

50¢ starting January 2021

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## House of Parliament Rises

By Christopher Tobutt

Friday December 4th was an historic and auspicious occasion marking a milestone in Cayman's constitutional advancement.

On that date, the jurisdiction heralded the inauguration of its Parliament, replacing the previous Legislative Assembly.

Hon Premier Alden McLaughlin noted the significance by reminding the nation that it went beyond the change of designation.

"We are gathered here to change the name of a building. But we are doing so much more than that," he said. "This building has always stood as a symbol of our national identity and our potential as a free, self-governing people."

"As well as the establishment of our own Parliament for the first time, these Constitutional amendments include changes that are important both symbolically and in terms of the substantive enhancement of Caymanian self-government that they bring."

### PREMIER'S CAUTIONARY NOTE TO UK

In that context, Premier McLaughlin particularly had a message for the British government when he stated:

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## Christmas Social for Seniors

A lively crowd of around 200 delighted seniors attended a very special evening of dining and entertainment at the Lion's Centre on Wednesday 02 December.

The Department of the Children and Family Services (DCFS) organised the event bearing in mind current COVID-19 prevention regulations. Sponsors, including the Lions Club of Grand Cayman, Public Service Pension Board and CICS Co-operative Credit Union, contributed to the venue, the meal as well as Christmas gift bags for each senior.

Guests bused in from around the island with DCFS's Community Development Officers help-

ing to mobilise seniors within their assigned districts.

The evening also paid tribute to Mr Roy and Ms Reva Bodden who had been married 64 years ago yesterday. Mr Bodden, a musician, delighted the audience by serenading his wife with a song shortly afterwards.

Noting that the oldest person in attendance was 100 years old, but still took advantage of the opportunity to dance, organisers say seniors repeatedly expressed their gratitude for an opportunity to

... Continued story on page 3



► 5. Roy and Reva Bodden celebrated their 64th anniversary at the social (Photo courtesy by GIS)

## RCIPS Launches 2020 Holiday Safety Campaign



RCIPS' holiday safety operations commenced on 4th December, with measures to amplify visible patrols and community support, along with increased road safety education and awareness campaigns supported by intensified road enforcement operations. The operations continue throughout the holiday season and into the New Year in an effort to ensure a safe holiday season for members of the public as they do their shopping, travel the roads and enjoy festivities.

"The purpose of our 2020 Holiday Safety Campaign focuses on ensuring we have great policing presence to provide reassurance to the public while also deterring crime, both within our communities and business locations, especially during this time of increased commercial activity and late opening hours," said Brad Ebanks, Acting Superintendent of Uniform Operations. "Community Police officers will be conducting evening foot patrols across

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# EDITORIAL

## TRACKING COVID IN CAYMAN AND GLOBALLY

As at December 4th there were currently 29 active cases of COVID-19 in Cayman.

This confirmation comes as Chief Medical Officer, Dr John Lee, reported on Friday that of 442 COVID-19 tests have been carried out on the previous 24 hours, one was positive.

The individual is an asymptomatic traveller who returned a positive test result following routine screening. The person has been placed in isolation until considered recovered.

The number of people in isolation, either at a government facility or in their homes as required by the Medical Officer of Health, is currently 1,317.

From this past Monday to Friday, 15 persons have tested positive for COVID this week of whom 13 were asymptomatic.

The spike in the number of COVID-positive cases has been mainly associated with travellers.

Of the 289 cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Cayman since the outbreak was first recorded here in March, 258 have recovered.

No one who has tested for COVID is presently hospitalised.

There have been two deaths directly linked to the virus.

To date, 54,169 tests for the COVID-19 virus have been carried out in Cayman.

Recent high-profile breaches of the isolation protocols have also refocused attention to the risk posed by the virus to the Cayman community.

Travel Cayman which is overseeing the COVID travel and isolation system has ramped up its surveillance and contact tracing of persons who may have been exposed to the persons responsible for breaking the isolation protocols.

Enforcement regulations have also been tightened with the fine for violating the isolation protocols now set at CI\$10,000.

A police investigation has been launched and the latest known breach is being reviewed for prosecution.

It was second confirmed violation of the protocol in a short period resulting



in legal action being taken against the offenders.

With the 1,317 persons currently quarantining either at home or in government-managed facilities, there are growing concerns about the potential of more positive cases involving travellers especially and the pressure this is likely to put on the system with more people arriving over the Christmas holiday period.

The COVID-19 pandemic has entered a worrying second phase in many countries.

In the UK 60,000 people are now known to have died from disease, with more succumbing due to other complications associated with the virus.

The United States has also seen worrying spikes recently with concerns of a further surge being linked to recent Thanksgiving Holiday travel and fears of more cases over the Christmas period.

Over 276,000 people have died in the US and there are currently more than 14.5 million cases.

The US has the most deaths and cases of COVID globally, followed by India.

Amidst the gloom of the pandemic with its devastating impact on lives and livelihoods came the encouraging news this week that the UK has become the first country to approved one brand of vaccine.

The British government has announced a massive national vaccination programme starting this month, said to be the biggest in the country's history.

The UK has also confirmed that vaccine doses will be made available to Cayman and other British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## ENJOY THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS AT THE BLUE IGUANA CONSERVATION FACILITY AND THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II BOTANIC PARK

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) and The Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park (QEII BP) have come together to offer a special promotion that benefits both the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park and the NTCI's Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) programme. Although separate organizations, we recognize the need to support one another and this joint package allows the opportunity for "The Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park and National Trust for the Cayman Islands continue to share the same goals, the conservation of native species and the environment through awareness and education," says John Lawrus, General Manager at QEII BP.



Individuals and families are encouraged to take advantage of this special promotion during 3rd December 2020 - 1st January 2021. Explore both the Botanic Park and Blue Iguana Conservation facility for \$10 per person from Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00am-2:00pm. Proceeds from this joint ticket supports both the Botanic Park and Blue Iguana Conservation.

This special promotion offers visitors a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the best of both worlds. For a minimal fee of \$10 for both kids and adults, visitors have exclusive access to both the Botanic Park and BIC Facility for a self-guided tour. Enjoy the best of nature walking through the lush gardens at the Botanic Park which offers the

wonderful experience of immersing yourself in nature and seeing stunning native flora and fauna.

In addition, enjoy a guaranteed up close and personal experience with the blues on a self-guided tour at the BIC facility with excellent photo opportunities. Visitors will also have the unique opportunity to see the new renovations at the BIC Facility. With special highlights such as Peter the most iconic blue iguana and Opy the largest blue iguana at the facility who is 8.5kg.

"As a separate organization from the Botanic Park who relies on income generated from guided tours to continue our vital conservation work the recent COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on our income. We hope that this new joint package will provide people the opportunity to visit BIC regularly and allow much needed funds to be generated to continue our conservation efforts of this endangered species," says Luke Harding, Operations Manager, BIC.

Guided tours are also available at both facilities and can be purchased inside the Park's Visitor Centre. Anyone wanting more information or to book a guided tour at either facility is asked to contact the Botanic Park at 947-9462 or email [info@botanic-park.ky](mailto:info@botanic-park.ky).

If you are interested in a guided tour for a more in depth look at the blue iguanas please contact [tours@nationaltrust.org.ky](mailto:tours@nationaltrust.org.ky)



## DCI - Office Closures and Board Meeting Dates to 2021

The Department of Commerce and Investment (DCI) wishes to advise the public of its upcoming office opening hours and board meeting dates:



### Grand Cayman Office Closures:

- Friday, 4 December - Offices closed at noon for staff training
- Friday, 11 December - Office closed at noon for a staff function
- Thursday, 24 December - Offices closed at noon for Christmas Eve
- Thursday, 31 December - Offices closed at noon for New Year's Eve
- Offices will be closed for Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day

• Office will be closed from 22 December to 5 January

### Board Meeting Dates:

- Liquor Licensing Board, Monday, 7 December. Next quarterly meeting will be in March 2021.
- Trade and Business Licensing Board, last meeting date Tuesday, 10 December. Board reopens 7 January 2021.

### Cayman Brac Office Closures:

- Office will be closed December 4, 11, 14, 15

Members of the public can visit [www.dci.gov.ky](http://www.dci.gov.ky) or email [info@dci.gov.ky](mailto:info@dci.gov.ky) for trade and business and other licensing information.

## Christmas Lighting Safety Tip



Never tap into your home's breaker panel or feeder line (to your weatherhead) or hang decorations on this feeder line to power your outdoor Christmas lights. It is extremely dangerous.



Contact 911 in the event of an electrical emergency

The Department of Agriculture's Administration Office, and Cayman Brac Offices will be closed on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 to facilitate a staff function.

We will resume normal working hours on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

The Agriculture Health Inspection Office's in the Customs Courier Building, & Arrivals Hall, Owen Roberts International Airport will operate as normal. Emergency large animal veterinary calls can be made by calling 916-2218.



## Caymanian Times

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► Governor Martyn Roper addresses the 2020 Seniors' Christmas Social at the Lion's Centre. Mrs Roper was also in attendance (Photos courtesy by GIS)



► A crowd of 200 enthusiastic seniors enjoyed dinner, music and dancing

# Seniors Attend Christmas Social

... Continued story from page 1

attend the outdoors event and see each other.

His Excellency the Governor Martyn Roper and Mrs Roper; Parliamentary Secretary for Home Affairs Austin

Harris, MP for Prospect; Parliamentary Secretary Barbara Conolly, MP for George Town South; and Kenneth Bryan MP for George Town Central were among VIPs in attendance. Playing host were Ministry of Community Affairs Chief Officer Teresa Echenique,

Director of the Department of Children and Family Services Paulinda Mendoza Williams and Deputy Director Rayle Roberts.

"We really enjoy putting on these socials and seeing the strong positive impact on the seniors who look forward to

these events and in particular to being able to mingle and enjoy the company of their friends. As such we look forward to hosting these events when possible, while still working to ensure the safety of our seniors", comments Chief Officer Echenique. 🌐



► Guests at the seniors Christmas social enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with their friends



► For the special event seniors were bused to the Lions' Centre from around Grand Cayman

# MEYSAL Adjusts Start Date of Term Two of the 2020-2021 Academic Year

The Minister of Education Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands (EYSAL) Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Conolly has announced an adjustment to the previously published Term Two start date of Monday, 4 January 2021 to Monday, 18 January 2021 for Government Schools. The announcement was made during the Grand Cayman Teachers' Appreciation event at The Kimpton Seafire Resort last Saturday (28 November).

Hon. Minister O'Connor-Conolly stated, "Having realised the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the physical, mental and emotional wellness of our educators, many of whom have not been able to reconnect with their families since the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic, as well as the impact of the requirement to isolate for two weeks upon their return to the Cayman Islands on their ability to travel, the Ministry has extended the Christmas holiday period by two weeks to allow staff from government schools to spend some well-needed time with their families locally and overseas."

Clifton Hunter High School Principal, Dr. Richard Wildman agreed that this extended break would be beneficial to his staff. "The extended Christmas break will have a positive impact on the staff

at Clifton Hunter High School. It creates an opportunity for the staff to fully recharge and prepare for the remainder of this academic year."

Approximately 180 teachers or 22 percent of the staff cohort in government schools initially indicated their desire to travel during the Christmas break.

"The Ministry of EYSAL has had consultation with the Department of Sports, the Youth Services Unit (YSU) and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) through the Extended After-school Programme, to ensure that activities are put in place to engage our children and young people during the extended break," Minister O'Connor-Conolly continued.

Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service Hon. Franz Manderson says the civil service will support employees who may need to make alternate child care arrangements. "The civil service will institute flexible working arrangements for civil servants whose children attend public schools," Mr. Manderson stated. "Civil servants who are affected by school closures are requested to refer to CIG's existing policies on Remote Working and Flexible Work Hours when requesting consideration by their managers," he added.



The Ministry and the Department of Education Services (DES) have further announced that they are working closely with the airlines and the Health Services Authority (HSA) to facilitate travel and to ensure that proper public health protocols are observed.

"The Department of Education Services has also recognised the implications that this adjustment may have on the instructional time and has implemented appropriate measures to ensure that our students will receive 185 teaching days as outlined in the Education Law 2016," Senior School Improvement Officer (SSIO) Ian O'Connor added earlier this week while deputizing for the DES Director.

In adhering to the legal requirement of 185 instructional days in an aca-

ademic year, DES and MEYSAL noted that 3 storm days also needed to be recouped during the 2020-2021 academic year due to the passing of Hurricanes Delta and Eta. The following additional changes to the school calendar have therefore also been approved to ensure compliance with the Education Law.

Private schools may make arrangements as they see fit, also being mindful of the legal requirement of 185 instructional days during the year.

MEYSAL will continue to provide any additional updates through the official channels for the latest government news and updates.

For the latest government news and updates, visit [www.gov.ky/all-news](http://www.gov.ky/all-news). 🌐

Adjustments to dates during the 2020-2021 academic year	
Original Dates	Revised Dates
Start of Term 2 on January 4th 2021.	<b>Start of Term 2 on January 18th 2021.</b>
Half-term holiday from February 15th – 19th 2021, with Ash Wednesday (February 17th 2021) as a Public Holiday.	<b>February 15th, 16th, 18th and 19th 2021 set as school days, with Ash Wednesday (February 17th 2021) as a Public Holiday.</b>
Professional Development Day on March 26th 2021.	<b>March 26th 2021 set as a school day.</b>
Easter Break from April 2nd – 9th 2021, with Good Friday (April 2nd 2021) and Easter Monday (April 5th 2021) as Public Holidays.	<b>April 8th and 9th 2021 set as school days, with Good Friday (April 2nd 2021) and Easter Monday (April 5th 2021) as Public Holidays, and April 6th and 7th 2021 remaining as part of the Easter Break.</b>
School year ends June 30th 2021.	<b>School year ends July 9th 2021; July 5th 2021 is a Public Holiday.</b>

**Important Notes for the 2021-2022 School Calendar**

- New staff, Principals and Deputy Principals return to work the week of August 16th 2021.
- All other staff return to work the week of August 23rd 2021.
- Students return to school the week of August 30th 2021.

**Exact dates will be provided with the release of the 2021-2022 School Calendar.**

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# OtisAir offers leading air technology proven to kill Covid-19

OtisAir brings pure air to the Cayman Islands residential and commercial community as exclusive distributor of the REME HALO LED®, the only air purification system proven to kill SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) by 99.9%.

A recent study by RGF® Environmental Group, Inc., a leading environmental design, and manufacturing company, has recently released the results of a third-party study that reveal REME HALO LED® efficacy of 99.9% against the Covid-19 virus.

The study, conducted by a third-party lab approved to work with the virus, showed the best-selling, patented REME HALO LED® by RGF to be effective in combating COVID-19 and a valuable solution to immediately improve the indoor air quality of residential and commercial spaces, protecting occupants against exposure to the Covid-19 virus in the air and on surfaces.

The test procedure used the Covid-19 virus inside a large chamber representing a real-world air-conditioned office or home. The virus was nebulized into the space simulating a sneeze or cough from an infected person. With the REME HALO LED® using RGF's proprietary PHICell® technology operating inside the

chamber the virus was reduced on contact, resulting in a 99.9% reduction.

"This is a huge breakthrough for RGF® Environmental Group, Inc.," said Nicola Platt of OtisAir. "OtisAir has been a proud partner and exclusive distributor of the REME HALO LED® for over 3 years. The REME HALO LED® by RGF is the only air purification system on the market proven to significantly neutralized Covid-19, reducing the risk of person-to-person infection by respiratory particles and aerosols and we are proud to bring this leading technology to the Cayman Islands community."

"Not only is the REME HALO LED® able to kill Covid-19 by 99.9%, but it is also quick to install and easily integrated within any existing HVAC system. This revolutionary air purification system doesn't take away from living space and safely and effectively purifies every cubic inch of air-conditioned space, delivering a cleaner and better indoor air quality environment for our customers," said Nicola. "We have found no other air purification system able to deliver such high-quality results."

"In our New Normal, the public deserves the confidence of indoor air quality solutions that are backed by sci-



ence. This study proves the efficacy of one of our flagship products," said Ron Fink, CEO, RGF® Environmental Group, Inc. "From restaurants to schools and places of business, RGF's REME HALO LED® is a tested and proven solution that provides the peace of mind people need."

RGF manufactures over 500 environmental products and has a 35+ year his-

tory of providing the world with the safest air, water and food without the use of chemicals.

To learn more about the REME HALO LED® leading technology visit the OtisAir Facebook Page.

Want the REME HALO LED® installed in your home or office? Contact Nicola Platt on (345) 924-6244 or email nicola.platt@otisairky. 🌐

# Quarantine breacher may face hefty fine

The individual who breached the rules governing quarantining at home on Sunday 30th November is having their case reviewed by the Director of Public Prosecution who will determine whether their rule-breaking may ultimately cost them \$10,000 or even a two-year stint in jail.

Having completed their investigations, the RCIPS have now passed the case over to the DPP to see whether they believe the person in question ought to be prosecuted. The maximum fine for such a breach of Cayman's strict quarantine rules is now \$10,000.

In addition to the RCIPS investigations, Public Health have also undertaken contact tracing to see with whom the person came into close contact during their time spent outside their quarantine residence. It was reported that the individual, who had travelled to Cayman from overseas, left their quarantine residence to attend a public jet ski event, a breach of the mandatory Quarantine at Residence rules, and was then relocated to a government sponsored facility at the traveller's expense.

Because of the individual breaking their quarantine and mixing with others

at the jet ski event, six more people, including the traveller, are now in mandatory quarantine. Public Health said that all these individuals would be tested on Thursday, 3rd December, to allow sufficient time for incubation of the virus and they would then be re-tested at the end of their quarantine.

Not only does the individual in question face prosecution, but others may also be charged in connection with the breach. Upon summary conviction, offenders are liable to a fine of up to CI\$10,000 and imprisonment for up to two years. As the event they attended was outdoors, this reduced the close contact that could have taken place had the individual mixed with others indoors, thereby reducing the numbers that needed to isolate. It could however have been a different story, had the person attended a gathering indoors.

Medical Officer of Health, Dr Samuel Williams-Rodriguez emphasised the need for everyone in the community to take a collective responsibility for people's health during the pandemic.

"I would like to use this opportunity to implore everyone in the Cayman Islands, visitors and residents alike, to take ownership and responsibility for your own health and the protection of our community. Together we will get through this," he said.

The Programme Board, which monitors the Quarantine at Residence programme, said that there was no malfunction in the wearable tracking technology that was being utilised with

participants, and that the monitoring team at the Department of Public Safety Communications acted in full compliance with established protocols.

However, as a result of the individual's breach, the number of checks at the airport by the Mobile Compliance Team have been increased, to ensure that wristbands have been fitted correctly prior to travellers exiting the arrival hall.

Franz Manderson, Programme Board Chair, said he was satisfied that the monitoring and compliance checks that are built into the QAR programme provided sufficient safeguards on a number of levels to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19.

"Over 1,000 travellers to date have been approved to quarantine at a residence, and the vast majority have complied with the restrictions and completed their quarantine without incident. Notwithstanding, public safety remains a top priority and government will not hesitate to seek prosecution of anyone confirmed to have violated the QAR protocols," he confirmed.

The RCIPS have confirmed that three previous breaches are still under investigation. 🌐



## ISOLATION || QUARANTINE

What is the difference?



**Isolation**

**Used for**  
People with confirmed or suspected COVID-19

**Why**  
To keep the person from infecting others

**Where**  
Could be at home, a health care facility, or an isolation location



**Quarantine**

**Used for**  
People who were potentially exposed to COVID-19 and who are not sick

**Why**

- The person could have the virus in their body even without symptoms
- To quickly identify early symptoms

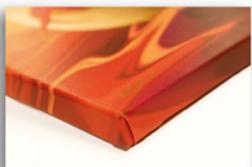
**Where**  
Could be at home or a quarantine location

Washington State Department of Health

For more information: [www.cdc.gov/quarantine](http://www.cdc.gov/quarantine)

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# HISTORY MADE AS CAYMAN'S PARLIAMENT RISES

... Continued story from page 1

"If the UK wishes to avoid driving the Territories to choose independence, particularly before they are ready, then it must allow the OT's greater autonomy over our destinies."

This, he said, includes the ability for the Territories "to make our own mistakes and to learn from them."

"The UK must not feel that it is bound to intervene every time it believes that a Territory has made or is making a mistake, Premier McLaughlin stated.

He pointed to one aspect of the Constitution which the UK government had refused to change, especially on the recent controversy which resulted in the Governor unilaterally enacting a Civil Partnerships law.

"I still believe the retention of Section 81, allowing the Governor to legislate directly in areas of the Governor's special responsibilities, is one such provision that needs to be abolished...I truly hope that a future Cayman Government can persuade the UK that, despite its misgivings, this section must go," the Premier insisted.

## GOVERNOR: CAYMAN AS ROLE MODEL

In his Throne Speech, His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper congratulated the Cayman Islands on the constitutional reforms, paid tribute to the Government for its handling of the pandemic, and spoke with optimism about the future.

He also addressed the thorny issue of Section 81 of the Constitution stating that he had only used the powers as an exceptional measure to bring the Cayman Islands in line with 'the rule of law,' within the context of UK's obligations as a signatory to the European Convention on Human Rights.

"As UK Ministers said at the recent Joint Ministerial Council virtual meeting, the constitutional talks with Cayman were a role model for how such talks should be conducted and one other Territories could follow," Governor Roper remarked.

He said, "The Cayman delegation demonstrated cross-party agreement and unity at those talks, which had a powerful impact on the UK and the success of the negotiations."

## SPEAKER'S WARNING BELL

For Hon. Speaker of the Parliament of the Cayman Islands, McKeeva Bush, it served as a moment to issue a timely warning.

"At this first meeting of our Parliament I would ring this warning bell," he declared.



Referring to comments made on mainstream and social media, the Speaker of the Parliament chided "those leading the charge against everything".

"They are prepared to act irresponsibly to get their way. And it has been said if they can't have their way and be the captain, they will go in the engine room and wreck the engine."

"As I listen, I don't hear a solution, and my warning bell is this," Speaker Bush admonished:

"If we Caymanians listen to what I'm hearing and if that is the kind of Cayman of the future where the church is being torn apart at times and where government is derided at all levels - not just the politicians but the civil servants as well - if that's the kind of future then only God could save us."

"There are no solutions," he posited, going on to say: "Those listening must ask the question 'have those people done anything to ever help anyone?'"

## OPPOSITION LEADER CALLS FOR 'RESET'

Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, Arden McLean, opted not to, as he put in, "go into the minutiae of these changes" - a reference to the transition from Legislative Assembly to Parliament.

Basing his presentation on the theme "What is the collective purpose of all of us who call the Cayman Islands home?" he set out to "put a few things into perspective".

Looking at the history and development of Cayman, he concluded that "today we are the envy of many" noting the passing of the torch by Caymanians through the generations.

Reviewing the jurisdiction's economic and constitutional advancement, he pointed out that while the GDP per capita of Cayman puts it among the top five in the world, the average Caymanian was not seeing the benefits of that especially considering the high cost of living.

"The economy is doing well but it does not translate to the standard of living of

the average Caymanian he observed where the jurisdiction while ranking in the top five of GDP per capita, it is placed at about 30 on the global Human Development Index.

"In essence Mr Speaker, the economy is doing well but it has not translated into an equivalent standard of living for our people," the Opposition Leader stated.

He also drew parallels with the constitutional advancement of Cayman noting that the Constitution is "a mere eleven years old yet today we are recognising the second amendment thereto."

Against the backdrop of the oft-repeated comment; 'who are we developing for?', Mr McClean acknowledged the role of both Caymanians and the non-nationals in Cayman's growth and urged that all, irrespective of background, should benefit from this, recalling the phrase 'a rising tide lifts all boats'.

Looking at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic the Leader of the Official Opposition said it was an opportunity to "press the reset button" towards "a goal of One Cayman" being advocated by his faction in the new Parliament.

With the new Parliament taking control of its own administration from January as part of the package of constitutional amendments, the Leader of the Official Opposition also called for further changes including a series of proposals for electoral reform.

## POMP, CEREMONY, AND HISTORY

As part of the formal ceremony, the four Ministerial Councillors - Hon. Barbara Conolly - also Deputy Speaker; Capt. Eugene Ebanks, Mr. Austin Harris and Mr. David Wight - received Instruments of Appointment as Parliamentary Secretaries from the Governor.

All 19 Cayman Islands' new MPs and the two ex-officio MPs received from the Speaker of the Parliament, Hon. McKeeva Bush, symbolic keys to the Parliament crafted in Caymanite by local artist Mr. Horacio Esteban.



They also received from the Premier celebratory personal copies of a document outlining their changed status to Members of Parliament from MLAs, along with a copy of a specially commissioned painting of the Parliament building by local artist Mr. Gordon Solomon.

The opening of the House of Parliament on Friday, 4th December makes the Cayman Islands' unicameral legislature only the third United Kingdom Overseas Territory (OT), and the first among Caribbean OTs, to be designated as a Parliament, behind Bermuda and Gibraltar.

It brought the curtains down on the Legislative Assembly established on 4th July 1959 when the Cayman Islands got its first written Constitution.

The move ushered in 61 years ago, installed the Islands' House of Legislature, replacing the bicameral Assembly of Justices and Vestry which had been in place for 128 years since 31st December 1831.

On 11 November 2020, the UK Privy Council formalised the move from LA to Parliament as one of several constitutional reform changes following discussions with the Cayman Islands.

To mark the occasion, the Cayman Islands received many congratulatory messages notably from the Prince of Wales, the UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and former UK Overseas Territories Minister Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon who was involved in the talks, as well as a number of heads of regional governments.

The formal ceremony was followed by a reception with live entertainment by Synergy and an opportunity to learn about Cayman Islands' constitutional history at an exhibit at Constitution Hall.

The event was choreographed by Celebrate Cayman, the Offices of the Premier and the Speaker's Office.

It was flawlessly emceed by Cabinet Secretary Mr Samuel Rose.



# GOVERNOR DELIVERS THRONE SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW CAYMAN ISLANDS PARLIAMENT

Friday 4 December the Governor delivered his Throne speech in the newly named Parliament. His Excellency congratulated the Cayman Islands on their constitutional reforms, paid tribute to the Government for its handling of the pandemic and spoke with optimism about the future, highlighting the opportunity to build back greener. Governor also highlighted UK support to Cayman including with the development of the Cayman Islands Regiment. He stressed his continued commitment to the islands.

The Governor passed on messages of congratulations on the constitutional reforms and the creation of the new Parliament from HRH The Prince of Wales, the UK Prime Minister and Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon.

HRH The Prince of Wales said: "It gives me great pleasure and pride to congratulate the people of the Cayman Islands on the agreement to reform and modernise your Constitution, and on the creation of your new Parliament which, together, represent an important moment for the strong and vibrant democracy that exists in the Islands. "Hav-

ing such fond and special memories of our visit to the Cayman Islands in March 2019, and of the remarkable warmth of the welcome we so touchingly received, my wife and I particularly wanted to send the new Members of Parliament, and all the people of the Cayman Islands whom they represent, our warmest wishes and to say how much you are all in our thoughts at this time."

UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson said: "I would like to congratulate the people of the Cayman Islands on their constitutional reforms, which signal how far they have come in developing into a mature democracy. New powers come with a heavy burden of responsibility, which no politician should bear lightly, but I am confident that the members of the Cayman Islands Parliament will build upon the successes of recent decades, which have propelled the Islands forward as a modern democracy working in partnership with the United Kingdom."

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, who was UK Minister for the Overseas Territories at the start of the negotiations and now, also sent his good wish-

es. He said: "I am delighted that the constitutional reforms are now coming into effect. This signals another step forward by the people of the Cayman Islands to advance the vibrant democracy they have built as the foundation for prosperity which shines as an example to others across the Caribbean.

"I congratulate the Honourable Premier who played a pivotal role and leaves these changes as part of his substantial legacy. I also congratulate the then Leader of the Opposition, current Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and other members of the negotiating team, for the role they played in securing a successful negotiation. I look forward to working with the new Cayman Islands Parliament."

The Governor said: "Those messages (from HRH, UK PM and Lord Ahmad) underline the highly constructive UK/Cayman dialogue on constitutional change that brought us to this point today.

"As UK Ministers said at the recent Joint Ministerial Council virtual meeting, the constitutional talks with Cayman were a role model for how such talks should be conducted and one oth-



► His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper

er Territories could follow. The Cayman delegation demonstrated cross-party agreement and unity at those talks, which had a powerful impact on the UK and the success of the negotiations. I was pleased to play a role myself as observer in December 2018, shortly after I was appointed Governor. I have worked closely with the Premier since then to ensure the process moved forward, including navigating the inevitable delays caused by Covid." 🌐

**POLICE NEWS**

# RCIPS Launches 2020 Holiday Safety Campaign

... Continued story from page 1

residential communities and commercial areas around the Cayman Islands to increase visibility and provide support to residents, business owners and shoppers through the Holiday Season. Our Traffic and Roads Policing Unit will be increasing its efforts with high visibility patrols and traffic checkpoints, with the aim of reducing traffic collisions and increasing road safety by cracking down on drunk driving, distracted driving, and speeding. Of course, these activities are a major focus of the RCIPS year-round, however, the festive period brings with it additional issues and challenges. I would ask all members of the public to work with the police, by simply following the law and behaving responsibly, as we continue to work to keep our communities safer."

"As we enter the festive season, we know that social gatherings become more frequent and so the temptation to drink and drive increases," said Inspector Dwayne Jones, head of the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit. "This year especially, we are fortunate to be able to celebrate the holidays in ways that persons in many other countries cannot. However, there is still no excuse to behave irresponsibly. If you will be consuming alcohol, then you must find an alternative to driving. If not, you will face the consequences."

As in previous years, the RCIPS continues to support the National Drug Council in their annual Designated Driver, Purple Ribbon Pledge, and New Year's Eve Purple Ribbon Bus Campaigns. The Designated Driver Campaign begins this week and continues throughout the holiday season. The campaign is an initiative among local

restaurants, which offer to provide the designated driver of a party with complimentary soft drinks throughout the evening. Meanwhile, the Purple Ribbon Bus service provides free bus service on New Year's Eve from 9:00 PM to 4:00 AM for all districts on Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. Additionally, the RCIPS encourages drivers to take the Purple Ribbon Pledge to not drink and drive over the holiday season. Visit the National Drug Council (<https://www.facebook.com/NDCCayman>) for more information.

RCIPS are also reminding the public to be especially cautious of financial crime, which tends to increase during the holiday season, as persons increase their online shopping and transactions using debit and credit cards. Always be sure to take appropriate precautions when engaging in these activities, and be sure to guard your financial information closely. More



► Dwayne Jones, head of the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit

tips on financial crime prevention can be found on our website (<https://www.rcips.ky/rcips-fciu-issues-public-advisory-on-financial-scams-30-september>) and on our social media channels. 🌐

## Cayman Heart Fund Donates Life-Saving AED Equipment to the RCIPS

On Friday 4th December, the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) was delighted to announce that it has received a donation of 22 AED (Automated External Defibrillators) battery packs and 20 CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) Kits from the Cayman Heart Fund. This generous donation means that these life-saving devices remain ready to be used by front-line officers should an emergency arise.

Between 2012 and 2016 the Cayman Heart Fund donated 20 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to the RCIPS. These are in police stations across all three islands, the Detention Centre, the RCIPS helicopter, Coast Guard vessels, and certain police vehicles.

Helping to coordinate the initial donation, deployment, and continued maintenance of the AEDs, are Acting Sergeant Brandaughn Phillips and Special Constable Inspector Jayse Wilson. The officers recognized the importance of the devices and helped the RCIPS reach out to the Cayman Heart Fund, who were more than willing to assist.

"Our aim was to better equip first responders with the tools to render critical first aid to a victim experiencing a cardiac condition. This is part of our ongoing commitment to supporting the Cayman Islands community's access to lifesaving equipment," said Suzy Soto, Founder and Chair Emeritus of the Cayman Heart Fund.

"When a person suffers a cardiac arrest, unless they are treated within minutes, they usually die because blood is no longer being pumped to the brain

and other parts of the body," says Dr. Bella Beraha, Chairperson of the Cayman Heart Fund. "Quickly shocking the heart with an AED can save a person's life after their heart suddenly stops beating."

An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is a portable easy-to-use electronic medical device that any by-stander without prior medical knowledge can use when someone has a sudden cardiac arrest. AEDs themselves do not expire, however, their battery packs need replacing every three to four years to ensure they remain operational. The batteries of the RCIPS AEDs became due for replacement just as the Cayman Islands started to come out of the COVID-19 lock down in July.

"We are exceptionally grateful to the Cayman Heart Fund for their support over the years, from their initial donation of the AEDs, to this donation of replacement battery packs and CPR kits," says Kurt Walton, Deputy Commissioner of Police. "Having these AEDs available and easily accessible means that our officers have one more tool at their disposal in saving lives, and this donation allows us to ensure that they remain ready to be utilized."

"Due to the unique conditions created by the Coronavirus pandemic we were aware that the demand for police services was greatly altered in 2020," says Katie O'Neill, Board Member, Cayman



► (L-R) Acting Police Sergeant Brandaughn Phillips, CHF Director Katie O'Neill, CHF Founder and Chair Emeritus Suzy Soto, CHF Chairperson Dr. Bella Beraha, CHF Coordinator Allison Olarou, Deputy Commissioner Kurt Walton (Photo courtesy by RCIPS)

Heart Fund. "One of the Cayman Heart Fund's objectives is to make this a safer country and we are pleased to donate AED equipment to the RCIPS in order to ensure these life saving devices remain ready to be used by front-line officers should an emergency situation arise."

To increase the likelihood of surviving a cardiac event, a first responder must have the ability to use an AED right away, generally within the first three minutes. Police officers are frequently the first responders to such incidents, often before an ambulance arrives.

"The AED's available from the Cayman Heart Fund are compact and lightweight and designed for simplicity, with a single on/off button and easy to understand visual and voice prompts that guide the rescuer through the entire resuscitation process, including CPR—a key link in the chain of survival," says Allison Olarou, CHF

Coordinator. "Our aim is to have as many AEDs as possible in the community."

AEDs can be purchased from the Cayman Heart Fund for homes or workplaces. For every nine AEDs that the CHF sells, they donate the tenth one to somewhere in need.

"While these devices are common in many businesses, schools and public venues, many gatherings and events in the Cayman Islands take place without one nearby," adds Allison. "To help make this lifesaving technology more readily available, anyone can request an AED on a temporary basis, from the CHF free of charge through our AED Loan Program."

As with all charitable organisations the Cayman Heart Fund's fundraising has been greatly impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic. Team Nolan, the paediatric program of the Cayman Heart Fund, was forced to postpone its largest awareness and fundraising event, KIDS-FEST, originally planned for June 27, 2020.

"Cayman Heart Fund is a non-profit organization incorporated under the Companies Law (2007 Revision) in 2007, with Registration License # 220594," says Allison. "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."

If you require further information, please contact the Cayman Heart Fund at: (345) 916-6324 or email: [info@caymanheartfund.com](mailto:info@caymanheartfund.com) 🌐

## Shots Fired near local bar in George Town

Just after 12AM today, Sunday 6 December, police were to a report of shots being fired in the vicinity of a bar located along Seymour's Rd, George Town.

One man who was at the location attended the George Town Police Station with an injury to head and reported that he was hit in the head with a handgun by a man at the location on Seymour's Rd.

The man was transported to the Cayman Islands Hospital from the GTPS via ambulance. He was treated for what is believed to be a non-life-threatening injury and later released. No other persons have reported injuries to the police at this time.

The incident is under police investigation by the Criminal Investigations Department. Detectives are encouraging

anyone with information pertaining to this incident to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Additionally, anonymous tips may be provided directly to the RCIPS Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website. Tips can also be submitted anonymously via the Miami-based call centre of Crime Stoppers at 800-8477(TIPS), or online. 🌐



# Ministry of International Trade Welcomes Deputy Chief Officer

The Ministry of International Trade, Investment, Aviation and Maritime Affairs (MITIAMA) welcomes Andrea Fa'amoe to the role of Deputy Chief Officer.

Ms Fa'amoe took up the role in September 2020 from her previous role as Director of Human Capital Development and the Civil Service College in the Portfolio of the Civil Service (POCS). She will assist Chief Officer Eric Bush in delivering the newest Ministry's strategic goals, including working to enhance the reputation of the Cayman Islands, making it easier to do business with Government and helping to advance the economic and political interests of the government, the people and the business community and to facilitate potential overseas investors doing business in the Cayman Islands' economy.

As Deputy Chief Officer, Ms. Fa'amoe is responsible for assisting with the over-

all management of Ministry activities, in addition to developing strategies to boost marketability and efficiency. She will also be tasked with coordinating across the government departments, allied statutory authorities and government companies (SAGCs) under the Ministry's remit.

Ms Fa'amoe began her career as a News Editor at Radio Cayman and then became the first television news anchor, delivering the evening news on CITV and then CITN. After several years working in corporate communications and marketing in the telecommunications and financial services industries, Ms Fa'amoe re-joined the Civil Service in 2008. She served in the Ministry of Tourism and then moved to POCS. There, in her capacity as Director of the Civil Service College, a role she held since 2009, Ms Fa'amoe implemented numerous programmes to support civil servants' long-

term professional training and development. These included the Associates in Public Administration and International Leadership Management (ILM) Level 3 programme.

Commenting on her new role, Ms Fa'amoe says: "Coordinating international investment opportunities across government is essential if we are to meet our strategic aim to maintain a strong economy to support Caymanians; I look forward to promoting inward investment into the Cayman Islands and thereby creating economic opportunities for our people."

She notes: "I stand committed to helping the Ministry achieve its vision, and working as a conduit across government and with our private sector partners to achieve our goals."

Chief Officer Eric Bush commented: "I am thrilled to have Ms Fa'amoe as the Deputy Chief Officer for MITIAMA.



► Andrea Fa'amoe, Deputy Chief Officer, Ministry of International Trade, Investment, Aviation and Maritime Affairs

She is an experienced professional who brings dynamic breadth and depth to this role. She has exactly the talent and drive required to support me in leading the Ministry as we achieve our strategic goals." 🌐

# Senior Public Servants Awarded Fellowship Status of Institute of Leadership and Management

Six senior public servants have been awarded Fellowship status of the Institute of Leadership and Management.

Working in partnership with the Institute of Leadership and Management, Government's Civil Service College (CSC) has been supporting senior leaders to assess their leadership competencies against international benchmarks. Following an assessment of their role and their behavioral competencies against the Institute's five dimensions of leadership, Stran Bodden, Derek Byrne, Jennifer Ahearn, Sandy Hermiston, Gloria McField-Nixon and Elizabeth Depledge have now completed the learning pathway for senior managers and been confirmed as Fellows of the Institute of Leadership and Management.

The Institute's learning pathway covers five dimensions of leadership including Authenticity; Vision; Achievement; Ownership and Collaboration. These

were mapped to the Cayman Islands civil service competencies of Delivering Results; Building Capability and Working with Others to ensure a comprehensive assessment was made.

John Mark Williams, CEO of the Institute of Leadership and Management remarked: "The Cayman Islands are uniquely fortunate to have such a high caliber of senior leaders and we are delighted that they will be joining our community as Fellows."

Government's five-year strategic plan sets out a roadmap for developing leadership across every level of the civil service.

Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz Manderon notes: "The Cayman Islands depends on capable leaders in the civil service to steer us through challenging and unpredictable circumstances, whether this comes from the impact of a global pandemic, environmental threats like natu-



► Stran Bodden, Derek Byrne, Jennifer Ahearn, Sandy Hermiston, Gloria McField-Nixon and Elizabeth Depledge successfully complete Institute's senior management assessment pathway. Missing from photo: Derek Byrne

ral disasters or the evolving expectations of our population. Our world-class leaders inspire and motivate at all levels of

the civil service, so I am delighted these dedicated individuals have earned this prestigious achievement." 🌐



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**SPONSORS:**

PART PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT TO BENEFIT THE ELDERLY IN EACH DISTRICT

# CUC Donates 50 Laptops to Government Schools

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) has partnered with the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education Services to donate 50 DELL laptops, to be distributed to government school students across the Cayman Islands.

The donation, worth CI\$25,000.00, will provide students with access to a device while at home so they can participate in those parts of continuous learning that call for online access.

"I wish to thank CUC for this generous donation, which underscores our shared commitment in the development of the children of this nation. The Ministry of Education welcomes your continued partnership as we work to educate our future leaders," stated Honourable Julianna O'Connor-Connolly, Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture & Lands.

Lyneth Monteith, Acting Chief Officer at the Ministry of Education, stated, "The students who receive the laptops will be very appreciative. With the world moving into a digital direction, this timely donation will allow us to engage our students. We are very grateful to CUC and continue to look forward to additional partnerships."

Letitia Lawrence, CUC's Vice President of Finance, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer, noted, "CUC is a great supporter of the Islands' youth - whether it be through the CUC Primary Football League, our provision of scholarships, or other programmes that we have. We are extremely excited to partner with the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education Services to provide students with the tools needed to advance in their education and careers."



► CUC's CFO Letitia Lawrence (second left) presents Lyneth Monteith, Acting Chief Officer of the Ministry of Education (third right) and Ministry officials Mark Ray (left), Jenny Rivers (second right) and Nicholas Obie with one of the 50 DELL laptops donated to the Ministry by CUC



## THE ROADS LAW (2005 Revision) Section 3 Declaration of Intent Section 6 Authority to Enter Lands

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Governor by Section 3 and 6 of the Roads Law (2005 Revision), and acting upon recommendation by the National Roads Authority and Cabinet in the public interest, it is hereby declared that;

1. It is the intention of the National Roads Authority and in the public interest to open an access road as described hereunder:

**REGISTRATION SECTION:**

Lower Valley

**REGISTRATION BLOCK:**

27D, 28C, 31A, 32B

**BOUNDARY PLAN:**

BP 636

**PORTIONS OF LAND NEEDED:**

The proposed roadwork is defined by boundaries outlined in green on BP 634 and listed in the Schedule below.

2. The National Roads Authority and its agents are authorized to enter upon lands listed in the Schedule below for the purposes of undertaking the road works, such authority to take effect 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice in the Cayman Islands Gazette.

3. Boundary Plan Number 636 may be inspected at the offices of:

- The National Roads Authority, North Sound Road;
- The Lands & Survey Department, 133 Elgin Avenue, both of George Town, Grand Cayman or at the Lands Office, 19 Kirkconnell Street, Cayman Brac, or online at [www.caymanlandinfo.ky](http://www.caymanlandinfo.ky) under 'Road Schemes'.

**SCHEDULE**

Block	Parcel	Approximate Area loss in acres
27D	8	0.59
27D	18	0.13
27D	30	0.01
27D	37	0.7(Whole Parcel)
27D	39	6.5(Whole Parcel)
27D	199	0.01(Whole Parcel)
27D	200	0.03(Whole Parcel)
27D	305	0.4301(Whole Parcel)
27D	322	Less than 0.01
27D	328	Less than 0.01
27D	329	Less than 0.01
27D	340	0.8649(Whole Parcel)
27D	362	Less than 0.01
27D	363	0.5464(Whole Parcel)
27D	379	0.02
27D	411	0.1527(Whole Parcel)
27D	417	1.123(Whole Parcel)
27D	418	1.451(Whole Parcel)
27D	472	0.8
28C	22	0.2
31A	27	1.19
31A	131	2.98
32B	306	1.051(Whole Parcel)

Made in Cabinet this 3rd day of November 2020.  
Clerk of Cabinet

# JTC EXPANDS CAYMAN TRUST TEAM WITH NEW APPOINTMENT

JTC, a leading global provider of fund, corporate and private client services, has appointed Ashleigh Moore as trust manager in its Cayman Islands office.

Ashleigh will support the Cayman team in building long-lasting relationships with clients, third party introducers and intermediaries. She is also actively involved in business development and keeps up to date on regulatory & reporting changes for the department.

Ashleigh started her career in the Isle of Man with Walbrook Trustees, gaining valuable experience, before moving to the Cayman Islands in 2005 to join RBC Wealth Management where she remained for 12 years until their exit from the Caribbean. Ashleigh then moved to another trust company before joining JTC in September 2020 as part of the expansion of JTC's Cayman office trust team.

She is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (TEP) and has 24 years' extensive experience of managing complex trust and company arrangements for high and ultra-high net worth clients.

Commenting on Ashleigh's appointment, Michael Halsey, Regional Head of



► Ashleigh Moore

Caribbean for Private Client Services at JTC said:

"We are delighted to have welcomed Ashleigh to our JTC Cayman office. Her extensive experience will benefit our clients and help to ensure we always provide the highest standards of service"

## Caymanian Times

WEDNESDAY  
FRIDAY

## NEWSPAPER

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 Top Section	300	10 x 2.5	
Front Page Banner Bottom Section	200	10 x 2.5	
Front Page Top Right Banner	100	3.5 x 1.92	
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	

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# VERDICT AWAITED IN BUSH ASSAULT CASE

A ruling by Magistrate Kirsty-Ann Gunn is awaited following the presentation of evidence, arguments and counter-arguments in a case in which Hon. Speaker (now of Parliament, previously Legislative Assembly at the time of the incident) McKeever Bush is appearing on charges arising from an incident at a beach bar on February 21st this year.

Mr Bush is charged with three counts of common assault and one of disorderly conduct. He has entered guilty pleas to two of the three assault charges which stemmed from an altercation with the female manager of a bar on West Bay Rd.

The Magistrate has indicated that her verdict could come possibly in two week's time.

Much of the evidence submitted revolved around video footage extracted from CCTV security cameras on the premises of which much what transpired is obscured from view due to camera angles or objects in the way.

There are scenes of a struggle between Mr Bush and the plaintiff, Livia Kwong, whom Mr Bush is alleged to have assaulted.

The court was presented with video recordings captured from CCTV cam-

eras as well as witness statements and testimonials.

Mr Bush is being represented by attorney Michael Alberga and the case for the Crown is being prosecuted by Director of Public Prosecutions Patrick Moran.

While he entered guilty pleas on two counts of common assault and one count of disorderly conduct, Mr Bush pleaded not guilty to the third count of assault, because, Mr. Alberga explained, there was no video evidence supporting this claim, as the view of the CCTV camera is obscured by a stand of umbrellas.

Council for the Crown Prosecution, Patrick Moran, was not satisfied with the situation created by guilty pleas being offered to only three of the four charges, because, he said, it was this fourth one, which involved alleged hair pulling and blows to the plaintiff's head, that was the "trigger event," which set off all the others.

The court heard that since Mr Bush was highly intoxicated, a fact which is not in dispute, he cannot recall the exact events, especially on the most serious assault charge.

The case has attracted considerable interest in the community and the verdict is awaited. 🌐



► Mr. McKeever Bush, Hon. Speaker of Parliament

# East End affordable homes project breaks ground

Much needed affordable homes are taking shape at East End with last week's ground-breaking of the third phase of the Government's Affordable Homes project in that district. At the end of November, Housing Minister Dwayne Seymour joined the National Housing Development Trust Board Chairman George Powell and Vincent Frederick, Director/Chairman for Project Committee, along with Government Councillor Capt. Eugene Ebanks, MLA Christopher Saunders and Leader of the Opposition Arden McLean, in helping to get the ball rolling on this important construction project.

The National Housing Development Trust (NHDT) began in 2003 and is a not-for-profit company run by the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, established with the aim of constructing houses in planned communities and facilitating affordable home

ownership for Caymanians. The NHDT's remit is broad and includes assisting in providing people with housing accommodations and providing facilities and amenities, as well as loans, advances, and guarantees for housing opportunities. The NHDT also assists pre-selected applicants with seeking mortgage financing through various local banks, thereby easing this often-burdensome task for some people.

Not only resulting in affordable housing for Caymanians in need, it is intended that this latest project will help support the island's economic recovery by creating employment in the housing and construction sectors. The CI\$750k initiative will cover construction of the first seven set of the affordable houses for phase three of the project that is scheduled to begin in mid-December. An additional 14 houses will also to be started within the first quarter of 2021.

At the ground breaking, Minister Seymour justified the importance of such a project for the community.

"A country in which only a few can afford housing is not just or sustainable. Everyone deserves a safe place to live, for their children to play, to feel the comfort of home. We know a home can transform the quality of life for individuals and families," he stated. "However, we know that even today there is a major housing crisis in many places around the world. We continue to fight this major challenge together and to help provide safe and adequate housing for our people."

Minister Seymour went on to address the steep cost of living in the Cayman Islands and to thank the NHDT for their hard-work and diligence in bringing the community to this point.

Julio Ramos, NHDT General Manager, said: "It was a pleasure to be joined by the Minister, MLAs and other distinguished



guests for this event. As noted by the Minister, it is our mission at NHDT to not only build homes but to build a society where young Caymanians can grow up knowing that there will be land, homes, a place of shelter that they can afford and live happy and productive lives."

Massive projects like these require a multi-stakeholder ap-

proach in order to address the needs of all involved, comprising of government, the private sector and the community. Communities develop only when the needs of all residents are met. Ensuring affordable homes is a critical step in that direction, and the Ministry assured the public they would continue working to this end. 🌐

# BVI TAPS UN TO FILL EU BREXIT GAP

The British Virgin Islands government says it has strengthened cooperation with the United Nations ahead of losing future European Union support for sustainable development at the end of 2020 when the Brexit transition period expires.

EU assistance to the BVI and other British Overseas Territories will terminate with Brexit - the UK's departure from the EU.

At the just-ended Joint Ministerial Council (JMC) between the UK and the OTs, the British government reassured the OTs that it acknowledges that its withdrawal from the EU will impact them, "particularly in the areas of eligibility for and access to funding, and trade."

It said "it has and continues to represent the interests of the Overseas Territories in the UK-EU negotiations, in particular on trade and funding programme."

The British government had also stated that "in consultation with Territory Governments, (it will) "take their interests and needs into account when designing future funding streams, programmes and policies to promote the sustainable economic development of the Territories."

But for its part, the BVI government is taking a more proactive approach.

In a press release, it says: "To advance the sustainable development of the islands, the British Virgin Islands Govern-

ment has secured technical assistance from the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to help develop a National Sustainable Development Plan for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030."

It also says it is collaborating with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) on a summit of the regional commission's 14 Associate Member Countries (AMCs) in 2021 that will focus on addressing the assistance gap to the AMCs as they strive to meet the SDGs.

Commenting on the British Virgin Islands cooperation with the UN, Premier Andrew Fahie said: "The British Virgin Islands will continue to deepen our relationship with the UN as we work closely on the local response to COVID-19 and engage with regional and international partners to lay the groundwork for post-pandemic recovery, climate resilience and sustainable development for Caribbean SIDS."

In response to the disruption caused by COVID-19 to the sustainable development agenda and the negative economic, social and health impacts of the global pandemic, the UN is helping the British Virgin Islands to address the effects of the virus as a part of its Multi-sectoral Response Plan for the Eastern Caribbean. 🌐



► British Virgin Islands Premier Andrew Fahie

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# Health City streams live endoscopic procedure at medical education event

*Close to 100 local doctors attend*

Most guests heading to an event at the Kimpton Seafire Resort & Spa don't expect to witness a medical education first during their cocktail hour. Nor do they usually watch a live medical procedure streamed in real time directly from a hospital operating theatre while enjoying a buffet dinner. But for 100 local doctors, this is exactly how they spent their evening at the Seven Mile Beach resort on October 29.

They were attending a Continuing Medical Education (CME) seminar sanctioned by the Cayman Islands Medical and Dental Society (CIMDS) and hosted by Health City Cayman Islands featuring a live stream directly from the tertiary care hospital's Endoscopy Suite – where Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist Dr Sunil Mathai was suited up to perform an endoscopic procedure.

This was the first time in the Cayman Islands that a CME event has featured a live surgical feed directly from a local operating room, and the first time that such a large group of people could gather to view a procedure as it was happening.

Health City Clinical Director Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil said, "We are consistently striving to develop innovative ways of providing medical education opportunities within the local medical fraternity. The COVID-19 pandemic actually pushed us to think outside of the box in this regard, and we held several online CME events during the months of lockdown. This prompted us to think of using live streaming technology in a new way locally – by showing a live procedure in real time to a medical audience. The relaxation of local COVID-related restrictions allowed us to both gather together in person, while also taking ad-



vantage of what technology has to offer. So we thought of it as the best of both worlds."

The live-streamed procedure was the centerpiece of the seminar, which put the spotlight on Health City's Institute of Digestive Sciences comprised of Dr. Mathai and Dr. Deepak Varma, Senior Consultant, Gastrointestinal & Bariatric Surgery. Both specialists have over 20 years' experience in their respective fields. Services offered by the Institute of Digestive Sciences include surgical, endoscopic and medical gastroenterology.

The procedure performed by Dr. Mathai during the educational event was an endoscopic ultrasound-guided tissue acquisition (biopsy) – which is usually performed to determine or confirm a cancer diagnosis. Dr. Varma followed up with a presentation on the use of laparoscopy in pancreatic diseases, which makes treatment less invasive than open surgical procedures.

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Ajit Mathew - Consultant, General Surgeon at the Cayman Islands Health Services Authority and Dr. Darley Solomon - Senior Consultant, General Surgeon, at Doctors Hospital.

The event, which featured active audience participation during the question and answer sessions after each presentation, resulted in the award of two Continuing Medical Education (CME) points to each medical professional who attended.

The attendees included doctors in both the private and public health sectors in the Cayman Islands, from general practitioners to specialists in a range of medical specialties.

Health City Chief Business Officer Shomari Scott said, "Although initially frightening and potentially devastating, the COVID-19 pandemic had the positive effect of pulling local medical practitioners from all sectors together to tackle a universal problem. The combined effort of suppressing the virus in our Islands, also brought medical professionals together as never before. The benefit of this is greater knowledge of, and respect for, the wide range of medical expertise present within the Cayman Islands. We are looking forward to continued strong relationships between all local medical providers, and will be offering similar CME events on a regular basis moving forward."



## Bakertilly Corporate squash League Match report

When the cats away the mice will play! The accounting giants, KPMG took a little hiatus last week and it appears Walkers and the defending champions Baker Tilly took well advantage. Both teams lead the league tied at 780 points with Scotts Equipment drafting closely behind.

We have a few matches of the week this week, spreading across the board and through the divisions. Always great to see and watch the battles. Youngster Neil McComb of Phoenix Group thought he got the better of the veteran Jody Jervis of Scotts Equipment when he bolted to a 15/6 victory in the 1st game. However, for those of us that are in the same veteran category as Jody, knows that the warm up time for match play extends much further than that of the youth of today; something Neil would soon come to realize as game 2 was reversed 9/15.



The proverbial 3-minute tie break was to be the decider. Veteran status not only comes with the necessity of an extended warm up, it usually also includes careful match strategy. Jody craftily calculated how many points he would need to win by in the final game to get the eventual victory. So said, so done!

Another battle of the night was the C division play between Michel of PwC

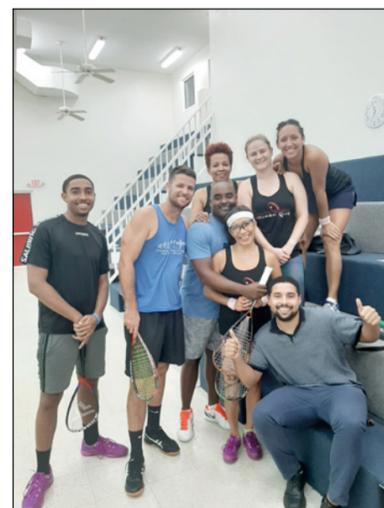
and Paola of SSSC Ladies. At 1 game each, with the exact scoring line in both (15/7, 7/15), it literally would mean every point would count in the 3-minute tie break. It appears the secret training of Paola paid off as she outlasted Michel 9/5 to win the match.

Play continues this and every Thursday at 6:30pm, with playoffs and finals on the 17th December 2020.



The scores on the doors after week seven are:

	Scotts Equipment	Dart Uno	KPMG	Baker Tilly	Phoenix Group	PwC	Walkers	Dart Too	SSSC Ladies	Totals
Scotts Equipment		129	130		135		110	139	133	776
Dart Uno	78			75		87	79	134	82	535
KPMG	130				125	108	134	127	148	772
Baker Tilly		137			132	119	137	122	133	780
Phoenix Group	92		117	110		114	109	135		677
PwC		143	93	118	127		118		133	732
Walkers	90	135	109	87	111	133		115		780
Dart Too	65	115	104	75	79		104		76	618
SSSC Ladies	99	119	114	87		93		117		629



### SSSC OPEN SQUASH TOURNAMENT & CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

GET YOUR ENTRIES IN Deadline for entries Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

All available options noted on the entry form:  
<https://forms.gle/YSNr9Y4uXFyn4Dho7>

Monday December 7th - 11th, 2020

ENTRY FEE IS \$30.00 TO INCLUDE FINALS NIGHT XMAS FEEDING & Tournament shirt (while supplies last)

IF YOU WISH NOT TO PLAY BUT WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS AND FEEDING THE COST WILL BE \$20.00

THIS TOURNAMENT IS OPEN TO ALL LEVELS AND PERSONS THAT ENJOYS THE GAME OF SQUASH.

**Categories:**

- Diamond (A+) - Senior National Team level
- Platinum (A) - Competitive level
- Gold (B) - Advanced level
- Silver (C) - Intermediate level
- Bronze (D) - Beginner level

PLEASE INVITE FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COLLEAGUES TO ENTER AND LETS GET OUR SQUASH ON FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

# Joshua must not take Pulev too lightly

Anthony Joshua defends his heavy-weight crowns against Kubrat Pulev this Saturday knowing that anything other than a convincing win against the tough 39-year-old Bulgarian will do.

Joshua holds the WBA, IBF and WBO world titles, as well as the lesser-valued IBO belt, and he's anxious to keep all of them going into 2021. He has lost only once in 24 bouts and is determined not to slip up again otherwise mega-fights with Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder will not come off.

Pulev has lost only once in 29 bouts – to then world champ Wladimir Klitschko in 2014 – and insists he can pull off an upset at London's O2 Arena.

Adam Smith, Head of Boxing Development at Sky Sports, said: "Pulev has

proven pedigree, with just that sole defeat to Klitschko, and he'll be hoping to send more shockwaves through the sport with an upset victory, but I know that AJ has been training tirelessly, priming his explosive power for another night of fireworks."

All boxing coaches agree that the generation of power in a punch starts in the legs. With that in mind, AJ looks to have added that extra clout.

Of his 23 wins, Joshua has won 21 bouts inside the distance, with only Joseph Parker and Andy Ruiz Jr having gone the distance with the 31-year-old Londoner.

Many pundits feel Pulev is too old and slow to trouble Joshua. An AJ win certainly seems likely, but Pulev did claim a reasonably high-profile scalp from a British boxer back in 2018, with his defeat of Tyson Fury's cousin, Hughie.

Since then, he's had two fights against lesser opposition, essentially marking time against these opponents, knowing full well that he was set for a lucrative title shot.

Pulev is a rank outsider, but his

motivation is not to be underestimated. He has fantastic amateur pedigree – winning gold at the 2008 European Championships and bronze at the 2005 World Championships – and has beaten big names as a pro, including Dereck Chisora and Alexander Ustinov.

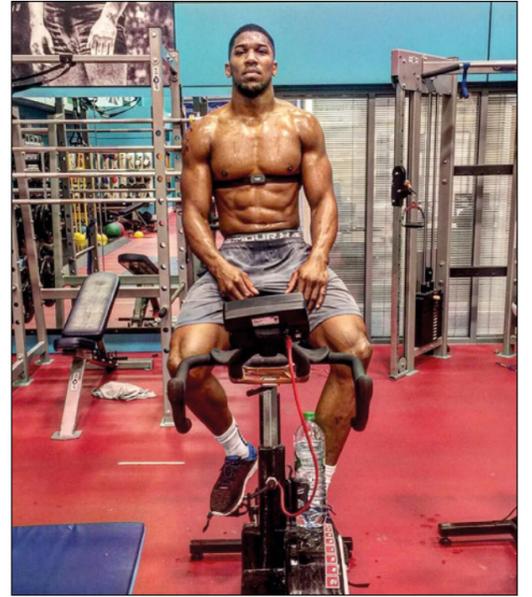
Physically though, it seems highly unlikely that Pulev will be able to keep pace with a taller, stronger and fresher Joshua, but the champ had a calamity before, when unexpectedly stopped by Ruiz Jr last year.

Assuming he gets past Pulev, Lennox Lewis has claimed his fellow Londoner will still be at a disadvantage if he faces Tyson Fury.

Lewis, the former undisputed heavyweight champ, believes that Fury will emerge victorious over his fellow Brit when they finally meet.

Lewis said: "The Fury and Joshua fight, you have got two big guys and they can punch and they can box. You've got Fury, he is a switch hitter and he is going into the fight with a lot more dangerous things to watch out for – the fact that he can punch with left hand, with his right.

"He is a slugger as well, the way he went after Deontay (Wilder), nobody



► Anthony Joshua cannot afford another slip up



► Kubrat Pulev, 39, insists he is not too old to cause an upset

expected that. He said what he is going to do and he did it. I like guys who box with confidence like that."

Lewis said that Fury's height compared to Joshua – the Gypsy King has three inches on his rival – will give him a lot of advantages.

He added: "I have always said that it is always difficult boxing taller guys. He is 6ft 9in, you are not going to get any sparring partners who are 6ft 9in to go in there. AJ has to figure that out as well. It is going to take him a few rounds." 🌐

## Curry joins the marketing elite

Stephen Curry is not just an elite athlete, he now has his own merchandising line within a global brand, reaching an even more rarefied level.

Curry has launched an Under Armour offshoot apparel division, Curry Brand, which debuts on Friday.

The brand, which is similar to Michael Jordan's relationship with Nike, will feature apparel for several sports, most notably basketball and golf.

"Obviously, basketball is the no-brainer and my expression of what I do best, but when it comes to golf and when it comes running and training and when it comes other sports, that is part of my experience growing up," Curry said.

"I always played other sports, got exposed to a lot of different skill sets and people, and that was big in my development. I feel like whatever a kid is interested in, we want to be able to present an opportunity to kind of live that out. We are going to start with basketball, and we want to make sure we have the product, programming and the arenas they would be able to go to and participate and hopefully scale out and brand out from there."

The Curry Brand will make a significant investment in youth sports, partnering with a non-profit, Positive Coaching Alliance, to provide professional assistance to youth coaches. Curry said the program will begin with a \$1 million investment:

"A big piece of the Curry Brand is going to be investing into youth sports and creating a network and support around kids' participation in sports. We are starting with over a \$1 million investment to people, programs, products and places—so that is our four P's. Safe places to play, court refurbishments and investing in programs that will get kids active in a safe way in fields to play, courts and around the right people and influencers." 🌐



► Stephen Curry is now an Under Armour golden boy

## Rodgers joins exclusive QB club

Aaron Rodgers may not be the most celebrated quarterback in the NFL but he is consistent and his latest milestone proves that.

The Green Bay Packers legend became just the 11th player in NFL history to reach the 50,000 career passing yards mark in last Sunday's game against the arch-rivals Chicago Bears at Lambeau Field.

He wasted little time setting the tone with three touchdowns in the first half and continued to torch Chicago's overmatched defence.

Rodgers joins Drew Brees, Tom Brady, Peyton Manning, Brett Favre, Philip Rivers, Dan Marino, Ben Roethlisberger, Eli Manning, Matt Ryan and John Elway as the only quarterbacks to throw for 50,000 yards.

Rodgers was 21-of-29 for 211 yards and four touchdowns in a 41-25 win over the Bears. It's the fifth time this season that Rodgers has thrown four touchdowns in a game this season and he is now leading the league with 33 touchdown passes on the season.

Rodgers, 37, said after the game that he feels "super-comfortable" in the of-



► Aaron Rodgers is notching up impressive stats for the Packers

fense and believes "the beauty in this year is the subtleties of simplicity" that head coach Matt LaFleur implemented in the offense this offseason. LaFleur saved his praise for the man at the controls.

Kansas City Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes is the betting favourite to be the MVP this season, but Rodgers is keeping things interesting in the final month of the season.

There is still no doubting Rodgers' status as a future Hall of Famer as a Super Bowl champion, two-time MVP, eight-time Pro Bowler and two-time All-Pro selection. 🌐

# Reggae Boyz still region's No.1

Jamaica remains firmly fixed on the top of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) rankings.

It follows the latest release of the FIFA World Rankings for last month which put the Jamaicans at 47th in the world, making them the highest-ranked team in the CFU and the third ranked team in CONCACAF.

Belgium remain FIFA's No.1 with world champions France second, then Brazil third, England fourth and Portugal fifth. The Cayman Islands is ranked 193.

FIFA rankings for the other teams in the CONCACAF region include Costa

Rica (51), Honduras (64), El Salvador (70), Curacao (76), Haiti (84), Trinidad and Tobago (103), Antigua and Barbuda (126), Guatemala (131), St Kitts and Nevis (140), Suriname (141), Dominican Republic (159), Grenada (160), Barbados (162), Guyana (167), St Vincent and the Grenadines (168), Bermuda (169), Belize (170), St Lucia (175), Puerto Rico (179), Cuba (180), Montserrat (183), Dominica (185) and Bahamas (196).

The Reggae Boyz completed a two-match series on the road against Saudi Arabia, losing 3-0 and winning 2-1 in Riyadh.

The Jamaicans have steadfastly been the top-ranked team in the Caribbean for the past three years and will be gearing up, like the rest of the region, for next year's qualification tournaments for the CONCACAF Gold Cup and the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Jamaica have a newfound confidence that they can reach the World Cup finals for only the second time since their 1998 debut in France. Meanwhile,



► Jamaica want to reach the 2022 World Cup

Reggae Boyz defender and team captain Damion Lowe has signed with Egyptian professional club, Al Ittihad who play in the Premier League.

The six-time Egypt Cup champions have the third biggest fan base in Egypt, a country whose clubs have won the African Cup of Champions 15 times. This represents the first time a Jamaican international will be plying his trade in the Egyptian Premier League and Lowe looks forward to the challenge.

"I'm excited and very optimistic," he said. "I've been out of a contract for a couple of weeks since leaving Phoenix Rising and it's a new adventure for me. I think I'm the first Jamaican to play professionally here, so I see this as me opening doors to another market for other Jamaicans to come."

Lowe, 27, is looking forward to hitting the ground running as the team prepares for the semi-final of the Egypt Cup. 🌐



► Damion Lowe hopes to make his mark in Egypt

**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

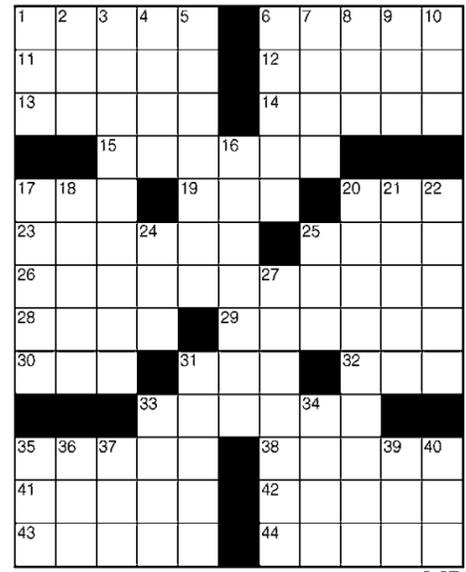
- 1 Make sense
- 6 Parking pro
- 11 Silly one
- 12 Cartoon genre
- 13 Had title to
- 14 Excessive
- 15 Item of little value
- 17 Avril follower
- 19 Manx, for one
- 20 Block up
- 23 Stamping need
- 25 Bullfight beast
- 26 "Unlikely!"
- 28 Altar exchange
- 29 Sofa's cousin
- 30 Attach a patch
- 31 Storage site
- 32 Completely
- 33 Get crazy
- 35 Viking of the comics
- 38 Did some yard work
- 41 Knock for a loop
- 42 Bugs bugs him
- 43 Used a keyboard
- 44 Looks for

**DOWN**

- 1 Previously
- 2 Market indicator
- 3 "You said it!"
- 4 Manual reader
- 5 Rickshaw's kin
- 6 Bank fixture
- 7 Last Stuart ruler
- 8 Top
- 9 Outback bird
- 10 Course need
- 16 Gradually appears, as a film scene
- 17 Some skirts
- 18 Battery end
- 20 "I have no idea!"
- 21 Shake-spearean spirit
- 22 Tourist stop
- 24 Score-board abbr.
- 25 Young one
- 27 Lengths of service
- 31 Yawning, perhaps
- 33 Intent look
- 34 Yarn
- 35 Bowler, e.g.
- 36 Writer Tan
- 37 Opening
- 39 Mouse-spotting cry
- 40 Hosp. staffers



Yesterday's answer



**SUDOKU**

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

**Conceptis Sudoku**

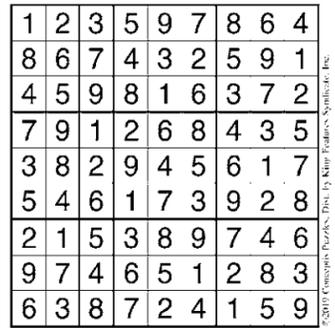
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★

3/04

Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Word Search



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

- Books
- Branch
- Browse
- Catalogue
- Chairs
- Checkout
- Code numbers
- Computers
- Dewey
- Due date
- Fines
- Journals
- Library card
- Membership
- Newspapers
- Periodicals
- Return
- Search
- Shelves
- Tables
- Tapes
- Videos
- Whisper



**CURTIS**

By Ray Billingsley



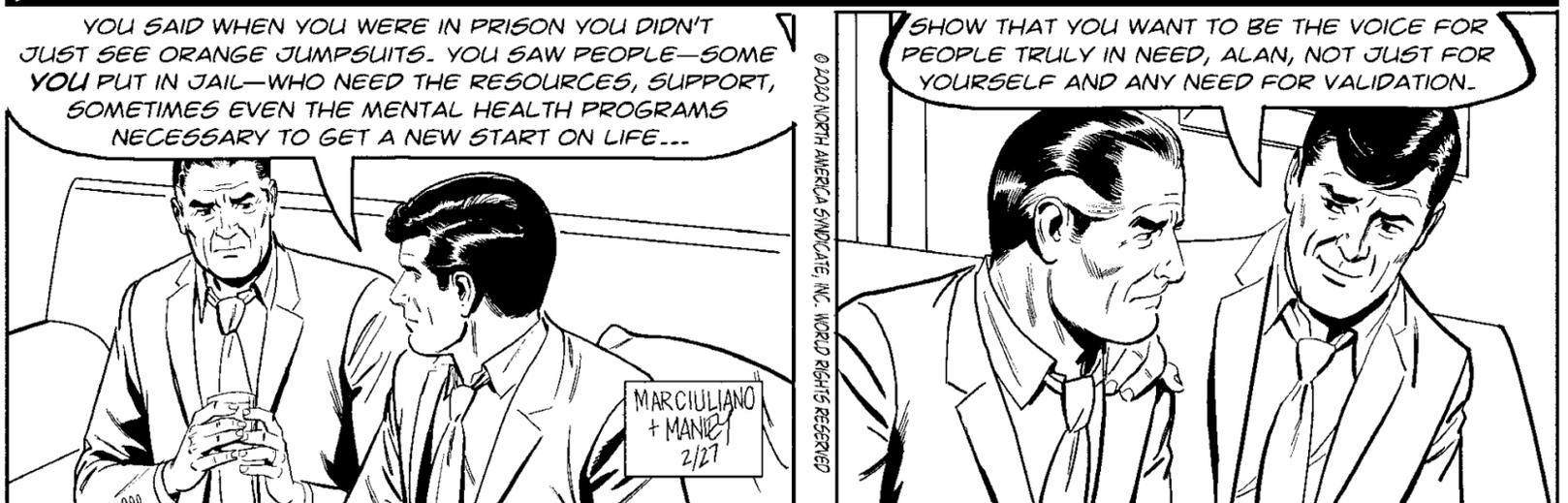
**THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN**

By Stan Lee



**JUDGE PARKER**

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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