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SEEKING CLARITY IN CAYMAN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONUNDRUM

NEW GOVERNMENT SWORN IN

By Staff Writer

After one of the most tumultuous weeks in recent Cayman political history, the jurisdiction has a new government.

The new administration of the PACT (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent) led by Wayne Panton took over the reins of power with a sudden last-minute surge - just hours before swearing-in - taking its shaky one-seat majority to an unassailable 12-7 split in the 19 seat parliament.

The six days of sheer political theatre following last Wednesday's election was not lost HE Governor Martyn Roper who presided over the swearing-in ceremony.

First though, in his keynote address Mr Roper commended the Elections Office for the smoothly-run elections, welcomed the new MPs, commiserated

SEE **NEW GOVERNMENT**, Page 3



RCIPS Assist with Neighbourhood Watch

On Sunday 18 April, Community Policing Officers (CPO) gathered at the Summerfield Place apartment complex in George Town to assist the residents in Launching their Neighbourhood Watch Program.

PC Donville Myers who is the CPO for the Courts Road area of George Town spoke with the residents about the impor-

SEE **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**, Page 11



JERSEY ECONOMY SUFFERS 10% DROP

The economy of the UK Crown Dependency Jersey in the Channel Islands is likely to suffer long-term scarring due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic according to a government-commissioned report.

The Fiscal Policy Panel said while Jersey has set out a clear roadmap for the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, it is likely that the pandemic will have a long-term impact on economy.

It said "this means that there is a risk Jersey will not recover to the level of economic output expected before the pandemic in the years covered by the Government Plan."

SEE **JERSEY ECONOMY DROP**, Page 18



COVID-19 gov.ky/coronavirus



Let's Keep Working Together

Protect yourself and your community against COVID-19.

www.gov.ky/covid19-vaccine

- 1 continue **safe distances** from others in public
- 2 consider **wearing a mask** around the elderly and vulnerable
- 3 continue frequent **hand washing**
- 4 consider getting **vaccinated** when eligible

DATED: 19 JANUARY 2021

EDITORIAL

EVEN IN POLITICS, BE CAYMANKIND

When the dust settles - and it will - life in Cayman will return to normal.

Like the COVID pandemic will pass and we'll just have to learn to live with the virus, so too will it be with the current political contortions and distortions.

It's hard to correlate Caymankind to the recent political paroxysms we have had to endure as a community but at some point, sheer Caymankind will be the guiding light that leads us out of this political storm.

Someone once said politics makes for strange bedfellows - and makes normal fellows behave strangely. It's the name of the game and the nature of the beast.

It was William Congreve (not Shakespeare) who wrote "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast. To soften rocks, or bend the knotted oak." so let it be with Caymankind to soothe the beast of the political kind.

In recent days, the term "forgive" seems to have taken on particular prominence in the midst of the heated political discourse.

Perhaps, it might be wise to extend that spirit of forgiveness beyond the con-



finer of politics and put it to work where it's most needed.

Like President Joe Biden of the United States appealing for unity at a time when his country is riven by racial divisions, that sentiment applicable to Cayman - albeit for different reasons. But both are intended to heal divisions.

And that healing may have already started with the late-breaking news on Wednesday just before the opening of the new session of Parliament.

The past few days have been as historic as they have been packed with histrionics. Now it's time to move on and let them govern.

We congratulate the new government. Now, let's all work for a better Cayman.

Democracy

That democracy can be messy, controversial, heated and even uncertain, has been attested in the past few days in the Cayman Islands. However, as Francis Fukuyama says in his book, **The End of History and the Last Man**, liberal democracy is the 'end-point of man's ideological evolution' with regards to human government. Not only is it the final form of human government, but it is also the best, irrespective. Those who do not believe, can go, and try the rest. For those who believe that representatives must be voted in by the people, voted out by the people and answerable to the people, democracy is indispensable.

But the democratic project must be constantly evaluated and improved especially in the light and wisdom of experience. This is the case in the Cayman Islands currently. The people having voted, must wait, as they are only allowed to 'see through a glass, darkly' as, in a tight election, deals and counter deals are made and determined, with them not knowing the basis, the discussions and premises upon which they are decided. This is clearly not the best way for this to be done.

The people deserve to have clarity as to what they are voting for and, as far as possible, to know the likely composition of their government, depending on which side wins. The Westminster-Whitehall model of government as practiced in most societies in which it was imposed by the British in the process of colonial acculturation, is known for its two-party dominant system with tendencies to alternate in power, high priority to the concept of individual freedom, independence of civil society from the state, a belief in and commitment to the constitution, bureaucratic/ civil service, and police neutrality and so on.

In this context, it is very unusual for the voting citizen after an election not to have a clear result. Moreover, one of the more interesting, useful, and enduring features of the Westminster System is the so-called 'Shadow Cabinet', called Opposition Critic in Canada and Spokespersons in New Zealand. The Shadow Cabinet comprises a senior group of opposition spoke persons who, under the leadership of the Leader of the Opposition, forms an alternative cabinet to that of the government, and whose members shadow or mark each individual member of the Cabinet.



► Dr. Livingston Smith is a Professor at the University College of the Cayman Islands. He is also Director of the CXG Education Volunteer programme

The idea in this arrangement is that the citizen knows before hand who will likely compose an alternative government and, certainly, the likely leader. In the context of the Cayman Islands, political parties have not really taken off to provide such clarity. Nonetheless, as the current system evolves, this editorial agrees with the Constitutional Commission that such pre-election clarity could be enhanced, 'to the extent to which agreements and affiliations' are declared prior to an election. The other areas for clarity noted by the Constitutional Commission are also of utmost importance going forward.

Maybe, this new formation of PACT as distinct from the PPM will provide this clarity going forward. This might even be enhanced if the Leader of the Opposition, formally appoints his 'Shadow Cabinet.'

In any event, this paper wishes the government every success, as it tackles the myriad of urgent matters that affect all of us. Those who make up the government must govern with humility and inclusion, being constantly in touch with the pulse of the people. Those who have lost must know their involvement has strengthened the democratic credentials of the society.

The society must come together, as it usually does after an election as we work together for the collective good.



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NEW GOVERNMENT SWORN IN

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

with those who lost especially past MP, thanked the previous administration and charged the new government with the task ahead.

"I'm sure you will wish to fulfil your leadership roles with integrity, passion and energy. Above all, I urge you to have the best interest of the people of these wonderful islands firmly in your hearts and minds," he stated.

Mr Roper reminded the new government that; "There are likely to be challenges facing the Cayman Islands during your term in office, particularly as we move to reopen our borders and build back better in the midst of this global pandemic. I am confident that you will face these challenges head-on and do your utmost to lead these islands to a brighter future."

But while the formalities of Wednesday's opening of Parliament and swear-

ing-in ceremony brought to an end a week of political upheavals characterised, the Governor was mindful of the turmoil which surrounded the post-election coalition formation.

"The last week has been a tense, and at times challenging one for everyone in our community. I hope we can now put this behind us, come together as a community and support the new government, and the official opposition, as they start work while fully respecting everyone's right to express their opinions," Mr Roper admonished.

"I continue to urge everyone to treat everybody else in our community with courtesy, dignity, respect and fairness at all times."

Another significant point made by Mr Roper regarded issues of standards in public office.

"I believe one of the messages that the public clearly sent in these elections is about the great importance it attached to

the integrity and behaviour of elected parliamentarians, ministers and senior officials," he noted.

"I therefore welcome the incoming government's announcement, we'll agree a code of conduct for parliamentarians, I hope we can also agree on a code of conduct for cabinet ministers."

He assured of the continued good relations between the Cayman Islands and the United Kingdom.

The Governor also noted that Wednesday's swearing-in of the new parliament came on the 95th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Second who sadly lost her husband Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh just a few days ago.

The Parliament observed a minute's silence in his honour.

The new Cayman Islands government will be headed by Mr Wayne Panton as Premier and Mr Chris Saunders as Deputy Premier with a parliamentary majority of 12 seats.

They will be supported in managing the affairs of government and its policy agenda by a team of ministers and a Parliamentary Secretary.

Details of the portfolio assignments were not immediately released.

The Opposition will be headed by Mr Roy McTaggart, leader of the Progressives and Independents Alliance occupying the other seven seats on the opposition benches.

Joey Hew (MP, George Town North) is the Deputy Opposition Leader.

Mr McKeeva Bush (MP, West Bay West), was re-elected Speaker of Parliament, winning the vote held as part of the swearing-in ceremony with 12 votes to seven for the other nominee Barbara Conolly, (MP, George Town South), suggesting a factional vote.

West Bay Central MP, Katherine Ebanks-Wilks was voted in as Deputy Speaker defeating Barbara Conolly also reflecting factional lines.



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► Laboratory Professionals Celebration - Church Service - April 2019



► Laboratory Professionals Celebration - Church Service - April 2021

Celebration of Medical Lab Professionals Week

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, April 18-24, 2021, is an annual celebration of Medical Laboratory Professionals and Pathologists who play a vital role in health care and patient advocacy. It provides the Laboratory Profession with a unique opportunity to increase public understanding of the Profession and appreciation for Medical Laboratory Personnel. The Laboratory profession consists of Pathologists, Cytologists, Histologists, Phlebotomists, Medical Laboratory Technologists, Medical Laboratory Technicians, Blood Bank Specialist, Hematologists and Microbiologists, to name a few.

Our Practice includes but is not limited to contributing to the prevention of disease, and the diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of pathophysiological conditions in humans. Medical laboratory personnel are responsible for assuring reliable and accurate laboratory test results.

As Laboratory Professionals we uphold the ethics of our profession and we serve our country with integrity, excellence, and professionalism with a special emphasis on quality. The Caribbean Association of Medical Technologist (CASMET) - Cayman Islands Branch, along with all Laboratory Professionals across these our Cayman Islands have joined forces in celebrating our profession.

AVENGERS OF THE LABORATORY: We believe in Heroes is our 2021 theme and it truly highlights that as Laboratory Professionals we are heroes (in lab coats) as we work day and night to get accurate re-

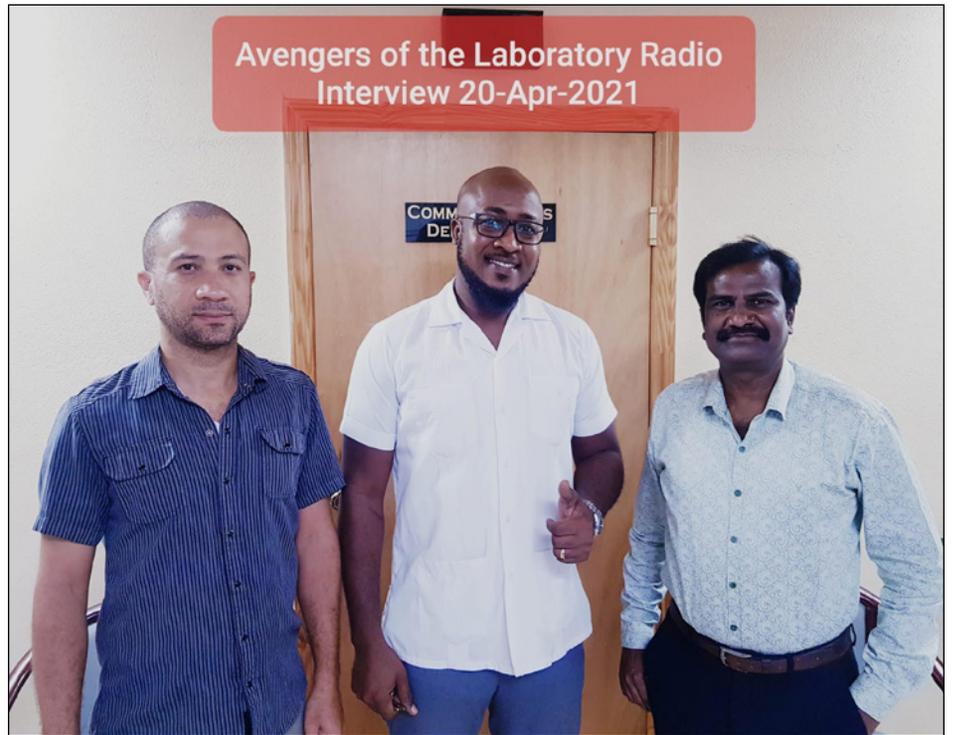
sults to improve the health of our children and adults alike.

Our Cayman Islands Laboratory week celebration began with Prayer and Praise at the Church of God Chapel, Bodden Town and continued with a Radio Interview at Praise 87.9FM as three fearless and sagacious Avengers, Mr. Archibald Campbell; Laboratory Supervisor at MedLab INC, Mr. Hugh Gardner; Medical Laboratory Technologist at Doctors Hospital: CTMH and Mr. John Miller; Blood Bank Supervisor at HCCI merged their mental and physical prowess to deliver an informative, impressive and impactful interview under the questioning watch of Mr. Dwayne Euter interviewer/host at Praise 87.9FM.

The celebratory mode will be taken to the Cayman Brac this weekend where a group of Lab Professionals from Grand Cayman will be participating in various activities within the Brac. On Friday, Laboratory Professionals Mrs. Marcia Robinson Walters; Microbiology Team Lead, Mr. Martin Mckenzie; Laboratory Quality Coordinator of the Health Services Authority along with Mrs. Sashoy Duncan of MedLab INC; CASMET Cayman Islands Chairperson will be sharing with 60 children at the Layman E. Scott Snr. High School on Laboratory Professions as a Career of choice.

On Friday afternoon at 3:30pm there will be a Continuing Medical Education Presentation on the Impact of the Coronavirus on the Society and finally an Awards Ceremony at the Alexander Hotel.

We return to Grand Cayman to close Medical Laboratory Professionals week



► Praise 87.9FM Laboratory Professionals Radio Interview 2021. From left to right: Mr. Hugh Gardner; Medical Laboratory Technologist at CTMH|Doctors Hospital, Mr. Archibald Campbell; Laboratory Supervisor at MedLab INC, and Mr. John Miller; Blood Bank Supervisor at HCCI

with a Radio Interview with Radio Cayman on Thursday 29th at 1-1:30pm and our Annual Lab Run/Walk planned for Sunday, May 02, 2021 at 5:30am.

Our Sponsors and Stakeholders have played a vital role in our Success thus far and we would like to use this medium to say a Huge Thank You to CTMH|Doctors Hospital, Health City Cayman Islands, Health Services Authority, MedLab INC, Pheonix Health

Services LTD, Royale Medical and Wellness Center and the Church of God Chapel Bodden Town, and all others who have played a role in our Lab Week Celebration.

By our skills we save lives every day and together as an organization and as professionals we work for the betterment of the people of these our Cayman Islands.

Sashoy Duncan – Chairperson
CASMET - Cayman Islands Branch

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APRIL 1-30, 2021

HUGE ONE DAY SALE
APRIL 24th
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Dr. Doug Rooster 101 10am-noon
DJ Mark Lee BOB FM 1pm-3pm

OFREG SEEKS INPUT ON ITS PROPOSED FUELS MARKET ECONOMIC & REGULATORY ASSESSMENT REPORT



The Utility Regulation and Competition Office ('OfReg') is seeking input on its Fuels Market Economic & Regulatory Assessment report. OfReg considers that it is in the public's interest and all the stakeholders involved to review the report and provide feedback.

OfReg is finalising options for a comprehensive regime to effectively regulate

the fuel sector in the Cayman Islands. As part of this process, we have undertaken a comprehensive economic and regulatory assessment of the fuel sector to define the relevant existing markets and assess the extent and effectiveness of competition within them.

The study aims to reflect the types and grades of fuels currently available in the country and other potential fuels which may become available in the medium to long-term in the Cayman Islands.

The first element of the market study was assessing a report on the market definitions for competition analysis of various fuels markets in the jurisdiction. In this regard, OfReg published a draft Market Definition Report as part of our consultation on Proposed Fuels Market Definition (FS 2020 - 1) in March 2020 and published our response and draft final determination. The second element of the market

study is a comprehensive competition assessment of the relevant markets and an evaluation of the potential options (if any) for regulatory reforms of those markets.

According to our Chief Fuels Inspector, Duke Munroe, "the outcome of this exercise is significant to shape the next level of intervention and regulation of the fuel sector. OfReg's current monitoring and oversight of the industry has benefited motorist and other fuel consumers alike. As we advance, implementing the recommendations from this exercise will further enhance our work in the sector. We look forward to the input and feedback from all stakeholders, to conclude and implement the necessary regulatory measures".

"OfReg's mandate to ensure sustainable, reliable and consistently high-quality fuel options at fair prices to consumers remains our singular focus. Despite the delays and challenges encountered dur-



► Chief Fuels Inspector, Duke Munroe

ing this important piece of work, the team sought to ensure the process was not compromised, recognising the critical nature of this assessment to inform recommendations for the regulation of the fuels sector." - Malike Cummings, CEO OfReg.

For full details on the Fuels Market Economic & Regulatory Assessment report, please visit our website www.ofreg.ky

PACT GAINS TWO ADDITIONAL SEATS FOR CLEAR MAJORITY

There's been a last-minute tectonic shift in Cayman's post-election political landscape just hours before the new opening of parliament, swearing-in of the new batch of MPs (some returning) and the confirmation of a new government.

Two members from the Progressives and Independents Alliance have switched sides and joined the Wayne-Panton-led

PACT group (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent).

Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, the MP for Cayman Brac East, and Isaac Rankine who won the East End seat have now given the PACT group the clear majority it needs to form the next government.

Today's developments, a matter of hours before the opening of the new session of parliament averts what was amounting to a constitutional crisis, but as of now, still leaves several questions unanswered.

In a statement attributed to MP O'Connor-Connolly, she is quoted as saying that she has been guaranteed a ministerial post following a demand from her Cayman Brac East constituents for her to be in government and not opposition.

She was the Minister of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands in the previous Progressives-led government under former Alden McLaughlin.

Mr Rankine who ran as an independent, who was named in the original PACT coalition after the election but within

a day had crossed over to the Progressives along with Sabrina Turner (Independent - Prospect).

In a series of developments which have cast a shadow over the formation of the next government and resulted in heated political divisions, she then rejoined the PACT camp over the weekend.

Mr Rankine did likewise today but it is unclear what position he will have in the PACT government.

That is expected to be clarified at or shortly after today's swearing-in ceremony.

Another surprise development came on Monday when McKeeva Bush, the last Speaker announced that he had signed on with the PACT group to continue as Speaker.

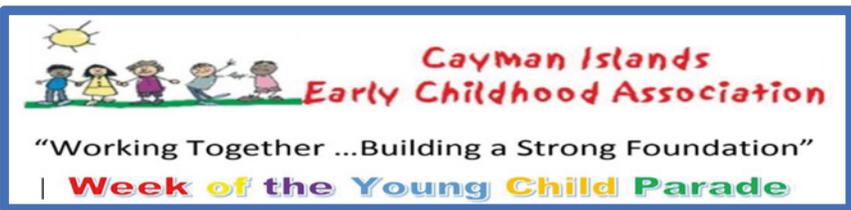
The constant switching of allegiances had given the PACT a narrow one-seat majority in the 19-seat Parliament. It had also raised several constitutional questions over how this would impact on the swearing-in of the Speaker and Premier.

With the PACT now having a clear majority of 12 seats to seven for the Progressives and Independents Alliance, that constitutional hurdle has now been cleared.



Six ministerial assignments are reported to have already been made in the PACT team. However no specific ministerial portfolios were listed for Wayne Panton and Chris Saunders other than Premier and Deputy Premier respectively.

With O'Connor-Connolly now reported to be offered a ministerial post, it's left to be seen how the ministries will be reshuffled or otherwise reassigned.



CALLING ALL PRESCHOOLS AND FAMILIES!

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL PARADE TO CELEBRATE YOUNG CHILDREN!



MEET AT BAYSHORE MALL AT 7:30 A.M. FINISH ON THE STEPS OF THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING TO SING, "WE ARE THE WORLD"

SATURDAY APRIL 24TH, 2021 7:30-8:15 A.M.



Week of the Young Child April 24th to 30th, 2021

Saturday April 24th: Parade through Georgetown – 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Calling all families and preschools – meet at Bayshore Mall and we will begin marching with the band at 7:30 a.m. through town and end at the steps of the government building where we will sing "We are the World" together. Children take home gift snack /water bags. Please bring a flag or banner if you have one!! We hope to see you there!!

Sunday April 25th: Thanksgiving Church Service – 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Please join us at the Church of God Universal on Walkers Road for our annual Week of the Young Child Thanksgiving church service featuring prayers and songs performed by young children!

Monday April 26th: Pajama/Bedtime Story Day Party – morning in school

Please invite your children to come to school wearing their pajamas and bring their favorite bedtime story book along with a blanket or pillow for story reading together!

Tuesday April 27th: Reading with Teens and LIFE – morning in school

Please let us know if your school would like us to arrange for volunteers to come and read books with your children.

Wednesday April 28th: Family Stay and Play After School

We are encouraging schools to invite parents to stay and play with their child at pick up either in the garden or in the classrooms. The children can show their parents their favorite activities to do at school!!

Thursday April 29th: Visit Big School

Preschools are invited to arrange for their oldest children to visit Big School on this day.

Friday April 30th: Fun and Play Day – all day in school celebration!

We look forward to another wonderful week of celebrating young children together! This annual celebration focuses public attention on young children, their families and their teachers. Our aim is to bring awareness to the importance of quality care and experiences for young children in the first five years of life highlighting that the "Early Years Matter for Every Child".

Cayman Islands Early Childhood The Association
Please Contact Nicola Williams, CIECA President for more information at 926-0374 or by email at nwilliams@agardenplayschool.com

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Cayman is home to many people with substance abuse. As a community we can all make a difference in the lives of those individuals.



Highlights

The Cayman Islands Early Childhood Association (CIECA) is a registered non-profit organization founded in 1997 that is committed to promoting and advancing the education and well-being of young children by engaging stakeholders to come together in active cooperation to improve professional practice and raise the standards of Early Childhood Education in the Cayman Islands. The CIECA strives to raise awareness in the community about the importance of early childhood care and education, not just to improve the lives of young children now, but also to ensure a better future for us all.

- Details**
- Offer Monthly Meetings and Professional Development Workshops
 - Organize Annual Celebrations for the Week of the Young Child in Partnership with the Early Childhood Care and Education Unit of the Ministry of Education
 - Host Professional Early Childhood Conferences and attend International Conferences
 - Partner with the University of the West Indies Open Campus to offer a Certificate Program in Early Childhood Education, Care and Development
 - Support community programs such as LIFE Thrive by Five to donate books and offer professional learning and Cuddle and Read to encourage home-based reading stimulation

Executive 2021

- President: Nicola Williams
- Vice-President: Carlene Bradshaw-Miller
- Public Relations Officer: Reina Jefferson (Founder)
- Treasurer: Shauna Haylock (Founder)
- Secretary: Rachel Latap
- Assistant Secretary: Karla Andino
- Member at Large: Lorna Blackburn (Founder)
- Assistant Treasurer: Gina Hernandez

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Cayman-Islands-Early-Childhood-Association-178182239731662>
Contact: Nicola Williams, President, 926-0374
Email: nwilliams@agardenplayschool.com

Crisis Centre rejects Bush's donation offer



The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre says it will not accept any offers of donation from MP McKeeva Bush.

In a brief statement on Tuesday, the organisation's Board of Directors said it was "not aware of the understanding between PACT and Mr Bush regarding the proposed contribution of funds to the Crisis Centre in advance of their press release last evening."

The Board said, along with the people of The Cayman Islands, it "awaits the formation of the next Government, however, should the proposed donation come to realization, we will respectfully decline the offer."

The Cayman Islands Crisis Centre stated that "violence against women, men or children is unacceptable and we pledge to continue to work on eradicating this violation of human rights from our islands."

In his announcement on Monday that he had joined the PACT group to continue in his role as Speaker, Mr Bush committed that 10% of his monthly salary will be donated to the Women's Crisis Center and that he will continue supporting women issues.

That was framed as conditional on being included in the PACT coalition of independents giving

the group a one-seat parliamentary majority.

Mr Bush was found guilty and given a suspended sentence and enforced limited curfew for assaulting a woman last year.

The issue has become a central controversial political issue.

It was the trigger for the snap election to sidestep a motion of confidence being brought against him, figured prominently in the subsequent election campaign with many candidates vowing not to work with him in a government, and also factored in joining the PACT group to give them the majority.

In an act of contrition, Mr Bush profusely apologised in his statement announcing that he had joined PACT, and asked forgiveness for his conduct.

"I would also like to use this opportunity to apologize for my prior conduct that led to this incident and pledge my commitment to sign the code of conduct once again," he said.



"While I cannot change what happened in the past, I can learn from my mistakes and hope that my actions going forward also serve as an example for others to follow."

Walkers Takes on Title Sponsorship of Cayman's Marathon

Firm says 'run', don't 'walk', to sign-up this year...

Leading international law firm Walkers has signed on as title sponsor of the Cayman Islands Marathon for what will be at least a three-year partnership. The event, which takes place on Sunday, 5 December this year, will now be called the Walkers Cayman Islands Marathon.

Although new to the sponsorship family, Walkers has been connected to the race for many years through the participation of its employees. Individuals from the firm have been competing in the four-person relay event since 2007. When the relay team classifications – all female, all male, corporate and mixed – were introduced in 2011, the Walkers Running team became the team to beat, placing in the top three for the corporate and overall categories almost every year. The 2020 edition

of Team Walkers Running – Peter Kendall, Christian Bourke, Christopher Brett Young and Theo Lefkos – finished first in the corporate division and second overall while Team Walkers Running A, consisting of Hugh Anderson, Helen Green, Martin Davies and Andrew Barker, placed third overall.

"We are thrilled about this new partnership with Walkers. We have worked hard over the years to make this race a first-class, international running event by listening to our participants, getting feedback from our sponsors and learning from previous years and other races. For an organisation of Walkers' status to see the value of the Cayman Islands Marathon, recognise the quality and reputation of the event, and want to get involved is both



► Walkers' Cayman Managing Partner, Tim Buckley



validating and encouraging for our team. We are grateful for the investment and the confidence which they have placed in us," said Race Director Rhonda Kelly of KHL Events & Communications.

Walkers' Cayman Managing Partner, Tim Buckley, stated, "We are delighted to be the new headline sponsor of this fantastic sports event, which draws a huge amount of international interest and highlights all that the Cayman Islands has to offer. For the avoidance of doubt, we are faster than our name suggests and will be out in full force at the marathon to prove it later this year. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite walkers and runners at businesses and firms throughout the re-

gion to sign-up and support the event. See you on race day!"

The new sponsorship is a welcomed one after the race's ten-year relationship with its previous title sponsor recently concluded.

Registration for the 2021 Walkers Cayman Islands Marathon, half marathon, four-person relay and Milo Kids Fun Run is open online at CaymanIslandsMarathon.com. There is also a virtual option for the full and half marathon events.

For more information about the race, call Rhonda Kelly at KHL Events & Communications on 623.8823, email info@CaymanIslandsMarathon.com or visit CaymanIslandsMarathon.com.

CELEBRATING CAYMAN WRITERS, WRITINGS, & THE ARTS

Renford "Mr Rennie" Barnes: Preserving Cayman Traditions Through Old Time Stories. Part Two

*Take me back to old lamp light
Which we used for our homework for school
Take me back to summertime where we fly
kite,
Play marbles, spin the gig, or fishing on the
seashore.*

*Take me back to where Easter was all day
long
On the beach with an old car tire
Take me back to where Mama cooked on
that old fire caboose
The delicious dishes like turtle, conch wilks,
fish run down...*

The untainted joy of their childhood shone through as Mr Rennie and Ms Pam told stories of long-ago Easter celebrations in Cayman. According to them, no one would go anywhere on Good Friday, just to church. On Easter Monday, there was a picnic and they would wake early, pack their water and food, and head to the beach. The current practice of beach camping during Easter came out of this tradition, but the event was "just for Easter Monday - not the week like what happens now". Once the community members

got together, they would share meals. For the George Town district, picnics would be held at Smith Cove (now Smith Barcadere), or Spotts beach, or by Pallion beach near The Wharf. Other districts met at beaches in their own areas.

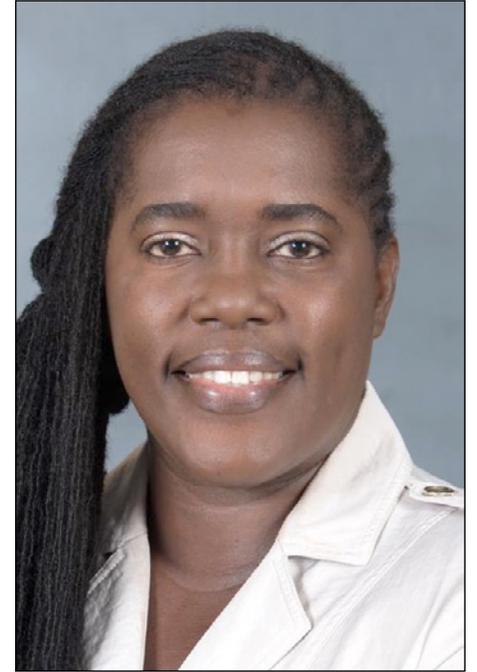
Collection & Mini Museum

Mr Rennie and I left Ms Pam to visit the area where he and other senior Caymanians meet monthly to share memories, play games, and discuss local happenings. It was here that he read his poems to me and where his role as storyteller truly shone through. At his mini museum as I have dubbed it, Mr Rennie's collection of old Caymanian things kept me gawking in amazement. I have read of the caboose, and it was here that I finally saw one! Wall after wall, shelf after shelf, filled with books and pictures, a collection of newspapers from the '60s till today, samples of Cayman mahogany, ironwood, an old victrola that still works, old time slippers called 'whoppers' that Mr Rennie demonstrated by putting on and walking about in, and even an old-time wheel and piece of stick which was a popular toy in his boy-

hood days. Cayman history comes alive on one wall which has pamphlets, newspaper cuttings and wonderful information on Cayman elections from decades ago to present; another wall boasts information on outstanding persons and events like domino tournaments, several clippings of Ms Cayman winners, including Donna Bush, Ms Teen Cayman 1984/85; another wall tells of Cayman's seafarers' history and of thatch rope making. Then there is a wall for Mr Rennie's family history that tells personal stories of his forefathers, their history with school buses in Cayman, weddings, deaths, and Ms Pam's first daughter and Cayman's first woman pilot, Veta Rockett. The most recent addition, proudly shown by Mr Rennie, is a newspaper clipping of his daughter, Renita Barnes, who in early March joined the Governor's Office on a new secondment initiative for potential future leaders of the Cayman Islands.

Senior Caymanians' monthly meetings

It is at his mini museum that Mr Rennie and some older Caymanians meet monthly. It started when he would drive these seniors from district to district, and they would reminisce as they drove along. After a while, the bus trips stopped, and Mr Rennie wanted to offer them another way to get together. "We started initially to just play dominoes, cook a little Cayman food, and reminisce, but now, four years later, it has become a monthly cultural meeting". Each month a topic is given, and then "we come back and talk about Cayman way back - what town had looked like, coffins on the roof, nine night or set up night, and even about types of mangoes. Authentic Cayman mangoes we don't see anymore like 'papaw' mangoes, cotton, round 'tub-bintime' mangoes. We just have foreign mangoes now". In typical Cayman fashion, when they meet, they start with prayer, then they play games and the winner gets a prize - like a supermarket gift certificate, "then we eat and reminisce". We al-



► Dr Stephanie Fullerton-Cooper is an Associate Professor of English at the UCCI

ways start with our theme song - "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!" Of course, the story is incomplete if Mr Rennie does not break into singing, "England got the money and Jamaica got the rum!" He laughingly admits that even this song is part of the Cayman tradition, as "the marchers" used to sing it at Christmas time, visiting different homes, toasting families and then receiving a gift. This group of senior Caymanians has maintained such Christmas traditions over the last few years, even getting a "weeping willow tree branch", according to Mr Rennie, "and decorating it with balloons and shells, with sand in the yard... we all had so much fun decorating that tree!"

Mr Rennie admits starting the collection that today makes up his 'mini museum' decades ago, simply because he loved it. Later on, he did not see much of the items that had been around when he was a child, and he thought "someone must have something", so he started asking and he started collecting. What he has today is a mini museum that local schools should consider taking students to see, as there are many stories to be heard and enjoyed. I certainly did! Kudos to Mr Rennie who has certainly preserved Cayman traditions through his collection, his meetings with Cayman seniors, and his poems. A storyteller extraordinaire!



► Mr Rennie examines his display of Cayman elections, one of many collections on display at his 'mini museum'

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SEEKING CLARITY IN CAYMAN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONUNDRUM

Questions were being asked Tuesday if Cayman was heading towards a constitutional conundrum, the day before Parliament was due to be opened following last week's general election.

This has prompted the Cayman Islands Constitutional Commission to issue a statement on titled: "Explanatory Note on the Appointment of the Premier, Ministers and the Election of the Speaker of Parliament."

The Commission said it was in response to queries following the election and accords with its mission to, "Advise, Inform and Educate".

In the ongoing debate and constitutional uncertainties since the election, the Commission "encourages the public to take this opportunity to learn more about the Constitution and to access the collection of constitutional materials available on the Commission's website at: www.constitutionalcommission.ky"

The full 'explanatory note' is published below. But first, how did we get here?

A series of developments have occurred which have seen the parliamentary majority alternating between the two competing factions over the past several days.

Those factions are the Wayne Panton-led PACT group of Independents (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent) and the Progressive and Independents Alliance led by Roy McTaggart.

Parliament was originally expected to open on Wednesday this week, based on a statement issued by HE Governor Martyn Roper dated last Friday April 16th in which he confirmed that he had received a letter from the PCT group outline their majority of seats.

SO WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Late on Tuesday, two statements were issued by PACT group leader Wayne Panton issued two statements advising of a new interim Speaker, in the person of Irma Arch, just one day after the group and McKeeva Bush had reached agreement on retaining him as Speaker.

"It was agreed that to ensure that there was a smooth transition of administrations and to avoid any doubt, Ms. Irma Arch would be appointed as temporary Speaker to ensure that a quorum of 10 members within the Parliament is present at all times for this historic occasion."

It was not clear for how long Ms Arch would continue as temporary Speaker although the statement was being interpreted that it was only for Wednesday's sitting for the purposes of a quorum.

However, that has also raised questions of whether this might have been in anticipation of the Progressives and Independents Alliance possibly boycotting the session.

Appointing a temporary Speaker is the PACT group's third change to the post of Speaker since it first declared that it had secured a parliamentary majority in the intensive 'horse-trading' following last Wednesday's election.

The first person named to the post was Alic Lindsay who ran as an independent in the election but failed to win a seat.

The other element of Tuesday's statement by Mr Panton addresses the scheduling of Wednesday's meeting.

"The swearing in of the Members of Parliament for the 2021 - 2025 term will take place (tomorrow), Wednesday the 21st April 2021 at 3pm," it confirmed.

A separate release on Tuesday, issued by the Government Information Services on behalf of the Office of the Governor said "the Governor this afternoon issued a Proclamation for a meeting of Parliament tomorrow (Wednesday, 21 April) at 3p.m. in the Cayman Islands Gazette."

It also stated that at his meeting with the Governor on Tuesday, PACT leader Panton presented a revised letter of support for his appointment as Premier, to His Excellency the Governor, Mr Martyn Roper.

Tuesday's list replaced a previous one from last Friday based on which the Governor had then scheduled the opening of parliament and swearing-in of MPs and ministers for Wednesday.

But since then the political landscape has changed dramatically with MPs switching sides and an ensuing atmosphere not just of political chaos, but more significantly, constitutional uncertainty.

At one point the Progressives and Independents Alliance questioned the validity of the PACT group's claim of a parliamentary majority.

That arose with the surprising development that McKeeva Bush had joined the PACT as Speaker of Parliament.

"In effect this would be a hung parliament incapable of passing legislation or even, as their first act, being able to elect a Premier," Progressives leader Roy McTaggart contended.

He said, "Parliamentary convention throughout the Westminster system of government in the Commonwealth, requires that the casting vote given to the Speaker to break a tie be exercised only to preserve the status quo, not to pass legislation or to elect a new Premier."

CONSTITUTIONAL CONUNDRUM?

Against that background, the Cayman Islands Constitutional Commission set out to bring some clarity to what has become not a chaotic political situation but a constitutional conundrum.

In one area that is crucial to the current situation, the Constitutional Commission addresses the process for appointing the Premier and the Speaker:

"As to the process by which the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are to be elected, the Constitution is silent as to who should preside over these elections and also on what could occur in the event that there is no majority in favour of a particular appointment."

In an equally important scenario, the Commission states:

"Unless there is a clear victory by one party, the process remains in the hands of the politicians; and, in due course, following a vote in Parliament, the Governor will then act in accordance with the outcome of that vote and appoint the Premier accordingly.

"To do otherwise and, in the event that no political party gains a majority, to em-



power the Governor to simply appoint as Premier the Member of Parliament who has the support of a majority of the elected members, as some correspondents have suggested, risks drawing the Governor into the political process and raises questions as to how such a position is demonstrated with certainty.

In the premises, the vote in Parliament should provide a definitive outcome without compromising the Governor."

Another point made by the Commission which warrants serious attention reads:

"It is worth noting in the context of this explanatory note that this could have some impact on the question of whether the Speaker is to be a Member of Parliament or not, particularly where an election outcome is tight."

THE FULL STATEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION

<http://www.constitutionalcommission.ky>

"Following the recent General Election in the Cayman Islands, the Constitutional Commission has received several enquiries regarding the subsequent process by which the Premier and other Ministers are appointed and the Speaker of the Parliament is elected.

In response and in fulfilment of the designated function in section 118(3)(c) of the Constitution, to promote understanding and awareness of the Constitution and its values, the Constitutional Commission has prepared the following explanatory notes:

The process by which the Premier and other Ministers are appointed is established in section 49 of the Constitution. This process begins with the appointment of the Premier, who is appointed by the Governor.

Aside from the limitation in section 49(4) of the Constitution, which prevents the Governor from appointing "as Premier a person who has held office as Premier during two consecutive parliamentary terms unless at least one parliamentary term has expired since he or she last held that office", the principal directions in the Constitution are contained in section 49(2) and (3).

Section 49(2) of the Constitution addresses the situation where a political party gains a majority of the seats of elected members of the Parliament, in which case the Governor shall appoint as Premier the elected member of the Parliament recommended by a majority of the elected members who are members of that party.

This provision is relatively straightforward where a party is clearly successful at a General Election and where a majority of the elected members are members of that party. However, this is by no means always the case and, in the absence of such an outcome, it will be necessary to seek guidance from elsewhere in the Constitution.

Section 49(3) of the Constitution directs that: "If no political party gains such a majority or if no recommendation is made under subsection (2), the Speaker shall cause a ballot to be held among the elected members of Parliament to determine which elected member commands the support of the majority of such members, and shall record the vote of each member voting; and, where such a ballot is held, the Governor shall appoint as Premier the elected member who obtains a majority of the votes of the elected members."

Therefore, in the event that no political party gains a majority in accordance with section 49(2) of the Constitution, the Governor is unable to appoint the Premier until the elected Members of Parliament have voted so as to determine which elected member can command the support of the majority of such members

In summary, unless there is a clear victory by one party, the process remains in the hands of the politicians; and, in due course, following a vote in Parliament, the Governor will then act in accordance with the outcome of that vote and appoint the Premier accordingly.

To do otherwise and, in the event that no political party gains a majority, to empower the Governor to simply appoint as Premier the Member of Parliament who has the support of a majority of the elected members, as some correspondents have suggested, risks drawing the Governor into the political process and raises questions as to how such a position is demonstrated with certainty.

In the premises, the vote in Parliament should provide a definitive outcome without compromising the Governor.

Once appointed, the Premier will advise the Governor on the appointment of the other Ministers and, in line with section 49(6) of the Constitution, the appointments of the Premier and the other Ministers shall be made by the Governor by instrument under the public seal.

Election of the Speaker of the Parliament The election of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament is governed by section 65 of the Constitution, which provides:

SEEKING CLARITY IN CAYMAN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONUNDRUM

CONTINUED FROM Page 9

(1) At the first sitting of Parliament after a general election, and as soon as practicable after a vacancy occurs in the relevant office otherwise than on a dissolution of the Parliament, the elected members of the Parliament shall by a majority vote elect;

(a) a Speaker from among the elected members of Parliament, or persons who are qualified to be elected as members of Parliament, other than Ministers; and -

(b) a Deputy Speaker from among the elected members of Parliament other than Ministers; and the election of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker shall take precedence over any other business of the Parliament.

The election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are therefore the first orders of business for the new Parliament and, on this basis, would take precedence over the vote anticipated in section 49(3) of the Constitution regarding the appointment of the Premier.

It is worth noting in the context of this explanatory note that this could have some impact on the question of whether the Speaker is to be a Member of Parliament or not, particularly where an election outcome is tight.

Where there are a relatively small number of elected members in Parliament, the position of each individual member is more likely to have a significant impact on the composition of any majority; and, in these circumstances, it may be that an

elected Member of Parliament could be perceived as being more valuable as a voter in the appointment of the Premier and the premise by which the government is then established, rather than being elected as the Speaker.

As a result, the question of whether or not the Speaker is a Member of Parliament could become a factor in any post-election political negotiations regarding the appointment of the Premier and the formation of the government.

As to the process by which the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are to be elected, the Constitution is silent as to who should preside over these elections and also on what could occur in the event that there is no majority in favour of a particular appointment.

Future Considerations

The objective of this explanatory note has been to identify and explain the relevant constitutional provisions as they stand.

Although the Constitutional Commission has provided some limited commentary, the Constitutional Commission has limited its observations regarding alternative propositions while the current process plays out.

In due course, at a more appropriate time, the Constitutional Commission intends to revisit some of the points previously noted by the Constitutional Commission regarding the appointment of the

Premier and the election of the Speaker; including -

(a) the definition of "gain" in section 49(2) of the Constitution (see table detailing suggested sections of the 2009 Constitution for review, 14 October 2014 ("the Constitutional Commission's 2014 Review"));

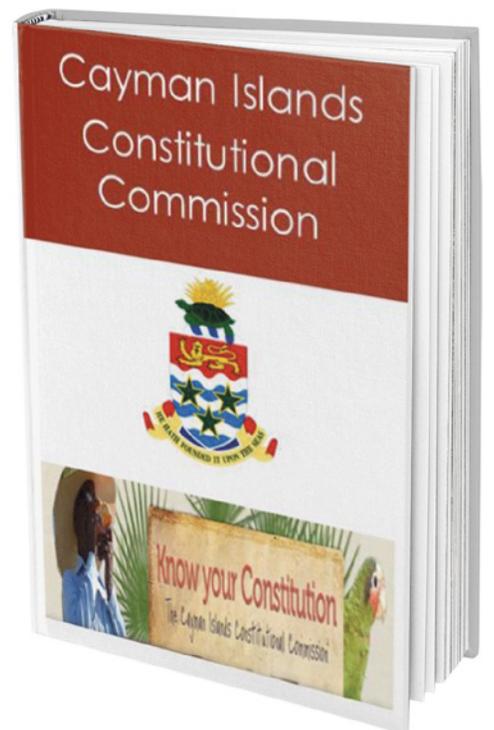
(b) clarification regarding whether an elected member must have stood for election as member of the political party which is said to have gained a majority of seats of elected members (see Constitutional Commission's Responses to Requests from His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Premier and Hon. Leader of the Opposition for Comments on Potential Revisions to the Cayman Islands Constitution 2009, 27 June 2018 ("the Constitutional Commission's 2018 Responses")); and -

(c) the interplay between the election of the Speaker and the formation of the government (see also the Constitutional Commission's 2014 Review and the Constitutional Commission's 2018 Responses).

At this time the Constitutional Commission also intends to review other matters that have arisen following the recent General Election, including:

(d) the extent to which the postelection processes could be further clarified so as to provide the general public with a clearer understanding and expectation of how this should operate;

(e) any progress made by the Cabinet Office on the completion of the Cabinet Manual, which it is anticipated would assist in this regard and inform the process by which the government is formed, especially in circumstances where there is no clear majority;



(f) the extent to which agreements and affiliations should be declared prior to an election and the openness and transparency of the process thereafter;

(g) whether, as a backstop, there should be a defined time period within which a proclamation must be published by the Governor to call a session of the Parliament following a General Election; and

(h) clarification as to the process by which the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected; and -

(i) any other relevant matters that may arise in the interim.

At this time the Constitutional Commission also intends to review other matters that have arisen."

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RCIPS Assist with Launch of Neighbourhood Watch in George Town Community

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

tance of having the Neighbourhood Watch Program, while Police Sergeant Cornelius Pompey delivered a crime prevention presentation on "Community Safety" to the persons in attendance. Superintendent Brad Ebanks, in charge of Uniform and Specialist Operations, was also in attendance and spoke with the residents



briefly, congratulating them on a successful Neighbourhood Watch launch.

PC Myers presented the residents with a Neighbourhood Watch sign that will be strategically placed in the complex to inform others that Summerfield is a Neighbourhood Watch Community. PC Myers was supported by a host of CPOs as well

as the Community Safety Officer (CSO) for that area, Ms. Abby-Gayle Phuran.

The Community Policing Unit encourages anyone interested in having a Neighbourhood Watch Program in their community to contact their CPO or their CSO. To find out who your CPO or CSO are visit the Community Policing page here.



Provenance Properties to host second annual virtual charity auction

Auction will support Cayman's Acts of Random Kindness

Provenance Properties is hosting its second annual virtual charity auction, in benefit of Cayman's Acts of Random Kindness (ARK), on Thursday, 29 April 2021. The offering of luxury items for auction is inspired by the brokerage's ties to Christie's International Real Estate and its affiliation with Christie's, the oldest auction house in the world.

Attendees at the online auction will have the opportunity to bid on a wide variety of donated items and offerings including designer handbags, shoes and fashion, jewelry, fine art, luxury experiences and more. In addition, with generous support from IDG Interiors, there will be numerous new décor and bespoke furniture items up for bid.

Opening bid amounts begin at less than CI\$100 for many items. Auction items can be previewed in advance and registration is now open at <https://ppci.cbo.io/>. The online platform allows users to see a live update of current bids and allows for automated bidding.

In addition to bidding on items, Provenance Properties invites donations of lux-



► Photographer Irene Corti has donated this stunning visual print, "Mother Nature's Sunset Show," as one of many art pieces available in the online auction

ury, gently used household items, fine art and apparel. "This is a great opportunity to spring clean closets and donate items to help others in need," said Provenance Properties' Broker Jackie Doak. "We are proud to continue our relationship with the team at ARK, supporting their work in the Cayman Islands community for the second year. We raised \$50,000 at our first auction in 2020 and hope to exceed that amount this year."

"ARK is delighted by the continued support of Provenance Properties with the return of their online auction, back for the second year!" said Tara Neilsen, founder of Cayman's ARK. "ARK relies 100% on private-sector donations; an event such as this online auction enables us to continue our vital emergency relief work and maintain ARK's other invaluable programmes."

ARK's programmes help those who have been affected by illness, economic hardship and personal misfortune in the Cayman Islands. All donations and proceeds from

the auction will benefit ARK's Casa programme, Reconnect Cayman and MER (Mentor-Educate-Reinforce).

"This time last year, ARK was on the front lines running the Kindness Kitchen, providing 8,000 hot meals and soups for more than 2,000 people a week. The Provenance Properties auction helped us to achieve that," Neilsen added. "ARK is sincerely grateful to Provenance Properties and to all those donating items to auction – it is going to be extraordinary! We are so excited about this event and so thankful that our community is standing in solidarity as we continue to support those hardest hit by this historic pandemic."

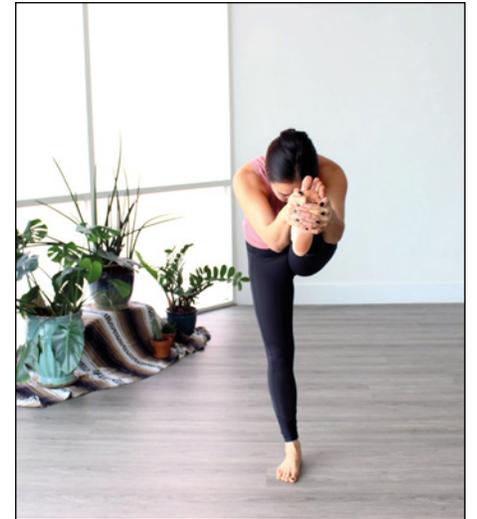
To register for the auction, visit <https://ppci.cbo.io/>. Register any time leading up to the event; bidding opens at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 29 April and will close at 9 p.m. that day.

To receive event updates, click here or email destinations@dart.ky. To donate items, email auction@arkcayman.org.

About Provenance Properties Cayman Islands

Provenance Properties is the exclusive Christie's International Real Estate affiliate in the Cayman Islands and a member of the Cayman Islands Real Estate Brokers Association (CIREBA). In 2019, Provenance Properties was recognised as a Christie's Affiliate of the Year. Provenance Properties is also the exclusive Cayman Islands affiliate of Haute Residence.

Provenance Properties provides access to a portfolio of luxury residences and condominiums for sale or rent, as well as land for sale and commercial properties



► A one-month yoga membership to Cayman Yoga Club is among the many fitness and wellness experiences available for bidding in the online auction

for lease in the Cayman Islands. The Provenance Properties team provides bespoke service to individuals seeking to relocate to the Cayman Islands for business or personal reasons.

For more information, visit provenanceproperties.com, keep up with the latest information on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

About Cayman's Acts of Random Kindness (ARK)

Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) endeavours to be a friend to people in unique circumstances of crisis; to demonstrate kindness through loving acts of service. ARK aims to be a friend to strangers, approaching humanity with great love and compassion – and without judgment. ARK is a nonprofit organisation, founded in 2006 and run by volunteers.

For more, visit caymansark.com.



► A five-night staycation at the beautiful seven-bedroom Evolution villa in Bodden Town is just one of many local and international accommodation packages up for bid in the online auction

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Scholarship Opportunity

Ongoing until 30 April - The Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands (MEYSAL) is now accepting local scholarship applications for the 2021/2022 academic year. Eligible applicants must possess the right to be Caymanian and possess a letter of acceptance to the academic institution they wish to attend. Apply for the Cayman Islands Government's Education Council Local Scholarship online at www.education.gov.ky/scholarships. Supporting documentation including a cover letter, a copy of the applicant's birth/status certificate and one passport size photograph must be uploaded to the website by Friday, 30 April 2021.

Earth Day Clean Up

24 April - As part of Earth Week activities, The Chamber encourages the entire community of residents, schools, businesses and Government agencies to organise a clean-up team and come out and participate in this important initiative to help keep Cayman a clean, healthy and beautiful place to live.

Please contact communications@caymanchamber.ky for more information.

Blue Iguana Conservation Tours

24 April - Take time out to celebrate Earth Day 2021 with a double dose of nature with guided tours at the Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) facility and the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park. Two tours available are on Saturday 24th April at 10am and 2pm. Cost is \$30 per person. Explore the QE II Botanic Park and the BIC facility to learn about Cayman's native plants and our beautiful Blue Iguana. Book now at 947-9462 or email info@botanic-park.ky

National Gallery - Teens Collaborative Art Drop - In

24 April - Teens between the ages of 14 - 18 can drop in for an hour long free art session at the National Gallery from 12 noon - 1:00pm. They will have the opportunity to participate in self-led collaborative art projects, socialize with peers and enjoy meditative art time. Booking is not required. For more

information, call 945 - 8111 or email info@nationalgallery.org.ky

St. George's Bargain Store Sale

24 April - St. George's Anglican Church will be having its Bargain Store Sale on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 7a.m.-11a.m. Great prices on clothes, household items and other items.

Light up the Night Walk

24 April - Come and join us at the 11th annual 'Light Up the Night' Breast Cancer Beach Walk. The enchanting Light Up the Night event will now take place on Saturday April 24th 2021 by the light of the moon! The route will be Seven Mile Public Beach to the Ritz-Carlton - for a drink and a cookie - and then return back to public beach. Bring the whole family, dogs included! The cost is CI\$25 which includes a shirt and raffle entry. Registration and shirts will be available from our office in Grand Harbour. On the night registration will be possible from 6pm - and we start walking at 7pm.

Free SDA "Let's Move to Live" 5K Fun Run/Walk

25 April - The George Town Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Health



Ministries Department present the fourth Let's Move! - a 5k Fun Run / Walk for the whole family on Sunday April 25th beginning at 6:30am at the Adventist Conference Office on Walkers Road.

Youth Group - Open Air Meeting

30 April - The Savannah United Church Youth Group is hosting an Open Air Meeting on Friday April 30, 2021 from 7:30 to 9:30pm. This will be held on the basketball court beside the Church located on Astral Way (behind Wendy's and the Rubis Gas Station) in Savannah. Youth Groups from the other 8 United Churches

on island will also be in attendance.

National Gallery - Meditation with Mirabelle D'Cunha

5 May - Do you need to destress and re-centre? Mirabelle D'Cunha is leading a series of free meditation workshops at the National Gallery from 6pm to 6:45pm. Register for the full series or for individual sessions by emailing education@nationalgallery.org.ky. For more information, call 945 - 8111.

Send your community events to wendy@caymaniantimes.ky

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Aspiring healthcare professionals invited to apply for 2021 HSA Summer Internship Programme

The Health Services Authority's (HSA) Summer Internship Programme is currently accepting student applicants after a one-year hiatus due to the novel coronavirus.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for healthcare professionals has been highlighted globally. In Cayman, the Health Services Authority is keen to identify young Caymanian talent from as early as the junior high school level and support their professional development.

"As the HSA executes its strategic plan and expands our services over the next few years, we will be recruiting talent for



a number of new clinical and non-clinical roles", said HSA Chief Human Resources

Officer Samantha Bennett. "Our Summer Internship programme is a tool we use to identify and train young Caymanians so that they can return to join Team HSA upon completion of their studies. The HSA strives to be an employer of choice and our interns can look forward to being given engaging, meaningful tasks and receiving mentorship from our team of world-class professionals".

Applications for the 2021 Summer Student Internship Programme are due by April 30th 2021. Internships will commence on June 1st, 2021 and end

September 17th, 2021 with placement opportunities varying for an estimated 4 - 8 weeks. Students can look forward to gaining experience in fields such as Nursing, Finance, Human Resources, Materials Management, IT and more.

To be eligible for the opportunity students must currently attend high school or university, be Caymanian and/or have the Right to be Caymanian, be at least sixteen (16) years old and have a genuine career interest in the healthcare industry.

For more information on the HSA Summer Student Internship Programme visit www.hsa.ky.

Public Must Clear Imported Vehicles Promptly

The Cayman Islands Port Authority is urging importers to clear and collect imported vehicles as quickly as possible. Officials report a significant number of imported vehicles are awaiting collection and another batch is coming this week.



Planned Works – Dorcy Drive Infrastructure Upgrade

Water Authority - Cayman wishes to advise its valued customers and the motoring public of planned works to upgrade the water supply infrastructure along Dorcy Drive, between Portland Road and the Owen Roberts Drive/Dorcy Drive Roundabout (in the vicinity of the Airport Post Office and Refuel gas station). Preliminary works will begin the week of 19 April. Works will take place between the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The project will last for approximately ten (10) weeks.

During the course of the works, traffic management efforts will be in place with signs directing the flow of traffic. Motorists are encouraged to drive with caution when they are in the area to protect their safety and the safety of the Authority's staff.

Through the course of the work, customers in the area may experience service outages. The Authority will make every effort to give advanced notice related to outages. Customers can also visit our website www.waterauthority.ky for outage notices.



Water Authority - Cayman

The Water Authority appreciates the patience and understanding of its customers and the public as it undertakes these works and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

5 Fitness Secrets

If you would like to look and feel great, then I've got good news for you: follow these 5 Fitness Secrets and your goal will quickly become a reality.

These secrets aren't secret in the sense that you've never heard them before, because you likely have heard them. The secret is that by faithfully following each and every one of these 5 steps your progress will become automatic and your results will be guaranteed.

Fitness Secret #1: Consistency is KEY

If you want a fit body then exercise MUST be a consistent part of your life. You can't exercise hard this week and then take the next two weeks off and expect to see results. Results come from consistency.

Fitness Secret #2: Set ATTAINABLE goals

Let's be realistic here, you aren't going to lose 20 pounds in a week. That's not an attainable goal! Those who achieve the most amazing body transformations do so by reaching a series of progressive, attainable goals. If you would like help in determining what an appropriate, attainable goal would be for yourself then simply reach out to me, I'd be happy to help.

Fitness Secret #3: Make it CONVENIENT

Are you straining to include your chosen exercise routine into your life? If your exercise time isn't a seamless part of your daily life, if it causes too much of a strain and headache to accomplish, then you won't stick with it. Find a time, a place and a modality of exercise that is as convenient to your real life as possible, so that you can be faithful to Fitness Secret #1 by staying consistent.



► Ernest Ebanks

Fitness Secret #4: Find something you LOVE

Similar to Fitness Secret #3, finding a modality of exercise that you LOVE is key to making this a permanent part of your life. You may never love swimming because you hate getting your ears wet, or you may never love biking because you've always struggled with balance. If you're straining to get through a modality of exercise that you loathe, then you won't stick with it. It's best to move on to something different that you would enjoy more.

* Note for exercise-haters: If deep down you consider yourself an exercise hater, then DO NOT take this Fitness Secret as a free pass to forego exercise altogether under the guise of not loving it. Part of becoming fit for life is

learning to find a type of exercise that you can learn to love.

Fitness Secret #5: Work with a PRO

This is my favorite Fitness Secret because this is where I get to work with you! My passion and focus is in helping folks like yourself integrate fun, challenging, health-promoting exercise into your daily routine so that you reach your body and health transformation goals.

Don't wait another minute! Call Ernest at Body Shapers Fitness Studio 325-8696 or email me today at bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com to get started on your personal body transformation.

Caymanian Times

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COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule

April 2021

The COVID-19 vaccine is available to ALL persons 16 years and over, regardless of surname.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12	13	14	15	16	17
12-3:30pm 5 - 8pm	12-3:30pm 5 - 8pm	PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLINIC CLOSED	7am - 11am 12:30 - 3pm	7am - 11am 12:30 - 3pm	8am - 11am 12:30 - 4pm
19	20	21	22	23	24
12-3:30pm 5 - 8pm	12-3:30pm 5 - 8pm	CLINIC CLOSED <i>*If due for Dose 2 on the 21st, please attend the clinic on the 23rd or thereafter</i>	7am - 11am 12:30 - 3pm	7am - 11am 12:30 - 3pm	9am - 12pm 1:30 - 5:30pm

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC LOCATION
OWEN ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (ORIA)



The COVID-19 vaccine is available to ALL persons 16 years and over, regardless of surname.

DOSE 1 & 2 will be given at any of the published clinic times.

When receiving your 2nd dose, you MUST also bring along your vaccination card reflecting your 1st dose. **(Do NOT laminate your card)**

The date on your vaccination card for the 2nd dose is the earliest that is recommended.

All persons must present photo identification showing date of birth.

Facemask required

Most up to date schedule will be on www.hsa.ky

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
						
85° / 78°	85° / 78°	85° / 78°	85° / 78°	80° / 80°	80° / 79°	81° / 78°
Plenty of sunshine	Mostly sunny	A morning shower in places	Plenty of sunshine	An a.m. shower; partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny

Island Heritage's CharityDrive Finalists Announced

The countdown is on for Island Heritage Insurance Company, Ltd.'s annual CharityDrive set for the 4th, 5th and 6th of May. The three charities selected for this year's CharityDrive are as follows:

Tuesday, 4 May: The National Trust for the Cayman Islands

Wednesday, 5 May: The Breast Cancer Foundation

Thursday, 6 May: The National Children's Voluntary Organisation (NCVO)

Island Heritage's annual CharityDrive was created in 2012 as a way to give back to those in need and provide the local community with the opportunity to show their support for their favorite charity. Island Heritage's CharityDrive has donated more than CI \$265,000 to 21 different local charities.

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands was established in 1987 with the goal of protecting the future of Cayman's heritage, natural environment and all endemic species. Their historic programmes promote an awareness and appreciation of Cayman's built heritage and brings unique traditions and culture to life. Their sites include the Mission House, Old Savannah School house, Nurse Leila's House and Eldemire House in Cayman Brac. In addition to preserving Cayman's historically significant sites, the National Trust is also dedicated to the protection and conservation of Cayman's fragile natural environments including the Central Mangrove Wetland, Mastic Trail, the Saline Reserve, Booby Pond Nature Reserve and Bird Sanctuaries.

Established in 2009, the Breast Cancer Foundation provides advice, support, counseling and financial assistance to local breast cancer patients. The Breast Cancer Foundation also works to raise awareness in schools, colleges and local businesses through their community road show to spread the word about breast cancer and its many different forms with a focus on the importance of early detection. They also provide mammogram vouchers and ultra sound vouchers when needed for people who are not covered by insurance.

Rounding out the top three charities is the National Children's Voluntary Organisation (NCVO). The NCVO was founded in 1974 and is dedicated to the care, education and well-being of children and families in need of support in the Cayman Islands. Throughout the years the NCVO has helped hundreds of residents through its local programmes including the Nadine Andreas Residential Foster Home, The Jack and Jill Nursery and Miss Nadine's Pre-School.

Each charity will have the opportunity to earn up to CI \$10,000. One of the charities will also be able to earn up to CI \$5,000 based on social media support. Island Heritage will donate \$1 for every car that drives past the Island Heritage Roundabout from 7am-7pm each day during the CharityDrive. It is not necessary for drivers

to circle the roundabout, nor does it matter whether the vehicles are travelling north or south.

The public can also show social media support by visiting Island Heritage's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and hitting the like button for the featured charity and using the hashtag #charity-drive2021.

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION

T00 CLOSE Proverbs 3:1-18 Devotional Reading

Oklahoma is well known for severe weather from early spring through the end of summer. It is told of one evening the weather reporter warned of an approaching tornado. The sky boiled with dark clouds as electricity went out. One family climbed down the wooden ladder into the cellar behind their house where they stayed until the storm abated.

"Storm chasing," is a big thing today. For some it is a hobby for others a profitable vocation.

The goal- get as close as possible to a tornado or storm without being harmed. They are skilled forecasters with accurate information, but honestly I will stay far from this.

In moral and spiritual areas of our lives, however, we foolishly do things God tells us not to do. Solomon wrote, "trust in the Lord with thine heart and lean not to thy own understanding." He is the Master adventurer of living so let us follow His commands.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM ORIEL ANGLIN
14 August 1926 - 16 February 2021




A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. at Ninety and Nine Church, 209 Powell Smith Dr., West Bay.

Please submit your photos with Uncle Oriel for the slideshow to 5226644 by Monday, 26th April 2021

You may also register your special memories to his register at www.churchillfuneralhome.com

A Memorial Mass for the late Dothlyn Joyce Scott fondly known as Ms. Dottie will be held at the St. Ignatius Catholic Church, Walkers Rd. George Town on Monday 26 April at 6:00pm.



Donations will be collected for Ms. Dottie's favourite charity - Missionaries of the Poor in Jamaica. (MOP)

The family of the late **Ianthy Christian** of Spot Bay, Cayman Brac regret to announce her passing on April 12, 2021.



A funeral service will be held 3:30 p.m. at Bethel Baptist Church on Saturday, April 24, 2021. Viewing will be held from 3:00 p.m. prior to the service.

Interment will follow at the Spot Bay Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at boddenfuneralservice.com & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of **Ms. Theresa Eleanor Chin.** A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Pedro St. James, Savannah, Grand Cayman on Sunday, April 25, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.



Please dress in white as per the request of the family.

Condolences can be registered at churchillfuneralhome.com

Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of **Mr. Bentley Reginald Brown,** who passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021. A Graveside Service will be held at Watering Place Cemetery in Cayman Brac on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.



Condolences can be registered at churchillfuneralhome.com

Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of **Mr. Ewan Lloyd Gibson,** who passed away on Saturday, March 27, 2021. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Churchill's Funeral Home, 328 Eastern Avenue, George Town, Grand Cayman on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Gibson will be repatriated to Jamaica.



Condolences can be registered at churchillfuneralhome.com



Kiwanis Club donates \$29,000

Eight primary schools across the Cayman Islands have received over \$29,000 donated by the Kiwanis Club of Grand Cayman's "Buy a Kid Breakfast" program in the school year 2020-2021.

The funds will go directly towards providing a healthy and substantial breakfast for children who come to school without a morning meal.

Primary schools (pictured) that have accepted the funding from the Buy a Kid Breakfast Program in 2021 are East End, George Town, Joanna Clarke Savannah, Lighthouse, Prospect, Red Bay, Sir John A Cumber and Theoline McCoy. This has included two new schools to the program this year.

Following its introduction in 2006, the Kiwanis Club of Grand Cayman has raised over \$25,000 each year for the program. Buy a Kid Breakfast is funded completely through generous donations from the Cayman community. The amount that the Club can give to each school depends on their needs and how much has been raised that year. The more funds that the Club can raise, the more they can give. The fund raising efforts include funds from the public, direct donations from local businesses and regular events held by the Club such as the annual "Breakfast for Dinner" Fundraiser.

This year's Breakfast for Dinner will be held on Saturday April 24 starting at 6.00pm in the Westin's Governors Ballroom. Guests and supporters of the Club will be treated to

a champagne reception with flips and tricks by Tide Tricking, silent auction, four-course breakfast for dinner with wine, a fashion show hosted by Silhouette featuring loungewear and pajamas and music from One World Entertainment. What is the dress code? Nightwear, sleepwear or the coziest wear you can find!

Tickets to attend this year's Breakfast for Dinner are \$150 per person, please contact 916-8664 or email bdf@kiwanis.ky to secure your spot.

Since 1975, the Kiwanis Club of Grand Cayman has been helping to make a difference to the lives of many children in the Cayman Islands. During the school closures in the coronavirus lockdown, the Club partnered with Feed our Future and the Department of Education Services to launch the Homeschool Lunch Program which provided 465 children from thirteen government schools with a healthy meal or supermarket voucher to ensure no child missed a meal for 16 weeks. The Club currently runs a successful weekly mobile library at George Town Primary School, sponsors and mentoring five student led Key Clubs in local high schools and a Circle K at UCCI, awards graduating Key Club students a CI\$500 grant based on their exceptional contribution to the community, annually hosts "Key Leader" which serves as a weekend retreat for high school stu-

dents instilling the principles of leadership and for over 30 years the popular "Santa Landing" has gifted over 300 books to children and provided a free family fun day each December.

For details on the service club and how to join, visit www.kiwanis.ky.



BIDEN WELCOMES GUILTY VERDICT IN GEORGE FLOYD CASE

By Michael Jarvis, UK Correspondent

The President of the United States, Joe Biden, has called for unity in the wake of the guilty verdict against former police officer Derek Chauvin for the murder of unarmed African-American George Floyd.

Commenting after the unanimous guilty verdict was delivered, Mr Biden said: "The guilty verdict does not bring back George. But through the family's pain, they are finding purpose so George's legacy will not be just about his death, but about what we must do in his memory."

He said, "This is the time for this country to come together, to unite as Americans. There can never be any safe harbor for hate in America."

The President said the killing of Mr Floyd by Chauvin was "a murder in full light of day" and that "it ripped the blinders off for the whole world to the systemic racism...that's a stain on our nation's soul."

After the verdict and told them "Nothing is going to make it all

better, but at least now there is some justice. We're all so relieved."

Chauvin faces up to 40 years in prison after being found guilty on two counts of murder and one of manslaughter in the killing of George Floyd in May last year.

The verdict was unanimous. The jury retired on Monday and delivered its verdict on Tuesday afternoon.

Sentencing will be in eight weeks. Bail for the convict has been revoked.

The image of former officer Chauvin with his knee firmly planted on the neck of George Floyd for 9 minutes and 29 seconds has been seen around the world. It has become a reference point for the state of race relations in the United States, especially between African-Americans and the police.

Mr Floyd's plea of 'I can't breathe' has also been co-opted as a slogan by campaigners for racial justice.

The killing in George Floyd caused an explosion of protests across the United States with solidarity protests elsewhere in the



world under the banner of Black Lives Matter.

On Tuesday, just hours before the verdict in a move which underlined the gravity of the situation, President Biden had said he was praying for the "right verdict".

There were concerns about further protests if Derek Chauvin was found not guilty.

On the contrary, when the unanimous guilty verdict was announced, crowds outside the courthouse erupted in cheers and prayers.

The verdict has also been welcomed around the world.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said in a Twitter post that he was "appalled by the death of George Floyd and welcome this verdict."

INDIA COVID VARIANT WORRIES EXPERTS

By Michael Jarvis, UK Correspondent

Health experts and governments around the world are scrambling to respond to the latest threat from the still-marauding COVID-19 pandemic.

A new Indian variant has become a cause for global concern with experts worried that current vaccines might be ineffective against it.

India is currently witnessing a marked surge in COVID-19 cases leading the British government to put it on a Red List of countries on which it has imposed travel restrictions.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson this week cancelled an official trip to India at the last minute on the advice of the UK's medical authorities.

Experts say this variant of the COVID-19 virus, labelled B1617 - or the India variants - may be able to spread more easily than earlier forms of the virus.

The number of cases of this variant found in the UK has been increasing due largely to the huge volumes of travel with India, but there are now reports of local transmission in people's homes.

UK authorities responsible for advising the government on the COVID-19 pandemic were said to be looking into whether the variant should be upgraded from a "variant under investigation" to a "variant of concern".



Cases have also been found in Canada, the United States, Israel and several European countries and are said to be connected mainly to travel links with India.

Several areas in India have been placed on lockdown due to surging cases of this

particular variant alongside the earlier detected strains of the virus.

The country has been experiencing a new wave of COVID-19 infections comparative to the ongoing spiralling outbreak in Brazil.

The cause of the spike in cases spread over large parts of India has puzzled In-

dian health experts as up to recently the country was reported to be excelling with its vaccination programme and bringing down infections.

Mass gatherings for religious and other festivals are being looked at as likely trigger points for the new wave of infections.

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

St Vincent's virus spike is an issue too

St Vincent officials are extremely worried about the island's increasing COVID-19 cases. It comes because of a lack of clean water as thousands of evacuees fleeing the La Soufrière volcano eruption crowd into shelters and private homes.

Over a dozen cases have been reported in recent days. At least five evacuees staying in two homes and a shelter tested positive, exposing at least 20 people to the virus, St Vincent's chief medical officer, Dr Simone Keizer-Beache, said.

She said officials were preparing to do mass testing to support contact tracing, a complicated undertaking given that between 16,000 and 20,000 people had been evacuated before La Soufrière's explosive eruptions started a fortnight ago. She also urged people to wear masks and cooperate to curb the outbreak. Some



► Vincentians have to cope with virus fears as well as ash

people arriving at shelters had refused to undergo a voluntary test, she said.

"Let us work together to prevent a second catastrophe," Dr Keizer-Beache told a press conference broadcast by the local station NBC Radio.

Heavy ashfall from La Soufrière has contaminated many communities' water supplies, leaving people to congregate in long queues at standpipes.

JA academic blames politics for crimes

A Jamaican academic has repeated what has been widely believed for decades in Jamaica, that its rampant crime problem is tied to its political system.

Dr Joy Moncrieffe, Director of the Institute for Applied Social Research, speaking at a virtual workshop introducing the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy in youth crime and violence prevention efforts, has blamed Jamaica's political system for many crimes being committed by youths.

Moncrieffe stated that history shows that politicians who needed political strongholds to maintain power in the 1970s, recruited frustrated inner-city youths as foot soldiers. She said this culture has continued through the decades and needs to be addressed. Jamaica recorded 1,323 murders in 2020 and had the Caribbean's highest homicide rate at 46.5 per 100,000 people.



► Too many Jamaican youths are still drawn to crime

Moncrieffe said: "Since then, the nature of crime and violence has mushroomed [and] in many communities we no longer have that central don. What we have instead are multiple dons with many youths considering themselves dons."

She said that alongside the political roots, financial inequalities and social issues add to the reasons why youth turn to crime.

St Kitts expects 'herd immunity' soon

St Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Timothy Harris announced that almost 24 percent of the target vaccination population had received a dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, which is an extremely high output.

Since the vaccination roll-out campaign started a month ago, over 8,000 people have received their first shot. Harris claimed that despite St Kitts and Nevis being a small country, it was closer to herd immunity than Europe and the US.

Despite the nation's international borders opening on Oct. 31, St Kitts and Nevis continues to be one of the least impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, reporting

no current community spread and zero deaths overall. The dual islands ask visitors to take a PCR test within 72 hours of arrival and utilise a contact tracing app for the first 14 days with obligatory quarantine in an approved hotel.

Harris claimed that due to St Kitts and Nevis' impeccable track record of COVID-19 management, there are many positive outcomes. Over 600 students have returned to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, bringing business for landlords, rental cars companies and restaurants. "Educational tourism is critical to long-stay tourism," he said.



► St Kitts and Nevis has rolled out its vaccination programme quickly

Guyana's oil wealth starts flowing

Guyana estimates its future oil production will be 1 million barrels per day by 2027, from seven floating production, storage, and offloading vessels in the country, according to natural resources minister Vickram Bharrat.

If the oil income is handled well, Guyana will soon have one of the richest populations in the world.

Guyana is already producing 130,000 barrels per day from ExxonMobil's Liza-1 well, which just reached full planned production capacity in March. Exxon expects that well to be producing as much as 750,000 bpd by 2026.

Guyana is the world's newest oil hotspot, with as many as 10 appraisal and exploration wells to be drilled there this year. Exxon and its partners in Guyana's



► Guyana's oil wealth will be huge soon

prolific Stabroek Block have made more than a dozen quality discoveries since 2019. That block is thought to contain more than eight billion barrels of recoverable oil resources.

Liza-2 is expected to start soon and within a year will produce an estimated rate of 220,000 barrels per day.

Antigua event sails virtually

Antigua Sailing Week is turning into a virtual event this year because of the pandemic.

The physical week of sailing had been cancelled and this virtual edition will be centred around 'Sailing Week Sunday', a virtual event with stories, interviews and entertainment live from Antigua.

The two-hour event is on April 25 on the Antigua Sailing Week Facebook and YouTube accounts. It aims to connect with locals, the diaspora and reconnect with an audience who are long-time supporters of Antigua Sailing Week, their friends who have heard great things about it, as well as fans of the sport and the destination - any of whom may be considering Antigua & Barbuda as a vacation option.



► Antigua Sailing Week has gone virtual

"In the void created by the 2020 cancellation we relied on social media flashbacks to previous years to maintain visibility and our spot on the calendar," said event manager Rana Lewis. "After the cancellation of 2021 we sensed the need to interact with our worldwide audience in real time while sharing the highlights of racing in Antigua & Barbuda."

UK TERRITORIES CONNECTION



JERSEY ECONOMY SUFFERS 10% DROP DUE TO COVID

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The report says that finance, the Jersey's largest sector, has generally coped well with the pandemic, except for the banking sector where profits have been hit by reduced interest rates, creating a 'sharper-than-expected fall in profits.

It projects a downgrading of the Jersey economy by around 10 per cent, the

largest decline since 1998 but notes that "there still remains considerable uncertainty around the size of the downturn, which will not become clear until much later this year."

The Fiscal Policy Panel (FPP) concluded that "at this point the panel continues to advise that Jersey's economy is likely to remain smaller in the long run than was forecast ahead of the pandemic."

ANGUILLA ACTIONS ITS COVID EXIT STRATEGY

The Anguilla government is also mapping its way out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A COVID-19 Exit Strategy has been approved by the Executive Council to open the borders with some steps taking immediate effect while others will be introduced in phases over the coming months.

Key dates are April 12th, May 1st, July 1st, and a full reopening of the borders and the economy targeted for October 1st.

With a focus on the economy, the Anguilla government says its strategy is designed to safely transition the island from an extended period of economic contraction towards generating the business activity needed to revitalize the economy.

Anguilla's Minister of Tourism, Haydn Hughes said the success of the ongoing vaccination programme is key to the reopening schedule.



"We recognize that the widespread distribution and administration of vaccine programs in our major source markets as well as here in Anguilla have profound implications for our tourism industry.

"As always, the health and protection of both our visitors and our residents is paramount, and we are once again taking a phased approach to the full and safe reopening of our island," he said.

TCI INTERCEPTS HAITIAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING OPERATION

Immigration and border security authorities in the Turks and Caicos Islands have made a major interception of boats attempting to ferry illegal Haitian migrants to the territory.

Two boats reported to be carrying close to 400 Haitian migrants were spotted in the waters of the islands on Wednesday April 14th and escorted to shore where the occupants were detained pending deportation.

It's one of the single largest human traffickings of Haitian migrants destined for the TCI which led the Immigration Arlington Musgrove to send a strong message to the masterminds of these operations.

"We will catch and prosecute you as the borders of the Turks and Caicos Islands are closed to illegal migration and related activities. So please do not waste your money attempting to enter these islands illegally. You will be sent back," he warned.

His views were echoed by Commissioner of Police Trevor Botting who said, "These are challenging operations in a dangerous environment, and no matter the reason for those persons being on the sloops, their safety is paramount in our consideration."

Over the years the Turks and Caicos Islands has seen a huge influx of illegal

immigrants from Haiti who enter the territory by boat in a continuing human trafficking enterprise.

In a press statement, Immigration Minister Musgrove said:

"Maritime smuggling operations are dangerous and too frequently end in tragedy and death at sea. There are many different reasons that migrants attempt such unsafe voyages at sea, but none of them are worth the risk of life."

He said the landing on South Caicos is a further indication of the abuse of our borders by persons, adding that "this is something that we will not entertain."



BVI OPTS FOR TWO-TIERED CUSTOMS DUTIES

The British Virgin Islands government has announced a series of measures to kickstart its economy in preparation for the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of those steps is the restructuring of its customs duties system.

In a national address on the theme "Get Ready To Move: Our Economy Is Going Into Overdrive", Premier Andrew Fahie outlined the concept for the two-tiered system which has been on the cards for several years and with the territory's private sector has been pressing the government to introduce.

Under the proposed system, businesses will pay a lower rate for imported products for sale than residents to reduce the end cost to consumers.

This is expected to also have the effect of reducing competition to local businesses from online and other overseas purchases by residents with major global entities such as Amazon.

Mr Fahie said, "This will allow our business people to receive a reduction in the cost of goods to pass down to the customers."



He explained that residents "will simply pay more duty on items entering the Territory and this could serve as a deterrent to overseas shopping based on pricing while encouraging persons to shop locally for items as legitimate local businesses will then be able to offer lower pricing."

No further details were disclosed on how the new customs duties will be structured.

BERMUDA OPPOSITION CRIES FOUL OVER LOCKDOWN EXEMPT CERTIFICATES

The Opposition in Bermuda has chided Premier David Burt over the COVID-19 crisis saying that he must govern for the benefit of all – not a selected few."

Leader of the Opposition One Bermuda Alliance, N. Cole Simons, said "there is real tension in the community due to the perceived treatment of Bermudians during this pandemic."

In a statement on the party's website he said: "What they want is real equity from Government during this very stressful and difficult time. They want principled, honest and transparent leadership, with no more evasive behaviour or evasive responses."

He was referring to the issuing of exemption certificates, which in one case was withdrawn, following an outcry by some.



A spike in COVID-19 cases has forced the government to impose another lockdown with consequential restrictions on movement in the community and business operations.

The OBA claims that the government was being too selective in how it was handing out exemption certificates and accused the Premier of being eva-

sive when pressed on the matter.

"The Premier must do a better job and manage for all and not play favourites. He must govern and provide protection for all of Bermuda, and not the selected few," OBA leader Simons said.

"He must treat small and large businesses with the same degree of importance. He must look at the big picture and provide solutions that will deliver equitable benefits to all sectors of our community."

SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1:30

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/31

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 38 Designer's

- 1 Dr. visit asset
- 5 Game callers 39 Historic riveter
- 9 Bugged down 40 Dance bit
- 11 Begat 41 Cockpit guesses
- 13 Make amends

DOWN

- 14 Self-contained
- 15 Plop down
- 16 Heist
- 18 Garden activity
- 20 History stretch
- 21 "Rob Roy" writer
- 22 Fight memento
- 23 "My country — of thee"
- 24 Young fox
- 25 "Hold on!"
- 27 Short skirts
- 29 Old auto
- 30 Clerical robe
- 32 Viscera
- 34 Photographer Goldin
- 35 Paris sight
- 36 Writer Zola

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

Yesterday's answer

- 1 Stockpile
- 2 Feels sorry for
- 3 Import opponent
- 4 Top rating
- 5 Putting to work
- 6 Fancy fur
- 7 Movie theater worker
- 8 Lady of Spain
- 10 Owed amounts
- 12 Exclude
- 17 Small worker
- 19 Encouraging words
- 22 Confession list
- 24 Face, in slang
- 25 Cuff site
- 26 Virgil hero
- 27 Demented
- 28 Justice Antonin
- 30 Move furtively
- 31 Patellae places
- 33 Poker payment
- 37 One of the Stooges

Word Search

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

- Al dente
- Baste
- Blanch
- Boil
- Braise
- Broil
- Confit
- Crouton
- Daube
- Dressing
- Fillet
- Fondue
- Garnish
- Glaze
- Gratin
- Julienne
- Marinade
- Poach
- Prove
- Reduce
- Roast
- Seasoning
- Simmer
- Stock
- Tartare
- Truss
- Whip

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	

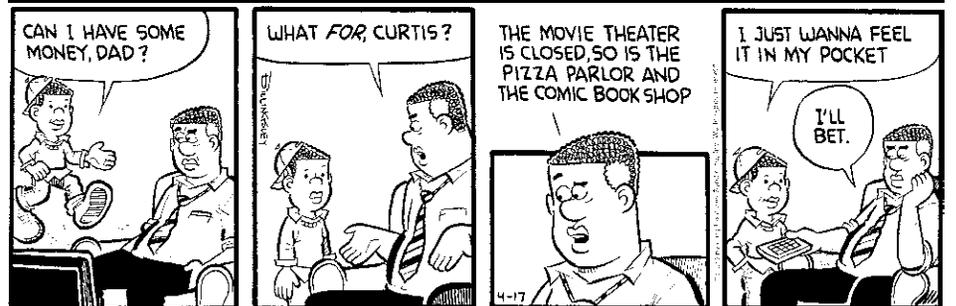
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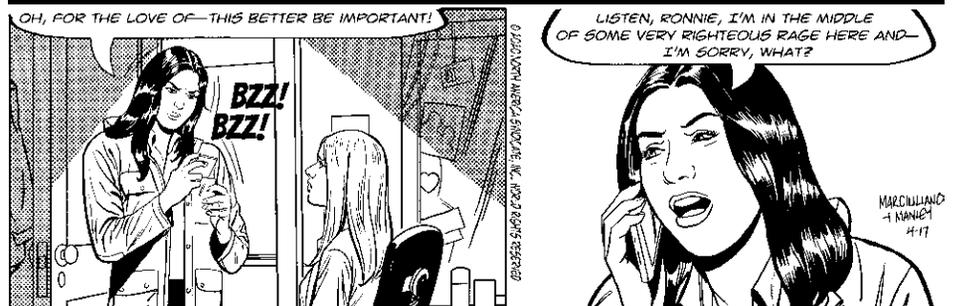
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