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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

● EDITORIAL — page 2



Happy Mothers day

● LOCAL NEWS — page 5



Ritz-Carlton closes for US\$50m upgrade

● UK TERRITORIES — page 14



BERMUDA TIGHTENS UP ON WORK PERMITS

Government Encourages Vaccinations



See story on page 4 >>

Minister Bush Tours Department of Public Safety Communications



► Home Affairs Minister, Hon. Bernie Bush, with Public Safety Systems Administrator, Ms Lizaneth Jackson, during a tour of the Department of Public Safety Communications on Monday, 3 May 2021

Minister for Home Affairs, Youth, Sport, Culture and Heritage (HEYSC&H), Hon. Bernie Bush; and Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs), Mr. Isaac Rankine, took their first departmental familiarisation tour on Monday, 3 May 2021.

Accompanied by HEYSC&H Chief Officer, Ms Teresa Echenique; Deputy Chief Officer for Home Affairs, Ms Kathryn Dinspel-Powell, and Acting Deputy Chief Officer Melissa Whorms, government officials toured the Department of Public Safety Communications (DPSC). They were accompanied by the Department's Director, Mr. Julian Lewis; and Assistant Director, Mr. Sean Vasquez.

Following an in-depth overview of the department's duties, mission-crit-

SEE MINISTER TOURS, Page 5



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

EDITORIAL

Happy Mothers' day 2021



Mother's Day (Founding)

The modern holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Grafton, West Virginia.

She then began a campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States. Although she was successful in 1914, she was already disappointed with its commercialization by the 1920s. Jarvis' holiday was adopted by other countries and it is now celebrated all over the world. In this tradition, each person offers a gift, card, or remembrance toward their mothers, grandmothers, and/ or maternal figure on mother's day.

Various observances honoring mothers existed in America during the 1870s and the 1880s, but these never had resonance beyond the local level.



We will celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday May 9th, and as we take a pause from our busy schedules of Government Press Briefing, education and job seeking, we wish to say a heartfelt Thank You to all Mothers.

The greatest gift a person will receive is a mother and the love, care, patience and understanding displayed by these super women is truly amazing.

Never underestimate the strength of a woman, particularly during child birth; their wisdom and understanding, their honesty and care; and their love and compassion.

Cherish their presence and their memory for a person's integrity and loyalty is shown by their love for their Mother.

Happy Mother's Day

Jarvis never mentioned Julia Ward Howe's attempts in the 1870s to establish a "Mother's Day for Peace", nor any connection to the Protestant school celebrations that included "Children's Day" amongst others.

Neither did she mention the traditional festival of Mothering Sunday. Jarvis always said that the creation was hers alone.



Business Survey 2021 Your Response Matters!

In 2019, Cayman's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) recorded its second highest growth rate in the past nine years of 3.8%.

Cayman Islands: Growth in Real GDP 2007-2019



How did COVID-19 impact businesses in 2020?

The annual System of National Accounts (SNA) survey collects the information necessary to measure the health and performance of Cayman's economy and its various industries.

The survey runs April 12th to June 11th, 2021.

Data collected for the SNA survey is **CONFIDENTIAL** under the Statistics Act (2016 Revision) and is **EXEMPT** from the Freedom of Information Act.

Better Data...Better Decisions...Better Business

For assistance or enquiries, please check www.eso.ky or call 244-4676/244-4608.



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CAL repatriation flight schedule confirmed for June 2021

Extra flights added for Kingston and Miami in May

The added repatriation flights for Kingston, May 13, 2021:

FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
KX3600	Grand Cayman	Kingston	10am	11:05am	TH May 13
KX3601	Kingston	Grand Cayman	12:15pm	1:20pm	TH May 13

The added repatriation flights for Miami, May 24, 2021:

FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
KX3102	Grand Cayman	Miami	10am	12:30pm	MO May 24
KX3103	Miami	Grand Cayman	2:00pm	2:30pm	MO May 24

The Miami repatriation flight schedule, Wednesdays and Saturdays, through June 30, 2021:

FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
KX3102	Grand Cayman	Miami	10am	12:30pm	WE & SA
KX3103	Miami	Grand Cayman	2:00pm	2:30pm	WE & SA ex: SA June 12 & 26
KX3123	Miami	Grand Cayman (1 stop in CYB)	2:00pm	3:25pm	WE & SA June 12 & 26, 2021

The Kingston repatriation flight schedule, Fridays June 4 - 25, 2021:

FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
KX3600	Grand Cayman	Kingston	10am	11:05am	Fridays
KX3601	Kingston	Grand Cayman	12:15pm	1:20pm	Fridays

The La Ceiba repatriation flight schedule, Thursdays June 3 - 17, 2021:

FLIGHT	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
KX3880	Grand Cayman	La Ceiba	10am	10:25am	TH June 3 & 17
KX3881	La Ceiba	Grand Cayman	12:25pm	2:45pm	TH June 3 & 17



In partnership with the Cayman Islands Government, the repatriation flight schedule has been confirmed for travel in June between Grand Cayman and Miami, Kingston, and La Ceiba. Due to demand, extra flights have also been added for travel between Grand Cayman and Kingston in May, as well as Miami.

Cayman Airways reminds all passengers that they are responsible for researching and securing the necessary documents required for entry into any country – this includes completion of any required pre-flight COVID-19 testing, proof of vaccinations and/or obtaining travel authorization. Passengers who do not possess the

required documents, will not be able to travel.

Persons wishing to travel inbound or outbound on these repatriation flights can book seats directly with Cayman Airways by calling Cayman Airways Reservations on 345-949-2311, or:

- In the USA, call 305-266-4141 or (toll free) 1-800-422-9626
- In Jamaica, call 876-613-9105 or (toll free) 866-759-1372
- In Honduras, call (toll free) 800-2791-9422

Tickets for inbound and outbound flights can also be purchased online at www.caymanairways.com.

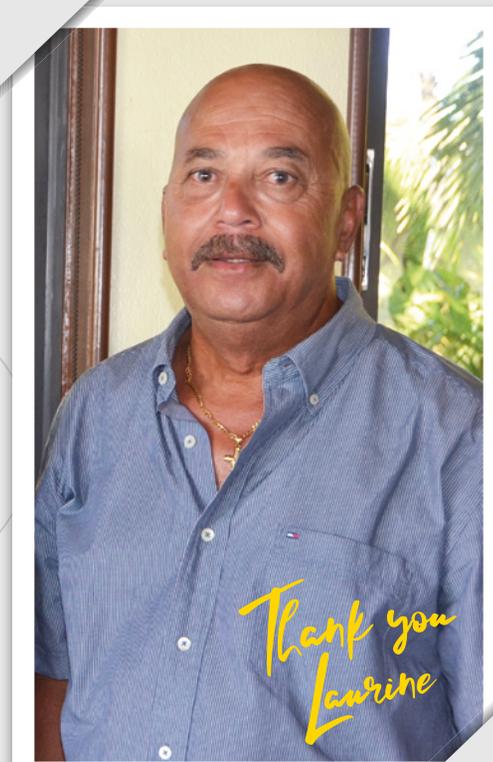
Laurine Rivers retires after 45 Years of Service

On Friday, April 30, the management and staff of CUC officially bid farewell to its longest serving employee **Laurine Rivers**, who has retired after 45 years of dedicated service to the Company.

Walking through CUC's doors on Monday, September 1, 1975 as a Service Estimator in the Transmission & Distribution (T&D) Planning Department, little did Laurine know that this would be the beginning of a long and fulfilling career. At the end of his 45 years, Laurine held the role of T&D Planner.

Throughout the years, the department underwent a number of changes. Under the leadership of various supervisors and managers, Laurine remained true to his profession and worked diligently with customers and on projects primarily in his home district of West Bay and along the Seven Mile Beach strip.

We are truly thankful to Laurine for his years of service and wish him all the best in his retirement.



PACT GOVERNMENT INTENSIFIES COVID VACCINATION DRIVE

Hon. Premier of the Cayman Islands, Wayne Panton, used his new administration's first press conference on Wednesday to drive home the importance of residents to take their COVID-19 vaccinations.

The need to increase vaccine uptake which has fallen off recently from the previous high levels is a priority concern for the government Premier Panton said.

He was accompanied by Hon Minister for Health and Wellness, Sabarina Turner; Hon. Minister for Tourism and Transport, Kenneth Bryan; and Minister for Finance and Economic Development Chris Saunders. Also in attendance were HE Governor Martyn Roper and Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee along with the Medical Officer of Health Dr. Samuel Williams-Rodriguez.

To underline the urgency of the situation, the PACT (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent) coalition will kick off the intensified campaign with an all-day vaccination drive this Saturday May 8th from 10am at the Owen Roberts International Airport vaccination centre.

Premier Panton's concern over the recent slowed pace of vaccination uptake comes against the backdrop of current stocks of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine donated by the British government now reaching their expiry deadline by the end of June.

He framed his appeal for residents to get vaccinated as a matter of both a public health and economic urgency.

"We come here today, today before you with an urgent message that is vital to the future well being of the Cayman Islands," the Premier said.

"As many of you know, the stock of the COVID-19 vaccine provided to the Cayman Islands by the United Kingdom earlier this year is set to expire at the end of June, with some 14,000 doses still remaining."

In urging persons who have not yet taken their shots, Premier Panton emphasised that it would be hard to justify having vaccines expire in the Cayman Islands while other countries are struggling to obtain supplies.

"I don't think the Cayman Islands can waste a precious resource like this with our neighbours and others around the world desperate to have an increased supply. So we are imploring all of our fellow residents to please make the necessary arrangements to attend the Owen Roberts vaccination centre, as soon as possible to get their first shots."

In imploring persons to get their jabs, Premier Panton added that: "This is essen-

tial to our future potential to reopen our borders and restart tourism, and we are within striking distance of this now."

TARGET OPENING STRATEGY MAINTAINED

Mr Panton said the PACT administration will maintain the target opening date set by the previous government linked to a 70 per cent vaccination rate. But he said their suggestions of an 80 per cent uptake might be impractical under the circumstances.

"The last government had set the target vaccination rate at which borders would reopen at around 70 to 80% of the total population. We believe that while 80 per cent percent may be difficult to achieve, 70% is much more doable."

The Premier implored residents to comply with the appeal to be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the same level of commitment they showed during the lockdown period of last year.

THE GOVERNOR'S DILEMMA

HE Governor Martyn Roper echoed Premier Panton's appeal for the remaining persons to get vaccinated.

He said while Cayman is still at the top of the global vaccination table, the slowed pace of the vaccination uptake would make it challenging for him to request further supplies for the British government if the current quantities are allowed to expire and thrown away.

"In April, the take up really slowed and in fact I think it actually stalled in April, although the last couple of days, we've seen an uptick which is really positive so maybe some of the messages are being received."

Mr Roper is concerned about the likelihood of the current vaccine stocks expiring without being administered.

"Whilst the UK is committed to continue supplying us with all the vaccines we need, including adapted doses to tackle any new strains of COVID and possibly booster vaccines in the autumn, if they are needed, I'm sure you will appreciate that for me as governor, it is difficult to ask for more vaccine if we haven't used the supplies that we that we currently have," the Governor cautioned.

He said since February Cayman has received six shipments of the Pfizer vaccine at no cost to Cayman - "enough to vaccinate two-thirds of thirds of our total population, which is about 82% of everyone over 16."

The Governor reinforced the message that current stocks of vaccine need to be ad-



► Hon. Premier of the Cayman Islands, Wayne Panton



► Hon. Minister for Health and Wellness, Sabarina Turner

ministered for both reasons of public health and the economy, as well ensuring that a message is not sent they are being dumped because of vaccine hesitancy.

"The ninth of June is the deadline for getting the first dose with the 14,000 doses that we have left. And again we can all see the desperate situation in other parts of the world caused by a lack of vaccines and I think there would be significant outrage and even distress in some quarters if we weren't able to use the vaccines that we have been sent."

Mr Roper said he strongly supported the cautious approach of the new government in the reopening of the borders until more people are vaccinated, adding that "like everyone else, I encourage everyone to do their bit and take the vaccine, which will put us in a much stronger position going forward."

A SLIGHT UPTICK IN UPTAKE

Giving an update on the broad COVID campaign, Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee addressed the urgency of stepping up vaccinations - which he noted has started to regain momentum in recent days.

"The difference between the numbers totally vaccinated, and those having had their first dose is getting smaller and smaller," he noted.

"We have had an uptick in take up of vaccinations with our strong messaging, and we really hope that that continues... until we've used our supply, which should be enough to vaccinate an additional 7000 odd people."

But he added: "We need to get the density of coverage up in the community and

only by doing that because of the amount of travel we have that affects our country" - compared to others.

Dr Lee also advised that the need for Cayman to reach its vaccination target was critical not only to reopening the borders but as a public health priority with more variants of the COVID-19 virus emerging.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

With the focus of the initial press conference of the PACT administration on stepping up the vaccination campaign, other ministers also addressed the urgency of the situation.

Hon. Minister of the rebranded Ministry of Health and Wellness, Sabrina Turner, said she took her first jab on Wednesday and encouraged others to do likewise, especially for the all-day vaccination rally on Saturday.

"I am publicly appealing to all of you to just go and get vaccinated. This Saturday, come on out to the Owen Roberts International Airport, and join us and be a part of this vaccination process."

Minister Turner also said that along with the Public Health and the Health Services Authority, the Ministry of Health and Wellness will continue to encourage many residents as possible to get vaccinated and is looking at setting up mobile vaccination units.

EYES ON THE VACCINATION PRIZES

Hon. Minister for Tourism and Transport, Kenneth Bryan said persons coming out to get vaccinated will be entered in a draw for a number of prizes ranging from free flights on Cayman Airways, to staycations, dinners and other gifts.

Mr Bryan who will be taking his first COVID-19 shot this weekend underlined that hitting the vaccination target was critical to Cayman reopening its borders, and rejuvenating the tourism sector and the wider economy.

"To demonstrate how much we want to encourage you to get vaccinated, the Ministry of Tourism will be hosting an island-wide draw... for some amazing prizes, and there's still more to come."

By the end of the press conference he reported that more companies were already offering more prizes as part of the vaccination drive.



► Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Development Chris Saunders



► Hon. Minister for Tourism and Transport, Kenneth Bryan

Premier Tours Departments

Premier, and Minister for Sustainability and Climate Resiliency, Hon. Wayne Panton, accompanied by Chief Officer Jennifer Ahearn, made his first official visit to the three government departments under his ministry last week (Thursday, 29 April 2021).

The Premier and Chief Officer toured the CI National Weather Service on Owen Roberts Drive, the Department of Environment (DoE) at Cayman Environmental Centre on North Sound Way and Hazard Management Cayman Islands at the Government Administration Building.

Guided by the respective heads of department Mr Panton and Ms Ahearn re-



ceived a high-level situation report from each agency that covered key services and

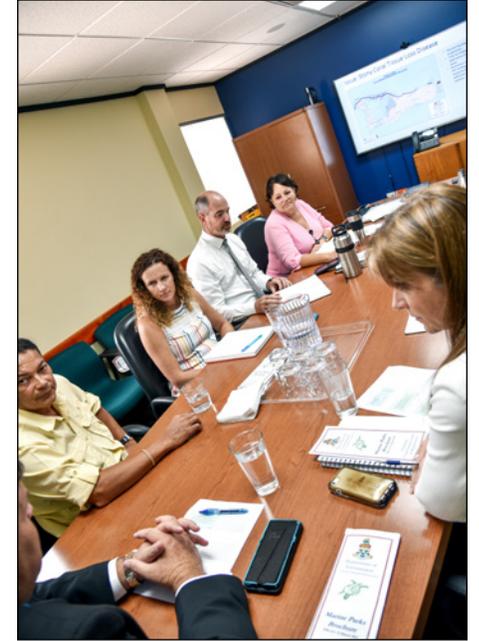
major projects, current and future resourcing needs, issues faced by the agency and recommended solutions.

Speaking at the end of the final visit, Premier Panton said: "I think it really demonstrates the level of sophistication that we've achieved as a country, the level of preparedness in emergency situations.

I'm really impressed with the level of preparedness and level of detail with which the whole HMCI operation has been set up. Obviously I'm very proud of our Depart-

ment of Environment and the great work that they do. They must continue doing that. The National Weather Service is integral to all emergency services and all that we do here.

That's why I've created this Ministry that builds in sustainability and ensures that we have climate resilience built in as well. I've really enjoyed meeting everyone. It has been a wonderful day."



Minister Bush Tours Department of Public Safety Communications

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

ical hardware and first responder capacity, the group walked through DPSC's offices in George Town. As well as meeting staff, they gained insights into public safety

protocols and processes which are crucial for effective operations, the safety of first responders and those they serve.

After the tour, Minister Bush said: "I fully support the role and the vision of the DPSC and look forward to work-

ing closely with this Team. The meet and greet was a welcome opportunity for us to interact with staff in their operational environment while gaining invaluable insights into the situational framework the department works within."



► Communication Technology Officer, Mr. Karefia Ross, explains an aspect of his work to Chief Officer Ms Teresa Echenique; DPSC Director, Mr. Julian Lewis; Minister for Home Affairs, Hon. Bernie Bush; and Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs) Mr. Isaac Rankine during a familiarisation tour of the department on Monday, 3 May 2021



► Minister for Home Affairs, Hon. Bernie Bush, shakes hands with Department of Public Safety Communications Telecommunicator 1, Mrs. Chelsea Blake, during a familiarisation tour on Monday, 3 May



► (L-r) Acting Deputy Chief Officer for Home Affairs, Mrs. Melissa Whorms; Deputy Chief Officer Kathryn Dinspel-Powell; Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs) Mr. Isaac Rankine; Home Affairs Chief Officer, Ms Teresa Echenique; Minister for Home Affairs, Hon. Bernie Bush; DPSC Director, Mr. Julian Lewis, and DPSC Assistant Director, Mr. Sean Vasquez during a tour of the Department of Public Safety Communications on Monday, 3 May 2021

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Ritz-Carlton closes for US\$50m upgrade

As from the beginning of June, The Dart-owned Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman will be temporarily shutting its doors to the local staycation customer-base it had cultivated since Cayman closed its borders to the resort's usual high-end jet setters.

It is anticipated that the hefty price tag for the renovation, at US\$50 million, will give the resort's guest rooms a total transformation, as well as completely upgrade its meeting and public areas.

The onset of the pandemic last year and subsequent closing of Cayman's borders at the height of a booming 2019/2020 winter season had a massive impact on the five-star resort, its General Manager, Marc Langevin, said.

"The impact of the global pandemic certainly shook our business to the core," he confirmed. "Thanks to the support of our local guests and clients, we were able to transform a moment of crisis into a success story and continue to employ a core of our Ladies and Gentlemen for the past year as well."

The renovations are scheduled for completion in November, just in time for what the hospitality industry hopes will be some kind of normal high season, following the effective closure of tourism since March 2020. Once finished, guests can expect "a reimagined guest room and suite experience, sophisticated and awe-inspiring public spaces as well as a complete redesign of the resort's beachfront restaurant," the Ritz-Carlton said.

A press release from the resort said that the upgrades would include a mix of modern and traditional design elements, as well as employing a good deal of local artwork that the resort has championed since it first opened its doors back in 2005.

"The significant financial investment, especially during such challenging times, reflects the commitment to allow the iconic resort to stay on the forefront of the luxury market in the Caribbean region," they said.

In addition to the reimagined spaces and enhanced experiences on property, the personalised service that character-



ised the "Ladies and Gentlemen of The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman" would continue to solidify the resort's reputation

and commitment to its guests, clients, partners and local community upon reopening in fall 2021, they confirmed.

One donation equals help for two Non-Profits

Starting 1st May 2021, The Bridge Foundation (TBF) is partnering with Cayman's ARK to help Caymanians in need of assistance! With one donation you can assist two non-profit organizations at the same time. The Bridge Foundation has partnered with Cayman's ARK to assist with their CASA Programme. The CASA Programme seeks to assist Caymanians in need whose homes have fallen into disrepair because of economic hardship. During the month, all donations received by the Bridge Foundation will equal volunteer hours by our residents to work for the CASA Programme.

This donation drive aims to raise funds for TBF to continue its work in the community. In the past ten years, TBF has grown from just an idea to an essential stakeholder in the rehabilitative process for those Caymanians released from HMP Northward or Fairbanks prisons and Caribbean Haven. Our halfway houses provide supervised transitional housing exclusively for those offenders with underlying substance-abuse issues. In an average year, TBF will have approximately thirty-six men

and four women pass through our program. Our successful "transitions" or graduates have the most considerable effect on reducing the country's recidivism rates.

The residents at TBF do volunteer work as a part of the rehabilitation process. This project allows the residents to give back to our Caymanian community and help others who have fallen on economic hardship and hard times. The TBF residents will be providing help with the projects such as clearing away debris, painting and providing some skilled labour.

Bud Volinsky, Executive Director of The Bridge Foundation, states "This donation drive is a great opportunity for us to raise funds for our programme and also a great way to give back to the community. Our residents volunteer as a part of their sobriety programme and this challenge allows us to collaborate with another non-profit, Cayman's ARK and help them achieve their outstanding work. Much like us, they work to give Caymanians a step in the right direction and allow them to function and thrive in their community and with their families."

Tara Nielsen from Cayman's ARK is most appreciative of the assistance and stated "We are delighted by this new partnership with The Bridge Foundation. It makes perfect sense because we need skilled labor and access to workers on short notice. Having this resource will enable us to move more swiftly on CASA projects, reducing costs while benefiting the residents of TBF. The Bridge Foundation is an invaluable resource in the community, the only organization of its kind, that has positively changed countless lives. We look forward to seeing the community supporting the residents and their sobriety programme".

During the drive you can make an impact by donating online at <https://thebridgefoundation.ky/>, or alternatively please make cheques payable to The Bridge Foundation. In lieu of credit/debit card payments you can direct deposit into TBF's accounts at Bank of Butterfield as follows:

The Bridge Foundation - Butterfield Bank
KY Account # - 1361459440018
US Account # - 8401459440030



► Volunteers from the Bridge Foundation giving back to the community

Flow set to bring 100x faster fibre network to all homes

By Christopher Tobutt

Flow has made a commitment to make the latest in fiber technology available to every home in Cayman within a 1-year timeframe. The big new announcement represents a major stepping-up of the fiber network installation program, which will facilitate 100x faster download and operation speeds. As each district is outfitted with fiber to the home, Flow will migrate those customers from the existing copper network on to the new fiber networks. The team is currently building out the fiber network in West Bay and Spotts and is anxious to expand into other districts, bringing speeds of 1000Mbps to residential and business customers, a Flow spokesperson said.

Flow is keen to partner with CUC who own some of the dependent infrastructure for the new project, and is seeking their cooperation to be able to continue with the project.

Flow, under its former title, Cable & Wireless, installed the first fiber connections to businesses back in 1992, and has steadily been expanding and upgrading to faster speeds and greater capacity. But the new initiative means that many new options will be available for ordinary homes,

schools as well as small and medium-scale businesses, commented said at the recent announcement.

"This is our commitment to deliver fiber to every home, every school, every business and every government facility throughout Grand Cayman and to the Sister Islands. We are making a real investment to make sure no one is left behind," Mr. Mayo-Smith said, "Where there are several devices in the home, whether people are streaming from a laptop or doing schoolwork, everyone can be connected ultra-fast all the time. That includes things like video calling, or being able to download that movie in a couple of minutes, when you are sitting at home and relaxing. It will also facilitate the use of some of the more complex solutions we offer, like cloud services, disaster recovery."

Flow's big new investment means that a lot of new jobs are being created, and since the beginning of the year ten Caymanians have been given positions in customer service and also on the technology side. There are going to be places for about 15 more too, Mr. Mayo-Smith said.

"This type of project also helps us with our corporate responsibility. We connect the majority of primary and secondary schools through our sponsorship, and we



► Robert Mayo-Smith



► Daniel Tatham

partnered with the regulator to bring WiFi to our community centers for free."

Mr. Tatham said: "On heels of this we have just launched our small and medium businesses plan, where we have broadband and mobile combined. This is all to take us to the next level. One of the things we learned from the lockdown is that people love tech-

nology. They may not have been using it before, but they are using it a lot more now. We are going to streamline our business to accommodate these customers."

"We are really excited by our plans to expand our fiber-to-the home footprint and the amazing benefits it will bring to our customers across the Cayman Islands."

Thrive By Five

Simmons, the manufacturer of Beautyrest names new mattress after the Cayman Islands. The Mattress Gallery (TMG) announces the arrival of the Beautyrest Harmony, Cayman Series. TMG is the exclusive importer of this new product which uses over 25 recycled plastic bottles in the manufacturing process of each mattress.

The CEO of Simmons had this to say, "When considering naming for our new Harmony Collection we wanted to focus on highlighting the ocean to tie back to our SEAQUAL story. When looking at things related to the ocean Cayman rose to the top due to the premium and luxurious feel that the island has. This feeling of luxury is what truly resonates with a Beautyrest customer and what makes our beds so special. We felt there would be no better fit than to name our bed after an island synonymous with the same feel as our beds."

To introduce the mattress to Cayman, TMG is hosting two events: May 6th from 5:30 to 7 pm they will host the Chamber After-Hours Mixer at the Tomlinson Furniture store. Parking will be available in the lot across from HSA catty corner to the store. Complimentary food and drinks will be served, and the Cayman Series mattress will be available for viewing. Then on Saturday, May the 8th there will be a day long launch event. Cookies will be served.

It is estimated that the new Harmony Series mattress will remove some 17 million bottles from the oceans in the next year (supporting document attached). In celebration of this, TMG will be donating a portion of the proceeds from every Cayman Series mattress sold in the month of May to Plastic Free Cayman and the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation.

For more information, please contact Jim Wray with the Tomlinson Family group at 345-927-2508 or jim@tfg.ky.



► Deloitte LIFE sponsorship. Thrive By Five, Phase 1

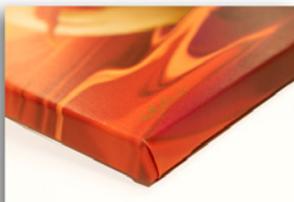


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HSA urologist offers pioneering kidney cancer treatment

HSA Urologist Dr Rafal Krupiniewicz is now offering a new treatment - used for the first time outside of the United States - for adult patients with a rare and difficult to treat form of kidney disease known as low-grade upper tract urothelial cancer (LG-UTUC).

The prescription medicine Jelmyto is the first and only US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved treatment for LG-UTUC, a rare cancer that develops in the area where urine moves out of the kidney. Jelmyto was approved by the FDA in 2020 and Dr Krupiniewicz is the first physician outside of the US to offer the treatment.

Jelmyto is a combination of chemotherapy (mitomycin) and an innovative gel technology that is a liquid when chilled and turns into a gel at body temperature. "Unlike typical chemotherapy that goes everywhere in your body, Jelmyto is only applied in the affected kidney region where your tumors are," Dr Krupiniewicz.

Once it arrives at the designated region, Jelmyto stays in place for up to 4 to 6 hours

to kill cancer cells. The medication is administered through a thin flexible tube, called a catheter, once weekly for 6 weeks.

"Until now, kidney removal has been one of the standard methods of treating low-grade UTUC. The invasive surgery involved would often be accompanied by long hospital stays with potential complications and may have a major impact on overall health, including high blood pressure and heart disease," said Dr Krupiniewicz. "Jelmyto, on the other hand, is a series of outpatient procedures that allows you to return home same day and is an effective, kidney-sparing option for patients."

"Like all cancers, low-grade UTUC is a serious disease," stated HSA Medical Director Dr Delroy Jefferson. "Without treatment, UTUC can cause significant health problems like permanent kidney damage. Therefore, the HSA is excited to be the first outside of the US to bring this option to patients in the Cayman Islands and improve their health and quality of life."



► HSA Urologist Dr Rafal Krupiniewicz is the first physician outside of the US to use the recently FDA approved prescription medicine, Jelmyto

POLICE NEWS

Officers Visit the St. Ignatius Brownies



Detective Constable Sam Sillitoe, who is our RCIPS Major Incident Room Manager, was asked to attend the St. Ignatius Catholic School's Brownies Programme

and speak with the girls involved on what it is like to be a female police officer. She told the girls about what her job entails and about her experience being a police officer in the Cayman Islands.

The Brownie attendees were enamoured with her presentation, where she showed them how to use various police-issued equipment like the handcuff and baton, as well as evidence and crime scene tape. DC Alan Sherwin, who was also in attendance, assisted with the presentations.

DC Sillitoe also answered a number of questions regarding her duties, what the qualifications are to become a police officer, as well as various crimes that have been reported on the news.



Police Investigate Firearm Related Incident in George Town

Just before 12:40AM on Monday 3 May, officers responded to the Cayman Islands Hospital, where it was reported that a man was being treated for what is believed to be a gunshot wound. After further investigations, the police were led to believe that a shooting incident took place in the area of Seymour Road in George Town. Officers from the Firearms Response Unit responded to that location and made checks in the area.

During a search of the areas where it was suspected the incident took place, a large number of people were found gathered but no information of significance was found. Detectives are appealing to the public for any witnesses with information pertaining to this incident to come forward. Anyone with information is encouraged to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

RCIPS Responds to Social Media Post on Domestic Violence

On Friday 30 April, the RCIPS was made aware of a video that was being circulated on various social media platforms and other electronic message groups, where a young woman stated that she has been experiencing domestic abuse. Immediate action was taken by the police in order to safeguard the parties involved and the matter is currently being investigated.

The RCIPS is committed to the cause of eliminating and preventing incidents of do-

mestic violence in our communities and we are encouraging anyone who may be involved in a relationship where they believe they may be, or are being abused, to file a complaint by calling their local police station, or 9-1-1 for emergencies. If you require further information you may call the Family Support Unit at 649-6000 to speak directly with a Domestic Violence Investigator for assistance or advice.

The RCIPS thanks the members of the public for their assistance and support.

CELEBRATING CAYMAN WRITERS, WRITINGS, & THE ARTS

A Multiplicity of Genres

We often hear the word associated with music, and art, and yes, with literary compositions. We have pronounced it in multiple ways as well, like “jonray”, “jawnra”, “jawn”. Having both French and Latin origins, “genre” comes from the French *genre* which means “kind”, “sort”, or “style”. As the French language is based on Latin, “genre” also has Latin origins, a derivative of *genus* meaning “type” or “kind”. Those of us who might have done a bit of Biology and recalls more than just the dissecting of a frog – the high point in Biology at my all-girls high school in Jamaica - whether Latin or French, both words boast the *gen-* root and signifies that everything in a group, whether *genus* or *genre*, belongs to the same family and origins. Genre is therefore defined as “any category of literature, music, or ... art ... based on some set of stylistic criteria ... characterized by a particular style, form, or content”.

In English literature, there are three classic genres – prose, poetry, and drama. These can each be further broken down into dozens of sub-genres. For example, prose can include fiction and non-fiction sub-genres. Each genre has canonised writings that almost perfectly reflect its requisite style, form, and content. Canon-

ised literature is the collection of works deemed worthy of mention, that set the standard against which others are measured as they are the ‘ideal writings’, believed to be representative of a period or style. In British Literature for example, William Shakespeare’s works, whether sonnets or plays, significantly impacted writings in those genres. Also canonised, are the works of the Romantics who stressed the importance of expressing emotions, valued imagination over reality, glorified nature over the artificial, celebrated the common man, freedom, and the supernatural, and revolutionised forever how we write and what is written in western civilization. Canonised works are memorable, complex, stretch the imagination, are aesthetically pleasing, and certainly worth studying.

What is the relevance you might ask, to Cayman writings? The answer is simple – though we do not always realise the depth and breadth of what we produce, writings from our small islands are also reflective of a multiplicity of genres that are memorable because they capture and preserve what is authentically Cayman.

Cayman Prose

Richard Nordquist, professor emeritus of Rhetoric and English at Georgia Southern University, defines prose as “written text that aligns with the flow of conversation in sentence and paragraph form ... employ[ing] common grammatical structure and a natural flow of speech”. Prose sub-genres would include essays, biographies, autobiographies, novels, memoirs, fables, and short stories. Canonised prose in Caribbean Literature includes George Lamming’s *In the Castle of My Skin*, and VS Naipaul’s *A House for Mr Biswas*. Cayman prose encompasses JA Roy Bodden’s short stories like *Stories My Grandfather Never Told Me*, Lemuel Hurlston’s memoir *A Life that Counts*, and novels by Sheldon Brown (*Caribbean Cartels*) and Douglas Schofield’s *Storm Rising* are truly great reads. For religious or inspirational prose

there are many, like *7 Keys to Successful Family Living*, by Hyacinth Grace Rose, and EK Jasmine’s *Unlocking the Prayer of Jabez*. A personal favourite is the Brac fable by Kathleen Bodden-Harris, *Quest on the Marl Road*, which Cayman’s school-age children should all read; and, for a good laugh, there is Faye Lippitt’s *Sixteen Chickens on a Trampoline*.

Cayman Poetry

In the preface to “Lyrical Ballads”, the poem that ushered in the Romantic Era, William Wordsworth states that “Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings”. By this he meant that poetry is emotion driven, and its aesthetic qualities prove therapeutic. Nordquist defines poetry as “written in verses ... known for evoking emotional responses ... through its melodic tone and use of creative language”. Identified as “a thing of beauty” which “brings joy forever” (John Keats), poetry is distinct from the other genres by its stanzas, rhythm, notional and semantic content. Reflection on outstanding Caribbean poets immediately brings Derek Walcott, Louise Bennett, Claude McKay, and Nicolas Guillen to mind. Similarly, Cayman boasts talented poets whose works evoke emotional responses; though perhaps reminiscent of Shakespeare, the Romantics, other Caribbean poets, their works remain distinctly Cayman. Whether they write ballads, odes, sonnets, epics, folk songs - any poetic form - worth celebrating are local poets like Nasaria Suckoo Chollette, Philip Paschalides, Leonard Dilbert, JA Roy Bodden, budding poets Lauren Williams and Kareen Walker-Balfore, and Christopher Williams whose epic poem “Non-History” is certainly worth reading.

Cayman Drama

According to Nordquist, drama is “theatrical dialogue that is performed on stage ... generally broken down into four subgenres including comedy, melodrama, tragedy and farce”. Folklore, rituals, and myths of the folk are the sources of Caribbean



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

drama. Memorable Caribbean dramatists include Derek Walcott (*Ti-Jean and His Brothers* among others), and Errol John’s *Moon on a Rainbow Shawl*. Cayman drama is beautifully written and regularly performed on local stages. Of course, Cayman National Cultural Foundation’s Artistic Director, Henry Muttoo, creator Dave Martins, Matt Brown and several others must be lauded for “Rundown”, which keeps Cayman laughing at itself, and proves therapeutic as running commentary on our experiences viewed through the lens of comedy. “Time Longer Dan Rope” by Frank McField must be mentioned, as it too effectively calls on Cayman to examine itself and how it responds to change and development.

Cayman’s varied writings cater to whatever is our individual interest and pre-occupation, displaying awesome talent. Since Cayman can brag such a multiplicity of genres, it is hoped that we will take a new look at ourselves, what we produce, visit a local bookstore, and simply delve!



► Cayman National Cultural Foundation’s Artistic Director, Henry Muttoo



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cayman Brac Teen Jam

7 May - All teens are invited to the Cayman Brac Youth Development Center for the Teen Jam on Friday 7 May from 7 -11pm.

Joanna Clarke Primary School Spring Fling

8 May - All are invited to the school's Spring Fling at Pedro St. James from 11am to 4pm. Enjoy food, games, arts & crafts, live music and more! Funds raised from the sale of food and raffle tickets will benefit the school's canteen and to cover lunch costs for children who need hot meals throughout the school year. Entry is \$5 per person and kids under 5 are free. Call 929 - 2396 or email spsptap-resident@gmail.com

Annual Spring Tea Party

8 May - St. Ignatius Spring Tea Party takes place on Saturday 8 May from 2:30 - 5:00pm. Tickets cost \$5 and include afternoon tea (drink and finger foods), entertainment and a chance to win some spectacular door prizes. This

is always a beautiful and affordable event for young people to enjoy with their mother, grandmother, aunt etc on Mother's Day weekend. Call 949 - 6797 or email ignatius@cwandw.ky to purchase tickets.

St. Alban's Church of England - Services of Holy Communion

9 May - On Sunday May 9th, there will be a Service of Holy Communion and Celebration of Mothers' Day at St. Alban's Church of England on Shedden Road at 9:30am. Children are welcome to come with their parents. There will be light refreshments after the Service. Services of Morning prayer will continue on Sunday mornings at 9:30am throughout the month of May. All are welcome to attend these Services.

Little Cayman Family Fun Day

9 May - All are invited to the Family Fun Day at the Blossom Village Park on Sunday 9 May from 12:30pm to 3pm.

FREE Mindfulness Mondays at The National Gallery

10 May - The National Gallery opens early every Monday for quiet viewing hours from 9 - 10am. Sit and meditate in front of an artwork, enjoy focused sketching time, or collect an art & mindfulness journaling page from the reception desk to help guide your visit. Booking is not required.

CI Chamber - Time Management & Productivity Workshop

13 May - This half-day workshop includes practical applications and time saving activities to assist you in learning how to make the most of your time by getting a grip on your workflow, planning and prioritising accordingly and delegating effectively. Topics covered include: Setting objectives and goals, Planning and prioritizing, Managing time wasters, Procrastination and Delegation. Cost is \$150.00 for members and \$225 for future members. Visit <https://www.caymanchamber.ky/events-training/training-centre/> or call 949 - 8090.



► Cayman Islands Astronomical Society

Stargazing

13 May - Join the Cayman Islands Astronomical Society for an evening of stargazing from 7PM on Thursday the 13th of May at Seven Mile Public Beach on the grassy area near the playground. The planets Mercury, Venus and Mars as well as the thin crescent Moon will be gloriously visible just after sunset. Also, we'll explore the Orion constellation with its fascinating stellar nursery where stars are being formed. As a special treat, we should see the space station fly over the Cayman Islands at 7:30PM - so don't be late! As always, all are welcome and the event is totally free! The

event will be cancelled if there is more than 50% cloud cover. Check our Facebook event for the latest updates.

Nutrition for Parents at the National Gallery

15 May - Join Taryn Stein - Eating Disorder Coach - of Mind Shift Me for a free workshop that supports parents in fostering healthy eating habits for their children. Registration is required so go education@nationalgallery.org.ky. Call 945 - 8111 for more information.

Send your community events to wendy@caymaniantimes.ky

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Roadworks – CUC Roundabout, May 4 to May 8

The National Roads Authority and its sub-contractor will undertake paving works on the CUC roundabout (previously called the Silver Oaks roundabout) from today, Tuesday, May 4 to Saturday, May 8, between 8:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Motorists are being asked to plan ahead and watch out for traffic diversions.

Members of the public can email nra@nra.ky with questions or comments regarding this project. For any urgent concerns, please call 946-7780/525-1251.

New Provider for UK Biometric Service

The Governor's Office is pleased to announce that UK visas and Immigration have put in place a permanent solution to the taking of biometrics for visa and British citizenship applications. The new service will commence on Tuesday 4 May at a new address: Genesis Building, 13 Genesis Close, Oceanside Group Suite, 4th Floor, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Biometrics will no longer be taken at the Government Administration Building.

Appointments to provide your biometric data, part of the visa and British citizenship application process, are available to book online.

Applicants with confirmed appointments with the Governor's Office should attend the new venue of Genesis House on the day and time they have been given, unless told otherwise by the new service provider.

On the new provider Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper said "I would like to give special thanks to the staff in my office in collaboration with the High Commission in Jamaica and UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) for organising a quick solution in response to challenges posed



by Covid-19, in particular, the restrictions on UKVI staff travel to Cayman to deliver the service directly as was done before the pandemic.

The Governor's Office took on responsibility for the service for almost six months from November 2020 -April 2021, and within that time provided the biometrics service for 130 UK citizenship applicants and 162 UK visa applicants. I am pleased that an effective solution has now been found for those on island needing a biometric service."

All queries regarding the process for appointments should be directed to UKVI.Feedback.CARIB@vfishelpline.com

Pregnant Women Now Encouraged to Get Vaccinated

The UK's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has updated its guidance and now recommend that women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should be offered the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as non-pregnant women.

"This is incredibly welcome news. Vaccination programmes have the greatest chance of impacting the spread of a virus if more people get vaccinated. The new guidance enables more women to benefit from the increased protection offered by the COVID-19 vaccine," said the Minister for Health, Hon. Sabrina Turner.

The JCVI updated guidance states that there is no known risk associated with giving inactivated, recombinant viral or bacterial vaccines or toxoids during pregnancy or while breastfeeding. Since these vaccines cannot replicate, they cannot cause infection in either mother or the foetus.

Clinical trials of the Pfizer BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines with animals found no concerns relating to reproduction or development.

Since the vaccines received emergency authorisation in the USA, extensive data has been collected re-



lating to vaccinated women. Over 100,000 women in the USA have indicated that they were pregnant at the time they received COVID-19 vaccination and nearly 5,000 have enrolled in an ongoing study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). No safety concerns have been reported so far. Further information on the study can be found here <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafepregnancyregistry.html>.

"Global vaccine uptake continues to be very promising as over a billion doses have been administered worldwide to date. With this comes more information and evidence that is suggesting that the COVID-19 vaccines available are safe and effective at preventing the worse outcomes from the disease," said Chief Medical Officer, Dr John Lee.

Pregnant Women Now Encouraged to Get Vaccinated

CONTINUED FROM Page 10

“We continue to monitor the latest information as it is published and as more studies are conducted. The new guidance from JCVI is very encouraging especially since pregnant women are much more at risk if they do get sick with COVID-19. I hope it will give confidence to women who are pregnant, or are planning to be, who can choose to take advantage of the vaccine available on-island,” he added.

The JCVI guidance further explains that if a woman finds out she is pregnant after she has started a course of vaccine, she may complete vaccination during pregnancy using the same vaccine product (unless contraindicated). Alternatively, vaccination should be offered as soon as possible after pregnancy.

As with many medical and personal decisions during and after pregnancy, women are advised to discuss the benefits and risks of vaccination with their clinician.

The Ministry of Health encourages all persons to take advantage of the vaccine supplies available to all residents and reminds the public of the June 9th date by which a first dose must be taken in order for the Public Health Department to be able to utilize the remaining vaccines, prior to their expiration at end of June.

Why You Can't Lose Weight

The problem is sugar. You eat way too much of it, probably without even realizing it.

The great news is that as soon as you cut down on all that sugar the weight will fall off quickly and automatically.

To help you cut out the sugar once and for all, here are 5 sweets you should stop eating, and a healthy substitute for each.

1. Stop this Sweet: Candy

Nothing gets refined sugar circulating through your body quicker than a fistful of candy—and if you're in the habit of eating candy daily then your body will crave it.

Candy has virtually no nutritional value, other than caloric energy, and will quickly end up stored on your body in the form of unwanted, annoying fat.

Do This: Swap candy out for a handful of unsalted nuts, a few pieces of unsweetened, dried fruit, or a small square of very dark chocolate (at least 72% cocoa content).

2. Stop this Sweet: Baked Goods

Cake, cookies, brownies, pastries, donuts, and pies are filled with sugar. While these may not taste as sweet as candy, the combination of refined sugar and white flour will spike your blood sugar just the same.

Very much like candy, regularly eating baked goods may become a habit. Break yourself of this and you'll find the number on your scale going down rather than up.

Do This: Put down the cookie and reach for a piece of fresh, seasonal fruit. Fruit is nature's candy and is every bit as blissful as a slice of cake. Serving a beautiful fruit

platter to guests can be as delightful as any baked treat.

3. Stop this Sweet: Ice Cream & Frozen Yogurt

Nothing makes you feel as happy and carefree as a bowl of creamy ice cream... until that ice cream makes its permanent home on your waist. Very much like candy, ice cream has few nutritional benefits.

Do This: Mix unsweetened, nonfat Greek yogurt with a scoop of vanilla protein powder and mix in some chopped, fresh fruit. This creamy delight is much lower in sugar than ice cream and tastes amazing!

4. Stop this Sweet: Soft Drinks

A regular can of soda pop contains the equivalent of 10 packets of sugar. That's more sugar than you should consume in a full week!

Soft drinks something that you get into the habit of drinking and then do without thinking. The good news is that a habit can be broken and then replaced with something healthier.

Do This: Take soda pop out of your diet. Period. There are plenty of other, healthier, beverages available to you. Try the recipes for Spa Water below.

5. Stop this Sweet: Blended Drinks

Smoothies, blended coffee drinks and milkshakes are all tempting treats, especially in hot summer months. Don't give in to the temptation!



► Ernest Ebanks

These items are even more deadly than most treats since they are consumed through a straw and don't make you feel full. Let me assure you that even though you don't feel full, like you would after a piece of cake, you're still taking in a bunch of sugary calories.

Do This: Make your own healthy blended drinks at home by using natural sweeteners like stevia, or simply by using fruit.

Blend a delicious protein shake with ice, milk and protein powder.

A great thing to remember is that once you've fallen out of the habit of eating sugar, your body will no longer crave it.

This means that each day spent in discipline will bring you closer to the day that sugar no longer has a hold over you. Imagine how much happier and healthier you will be!

Eating healthy is half of the battle when it comes to fitness and wellness. The other, equally important, side is maintaining a regular, challenging exercise program.

For an exercise program to be challenging it must always be changing. That's why my workouts are never the same.

It's my goal to get you into the best shape of your life. Call Ernest at Body Shapers Fitness Studio 325-8696 or email bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com today to begin your transformation! **Don't forget to ask me how you can Detoxify and Lose Weight Naturally with TeDivina Tea.**

COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule

April/May 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	MAY 1
12-3:30pm	12-3:30pm	CLINIC CLOSED	8am – 12pm	**Camana Bay (old Cayman MAC Store) 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	Second Dose ONLY 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
May 3	4	5	6	7	8
12-3:30pm 5 – 8pm	12-3:30pm 5 – 8pm	CLINIC CLOSED	7am – 11am 12:30 – 3pm	7am – 11am 12:30 – 3pm	8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm

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



The COVID-19 vaccine is available to all persons 16 years and over.

Open to all Surnames.

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.

Facemask required

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

VI

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
						
86° / 79°	86° / 79°	87° / 79°	87° / 80°	83° / 82°	83° / 82°	82° / 81°
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny and nice	Breezy in the a.m.; sunshine	Partly sunny and breezy	Beautiful with sunshine	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION

DOUBT - JOHN 20:29

Great men and women such as Abraham, Moses, and even Joseph and Mary, voiced some doubts when receiving their assignments from the Lord. Only Thomas was given the dubious characterization of, "DOUBTING THOMAS." But it was Jesus who gave him this title. Why? Jesus understood the pain and fear His disciples were experiencing following His death.

When Thomas did declare, "My Lord and My God," they were words of faith. He did not doubt that Jesus was the Messiah, nor the Son Of God. But He did doubt that Jesus was alive. Guilt and grief can skewer anything- even our faith. Take comfort in the words of the Master, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The family of the late **Juliet Hurlstone** of Cayman Brac regret to announce her passing on April 16, 2021.



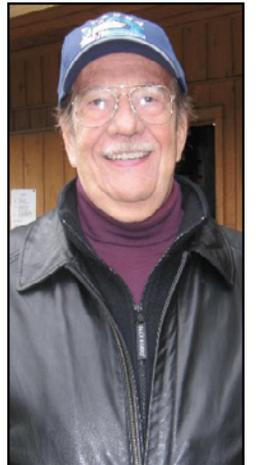
A funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. at Aston Rutty Centre, on Saturday, May 8, 2021. Viewing will be held from 1:00 p.m. prior to the service.

Interment will follow at the Stake Bay Cemetery.

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



The family of the late **Roger F. Hendrickson** regret to announce his passing on 1 May, 2021.



Interment services will be held privately by the family.

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



Remembering you on Mother's Day 9th May 2021



From Kathryn & family

- Son Trent Myles 9th May 2000
- Mother Olive Miller 19th May 2020
- Aunt Yvonne Miller 6th May 2020
- Aunt Mary Miller 30 June 2020

It is with great sadness that the family of **Beth Ann Goodman-Greene** better known as BA announce her sudden passing on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.



Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, May 16 at 5:00 p.m. at the North Side Civic Center.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Humane Society and the National Trust.

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 **Diana Mateo Swaby**, who passed away on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Wesleyan Holiness Church, 150 NW Point Rd, Grand Cayman on Saturday May 8, 2021 At 3:00 p.m. Viewing: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Interment will follow at Boatswain Bay Cemetery .



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

NO DIVORCE FROM FOUNDATION FOR BILL AND MELINDA GATES

Whatever settlement billionaire couple Bill and Melinda Gates reach after their earth-shaking divorce announcement this week, they will continue working together on their global health improvement and poverty-eradication foundation.

As amicable as the initial announcement suggested the decision to separate after 27 years of marriage was, the future of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation soon surfaced as a main point of interest.

Reassuringly for the many beneficiaries of what is by far one of the world's leading charitable organisations, news that the billion dollars foundation was largely being ring-fenced from the divorce proceedings was welcomed.

The two have pledged to continue working together in the interest of the health-care and research foundation that straddles the globe.

In going public with their decision to separate, the couple wrote on Twitter about the future of the foundation: "Over the last 27 years, we have raised three incredible children and built a foundation that works all over the world to enable all people to lead healthy, productive lives," it read.

"We continue to share a belief in that mission and will continue our work to-

gether at the foundation, but we no longer believe we can grow together as a couple in the next phase of our lives."

And 'while working together' might need to be further legally defined in the context of the divorce settlement, that commitment was widely welcomed by individuals, organisations and communities which have been the recipients of support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Established in 2000, it's the largest private philanthropic foundation in the United States and one of the world's biggest, with net assets of over US\$43.3 billion.

Jointly, the billionaire couple have injected over US\$36 billion of their own money into the foundation.

On the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's website the couple state: "As our commitment to our work grew, we transferred \$20 billion of Microsoft stock to our foundation, making it the largest of its kind in the world. We devoted more and more time to its work until we were both doing it full-time.

The foundation has become one of the most powerful and influential forces in global public health, spending more than \$50 billion in fighting poverty and disease in many countries.



► Bill and Melinda Gates

Last year alone it committed around US\$1.75 billion to COVID-19 relief.

Bill Gates has been very vocal in the global coronavirus vaccination campaign. He has also pushed back strongly against conspiracy theorists who have ques-

tioned his involvement not just in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic but his global work in disease eradication.

Bill and Melinda gates have a joint fortune estimated to be in the region of US\$124 billion.

UK SETS YEAR-END COVID TARGET

By Michael Jarvis

The British government is considering further intensifying its COVID-19 vaccination campaign by offering a third jab to people over 50 years old by September.

The National Health Service(NHS) is leading the drive looking at two options for administering the third dose.

The plan is to bolster immunity with new variants emerging and to significantly reduce the threat of further infections by the end of this year.

Ongoing research being led by the NHS is also looking into whether to administer the same vaccine given in the first two doses or if a different type would offer further immunity.

The UK's vaccination programme is currently using three drugs; Pfizer-BioNTech, Oxford-AstraZeneca and Moderna.



To date, close to 35 million people in the UK have received a first of COVID-19 shot out of a population estimated at 66.5 million. Within that 15.6 million second doses have also been administered.

The British Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, said: "The vaccine is helping us to bring back our freedom and we must protect this progress."

He also disclosed that work on developing booster shots has been going on for the past year in light of the risk posed by variants.

"The biggest risk to that progress is the risk posed by a new variant, so we are working on our plans for booster shots to keep us safe and free here, while we get this disease under control across the whole world. We have been working on a programme of booster shots, for over a year now."

The country is now working through a schedule of relaxing current restrictions on outdoor activities, business openings and border controls.

Much discussion also revolves around holiday plans against a backdrop of caution with several countries being designated safe for overseas summer vacations using a traffic light system.

There is an equally strong campaign for 'staycations' within the UK.

UK TERRITORIES CONNECTION

OTs GET VACCINE WARNING FROM UK

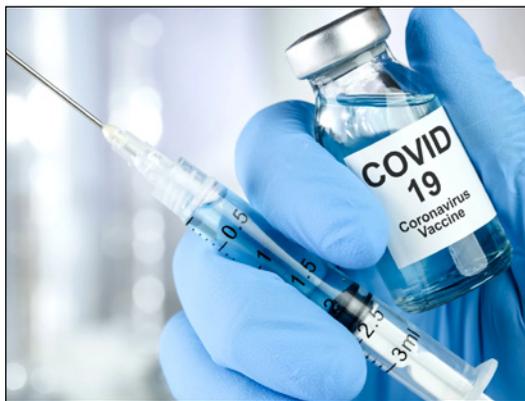
The British government is urging Overseas Territories where COVID-19 vaccine uptake is lagging to encourage their residents to get the jab over concerns that doses provided by the UK are at risk of expiring.

The reminder comes from Lord Ahmad, the former Minister for the Overseas Territories, who now handles Commonwealth affairs in the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

In a message to the OTs, he said: "The supply of vaccines cannot be taken for granted and each batch has a limited shelf life."

"I must therefore implore everyone who can, to take the vaccine, not only for themselves, but to protect their friends and family, and do their part to ensure you can re-open borders and restart your economy."

"Now is not the time to wait and see, the vaccines are safe and effective, by



getting vaccinated you will be helping your community," Lord Ahmad said.

With the expiry dates approaching for the current batches of Pfizer-BioNTech and Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines supplied by the UK, vaccination rates vary significantly across the OTs.

Gibraltar has been lauded globally for its vaccination rate of over 90% second only to Israel. At the other end of the scale is Montserrat with uptake reported to be averaging just around 25 per cent.

GUERNSEY IN FISH FIGHT WITH FRANCE

The British Crown Dependency of Guernsey is at the centre of a massive row with France over post-Brexit fishing rights for French fishermen.

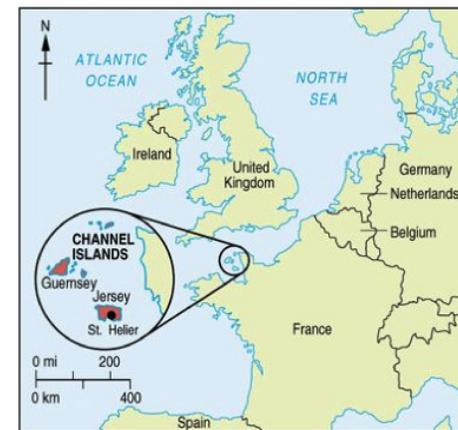
France has threatened to retaliate by cutting off electricity supplies to the British bailiwick after the local government in Guernsey imposed restrictions on French trawlers operating in its waters.

Guernsey, part of the Channel Islands, is much closer to the French coast than it is to the UK mainland and for years prior to Brexit has been a popular fishing area for the French.

However, with the change of trading arrangements since the UK left the EU, a raft of new regulations to regulate trade have gone into force.

Guernsey gets its electricity from the French mainland via undersea cables but now the French are threatening to cut the power unless the local government retracts the fishing restrictions.

The island gets over 90 per cent of its electricity from France with the rest generated from local diesel generators.



The increasingly tense stand-off has forced talks between top British and French government officials as this has descended into a foreign affairs crisis.

Relations between Britain and France especially over fishing rights have hit rough waters since Brexit. UK fishermen have also claimed that the British government's still-unresolved Brexit fishing quota arrangements with the EU is crippling their industry.

NEW TCI GOV'T REPORTS ON ITS FIRST 50 DAYS

The new government in the Turks and Caicos Islands has given an update to citizens and residents on its first 50 days in office.

Flanked by other ministers in a press conference, Premier Charles Washington Misick spoke of delivering on a promise of a Pandemic Relief Package including removing import tariffs on a range of essential items as one of their main achievements.

Buying back beach access land from private owners to be used for public parks and getting started on a series of initia-

tives to promote more local investment in the economy in addition to foreign investors were also listed.

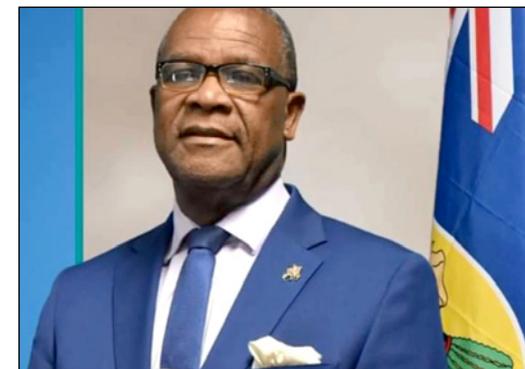
Mr Misick also reported on the first steps towards disbanding district boards and replacing them with a local government framework, as well as setting up a direct citizens hotline to the government "rather than complaining on social media" he said.

He updated on the management of the public health challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with several steps already put in place including a moratorium on new work permits.

He also said that his government has made it easier for persons who had initially failed to qualify for government COVID relief support to now be included in the stimulus packages.

"Every Turks and Caicos Islander impacted will continue to be assisted at the maximum level affordable," Premier Misick stated.

With approval now received from the British government, Mr Misick's government will soon have an eighth ministry added to the cabinet.



► Turks and Caicos Islands Premier Charles Washington Misick

GIBRALTAR GLOBALLY PRAISED FOR VACCINE ROLL-OUT

With Gibraltar receiving global recognition for its successful vaccination rollout, the territory is now being featured in numerous major news outlets for its efforts.

Among them, the Financial Times, the BBC, Sky News in the UK, CNN and the Washington Post and others have devoted much attention to covering Gibraltar's strategy with the added bonus of publicity for its tourism programme.

While Gibraltar is still not fully open to international travel, Chief Minister Fabian Picardo has said that despite the economic setback caused by the pandemic, his gov-



► Gibraltar Chief Minister Fabian Picardo

ernment will ensure that it repays the cost of COVID without bringing any austerity into the economy.

In a message marking May Day/Labour Day, Chief Minister Picardo said, austerity always hurts the weakest in an economy, and those on lowest pay and benefits must not be the ones to suffer further.

He said the Government "will continue to invest in Gibraltar's people and country, and grow the economy and revenue to ensure the public sector is sustainable and fit for purpose as we emerge from the pandemic."

BERMUDA TIGHTENS UP ON WORK PERMITS

Bermuda has extended its moratorium on new work permits for a further three months to the end of July.

It now included residential cleaners among the 42 categories for which new work permits are suspended and another 12 areas described as Closed Category Jobs.

The government said this was due to the "due to the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic in Bermuda and its impact on persons unable to work."

Bermuda's Minister of Labour, Jason Hayward, said: "During this period when restrictions have been re-implemented to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we recognize that the employment situation for many has worsened. Accordingly, it is important to continue with strong measures to encourage the hiring of Bermudians in the workforce."



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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/06

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 38 Pranks

1 Easy runs 40 Take on

6 Dominant 42 Mix up

11 Showy display 43 Lasso loop

12 Less bright 44 Said with a

13 Intent look 45 Like some

14 "Pal Joey" writer 45 Like some floors

15 Utter

16 Make mistakes

18 Sweet tuber

19 Genesis name

20 Rent out

21 Quarter-back Manning

22 Sight from Yemen

24 Says further

25 Agony

27 Paul's collaborator

29 Flower part

32 Binary digit

33 PC key

34 "Evil Woman" band

35 Old roadster

36 Fire remnant

37 Dieter's no-no

DOWN

1 Inferior

2 Musical range

3 Went with the

likeliest

4 Lobed organ

5 Pittsburgh player

6 Left at sea

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

Yesterday's answer

7 — -di-dah 28 New York

8 Behaved tribe

9 Harbinger 30 Go by

10 Friend of d'Artagnan 31 Broke down

17 Stockpile holder

23 Heir, often with

24 Little pay or play

26 Charm 41 "How — love thee?"

Word Search

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

- Booty
- Buccaneer
- Cabin
- Cannon
- Captain
- Chest
- Corsair
- Crew
- Cutlass
- Deck
- Doubloons
- Earring
- Gold
- Grog
- Guns
- Island
- Jewels
- Lagoon
- Map
- Mutiny
- Ocean
- Parrot
- Pistol
- Plank
- Rum
- Sail
- Seas
- Silver
- Treasure

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

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

4-24



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