and for the further evolution and maturity of our societies. The examined life, to borrow from Socrates, is thus a requirement for national development.

Critical Thinking Skills

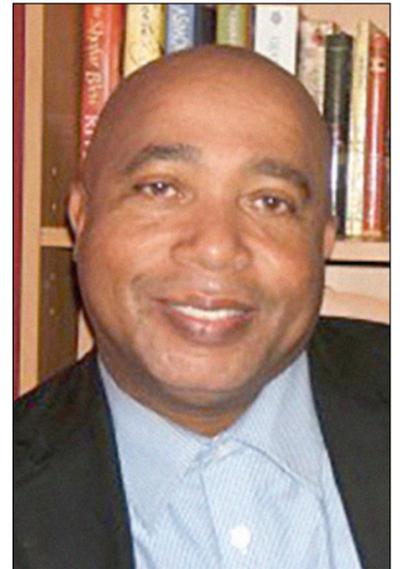
Writing on the subject in the *European Journal of Educational Practice*, Vol. 1, No. 2, Sunday Adeyemi, outlines the nature of these skills and why they are needed by society. She rightly explains that 'One, who cannot think, may not be able to solve even the minutest problem. We now live in a world of problems - social problem, economic

problem, political problem, ethnic problem, religious problem, educational problem, Science and technologically related problems to mention a few. It only takes a sound mind, a mind imbued with reflective thinking, which can engage in deep analysis, to come up with causes of the problem at hand and generate possible solutions or options to arrive at a decision; to solve a or get out of the problem.'

She explains further that critical thinking involves 'delving into context, asking for and examining the evidence, the context of judgement, and the relevant criteria for making the judgment well and so on. It employs not only logic but broad intellectual criteria such as clarity, credibility, accuracy, precision, relevance, depth, breath, fairness and significance.'

It is the critical thinker who is more likely to live rationally, reasonably and empathically because, as Adeyemi points out 'they are keenly aware of the inherent flawed nature of human thinking when left unguided. They work diligently to develop the intellectual virtues of intellectual integrity, intellectual humility, intellectual civility, intellectual empathy, intellectual sense of justice and confidence in reason. They realized that no matter how skilled they are as thinkers, they can always improve their reasoning abilities and that they can at times fall prey to mistakes in reasoning, human irrationality, prejudices, biases, distortions, uncritical accepted social rules and taboos, self-interest and vested-interest.'

Again, Adeyemi has it all right when she says that 'People who think critically strive to improve the world in whatever ways they can and contribute to a more rational and civilized



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

society. Even at that, they recognize the complexities that are inherent in doing so.'

She concludes that 'Most of our thinking if left to itself is biased, distorted, partial, uninformed or downright prejudiced. Yet the quality of our lives and that of what we produce, make or build depends precisely on the quality of our thought. Shoddy thinking is costly, both in money and in quality of life. This fact underpins the importance of critical thinking in the life of a nation and that of the individual.'

These are fundamentally important points and requires every stage of our education system, especially at the University level, to rise to this challenge. 🌐

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POLICE NEWS

Police identifies victim and appeals for witnesses in Eastern Avenue Death Investigation

Police have confirmed the identity of the man who died following an incident at Bananas Bar in Dolphin Plaza on Eastern Avenue early Saturday morning, 30 November. He is Dinesh Asanka Fernando Wannukawatta-Waduge, age 36, a Sri-Lankan national working in Cayman.

The RCIPS expresses condolences to the family of the deceased.

Three men, ages 20 and 22 of George Town, and 24 of Cayman Brac, have been arrested on suspicion of murder in relation to the incident. They remain in custody as the investigation continues.

RCIPS detectives have been reviewing CCTV footage taken during the incident, and have determined that there was an altercation at the location shortly before the man's death. Detectives are aware that several persons were at the location at the time and witnessed the altercation and may be able to provide much needed assistance in the investigation.

"The victim in this senseless and tragic incident was a hard-working man who simply wanted to provide for his family back in Sri Lanka. His death leaves behind a wife suffering from a life-threatening illness, and a four-year-old daughter who is now facing the prospect of losing both parents," said Deputy Commissioner Kurt Walton. "What is also truly sad is that, although we know there were dozens of people at the location at the time, not one person has come forward to assist us in this investigation. We know that if this were your parent or family member, you would want someone to come forward to help. All we ask is put yourself in this family's shoes, contact us and help us get to the truth."

The RCIPS is appealing to **anyone who was at the location at or around 3:30AM** to contact the investigative team at the **RCIPS Major Incident Room, at 649-2930**.



SCAM ALERT: Fake Facebook Page Impersonating the Hon. Moses Kirkconnell

Police are investigating a report of a person impersonating the Hon. Deputy Premier Mr. Moses Kirkconnell and in so doing contacting members of the public requesting their personal and banking information.

The contact is being made through Facebook Messenger using a fake Facebook Profile under the name of the Honorable Minister Moses Kirkconnell. The perpetrator has then been requesting that money be paid with the promise of a substantial return and staying that the higher the payment you make the higher your returns will be, starting at \$500 payment for a \$30000 return.

This activity is a scam and if you have been contacted via Facebook Messenger by someone saying they are the Hon. Minister Moses Kirkconnell and



requesting personal information, do not engage with the person but instead report the matter to the RCIPS Financial Crimes Unit during business hours at 949-8797.

Woman and Man Charged with Offenses Relating to the CONCACAF Investigation

A 45-year-old-woman of George Town was arrested and charged on Monday for the offence of Conspiracy to Defraud and Converting Criminal Property. These charges are in relation to the CONCACAF investigation that was launched in 2014.

She was bailed to attend court on 7 January, 2020. The woman is a civilian employee with the RCIPS since 2016.

She has been placed on required leave as of Friday 29 November.

On Tuesday, a man, age 49 of George Town, was been charged with one count of Conspiracy to Defraud and one count of Converting Criminal Property. These charges are also in relation to the CONCACAF investigation that was launched in 2014.

The man has been bailed to appear in court on 7 January, 2020.

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ARE YOU A BLOGGER?

The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism wants to give one lucky blogger the opportunity to cover the Cayman Cookout, 16-19 January 2020.

TO ENTER:
Write a blog article answering the question below...

“ As a food blogger you are pulled in many culinary directions. With such a vast array of options, there can be some that are unhealthy. What would you suggest to fellow foodies who wish to explore the culinary world, but do not want to sacrifice their wellness? ”

Deadline: 14 December 2019

For the official rules visit:
www.visitcaymanislands.com/CulinaryBlogger

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► Seiji Groome and John Marcus of National Logistics

National Logistics

National Logistics are really a “one-stop-shop” for shipping goods too or from the Cayman Islands. “We are an international shipping and logistics company based here in Grand Cayman, off the Lincoln Road,” said John Marcus. “We are a customized logistics solution; that means there is no system to fit into for us. Actually we will build a solution around your needs.”

“We handle cargo going by air or ocean to or from the Cayman Islands. So for example, if you want to bring in a car from the United Kingdom, we will pick up your car from the UK and put it into a container, and transport that container by ocean, all the way

down to the Cayman Islands, and get it customs-cleared and brought right to your door, if it is anything to do with shipping. So if its equipment for business-to-business, or heavy equipment coming in for the island to do construction, and we’ll do the customs. We do shipping anywhere from Canada to Grand Cayman or Cayman to Canada; Miami or anywhere in the United States into Grand Cayman or out. We have agents around the world so we can ship from 300 different countries around the world; there are no limitations. When you use us basically we will complete a full supply-chain solution from door-to-door.”

PIVAC agency helps small businesses with their admin hassles

Cayman’s PIVAC agency is all about helping businesses with their admin. “PIVAC stands for Passport, Immigration, Visa and Company Registration,” said Director, Administrative Clerk, and Sales Agent Petrena Harwood. “We specialize in British and Caymanian Passports, and we do the entire line of immigration documents. We do visas such as US visas, Canadian visas and English visas. When it comes onto administration, we target small companies mainly, who needs an admin assistant, and who don’t really want to employ a full time-admin person. So we will be your administrative agent outside of your office.”

But PIVAC is not just for people who already own businesses; it is for people who are thinking of starting them, too: “We do company registration, so if you want to incorporate a business, even if you want to operate as a sole trader, even if you just have the idea, we will give you a one-time free consultation where we sit and we talk to you. We hear your idea and then we give you some tips on moving forward.”

PIVAC can charge per admin task with a set fee, for example a 150 dollar paperwork fee for putting in a work permit. “We gather your information, we complete your work permit forms and we take them to immigration. We don’t compile them and then wait until once



► Petrena Harwood and Rebekah Wisdom of the PIVAC agency

or twice per week, as long as your stuff is completed and all your documents are completed, we take it right away to immigration, Ms. Harwood explained. But PIVAC also offers a regular, monthly fee for covering all a business’s admin needs, which will vary depending on the size of the company.

Himalaya Wellness Store

The Himalaya Wellness Store in Elizabethan Square, George Town, is full of natural herbal remedies and preparations from all around the world, and recently they were represented at the Cayman Islands Small Business Association Expo, at Camana Bay. General Manager Yasmini Castillo said: “Himalaya Wellness was started in India in 1930 – it’s a company that manufactures herbal products from baby care, skin care, pet care, and we also carry hair care products. We also have a division which is our pharmaceuticals and manufacture medications for common ailments like high blood pressure or diabetes. The benefit of using our products is that they are herbal-based rather than chemical-based so they are totally safe. They have been also tested to ensure that it is totally safe and free from side effects.

“Our most popular herbal remedy is called Liver Care and the herbs in there

will cleanse your liver, by increasing the rate at which your body eliminates toxins and so is recommended for persons who are on medications daily for chronic ailments. It is also recommended for persons who want to do a detoxification on their body,” she said. “Another very common herb that we carry is neem. It is known for its blood-purifying benefits, and we use it in many products including our skin-care for pimple-prone skin, and in our toothpaste because of its antibacterial property.”

One of their customers, Julia, said: “I find these products to be very helpful, especially if you have sensitive skin because they are made from minerals that you find in the earth which is what our bodies are also made from. It heals very well and restores, and you feel much lighter; your skin feels healthy and much refreshed.”



► Himalaya Wellness Store at the Cayman Islands Small Businesses Association Expo

Action Packed Finals concludes CIVF’s National Indoor Volleyball League

The Women’s B division jump started the action for the CIVF National Volleyball League finals on Saturday, November 30th. Guardians Turtle Chapter and Expert Services Ltd took to the court for their final showdown. Having finished first in their division, ESL went into the finals feeling confident. Their confidence was quickly shaken by the strong attacks from GTC. ESL failed to regain their composure which ultimately led to their demise in the first set 25-17. Thriving off the momentum from the first set, GTC quickly annihilated their opponents 25-15, and graciously accepted their title as Division B Champions.

The second match of the evening was bound to be an eventful one, as we had the defending champions, Burger King Lady Knights, playing against Sprint, who just so happens to be the team that ruined their chances at being repeat champions in the PVC league and FBC league earlier this year. Sprint had the finish line in sight right from the first whistle, as they took the first set 25-11 without even breaking a sweat. The Lady Knights weren’t ready to give up without fight, so they rallied their troops in order to secure their victory in the second set 25-19. Despite their valiant efforts, the knights’ attacks were not enough to slow the defense from

Sprint. In the end, Sprint added a 3rd championship title to their record this year having won the final set 15-8.

The final game of the evening was between Burger King Knights and Cayman Mechanical Company for the Men’s Division. Burger King Knights came out charging and took the first set without much resistance, against Cayman Mechanical company with a final score of 25-18. After some much needed fine tuning during half time, CMC took the court for the second set. Their adjustments paid off as they just narrowly took the lead 25-23. The tight second set had all the fans in a frenzy, which meant they were all on the edge of their seats going

into the third and final set. The spectators were anything but disappointed as they watched as the two rivals battled it out for every single point. The knights came out strong on the attack, but CMC held their ground on defense. In the end CMC was vanquished by the Burger King Knights with the final score of 16-14.

Earlier in the week the 3rd place matches took place, in order to determine which teams would take home the bronze medals. The FBC Bees were the first team to finish in third for the Women’s B Division, followed by the Spike Girls with their 2-1 victory over Cayman Sporty Chicks in the Women’s A Division, and FBC Saints over the Pirates in the Men’s Division.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

West Bay Christmas Lights Illumination Ceremony

6 December - The West Bay Community Development Action Committee (CODAC) invites the public to the West Bay Christmas Lights Illumination Ceremony taking place on the 6th December on the Grounds of the Teacher Redley Powery Library at 7pm.

East End Beach Cleanup

7 December - Join Plastic Free Cayman for its East End Beach Cleanup just past Colliers Public Beach, before you get to Morritts at 8:00am. Please remember to bring your hat, sun cream, reusable water bottle and reusable gloves. Sign in for a chance to win a prize from Red Sail Sports. For more information, visit <https://www.plasticfreecayman.com>.

Mobile and Postal Voting Deadline to Register

7 December - Registered voters who will be off-island for the referendum or unable to visit a polling station on the day are still able to vote either by postal or mobile voting. For more information about how to apply for postal or mobile voting, please visit www.Elections.ky, call 949-8047 or visit our new office at 68 West Bay Road, Bay Town Office Suites, George Town. The deadline for postal and mobile voting applications is Saturday 7th December.

Cayman National Bank Parade of Lights

7 December - Watch a colourful procession of boats decked out for the holidays sail through the harbour at Camana Bay from

6-8:30pm. Enjoy the Craft market, fireworks, entertainment and a visit by Santa.

2019 Milo Kids Fun Run

8 December - The 2019 Kids Fun Run takes place on Sunday, 8 December at 10:30am. This event is sponsored by Milo and the Cayman Islands Government's Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture & Lands, and is open to all kids ages 5 to 11 years old. Registration for students in the Cayman Islands is FREE, and students can register through their schools or online. Registration includes a t-shirt, runner bib and a medal at the finish line. The Kids Fun Run starts at the NEW Government Administration Building on Elgin Avenue and ends on Harbour Drive. Laura Ribbins from Fitness Connection will be doing a fun WARM UP SESSION with the kids before they start their Fun Run so make sure your kids are there for all the excitement! For more information, check out our website: <https://www.caymanislandsmarathon.com/kids-fun>

North Side Community Christmas Caroling

8 December - Everyone is invited to the second annual Community Christmas Caroling, Under the Stars event complete with fireworks on 8 December at the Ronald Forbes Playing Field in North Side from 6-8:30 p.m. It's free and transportation and refreshments will be available. If transportation is needed, please call 916-5260.

Bingo Bells

13 December - YCMA Cayman invites all to a night of fun, fellowship and bingo at Mary Miller

Hall from 6:30-8:30pm. Enjoy a serving of Grandma Judy's 'famous' spaghetti dinner. Tickets cost \$10 each or three for \$25 and are available at Field of Dreams or YMCA main office at Chamber of Commerce in Governors Square. YMCA; All proceeds to benefit the YMCA. For more information, call 926-9622 email info@ymcacayman.ky

Annual Visual Arts Society Arts & Crafts Sale

14 December - The Visual Arts Society Artists are having their Arts & Crafts Sale on Saturday December 14 from 10 am - 5 pm at Camana Bay. Artists will be set up along the centre of Camana Bay displaying arts, crafts, gifts, Christmas decorations, paintings, prints, hand-crafted jewellery, woodwork & more. Opportunities to WIN PRIZES, VAS Raffle \$5 each or 5x for \$20. For more information email info@visualartcayman.com or marymccallum@candw.ky

Dancing for A Cause

14 December - Join Ms. Jackie's School of dance for their presentation - Dancing for a Cause - an evening of dance to support Father Ho Lung 'Missionaries of the Poor' Worldwide and in the Cayman Islands. It's one day only at the Harquail Theatre. Show times are Matinee - 3pm. Children under 12 are \$15 and adults are \$30. The second show begins at 7pm and the price of all tickets are \$30. Email petique@candw.ky for more information.

Christmas at the Castle, Pedro St. James

15 December - Join Pedro St. James for a Caymanian Christmas celebration on Sunday 15 December from 6 - 10pm. Celebrate on the great lawn, under the stars and enjoy the tree lighting, a vis-



it from Santa, carol singing. Free admission and food and drinks will be on sale. Call 947 - 3329 or email admin@pedrostjames.ky for more information.

St. Ignatius Christmas Concert and Fundraiser

16 December - The annual St. Ignatius Christmas Concert and Fundraiser will be held on Monday, December 16th at 7:00 pm in Loyola Hall. The event will feature the school bands and choirs, performing popular Christmas songs and carols for attendees to enjoy. The evening will conclude with the grand prize drawing of CI\$25,000, second prize of CI\$2500, and third prize of US\$2500. The next five prizes are Cayman Airways USD\$300 travel vouchers, which can be used towards any Cayman Airways destination. Additional prizes include restaurant gift certificates from LUCA, Ragazzi, and Treats. For more information, please contact the church office on 949-6797 or the school office on 949-9250.

Christmas Moonlight & Movies, Camana Bay - The Grinch

17 December - Get cozy with your loved ones for a free showing of "The Grinch" (2018), on the giant blow-up screen on the Crescent at Camana Bay from 6 - 9pm on Tuesday 17 December. Don't forget to bring your blankets! Call 640 - 4000 for more information.

Christmas Lights Bus Tour

December 20 - The National Trust for the Cayman Islands is having its Christmas Lights Bus Tour on Friday 20 December from 6- 9pm. The tour includes visits to modern and traditional homes decorated for the holiday season and the singing of Christmas carols. Cost is CI\$30 per adult non-National Trust member, CI\$25 per adult National Trust member and CI\$15 per child, 5-11 years old. There is limited bus capacity so contact the Trust at 749 - 1121 or info@nationaltrust.org.ky for more information.

Do you really want to be fit?

Do you ever give up what you want MOST for what you want NOW?

Think about it...

If what you want most is to lose the weight—once and for all—but then you give in and order pizza for dinner, you've just given up what you want MOST (a healthier, leaner body) for what you wanted NOW (convenient and comforting food).

It's worth thinking about.

Are your **actions** congruent with your **goals**?

This is true of any goal, it's not limited to your fitness journey.

If you want to write a book, you'd better make time to sit down and type.

If you want to travel the globe, you'd better get yourself a passport.

If you want to run a marathon, you'd better start training.

If you want your kids to live a healthy life, you'd better model it for them.

If your actions don't support your goal, then you'll never accomplish it, and maybe you didn't **really** want it.

Your actions will always dictate your results.

If getting fit is something that you really want, take the action to reach



► Ernest Ebanks

out to me to get started on a fitness plan that will give you the opportunity to do what's hard now, to achieve the body that you really want.

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Call Ernest at **Body Shapers Fitness 325-8696** or email me today at bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com. Now located at **Caymanian Village, two doors from down Island Taste Patties.**

BAY LEAF

There is a vast variety of leaves which carry tremendous health benefits. One that's my favourite is BAY LEAF. There are many leaves referred to as Bay Leaf. However, the truest is known scientifically as *Laurus nobilis* which is the nutrient rich variety. It is a small tree native to the Mediterranean. They were once plentiful but climate change has greatly reduced their presence. It's most frequent use is in Indian dishes as spice. So here are some reasons to add it to your health protocol:

IMPROVES DIGESTION - It stimulates urination as a diuretic which decreases the toxicity of the body and stimulates vomiting when something toxic has been consumed. The compounds found in bay leaves are very effective for settling upset stomachs, irritable bowel syndrome and even reducing the effects of Celiac's disease. The unique enzymes found in bay leaves are effective in digestion and nutrient intake.

RESPIRATORY CONDITIONS - When the essential oil from the leaves are extracted it can be made into a salve and applied to the chest to alleviate respiratory issues. It's used abundantly especially during the flu season.

HEART HEALTH - Caffeic acid and rutin are both important organic compounds found in bay leaf. Rutin strengthens the capillary walls in the heart and



body extremities, while caffeic acid works to help lower bad cholesterol.

CANCER PREVENTION - The unique combination of antioxidants and organic compounds in bay leaf including phytonutrients, catechins, Linalool, and parthenolide helps to protect the body from free radicals.

REDUCE STRESS AND ANXIETY - Linalool is known to have the ability to lower the level of stress hormones in the body, especially when used in aromatherapy. Bay leaves help you calm down and remain relaxed in your stressed situations.

So, why not give it a try. A few leaves a day work wonders for your health. It makes a very nourishing and refreshing tea. Try it!

Caymanian Times

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FREE ADMISSION SATURDAY, 7:00 PM GATES OPEN AT 5:00 PM KICK OFF AT 7:00 PM

TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS CENTRE

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
81° / 78°	82° / 78°	82° / 79°	82° / 79°	82° / 78°	82° / 78°	82° / 79°
Clouds and sun with a shower	A thunderstorm in the area	A thunderstorm in the area	Partly sunny with a shower	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny

The Singing Christmas Tree highlights Cayman Talent

By Christopher Tobutt

Every year Cayman's very own Singing Christmas Tree lets everyone know that 'A King is Coming to Town,' which was this year's theme. It was a good theme, to, because every year at Christmas time it is as if King Jesus always comes to town; and the mystery and wonder of it all overtakes our hearts. That mystery and wonder unfolded so beautifully through singing, dancing, drama and of course, the wonderful Singing Christmas Tree itself, for two days running at the Lions Centre, and everyone left with a new glimpse of heaven.

There was a pre-show, before members from the Singing Christmas Tree Choir; all covered in thousands of lights twinkling like the stars in a clear night sky, began their lovely singing. But the "pre-show" was really special in itself, and it featured many of Cayman's most talented kids from different primary and secondary schools, as well as the Jubilate band, and the Cayman Arts Group who played Christmas carols with a selection of classical instruments such as violins and cellos. There was also the Melody Makers, a group of young children, each playing a little keyboard; and accompanied by some expert drumming for their rendition of "The Little Drummer Boy," and a medley of other Christmas favorites.

Pastor Torrence Bobb, began by welcoming everyone. Later in the show, Pastor Bobb invited everyone to give their lives to King Jesus, and led everyone in a prayer. His wife, Elsa, choir director and musical producer, started the singing Christmas tree in 2011.



▶ Jesus carries the cross



▶ A vision of heaven

Throughout the evening, the Singing Christmas Tree choir sang a

wide range of Christmas carols, beginning with the breathtaking Hark The Herald Angels medley, and many others too, including 'This Child Was Born For You,' 'Oh Happy Day,' and 'He Will Reign.' They were joined by Pastor Ferdinand Nicholls for 'This Little Child,' who also sang, 'I bowed on my knees.'

There were performances from the UCCI Performing Arts group, who danced beautifully beneath the tree, with long flowing crimson robes and dresses, as well as a group from the Centre Point Dance Studio, who dance a dance of praise, all dressed in blue. The Cayman Folk Singers came on to sing 'This Child Is,' and it warmed everyone's heart.

There was a special guest-appearance by classical singer, Gillian Seecharan Nancoo, who sang Mary Did You Know? and, Oh Holy Night. "A King is Coming to Town," was sung by Andrew Ramdom, in his wonderful jazz-soul voice.

During the second night there was a big treat in store, because His Excellency The Governor came with his wife. He not only watched the show, but he took part as well, in a duet on the Steel Pan with Cayman's very own steel pan maestro, Earl La Pierre.

There were several dramatic offerings, the first one was when Mary was told of the good news that she had been chosen to give birth to the Messiah, by an angel. Towards the end, there was a drama about going to heaven, with the Gates of Heaven, and angels, with beautiful golden wings. There was also a moving sequence where we saw Jesus, struggling to carry the cross, and stumbling, to remind us all the great price he paid to bring us peace with God, and the real reason for the season. 🙏



▶ Mary and Joseph



▶ The 21-foot high Singing Christmas Tree



▶ One of the children's Christmas choirs



▶ Cayman Arts Festival musicians

OBITUARIES

The Family of the Late **Dorothy A. MacIntosh** regret to announce her passing on Sunday, 1 December, 2019.



The family will receive friends Sunday, 8 December, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Bodden Funeral Service, 117 Walkers Rd.

Condolences can be registered at www.boddenfuneralservices.com



The Family of the Late **Nigel Phillips** regret to announce his passing on Sunday, 24 November 2019.



A funeral service will be held privately.

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



The Family of the Late **Carol Winker** regret to announce her passing on Monday, 25 November 2019.



A Memorial Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, 7 December 2019 at St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

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



Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Michael Joseph Lee, who passed away on Saturday, November 23, 2019. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Church of God of Prophecy, 325 Eastern Avenue, George Town, Grand Cayman on Saturday, December 07, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Viewing: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Interment at: Prospect Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Shawn Ryan Newell, who passed away on Monday, November 25, 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 Mr. Henry Robinson, who passed away on Sunday, November 24, 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 Mr. James Darrell Stewart, who passed away on Monday, November 25, 2019. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Webster Memorial United Church, 361 Bodden Town Road, Grand Cayman on Saturday, December 07, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. Viewing: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Interment at: New Pease Bay Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

Churchill's Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mrs. Violet Watler (Ms. Vie), who passed away on Thursday, November 21, 2019. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Church of God Chapel, 3251 Shamrock Rd., Bodden Town, Grand Cayman on Saturday, December 07, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. Viewing: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Interment at: New Pease Bay Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE — WEEK — DECEMBER 8 - 14



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Caribbean Princess	Disney Magic	Rhapsody of the Seas	Carnival Horizon	MSC Armonia	Carnival Legend	Island Princess
Norwegian Star	Disney Wonder	MSC Seaside	Norwegian Breakaway	Nieuw Amsterdam	Celebrity Edge	MSC Divina
	Sky Princess	Disney Fantasy	Explorer of the Seas	Carnival Sunrise		Norwegian Jade
	Carnival Paradise			Norwegian Pearl		
	Seven Seas Explorer			Brilliance of the seas		
Total Passengers						
5,340	11,302	10,575	11,776	13,173	5,042	8,350

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Estella's Place - walk-in centre for all victims of domestic abuse

Aftercare Programme - for victims after leaving the shelter

If you are a victim of domestic violence, contact us now and find out how we can help.



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949 0366
info@cicc.ky



Cayman Marathon This Weekend!

Event Preview

There will be lots of excitement this weekend when the annual Intertrust Cayman Islands Marathon, Half-Marathon and 4-Person Relay happens this Sunday, 8 December starting at 5am on the waterfront. The public is encouraged to come out and support this great charity event which raises funds for the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps and the Cancer Society as well as other organisations such as Jasmine, Crisis Centre, CCMI and Red Cross.

At the time of writing, organisers confirm 89 full marathoners, 693 half marathon entrants and 86 teams entered for the relay, and the usual flurry of last-minute entries is yet to come! This year the race is expected to grow in numbers with about 100 new registrations expected on the day before the race, which attracted over 1500 runners in 2018, and is celebrating its seventeenth (17th) year. Between visiting runners, their families and supporters the race is bringing over 450 visitors to the island, according to organisers.

The Kids Fun Run, sponsored by MILO and the Ministry of Youth & Sports, will start at 10:30am at the new Government Administration Building on Elgin Avenue and end just past the finish line on the corner of Cardinal Avenue and Harbour Drive. This event is free for students between the ages of 5 and 11 years old and is expected to bring in 300 kids.

The level of corporate support for the event is continuing to grow each year as companies and organisations such as Health Services Authority, PricewaterhouseCoopers, KPMG, Kirk Supermarket, Ernst & Young, CUC and sponsors Intertrust and BritCay all pay for their staff to participate.

The top three male and female marathoners and half marathoners in the 29 and under, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and over age categories will be awarded for their achievements. The top three teams in the corporate, all-male, all-female and mixed relay competitions will receive awards sponsored this year by Bedell Cristin. The CUC High School challenge relay event will also receive awards.

"It's our 17th year, and every year keeps getting better. The support we receive from the community, our sponsors, volunteers, local runners and overseas runners – some who fly here every year just to run our race or volunteer – is overwhelming," said Rhonda Kelly, Race Director. "This event is so inspirational and at times so emotional. We are just thrilled to be a part of the triumphs and powerful moments that a lot of our local and visiting runners will experience this Sunday. We count it an honour to be a part of their stories."

Marathon Stories

• Last year Michael Doherty from Massachusetts ran a full marathon in Maine on his birthday which is 8 December. The temperature was 1 degree Fahrenheit with a wind chill that made it well below zero. His wife asked if his next full marathon adventure could be on a sunny beach, and so he'll be celebrating his 50th birthday in the Cayman Islands;



► Kurt McKenzie



► The Start Line

• BOB FM morning talk show host Taylor Vaughn will be completing her first half marathon after a very eventful year which includes losing 129 pounds!

• 10 years ago, Casandra Barnett from West Bay did the half marathon for the first time with one of her best friends. She figured doing it again this year would be a good way to celebrate that accomplishment so she will be lacing up on 8 December;

• Luis Sanchez Sr. and Jr. will be running the half marathon together. Father and son are both retired military veterans from the US Army and US Marines respectively. Luis Jr. lives in Grand Cayman and Luis Sr. will be visiting from Puerto Rico. They will be joined by Luis Jr's 17-year old son Elian;

• Queensland, Australia native Amanda Barlow will celebrate her birthday on 8 December. The Intertrust Cayman Islands Marathon will be her 60th full marathon on her 60th birthday. She started running full marathons when she was 49-years old; her first was the London Marathon and since then she has run 59 marathons in 17 different countries around the world, including Antarctica and 5 Boston Marathons. She can't wait to celebrate her birthday and her marathon milestones in the beautiful Cayman Islands;

• This will be Charlotte Mlynar's 5th Cayman half marathon. She was joined in the first two by her dad. Sadly, he passed away last year so this race will be for him, said Mlynar who is from Monroeville, Pennsylvania;

• "I came last year, and Grand Cayman summoned my soul to come back. This race is special because of the local volunteers!" – Dena Prater, Spring Valley, California;

• Twin sisters Yvette and Yvonne Carter from Maryland, USA are back to run

the half and full respectively. Yvette ran the half in 2018 on a bet from Yvonne. She has struggled with congenital spine and eye problems, and the complications of untreated hypothyroidism for most of her life. With support from her mother, twin and friends who she considers family, she has persevered and accomplished things that many said she could not. Her sister Yvonne has been the first female marathon winner for the past two years and was hoping for a "three-peat" but now battling a stress fracture she's hoping just to finish;

• Katie Correia will be running the half marathon for the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI). "The "Reef Relief Squad" is running for a cause close to my heart. I've never been as passionate about anything as I am about taking care of our home planet and more specifically our oceans. They truly are the life blood of this earth and without healthy oceans, we couldn't survive here. I am running for my health, for the health of the planet, and to spread awareness about green issues that every single person can truly have a positive impact on. After all, there is no plan(et) B.;"

• Kurt McKenzie has been on a weight loss journey since 5 August 2017 and has gone from 311 to 199 pounds as of August 2019. He walked the half last year and now he is going to run it hoping to show even just one person that nothing is impossible;

• Sharon Ogden from Oklahoma has always wanted to visit Cayman and can't think of a better reason than to run a half marathon;

• Surena King has been coming to Cayman to run the half for seven years. She loves running early and in warm weather and considers Cayman her winter escape from the temperatures this time of year in Maryland;

• Darren Raiguel from Virginia will be completing his 89th full marathon overall since 2009. He's run a marathon in all 50 states and all Canadian provinces. He started doing countries in 2019 and Cayman will be his 7th country;

• Cayman resident Kelly Fiebig has participated in 11 of the 16 marathons, doing either the relay or half marathon. She took a break in 2018 to have twins and now she's returning;

• Beth Florek, who has won the full marathon six times, will return to the road after two years

• Robyn Larkin who supports the event every year by running and volunteering will be running the full marathon in honour of her mother who died of brain cancer in 2018;

• Cayman resident Wanda Rice's mother was always very active, running full marathons, climbing mountains and doing triathlons. Then she was diagnosed in 2010 with stage four lung cancer. As she was recovering and being treated, she asked Wanda and a childhood friend they would run a half marathon with her "when" she got better. In 2011, in celebration of her remarkable spirit and recovery, the three ran their very first half marathon and have continued running at least one per year since. Still in remission and at 76 years old, Wanda's mother will be running her first Cayman half next to her daughter.

Organisers are asking for the public's cooperation during the race by keeping traffic along the race route to a minimum, and in particular those people who live along the route are being asked to secure their dogs in their yards, and turn on their Christmas lights if they have any from 4:30am on the morning of 8 December.

The race starts at on the George Town Waterfront, by Sharkeez Bar & Grill and goes through South Church Street, South Sound and Old Prospect Road, after which runners turn around and go back through South Sound and then onto Walkers and Hospital Roads, Elgin Avenue, Edward and Fort Streets and back to Breezes.

Late registration for the 2019 Intertrust Cayman Islands Marathon, Half Marathon, 4-Person Relay, CUC High School Challenge and Kids Fun Run can only be done at the Westin Resort's Galleon Ballroom on Saturday, 7 December during Packet Pick Up from 9am to 3pm.

The Intertrust Cayman Islands Marathon is a Kelly Holding event and is sponsored by Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, Ministry of Sports, BritCay, Compass Media, Health City Cayman Islands, Milo, Gatorade, BOB FM, FastSigns, Cayman Airways, Bedell Cristin, Massive Group, Kelly Holding, eCayTrade, Cayman Islands Brewery, The Westin Grand Cayman, CUC, Cayman Physio, Sharkeez Bar & Grill, GNC, Mike's Ice, Bliss Living Yoga, Quaker, Cost-U-Less, Smoothie King, Hopscotch Productions, Explore Events, Netclues and CINICO.

For more information, visit www.caymanislands-marathon.com, email info@CaymanIslandsMarathon.com or call Bev Sinclair on 623-8825. Follow @CaymanMarathon on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. 🌐



► Amanda Barlow from Aus



► Twins Yvonne (L) and Yvette Carter (R) with their mom Joyce who volunteered

Canada's healthcare system is 'unfair'

Canada's provincial and territorial government leaders showed a united front on Monday in demanding more money from the federal government for healthcare and for provinces facing economic hard times.

The 13 premiers - who have diverse party affiliations - gathered for the first time since Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberals were re-elected in October.

The group, known as the Council of the Federation, called on Trudeau to increase federal funding for the public healthcare system, which is run by the provinces, before moving to expand coverage for prescription drugs, a key Trudeau election pledge.

The premiers also urged that a federal program designed to help regions mired in an economic slump be strengthened.

"I am very happy with the progress that we made in our fight for fairness," Alberta Premier Jason Kenney said after the meeting, referring to the economic aid program. Kenney, a political conservative, lauded the "united voice



► Canada has a problem with healthcare distribution

of premiers across the country" in supporting the measure.

Trudeau gained the most seats in Parliament in October's federal election but fell short of a majority and failed to secure a single seat in either Alberta or Saskatchewan, the heart of the country's struggling oil industry.

There has been a growing sense of alienation in Alberta and Saskatchewan since the 2014-15 global oil price crash, which has driven up unemployment and hurt growth in the western provinces.

The premiers want the government to make the transfer system "more responsive to economic circumstances and downturns in resource sectors," they said in a joint statement. 🌐

Philippines smashed by typhoon

Typhoon Kammuri swept through the Philippines on Tuesday, ripping rooftops from houses, knocking down power lines and leaving over half a million people huddled in evacuation centres, waiting for the storm to pass. At least one person was killed.

Manila airport was ordered shut for 12 hours and nearly 500 flights were cancelled. Officials suspended marine traffic in affected areas as Kammuri, packing wind gusts as high as 150 miles per hour, battered the Philippine archipelago for a second day.

In Albay, a province in south-eastern Luzon, the largest and most populous Philippine island, Gov. Al Francis Bichara said the fierce winds caused more damage than the rain.

"Right now there's no electricity, the cables had fallen, but it's calm now," he said, speaking to a Manila radio station.

The army, the police force and emergency service workers were helping clear roads of debris, said Claudio



► Filipino fishermen were amongst half a million displaced

Yucot, a regional director for civil defence.

A man who was preparing his home for the storm was electrocuted and died when a damaged wire touched his galvanized metal roof, the Philippine National Police said.

Across the archipelago, officials said the evacuations of hundreds of thousands of people from exposed areas had lessened the impact of the storm on civilians.

Still, the authorities warned of storm surges up to three feet and floods and landslides from the wind and rain in the mountainous countryside. 🌐

Cuba expects bumper Christmas spell

Cuba's tourism figures are still robust, despite sanctions by the US as the vital Christmas season approaches.

Cuban Minister of Tourism Manuel Marrero Cruz said that despite the US blockade against the island, particularly the measures aimed at undermining the tourist sector, a good

high season is predicted with a 1.6 percent increase in foreign visitor arrivals by the end of the year.

Speaking on Cuban Tourism Day, which is celebrated for the first time this year, Marrero Cruz said that these results reflect the hard work of his colleagues, hotel chains and the media, when seeking alternatives and promoting the advantages of the country.

This has been a complicated year because the US sanctions particularly when cruise travels were abruptly suspended in June and more recently, regular flights to Cuba, except to Havana, said the minister.

He said: "We are convinced that these are not the only measures,



► Cuban tourism is evolving despite US sanctions

others will come, but we haven't sat around waiting, we have looked for alternatives and there has been an intense international work on the part of our ministry, hotel chains and agencies, he said when referring to the actions undertaken."

Over 50 measures have been adopted which are already succeeding despite the bankruptcy of UK's Jet2Holiday and Thomas Cook companies which together bought more than 95,000 tourists to Cuba. That includes talks with other hotel chains, which do not operate in the Caribbean.

Marrero Cruz said that during his recent visit to China he noticed a significant interest in increasing visits to Cuba. 🌐

Honduran activist murderers jailed for 50 years

A Honduran court handed down jail terms of up to five decades for seven men convicted of the 2016 murder of indigenous activist Berta Caceres, who led a battle against a major dam on the ancestral lands of her Lenca tribe.

Five of those accused of the murder were sentenced to 50 years in jail and another two to a term of 30 years on Monday. The men were not named.

Honduran law gives the men 20 days to appeal the sentences.

Caceres, shot to death at her home in the town of La Esperanza, was a veteran land rights activist who started out in the early 1990s, setting her sights on illegal logging.

Since 2006, she had organised opposition to the \$50-million Agua Zarca hydroelectric dam, where building came to a halt after completing as much as a fifth of the project.

Lenca activists criticized the dam on the Gualcarque River for what they said would probably cause major disruptions to their water and food supply and



► Supporters for Berta Caceres outside the court

faulted the project for a lack of required indigenous consultations.

The sentences came nearly a year after the seven men were convicted, were harshly criticised by Caceres' daughter Olivia Zuniga, who said they sidestepped the true culprits.

"This is a day of pain because the intellectual authors of my mother's murder are still enjoying impunity," Zuniga said. "We are not going to believe that there's true justice until these people are in jail."

Honduras is considered one of the most dangerous countries in the world for environmental and land rights activists. At least 24 environmental and land defenders have been killed since March 2015. 🌐

Venezuela holds first Black Friday

Venezuelans have embraced Black Friday for the first time. Shoppers flocked to shopping centres in Caracas, the capital, to take advantage of the first Black Friday discounts in recent memory, as socialist President Nicolas Maduro's government loosens controls in the face of an economic crisis.

For the first six holiday seasons of his presidency, Maduro attempted to keep consumer goods prices low despite galloping inflation with strict enforcement of price controls. This year, with the OPEC nation facing crippling sanctions imposed by the United States on its oil industry, the government has left retailers more or less alone.

"My sister saw it on social media and said, 'Look, there are 70 percent discounts at the Sambil,' and we came running," said Elizabeth Diaz, a 42-year-old bank worker from the city of Los Teques 22 miles from Caracas' Sambil mall, where she was waiting in line outside a toy store to buy gifts for her three grandchildren.



► Venezuelan shoppers came out in force

"Discounts are the only way, because, with prices through the roof, one can't afford anything," she said.

Malls and small retailers across the country advertised discounts of up to 80 percent on goods from shoes to electronics, hoping an influx of Christmas shoppers could compensate for weak sales so far in Venezuela's continuing economic contraction.

In January, the government said it will make price controls more "flexible" and loosen a complex, long-standing system of currency controls. That has led to a wider circulation of foreign currency, as Venezuelans turn to the dollar to protect their earnings against a fast-devaluing local bolivar. 🌐

Trump visit unnerves UK prime minister

Donald Trump was in the UK for a three-day visit this week and the biggest fear for British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was that the US president would ruin his chances of staying in power ahead of next week's UK general election.

Ahead of the meeting, Johnson was seeking to downplay his relationship with Trump at Wednesday's NATO meeting, amid Labour's accusations that a US-UK trade deal will lead to an National Health Service (NHS) sell-off and higher drug prices for Britons.

As the US president landed at London Stansted on Monday night and disembarked with his wife, Melania, Conservative strategists were hoping Trump would not add fuel to accusations that the US will seek to profit from the NHS as the price for any trade deal.

Johnson has made clear that he would not welcome any input from Trump into the election debate at such a sensitive time in the campaign, after Trump offered him his endorsement over the summer. The election is on Dec. 12. Trump has often talked about



► Donald and Melania Trump arriving in the UK

the special relationship between the US and UK, but many believe he is too interfering in British politics.

Opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn wrote to the US president demanding assurances that any trade deal would exclude any reference to pharmaceuticals and accept the role of the UK's drugs watchdog in setting the threshold for the cost-effectiveness of drugs for the NHS.

He also requested that the US drop the demand for "total market access" to UK public services and rule out any investor-state dispute settlement mechanism by which the UK government could be sued for protecting public services. 🌐

Ruiz expects to repeat Joshua shocker

Anthony Joshua is determined to regain his world heavyweight titles this weekend and erase the memories that have haunted him since that fateful night six months ago.

The awful flashbacks of that first fight with Andy Ruiz Jr when the 30-year-old Londoner was stopped in the seventh round on his American debut at New York's Madison Square Garden, have literally given him nightmares.

A new purpose-built stadium has been constructed for the world heavyweight title bout in the Diriyah region of the Saudi capital Riyadh and Joshua, the betting favourite, is seeking redemption on the only blemish of his 22-fight record, all but one victory coming by knockout.

Juiz caused a huge upset in securing the IBF, IBO, WBA, WBO belts. He entered the ring as a late replacement and dropped Joshua four times en route to that sensational victory.

While many believe Ruiz is living in the moment, the American-Mexican rejects that talk and maintains that his

recent financial success has not gone to his head.

"I'm still the same Andy Ruiz. I'm still the same chubby little fat kid with the big dream. I'm still that person," Ruiz said. "Inside the ring, I'm the champion of the world. I'm Mr Hulk in there and I've still got a lot to accomplish. This journey now is what I've been dreaming about all my life. I accomplished my dreams on June 1 and I've still got a lot to prove on Dec 7."

The first fight had fireworks, with Ruiz also going down a single time in the third. Joshua went down twice in the third and twice more in the seventh. Ruiz, 30, expects a lot more drama in the rematch.

But he will get respect early and not allow Joshua to gain confidence during the fight, he said. "Fight fans are going to see the same thing. The guy with big dreams going in there to dominate and to be heavyweight champion. Of course, they're going to see a lot of fireworks. If he knocks me down, I'm going to get up and knock him down. I know he'll try to do the same



► Andy Ruiz Jr is confident he can beat Joshua again

if I knock him down. The main thing is to stay focused and disciplined."

Joshua has shown immense strength of character to dive straight back into the fire although, if his desire is to regain three of the four titles and to eventually face Deontay Wilder to crown an undisputed champion, he had little choice. If he opted to rebuild slowly, the belts would have fragmented into a puzzle too complicated to piece back together.

The fact that the ripped physique of Joshua was in complete contrast to Ruiz's flabby body made the result more surprising. Since then, Joshua has changed his training regime and looks leaner and so too has Ruiz whose better conditioning means he has lost most of the blubber. If it was a beauty contest, there would be only one winner, but this is boxing and that is where Ruiz is infinitely more gifted.

Joshua resisted the usual policy of sacking his head trainer, Rob McCracken, but introduced two new pad-men, Angel Fernandez and Joby Clayton. They have been welcomed into camp along

with new sparring partners after the previous crop drew Joshua's anger by leaking rumours that they hurt him and caused the defeat to Ruiz.

He has stared failure in the face with maturity, but the concern is that since losing, he doesn't have enough time to prevent a repeat result. Ruiz 33-1 (22 KOs) has fast hands and can evidently take a punch. They will share a purse of \$60 million, of which Joshua will earn more. The issue of fighting in Saudi Arabia has been a sensitive one because of the country's atrocious human rights record, but both fighters have shown respect but insist their short, unpredictable careers mean they have no option.

"He saw something that he's never seen before," Ruiz said. "His style was perfect for me." Last time, the press conference featured smiles, back-slapping and the now-infamous moment when Joshua allowed Ruiz to touch the championship belts. A few days later those belts became his property. Ruiz believes he can retain his belts. He has every reason to be confident. 🌐



► Anthony Joshua believes he can regain his belts

Harden continues to propel Rockets

James Harden is unstoppable now, despite the opposition double teaming him in every game.

Harden scored 60 points for the fourth time in his career during the Houston Rockets' 158-111 NBA win over the Atlanta Hawks on Saturday.

He played just 31 minutes yet only fell one-point shy of his career-high points haul of 61 points, which he has achieved twice.

Only Wilt Chamberlain (32) and Kobe Bryant (six) have more 60-point hauls and Harden is tied with Michael Jordan.

"That's a great list right there," said Harden, who also had eight assists. "Those guys are something that I'm trying to get to. Hopefully when it is all said and done, I can be mentioned in that group forever."

Against the Hawks, he scored 13 points in the first quarter, 18 in the second and 29 in the third.

Houston Rockets head coach Mike D'Antoni said: "Like everything else he does, unbelievable. Again, I think in the first half just when they doubled, he gave the right play and then when they didn't double, he scored."

"You get 60 points on 24 shots, that's pretty good. He was incredible, but he's like that every night."

Asked if he considered leaving "The Beard" in the game, D'Antoni said it was never an option. "I can't do that, I couldn't, you guys would kill me if I did that and he got hurt," he said. "I'd kill myself first of all and then you would all shoot me." 🌐



► James Harden is on fire for the Rockets

Cornwall's sizeable gifts puts teams in a spin

The West Indies have faced some sizeable problems in regaining their mantle as a Test super power but now they have a sizeable spinner who could become a giant in the sport.

Rahkeem Cornwall is a hulk of a man who has the potential to be a legendary Test spinner despite his size.

When the 26-year-old Antiguan made his Test debut for the West Indies against India in Jamaica in August, he became the heaviest man in history to play the format.

He took the record off Australian Warwick "Big Ship" Armstrong, who played his last Test in 1921. According to the history books, Armstrong tipped the scales at anything between 133 and 139 kgs. Cornwall has already smashed through the 140kg barrier.

In an era of athletic fielding, razor sharp running between the wickets and a culture of strength and conditioning, Cornwall looks out of place.

Yet he is extremely effective. His seven for 75 in the first innings of the West Indies Test against Afghanistan in Lucknow, were the best opening day figures by a spinner from the Caribbean since 1971. He followed it up with three wickets on day two, as he celebrated a first 10 wicket haul in just his second Test.

Given his record in domestic cricket since debuting in 2014, that is not surprising. Cornwall has taken 263 wickets



► Rahkeem Cornwall is a brilliant spinner, despite his size

at an average cost of just 24 runs in 56 matches for the Leeward Islands.

Despite Cricket West Indies repeatedly sending him to fitness camps in the US to gain a more lean and athletic physique, Cornwall's shape remains the same. Nevertheless, he could be the answer to the persistent problem of finding a consistent spinner. He evidently has a big future. 🌐

Liverpool running away in title race

Liverpool look set to gain their first domestic league title in 30 years despite the Premier League title only just a third of the way through. Thirteen wins and a draw in their 14 games puts them eight points clear of Leicester City and 11 points ahead of current champs Manchester City.

Liverpool right back Trent Alexander-Arnold is one of the reasons why the Champions League champions are so dominant. He gave insight on Liverpool's strength at attacking set-pieces

after setting up both goals in Saturday's 2-1 win over Brighton and Hove Albion.

The 21-year-old England defender teed up each of Virgil van Dijk's headers in the Premier League clash, the first from a curling free-kick and the second via a near-post corner.

The Reds have now scored 40 times from set-pieces in the league since the start of last season, the best tally of any team in the division.

"We've got big lads and if we get the delivery right then we've got a good

chance of scoring goals or at least making the keeper work," the No.66 said.

"With the quality we've got with the boys and their heading quality, it's all about the delivery and putting it in areas and timing the runs. We know they've got a good chance and we've done that twice today."

Liverpool matched the club record of 31 league games without defeat, although in many games they have not looked in convincing. This match was the same, with Reds keeper Alisson handling outside the box and getting a red card for it. Alisson's red card means the Brazilian will be suspended for Wednesday night's Merseyside derby at Anfield against Everton, a team with a poor away record whose head coach Marco Silva will be sacked after this game if it goes badly. 🌐



► Trent Alexander-Arnold is key to Liverpool's success

Premier League Table

Pos.		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Liverpool	14	13	1	0	32	12	20	40
2	Leicester City	14	10	2	2	33	9	24	32
3	Manchester City	14	9	2	3	39	16	23	29
4	Chelsea	14	8	2	4	28	20	8	26



► Lamar Jackson is having a superb season with the Ravens



► Deshaun Watson is emerging as a brilliant QB

Watson upstaging Brady is no surprise

This NFL season has been notable for how many novice quarterbacks are making their mark and Deshaun Watson is the latest one to take the spotlight.

Watson led the Houston Texans to an unexpected 28-22 win over the New England Patriots on Sunday to usurp Tom Brady for QB accolades.

The loss was just the second of the year for the Patriots and the win improved the Texans to 8-4 on the season. Watson completed 18-of-25 passes for 234 yards and three touchdowns. He also caught a touchdown pass from wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins on a crazy option trick play.

Brady, on the other hand, completed 24-of-47 passes for 326 yards and three touchdowns to one interception.

One of the most telling stats from the matchup between the two quarterbacks was their yards per attempt numbers.

Brady had 6.9 yards per attempt, while Watson had an astounding 13.4 yards.

Brady has been the top quarterback in the NFL for more than a decade now and he's still among the leaders even at 42.

However, the next generations of quarterbacks are making their mark. As well as Watson, there's Patrick Mahomes, Lamar Jackson, Jared Goff and Carson Wentz.

Could Sunday have been a sneak peek into what we're going to see in the future? Though Brady has been great, he's going to retire at some point – and probably soon.

Watson has proven in recent seasons that he can lead a cast of characters that aren't necessarily filled with stars and win games.

Watson, 24, was born in Georgia and attended Gainesville High School where

he excelled in football. Head coach Bruce Miller had planned to start a rising junior to quarterback, but Watson won the starting spot. He was the first freshman quarterback coach Miller had ever started. He was brilliant at high school and in the college game.

Watson received offers from numerous colleges before committing to Clemson University in 2012. Clemson is noted for its sporting excellence where many Caymanians have attended, including Cydonie Mothersill.

Watson has all the characteristics to become the great QB. He has the skill, athleticism, leadership ability, character, winning mentality and desire to get better.

The Texans, whose last win over New England came in 2010, have a one-game lead at the top of the AFC South Division.

"It is a big one," said Watson. "That shows we can play with the top teams in the NFL. It is special for me. Before he hangs it up, I had to at least get one on him. I had to get this one."

Elsewhere, week 13 of the NFL saw the Baltimore Ravens send a clear message that they can challenge for the Super Bowl after beating the San Francisco 49ers to join their opponents on 10-2 for the season.

The Green Bay Packers are still in charge of the NFC North after rebounding with a dominant win in New York, while the Kansas City Chiefs did likewise to strengthen their grip on the AFC West.

In a Sunday of surprises, the Miami Dolphins and Washington Redskins both claimed their third wins of the season in upset results, and the Cincinnati Bengals finally got off the mark at the 12th time of asking. 📍

Windies take on India next with T20 defence in sight

West Indies are gradually evolving for the better under new management in preparation for their T20 World Cup defence next year. Training camps are happier and there is a much better relationship with officials as more former players are drafted into the management and coaching roles.

Chris Gayle at 40 looks out of the picture for ever and Andre Russell is still not fit enough to play international cricket, but Lendl Simmons is back, as is Kieron Pollard, who is now skipper of both the T20I and one-day international teams, and Dwayne Bravo has hinted at coming out of retirement.

Pollard began his tenure by leading West Indies to their first ODI series victory in five years, against Afghanistan, but then they lost the subsequent three-match T20I series. They take on India in three T20 matches in Hyderabad starting on Friday before a series of ODIs.

Guyana Amazon Warriors opener Brandon King and Hayden Walsh Jr,



► Kieron Pollard leads Windies against India from Friday

the CPL 2019 winner with Barbados Tridents are the top scorer and top wicket-taker respectively in the T20 competition, were fast-tracked into the limited-overs squads for the series against Afghanistan in India.

While King made 39 on his ODI debut from No. 4, he couldn't quite adjust to the more sluggish tracks that Lucknow rolled out for the T20Is. Opening the batting in the shortest format, King was disappointing with scores of 4, 12, and 1.

Walsh has been picked for the wicket-taking threat he poses with his leg-breaks but he struggled for control against Afghanistan and proved to be expensive in both the ODIs and T20Is. 📍

Messi, 32, is not ready to retire

Lionel Messi has acknowledged that he has passed the half way mark of his career but wants to continue playing for years to come after scooping up his sixth Ballon d'Or award.

The Barcelona legend capped off a brilliant year by winning the accolade in Paris on Monday.

Messi pipped Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk and long-time rival Cristiano Ronaldo to the prize after a stellar campaign for the La Liga outfit.

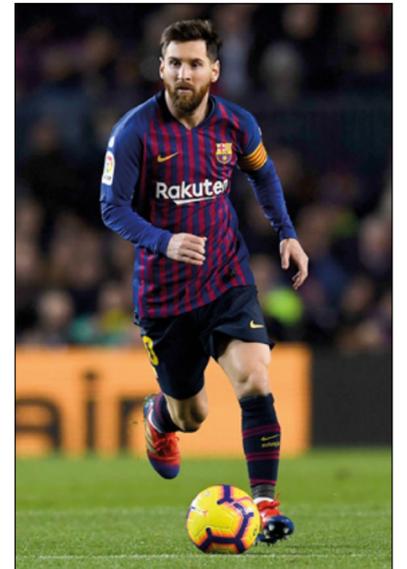
But the 32-year-old Argentinian was then asked about how long he would be able to continue playing at the game's summit due to his advancing years.

"I'm aware of how old I am," Messi responded. "And I enjoy these moments so much because I know that retirement is approaching. Time flies. But I hope, God willing, that I keep playing for many more years."

"Right now I feel better than ever on a physical and a personal level, and I hope I can go on for a lot longer."

Reports in recent months suggested Messi could leave his beloved Barcelona for free due to a clause in his contract at the Nou Camp.

And over the years it has been rumoured the legend wants to end his career in Argentina. But again Messi flatly denies this. He is incredibly grateful



► Lionel Messi is one of the greatest ever players

to them since they moved him and his whole family to the city when he was only 13, a remarkable commitment by the club for someone so young, which in turn has secured Messi's loyalty.

"What I feel for this club is [worth] more than any signature on a piece of paper, so there's no issue." 📍

Usman: UFC welters are most exciting

UFC welterweight champion Kamaru Usman claims that the 170lbs weight class is the most exciting division in the UFC.

Usman won the UFC welterweight championship in March when he dominated Tyron Woodley en route to a lopsided decision at UFC 235. He makes his first title defence against arch-rival Colby Covington at UFC 245 in Las Vegas, Nevada on Dec. 14. As much as Usman despises Covington, he grudgingly credits his arch-nemesis and the other welterweights for generating the most excitement in UFC.

"Oh, without a doubt. Everybody knows that. This is the deepest division and one of the most exciting divisions. I'm not going to run out of contenders anytime soon, so that's a good thing," the 32-year-old Nigerian said. The UFC community would beg to differ as the light-heavyweights and middleweights are packed with talent too.

After Covington gets his chance, emerging superstar Jorge Masvidal is

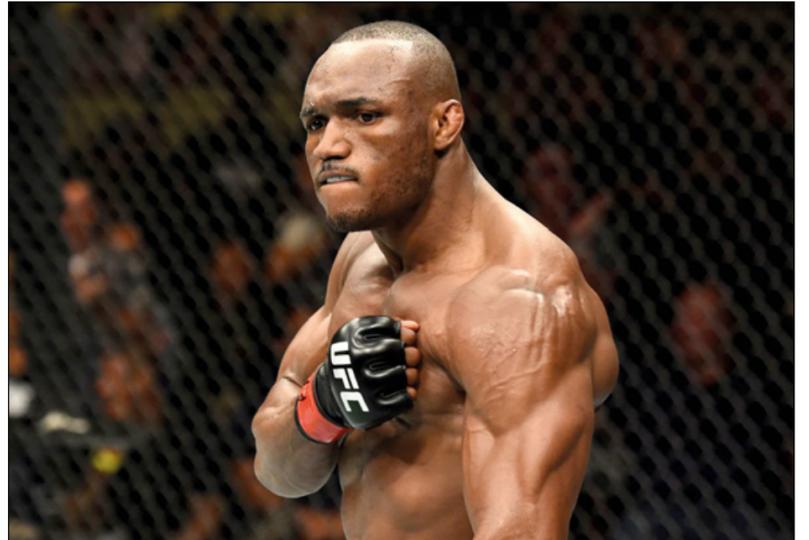
expected to get a crack at the belt after reeling off three straight TKO wins over Nate Diaz, Ben Askren and Darren Till. There's also Leon Edwards, who is riding an eight-fight win streak. And of course, former champion, Woodley, is still in the frame.

Masvidal hasn't been in awe of Usman's performances. "The Nigerian Nightmare" is 15-1 in UFC but Masvidal is not impressed.

"Not at all," Masvidal said. "I think there's some things he does well, which is kind of stall. He just gets to a leg and takes guys down. I'm a fan of grappling but I like to see grappling offensively."

"He can't kick nothing. Maybe Usman's a good kicker for YMCA, the public club, but he's not kicking me. The guy would never land a kick on me."

Masvidal is coming off a third-round TKO victory over Nate Diaz last month. Many believe "Gamebred" is in a unique position where he can either challenge



► Kamaru Usman defends his UFC welterweight title next week

for the welterweight title next, or go for a big money fight against Conor McGre-

gor despite UFC president Dana White being opposed to the matchup. 📍

CROSSWORD

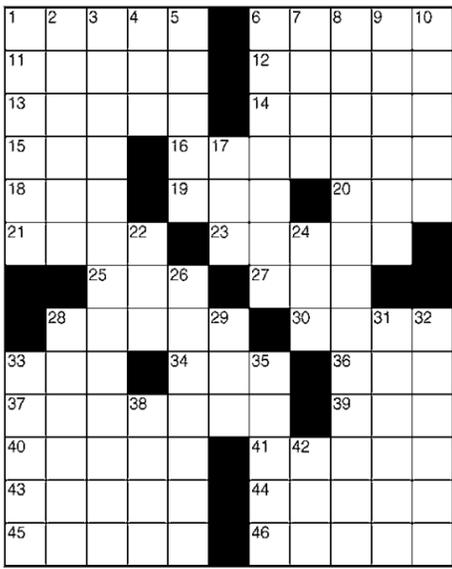
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 37 Sign off on
 - 1 Mosey along
 - 6 Messing on TV
 - 11 Antithetical
 - 12 TV's De-Generes
 - 13 Clear
 - 14 Resort spot
 - 15 Buddy
 - 16 Mathis' "— Are"
 - 18 Moose kin
 - 19 Baseball's Williams
 - 20 Singer Starr
 - 21 Bottle part
 - 23 Gasp, say
 - 25 Stashed
 - 27 "Fifth Beatle" Sutcliffe
 - 28 Wendy's friend
 - 30 Composer Satie
 - 33 Ruin
 - 34 One of three in a row
 - 36 Gene messenger
- DOWN**
- 39 Nile serpent
 - 40 Agitates
 - 41 Accumulated, as debt
 - 43 Namely, in Latin
 - 44 Added
 - 45 Caravan stops
 - 46 Toady's words
 - 1 Early primates
 - 2 Esprit
 - 3 Bitter fruit
 - 4 — Palmas
 - 5 Put up
 - 6 Century sections
 - 7 Magnate Musk
 - 8 Astringent fruit
 - 9 Return to office
 - 10 Nervous
 - 17 This miss
 - 22 Young fox
 - 24 Devoured
 - 26 Loathes
 - 28 Asian temple
 - 29 Informant
 - 31 Guarantee
 - 32 Greek letters
 - 33 Racer Andretti
 - 35 Golfer Pavin
 - 38 Different
 - 42 Chopping tool



Yesterday's answer

- 6 Century sections
- 7 Magnate Musk
- 8 Astringent fruit
- 9 Return to office
- 10 Nervous
- 17 This miss
- 22 Young fox
- 24 Devoured
- 26 Loathes
- 28 Asian temple
- 29 Informant
- 31 Guarantee
- 32 Greek letters
- 33 Racer Andretti
- 35 Golfer Pavin
- 38 Different
- 42 Chopping tool

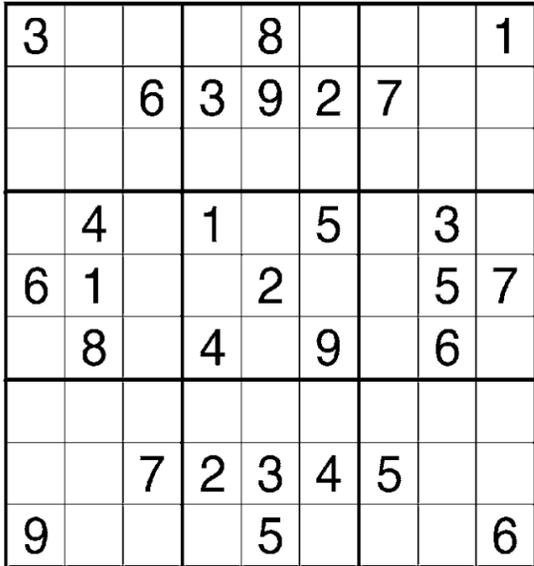


SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★

Word Search

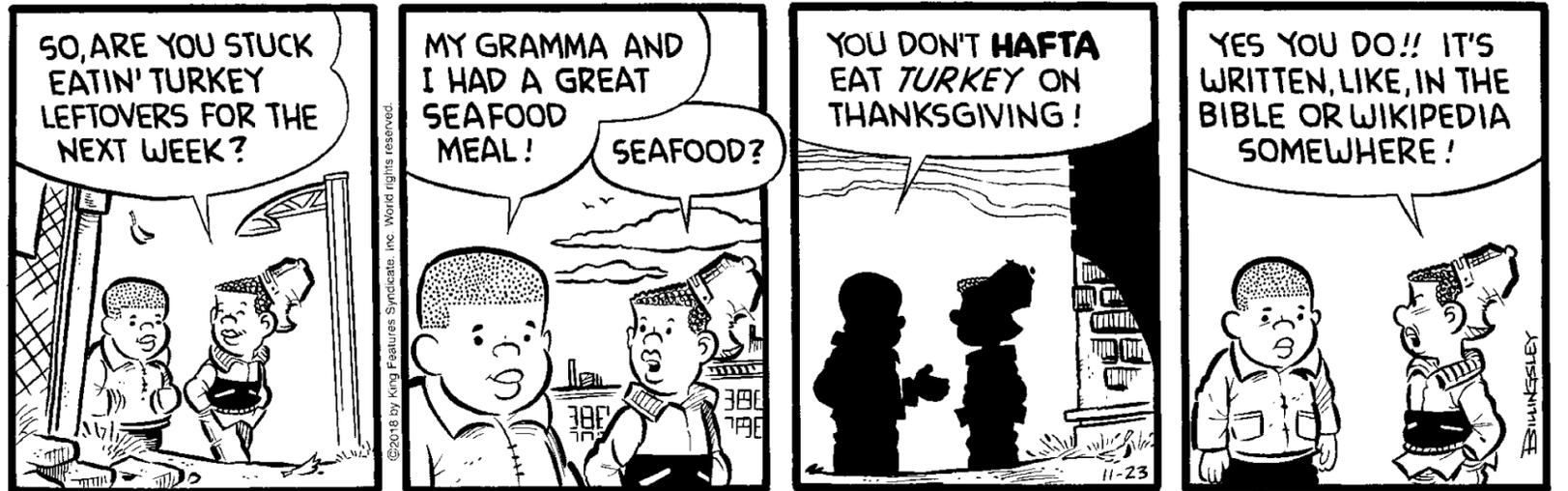


- Andromeda
- Aquarius
- Aquila
- Aries
- Bootes
- Cassiopeia
- Cetus
- Crater
- Cygnus
- Draco
- Gemini
- Hydrus
- Lepus
- Libra
- Orion
- Pavo
- Pegasus
- Pisces
- Sagittarius
- Taurus
- Ursa Major
- Ursa Minor
- Virgo



CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley





PORT PROJECT:

WHAT THE OPPOSITION IS SAYING VS THE FACTS

Here are the 10 things the Office of the Opposition is saying about the port project and the **truth** about each one.

1. The financing model is based on mass tourism which creates overcrowding of already stressed infrastructure and attractions

FACT

The majority of the increase will be in the summer when cruise tourism numbers are typically much lower and therefore will NOT cause stress to our infrastructure and other attractions. In addition, the increase in these months will help many local businesses gain additional revenues.

2. Any damage to Seven Mile Beach will be irreversible

FACT

A 2001 study showed there was no apparent sediment transport link between George Town Harbour and Seven Mile Beach. The Cayman Islands Environmental Assessment Board reviewed these findings and agreed with the conclusion that the proposed project would not impact Seven Mile Beach.

3. The project will only benefit a select few

FACT

Independent reports verify there are hundreds of local businesses, large and small, which benefit from the cruise sector and thousands of jobs.

4. The current government has not successfully managed any large capital works project to date

FACT

Our airport, the Government Admin Building, the Clifton Hunter High School and extensive road works are all examples of major capital projects successfully managed by the government.

5. The government does not want to produce an updated EIA for the new designs

FACT

The preferred bidders are currently preparing an environmental scoping document which will show how the current design has significantly reduced the environmental impact. This will be submitted to the Cayman Islands Department of Environment who will determine next steps.

6. The Government has ignored real information from our own scientists and local institutions

FACT

The Cayman Islands Department of the Environment and their team of experts and scientists are responsible for issuing any permits and licenses to the proposed developer. The developers have assembled a team of world renowned experts and are willing to work with any other qualified local scientists and institutions.

7. Increased traffic in George Town and throughout Grand Cayman

FACT

Plans for the new port include a large area specifically created to accommodate taxis and tour operators to collect and drop off their passengers. All of this traffic activity will occur within the new port area so traffic congestion on the main roads will be minimised or even improved. These plans are being developed in conjunction with the George Town Revitalisation plans.

8. False job creation for Caymanians (999, 499, 200..)

FACT

It is estimated that 900 jobs will be created. 200 of these will relate to the construction phase of the project and the remaining 700 jobs will be created in the tourism sector. The BREIA 2018 Report estimates that cruise tourism in Cayman Islands generates a total employment impact of 4,622 persons. Experts estimate that we could lose half of the current number of passengers over the next few years if we do not build the piers to accommodate the larger ships. That could mean losing over 2,000 jobs.

9. Stayover tourism generates 80% of our income with a smaller head count vs cruise tourism accounting for only 20% of that revenue

FACT

The government spends a significant amount to promote stayover which makes sense given that 80% of income comes from that sector. The government spends considerably less to promote cruise tourism and the economy gets more than C\$200 million per year in income from the sector. In addition, data shows that 20% of stayover visitors first arrived on a cruise. Therefore the cruise sector is directly contributing significantly to stayover tourism.

10. Piers would make it easier for passengers to spend more money aboard the ships, than onshore

FACT

On-board shops are closed in all ports unless given specific permission from government. When a cruise passenger can easily board and disembark, they spend more, not less. The piers also mean passengers can stay on island for longer and spend more money instead of rushing to get back on the tenders. Finally, the larger ships that can visit if the piers are built bring passengers with 20% higher incomes.