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Nicki Minaj will be at Trinidad's Carnival this month

# Taking a Stand for Christian Family Values



Full story on page A3 >>

► Making as stand for Christian family values

## HSA opens temporary flu clinic



► The flu clinic is located in the George Town General Practice Building

With the peak of the flu season and the Public Health Department reporting higher than usual cases of patients presenting with flu like symptoms, the Health Services Authority (HSA) is opening a temporary flu clinic at the George Town General Practice Clinic.

The flu clinic will operate from 8:00am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday with a dedicated physician to manage and treat patients showing symptoms of the flu.

Director of Primary Health Care Dr Samuel Williams said, "Flu-like cases in Grand Cayman are on the increase, which is normal during this time of the

... Continued story on page A3

## Health Precautions at the Border Continue



Full story on page A8 >>



Caymanian Times

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# COMMUNITY VOICE

## Urgent plea for human rights to be upheld

Local LGBT activist, Founder and President of Colours Cayman, Billie Bryan, has had to resort to sending an open letter to the Governor Martyn Roper, to plead for his input in helping to deal with Cayman's long-running issue on same sex marriage, that appears to have no closure in sight.

Ms Bryan's letter to the Governor said that it was regrettable that her group was having to "essentially beg" for the Governor's intervention when there was a breach of the Constitution and an order from Cayman's Court of Appeal to speedily address the issue was not being acted upon.

The Colours Cayman advocacy group felt compelled to write to the Governor in this way, following no move from the Government to comply with the Court of Appeal's direction last year in the Chantelle Day and Vickie Bodden case, the same sex couple who were refused a marriage certificate and took the case to court. The couple won their case but after the Government appealed the decision the Court of Appeal ruled in the Government's favour and said that the judiciary could not legislate for parliament with regard to the Bill of Rights. It did, however, require Government to quickly put in place laws to introduce a civil union of some kind for same-sex couples.

In her letter to the Governor, Ms Bryan said that Cayman was currently experiencing the failure of the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to the adoption of a legal framework for same sex-couples.

"The Court of Appeal declared in November that LGBTI+ people have a constitutional right to a legal framework and ordered the government to put that framework in place "expeditiously", yet there is no evidence of anything having been done. In this respect, could you, Your Excellency publicly state by when the UK would deem the Cayman Islands government not to have acted "expeditiously" in accordance with the order of the Court and, as such, would step in and legislate by Order in Council as you have previously suggested would happen in those circumstances," she said.

Cayman's current system, she said, was not working, because it subjected



the fundamental rights and freedoms of all persons in the Cayman Islands to "the whims of the majority" with no effective legal means of ensuring the enforcement of the Bill of Rights. The one exception was the ability of the Governor to legislate if he or she felt it necessary to secure compliance with international human rights obligations.

Because nobody was enforcing Cayman's Bill of Rights over this particular issue, Ms Bryan felt this could impact other kinds of human rights for Caymanians, the only solution being to lobby the UK and eventually appealing to the UK's High Court for a ruling on the case. But having to continually seek a solution from the UK in similar circumstances would be a major step back for the Cayman Islands, as it seeks to implement recently agreed reforms to the Constitution which would give the jurisdiction greater autonomy over managing its affairs.

In his New Year's message, Premier Alden McLaughlin urged finding a solution to the issue.

"Regarding same sex partnerships, as I have said previously, it is important that legislators determine the best way forward for our Islands and find a solution that works for Caymanians," the Premier stated. "If we abrogate our responsibility to do so, we must accept that the UK will legislate for these islands as the Court of Appeal has suggested they do. That would be the worst possible result for these Islands, not just with regard to same-sex partnerships, but more generally."

Ms Bryan said she sent a letter to the Premier asking the Government to consider the issue, to which she received no response. The fact that minority groups such as the LGBT community had to resort to approaching the UK for a ruling in the issue was "a violation of good governance and human rights in and of itself," she said.

"Colours Cayman remains therefore open to a constructive dialogue, notwithstanding that our efforts to reach out and discuss this matter with the Premier have fallen on deaf ear," Miss Bryan confirmed to the Governor.



# CIGTV GUIDE



## FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11 - 14

### Tuesday, 11 February

- 12:00 AM National Heroes Day Celebration
- 3:40 AM News Update
- 4:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 4:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 4:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 5:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
- 6:00 AM News Update
- 6:20 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 6:40 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 6:50 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
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### Wednesday, 12 February


- 12:00 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 12:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 12:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 1:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
- 2:00 AM News Update
- 2:20 AM Down to Earth with the Premier
- 2:40 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 2:50 AM Novel Coronavirus Press Briefing Feb 3 2020
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- 8:00 AM Legislative Assembly January 30th 2020 Part 1 "Re-Air"
- 9:50 AM News Update
- 10:10 AM Legislative Assembly January 30th 2020 part 2 "Re-Air"
- 1:33 PM Legislative Assembly January 30th 2020 part 3 "Re-Air"
- 6:00 PM News Update
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### Thursday, 13 February

- 12:00 AM National Heroes Day Celebration
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- 11:40 PM News Update

### Friday, 14 February

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- 12:20 AM Rosa Harris In Davos
- 12:30 AM Her Story is Our History for Cinegy
- 1:00 AM Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease talk 27 May 201
- 2:00 AM News Update
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# HSA opens temporary flu clinic

... Continued story from page A1

year. The period between December and March is usually the peak of the flu season when the highest numbers of flu cases are reported."

Informational signage, face masks and hand sanitizer have been placed at the entrance of all clinics for use by patients that are experiencing any flu-like symptoms.

Dr Williams advises the public that the single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated. Flu vaccines are available at the George Town General Practice Clinic, all district health centres, Faith Hospital in Cayman Brac and the Little Cayman Clinic.

Dr Williams is also using the opportunity to emphasise that the Cayman Islands does NOT have any cases of

coronavirus and encourages all residents to practice infection control measures to prevent the flu virus such as:

- Frequent hand cleansing with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Covering nose and mouth with tissue or a flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing

• Avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections

The Public Health Department has released a Coronavirus Fact Sheet, which serves as a quick reference guide and common questions regarding Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). It is available online at <https://www.hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus/>

# Taking a Stand for Christian Family Values

By Christopher Tobutt

A number of bible-based Christian groups, including Cayman Cause, the Cayman Ministers Association, and the C.I Conference for Seventh Day Adventists, got together to stand for Christian Family Values, outside the Legislative Assembly building on Sunday 2 February, to stand for Christian family values.

The focus of the evening's prayers and messages was the perceived attacks on the traditional Christian view of God-ordained marriage between a man and a woman, from those who believe in same-sex marriage, and who make pressure to change Cayman law in order to accommodate such views. Several church leaders came forward to speak on the platform, which faced several hundred people who had all come out to make a stand for what they believe.

Opening in prayer, Pastor Garrett Haylock said: "Loving Heavenly Father... we thank you for those that still honor and respect you. We are grateful this afternoon that we can stand here for a just cause. We are grateful for everyone who has stood up over the years. We are grateful that as long as you give us breath, there will be those who will stand for truth and right. For you have declared in your word that it is righteousness that exalteth a nation, and sin is a reproach to any people.

"We pray for our representative that they will remember that as the people elected them, they will remember that they were elected to serve the best interests of the country, and we pray that you would embolden them to stand and uphold our constitution, which declares that marriage is between one man and one woman."

Pastor Andrew Campbell of the Seventh Day Adventists said: "The bible tells us in I John 4:8 that God is Love. That is the essence and foundation of the entire Christian message. There the core of our Christianity is love. Jesus mentioned in Matthew Chapter 5 that we are even to love our enemies and that God sends rain on the just, and the unjust. So whatever we ought to be done in love and whatever we stand for, we stand for it in love. We are not here to hate anyone but it is possible to disagree, and to stand for what we believe and express those sentiments in love.

Cayman Ministers Association President, Pastor Torrance Bobb said: "I believe that God has given us great persons in our high offices here in this land, and we do need to pray that God will give them wisdom and direction to lead our nation in the way that we ought to go. It behooves us, if we are to see true blessing and prosperity as a nation, we would have to adhere to biblical values and principles.

Keynote speaker, Rt. Hon Dame Joan Sawyer, from the Bahamas, said:



► Rt. Hon Dame Joan Sawyer



► Pastor Andrew Campbell



► Pastor Torrance Bobb

"I wish my brothers and sisters in the LGBTQ community would understand that there is love (for them, even though we disagree). When the bible talks about love, it means agape love. That means I love even my enemies, because ...they

too are made in the image and likeness of God.

"I If you are truthful to yourself, you will realise that you are not in a position to judge others. You are only in a position to love others, and if there are

others who you love, and who love you, and who are willing to listen, then you tell them: 'Look my brother, look my sister, this way that you are headed is not good. It will end in disaster.' Is that unloving?"



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# Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK (CIGO-UK) develops crisis communications overseas and encourages Caymanians in the UK to register with their office

The Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK has been coordinating with Government officials regarding crisis communications and developing new lines of communication in the event of an emergency.

The recent earthquake and current coronavirus updates have been shared through the UK communications channels of the CIGO-UK, in partnership with Cayman Connection UK (CCUK) and the Friends of Cayman group.

Cayman Islands Representative to the UK and Europe, André Ebanks, commented: "The experiences of crisis communications throughout the earthquake, tsunami warnings and now the current threat of the novel coronavirus have shown us, more than ever, that we need to be organised and well prepared to serve Caymanians, not only in Cayman, but those travelling and living overseas. We hope that those Caymanians will register with our office so that we can be of assistance, if needed. This way we can share information promptly and directly when necessary. We find it encouraging that since 2 February, at the time of our first novel Coronavirus notice, we have received over 50 registrations from Caymanians."

He added: "Current advice from the UK's Foreign Office is that British Nationals are being advised to leave China if they are able, and this includes Caymanians."

CIGO-UK has been coordinating with the Ministry of Health, Hazard Management Cayman Islands and The Foreign Office in the UK to ensure they are reaching all Caymanians in the UK with the correct messages and information.

Cayman Islands Chief Medical Officer, Dr John Lee, is in communication with the CIGO-UK to share updates from the Ministry of Health. He commented: "It is useful to better understand the mission of the CIGO-UK who are alert and aware of the Caymanians in the UK and will be of assistance to those affected where possible and necessary."

Danielle Coleman, Director of Hazard Management Cayman Islands commented: "Prompt and well-prepared coordination between Government depart-



► Cayman Islands Representative to the UK and Europe, Andre Ebanks

ments for crisis communications is vital, and it is important not to forget the role that our overseas office provides in coordinating and disseminating emergency messages. We are working with the CIGO-UK and CCUK to refine our crisis communications to include our diaspora overseas, and as such we recommend that Caymanians who are travelling or living overseas register with these entities so that they can be kept up to date with happenings in Cayman."

CCUK, a network for Caymanians Overseas, works in partnership with CIGO-UK to disseminate information. Alanis Linwood-Amor, Cayman Connection's Lead Alumni Ambassador in Cayman, reached out to CIGO-UK to assist with coordination of coronavirus communications through CCUK last weekend.

Ms Linwood-Amor, who also works at the Ministry of Health, commented: "My experience as a Caymanian student overseas taught me how important it is to stay connected with fellow Caymanians and with CIGO-UK. I enjoy my role as an Alumni Ambassador now that I am back home as I not only act as a point of contact for CCUK, but also keep those currently away informed and connected on what's happening on the island. My communication with the CIGO-UK has also assisted the Ministry of Health's efforts to share information about the coronavirus to a wider audience."

Mr Ebanks concluded by reiterating the importance of CIGO-UK staying in close contact with officials on the ground in Cayman, and that CIGO UK stands ready to assist Caymanians overseas.

## Specific guidance for Caymanians overseas is as follows:

a) Caymanians (as British nationals) who are living or travelling outside the UK (for which there are no Cayman Government Representative Offices), should register with the nearest British Embassy/High Commission, which would be their point of contact for information/assistance; British Nationals currently in China are advised to leave, and

b) Caymanians living or travelling in the UK are urged to register with the Cayman Islands Government Office UK as a point of contact for information/assistance.

CIGO UK REGISTRATION AT: WWW.CIGOUK.KY/SIGN-UP

CIGO UK WEBSITE UPDATES: WWW.CIGOUK.KY/CORONAVIRUS-UPDATE

# Protecting Cayman's Children, a Key Area of Focus for Governor and Deputy Governor

This week, His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, Deputy Governor Hon. Franz Manderson and staff from their teams joined a growing number of individuals in the Cayman Islands certified in recognising the signs of and preventing child sex abuse.

Darkness to Light 'Stewards of Children' training uses a mix of survivor stories, expert advice and practical guidance to teach participants about making choices, taking risks and supporting each other to prevent child sexual abuse.

Child sexual abuse is likely the most prevalent health problem children face with the most serious array of consequences. The training references that globally about 1 in 10 children experience child sexual abuse before their 18th birthday. Research shows that 95 percent of sexual abuse is preventable through education.

"We all come into contact with children at some point in our lives, whether as parents, friends, caregivers or through our work. It is important that we are able to recognise the signs and know what steps to take. Ending child sexual abuse is everyone's responsibility. Only by bringing the community together to address this social problem can we be sure that our children can grow up in a happy and safe environment. I would encourage everyone to consider taking the training," says Governor Roper.

Deputy Governor, Franz Manderson found the session incredibly powerful and informative: "We need to educate, raise awareness and reduce the stigma. Prevention is possible and we all play our part, as a Civil Service and as individuals. Our children need us to take action we have never taken before to



protect them from sexual abuse or the potential exposure to sexual abuse."

Carolina Ferreira, Deputy Director and Child Protection and Sexuality Education Programmes Manager for the Cayman Islands Red Cross explains, "When the Protection Starts Here child abuse prevention project started in 2012, our goal

was nothing short of creating a culture of safeguarding in all sectors of our community. Having Governor Martyn Roper and Deputy Governor Franz Manderson undertake the Darkness to Light "Stewards of Children" training session is an important milestone in that endeavour because it helps us to illustrate that safeguarding

really is everyone's responsibility, and we all have a role to play in protecting children - personally and professionally."

Darkness to Light training sessions are free and available to everyone. To find out more, please visit the Cayman Islands Red Cross website [www.red-cross.org.ky](http://www.red-cross.org.ky) or Facebook page.



► Crews from the Cayman Islands Fire Service and Department of Environmental Health take part in joint training conducted by landfill fire expert, Dr. Tony Sperling (sixth from the left) (Photos by CIFS)

# DEH and CIFS Tackle Fire Prevention at Landfill Site

The Department of Environmental (DEH) and the Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) are joining forces to improve daily operations at the George Town Landfill and reduce the likelihood of future fires at the site.

Both agencies participated in joint training last week, facilitated by landfill fire expert Dr. Tony Sperling. The training focused on the strategic management of incoming and existing waste materials as well as enhancing fire fighting tactics at the site.

Dr. Sperling brought with him learnings from his experience in upgrading the Nassau Landfill site in the Bahamas. This site was known to catch fire several times a year and has since transformed into a landfill operation consistent with North American standards for cover, compaction and overall safety.

“The inherent characteristics of any landfill site make them susceptible to igniting and challenging to extinguish. Fires can often be deep seated and pro-

tracted incidents as we saw during January’s fire adjacent to the landfill,” commented Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Domestic, Mr. Roy Charlton.

Given the nature of landfill sites, fire prevention was therefore the centre of discussion during the four-day training which included both risk specific theory and practical training.

“CIFS and DEH have a long established close working relationship. We are very keen to continue to share our expertise to ensure a coordinated approach to tackling this ongoing challenge,” said DEH Director, Mr. Richard Simms.

“Over the next three years, our aim is to enhance our current safety and fire control operations while we restore the landfill and continue to move to a waste to energy solution” continued Mr. Simms.

During the four-day training, which began on Tuesday, 28 January 2020, Dr. Sperling also shared his expertise with Island Recycling.



► Dr. Tony Sperling (right) instructs crews from the Cayman Islands Fire Service and Department of Environmental Health during a four-day training exercise

# Analysis of 2019 Stay - Over Visitation

Stay-over visitation increased by nearly 10 percent in the Cayman Islands last year, according to numbers provided by the Islands’ Department of Tourism (DOT).

There were 502,739 visitors who arrived by air in 2019; representing an 8.6 percent over numbers from 2018.

In the month of December alone, 54,188 stay-over visitors made their way to the shores of the Beloved Isles, an increase of 4.2 percent when compared with the same time period from the previous year.

Growth broken down by region was also published in the numbers provided by the DOT. These included the United

States, which saw an increase of 5.3 percent of visitors coming from that jurisdiction, representing the largest increase of all countries.

The county with the second largest increase of stay-over visitors was the United Kingdom and Ireland, with an increase of 0.4 percent.

There was actually a decrease of 2.9 percent in visitors from Canada, whilst visitors from Continental Europe increased by 3.2 percent.

The region with largest decrease in 2019 was Latin America, with 13.8 percent less stay-over visitors.

Americans have traditionally made up the lion-share of stay-over tourists visit-

ing the Cayman Islands and the increase in their numbers in December 2019 was comprised of 4,708 persons from New York; down by 1.5%.

There were 3,470 from the state of Texas in the last month of 2019; representing an increase of 2.0%.

Floridians increased by some 17.4 percent during the month of Christmas, with 3,279 people from the Sunshine State making their way to the Cayman Islands.

There were 2,741 stay-over visitors from Illinois, making up a total increase of 7.6% percent, whilst New Jersey saw 1,840 stay-over travelers; a decrease 3.0%.

California saw a decrease of 8.8 percent, translating to 1,701 persons and Pennsylvania had an increase of 1.7 percent or 1,464 travelers who stayed-over in December.

Virginia had 1,424; a decrease of 1.7 percent; Ohio had an increase 1,388 or a 8.7 percent increase and North Carolina saw the biggest surge during the month of December, with an increase of 23.9 percent made up of 1,383 stay-over visitors.

The numbers provided by the DOT do not make a distinction between how many of the travelers visited Grand Cayman and/or the Sister Islands of Cayman Brac.



► The Westin Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa



► Aerial photo of Grand Cayman



▶ Agata Kalicki



▶ Andy Litwiller



▶ Emma Gladstone



▶ Kirsty Halliday

# Thought-Provoking Play to Make Cayman Debut at Red Sky At Night

“Risk Assessment”, a thought-provoking play written for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019 and performed by Cayman-based theatre group Thespian & Proud, will make its debut in the Cayman Islands on Saturday, 29 February at the National Cultural Foundation’s annual Red Sky at Night festival. The 45-minute play explores difficult and challenging themes such as feminism, stereotypes, misogyny, motherhood, career prospects, rape, sexual harassment and domestic abuse and the differing experiences of three separate women.

Written by playwright, director, actress and Cayman resident, Kirsty Halliday (who also goes by O’Sullivan), Risk Assessment is set against the backdrop of a conference room where the three women are being taught “How to Reduce the Risk of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace”. During the session break, they discuss their very different viewpoints, which leads to emotionally charged and occasionally harrowing revelations.

The play is very relevant and will resonate with audiences, particularly in this post #MeToo era where the sexual harassment and assault of women have come to the forefront. Ms. Halliday, who is also the acting coach at the Prospect Playhouse, said it was written as a “happy accident”.

“We were looking for a three-woman play originally, and found there wer-



en’t many that worked for us as most we read either painted offensive stereotypes or featured two-dimensional characters,” she said. “This play covers topics that are meaningful to us, featuring characters we can relate to on some

level. It can be harsh at points, and funny at others but it is honest throughout. We hope that it will get a larger discussion going, and help people understand why some people have the viewpoints they do.”

“We are looking forward to having “Risk Assessment” performed at Red Sky At Night. It will make audiences laugh in one moment and be touched emotionally in the next. This is a clever way to handle such sensitive issues and we expect audiences to come away enlightened,” said Henry Muttoo, Artistic Director for the Cayman National Cultural Foundation (CNCF).

“Risk Assessment” is the featured theatre piece at this year’s Cayfest and will be performed at Red Sky at Night in the Studio Theatre. The play stars Emma Gladstone as Caroline, Kirsty Halliday as Lily, Agata Kalicki as Jane and Andy Litwiller as Will.

Red Sky At Night takes place on Saturday, 29 February on the grounds of the Harquail Theatre from 4pm to midnight, and is sponsored by Hurley’s Media, Pepsi, Compass Media, Radio Cayman, Walkers Global, Island Heritage, Water Authority and Cayman Spirits.

### TICKETS

Tickets for Red Sky At Night are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under and \$10 for seniors (65+) and students ages 13 to 17, and are available for purchase online now at [www.eventpro.ky](http://www.eventpro.ky).

For more information about Cayfest, email [cncf@artscayman.org](mailto:cncf@artscayman.org), call 949.5477 or visit [www.artscayman.org/cayfest](http://www.artscayman.org/cayfest).

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# JGHS Students prepare for the workplace

By Lindsey Turnbull

A common cry from businesses across the island is that young people entering the workplace are ill-prepared for the realities of the working world, so a series of mock interviews took place last week at John Gray High School aimed at readying students for Cayman's fast-paced business environment.

Organised by the Cayman Islands Further Education Centre (CIFEC), the project brought representatives from a cross-section of industries to the school to interview students, gauge their readiness for the workplace and give them advice as to how they could better prepare themselves for their working life ahead. The RCIPS, the Water Authority, Red Sail Sports, Appleby, the Margaritaville Beach Resort Hotel, Tech Cayman, The Ritz-Carlton, Maples and various Government agencies all participated, among lots of other businesses.

Jenine Stewart, CIFEC's Career Services Manager, said that the mock interviews were geared to all Year 11 students of John Gray High School and they had been run by herself and her predecessors for around six years, part of a wider participation by industry in the development of students. Ms Stewart advised that each year representatives from the private sector partner with the Career Services Unit and government schools to provide internship placements for over 200 CIFEC students who had previously attended either John Gray High School or Clifton Hunter High School. Making this connection early on with students reaped benefits for the companies involved, Ms Stewart advised.

"It is important to have their input as they ultimately end up employing many of these students later," she said.

Students gain a great deal from the experience, she confirmed. In particular, the mock interview days provide a great opportunity for students to refine their interviewing skills, gain tips on questions to ask in an interview, receive immediate feedback, and enhance their interviewing techniques.



► Student Genelle General shakes the hand of Yolita Phillips, Human Resources Supervisor at the Water Authority and Vanessa Scott-Banks

"This event is also excellent training for interviewees as they prepare for full-time or part-time employment, internship positions and as they prepare to interview for scholarships and college placements," she said.

### Real life scenario

Students are interviewed by industry professionals, often HR staff, who play the role of the employer and question students as if it were a real-life interview. The interviewers were given a list of suggested questions with which they could quiz the students, or use their own questions. Each session lasted 20 minutes, consisting of a five minute review of the student's CV or application, a ten minute interview and an important five minute feedback session. Students were permitted to either wear smart school uniform or business wear.

Students were prepped for the task ahead via a PowerPoint presentation and Q & A session. The school's career liaison officer also provided support and

guidance to the students along with the school's management team, tutors and other members of staff, Ms Stewart said.

### Giving students a chance

Taneisha Campbell, HR Manager at the Margaritaville Beach Resort Hotel, said this was the hotel's first year of participating in the mock interview project.

"We are trying to become more involved with the community and more involved with students because we've done internships before and we see how it helps them to grow, get more discipline and know what it is like out there as opposed to being in school," Ms Campbell said. "It gives us the drive to reach out to students even more and get more students involved and to appreciate it's a whole different life after school," she advised.

Ms Campbell said that she had previously worked with a CIFEC student, giving him the chance to work within all departments within the organisation. She said that the opportunity helped

him find out where his interests lay within the hospitality industry.

"Working with this student gave me the passion to work with students even more," she advised.

Ms Campbell hoped to expand her department further and welcome more students to Margaritaville for work placements.

"I would love to find more students like him so we can help them to see what their vision is and see where they want to go in life. We have something of an open-door policy: once we see you are interested and you know where you are going and what you want to do, we always welcome them. If they want to stay in school and work a few hours at the weekend, that's great, too."

### Learning through feedback

Jerrod Wilson, Senior HR Officer with Appleby, said his firm had been participating in the project for a number of years.

"We think it's very important to play our part for the students to give them that critical work experience and they help us a lot, helping us out in the office," he confirmed.

In his years working with the schools in preparing students for the workplace, Mr Wilson said he had definitely seen a shift in how schools themselves were preparing students.

"Resumés have got better over the years, they pay more attention to them and they pay attention to feedback we've given them," he confirmed.

Critical feedback given to the students is a key component of the mock interview sessions, he said.

"One thing I tell them a lot is to talk about their passion. Yesterday one or two students had that passion and they weren't afraid to talk about it and I said to them to push that even more because that's what employers want to see; they want to see the passion. It's just helping them realise what they need to say and do when they are talking to employers," he advised.

Mr Wilson said that he also challenged the students to explain what their education path was to achieve their goals, and said that students had realistic expectations of how to go about this.

"Everyone of them said they wanted to go to university; they wanted to do very different things, but I think they understood the importance of that and the competition in the working world. I think they get it," he said, adding that he thought it was a good programme.

"I think it's really important," he confirmed. "I am happy that they take on feedback each year and you can see the programme shift. The students are more enthusiastic each year," he said.



► Jerrod Wilson, Senior HR Officer with Appleby



► Taneisha Campbell, HR Manager at the Margaritaville Beach Resort Hotel

## COMMUNITY NOTICE

# Post-Earthquake Repairs – Lower Valley

The Water Authority continues to make repairs to its water distribution and production network following last week's (28 January) earthquake.

Over the next five (5) days, the Authority will be making adjustments to its water distribution pumping system in Lower Valley, to ensure

it keeps up with the daily water demands. During these works, customers who live in the Savannah and Lower Valley areas may experience lower-than-normal water pressure, between 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

All customers are reminded that as post-earthquake repair works progress customers would experience

intermittent water service. Where possible, customers will be provided with notice, and updates will continue to be published via the Authority's website [www.waterrauthority.ky](http://www.waterrauthority.ky) and social media. The Authority thanks its customers for their patience during this restoration process.



Water Authority - Cayman

# Health Precautions at the Border Continue

Cayman Islands Customs and Border Control Service (CBC) continue efforts to safeguard the Cayman Islands by vigilantly screening persons who enter the Cayman Islands with the recent global health concern of the novel Coronavirus, known as 2019-nCoV.

Frontline CBC staff from the Airport and Sea Port have received medical briefings from the Public Health Department of the Health Services Authority on what measures to take to reduce their risk, how to assess travellers' risk and the procedure to follow when travellers should be referred for medical assessment. CBC continue to work closely with the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Department, and the wider Health Services Authority to stay apprised

of the latest information on the novel Coronavirus from local, regional and international experts.

CBC officers have been tasked to review passengers travel histories and to check for visible symptoms. If passengers who are assessed warrant medical escalation, then CBC officers will request that the passenger use a surgical mask and wait in an isolated area until they can be examined by medical personnel.

The Public Health Department is providing a member of staff during busy periods to assist in providing information to arriving air passengers who will



also be able to respond to airport staff queries, and take any health matter forward.

Following the advice of medical experts, CBC officers are not required to wear surgical masks as a standard part of the frontline uniform. However, masks are placed at the booths for immediate use in special circumstances [If individual officers feel more comfortable with wearing a mask they are empowered to do so].

Acting Director of CBC, Mr Bruce Smith, has commented, "CBC will maintain an ever closer and collaborative working relationship with the Public

Health Department. With this, CBC Senior and Supervisory Managers at the ports will adhere to all Public Health Department health and safety protocols. I strongly advise that the travelling public fully cooperate with landing officers and, as well, heed all official advisories and recommended health and hygiene best practices for the greater good".

To date there are no reported cases in Cayman. The Public is reminded that to reduce the risk of coronavirus infection they should practise:

- frequent hand cleansing with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer

- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and
- avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.

Deputy Director Gary Wong said "CBC is committed to taking the necessary steps to ensure our officers receive the resources needed for them to perform their duties and we will continue to take proactive measures to ensure that officers throughout the department are trained and kept aware of any information received from Public Health in order for them to protect themselves and the people of the Cayman Islands." 🌐

## POLICE NEWS

# Hit and Run Involving Pedestrian

Shortly before 8:30PM on Wednesday, 5th February, officers responded to a report of a traffic collision involving a pedestrian on West Bay Road, south of Gecko Link. A woman had been using the crosswalk when she was struck by a vehicle, which then continued driving and left the scene. Emergency services attended the location and the woman was transported to the Cayman Islands Hospital to be

treated for non-life-threatening injuries and is expected to be discharged today.

The vehicle involved is described as a small white car with a registration number beginning with 188.

The matter is currently under investigation. Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or have any information is asked to contact the **Traffic and Roads Policing Unit at 649-6254.** 🌐



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CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

# Dispute over Barbados rum authenticity

Barbados is world renowned for the quality of its rum, but a huge row is brewing after a French company bought a Barbadian rum company and started claiming it is a local drink despite its manufacturing process being done mainly in France.

Three of Barbados' four traditional distilleries are up against the fourth, which was two years ago bought by a French firm, Maison Ferrand, that is now insisting on adding sugar to it instead of the molasses used for hundreds of years and shipping it to France for ageing instead of on the island, but still calling it Barbados rum.

Mount Gay, Foursquare, and St. Nicholas Abbey are saying that not only is West Indies Rum Distillery's (WIRD) proposal not right and goes against long established tradition, but also ageing the liquid elsewhere negates the Barba-

dos identity and should not be associated with the island in branding.

At the heart of the debate is the concept of 'geographical indication' defined by the World Intellectual Property Organisation. For this reason, a government agency, Barbados Investment and Development Corporation, is seeking to compose a definition of the island's rum to use as its GI, giving protection to the four producers, who must all agree to it.

The trio who account for 90 per cent of rum bottled on island say they agree with the definition proposed.

The trio issued a statement this month making known its agreement with the proposal that among other things, "under the GI, Barbados Rum will be required to be matured in Barbados as the climate of maturation has a defining impact on the nature of a spirit".



► Mount Gay is the most popular rum in Barbados

But Maison Ferrand wants the rum produced in "diverse and innovative ways".

In a statement to Spirits Business magazine, Maison Ferrand asked, "why

should we handcuff future generations of rum makers to one particular style of rum and lead to rum standardisation in Barbados?"

# Nicki Minaj heads for Trinidad Carnival

American rapper Nicki Minaj will be visiting Trinidad and Tobago for the Carnival season on Feb. 24-25. The Trinidad born superstar made the announcement on Instagram. Nicki was born Onika Tanya Maraj in St James, Trinidad.

The entertainer has featured Trinidad and Tobago Carnival in her past work - going to T&T in 2012 to shoot her video for her single 'Pound the Alarm'. Minaj recreated scenes from Carnival for the video - women, including the rapper herself, decked out in an array of Carnival costumes, moko jumbies, jab molassies and cameos from soca stars



► Nicki Minaj will be at Trinidad's Carnival this month

Machel Montano, Bunji Garlin and Fay-Ann Lyons.

Among her many accolades, she has received 10 Grammy award nominations.

# Insurance chain opens Dominica office

The Insurance Company of the West Indies (ICWI) has opened its ninth operation, this time in Dominica.

ICWI Dominica was officially launched at a special event on Jan. 18 at The Old Mill Cultural Centre, in the capital Roseau. ICWI's President, Paul Lalor said that he is very optimistic about the future of Dominica's economy.

He said: "Despite the devastation caused by the passing of Hurricane Maria in 2017, the island is poised for growth and further development. ICWI is committed to being an integral part of that, not only growing our business and employing more people but also to invest, we want to be a part of the fabric of Dominica."

Fidel Grant, Minister of Agriculture and Security, said: "Following the after-



► ICWI Dominica launched at The Old Mill Cultural Centre

math of Hurricane Maria, I must admit no one wanted to invest in Dominica, no businesses and even more so no insurance company. So I want to applaud the ICWI for the decision to invest itself in Dominica."

# Makeovers for JA police stations

Jamaica's police stations, notoriously under resourced and in poor condition, are being given upgrades and renovations.

Chairman of the Jamaica Police Federation Detective Sergeant Patrae Rowe has welcomed efforts by the government to repair police stations across the island to make life easier for police officers and the public they serve.

"We definitely welcome the development; we believe that it is unprecedented," said Rowe. "In addition to doing the development and refurbishing, there needs to be a rigid maintenance programme to ensure that these facilities do not fall in a state of disrepair."

National Security Minister Dr Horace Chang announced that six police facilities are earmarked for repairs under a multi-million-dollar European Union funded Poverty Reduction Programme later this year.



► Jamaican police stations are getting a facelift

"The conditions of our police stations are so poor that there is a greater need for wide-scale development.

In addition to the six police stations to be repaired — Adelphi and Mount Salem in St James; Denham Town and Franklyn Town in Kingston; Lionel Town and Four Paths in Clarendon — work has already been done on many other stations. More stations have also been earmarked for repairs in coming months.

# St Lucia to conduct census

St Lucia will conduct a new national population and housing census beginning May 12 which will help the government determine strategic policies and programmes for the next decade.

The theme for the census is "Konté Sent Lisi" for the population of 180,000.

Prime Minister Allen Chastanet wants all St Lucians to be part of the process and get counted. "I am appealing to as many St Lucians as possible to please cooperate with the enumerators as they carry out their duties," he said.

Around 550 enumerators are being trained to work on the census. "The information which you will be providing is protected by law and you have the highest assurance that any information which you provide, will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. Please provide information which is



► St Lucians will have to complete a census in May

as accurate as possible," Chastanet added.

"The aim is to have a very comprehensive assessment of your country, to allow for the accurate delivery of initiatives to remedy some of the ills in the society, such as poverty, inequality, substandard healthcare and the lack of adequate housing," Chastanet said.

A population and housing census is carried out in St Lucia every ten years.

# Guyana oil revenues will soon flow

The economic fortunes of Guyana, with a population of only 800,000, are poised for a major transformation after its first-ever oil development commenced production two months ago. Offshore oil production is expected to grow rapidly in the years to come and will generate unprecedented revenues for the Guyanese government. Billions of dollars will be added to the economy from the oil.

"Since the initial discovery in 2015 of the giant Liza oil field in the prolific Stabroek block, Guyana has discovered more than eight billion barrels of oil resources," said Sonya Boodoo, vice-president of Upstream Research at Rystad Energy. "Liza was brought on stream in December and many more fields will follow suit in due course. Guyana's rising oil revenues will make a huge difference in



► Guyana is coming into huge oil wealth

the continued development of the country."

Rystad Energy forecasts that Guyana's oil production could reach 1.2 million barrels per day by the end of the decade, lifting total annual oil revenues to about \$28 billion, assuming an oil price of about \$65 per barrel. Government income in the country — projected to be a modest \$270 million or so in 2020 — is forecast to grow rapidly. Putting that figure into context, Guyana's gross domestic product currently stands at about \$3.7 billion.

# St Kitts goes high tech for CBI applicants

St Kitts and Nevis is rolling out biometrics-based background checks this year as part of the mandatory due diligence process applicants need to pass when applying for the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) program.

To protect the immigration program's integrity, following second citizenship demand, the government says it is committed to devoting funding for more robust security checks.

Prime Minister Timothy Harris believes the two islands are "the best in the industry worldwide," which is why under the due diligence process each applicant for citizenship is thoroughly screened.

After becoming independent, the islands introduced the CBI program in 1984. It is an economic-citizenship program, which Harris claims is "considered the most attractive, and that is



► St Kitts is highly desirable for CBI applicants

demonstrated by the confidence of our clients and agents."

Individuals contributing at least \$150,000 to the Sustainable Growth Fund and who have passed the diligence checks, can obtain second citizenship. The program aims to facilitate socio-economic initiatives. Economic citizens can travel visa free or get visa on arrival for more than 150 countries and territories.

Canada, the US and most European Union countries have adopted similar citizenship by investment programs.

# Caymanian Times



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