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YMCA Retreats to the Brac

Corona virus: A game changer for global economy

Even though the economic forecast for the global economy was fairly positive at the start of this year, the advent of the Corona virus (COVID-19) had changed everything, according to Premier Alden McLaughlin, speaking at last week's Royal Fidelity Cayman Business Outlook conference.

Premier McLaughlin said that even before the ink was dry on the IMF's forecast, the world was reminded that global risk could materialise quickly from unexpected sources and that there was nothing that even the best laid economic plans could do to prevent it.

"The fast spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus to more than 80 countries both far away and close to home is a game changer," he stated. "On Monday of this week, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development warned that over this year the global economy could grow at its slowest rate since 2009 because of the effects of the virus."

Premier McLaughlin went on to outline the moves by Governments and central banks to try and mitigate the detrimental affects of the Corona virus outbreak by cutting interest rates, most



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► Premier Alden McLaughlin at the RFCEO 2020 conference (Photo by Janet Jarchow)

Government Entities Working Together to Prepare for COVID-19

For more than a decade, Public Health, Customs and Border Control, the Shipping Agents, the Cruise Lines and the respective Government Ministries have worked collaboratively with the Port Authority to prevent and contain the spread of infectious diseases in the maritime domain and to the Cayman Islands in particular. We have dealt with outbreaks of the Norwalk virus and never has

there been a known case of it spreading to the local community. Cayman Public Health's guidelines have been implemented and followed during the SARS, MERS and Ebola virus disease epidemics and the Cayman Islands remained safe. We would like to assure the public that we are still working to

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The Queen's Commonwealth Day Message



On Commonwealth occasions, it is always inspiring to be reminded of the diversity of the people and countries that make up our worldwide family. We are made aware of the many associations and influences that combine through Commonwealth connection, helping us to imagine and deliver a common future.

This is particularly striking when we see people from nations, large and small, gathering for the Commonwealth Games, for meetings of Commonwealth governments, and on Commonwealth Day. Such a blend of traditions serves

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Government Entities Working Together to Prepare for COVID-19

We are doing our best to prevent it, but if not, together we are prepared

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gether as the world faces the threat and spread of the novel Coronavirus disease, COVID-19.

We want to share with you some of the procedures that now take place in the cruise industry to prevent a potential infection spreading between the cruise ships and our community:

- The cruise lines screen all passengers to determine if they have been to, or passed through an area impacted by the virus, or if they have been in close contact with persons who may have contracted the virus up to 14 days prior to the cruise. If they are found to be a potential risk, they and their travel companions are not allowed to travel.

- Health officials observe the guests constantly, looking for evidence of respiratory or other illnesses (e.g. fever, cough, difficulty breathing). Those with severe symptoms are also not allowed to travel.

- Should any illness arise while passengers are on a cruise, the information is shared with the Port Authority, Public Health and Customs and Border Control prior to the vessel arriving in Cayman.

- It is common for some passengers to develop 'flu like symptoms, just like it is on land, even though they have no relevant travel history.

- Cayman's Public Health officials evaluate each circumstance and advise on the appropriate action to take, which can range from preventing the individ-



uals from disembarking, to preventing the ship from landing.

The Coronavirus has symptoms which are similar to many respiratory viral conditions and most people only develop mild symptoms and then recover. However, as the world is now a global community, viruses can spread much further and more rapidly than ever before because of international travel.

Caymanians travel abroad every day for business and pleasure, just as the visitors to our islands, who are an essential part of Cayman's economy. The World Health Organisation does not recommend any travel or trade restriction based on the current information available. This allows the economies of the world the ability to continue to function and permits essential activities like the delivery of food, medicines and supplies. The key thing is for the Public to know what to do should someone suspect they might have developed COVID-19.

The Public Health Department of the Cayman Islands has published guide-

lines, which we all can follow in an effort to slow the arrival of COVID-19 to our shores, or to contain it when it comes. We do not need to fear it if we understand and know what to do if faced with it. We are doing our best to prevent it, but if not, together we are prepared.

To keep updated on reliable and factual information on the Coronavirus please refer to official government sources:

For general information on the coronavirus visit www.gov.ky/coronavirus or for public health specific information visit www.hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus

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The Queen's Commonwealth Day Message

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to make us stronger, individually and collectively, by providing the ingredients needed for social, political and economic resilience.

Throughout my life, I have had the opportunity to see and hear how membership of the Commonwealth family means so much to those living in all

parts of the world, often in places that are quite remote. Advances in technology and modern media have now enabled many more people to witness and enjoy - with remarkable immediacy - this experience of Commonwealth connection, in areas such as education, medicine and conservation.

Looking to the future, this connectivity means we are also aware, perhaps as

never before, that wherever we live, our choices and actions affect the well-being of people and communities living far away, and in very different circumstances. For many, this awareness awakens a desire to employ our planet's natural resources with greater care, and it is encouraging to see how the countries of the Commonwealth continue to devise new ways of working together to

achieve prosperity, whilst protecting our planet.

As members of this very special community, on this Commonwealth Day, I hope that the people and countries of the Commonwealth will be inspired by all that we share, and move forward with fresh resolve to enhance the Commonwealth's influence for good in our world.

ELIZABETH R.

Commonwealth Day 2020 – Affirmation

Let us now stand to pledge ourselves afresh to uphold and serve the values and fellowship of the Commonwealth.

The Affirmation

We affirm that every person possesses unique worth and dignity.

We affirm our respect for nature, and that we will be stewards of the earth by caring for every part of it, and for it as a whole.

We affirm our belief in justice for everyone, and peace among peoples and nations.

Joining together in kinship and affinity, in diversity and unity, as

members of a worldwide family of nations, we build on shared inheritances.

We cooperate with mutual respect and goodwill to deliver a common future for the good of all.

Through Commonwealth connection we learn from one another, and innovate to transform our communities, our nations and our world.

Response: We affirm our belief in the Commonwealth as a powerful influence for good in the world, and pledge ourselves to its service, now and for the future.



Commonwealth Day Message by The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC, Commonwealth Secretary-General

As social creatures, human beings develop and make progress by living, learning, working and playing together in communities. We share experience and learn from what those around us do; by emulating what we admire we can in turn inspire others through our own example and achievement. The Commonwealth, through its interconnected networks, sustains a vibrant ecosystem of opportunity for us to do this on a scale that is vast and global, yet very human in expression. Our great strength as a family of nations, and of peoples growing together organically, is our ability to evolve and adjust to changing circumstances – whether in the field of human rights, democracy or trade.

We see such adaptation in the natural world, and it is just as necessary in the technological world, and for fruitful cooperation among nations and in local communities. So the current focus for thinking and action in and by the Commonwealth is on *Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming*.

We are more aware than ever how what any single country does can affect for good or ill the well-being of our entire world and the welfare of everyone with whom we share it. This beautiful blue planet is held in common trust by us all for the generations who follow.

An impressive example of how our member countries come together to pool knowledge and resources which deliver transformational change through innovation is the Commonwealth Blue Charter. It provides a dynamic framework within which our member countries commit to working together on ocean health and to use marine resources in sustainable ways.

When Commonwealth Heads of Government meet in Rwanda later this year, we can expect them to agree on new collaborative programmes on a range of issues, including democratic governance, and the empowerment of women and youth. Most importantly, there will be fresh commitment to practical action on the environment and living lands. This will be an im-

portant staging post on the way towards delivering more ambitious national commitments when COP 26 is hosted by the United Kingdom in November. These will carry forward the impressive record of Commonwealth engagement on climate and regenerative development.

The pioneering Langkawi Declaration on the Environment, made as long ago as 1989 when Commonwealth leaders met in Malaysia, recognised that any delay in addressing the impending climate crisis increased the existential threats to our common home: planet Earth. We have moved a long way since then, and much has happened which is positive. Yet we know that time is running out, and the need to move from declaration to implementation becomes more urgent with every year that passes. We may be the first generation to have truly experienced the tragic consequences of this climate crisis, yet we are perhaps the last with the opportunity to take action to reverse it.

Friendship, kinship and affinity among the people of our



► Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, The Commonwealth Secretary-General

member countries make it easier for us to coordinate and deliver such positive change swiftly in ways that help to ensure no one is left behind. Respect and understanding based on goodwill raise awareness in the Commonwealth of the particular needs of vulnerable, remote and marginalised communities, wherever they are and whatever their needs.

Our conviction is that with common purpose and by learning from one another, all can

give and all can gain. This approach leads to innovation that transforms lives and livelihoods so that there is inclusive progress and greater prosperity in which all can share.

It inspires us to encourage ourselves and others to more profound depths of co-operation and greater heights of achievement. So taking our cue from the theme, we can each commit this Commonwealth Day to join with others and bring change by doing something new.

Public Health England Advisors in Cayman



Public Health England

A team from Public Health England (PHE) has been in the Cayman Islands this week discussing a number of health care related issues including the current situation with COVID 19.

The team, led by Aulia Newton, Head of the Overseas Territories programme at PHE and a Consultant in Communicable Disease Control has been discussing strategies with the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing and the HSA. In particular PHE are providing support to ensure that HSA's laboratory services can be upgraded swiftly to enable on island testing for COVID 19.

PHE are planning to send a laboratory specialist to the Cayman Islands as early as next week to provide support. Other specialist technical advice is also being looked at.

The UK is also conducting modelling for the Overseas Territories to enable more accurate predictions of the likely impact of COVID 19 which will support the planning already being undertaken by the Cayman Islands Government. Further support to the Overseas Territories was also discussed earlier today at a COBR meeting in London.

The Governor has just returned from a meeting in Miami with other Overseas Territories' Governors and heads of UK

diplomatic missions in the Caribbean region. The meeting discussed a range of regional issues including coordination of the response to COVID 19.

Governor Martyn Roper said, "There is a lot of planning going on in Government to ensure that the impact of COVID 19 on the Cayman Islands is managed effectively. We have high quality health professionals in the Cayman Islands, in whom I and PHE England have full confidence and our medical facilities are excellent.

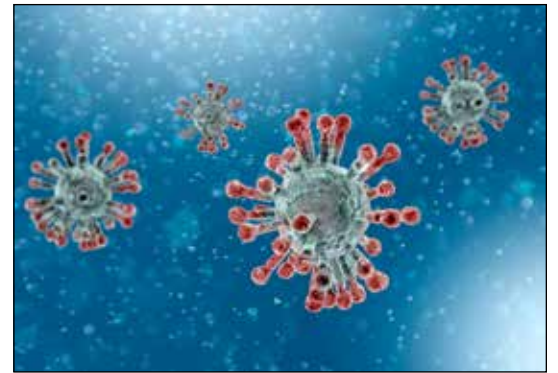
Our relationship with the UK also enables us to have access to specialist sup-

port including some of the best technical and scientific thinking in the world. I am grateful to Public Health England for their support and we will continue to work closely with them to ensure that the decisions we take are based on the best available science.

I would urge the public to ensure that they only seek information on COVID 19 from official Government sources. The risks of rumours and false information in this situation are real and we need to

remain calm, act on official scientific ad-

vice and continue to go about our day to day business".





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Premier says Corona virus a game changer for global economy

... Continued story from page A1

notably the 50 basis points cut by the US Federal Reserve, which was swiftly replicated by Cayman's local banks.

Human factor

But while the economic impact was an important point for discussion, the premier said that COVID-19 was, first and foremost, a human story, with, at the time of writing, almost 100,000 confirmed cases worldwide and more than 3,350 fatalities.

"This is driving concern and indeed panic across the globe - including the growing concern of people in these islands," he confirmed.

While the Cayman Islands had no known cases of COVID-19 as at that time, Premier McLaughlin conceded

that Cayman was a "a very open society" receiving more than 2.4 million visitors a year as well as significant travel abroad by Caymanians and residents.

"Clearly, there is considerable risk, if not inevitability, that we will see cases in Cayman," he stated. "However, health officials here in Cayman continue to ramp up preparations and are providing the Government and the public with excellent, timely advice on how to minimise that risk. Already we have imposed travel restrictions, including restrictions on at risk airline and cruise passengers, and we have instituted screening techniques at our borders to identify anyone who has an at-risk travel history."

The Premier said travel restrictions had been put in place to prevent all public servants from undertaking non-es-

sential travel, a move that would prevent him from attending a planned trip to London for the Joint Ministerial Council at the end of March.

"I am also urging the public and the business community to restrict travel unless absolutely required," he said.

In a bid to help local residents prevent the spread of the disease, Premier McLaughlin said Cabinet had decided to waive the duty on all hand sanitisers, protective facial masks and surgical gloves. The waiver was effective immediately and runs through to the end of 2020.

"I encourage merchants to pass on these savings to the consumer," he said, adding that while Cayman could minimise risk, we could not eliminate it and therefore Government was also preparing for the worst.

"Make no mistake, if there is a significant outbreak here it will have a potentially devastating effect on the health of the nation and the economy," he confirmed.

As a result, Government had activated the National Emergency Response Operation Centre to co-ordinate all the necessary planning and activity needed for these types of situations, with most of the response being led by the Health Services Authority who were ramping up testing and screening procedures.

The HSA has established an email address for enquiries, flu@hsa.ky, and they are establishing a hotline for people to call if they are concerned or if they believe they are displaying symptoms. Should any case be identified on Island, proper treatment and infection control protocols were in place, he said.

Grand Hyatt Hires Award-Winning Public Relations Agency

U.S.-based Hemsworth Communications has been named the PR agency-of-record for the Grand Hyatt Grand Cayman Resort and Residences.

As part of a multi-year agreement, the full-service agency plans to deliver a media strategy focused on educating consumers about the property, drawing attention initially to vacation ownership opportunities before shifting into a leisure travel-centric promotion plan.

The resort is currently under development along Seven Mile Beach and is scheduled to open in 2022. It will feature 375 keys including 167 condominium residences and an array of amenities including six distinctive food and beverage venues, a destination spa, a state-of-the-art fitness center, three swimming pools - including an in-ocean saltwater lagoon pool, retail shops, a kids club and an eco-walk bridge. The resort is also planned to

have 25,000 square feet of indoor meeting and event space, including exterior terraces.

Hemsworth's founder and president, Samantha Jacobs, said: "We're thrilled to be onboard with the Grand Hyatt Grand Cayman team, helping showcase the newest luxury real estate and vacation opportunity on the legendary Seven Mile Beach. Our team has deep experience partnering with both new-build and existing resorts throughout the Caribbean to elevate their global awareness. We look forward to leveraging our connections on behalf of this spectacular new property in one of our very favorite destinations!"

Key development milestones will be showcased through a series of press releases, tailored pitches and special events leading up to the property's opening, with brand partnerships, cross-promotions and more.



Grand Hyatt Grand Cayman Resort and Residence joins other Hemsworth clients including Sonesta Fort Lauderdale, Margaritaville Beach Resort Hollywood, Coral Hospitality and Driftwood Hospitality Management.



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CIIPA CEO Appointed to International Accountancy Committee

CIIPA CEO Sheree Ebanks takes up her post on IFAC development committee.

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) appointed Ms. Sheree Ebanks to the *Professional Accounting Organisation Development Committee* (PAODC) effective 1 January 2020. The twelve-member committee is responsible for identifying and sharing PAO development best practices, providing guidance and leadership, and facilitating knowledge sharing.

Ms. Ebanks recently attended the committee's first meeting of the year in New York, where the committee tackled challenges facing the profession including adaptability to fast-paced changes in technology.

Speaking of the experience, Ms. Ebanks said, "We are thrilled to be a part of the global conversation on the future of the profession and share CII-

PA's story with other developing PAOs.

It is also an excellent opportunity for CIIPA to work in partnership with other international institutes to ensure the profession works toward sustainable development goals, capacity building and strengthening not only other professional organisations, but also working as a liaison to regional bodies." She also noted that the profession is changing rapidly through the impact of new technologies and increased regulation. "This is a wonderful opportunity for the Cayman Islands to participate with and learn from these international leaders of the profession".

Ms. Ebanks brings a great deal of insight to the committee as the first CEO of the Cayman Islands Institute of Professional Accountants and her role in overseeing the organisation's transition from Society to Institute. 🌐



► Ailian Evans, CHF Board Member & Founder of Team Nolan; Charmin Fennell, Maternity /NICU Nurse Manager; Angeliqe Bodden, CHF Coordinator; Dr Christine Chen, CHF Board Member & Pediatrician; Mileny Bertrand, Team Nolan Volunteer; Mora Goddard, Team Nolan Volunteer; Kerry Reid Bennett, NICU RN; Sue Doak, midwife; AnnieRose NICU RN; Dr Lamsee Ebanks, Paediatrician; Sean Evans, Co-Founder Team Nolan

HSA Recieves State-of-the-art Neonatal Transport Incubator Donation

On Monday March 2nd 2020, the Health Services Authority Maternity's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) celebrated during a ribbon cutting ceremony their brand new Neonatal Transport Incubator donated by Team Nolan the Pediatric arm of the Cayman Heart Fund. This state-of-the-art, high-performance Incubator transports neonates safely, comfortably and with a minimum of stress. It can be taken nearly anywhere and still provide the warm, safe environment and quick access necessary for optimal neonate care.

Charmin Fennell, HSA Maturity Ward Nurse Manager, said, "We are truly grateful for Team Nolan for being amazing advocates for neonatal care here in the Cayman Islands. The New Transport Incubator in our NICU will bolster our current resources greatly and enables us to provide necessary care to our neonates and premature infants needing to be transported outside of HSA for care. It will also be utilized for intradepartmental transfers as well."

Ailian Evans, CHF Board Member & Founder of Team Nolan, said, "I'm elated to see that our efforts are making such a difference in the Cayman community. This new neonatal transport incubator will benefit the most vulnerable patients, such as premature infants or infants with critical health issues and it will keep them safe while being transported to another healthcare facility for further treatment and/or care."

Sean Evans, Co-founder of Team Nolan, explained that "being able to donate such an important piece of medical equipment such as this infant transport incubator is proof that Team Nolan's fund raising initiatives are all very much worth the expended time and effort".

Dr Christine Chen, CHF Board Member, said, Thanks to the great efforts of Ailian and Sean Evans and their dedicated group of volunteers, known as Team Nolan, the CI-HSA NICU now has another well needed incubator which will help serve, not only babies with congenital heart disease, but other babies born prematurely or in distress.

Cayman Heart Fund is a non-profit organization incorporated under the Companies Law (2007 Revision) in 2007, with Registration License # 220594. Our aim is to alert, reduce and help prevent Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) - Cayman's #1 cause of death

in the Cayman Islands. We achieve this through education, training and by providing medical equipment and services to the public.

It is our mission to educate and prevent heart disease thus improving the cardiovascular health of the people of the Cayman Islands.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at: (345) 916-6324 or please email: info@caymanheartfund.com 🌐

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Andrea Tallorenzi
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Cayman Brac prepares for Corona Virus

By Shakir Khan

Residents turned out in large numbers on Thursday evening, March 5th, at the Aston Ruddy Center, to get first-hand knowledge about the CORONA-VIRUS, COVID-19.

A medical team from Health Services Authority led by Mrs. Lizette Yearwood, CEO of HAS made a most pointed and clear presentation.

After being welcomed by the District Commissioner, Mr. Ernie Scott, the audience heard first from Dr. Velusamy, Director of Sister Islands Health Services.

He commenced his presentation with his usual smiling approach and commended all who were present. "I know many of you are researching. That's good. But, there's a great deal of fake news out there. I knew of this as far as back in the 80's when I was in medical school. This is the first related to humans. There are no vaccines as yet to

treat this. 8 out of 10 affected have a simple cough, fever and so on. Pneumonia is a possibility from this. More die from common flu than from this virus. **We are not fearful but concerned.** This medium is to calm your fears and provide the requisite knowledge needed. Singapore has no cases. This is due to their outstanding mode of preparing and prevention. Washing hands is about the most important practice."

Dr. Samuel Williams Rodriguez, Medical Officer of Health, then addressed the gathering. "There is a great deal of anxiety about this. Thankfully there is no suspected or confirmed case in Cayman Islands. Our mission is to focus on prevention. If one has the cough or cold it does mean that you are infected. Influenza has a greater mortality rate than this. There's no specific treatment but this is administered according to symptoms visible. We are prepared to fight this with a multi-pronged approach.



► (L to R) Dr. Rodriguez, Medical Officer of Health, Danielle Coleman, Hazard Management, Mrs. Lizette Yearwood, CEO HSA, Dr. Velusamy, Director of Sister Islands Health Services



Please observe all health instructions given here today."

Mrs. Yearwood then addressed the audience. "I am delighted to see all of you lovely people. Be careful of what you read on social media. Lots of false info going around. Travellers from the U.S are asked their travel history on arrival here. Cabinet issued a quarantine order especially related to China. The virus is spread via water droplets from sneezing etc. We have a motto to observe, **"catch it, trash it and wash it"**. We are assuring residents we are ready so do not panic. We have put in place a Flu clinic here at the medical wing of the Center with 6 beds. All hands are on deck with this."

Mrs. Coleman from Hazard Management told the audience that the same preparations used for a hurricane are being used with this. HS is very diligent and working assiduously to ensure proper preparations. Knowledge is key. It's a massive, multi-agency operation of which we can all be proud. A key to this is to try and avoid mass meetings and adhere to the health guidelines."

Residents then asked questions about certain concerns and answers were given by members of the medical team. Each answer came with the assurance of being prepared. The session ended with a joint prayer by Pastors Thomas French and Joel Scott Senior. 📍

Alex Panton Foundation highlights challenges and discusses solutions at its 3rd Annual Youth Mental Health Symposium

The Alex Panton Foundation (APF) recently hosted over 300 delegates at its 3rd Annual Youth Mental Health Symposium under the theme "Empowering Youth, Inspiring Hope."

Taking place on 22 February, this year's event highlighted the importance of equipping young people with the tools necessary to express mental health concerns, as well as creating a safe environment for young people to express themselves.

A highlight of the afternoon was the opportunity to hear directly from some inspirational young people during a panel discussion of students who have joined the Alex Panton Youth Ambassadors Programme. The young panelists spoke about how the programme, which was launched last year, has become an important resource that has helped shape their understanding of mental health and what needs to be done to address youth mental health issues in our community moving forward.

The panelists - Jhadari Lumley, Cristin Jackson, Yoleiddy Cid-Paredes and Paxton McCoy - spoke candidly and with passion, giving a deep insight to the current climate of what the country's youth are facing today. The panel was moderated by Bill LaMonte and Dr. Colleen Brown.

The Alex Panton Foundation also launched two emotional literacy programmes in 2019 called "Zippy" and "Apple, designed for children 5 to 9 years old. These were highlighted by master trainers Dr. Catherine Day and

Dr. Xenia Sitiriou in their presentation titled "The Power of Prevention."

They explained that it is a story based programme with six modules that help students learn to cope with anxiety including: Feelings, Communication, Making and Breaking Relationships, Conflict Resolution, Dealing and Coping with Loss and We Cope. The programme is available across Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac and boasts 8 participating partners from private and government schools, 6 Master Trainers and 21 trained teachers in Cayman. 472 young people have benefited from the program.

Delegates also heard from international keynote Speaker Kevin Ashworth, Co-founder and Clinical Director of NW Anxiety Institute, a specialty anxiety clinic in Portland, Oregon. His presentation "How to "think" with your feet. Empowerment through facing your fears," focused on identifying how to differentiate between stress and anxiety.

Mr. Ashworth discussed what anxiety can look like in children, how to differentiate between stress and anxiety and how exposure therapy can help.

Wrapping up the day was returning and always inspirational speaker Dr. Marc Lockhart whose presentation debunked myths revolving around youth mental health.

Dr. Lockhart highlighted some startling international and local statistics in regards to youth mental health issues and that the understanding of mental health particular in regards to children is still often misguided.

Underlining that a parent's or adult's experience as an adolescent will have been very different from the world that children live in today, Dr. Lockhart urged adults and parents to listen and not attach their own experience to those of the children that are relying on them.

The Governor, the Hon. Martin Roper and the Hon. Dwayne Seymour, Minister of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing both provided supportive and inspirational remarks to open the Symposium. Mr. Seymour also pledged his Ministry's support for the planned Youth Mental Health Hub at the George Town hospital that has been championed by the Foundation.

"We are humbly overwhelmed by the support of our sponsors, exhibitors and volunteers. We just wouldn't be able to do what we do without them" said Jane Panton, APF Chairperson. "We are also delighted by the number of delegates that attended our Symposium this year and hope that they all took away practical information that can assist us in our mission to support children and young adults in our community struggling with their mental wellness," she said.

The symposium was made possible thanks to its speakers and volunteers as well as sponsors: Tower, Burger King, Maples Group, Health City Cayman Islands, DART, Hurley's Media, Logic,

Cinico, Ogier, Walkers, Highwater, The Wellness Centre, Caymanian Times, RBC Wealth Management Dominion Securities, Ironshore Pharmaceuticals Cayman Islands, Compass Media and C3 Pure Fibre.

Those looking for more information on the Alex Panton Foundation can follow them on Facebook and Instagram as well as www.alexpantonfoundation.ky. Presentations from the symposium will be uploaded onto the website shortly. 📍



► Keynote speaker Kevin Ashworth, Co-founder and Clinical Director of NW Anxiety Institute, a specialty anxiety clinic in Portland, Oregon

POLICE NEWS

Fatal Collision on Shedden Road

Shortly before 2:00AM on Saturday morning, 7 March, officers responded to a report of a serious collision on Shedden Road in the vicinity of Vibert Bodden Drive. A motorcycle travelling eastbound and a

Mercedes SUV travelling westbound had collided and the rider of the motorcycle sustained serious injuries. Emergency services attended the scene and the rider of the motorcycle, a man age 28 of George Town, was

transported to the Cayman Islands Hospital, where he was then pronounced dead. The driver of the Mercedes was uninjured.

The matter is currently under investigation. 📍



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► Board Members from left Faramarz Romer, David Watler Y Chairman and Sara Mackay listen as Y staff member Jinky shows some of the Brac afterschool programme elements



► Members of the Y board retreat at the Cayman Brac Sports complex

YMCA Retreats to the Brac

The YMCA of the Cayman Islands recently hosted its Annual Board Retreat in Cayman Brac. 14 Board Members and 4 staff spent three days in the Sister Island discussing the organisation's way forward under the theme "Focus 2020", while solidifying their strategic objectives for the next five years. A few of the major strategic initiatives involve the Y's partnership with Little League and renovations to the Field of Dreams, staff recruitment and development, volunteer participation and recognition, as well as future capital plans for a Y facility.

The Y board has been holding annual retreats every year since 2014 making this the 7th event but it is the first time

that the organisation has held one in the Brac. Past retreats have taken place in Grand Cayman and at various Y facilities in Florida. While in the Brac, the group toured the Layman E. Scott High School where the Y hosts the Extended After-School Programme for all primary schools. The group also visited the Cayman Brac Sports Complex, including the pool and new indoor facility for basketball and volleyball.

"I am so pleased that the YMCA board chose to hold its retreat in Cayman Brac. The organisation has been providing a great service for our children in the community with the Extended After-School Programme, and I hope their visits to the various facili-

ties around the island gave them some new ideas on how the Y can expand its reach and influence on the island. Of course, in terms of environment, the Brac provides an ideal backdrop for rest, reflection and inspiration. I hope the board members had an opportunity to do just that during their short stay," said Hon. Moses Kirkconnell, Minister for Tourism.

"It is important for us as Y Board Members to get together once a year to take stock of where we are as an organisation, to reflect on the Y's overarching vision and to flesh out our strategic goals and objectives. It is key to our future success," said YMCA Chairman David Watler. "The Y is very fortunate to

have such a dedicated group of board members who give their time and financial support to the organisation as well as activities such as these retreats. This demonstrated commitment on their part inspires our volunteers, staff and partners to have the same dedication to the Y. It is a positive trickle-down effect."

The retreat was facilitated by CEO Greg Smith, and all expenses for the retreat were paid for by the participants who stayed at the recently reopened Alexander Hotel.

For more information about the YMCA of the Cayman Islands, email info@ymcayman.ky or visit www.ymcayman.ky.

40 Walkers Staff Celebrate Long-Service

Employees at Walkers' Cayman office were recognised recently for their commitment to the firm during a long-service award ceremony. The awardees celebrated five, 10, 15, 20 and 40-year anniversaries, spanning all areas of the firm. These included its law practice as well as business support teams, IT, marketing, finance, facilities and human resources.

Among those recognised were Tonia Ebanks-McLaughlin, Jacquie Johnston, Doreen Thomas and Caroline Williams (20 years); Sarah Broad, Kimberley Ebanks, Ashley Gunning, Timothy Ludford-Thomas, Ingrid Murillo, Rebecca Phillipps, Sarah Priaux, Dorothy Scott and Wade Tamasa (15 years); Nicholas Bell, Greg Bennett, Monique Bhullar, David Collins, Nicholas Dunne, Justin Hart, Lesley Jefferson, Neil Lupton, Keyreaye Rivers, Chantelle Scott and Colette Wilkins (10 years); and Jason Allison, Christine Ballantyne-Drewe, Arleth Ebanks, Arikka Farley, Paige Gaston-Thiery, Andrew Gibson, Niall Hanna, Anthony Hutchinson, Christopher Keefe, Peter Kendall, Patrick McConvey, Tam-

sin West, Alexia Williams and Joanne Ziegler (5 years).

Donna Watler, an executive legal secretary with the finance and corporate team, was praised for 40 years of dedication. She joined Walkers in mid-1979 when it was known as WS Walkers & Co and was a small firm of approximately six lawyers. "Look at us now!" she beamed at the ceremony, remarking how the firm has grown in leaps and bounds to its current internationally recognised and regarded status.

Global Managing Partner Ingrid Pierce described Walkers' team culture as second-to-none and spoke to the employees' commitment to the firm: "Some of the employees we are recognising today - like Miss Donna Watler - have grown up with the firm. We are grateful and very proud to work alongside such talented individuals who contribute so much over the years."

About Walkers

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financial institutions, investment banks, capital markets participants, Fortune 500 corporations, arrangers, promoters and managers, Magic Circle and AmLaw 100 law firms, accounting firms, partnerships, trust companies and other

fiduciaries. We are consistently ranked in the top tier of law firms by all leading global legal directories, including the Chambers and Partners Global Guide 2020, which ranks Walkers in 10 band one practice areas.

CNCF's Dress For Culture Day Celebrates Cayman's Diversity

Cayman National Cultural Foundation's (CNCF) celebration of all things arts and culture continues with Dress For Culture Day, the organisation's annual 'dress up, dress down' fundraiser, which takes place on Friday, 13 March. Schools, businesses and individuals

across the Cayman Islands are invited to get creative and display their homeland pride and cultural attire on that day.

CNCF is asking for a donation of \$5 per adult and \$3 per student from those who choose to participate in the fundraiser. Monies raised go toward CNCF youth programmes such as Young at Arts and supporting the development of the Cayman Islands Folk Singers.

"In a world that is filled with growing divisions among people who identify differently, here in the Cayman Islands over 100 nationalities live harmoniously, intermingling their cultures while maintaining the uniqueness and traditions they each hold dear. Dress For Culture Day is one of the ways that CNCF pays tribute to this diversity," said CNCF Managing Director Marcia Muttoo.

Participants in Dress For Culture Day will also have the chance to win prizes in the categories of Best School, Best Organisation and Best Student/Individual. To enter, photos must be submitted to CNCF and will be shared on CNCF's social media channels for the general public to vote for their favourite in each category.

Mrs. Muttoo said that members of the public can organise their



► Kirk Office Staff Dressing For Culture in 2019

own Dress For Culture Day any time during the year if this year's designated day is not convenient.

"We believe cultural diversity can be appreciated at any time, and we encourage people to connect with one another and celebrate our extraordinary cultural tapestry as much as possible," she said. "CNCF also welcomes Dress for Culture

donations, and any other contributions, throughout the year and thanks the public for its ongoing support of our arts and culture initiatives."

For more information about Dress for Culture or Cayfest, email info@artscayman.org, call 949.5477 or check out the CNCF's official Facebook and Instagram pages @caymanculture.



► Shilpa Tagalpallewar and Reshma Ragoonath Celebrate Indian Culture

Gas Price



Location	Gas Station	Regular	Premium	Diesel
East End	Eastern Star Rubis (Woody's)	4.69	—	4.52
NorthSide	Jack's Esso (Jack's II)	4.60	4.96	4.44
Bodden Town	Lorna's Rubis	4.73	4.94	4.55
Bodden Town	Mostyns Esso	4.61	4.96	4.51
Savannah	Savannah Rubis	4.69	4.94	4.49
Red Bay	Barcam	4.62	4.94	4.54
Red Bay	On The Run (Brown's Red Bay)	4.64	4.87	4.54
George Town	Peanuts	4.74	4.94	4.57
George Town	Jose's Escape	4.74	4.94	4.57
George Town	Refuel	4.44	4.64	4.19
George Town	Esso Tigermart Shedden Rd. (H&B 11)	4.61	4.91	4.54
George Town	Eastern Avenue Rubis	4.69	4.94	4.54
George Town	Walkers Rd. Rubis	4.65	4.96	4.49
George Town	On The Run (Mike's Walkers Rd.)	4.56	4.91	4.44
George Town	On The Run (Brown's Industrial Park)	4.61	4.91	4.55
George Town	On The Run (Mike's 7 Mile)	4.51	4.91	4.24
West Bay Rd.	H & B Esso (H&B 1 Seven Mile)	4.61	4.96	4.54
West Bay Rd.	7 Mile Rubis (AA 7 Mile)	4.69	4.89	4.25
West Bay	Hell Esso	4.61	4.96	4.44
West Bay	Esso 4 Way Stop (Four Winds)	4.65	4.89	4.31
George Town	Scotts Landing	—	4.99	4.58
Cayman Brac	West End	—	5.04	4.87
Cayman Brac	Tib Mart	—	4.89	—
Little Cayman	Village Square	—	5.82	6.02

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Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (Vertical)	500	4.9 x 20	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/3 page	400	Customized	700
Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page	300	4.9 x 9.9	450
Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page	225	4.8 x 7.4	350
Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page	150	4.9 x 4.85	250
Newspaper Advertisement 1/12 page	105	4.9 x 2.35	200
Newspaper Advertisement 1/32 page	75	Customized	150
Newspaper Advertisement Mini	25	Customized	75
Graphic Design	50	n/a	
Front Page Banner A Section	300	10 x 2.5	
Front Page Banner B Section	200	10 x 2.5	
Other Banner	100	10 x 2.5	
Back Page A Section	700	10 x 20	
Back Page B Section	500	10 x 20	
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Guyana in Limbo: Election Observers Concerned About Tabulation Process; Foreign Envoys Say No Winner Should Be Declared

Four days after regional and general elections were held in Guyana with still no winner officially declared, regional and international observers are expressing concern about the tabulation process in the country's largest voting district, and have urged authorities not to name a victor in the polls.

Yesterday, the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) released results for Region 4 – in which the country's capital, Georgetown, is located – that would result in the incumbent

A Partnership for National Unity-Alliance for Change (APNU-AFC) coalition returned to government. But the main opposition People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) is adamant that if the statements of poll are verified, it would emerge victorious.

The opposition party late yesterday secured a court ruling compelling the commission to verify results before publishing.

The results provided by GECOM showed the APNU-AFC coalition securing 136,335 votes while the PPP/C got 77,258 in Region 4 (Demerara-Mahaica) which had 285,618 registered voters.

There were several delays to completing the required process in Region 4, including a bomb scare at GECOM's command centre where the verification of statements of poll was taking place.

Although the general consensus was that Monday's elections were free and fair, observer missions are keeping a close eye on the tabulation process in Region 4.

In a joint statement, the missions from the Commonwealth, the Organization of American States, the European Union, and The Carter Centre said the tabulation "remains incomplete".

"The law requires that tabulation must be conducted in the presence of party agents and observers. Until this transparent process takes place, the counting of votes recorded for Region 4 remains incomplete. The transparent tabulation

of results for Region 4 must be resumed in order to proceed to the establishment of national results," it said, adding that a "calm and conducive environment must be provided by the police".

"We urge all political parties to adhere to the codes of conduct signed by them. The Guyana Elections Commission, including the chairperson, the commissioners, the chief election officer, the returning officer and deputy returning officers in Region 4, must be available and committed to establish the results for Region 4 in accordance with the law.

"Until this occurs, the result of these elections cannot be credibly declared," the international observers added.

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) observer mission also issued a brief statement, saying that it was concerned about the allegations with respect to the tabulation of results based on the Statements of Polls in Region 4.

"The Community calls on the Guyana Elections Commission to ensure that all legal and procedural processes are faithfully complied with in respect of the vote count and the declaration of results to ensure that the outcome of the polls expresses the will of the people of Guyana. We call on all parties and Guyanese to remain calm while these issues are resolved," it said.

The PPP, meantime has also urged calm, telling its supporters that they have the international community on their side.

"While we understand the hurt, frustration and fear about electoral fraud being perpetuated against the Guyanese people, we have the solidarity of the international community," it said.

"They have all made it clear that as it stands results of the Elections cannot be credibly declared and there can be no swearing-in of a president since such an action would be illegal.

"The PPP agrees with the international community; there can be no swearing in of a new president under the current



► The OAS observer mission is among those expressing concern

circumstances. The Party wishes to also warn that public officers, especially constitutional office holders, facilitating such an illegal action would be complicit in the perpetuation of electoral fraud in Guyana," the PPP added.

It further insisted that there must a return to the process of verifying the results of the elections for Region 4, using the Statements of Polls, as required by law.

"This is the only process that will deliver free and fair elections and ensure that the will of the Guyanese people is not subverted. The People's Progressive Party continues to work towards this objective," the party said.

Meantime, United States, British, Canadian and European Union envoys urged authorities to hold off declaring a winner until issues have been resolved.

They issued a joint statement in which they expressed "deep concern over credible allegations of electoral fraud which may influence the results of this election".

"We call on all to ensure proper procedures are in place to yield a credible

election result. A fair and free process is vital for the maintenance and reinforcement of democracy in Guyana," said the statement from Heads of Mission of the Embassy of the United States of America, H.E. Sarah-Ann Lynch, the British High Commission, H.E. Greg Quinn, the Canadian High Commission, H.E. Lilian Chatterjee, and the Delegation of the European Union, H.E. Fernando Ponz-Canto.

"We call on President [David] Granger to avoid a transition of government which we believe would be unconstitutional as it would be based on a vote tabulation process that lacked credibility and transparency."

Meantime, President Granger this morning met with CARICOM Secretary-General Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, and reiterated that the polls had been orderly, and in full compliance with the law and the Constitution.

"We are awaiting the final declaration from GECOM," he said.

Recounts requested by the APNU-AFC coalition are underway in Regions 5 and 6. 🌐

Bahamas Government Adds Travellers from Iran, Italy and South Korea to Ban Amid Coronavirus Concern

The Bahamas Government says it will be turning away visitors who recently travelled from South Korea, Iran and Italy – the countries with the largest number of cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) outside China.

As of this morning, there were 6,284 cases in South Korea, 3,858 cases in Italy, and 3,513 in Iran.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted in a statement yesterday that recent reports from the World Health Organization (WHO) indicate that the COVID-19 virus had spread to more than 75 countries. At least 47 of those have 10 cases or less, and some are reporting their first cases.

"Significantly, however, there is a prevalence of cases emerging in a few selected countries. According to the Director-General's 4th March 2020 Briefing, almost 90 per cent of those cases are from three countries: Iran, South Korea and Italy.

"The data is compelling and out of an abundance of caution, the Govern-

ment of The Bahamas has decided to implement border control and quarantine measures for persons coming from those countries. Effective immediately any non-resident who has visited South Korea, Iran or Italy in the last 20 days will be denied entry into The Bahamas," the Ministry said.

Those three join China, for which such measures were implemented on January 30.

Bahamian citizens and residents returning from all four jurisdictions will now be subjected to quarantine measures for a maximum of 14 days. Non-residents currently en route to The Bahamas from these jurisdictions will be subjected to the same protocol for returning citizens and residents.

While there remains no reported or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in The Bahamas, at this time, the government said it is taking extra precaution to protect the safety and health of our residents and visitors, and it said the new advisory



is part of the government's enhanced effort to address this public health threat.

The latest figures from the WTO put the number of confirmed COVID-19 cas-

es outside China at 17,481, with 335 recorded deaths. In China, the confirmed cases and deaths figures have reached 80,711 and 3,045, respectively. 🌐

US Elevates Travel Advisory for Haiti to Highest Level Due to Violent Crime

The US Department of State has increased its travel warning on Haiti to the highest 'Level 4 – Do not travel' level, citing a spike in violent crimes in the French-speaking Caribbean nation.

The advisory, updated yesterday to reflect the change, stated: "Do not travel to Haiti due to crime, civil unrest, and kidnapping."

This replaces the Level 3 "reconsider travel" advisory that was issued on June 11, 2019.

"Violent crime, such as armed robbery and carjacking, is common. Kidnapping is widespread. Kidnappers may use sophisticated planning or take advantage of

unplanned opportunities. Victims have included US citizens," the updated travel advisory stated.

And amid political unrest in the country, the US government also maintained its previous note that demonstrations, tire burning, and roadblocks are frequent, unpredictable, and can turn violent; local police may lack the resources to respond effectively to serious criminal incidents; and emergency response, including ambulance service, is limited or non-existent.

The last time the US State Department issued a Level 4 travel warning for Haiti was just over a year ago – on February 7, 2019 – amid civil unrest. 🌐



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Coffee bar orders
- 7 Beach crawler
- 11 Middle East language
- 12 Courageous one
- 13 Folder type
- 14 Regarding
- 15 Alaskan peak
- 17 Entice
- 20 Lot choice
- 23 Serpent's victim
- 24 Grave
- 26 Belly
- 27 Lingerie item
- 28 Fresh
- 29 Checks from an ex
- 31 Lynx or lion
- 32 Tied a corset
- 33 Porgy's love
- 34 Vigor
- 37 Dune makeup
- 39 Book boo-boos
- 43 In the past
- 44 Gizmo
- 45 Did a textile job
- 46 They have titles

DOWN

- 1 River blocker
- 2 Pitcher's stat
- 3 Soup buy
- 4 Tolerate
- 5 Dossier
- 6 Do a checkout chore
- 7 Alpine home
- 8 Home
- 9 Paintings and sculpture
- 10 Scary shout
- 16 Test for purity
- 17 Sanctioned
- 18 Throat dangler
- 19 Reserve
- 21 Provinces
- 22 Small salamanders
- 24 Home of
- 25 Ornate vase
- 30 Patched up
- 33 "Childe Harold" poet
- 35 Make over
- 36 Expand
- 37 Lawn material
- 38 Some amount of
- 40 Citrus drink
- 41 Sailor, in slang
- 42 Spots on TV

MACAW	MISTS
AWARE	ANTIC
CAPTAIN	NEMO
EYE	PAN PET
MONEY	
LATIN	RETRO
APEX	LEAN
GENES	FLAME
STARS	
ADS	ERA SPA
CAPTAIN	NAHAB
IDIOM	CLONE
DATES	SLEET

Yesterday's answer

- 18 Throat dangler
- 19 Reserve
- 21 Provinces
- 22 Small salamanders
- 24 Home of
- 25 Ornate vase
- 30 Patched up
- 33 "Childe Harold" poet
- 35 Make over
- 36 Expand
- 37 Lawn material
- 38 Some amount of
- 40 Citrus drink
- 41 Sailor, in slang
- 42 Spots on TV

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

1-23

SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/30

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Word Search

- Babel
- Bethel
- Bethesda
- Bethlehem
- Beulah
- Cana
- Damascus
- Eden
- Edom
- Egypt
- Endor
- Ephesus
- Gath
- Gaza
- Gilead
- Jericho
- Jerusalem
- Judah
- Judea
- Moab
- Nazareth
- Sidon
- Sinai
- Sodom

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

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

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

Panel 1: Dinnertime! I've cooked a new recipe! 🎵

Panel 2: Why does she hafta cook something "new"? We like old and reliable!

Panel 3: Somethin' good like pizza...or chicken nuggets or cake frosting in a can?

Panel 4: "Cake frosting in a- boy, are you experimenting with drugs?!"

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee

Panel 1: As soon as we locate the liquefied nerve gas stored in this armory...

Panel 2: ...my powers of vocal command will be restored to their peak.

Panel 3: My sources indicated it's behind those locked doors!

Panel 4: If only I could break free of his control-!

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

Panel 1: Ladies and gentlemen of the press, thank you for coming. On December 30th, 2018, Roy Rodgers, 53, was reported missing by his wife, Marie Rodgers, two days into their honeymoon...

Panel 2: Mrs. Rodgers says her husband left their hotel room early that morning. Only his clothes have been found, in a pile on the beach...

T Caymanian Times



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