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► CUC's Heidi Wallace, Talent Acquisition Specialist and Ashanti Hudson HR Intern

MORE VACCINES ARRIVE - QUARANTINE HOTLINE SET UP



By Staff Writer

The arrival of the third shipment of COVID-19 vaccines has assured that Cayman's voluntary inoculation programme will continue on course.

This latest consignment contains approximately 15000 doses, the largest consignment so far.

It brings to 38000 the number of Pfizer-BioNTech doses supplied to the jurisdiction so far by the British government.

At the same time, the vaccination programme is making good headway with the

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EDITORIAL

The Importance of Reading

Our mission at Caymanian Times is to increase the readership of newspapers and wish to remind everyone, especially the children of the importance of reading.

Reading is important for many reasons, such as learning new things, expanding the mind and boosting imagination. Many people also read for pleasure, which in turn can help the reader relax and better handle the stress in their life.

The ability to read opens countless doors of exploration and learning. Children are taught to read early on because much of their education comes from reading textbooks and assignments. It is a skill that, once learned, is continually used and exercised into adulthood. Reading is one of the best ways to gain a general knowledge of almost anything.

Reading requires conscious thought and effort on the part of the reader. This can lead to a natural tendency to think and observe, as well as promoting a better understanding of how the world works.



Reading can also boost imagination and creativity in both children and adults. It allows the reader to explore new worlds, people and experiences. Through reading, the reader may begin to see the world in a fresher, more creative light.

For some people, reading provides an "escape" from the drudgery of day-to-day life. It allows them to relax and forget their troubles, if only for a few minutes. Those few minutes can replenish mental strength and help a reader to face life with renewed spirits.

Make an effort to read something today.

MORE VACCINES ARRIVE - QUARANTINE HOTLINE SET UP

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

number of vaccines administered to date at 15,543 including 6,371 people who have had the required two-dose course.

HE Governor Martyn Roper said on Friday, "My office remains in discussion with the UK regarding further consignments of the Pfizer vaccine. We continue to make good progress with our vaccination programme."

While taking the vaccine is voluntary, he continues to urge the public to take the jab.

"I encourage you all to take your vaccine – both first and second doses, when invited to do so. It is increasingly evident they are very safe and effective. It is the best way to protect yourself and everyone in the community from serious illness."

VACCINES SAFE

There have been some questions and issues of preferences about vaccines.

However, the Governor Martyn Roper says the World Health Organisation (WHO) as their advisory committee on immunisation confirmed that the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine is effective and they recommend its use globally and for all age groups.

Research in the UK has shown that shows the AstraZeneca jab protects well against the new 'UK/Kent' variant of COVID-19 which is now dominant in much of Britain and spreading elsewhere.

Emergency WHO authorisation of the UK-developed Oxford-AstraZeneca is expected next week for global deployment.

Mr Roper says this is welcome reassurance of the vital role that AstraZeneca, and the UK, continue to play in reducing the impact of the pandemic.

FIVE MORE CASES

Meanwhile, as testing continues in Cayman alongside the vaccine roll-out especially on arriving travellers, a further five positive cases have been found.

That brings the number of active cases to 36.

To date, 416 COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in Cayman since the outbreak last year of which 378 have recovered.

There are presently 905 persons in isolation.

Cayman has carried out 70,163 COVID-19 tests.

CLOSER QUARANTINE MONITORING

As the pandemic continues with many countries in various modes of lockdown or residents under extensive restrictions, concern is mounting over growing incidents of quarantine breaches.



This has led to a spike in cases in several places. In Montserrat (pop. 4,500 appx) which hasn't had a single case since last July, a recent quarantine breach has caused an outbreak of six cases over the past two weeks.

Cayman and other countries have also had similar challenges, some very high-profile.

As a result, stiffer penalties and tighter monitoring are being introduced.

Travel Cayman which is responsible for managing the arrival and quarantine protocols has set up a system for the public to report suspected quarantine breaches confidentially.

The 24-hour Breach Tips Hotline number is 943-7233 (943 SAFE).

Director of Travel Cayman, Dr Tasha Ebanks-Garcia said: "The addition of the hotline will add another layer of protection to further strengthen our protocols to safeguard the community against COVID-19."

Violation of Cayman's quarantine regulations carries a penalty fine of up to CI\$10,000 and a two-year prison sentence.

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Message from the Cayman Airways President & CEO on the B737-8 fleet's "Return To Service"

I'm Fabian Whorms, President and Chief Executive Officer for Cayman Airways and its subsidiary Cayman Airways Express.

My career in aviation started in 1983 in the maintenance and engineering field. In 1995 I joined Cayman Airways, and in 2009 I became the President and CEO of Cayman Airways. Right throughout my career in aviation, my number one priority has always been safety. There's a certain role that resides with my duties which is known as the Accountable Manager. This is a regulatory term and what it means is that I am accountable to the aviation authorities, in general, for the safety and security of the airline's operation. There is nothing that I, or our team, here at Cayman Airways places above that. The commercial performance of Cayman Airways is obviously very important, but it's definitely in second place.

Every single flight that we operate, if there's an issue, no matter how small it is, we make sure we address it before that flight is dispatched. It's what we

do day in, day out. At this point we are working to reintroduce our aircraft back into service and we are doing it with the same care, caution and diligence that we exercised on March 10, 2019. We're leaving nothing to chance. Airlines, typically, have been focused on pilot training. In that respect I can tell you we went over and above, from day one, before we even introduced the aircraft to service in the first instance. What was unusual for Cayman Airways is that we trained all our pilots with the full simulator training, as if they had never flown this aircraft before. What typically happened in the industry is that pilots would receive differences training, by way of a computer-based application. Generally speaking, it was done on an iPad.

One of the things we have done over and above other airlines, is that before we introduced this aircraft into service, we specifically requested that Boeing develop a curriculum and provide us with the training for our maintenance personnel on

the MCAS system, so that we're thoroughly familiar with how the system works and have the ability to rectify any issues that may arise with the system in the future, before an aircraft is dispatched. To this end, we have already completed this training, and we have now been advised by Boeing that they're now going to offer this training to other airlines because it's such a good idea. This to me is an example of Cayman Airways leaving no stone unturned, and going above and beyond.

There's several of these aircraft now flying for the last two months since the FAA originally ungrounded the aircraft. All the pilots flying these aircraft now, for other airlines, went straight from the newly prescribed simulator training into the cockpit and conducted revenue flights with passengers. What we are doing is, again, over and above. Our pilots have not flown the airplane for 23 months. The simulator is a wonderful tool. It replicates the operation of the aircraft in every respect, but it is not the aircraft. We are going to have all of our pilots do a series of touch and goes, to be sure that there's no discomfort with the feel of the aircraft when they get into this cockpit with our paying revenue passengers.

As we approach the point now where we will be returning this aircraft to service, I'm doing it with no reservation or hesitation. I had no reservations or hesita-

tions to withdraw the aircraft from service in March of 2019, and it is with that same diligence, and knowing full well what has gone into recertifying this aircraft and making it safe, that I'm now confident that the aircraft is fit to be returned to service.

Trust me, if I did not feel this way, we would be happy to have this aircraft sit until we get to that point where we feel that way. I have no reservations or hesitations as well in flying on this aircraft myself or in having my family, my loved ones, my friends, fly on this aircraft. It is definitely as safe as you can get.



► Cayman Airways President and CEO, Fabian Whorms





► James Dudley and Maeve Greer with Red Sails Sports were keen to get more young Caymanians into the industry



► Ogier's team Rochelle Foster, Emma Graham-Taylor and Saraphina McField

JGHS careers fair offers broad choice

By Lindsey Turnbull

Year 11 John Gray High School students were given the opportunity to see for themselves the broad choice of jobs available once they leave school at their annual Careers Fair, falling at the end of Careers Week, which saw companies come and talk with students about what their business did, as well as conduct mock interviews to give students some grounding on interview technique and etiquette.

Organiser Tanya Johnson, Careers Advisor with the Career Services Department, said she was pleased with the turnout, given Covid-19 restrictions.

"We thought we wouldn't have so much participation this year, but we've got close to between 40 and 50 companies, which is awesome," she advised. "I really appreciate them coming. I hope the students see that there are so many different options out there, because everybody is focusing on being a lawyer or an accountant, but there are so many other jobs here in Cayman."

Fifteen-year-old Jenika Taylor was searching for a job or internship within the hospitality industry while Jada Walters, also 15, was looking for an internship in science or opportunities within the field of nursing, as she wanted to be a psychologist. Fifteen-year-old student Anaya Morgan said she wanted to be an accountant so she was looking to find an internship



► Ms Marie Martin with student Anaya Morgan

or scholarship. She had spoken with the Ogier team, the Cayman Islands Institute of Professional Accountants and also the National Gallery for volunteering.

Former Principle of George Town Primary School Ms Marie Martin did not mince her words when giving her views as to the importance of such events:

"I'm here to talk with the students and see what their career paths are like," she stated. "Hopefully, the majority of them



► Students Jenika Taylor and Jada Walters were searching for internships

are on the right track and that they have someone there who is guiding them in their future careers, because that is a great weakness in our schools. Our students lack career guidance. We have far too many young people, and this is coming from the career officers, that all want to be doctors and that just can't happen, so we need our students to be directed along the right path for future success."



► Career Services Advisor Tanya Johnson with students Michaela Robinson, Kristen Ebanks



► Interviewer is Maia Muttoo of the National Gallery



► Students chat with Kimpton Seafire representatives

Watersports represented

Maeve Greer and James Dudley were from Red Sails Sports and had participated in the school's Career Week, talking to the students and conducting mock interviews.

Mr Dudley said they really wanted the young people to come and experience what Red Sail had to offer, with a view to having more young Caymanians come into the watersports and tourism industry which, he said, sadly to date, had been limited.

"A lot of Caymanians get blind-sided by money working in banking institutions or finance and we would really like to see more Caymanians in the industry," he confirmed. "When we do summer internships, we have young Caymanians, they are always excellent people to have around and it's noted by the guests. In past years when

guests have come from all parts of the world, they are very impressed to see us introducing young Caymanians to the watersports industry. They talk really highly of them."

Law firm Ogier takes part in the Career Fair each year. Emma Graham-Taylor, the firm's HR Manager and Local Practice Manager, said the event was a good way to connect with students and inform them that law firms didn't just employ lawyers.

"The last two days we've been doing mock interviews with the students which has been a really eye-opening experience for both us and them. Today we were seeing a lot of those same students come and talk to us about internships," she advised. "It's a good chance for us to say there's business services within a law firm, with IT, market-



► Students of John Gray High School participated in the Mock Interview Event coordinated by the Career Services Manager, Jenine Stewart along with Mr. Mark Seerattan (kneeling)

JGHS careers fair

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

ing, finance and operations, so, as a student from John Gray, you don't need a law degree to come and work in a law firm."

Two-week paid internships for Caymanian students held over the summer helped interested students appreciate these different departments within the law firm, she added.

HR Intern with CUC, Ashanti Hudson, was currently three months into a four-month internship with the company. She had found a good uptake of interest at the Fair.

"Students are mostly interested in our apprenticeship and summer intern programmes," she advised. "Our vocational programme is mostly for students from 15 to 18 and then we have an internship programme for those aged 18 onwards, mostly for those at college who already have their majors sorted out. The vocational programme for the younger students is for those trying to get some experience and find which job they would like to have in the future."

Cayman was having a tough time with employment, so such programmes were important to expose young people, to give them an idea of future career choices, she confirmed.

Miss Cayman Islands Universe Mariah Tibbetts visits Cayman Brac

On Thursday March 4th, the Miss Cayman Islands Universe committee will join our reigning Miss Cayman Islands Universe Mariah Tibbetts on her first trip to sister island Cayman Brac as the current title holder.

Mariah, a native of Cayman Brac, is very excited to return home and meet her community as Miss Cayman Islands Universe. There will be a Miss Cayman Islands Universe party on Friday 5th March at 6:30 pm at the Alexander Hotel. There will be a special performance by Burmon Scott and a poolside barbecue. The event will be hosted by Arbutus Galley Restaurant and Jimmy



D's Poolside Bar. All are welcome to attend this fantastic event to meet our queen.

Mariah will be touring the island over her weekend trip, visiting prominent locations such as KCCC retirement home and both heritage houses, as well as greeting locals.

On Thursday and Friday, she will be visiting schools and the District Admin.

We look forward to visiting our sister island next month. To stay up to date on everything Mariah is doing, please visit our website <http://www.missuniversecayman.com/> and follow us on Facebook @Miss Cayman Islands Universe and Instagram @officialmissuniversecayman.

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Cayman Drama Society

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KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE

Historic Caymanian-made ships of distinction

Last time we explored Cayman's rich ship-building heritage, so a natural follow-on from that article is a look at two of Cayman's most famous locally-built ships - the Cimboco and the Goldfield.

Cimboco: connecting Cayman to the outside world

Residents on Grand Cayman may well frequent the Cimboco restaurants – one at the Marquee Plaza and one at Countryside in Savannah – and even enjoy the artwork of the Cimboco ship that adorns the walls at the Marquee Plaza restaurant. But they may not know much about the history of this once-famous vessel.

In 1927 the launching of the 120-ton Cimboco was a game-changer for the Cayman Islands. According to an article in the *Northwester* from November 1972, the launching of the Cimboco was one of the greatest days in Caymanian history, with islanders making a festival of the event with lots of eating, drinking, dancing and merriment to be had at the time.

Built the year before by the Cayman Islands Motor Company, the Cimboco (an anagram of the company's name) was a pioneering vessel, the very first locally-owned motorship that would open up a whole new world for residents.

It was built at the George Town yard on North Church Street by Capt. Royal Brazley Bodden who also crafted Elmslie Memorial Church, the George Town Post Office and the original George Town Library that stands in front of the new library building. Its importance to the islanders in the late 1920s and 1930s could not be underestimated, as it provided a lifeline when it came to bringing in items that would not have previously been experienced, such as ice and exotic food items, while at the same time providing a passenger service for people visiting Jamaica. Of great importance also was its mail service



► Captain Royal Bodden – centre, Hilary Conrad I, builder of Cimboco [model boat in hand], 1926 (Photo credit: The Cayman Islands National Archive Photographic Collections)

that provided people with a regular communications link to the outside world. Up until that point mail was received every ten weeks or so, at best.

In fact, the Cimboco became the only reliable freight, passenger and mail boat in Caymanian history, with residents looking forward to its regular round trip service every three weeks between Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, Cayman Brac and Jamaica.

The *Northwester* article tells how the President and Managing Director of the company was Dr Roy McTaggart and that the Cimboco was classed by the Marine Board of Jamaica to carry 20 first class passengers, 12 deck passengers and 12 crew, including the Master. The vessel shipped thatch rope which was then a major industry on the island.

In May 1942 the Cimboco made a significant contribution to the Second World War effort by rescuing the survivors of the *Comayagua*, which was torpedoed by a U-boat not far from Cayman's shores. Captained by Eugene Thompson, the Cimboco was sent to rescue the remaining survivors on board after the attack. In 1947 the ship was sold to Archibald Brothers of Columbia and now lends its name to popular restaurants on the island.

Sad tale of the Goldfield

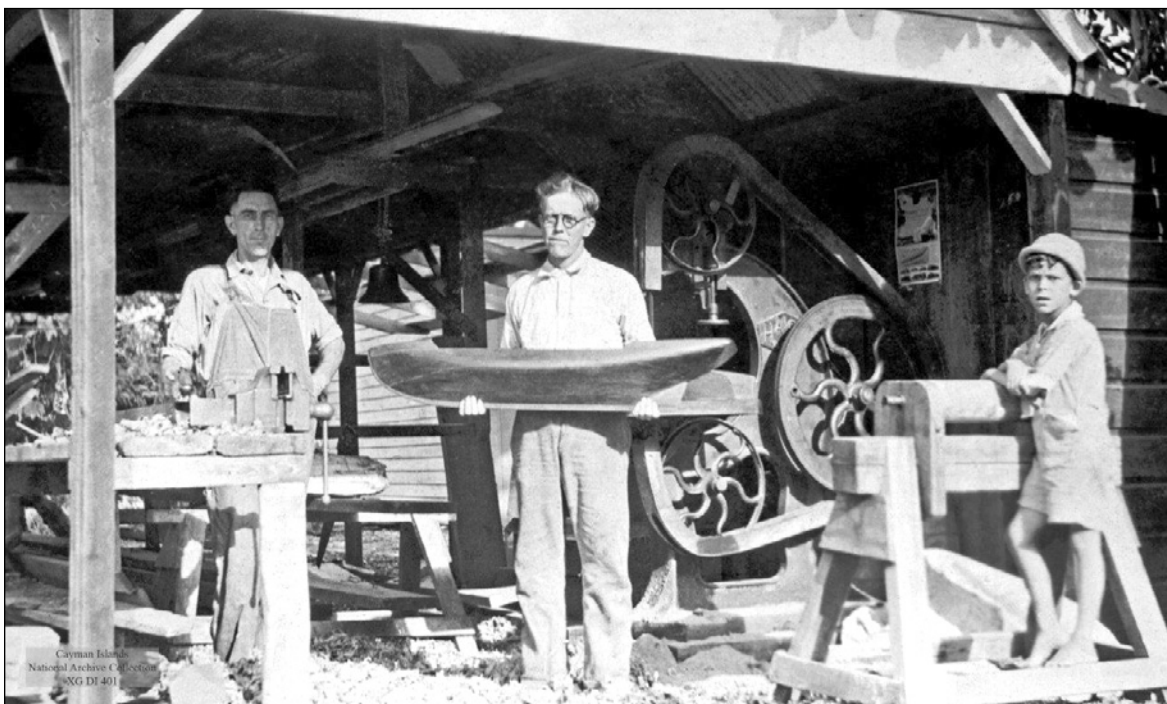
Another important locally-built vessel of the era was the

Goldfield, a magnificent schooner built for Conwell Watler by the Arch brothers in 1930. Crafted out of local mahogany wood that was highly prized for its ability to weather wet conditions and also yellow pine brought in from Louisiana, the Goldfield was used as a turtling vessel. Skipper Capt. Charles Farrington hunted loggerhead, hawksbill and green sea turtles in the Miskito Keys off of Nicaragua, eventually taking the ship and its prized cargo to Key West in Florida where the catch would be sold.

The Goldfield was then sold three further times and used as a cargo and passenger ship, taking its load - both human and cargo - back and forth between Grand Cayman and Florida, before being purchased by the Goldfield Foundation for US\$75,000, refurbished and sailed back to Grand Cayman. Sadly, the Goldfield eventually sank and her remnants are still to be found at Canal Point.

Seaman H.E. Ross spoke about the Goldfield at a presentation he gave at the National Gallery in 2018, having been involved with the ship in the early 1980s. Mr Ross explained how he had tried to teach the then crew of the ship how to sail, but that the ship eventually came to its sad demise in Canal Point.

Readers interested in the story of the Goldfield can see a model of this Caymanian-made schooner made by Dr William Hrudehy in 2002, which is on display in the lobby of the Cayman Turtle Centre.



► Launching of the Cimboco in 1927. (Photo credit: The Cayman Islands National Archive Photographic Collections)

Registrar of Companies Enforces Cayman's Beneficial Ownership Regime

The Registrar of Companies (RoC) is imposing penalties and issuing warning letters to companies that fail to submit accurate information on their ultimate beneficiaries (their 'beneficial owners').

As of 1 February 2021, the RoC had levied 19 administrative fines – at a rate of \$5,000 per fine – against companies for noncompliance with beneficial ownership (BO) requirements. Head of Compliance Paul Inniss noted that warning letters were sent to the companies prior to the fines being levied. If the fines are not paid, and/or the companies involved continue to not comply, the Registrar will remove them from the companies register.

'There are consequences to not maintaining current BO details with RoC, and these consequences are in line with Financial Action Task Force standards to fight money laundering, terrorist financing, and the financing of weapons of mass destruction', Mr Inniss said.

'By enforcing our local legal requirement for companies to maintain current BO details with the RoC, Cayman can pro-

vide better information to international tax and law enforcement agencies for their investigations', Mr Inniss said. 'The Cayman Islands also receives information from international agencies for our own investigations, so we understand how valuable this information can be in fighting financial crime locally and globally'.

He further explained that TCSPs also can be fined in relation to BO noncompliance, if they do not fulfil their legal responsibilities to file restriction notices that curb companies' abilities to conduct certain business activities if they have not provided BO information.

As of 1 February, the RoC had therefore issued warning letters to 18 TCSPs that had not filed restriction notices. The TCSP letters direct the companies to file BO information with their TCSP, by a stated deadline, in compliance with the Companies Act (2021 Revision). Failure to comply with the warnings can result in companies being liable for the administrative fines.



As the competent authority for BO in the Cayman Islands, the RoC has the legal power to enforce BO compliance.

The RoC sits within General Registry, and the General Registry is under the remit of the Ministry of Financial Services.

The Ministry's Chief Officer Dr Dax Basdeo said that enforcing international standards is part of maintaining an effective regime.

'Cayman is committed to doing its part to fight global criminal activity, and having an effective BO regime is a core component of this commitment', Dr Basdeo said.

Past Elector Objections Urged to Come Forward

The latest Revised Register of Electors published by the Elections Office is now open for the public to review and submit claims and objections before the Thursday, 25 February 2021 deadline.

Anyone who was registered to vote prior to 6 November 2009 but were removed from the register due to residency requirements, are encouraged to submit a claim form (available from elections.

ky under the Forms section) to their district's Registering Officer before the 25 February deadline in order to be reinstated following a recent ruling by the Revising Officer.

During the December 2020 Claims and Objections hearings, the Revising Officer (Chief Magistrate) ruled that voters who were registered immediately prior to the commencement of the 2009 Constitution



on 6 November 2009 are not subject to the residency requirements under section 90(1)(b) and 90(1)(c), but instead qualify under Section 90(1)(a) and may be registered.

Pending Electors Can Vote on 14 April

On Wednesday, 10 February 2021, His Excellency, the Governor issued a notice to dissolve parliament on Sunday February 14 and set Wednesday, 14 April 2021 as the new date for the next General Election.

This date was selected in part to ensure newly registered and eligible voters will still be able to cast their vote in the 2021 General Election.

Before the 20 January 2021 registration deadline, 1,406 individuals registered to vote. The names of these voters are now listed on the Revised List of Electors, which was published for public review on 3 February 2021.

Claims and objections relating to the revised list must be submitted before 25 February 2021.

All claims and objections will be published on 4 March 2021. The Revising Officer (Chief Magistrate) will hear these claims and objections between 22 and 26 March 2021.

Following the outcome of the hearings, the revised list will be finalised and become the Official List of Electors on 1

April 2021. Everyone on this list will be entitled to cast their vote, in person, in the General Election on 14 April 2021.

Individuals on the Revised List of Electors who are currently 17-years-old and will not turn 18 on or before the new General Election date will not be eligible to vote on 14 April 2021. Sixteen individuals fall into this category and they will be contacted by the Registering Officers.

Postal voting is available to anyone who will be or are likely to be off island on Election Day. Postal ballots can now be requested and will be dispatched following nomination day for everyone eligible.

Requests for postal or mobile voting from newly eligible voters will be actioned after 1 April 2021. Postal ballots will be dispatched by commercial courier.

Mobile voting is available to anyone on island who is unable to visit a polling sta-



tion on Election Day. Requests for mobile voting can now be submitted.

Registering Officers will be contacting all persons who submitted postal and mobile voting forms for the May Election date, prior to the announcement of the 14 April 2021 General Election date, to determine if those persons still require postal voting or mobile voting for the new date.

Information on who can qualify for postal or mobile voting can be found at elections.ky along with the necessary forms to complete. Alternatively, individuals may contact the Elections Office at office@elections.ky or visit the office at 68 West Bay Road, George Town.

POLICE NEWS

Two Arrested Following Drug Operation in North Side

On Tuesday morning, 9 February, RCIPS officers in North Side conducted a proactive operation in the vicinity of Further Road, North Side. Officers conducted a search of a property under the Misuse of



Drugs Law and recovered bags containing suspected ganja, as well as ganja plants.

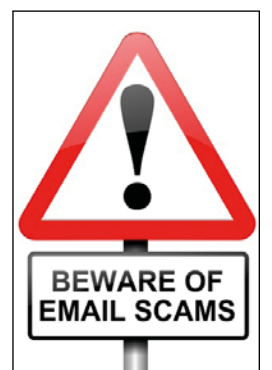
Two persons, a woman age 34 of West Bay, and a man age 58 of North Side, were arrested on suspicion of consumption of ganja and possession of ganja with intent to supply.

Public Advisory: The RCIPS Financial Crime Investigation Unit Warns Against Letter Scam

The Financial Crime Investigation Unit (FCIU) have recently received reports that a number of business owners have received letters in the mail informing them that they are the recipients of a

sizeable inheritance from a distant relative. The letters provide details on how to receive the allocated funds and how the funds will be distributed

The RCIPS FCIU is warning the public that this letter is the first stage of a scam and anyone receiving the letter is encouraged not to respond. The public is being asked to be vigilant when carrying out business and are reminded not share personal and banking information, whether through traditional mail, emails or over the phone. Anyone who receives these or similar letters or who has information on the origin of these letters is encouraged to call the RCIPS FCIU at 949-8797 or email RCIPS.FCIU@rcips.ky. Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website.



Airport Duty Officer Joins Cayman Islands Regiment

An Airport Duty Officer with The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA), was recently recruited to the Cayman Islands Regiment. The Cayman Islands Regiment, Cayman's first formal military formation, which was formed in August 2020, provides disaster relief and security within the Cayman Islands and the wider Caribbean region and aims to recruit, train and develop soldiers and officers within the Islands.

Jerad Ebanks was selected to join the Cayman Islands Regiment formation as a Reserve Trooper, along with 50 others, after an extensive and rigorous recruitment process that involved fitness, aptitude, medical assessments, an interview and a commitment to other eligibility requirements. After the recruitment process, the recruits began two weeks of basic training, which tested their character through teamwork, fitness, resilience, mental focus, drill, navigation, and disaster management, to name a few. On completion of

basic training, Trooper Ebanks was awarded 'Best recruit' of his course. He was also subsequently promoted to rank of Acting Lance Corporal along with other troopers, a rank that can be given upon completion of basic training for demonstrating strong leadership qualities.

On his joining the Cayman Islands Regiment, L/Cpl Ebanks said, "I have always wanted to serve in the military. I have a strong love for my country and its people, and the Cayman Islands Regiment provided me with the perfect opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream of honorably serving my country and helping others during a humanitarian crisis or civil emergency."

Mr. Ebanks has been employed with the CIAA since September 2014. As an airport duty officer at Owen Roberts International Airport, he feels that both roles complement one another. "Being involved in an organization like the Cayman Islands Regiment helps a person to build character and learn the importance and value of skills such as discipline, commitment, being a team player and mental strength to deal with challenging tasks, which are also



► Tpr J. Ebanks (front row, far left) with Training Section Leader Sgt. Williams (rear center) and BRAVO 1 section from second left: Tpr M. McLaughlin, Tpr A. Bodden, Tpr O. Johnson, Tpr J. Carter, Tpr D. Blake, Tpr J. Brown, Tpr N. Smith, Tpr D. Leslie

essential in my day-to-day role at the Airport where I am responsible for ensuring apron compliance and aerodrome safety," he said. "I feel very honored to be entrusted to lead my fellow troopers as Reservist

Acting Lance Corporal, and I am grateful to my management team at the CIAA for their support in allowing me to embark on such an exciting and fulfilling journey as part of the 51-platoon Regiment."

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS MAKES BIG ANNOUNCEMENTS AT THEIR 'BIG BREAKFAST'

Local mentoring charity, Big Brothers Big Sisters, has launched 'Think BIG'; a campaign aiming to make a big impact on the Cayman community, and to help recruit and match 100 mentors (Bigs) and mentees (Littles).

'Think BIG' launched on Saturday 16 January with a 'Big Breakfast'; an event celebrating the work of Bigs. The event, which took place at George Town Yacht Club, began with professional development featuring Shannon Seymour, Director of the Wellness Centre, who made an impactful presentation on Understanding Adversity and Building Resilience, with a particular focus on the effect of COVID-19 on the children and adolescents in the Cayman Islands.

Big Brothers Big Sisters also made some big announcements about the future of the charity, revealing they have appointed three new roles to better support the needs of the Littles and their families in the future. The new appointments are Greg Smith as Executive Director, Erin Kaufman as Programme Manager and An-

gela Sealy, as Case Manager and Family Support Specialist.

Pilar Bush, Chairperson of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Cayman Islands, said "January was National Mentoring Month in the USA and this focused attention on the need for mentors. Mentors can truly change the lives of their mentees forever. Many of the issues faced by our community's young people were heightened in 2020 due to COVID. The work of our mentors has never been more important and we knew it was time to make big changes to Big Brothers Big Sisters allowing us to do even more going forward.

"One major focus is for us to grow our mentoring programme to reach 100 matches of Bigs and Littles while providing additional support to the families that need it. We hope that our Think BIG campaign will help us to reach these important milestones."

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Cayman Islands offers a wide range of mentoring opportunities to meet the varied needs of volunteers, children & Littles and their fam-



► Angela Martins, Deputy Chair of Big Brothers Big Sisters Cayman Islands, at The Big Breakfast event

ilies. Serving as role models, its mentors (Bigs) teach by example the importance of giving and giving back, of staying in school, and of the importance for having respect for family, peers and the community.

Think BIG is a campaign based around 'Big' events, 'Big' messages and 'Big' impacts. The aim is to raise awareness of the important work that the charity does within the Cayman Islands, raise important funds, and to recognise its stakeholders, volunteers and supporters.

Think BIG events will continue throughout February. These include 'A Big Time' event for Bigs and Littles on 17 February, a community Dress Down Day on 26 February aimed at raising awareness and funds, and a Youth Mentoring Forum sponsored by R3 on 27 February.

Pilar Bush, continued, "The Big Breakfast recognised the amazing work that our Bigs and volunteers do every day and the massive impact that they have

on the lives of the Littles. We wanted to give special recognition to four Bigs that are hard-working, passionate, and dedicated. They are cheerleaders and best friends. They are mentors and supporters. They encompass everything that makes a wonderful Big. They are Nick Brierly, Kim Sheehan, Robert Thomas and Mahreen Nabi. We also wanted to recognise three incredible volunteers who have made an exceptional contribution to Big Brothers Big Sisters. They are Heidi Adair, Shona Dors and once again, Nick Brierly. A huge thank you to all of these amazing people, and all of the other remarkable volunteers that made Big Brothers Big Sisters what it is today. We look forward to making our 100 matches soon and creating a 'Big' impact on the Cayman Islands."

To find out more about volunteering, becoming a mentor or donating to Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Cayman Islands, visit bbbs.ky or call us on +345 326 0610.



Updates to the Covid-19 Vaccination schedule

The Public Health Department has now published the COVID-19 vaccination schedule for the next three weeks commencing on Monday, February 15th through Saturday, March 6th 2021.

Public Health wishes to advise the public of updates to Stage 2, identification requirements, and proof of medical conditions.

Identification Criteria:

Everyone must now present photo identification to receive the vaccine and demonstrate they are ordinarily and legally resident e.g. with initial permission to remain in the Islands for at least six months. This includes Caymanians, Permanent Residents, people holding Work Permits, as well as Global Citizens and their families.

Accepted ID's include:

- Cayman Islands Driver's License
- Cayman Islands Passport
- Cayman Islands Voters Card
- A Global Citizens Certificate (GCCP)
- Non-Caymanian passport showing approval to be on island for six months from arrival
- Work Permit extension letter
- Work Permit grant letter
- Job letter (from a local organisation)

If a visitor has already received their first dose, they may still receive their second dose.

Update to Vaccination Campaign Stage 2:

Stage 2 is in three groups: Stage 2, Group B will commence on Monday, February 15th. Please see schedule as this Group has been divided by Surname.

Group A

Anyone aged 16-60 with relevant medical conditions predisposing to COVID-19

Group B

Essential workers, teachers, school staff*

Group C

Those living at home with persons from stage one of the programme.

**Essential workers will include the following groups: teachers/school employees, supermarket workers, those working for the utilities, people working at gas stations, customer facing people working in retail banking, those working in hotels, restaurants and bars, those working for food delivery companies, caregivers and Civil Servants. All persons must present a work ID to show proof of employer.*

Stage 2, Group A - Proof of Medical Condition:

Anyone in Stage 2, Group A with a medical condition is required to provide a note from their doctor. Persons requiring a note from their HSA doctor are asked to request this by contacting the Flu Hotline flu@hsa.ky, 1-800-534-8600 or 925-6327.

Electronic and hard copies will be accepted at the vaccination clinics.

These medical conditions include:

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Cancer
- Heart disease
- Lung disease
- Kidney disease
- Autoimmune diseases or compromised/weakened immune system



- Asthma
- Down's syndrome (adults)
- Severe mental illness
- People on immunosuppression therapies sufficient to significantly increase risk of infection
- People with solid organ transplants

Caregivers

Public Health continues to vaccinate our most vulnerable population, specifically those 70 and over.

Caregivers of persons 70+ are eligible for the COVID vaccine in the continued effort to keep the most vulnerable safe. The vaccine is available for persons providing care for home bound elderly persons.

Caregivers and persons responsible for the elderly in their homes can contact the HSA's Flu Hotline 1-800-534-8600 or 925-6327 to provide the following details: Caregivers full name, phone number, patient name, and date of birth. Once a caregiver has been identified, those persons will be approved for the vaccination and name checked at the vaccination clinic. Please check the schedule for your designated vaccination time.

Overseas University Students

University students who will be attending institutions overseas may also get vaccinated on their assigned day and must present university ID.

As a reminder, persons over the age of 60+ can be vaccinated **at any time** during the published schedule.

The COVID-19 vaccination programme continues to administer Dose 2 vaccinations for persons due from Stage 1, Group A, B and C. Persons who have received their first dose are reminded to get their second dose 21 days later or no longer than 12 weeks after the first dose.

If someone is home bound and unable to attend one of the vaccination clinics, they should contact the Flu Hotline 1-800-534-8600 or 925-6327 or their local HSA District Health Centre and arrangements will be made to with a Public Health nurse to provide the vaccine in their home.

Public Health will announce when Stage 2 Group C may come forward for vaccinations.

For the most up to date vaccination schedule visit [https://hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus/HSA Flu Hotline](https://hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus/HSA_Flu_Hotline) - 1-800-534-8600 or 925-6327 or flu@hsa.ky

District Health Centre Contact Numbers

- George Town - 244-2800
- East End - 947-7440
- North Side - 947-9525
- West Bay - 949-3439
- Bodden Town - 947-2299
- Faith Hospital - 925-1190

COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign 2021			
Monday 15th February - Saturday 20th February 2021			
TIME	LOCATION	STAGE & GROUPS	DOSE
Monday, 15 February 2021			
If you are 60+ years old you may get Dose 1 at any of the published vaccination clinic times.			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group A & B Surname A & B	DOSE 1
1:00pm - 4:00pm			
Tuesday, 16 February 2021			
If you are 60+ years old you may get Dose 1 at any of the published vaccination clinic times.			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group A & B Surname C & D	DOSE 1
1:00pm - 4:00pm			
Wednesday, 17 February 2021 - NO VACCINATIONS - PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Thursday, 18 February 2021			
If you are 60+ years old you may get Dose 1 at any of the published vaccination clinic times.			
9:00am - 10:00am	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A Surname A - D	DOSE 2
10:00am - 11:00am	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A Surname E - G	DOSE 2
11:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A Surname H - M	DOSE 2
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A Surname N - R	DOSE 2
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A Surname S - Z	DOSE 2

Friday, 19 February 2021			
If you are 60+ years old you may get Dose 1 at any of the published vaccination clinic times.			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group B (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY) Caregivers for 70+ Surname A - D	DOSE 1
10:00am - 11:00am	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group B (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY) Caregivers for 70+ Surname E - G	DOSE 1
11:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group B (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY) Caregivers for 70+ Surname H - M	DOSE 1
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group B (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY) Caregivers for 70+ Surname N - R	DOSE 1
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 2, Group B (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY) Caregivers for 70+ Surname S - Z	DOSE 1
Saturday, 20 February 2021			
If you are 60+ years old you may get Dose 1 at any of the published vaccination clinic times.			
9:00am - 10:00am	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A University students returning overseas Surname A - D	DOSE 2 DOSE 1
10:00am - 11:00am	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A University students returning overseas Surname E - G	DOSE 2 DOSE 1
11:00am - 12:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A University students returning overseas Surname H - M	DOSE 2 DOSE 1
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A University students returning overseas Surname N - R	DOSE 2 DOSE 1
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Offsite COVID Vaccine Clinic, Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA)	Stage 1 (Group A, B & C) Stage 2 Group A University students returning overseas Surname S - Z	DOSE 2 DOSE 1

**Schedule and groups subject to change. Most up to date schedule will be on www.hsa.ky*

All persons must present photo identification to prove they are an ordinary and legal resident. CI Driver's license, CI Voters ID, CI Passport, Non-Caymanian passport showing approval to be on island for six months from arrival, Work Permit extension letter, Work Permit grant letter, Job letter (from a local organisation), Global Citizens (GCCP) Certificate.

Essential workers (Stage 2, Group B) must also present a work ID to show proof of employer.

When receiving your 2nd dose, you MUST also bring along your vaccination card reflecting your 1st dose. The date on your vaccination card for the 2nd dose is the earliest that is recommended.

Facemask & Photo ID required

SPEAKER SPEAKS OUT!

By Staff Writer

Speaker of the Cayman Islands Parliament, McKeeva Bush, has responded with a scathing rebuttal and counter-move to a no-confidence motion against him.

In a statement, Speaker McKeeva Bush said he had filed his own motion in response to a move to have him evicted from the Speaker's chair.

A no-confidence motion had been submitted by Leader of the Opposition Arden McClean and seconded by MP for North Side, Ezzard Miller citing the Speaker's recent conviction on assault charges.

In his own motion, seconded by Captain Eugene Ebanks, the MP for West Bay Central, Mr Bush also raises concerning issues of standards in public life in Cayman politics and challenges other MPs on their "moral and ethical" stance against him.

It also addresses the wider issue of the process of the resignation of Members of Parliament.

MATTERS OF MOTIONS, EMOTIONS AND MORALS

Further weighing into the swirling political maelstrom around him, he said he would have held the meeting of the parliament to debate the no-confidence motion against him.

Mr. Bush declared that: "If I had the chance to debate that then we would have seen where members would have voted."

He also claimed that the Opposition motion calling for the meeting was procedurally flawed.

"If Arden and Ezzard had got seven members to sign days before the new date of dissolution, and the letter of request would have reached my desk (it didn't and I didn't get it), I would have set the date

for the meeting and given the Deputy the chair," he outlined.

And Mr Bush said he had submitted his own motion before the Opposition had handed in theirs.

"I gave the Clerk notice of before the Opposition motion was sent to me!"

"But I must say that seven members (is) not such a magic number," the Speaker said.

According to Mr. Bush, "As our constitution sets the (quorum) of the House at 10...the House can't meet without 10 members. Not 7 members, 10 members. So, in the course of all that then democracy would take its course. Either they would get 13 members to vote against me or not! That's democracy as we have it in our constitution."

When they submitted their no-confidence motion against the Speaker last month, Opposition Leader McLean and MP for North Side, Ezzard Miller, had based their submission on his recent conviction on assault charges.

Last December Mr. Bush was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for assault arising from an altercation in February involving a female bar manager. The sentence was suspended for two years. He was also placed on a two-month 6pm to 6am curfew and was fined US\$700 for disorderly conduct.

In his statement on Friday, the embattled Speaker vigorously defended his character:

"I'm no woman-beater," he asserted adamantly.

Referring to the incident which led to his conviction, he insisted that he received injuries and was not the aggressor.

"I was not the aggressor and I'm no woman beater!" Mr. Bush maintains.

Mr. Bush also claimed that key parts of the video evidence in his defence were withheld during his trial.

He further stated, "So now Arden McLean and Ezzard (Miller) of all people both of whom who have no moral or ethical high ground to challenge me, are using this incident against me to bolster their election chances. But the people know of them as well as they know me."

He said, "I know this, that I have been taken to court".

RE-ELECTION RE-FOCUS

"For me it's over. It's over and I have lots of work to continue to do for my people as I have done over the years," Mr. Bush added, listing his contributions to the society and his political achievements throughout his long career.

Mr. Bush will be contesting the upcoming elections defending his West Bay West stronghold.

Politics in Cayman at present is centred on the April 14th snap elections called by Premier Alden McLaughlin this week with the situation of Speaker Bush at the heart of the matter.

It pivots on the no-confidence motion against him, and the processes surrounding it to trigger a meeting of the parliament - which the government was reluctant to accommodate.

But in an abrupt change of mind this week, Premier Alden McLaughlin brought forward the election date from May 27th to April 14th which has sent Cayman Islands politics into a tailspin.

The Premier's move is supported by Speaker Bush who will be defending his long-held West Bay West seat.

"The Premier and the Governor acted in a manner that is the right thing to do for the country," he stated.

"No one is disenfranchised from running as a candidate as they've all been out all over the place from mid last year and some for years campaigning...Now to hear them crying is such hypocrisy as only some of them can be!!!"

He also said that the Voters List is up to date.

"Let those who wish to criticize do so. We are a free country. The majority in a democracy is what matters," he declared.

The long-standing West Bay West representative said he will be campaigning



► Speaker of the Cayman Islands Parliament, McKeeva Bush

to retain his seat on his record of achievements.

"I have lots of work to continue to do for my people as I have done over the years, he said in the statement.

Look at my accomplishments for individuals and families in these islands and the vast majority of people will say so because it's a fact. I have been in the vanguard for the people over these 36 years."

According to Mr Bush, "Consider what would have happened to our people in this lockdown situation if I hadn't fought years ago to put in place some kind of pension in place for the working man?"

In full campaigning mode, Mr Bush said, "My only aim and objective is to continue to help my Caymanian people - all of them including all nationalities legally here., while I concentrate more heavily to stabilize our families, jobs for our people, and stabilise businesses knocked for six because of the virus."

He reminded that he "fought to keep taxation and property tax out when Minister Bryant wanted to push me to do so," adding that, "I wonder where the Cayman Islands would have been today paying taxes on incomes and your house, land and on your grocery or other purchases."

To protect our people I stood up to them and told them "I left my pen home."

The West Bay West MP who said he will shortly be publishing his manifesto, concluded with a jab at his detractors.

"Those trying to make me the scapegoat in this election and using the incident to try to build up their political support, should tell the people what they did for them rather than to do nothing but "yap yap" all day long," Mr Bush said.

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► Competition is close between Hornets Aniyah Augustine and Chargers Caleah Stewart



► Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly presents a 2nd place medal to Justyn Ainsworth. Also included in the photo (From right to left) Jaleel Ritch, Jodain Brown and Benjamin McDonald

Cayman Brac & Little Cayman Primary Schools Host Combined Sports Day

On Thursday and Friday (5-6 February), primary schools across Cayman Brac and Little Cayman came together to host the annual Cayman Brac & Little Cayman Inter-Primary School Sports Day with students from each school competing in either of two houses—the Hornets and the Chargers.

The event, held at the Cayman Brac Sports Complex, showcased the athletic prowess of students from Creek & Spot Bay Primary (CSBPS), West End Primary School (WEPS) and Little Cayman Education Services (LCES).

At the end of day two, defending champions, the Hornets, emerged as winners after amassing 637 points compared to rival house, Chargers 596 points.

Cristiano Ritch and Marsee Walton both emerged Division Two and Junior Champions while Antoniel McDonald, and Jairon McCoy were selected as Division 4 and Senior Champions.

Other medalists included Division One Champions Jodain Brown and Deah Tatum as well as Division Three Champions Lavi-na Fredricks and Kaiden Stewart.

CSBPS Principal Claudette Lazzari expressed gratitude to the various stakeholders on behalf of participating schools. “Thanks to everyone who took part in making this day an enjoyable and safe event. Special thanks to the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service, the Health Services Authority Ambulance Service, the Public Works Department for setting up as well as coaches and interns from the Sports Department.”

Ms. Lazzari also thanked her school’s PTA for refreshment sales and staff and

colleagues from all the Sister Island Primary Schools for their usual cooperation.

Minister for Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture & Land Hon. Juliana O’Connor Connolly and Parliamentary Secretary Hon. David Wight attended the event and assisted with the presentation of medals.

The event received wide support from parents and members of the wider community, several of whom participated in the Adult Baton Race.

To learn the dates of other school sports days, visit www.education.gov.ky.

Girls Softball – Game Report

SOL Jaguars 14, SOL Panthers 5

CILLA Girls Softball continued on Wednesday, February 10th as the SOL Jaguars broke open a close game with a six run second inning to defeat the SOL Panthers, 14-5.

The SOL Panthers scored two runs in the top of the first, as Stephanie Menko and Sofia Watler scored on a two run double by Demae Lee. The SOL Jaguars responded with four runs in the bottom of the inning, as Zhanna McDonald, Clara Ramos, Rio Windsor and Renell Parchment crossed the plate, using three walks and clutch hitting to their advantage.

The SOL Panthers took the lead in the top of the second, plating three runs. Stephanie’s two run homer deep to right field scored Keirsten McLaughlin and Sofia later reached home on an RBI single by Demae. The SOL Jaguars bounced right back with the maximum six runs in the bottom of the second. Withney Jackson, Shay Windsor, Zhanna, Clara, Madison Malice and Rio all scored, with Zhanna’s two run double being the key hit.

The SOL Panthers failed to score in the final inning as Zhanna, now in at pitcher, struck out two batters and got another out by fielding a grounder and firing a perfect throw to first base. The SOL Jaguars added four more runs in their final turn as Julian-na Bodden scored on a two run homer by Shay, and Zhanna and Clara each scored their third runs of the game.

Zhanna was presented with the game ball for her all-round performance.



Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
SOL Panthers	2	3	0	—	—	5
SOL Jaguars	4	6	0	4	—	14

SOL Pumas 13, SOL Jaguars 12

The second game of the week was played on Saturday, February 13th and a see-saw encounter saw the SOL Pumas rally for six runs in their final at-bat to squeak past the SOL Jaguars, 13-12, in an early season battle for first place.

Each team scored four runs in the first inning. Clara Ramos, Rio Windsor, Janey Veilleux and Diamond Chambers crossed home for the SOL Jaguars, while Aleigha General, Jialy Archbold-McLaughlin, DeShae Cann and Kenia Rostran duplicated the effort for the SOL Pumas. Tracey Campbell, playing right field for the SOL Pumas, threw out a runner at first base with excellent fielding and a perfect throw.



► The three pitchers (L-R): Withney, Zhanna and Clara

The SOL Jaguars plated four more runs in the second, with Valentina Bustos crossing the plate, followed later in the inning by Clara, Rio and Janey. Withney Jackson contributed a key hit during the rally. In the bottom of the inning the SOL Pumas came back with three runs as Leila Dixon scored her first run of the contest, with Aleigha and Jialy earning their second runs of the game. The SOL Jaguars threw out another runner at home who was trying to score from third.

The SOL Jaguars finished their batting with four more runs in the decisive third inning. Valentina, Clara, Rio and Diamond all scored to make it 12 runs on the night for the SOL Jaguars, and Withney had another important hit in the inning.

In the bottom of the third, the SOL Pumas quickly got on the scoreboard as Aleigha walked and later scored on a single by Jialy. After DeShae singled, Kenia’s double brought them both home to make it 12-10. Tracey struck out but reached

first on an error, with Kenia scoring on the play. Aydis walked and the runners advanced to second and third moments later on a passed ball. Jelijah McLean then hit a grounder to the pitcher, but a high throw allowed Tracey and Aydis to scamper home for the 13-12 victory, sending their bench into jubilant celebrations.

Both teams are to be congratulated for playing an entertaining game, despite not having all their players present.

Games continue on Saturday, February 20th as the SOL Panthers take on the SOL Pumas at 6:30 pm.

Scoring by inning:

TEAM	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	TOTAL
SOL Jaguars	4	4	4	—	—	12
SOL Pumas	4	3	6	—	—	13

Current Standings:

TEAM	Won	Lost	Tied	RF	RA	GB
SOL Pumas	2	1	0	33	46	0
SOL Panthers	1	1	1	44	33	0.5
SOL Jaguars	1	2	1	45	43	1

St Vincent volcano is better monitored now

The La Soufriere Volcano activity in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is better observed now after the scientific team from The University of the West Indies Seismic Research Centre (UWI-SRC) increased its capacity to bolster seismic monitoring.

The equipment came from a recent donation of seismic stations and telemetry equipment from the USGS-USAID Volcano Disaster Assistance Programme (VDAP).

The donated equipment is being used to build four seismic stations and radios to enhance communications on the island. Three of the stations are solar powered installations with post-hole seismometers, which are sensors designed for subsurface installation to optimise seismic performance while minimising the cost and logistics of site set-up.

The fourth station is a spider seismometer — a device designed for rapid deployment in high risk locations where human exposure to hazards should be minimised, such as volcanic craters. USGS-USAID VDAP donated after receiving a request from UWI-SRC following the effusive

eruption, which was first detected on Dec. 29.

"This equipment is needed as it allows us to densify the seismic network by placing them in locations where there are significant gaps and the spider seismometer will fortify the near crater monitoring," said UWI-SRC Instrumentation Engineer, Lloyd Lynch. In the event of escalated volcanic activity at La Soufriere, enhanced monitoring should allow the scientists to alert authorities with sufficient time to activate appropriate emergency responses such as evacuations.

Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr Ralph Gonsalves expressed his thanks to the USGS VDAP and The UWI-SRC stating: "The partnership between Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Seismic Research Centre is vital in the monitoring of the La Soufriere volcano; the SRC is a tribute to our Caribbean civilisation.

"The contribution of the United States Geological Survey and its Volcano Disaster Assistance Programme to the work of the SRC in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is generous and deeply appreciated by our government and peo-



► The scientific team working at La Soufriere Volcano

ple. Multilateral support across countries in every area of human endeavour is the way forward for humanity's further upliftment. Thanks again to USGS, VDAP, and SRC! We love you!"

The UWI-SRC in partnership with the SVG National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) continues to enhance the monitoring of the La Soufriere volcano and actively seeks

partnerships to bolster not only the various networks but to engage in data collection and sharing to better understand the current activity and plan for any scenario.

TRUMP ACQUITTAL EXPOSES RIFTS AMONG REPUBLICANS

The Republican Party in the United States has been thrown into deep reflection over its relationship with Donald Trump, following a partisan vote in the Senate that absolved the former president of responsibility for a deadly mob attack on the Congress on January 6th.

In an impeachment hearing followed around the world, the Senate failed - along party lines - to reach the two-thirds vote margin needed to convict Mr Trump.

Seven Republicans voted with the Democrats in a 57 to 43 split, 10 votes short of the required 67.

It was the controversial ex-president's record second impeachment hearing and again escaping conviction which this time would have banned him from running for the presidency again.

The depth of soul searching amongst Republicans over their party's future comes as Mr Trump is now strategising for another presidential run in 2024.

That splintering, already evident with key former allies distancing themselves from their erstwhile leader, was brought into sharp focus with an unequivocal condemnation of Mr Trump by Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell.

Shortly after he voted to acquit him, Mr McConnell launched a blistering attack on Mr Trump accusing him of being "practi-

cally and morally responsible" for the mob attack.

"They did this because they'd been fed wild falsehoods by the most powerful man on earth because he was angry he lost an election," he stated despite casting the equivalent of a "not guilty" verdict.

Continuing his condemnation of the former president's instigation of the attack, Mr McConnell said: "He did not do his job. He didn't take steps so federal law could be faithfully executed and order restored."

Despite that, Mr McConnell said Trump was not "constitutionally eligible for conviction" as he had already left office by the time of the hearing.

However, it was Mr McConnell, then as Senate majority leader, who had blocked an attempt by the Democrats to hold the impeachment hearing before he'd left office.

An emboldened Donald Trump said after the acquittal, "I always have, and always will be a champion for the unwavering rule of law, the heroes of law enforcement, and the right of Americans to peacefully and honourably debate the issues of the day without malice and without hate."

Meanwhile, President Joe Biden has decried the outcome of the process which



led to his political nemesis being let off the hook.

"Even those opposed to the conviction, like Senate Minority Leader McConnell, believe Donald Trump was guilty of a 'disgraceful dereliction of duty' and 'practically and morally responsible for provoking' the violence unleashed on the Capitol," Mr Biden said.

In a statement after the acquittal, he added: "This sad chapter in our history has reminded us that democracy is fragile. That it must always be defended. That we must be ever vigilant. That violence and extremism has no place in America. And that each of us has a duty and responsibility as Americans, and especially as leaders, to defend the truth and to defeat the lies."

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Barbados is new base for cruise line

The Caribbean cruise industry will bounce back by the end of this year which is welcome news for places like Barbados where Royal Caribbean will homeport out of Bridgetown for the first time in October.



► Bridgetown will welcome Grandeur of the Seas in October

The cruise line will base Grandeur of the Seas from the island, a popular destination for Brits. The ship will offer three seven and 14-night itineraries calling at Tobago, Trinidad and St Vincent. Grandeur's longer escapes will include an overnight stay in Aruba coupled with visits to Cartagena, Colombia; Colon, Panama; and Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, among others.

"We are excited to grow our long-standing partnership with Barbados and introduce Bridgetown as Royal Caribbean's newest home port. Sailing from the

heart of the Windward Islands unlocks new memorable experiences to share with family and friends in breath-taking places, such as Grenada, Saint Lucia, and now St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago," said Michael Bayley, president and CEO, Royal Caribbean International. "The pink-sand beaches and unexpected adventures across Barbados also make it an ideal destination for our guests to experience even more of the Caribbean charm and culture before or after their cruise."

Jamaica's gang warfare is shocking

Jamaica's Minister of National Security, Dr Horace Chang, is blaming gang warfare for the surge in murders across the country since the start of the year. Over 100 people have been killed since the start of the year.

In general, the increase in murders is intricately linked to changes in the economy because of the global pandemic. The entertainment and tourism sectors, which would normally provide indirect income to gang members and corner crews, for example, are now in flux. Similarly, corruption at the ports is being closely monitored to collect every cent possible given the reduction in imports. This has forced the crime element to find income through robberies and extortion. These crimes often lead to violent incidents which end in murder.

Despite pumping billions of dollars into the national security infrastructure over the past four years, the government has



► Jamaican gangsters are ruthless

failed in enacting accompanying legislation to effectively bring the island's crime problem under control, Chang has admitted.

He said efforts by the police to dismantle gangs have been working, despite it not being reflected in the murder statistics so far this year. According to Chang, who is also the deputy prime minister, the government has deployed more police in crime-plagued areas and invested heavily in more resources to aid law enforcers.

Fresh US drug claims of Hernández

Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández has denied fresh accusations made by federal prosecutors in New York, that he shielded drug lords, including Joaquín 'El Chapo' Guzmán, in exchange for bribes, and sought to flood the streets of the United States with drugs.

The president, whose brother Juan Antonio 'Tony' Hernández was convicted of drug trafficking in October 2019 in New York, was implicated when his name had come up in a previous investigation in the drug trafficking case of Geovanny Fuentes Ramírez.

Fuentes Ramírez, who was arrested while attempting to board a plane at Miami International Airport on March 1,

2020, is accused of conspiring to smuggle cocaine into the US and of killing several people to protect his business.

On Monday, representatives for President Hernandez, who has not yet been charged, tweeted staunch denials of any involvement in the case.

Hernández was identified as 'CC-4' or 'co-conspirator 4' in court documents filed last Friday.

Former Honduran mayor Amílcar Alexander Ardón told prosecutors that former Congressman Tony Hernández guaranteed to provide protection for El Chapo's drug shipments in exchange for \$1 million ahead of Juan Orlando Hernández's 2013 presidential campaign.



► President Juan Orlando Hernandez denies all drug accusations

Trinidad stops to honour murder victim

Over 500 Trinidad businesses closed on Friday in honour of murder victim Andrea Bharatt who was laid to rest.

The decision to shut down came after over 100 demonstrations across the country to highlight violence against women and call for legislators to pass necessary laws to reduce it.

Bharatt, 23, was kidnapped on Jan. 29 and her decomposing body was found in the Heights of Aripo one week later. The shutdown was the initiative of a group, An Act for Change, which called for women to stay away from work. Other demonstrators turned it into a call for workplaces to shut down entirely. The list grew to over 500 by the afternoon, made up of mainly small and medium-sized businesses.



► Trinidad had a mass vigil and boycott for the murdered woman

Meanwhile, a local man, Negus George, 24, from Malabar, has been formally charged with Bharatt's murder. George's girlfriend, a 37-year-old from Malabar, is expected to be formally charged with receiving stolen property.

St Lucia gets vaccine from neighbours

Saint Lucia's efforts to contain COVID-19 continues to receive support from neighbouring governments of the Oxford AstraZeneca Vaccine produced by India.

Saint Lucia received 1,000 doses of the vaccine from the Barbados government and 2,000 doses from Dominica. These donations will bolster the national COVID-19 vaccination campaign which will be launched shortly by the Ministry of Health. The vaccines which have been received from regional counterparts will be used in the rollout of the first phase of vaccination.

The Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine is administered in two doses for gaining the



► Saint Lucia's hospital staff are dedicated

required protection from the virus. The first vaccine batch of 1,500 will go to frontline workers which include medical personnel, state security including the police, fire service, correctional officers and paramedics.

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

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

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/22

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wine valley
 - 5 Seine straddler
 - 10 Make ashamed
 - 12 Plain silly
 - 13 Like some colognes
 - 14 Joe of "The Irishman"
 - 15 Slalom maneuver
 - 16 "Golly!"
 - 18 Consider appropriate
 - 20 Seine summer
 - 21 Boyfriend
 - 23 Roulette bet
 - 24 Primary
 - 26 Kisser
 - 28 Scoundrel
 - 29 Has dinner
 - 31 Un-matched
 - 32 Start a round
 - 36 Flowering plant with a citrusy scent
 - 39 Spoil
 - 40 Contract add-on
 - 41 Michelangelo work
 - 43 Stood
- DOWN**
- 44 Heart, for one
 - 45 Dancer's boss
 - 46 Vaccine pioneer
 - 1 New parents' choices
 - 2 Mistreat
 - 3 Out of style
 - 4 Inquire
 - 5 Water bearer
 - 6 Over again
 - 7 Bacon strips
 - 8 Spurs on
 - 9 Confiscated

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

Yesterday's answer

- 11 Health class topic
- 17 Greek vowel
- 19 G-man's org.
- 22 Musically cheery
- 24 Amber wine
- 25 Appended
- 27 Take advantage of
- 28 Hooded snakes
- 30 Georgia airport code
- 33 Letter after psi
- 34 Deadly
- 35 Candid
- 37 Top-rated
- 38 Geometry calculation
- 42 Auditing org.

Word Search

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

- Calgary
- Dartmouth
- Edmonton
- Fredericton
- Kamloops
- Kingston
- London
- Moncton
- Montreal
- Ottawa
- Paris
- Quebec
- Regina
- Sarnia
- Saskatoon
- St John
- Toronto
- Vancouver
- Victoria
- Windsor
- Winnipeg

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

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

3-19



Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley

ALL YOU HAFTA DO IS PRESS THE COLOR AND IT FILLS IN!

A DIGITAL COLORING BOOK—WE ARE TRULY LIVING IN SAD TIMES

OH, C'MON, IT'S GREAT! NO GUESSWORK, NO BROKEN CRAYONS, NO COLORING OUTSIDE THE LINES...

BUT THAT'S WHAT MADE COLORING BOOKS SO GREAT!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee

SURRENDER! DO NOT FORCE ME TO DROWN YOU!

A COUPLE MORE SECONDS—AND I'LL PASS OUT!

GOT TO PUT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT—INTO ONE LAST PUNCH—!

THIS FIGHT IS FINISHED, HUMAN!

JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley

YOU WANT TO HELP ME. GREAT. IT'S ALWAYS NICE WHEN A STRANGER ASSUMES I HAVE PROBLEMS.

PLEASE. LISTEN. I AGREE WITH WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT HOW MAYOR SANDERSON IS SELLING OUT THIS TOWN TO THE CORPORATE AND WEALTHY. I AGREE WITH YOU THAT JUDGE PARKER, DESPITE HIS INTENTIONS BUT BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTIONS AND POSITION, WOULD JUST DO THE EXACT SAME THING.

YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE WHERE THIS TOWN IS HEADED. AND YOU CARE THAT IT'S IN THE WRONG DIRECTION. AND THAT'S WHY I THINK YOU SHOULD RUN FOR MAYOR.

T Caymanian Times



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