

T Caymanian Times

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Issue No 520

www.caymaniantimes.ky

GET THE FACTS

For the latest, accurate information on the Coronavirus (COVID19), please visit

gov.ky/Coronavirus

Complimentary

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

GOVERNMENT — A2



Government Statement on Passing of COVID-19 Patient

COMMUNITY NOTICES — A3



Stay informed with accurate information

COMMUNITY NOTICES — A3



Temporary Ban on Public Gatherings

LOCAL NEWS — A7



New turtle nesting numbers confirm continuing success of Cayman Turtle

Cruise ships banned, more Travel Restrictions, Schools Closed

By Lindsey Turnbull

Cabinet took some key decisions Friday to try and contain the COVID-19 corona virus outbreak in Cayman. At a press briefing on Friday afternoon, Premier Alden McLaughlin advised that from this Monday 16th March, all educational establishments, which means all schools, including UCCI and ICCI, will be closed until Monday 27th April 2020. In addition, all cruise ships will be banned from visiting the Cayman Islands from this Monday 16th March for a period of 60 days.

The Premier said that the Cabinet had decided to add a number of countries to the travel restriction list. These included Iran, Japan, the Republic of Korea and all Schengen visa countries (all the countries within the EU), in addition to mainland China that was originally on the list. The Premier said that Government would consider extending this ban, if need be.

... Continued story on page A5



FIRST RECORDED COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENT PASSES AWAY

Health City Cayman Islands is reporting that the Cayman Islands' first recorded COVID-19 positive patient passed away at 4:40am on Saturday 14 March.

The 68-year-old man was being treated in isolation at the tertiary care facility's Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU).

The patient was traveling on a cruise ship when he was admitted to Health City in critical condition for

urgent cardiac treatment on February 29. On the way to the Cayman Islands, the patient had two cardiac arrests and was resuscitated. He had a prior medical history of cardiac issues. On arrival in George Town, he was rushed by ambulance to Health City.

He underwent cardiac treatment, and began his recovery with no COVID-19 symptoms. After six

... Continued story on page A6



► Health City Cayman Islands Main Entrance

Editorial: The Motivation of Panic Buying



► Mexico City Empty Shelves

To catch a glimpse of scenes of people stocking up on grocery supplies, especially toilet paper, up until a few days ago we needed to access the internet or watch cable television. But alas, that's become a reality here in the Cayman Islands.

As word broke that there was a suspected local case of COVID-19 and then when it was confirmed, those scenes intensified as local supermarkets faced a rush akin to when a hurricane is barreling towards us.

In an earlier editorial, we called for calm, cool heads to prevail but panic buying appears to have fully taken root in our Islands despite authorities and businesses insisting that regular supply of most items will remain intact. That's because panic is highly contagious, especially when situations like what we are experiencing are in flux.

... Continued story on page A2



Caymanian Times

FRONT PAGE BANNERS NOW AVAILABLE

Contact 916 2000 for rate and to book this space

Government Statement on Passing of COVID-19 Patient

Health City Cayman Islands on Saturday 14 March 2020 announced the passing of the 68-year-old patient who was confirmed as the first COVID-19 case in the Cayman Islands.

Government, including His Excellency the Governor, the Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin and Minister Dwayne Seymour, extend condolences to the wife and family of the cardiac patient who was travelling on a cruise ship when he was admitted to Health City in critical condition for urgent cardiac treatment on 29 February.

On the way to the Cayman Islands, the patient had two cardiac arrests and was resuscitated. He had a prior medical history of cardiac issues. On arrival in George Town, he was rushed by ambulance to Health City where he was being treated in isolation at the tertiary care facility's Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU).

The Premier says: "Our heartfelt sympathies to the patient's widow who has lost her husband in a land far from home."

Health Minister, Hon Dwayne Seymour, adds: "The passing of this first COVID case is obviously a time for national reflection. I urge the people of the Cayman Islands, in particular those at high risk and their loved ones, to put into rigorous practice the measures that prevent COVID and so will save their lives. Most important of these are rigorous hand-washing and social distancing."

Those most at risk from COVID include older persons and those with underlying conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease and cancer.

Individuals who develop any flu-like symptoms, such as fever, cough, runny nose etc., are advised to contact their usual General Practitioner (GP), or the Cayman Islands Public Health Department at flu@hsa.ky, or via the flu hotline at 1-800-534-8600.

For more information on preventing the spread of COVID-19, persons should visit www.hsa.ky/coronavirus and www.gov.ky/coronavirus.



► Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin



CELLULAR WORLD.KY

PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS

Monday to Friday 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

Baytown Plaza. West bay Road
Phone Repairs 943-2355 | Phone Retail 945-2355
Email - info@cellularworld.ky



Caymanian Times

Issue # 520

Publisher: Ralph Lewis
Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd
#19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)
Telephone: 345 916 2000
Email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky, or info@caymaniantimes.ky
Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky

EDITORIAL

The Motivation of Panic Buying

... Continued story from page A1

Steven Taylor, a clinical psychologist and author of the book "The Psychology of Pandemics", points out that panic buying gives people a sense of control, especially in times where they have very little control over a larger situation: "Under circumstances like these, people feel the need to do something that's proportionate to what they perceive is the level of the crisis."

On the other hand, much of the advice of medical experts seems to be simple. "Surely, just washing my hands, maintaining good hygiene and

employing social distancing can't be all that's required?" we're likely to ask.

Another motivator is regret. We see others stocking up and we fear we will miss our opportunity to get supplies, so rational thinkers among us end up joining the fray. Now, we all are in panic buying mode and the stores can hardly keep up with the rush, so shelves are empty, and we feel validated about our decision.

At Caymanian Times, we hope that in the midst of the rush on supermarkets, those among us with the greatest need are not left wanting at a time when their vulnerabilities are most exposed.

BEACH WELLNESS GUARDIANS

Saturday April 4th 2020 6am



Certified
Physiotherapists
Trainers &
LifeGuards

DEEP WATER RUNNING
WATER WALKING

WATER STRETCH
BEACH STRETCH

WATER AEROBICS
BEACH WORKOUT

LOW/NON IMPACT

REGISTER:
www.guardiansalive345.com

CAYMAN FIRST

Come Join Us!!



Advertise your JOBS here

Fast, Efficient, Affordable.

Only 48 hours' notice required

Therapist, Designer, Lawyer, COOK, Plastic Surgeon, Director, Hairdresser, Beauty Therapist, Bartender, Gardener, Solicitor, Secretary, Designer, COOK, Dive instructor, Hairdresser, Beauty Therapist, Designer, Secretary, Designer, COOK, Dive instructor, Director, Dive instructor

Email your ad to sales@caymaniantimes.ky
Accepted by the Immigration Department

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Temporary Ban on Public Gatherings

In light of the global spread of the coronavirus, the Cayman Islands government has announced a temporary ban on all public gathering of 50 people or more.

The ban is in effect immediately and will stay in effect until further notice. Excluded from the ban are hospitals, pharmacists and supermarkets.

Work sites are not considered public gatherings. Therefore, offices, construction sites and other work places are not included in the ban. Employers are strongly encouraged to implement flexible working arrangements.

The ban means government events such as inter-school sports days, Cayman Brac Agriculture Show and the Deputy Governor's 5K will be postponed or cancelled.

Other community gatherings such as sporting events, church services, cinemas, bars and restaurants with more than 50 people will also no longer be allowed as part of the ban to protect the public.

Coming into close contact with someone who has coronavirus increases the chances of a healthy person catching the disease.

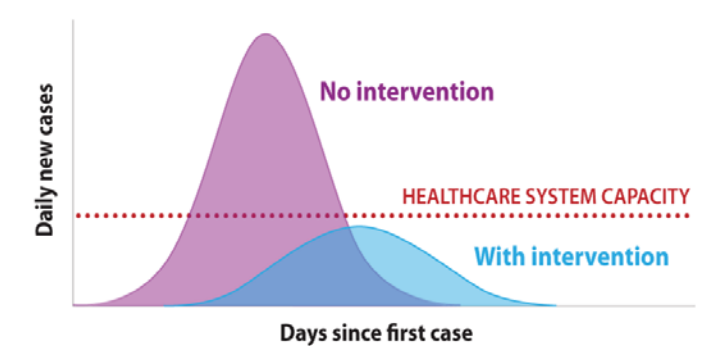
Advice from the Ministry of Health is that limiting opportunities for large groups to congregate is one way to halt the spread of the virus.

The strategy aims to delay the peak of confirmed cases in order to lessen the strain on the health sector. A sudden increase in the number of people who need to be hospitalised will add addi-



FLATTENING THE CURVE

A look at the importance of slowing the spread of a virus, so that the rate of infection doesn't outpace the resources to fight against it.



SOURCE: CDC

tional pressure to hospitals to respond. Attached to this release, is a graph which illustrates this approach, which is known as "flattening the curve".

Several other countries and US cities have employed this same strategy to contain the spread of the virus. Evidence shows that this approach has slowed the spread in countries where it has been implemented.

Commenting from a tourism perspective, Deputy Premier and Minister for District Administration Tourism and Transport, Hon. Moses Kirkconnell said: "While we are aware that cancelling events will have an impact on our tourism sector, government's first priority is the health and well-being of our people and the protection of our borders."

He added, "The Cayman Islands has been preparing for the onset of the Coro-

navirus over the past weeks. The Cayman Islands does not take this decision lightly. However, in the best interests of the people of the Cayman Islands this decision will ensure that the Cayman Islands is able to welcome cruise business in the long term when the current threat level has passed."

He added, "The Cayman Islands has been preparing for the onset of the Coronavirus over the past weeks. With one case confirmed to date, Government has taken the decision to ban all cruise ships calling on the Cayman Islands as of Monday, 16 March 2020, for a period of 60 days. The Cayman Islands does not take this decision lightly. However, in the best interests of the people of the Cayman Islands this decision will ensure that the Cayman Islands is able to welcome cruise business in the long

term when the current threat level has passed."

The Premier, Hon. Alden McLaughlin, JP said: "The Cayman Islands is known to be a very close community. Visiting church or attending one of our many community events is an important part of our culture. We all need to change this behaviour in the face of a virus that knows no borders or cultural boundaries. I want to emphasize to the public that these measures have been put in place for everyone's protection. I encourage all church goers to instead worship at home and keep in touch with friends and family via telephone or social media."

He continued, "The people of the Cayman Islands have faced many struggles in the past. At this time, we need to support one another to minimise the impact of coronavirus across our islands." 🌐



Cayman Islands Baptist Church invites the public to join their Online Service

Until further notice, Cayman Islands Baptist Church is cancelling all major gatherings at their church facilities, including Sunday worship and Friday evening youth and children's activities.

Everyone is welcome to join for church via their livestream on the Cayman Islands Baptist Church Facebook page or YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD2omQJxUphqhCP0Ddf7F-WA>, on Sunday March 15 at 10am." 🌐

HSA amends visitor policy to safeguard community against COVID-19

The Health Services Authority today announced changes in its visitor policy to protect the health of its employees, patients, visitors and the community.

As part of the announced changes, the hospital is appealing to visitors who are experiencing cold or flu symptoms to refrain from visiting patients. In addition, visitors who have traveled to China, Japan, South Korea, Iran and all countries in the Schengen area (EU) in the last 14 days or have been

in close contact with someone who has traveled to these countries are being asked to defer their visits.

"Prevention of COVID-19 is the best defense against the virus and is the responsibility of each member of our community as we work together to better understand and protect our vulnerable patient population and the health and well-being of our staff in the face of this global pandemic, and apologize for any inconvenience," says HSA CEO, Lizzette Yearwood. 🌐



All Education Institutions to Close Starting, Monday, March 16

Premier Alden McLaughlin has advised that after consultation with Public Health and the Ministry of Education, Youth Sports, Agriculture and Lands (MEYSAL), all educational institution (schools, early childhood education centres, universities, tutoring centres, technical and vocational training centres, etc.) will close starting, Monday, March 16.

In an announcement today, the Premier advised, "In the wake of the recent announcement of a local confirmed case, we have made the difficult decision to suspend operations of all educational institutions until further notice. The fact of the matter is that educational institutions are hubs for large gatherings of children/students where it is difficult to control certain outcomes."

Social distancing and avoiding large gatherings are best practice protection and prevention measures in the wake of the new global COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.


Minister for Education Juliana O'Connor-Connolly also advised, "MEYSAL and the Department of Education Services (DES) have been closely monitoring the developments of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, while adjusting business

continuity operations and plans in specific response to the newest global pandemic. Some of these plans include the provision of home learning resources for all our students. We understand that these are trying times for our parents and ask that we continue to all work together towards adjusting our lives to this phenomenon."

Educational Institutions will remain closed until at least Monday April 27, 2020. The Ministry of Education will hold a meeting on April 20, 2020 to review the situation and see if institutions can re-open on April 27 or if an extension of closure is needed. Education officials will inform parents/guardians and continue to update the wider public as necessary. 🌐



MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORTS,
AGRICULTURE & LANDS
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT



Sea Grape Secretarial Services

Services: Work Permits, Trade and Business Applications & Renewal Annual Returns, General Letters
Please call for other services

Contact: Susan
Cellular: 345 326-9953
Address: Unit #2, Grand Plaza (Opposite Hi-Tech Electronics)
Email: seagrapesecretarial1@gmail.com
Business Hours: 9am - 5pm, Mon - Fri

DENTURE STUDIO

Tradition Of Excellence



Vladimir Tomascik - Denturist

- Free Consultation - New Clients Welcome • Full & Partial Dentures
- Specializing in Cosmetic Dentures • Re-Lines/Soft Liners
- Dentures Over Implants • Athletic Mouthguards & night guards
- Over 30 Yrs Experience • Denture Repairs while you wait!

Call: 929-6455 **Emergency Services 24Hrs**
Park Place (Coconut Plaza)

E-Mail: caymandentures@gmail.com | www.caymandentures.com



GA BREAK THE RECORD
A GUARDIANS ALIVE GROUP

IF YOU CAN DO

5K 25 MINS
10K 50 MINS

REGISTER IN THIS GROUP

QUALIFIED RUNNERS ONLY



GA RECORD HOLDERS:

5K
Victor Magalhaes - **18:18**
Jackie Lee - **21:40**

10K
Esmond Brown - **36:37**
Lauren Clarke - **42:02**

WWW.GUARDIANSALIVE345.COM

GA 20/20

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH 2020
7 MILE PUBLIC BEACH
STARTS AT 6AM



MUST PRE-REGISTER BY
APRIL 3RD 2020

MAIN SUPPORT:

CAYMAN FIRST  FIRST IN INSURANCE. TODAY. TOMORROW.

 **HOME GAS**

 **Essential Living & Wellness**

Coronavirus Information and Advice for Vulnerable People

Prevention Tips

- frequently **cleanse hands** with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser
- **cough or sneeze** in a tissue and bin it
- **if a tissue is not available** cough/sneeze into your elbow not your hands
- **avoid close contact** with people suffering from fever or cough
- **avoid travel** if you have a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms
- **avoid wearing a surgical mask** unless advised by a medical professional

Extra Steps You Can Take To Avoid Covid-19

If you have a **chronic illness** (e.g. respiratory disease, diabetes, heart disease, COPD, hypertension or cancer), are **elderly** (over 60) or have a **compromised immune system**, you can further protect yourself with the below extra precautionary steps in addition to the prevention tips above.

1



limit guest visits at home to a few family and friends or your district community officer during an outbreak

2



avoid guests who show signs of flu-like symptoms

3



remain 3 – 6 feet away unless being checked by your healthcare provider

Most importantly, remember **you are supported.**

Call the H.S.A. helpline on **1-800-534-8600** or **947-3077** if you have any questions.

For the latest updates and information, please visit HSA.ky/public-health/coronavirus or gov.ky/coronavirus

Cruise ships banned, more Travel Restrictions, Schools Closed

... Continued story from page A1

"All countries in the world are under consideration," he said, adding this included the United States, the UK and Jamaica, which were not currently on the travel ban list. The Premier said they had to be careful how they shut down contact with the UK, US and Jamaica.

Large gatherings banned

Another important new step was to ban all public gatherings over 50 persons until further notice. This would take immediate effect, the Premier stated. Exempt from this ban are supermarkets, pharmacies and hospitals, but included in the ban are bars, restaurants, churches, football games and sporting activities.

The Premier said that other decisions were also under consideration as the threat of the virus became even more grave.

"Some of these decisions are quite drastic and radical and some may be even more so next week," he said. "But we are determined to do everything we can to reduce the chance of widespread transmission of the virus through the community."

Government on the right route

Governor Martyn Roper said that while he recognised that having a confirmed case of COVID-19 was a matter of great concern, it was not unexpected and the healthcare profession had been preparing for such an event.

"I support the tough action the government is taking around public gatherings, educational institutions and travel restrictions," the Governor said. "It's been shown elsewhere that you try and flatten the curve as this epidemic hits us and that's what the Government's measures are aimed to do, to manage the load on our health services."

He added that Cayman had excellent infrastructure and medical profes-



► Dr. John Lee



► Premier Hon Alden McLaughlin

sionals and that Cayman would come through this. The Governor also said that Cayman had access to expertise in the UK and a delegation would be arriving soon from Public Health England. The Governor said they had already been helpful with regard to modelling the trend of the virus and would be providing personal protection equipment as well.

"Most importantly, very soon we will be able to test on island, a very important development for us," the Governor said.

He added that most people, should they contract COVID-19, would only exhibit mild symptoms, but some would be more seriously affected.

"We do need to look out for our elderly and ensure they get the medical advice they need," he said.

Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee said that they had been in touch with Public Health England overnight in response to the first COVID-19 case in Cayman and the subsequent worry about medical staff at Health City also getting the virus. They were following Public Health

England's advice, which concurred with advice locally, Dr Lee said and it was under Public Health England's advice that Health City isolated and stopped taking new patients. Those medical personnel exhibiting symptoms were being tested.

The Premier added that Government expected to be making more announcements early next week in regard to further decisions they were making.

"We have a lot more challenges ahead, but I am very confident in riding this global crisis. The size of Cayman is a huge advantage," he stated.

Times

Caymanian

DAILY PAPER

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Still **FREE**

at over

200 locations

2 days notice for ads

call 9162000 or

Email sales@caymaniantimes.ky

CAL further extends and adjusts change-fee waiver

No change fees for Caymanian students studying abroad

As Cayman Airways continues to closely monitor developments related to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the change-fee waiver currently in effect has been further extended and adjusted.

Any passenger wishing to make changes to an existing ticket for either international or domestic travel may do so without being subject to the change fee, providing:

- Travel is on Cayman Airways (waiver applies only to Cayman Airways flights)
- The ticket was purchased prior to March 3, 2020
- Travel is scheduled between March 2, 2020 through June 30, 2020

Travel can be rebooked within the validity of the original ticket, but changes must be made on or before December 31, 2020.

Any Caymanian student returning to the Cayman Islands due to the closure of the educational institution they are attending abroad, regardless of the date of travel, will be eligible for a waiver.

Effective March 3, 2020, any new tickets purchased on or before March 31, 2020 will not be subject to a



change fee. However, the ticket will be non-refundable. This waiver of change fees will apply for tickets purchased during this timeframe for travel up to October 31, 2020. It is important to note that, while change fees will be waived, fare differences may still apply.

Passengers booked to travel on/after June 30, 2020 and are not eligible for any of the waivers above

at this time. Cayman Airways will continue to evaluate the situation and update the travelling public as needed.

For more information and to request itinerary changes, customers can call Cayman Airways Reservations on 345-949-2311 or 1-800-422-9626 (toll free within the USA).

CAYMAN ISLANDS' FIRST RECORDED COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENT PASSES AWAY



► Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil, Clinical Director of Health City Cayman Islands

... Continued story from page A1

days of his primary treatment, he developed a dry cough. Although he had no other COVID-19 symptoms – such as other flu-like complaints or a fever, based on World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, a sample was taken and sent to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for testing.

The sample was sent for testing on Monday, 9 March and came back as positive on Thursday, 12 March 2020.

“We extend our sincere condolences to this patient’s family. Despite best efforts, he passed away this morning. His passing seems to fit the profile of COVID-19 in that elderly patients with underlying health issues are most likely to succumb to the virus,” Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil, Clinical Director of Health City Cayman Islands said.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “While we are still learning about how COVID-2019 affects people, older persons and persons with pre-existing medical conditions (such as high blood pressure, heart disease, lung disease, cancer or diabetes) appear to develop serious illness more often than others.”

Dr. Chattuparambil advised members of the public to remain calm in the wake of the patient’s death.

“The patient’s death does not increase the risk to the general public in anyway. He was an older patient with pre-existing health issues who would be more greatly impacted by the disease than the vast majority of people. We continue to urge everyone to follow standard precautionary measures against contracting the virus, including regular hand-washing and practicing good respiratory hygiene,” he said.

According to the WHO website, illness due to COVID-19 infection is generally mild, especially for children and young adults. However, it can cause serious illness: about 1 in every 5 people who catch it need hospital care.

Dr. Chattuparambil reiterated that the wife of the patient remains in quarantine, and has been tested. Her test results should be received in the next 2 to 3 days. She was informed of her husband’s death by phone in order to preserve quarantine.

He continued, “We would like to assure the public that all necessary precautions to contain the virus have been put in place within our facility.”

The hospital has also quarantined staff members and their families who would be at direct risk. These individuals have also been tested for the COVID-19 virus, with results to be received shortly. Additionally, the hospital remains closed to new patients for the next two weeks as a virus containment measure.

Dr. Chattuparambil also noted that Health City is working closely with Cayman Islands Government health officials on daily updates regarding the local COVID-19 situation and will issue further updates as soon as any new information is available.

He advised the public to continue to take all necessary precautions against contracting the coronavirus. The risk can be reduced by implementing personal protective measures, such as frequent hand washing, covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory illnesses and avoiding large social gatherings.

Individuals who develop any flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose etc., are advised to contact the Cayman Islands Public Health Department at flu@hsa.ky or via the flu hotline at 1-800-534-8600.

For more information about how to protect yourself from acquiring COVID-19, visit www.hsa.ky/coronavirus and www.gov.ky/coronavirus

About Health City Cayman Islands

Health City Cayman Islands, the vision of renowned heart surgeon and humanitarian Dr. Devi Shetty, is supported by Narayana Health, one of India’s largest private healthcare systems. Health City, only the second hospital in the Caribbean to receive the Joint Commission International’s “hospital accreditation”, provides compassionate, high-quality, affordable healthcare services in a world-class, comfortable, patient-centered environment. Offering healthcare to local, regional and international patients, Health City Cayman Islands delivers excellence in adult and pediatric cardiology, cardiac surgery, cardiac electrophysiology, medical oncology, orthopedics, sports medicine, pediatric endocrinology, gastrointestinal, hepato-pancreato-biliary and bariatric surgery, neurology, interventional neurology and neuro-diagnostics, neurosurgery, minimally invasive spine surgery, gynecology, urology, pediatric allergies, colorectal surgery, dental, sleep lab and pulmonology services.

For further information, visit www.healthcitycaymanislands.com.

MOVE

WWW.GUARDIANSALIVE345.COM

GET REGISTERED NOW FOR CHANCES TO WIN EARLY BIRD TRAINING PRIZES!

RUN • WALK • BEACH

GA 2020

Andrea Tallorenzi

Cayman Islands Photos

CAYMAN FIRST

CONNECT • TRAIN • EXCEL

7 MILE PUBLIC BEACH

SAT. APRIL 4 2020

6:00 AM

HELPING YOU

BE YOUR BEST!

New turtle nesting numbers confirm continuing success of Cayman Turtle Centre's release programme

Cayman Turtle Centre: Island Wildlife Encounter is thrilled with the latest news, that the total number of turtle nests in all three Cayman Islands is 675 for 2019 nesting season. The results show that it's the highest number of nests in Grand Cayman (468) and the highest number of Green turtle nests (342) observed by the Cayman Islands Department of Environment (DOE), as part of their annual turtle-nest survey, conducted with the help of a small army of dedicated volunteers.

"It is particularly good news and it confirms the continuing upward trend, from just a handful of nests when the DOE began its turtle surveys in 1998. It also confirms the success of the Cayman Turtle Centre's release programme, which has released more than 32,000 captive bred Green turtles into the wild since the programme began in the early 1980's," Tim Adam, CEO of Cayman Turtle Centre, commented.

The link between the increasing numbers was confirmed by an independent scientific study, and accompanying report, published early in 2019. The report, entitled: 'How many came home? Evaluating ex-situ conservation of Green Turtles in the Cayman Islands,' and produced by the University of Barcelona in collaboration with the Cayman Islands Department of Environment and the University of Exeter, found that 90 percent of the nesting Green turtles in Cayman are genetically related to those released from the Cayman Turtle Centre.

When the DOE began monitoring the nests, in 1999, turtles had nearly



► Release of a head-started green sea turtle in Grand Cayman at the Annual Pirates Week Public Turtle Release in 2019. This turtle was one of twenty head-started turtles released that day.



become extinct in the Cayman Islands. That year there was one Green turtle nest recorded in Grand Cayman. It takes around 25 years or more for Green sea turtles to reach maturity, and come "home" to breed and lay their eggs on the beaches from which they were released. So the apparent time lag between the beginning of the releases in the early 1980s, and the dramatic increase in numbers from the late 1990s onward, is the expected timing based on their life cycle.

"We determined that 90 percent of the wild individuals were related to the captive stock. Our results suggest a strong impact of the reintroduction

program on the present recovery of the wild green turtle population nesting in the Cayman Islands," the peer reviewed report says.

Mr. Adam highlighted that "The remarkable increase in Grand Cayman to 229 Green turtle nests in 2017 followed by the huge upward jump to 342 Green turtle nests in 2019 is unequivocal testament that the population augmentation programme for Green turtles by the Cayman Turtle Centre is a vital success factor in the recovery of the turtle population in Cayman."

He went on to say "Looking to the future, we aim to replicate the success of our head-starting and release pro-

gramme to recover the islands' population of hawksbill turtles, for which the 2019 nesting data reveals a dire situation, very near local extinction." There was only one lone hawksbill nest in Grand Cayman and three hawksbill nests in Little Cayman and none in Cayman Brac for 2019. Mr. Adam's said, "Our over 50 years of success have proven that we know how to make this happen."

For more information, call the Cayman Turtle Centre: Island Wildlife Encounter on 345-949-3894, email us at info@turtle.ky, visit us online at www.turtle.ky or find us on Facebook at [Facebook/CaymanTurtle](https://www.facebook.com/CaymanTurtle).

Taste of Cayman Food & Drink Festival postponed due to COVID-19



► The Westin welcomed visitors to their booth

Taste of Cayman Food & Drink Festival 2020 has been postponed from Saturday 4 April 2020, to Saturday 24 October, 2020. The festival has been rescheduled due to COVID-19 concerns and following the guidance is-

sued by the Cayman Islands Government and public health officials yesterday.

"It is important we defer to the authorities for guidance and the safety and health of our attendees, ven-

dors, staff and community must be our highest priority," Ms. Julie Allan, Chair of the Taste of Cayman Committee and member of the CITA Executive Committee said.

"We urge everyone to follow the guidelines and protocols put forth by the government and public health officials."

"We are extremely proud of the Taste of Cayman Food & Drink Festival and of the enthusiasm our community shares for the event. The festival has been a mainstay of Cayman's events calendar for more than 31 years, and we remain committed to celebrating the food and drink of the Cayman Islands."

The Saturday 24 October, 2020 event will still take place at the Festival Green, Camana Bay. Taste of Cayman admission tickets and food and drink tickets which have already been purchased will be valid for the new event date.

If ticket holders are no longer able to attend the new event date, a refund will be issued for a period of two weeks until Monday, 30 March 2020.

For refunds, if tickets were purchased in-store, ticket holders should email sheryl@tower.com.ky for further instructions. If tickets were purchased online, a refund is also available by emailing refunds@eventpro.ky.

Further information can be obtained at the Taste of Cayman website: tasteofcayman.org

"The festival will work through the ticketing arrangements, including refunds, with our attendees and partners in the weeks to come. We thank everyone involved for their support and patience in this difficult time," Ms Allan said.

Caymanian Times

2 for 1

Advertising Sale

Online Banner + Newspaper Ad = (1) low price
Prices starting from \$300

Contact Ralph at 916 2000 or email info@caymaniantimes.ky

CELLULAR WORLD.KY

PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS

Monday to Friday 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

Baytown Plaza, West bay Road
Phone Repairs 943-2355 | Phone Retail 945-2355
Email - info@cellularworld.ky

DENTURE STUDIO

Tradition Of Excellence

Vladimir Tomascik - Denturist

• Free Consultation • New Clients Welcome • Full & Partial Dentures
• Specializing in Cosmetic Dentures • Re-Lines/Soft Liners
• Implants • Athletic mouthguards & night guards
Repairs while you wait! 24hrs

NATIONAL L-STAR FOOTBALL MATCH

CELEBRATE CAYMAN 60 YEARS

60 YEARS. 60 PLAYERS. ONE CELEBRATION FOR THE CONSTITUTION WEEKEND

FREE ADMITTANCE SATURDAY, GATES OPEN AT 10 AM. KICK OFF AT 11 AM. TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS CENTRE

Caymanian Times

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

DAILY PAPER



Description	CI\$	Size (inches) W x H	Maximum # of words
Newspaper Advertisement Full page	900	10 x 20	1 800
Newspaper Advertisement 2/3 page	600	Customized	1 200
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal)	500	10 x 9.9	900
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	
Insert (4 pages)	750	n/a	
Advertorial 1/2 page	500	n/a	
Website Advertising per month	600		

All ads are full colour

Advertising Deadlines (48 Hours prior Publication Day)

Publication Day	Deadline (12pm (noon))
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Monday
Thursday	Tuesday
Friday	Wednesday

Still **FREE**
at over
200 locations
2 days notice for ads

COVID-19 Spreads: First Cases in Antigua, Trinidad, Cayman Islands; New Cases in Martinique, Jamaica

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues its spread across the Caribbean, with Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Cayman Islands reporting their first cases, while additional cases have been confirmed in Jamaica and Martinique.

The latest country to confirm the presence of the virus was Antigua and Barbuda. Prime Minister Gaston Browne announced today that a woman who arrived in the twin-island nation on March 10 from the United Kingdom had tested positive.

The infected woman was staying with family when she began to present with symptoms. She has been isolated at home under the supervision of health officials.

The Ministry of Health in Trinidad announced yesterday that one of the 52 samples sent to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) lab for testing had returned positive – a 52-year-old resident who Monday night returned to the twin-island republic from Switzerland which, up to yesterday, had 645 COVID-19 cases and had recorded four deaths.

The man had isolated himself after arriving, even before he began experiencing symptoms, Health Minister Dr Terrence Deyalsingh later disclosed at a press conference.

By Wednesday, he began experiencing symptoms and samples were taken from him by health authorities. Deyalsingh said he was informed at 2:45 p.m. yesterday that the test returned positive.

"It is a mild case," he said. "The family has been in isolation since we were

alerted, since Wednesday. Contact tracing began on Wednesday under the protocols that we use of tuberculosis," the Health Minister said.

Earlier in the day, the Tourism Ministry announced in a statement that Government had suspended the arrival of cruise ships for the remainder of the 2019-2020 cruise season which ends on April 24.

It said that given the rapid infection of COVID-19 globally, the potential economic loss from the epidemic entering Trinidad and Tobago would outweigh the potential loss associated with the decision to suspend the arrival of cruise ships for the rest of the 2019-2020 cruise season.

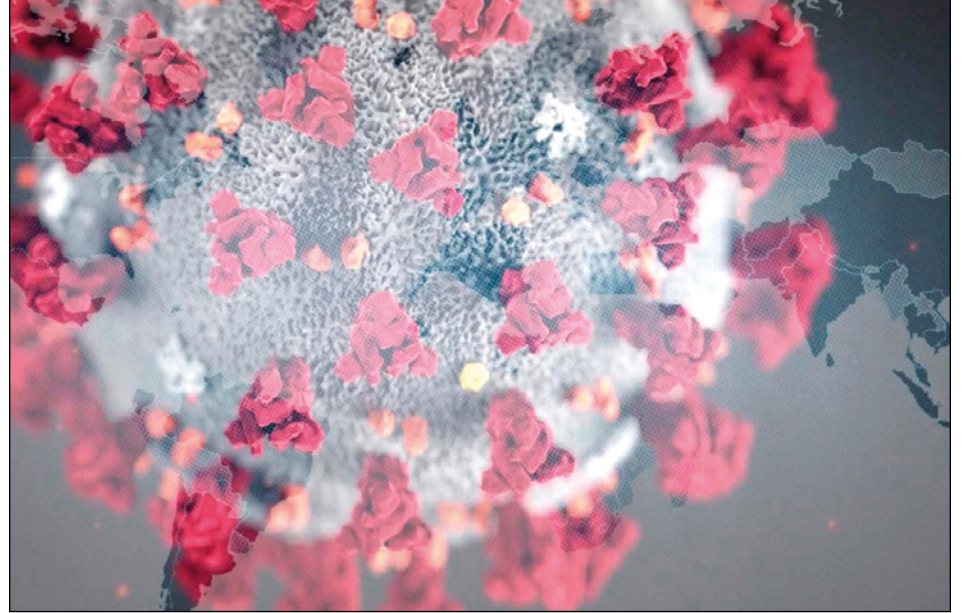
"Public health and safety of our citizens are of utmost importance and there is urgent need to place safeguarding measures in place to protect our citizens from the potential devastating effects of a COVID-19 epidemic," Tourism Minister Randall Mitchell said.

Over in the Cayman Islands, the Public Health Department confirmed the British overseas territory's first COVID-19 case.

"The patient is a visitor who was transferred from a cruise ship for a critical cardiac issue," said Medical Health Officer Dr Samuel Williams-Rodriguez.

"The patient was doing well but subsequently developed breathing difficulties, was isolated and a test taken has confirmed is suffering with the novel Coronavirus."

Clinical Director of Health City Cayman Islands Dr Binoy Chattuparambil said the patient has been isolated and is receiving medical support.



Meantime, Jamaica has confirmed six new cases – including a relative of the first woman who tested positive in the island – bringing the total number to eight.

The 58-year-old father of that first patient was discovered ill at home on Wednesday and was found to have the virus. A 34-year-old female who is a "close contact" of that woman also tested positive, the Ministry of Health said.

The other four were: two men – aged 63 and 67 – who arrived in the island on March 7 from Trinidad, having travelled from Malaysia by way of Dubai and London; a 36-year-old man who travelled from Manchester, England and was taken to hospital from his hotel via ambulance on March 11; and a 31-year-old Jamaican overseas ship worker who came in from the Canary Islands via Portugal and

Miami on February 25 and presented to hospital with symptoms on March 10.

In Martinique, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has increased to four. The Regional Health Agency said the infected individuals are in isolation at the CHU Martinique Hospital, La Meynard, in a special and sheltered quarantine unit.

Other Caribbean countries which have confirmed cases of the virus are: St Vincent and the Grenadines, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Saint Martin, Saint Barthelemy, and Guyana which also recorded the region's first COVID-19 death. Figures provided by the World Health Organization showed that as of yesterday, there were 125,048 confirmed cases across the globe – 80,981 in China where the virus originated – and a total of 4,613 deaths. 🌐

Caribbean Airlines Crew Members in Self-Quarantine Following Death of Passenger Who Had Coronavirus

Caribbean Airlines (CAL) says 13 crew members are in self-quarantine for two weeks, following confirmation that a passenger had tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Guyana.

The 52-year-old woman died earlier this week, becoming the region's first COVID-19-related death.

She had travelled on March 7 on Caribbean Airlines flight BW521 from John F. Kennedy, International Airport, New York to Piarco International Airport, Trinidad in transit to the Cheddi Jagan International Airport in Guyana.

"Caribbean Airlines assures all stakeholders that the safety, security and good health of its customers and employees is its highest priority and when the information on the passenger was received, immediate action was taken," the Trinidad and Tobago-owned carrier said in a statement.

"In accordance with established

protocols the Public Health Authorities have advised that as a precaution, the 13 crew members associated with the flights be placed on self-quarantine for a period of 14 days. This was done, and the employees will be assessed and monitored by the Public Health Authorities in keeping with the directives from the Ministry of Health."

The airline added that the Public Health Authorities are also contacting all persons who may possibly have been affected.

In addition to the daily cleaning at all ports in keeping with industry standards, CAL said, additional sanitization processes were used as outlined by the regulatory authorities.

It assured all stakeholders that it continues to actively monitor and respond to the evolving COVID-19 issue to ensure the safety and good health of its customers and employees.



Meantime, the Cheddi Jagan International Airport has adopted a watch list of 15 countries from where passengers will be flagged before entering the country.

These countries include China, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Italy, Iran, France, Germany, Spain, United States, and Jamaica. 🌐

CARIFTA Games Postponed Because of Coronavirus

The CARIFTA Games will not be held next month in Bermuda as scheduled, with organizers concerned about the threat of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) that has reached several Caribbean countries.

At a press conference held this morning with Sports Minister Lovitta Foggo, the chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee Donna Raynor said the event, which was to be held from April 10 to 13, is off until possibly later this year.

The decision follows additional cases of COVID-19 being recorded in the region.

"This has been a very long week with many twists and turns, but we feel we have come to the right decision for everyone involved in these games," Raynor said.

"We do not want to take the opportunity away from athletes that have trained hard for these games. This is a yearly event etched deep in the history of Bermuda and the Caribbean countries.... We were deep in preparations and were ready to host the CARIFTA Games, and ready to welcome



► The CARIFTA Games could be held later this year instead

the 27 countries to our shores. The main thing we didn't want to do was cancel, so our intention is that sometime this year we will host the CARIFTA Games."

Raynor added that once "it seems all is clear", a new date for the games will

be worked out in conjunction with the other Caribbean countries.

While disappointed, Minister Foggo said she understood why the decision was taken.

"These are unprecedented times and the health, safety and wellbeing of all

our young people in all of our regions is our first priority. While putting on an event like CARIFTA is not new for us, as we have hosted it several times previously, the COVID-19/Corona virus and the health risks it represents is an extraordinary situation which is challenging even the greatest of nations," she said.

"So, we are exercising our extreme caution by adhering to the guidelines of the global and local health experts and professionals. And as Minister, I stand here in support of Donna Raynor, the Chairperson of CARIFTA 2020 and President of the Bermuda National Athletics Association, all of our athletes, coaches and parents."

The 49th CARIFTA Games were set to attract more than 600 athletes from 27 Caribbean countries. This is the fifth time that Bermuda will be hosting the games which features 150 separate events.

There have been COVID-19 cases confirmed in Antigua and Barbuda, the Cayman Islands, Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Martin, Saint Barthelemy and Trinidad and Tobago. 🌐

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 41 Cager Shaquille centers
 - 1 Apple fur
 - 6 Lukewarm tycoon
 - 11 Dancer Castle
 - 12 Sports site paper
 - 13 Outdoor gathering
 - 15 — loss (baffled)
 - 16 Take to court
 - 17 Old hand
 - 18 Tourists' cars
 - 20 Swelled head
 - 21 Symbol of wisdom
 - 22 Small songbird
 - 23 Mocks
 - 26 Aquarium fish
 - 27 Florence's river
 - 28 Mercury or Mars
 - 29 Carpet cleaner, for short
 - 30 Autumn apples
 - 34 Fire remnant
 - 35 Braying beast
 - 36 Obtained
 - 37 Police-led group
 - 40 Banks of the Cubs
- DOWN**
- 1 Humidor item
 - 2 Speak
 - 3 Showed over
 - 4 Finish
 - 5 Play-ground sights
 - 6 Uses a VCR
 - 7 Memorable time
 - 8 Misapply
 - 9 Whole number
 - 10 Florida's — 500
 - 14 Empty
 - 19 Bull, in Barcelona
 - 22 Ties the knot
 - 23 Borneo neighbor
 - 24 Pencil ends
 - 25 Charm
 - 26 Drunkard
 - 28 Be effusive
 - 30 Indy entrant
 - 31 Snowy bird
 - 32 Add up
 - 33 Flair
 - 38 Carnival city
 - 39 Singer DiFranco

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

Yesterday's answer

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			

SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

12/05

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★

©2018 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Word Search

- Exact
- Example
- Exams
- Excerpt
- Excess
- Excise
- Excuse
- Exhaust
- Exile
- Exodus
- Exotic
- Expense
- Expert
- Expiry
- Exploit
- Export
- Exposure
- Express
- Extent
- Exterior
- Extra
- Extreme

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

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

Have fun with CAYMANIAN TIMES

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

LOOK, ONION, IT'S OUR "PAL," CURTIS WIMPKINS!

OH NO, DERRICK AND ONION!

I HEAR YO' MAMA'S SO STUPID THAT WHEN SOMEBODY SAID, "IT'S CHILLY OUTSIDE"...

SHE RAN OUT WITH A SPOON!

IF JACKASSES COULD TALK, THAT'S WHAT THEY WOULD SOUND LIKE!

BRAY! BRAY! HA HA HECKLE! BRAY

BRAY BRAY BRAY BRAY

©2019 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

BILLINGSLEY

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN

By Stan Lee

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? I ORDERED YOU TO EXECUTE THOSE GUARDS!

Hnnnn...

HE'S RESISTING MY POWER! A COMMAND TO MURDER WAS A BRIDGE TOO FAR!

IGNORE THAT DIRECTIVE! SIMPLY WEB THEM UP!

STAN LEE 1/ ALEX SAVIUK 1/29

©2019 Marvel Characters, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

I'M SORRY, WHAT DID YOU SAY?

WE'RE RELEASING YOUR CLIENT. BUT SHE MAY NOT LEAVE THE ISLAND FOR THE PRESENT TIME.

WAIT, ONE MOMENT YOU'RE ALL BUT DECLARING HER GUILT ACROSS THE GLOBE AND THE NEXT YOU'RE LETTING HER GO? WHAT IS GOING ON?!

MARCIULLIANO + MANLEY 1-29

DON'T WORRY, MR. DRIVER. I'M CERTAIN WE'LL BE TALKING AGAIN SOON.

©2019 NORTH AMERICA SYNDICATE, INC. WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

Times

Caymanian



DAILY PAPER



**Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday**

Still FREE
at over
200 locations

2 days notice for ads
call 9162000 or
Email sales@caymaniantimes.ky