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**The Chamber of Commerce encourages the community to get vaccinated before 9 June**

## THE PACT CHALLENGE

### Perfect Storm or Sea of Opportunities



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## Amazing steel pan Performance



► Earl La Pierre Sr. received a special presentation in recognition of his great achievement in bringing Steel Pan to Cayman

By Christopher Tobutt, John Gray  
High School Gymnasium

Steel Pan has become Cayman's National Instrument. Thousands of children and young people, and now, older people too have learned to play thanks to Earl La Pierre, who set the fire going with his teaching and nurturing steel pan talent right back in the 1980s (and he received a special trophy in recognition of his huge contribution at the end of the evening) So of course, to make it fair, the competition had to be divided up into lots of different sections.

First came the Soloists, and Micah Leon won in the Juniors' Division. It is very hard when you are so young to stand up in front of so many people and perform so flawlessly, and all four of them, Isaiah

SEE **STEEL PAN**, Page 4

**COVID-19**  
gov.ky/coronavirus

**STAY SAFE**  
CAYMAN  
SAVE LIVES

### Let's Keep Working Together

Protect yourself and your community against COVID-19.

[www.gov.ky/covid19-vaccine](http://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

## COMMUNITY VOICE

# To Be-Or Not to be-Vaccinated



I write this for two reasons. First I hope it will encourage my fellow Evangelical Christians to remember, as the Psalmist stated, that “Our God is a God of salvation, and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death” (Psalm 68:20). I will state categorically that every discovery that has saved human lives is from God. Science is not the purview of atheists; science belongs to God, the Creator and sustainer of the universe (and the sustainer of life). The second reason that I feel compelled to write this is because I am becoming increasingly embarrassed by some of the chatter that I hear in the Evangelical camp—which in essence is just an echo chamber—people choosing to speak and listen to only that which they are already convinced of. If that attitude had prevailed during the days of William Jenner and Louis Pasteur, where would the science of immunology be today?

At times I hear many of my fellow Christians complaining that people in certain camps ignore science in order to promote their sexual ideology, for example. But this is exactly what I see when it comes to the all-too-common attitude among Evangelicals with reference to vaccinations—in particular, the Covid-19 vaccines. I read somewhere recently that in the U.S. the largest group that is resisting Covid-19 vaccination is Evangelicals. From what I have detected, Cayman and much of the

Caribbean have caught the “American evangelical bug,” symptoms of which include the belief in some conspiracy theory associated with vaccination, distrust of Bill Gates, and the rather naive expectation that there should be no adverse results associated with any world-wide vaccination.

Therefore, on the one hand, local Evangelical and other conservative Christians express their distress that those who wish to promote non-Christian views of human sexuality are ignoring science in preference of their feelings, while on the other hand many of us operate along the same lines when it comes to Covid-19 vaccination.

I assume that by now most of us will have read and heard enough about vaccines to know what they are. As a Christian pastor, I believe that since God is in the business of saving lives, and not taking them, that he chose two committed Christian men to bring about the initial gains in vaccination and immunology that we enjoy today. We know from history that the first human vaccines against viruses were based using weaker or “weakened” (attenuated) viruses to generate immunity. The smallpox vaccine used cowpox, a poxvirus that was similar enough to smallpox to protect against it but usually didn’t cause serious illness. This breakthrough was at the hands of Edward Jenner, a committed follower of Christ. Rabies was the first virus attenuated in a lab to create a vaccine for humans. The breakthrough for this can be credited to Luis Pasteur, the celebrated French microbiologist and chemist, honoured as “the father of bacteriology.” Pasteur was a devout Christian, whose work

set the stage for some of the greatest advances in medical science.

I am not a doctor, so I look to doctors when I need medical advice and action. But I never forgot the name of William Jenner from my days in elementary school, where we were taught about his discovery—one that has saved multiplied millions of lives. Some things have changed from Jenner’s days. I have read that vaccines are now made using several different processes. The most common method until today has been to make a vaccine that contained either live viruses that have been weakened or altered so as not to cause illness, or inactivated or killed viruses; as well as inactivated toxins for bacterial diseases. A recent development, and one directly related to the Covid-19 vaccine, are vaccines using mere segments of the disease-causing virus.

I recall that immediately after my daughter was born (I was in the birthing room), the nurse took her aside and administered some sort of vaccination. I believe it was against Tetanus. And over the years I myself have received multiple vaccinations for all sorts of pathogens. In reality, each year more than 10 million vaccinations are administered to American infants (those one year old and under). Thankfully, because of vaccination as a medical tool, smallpox—a disease that caused fatalities in 30-40% of cases—has now been declared as eradicated. But vaccines are not perfect; even if they were, human bodies and immune systems are not. So despite its effectiveness, there were adverse events associated with the smallpox vaccine. According to some sources, an average of 28 persons out of every million who received the smallpox



► Pastor M. Alson Ebanks

vaccine had life-threatening reactions to it, with a mortality rate of one to two people per million.

This reality of adverse events associated with vaccinations in general must be appreciated in the greater reality that smallpox, polio, and many other vaccines are the single greatest life-saving medical intervention and invention in human history. Thanks be to God for his great mercy. I declare with the psalmist, “Our God is a God of salvation, and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.” And I now encourage my Christian brothers and sisters to celebrate the fact that science is of God, as is medicine, as is vaccination, and in faith trust him to preserve your life when you act unselfishly to be vaccinated. And, by the way, I wouldn’t worry about receiving the “mark of the Beast” by way of vaccination any more than I would suggest that someone could receive the “mark of Christ” accidentally.

Pastor M. Alson Ebanks

## TALK ON THE STREET

## List for New Government

Now that the election is over and the cabinet is formed, there is speculation as to what the government will focus on first. Our reporter took to the streets to ascertain what the public feels should be the priority. The specific question posed was, “**What issue would you like the government to address first?**” Below are the responses of 12 individuals.

*Brian, Caymanian, 37:*

“The minimum wage needs to be first, and then unemployment as a whole.”

*Barbara, Caymanian, 56:*

“Well, I hope that they will look at re-opening the borders so that we can get some relief.”

*Jimmy, Caymanian, 54:*

“That’s easy. The government needs to address these developers and ensure that the environment is protected.”

*Kevin, Caymanian, 33:*

“I wish that they would do something about all the Caymanians who are out of a job, while we have foreigners here able to get any job they want. No wonder they

changed the name from the Caymanian Protection Act to the Immigration Law.”

*Karen, Caymanian, 28:*

“The environment, and enforcing the laws and regulations in place so that we protect it, should be first.”

*Theresa, Caymanian, 47:*

“Education must be first. There needs to be a complete overhaul of the system.”

*Nick, Caymanian, 44:*

“Making sure that Cayman’s environment is protected and preserved.”

*George, Caymanian, 43:*

“Finding jobs for Caymanians is the most urgent task right now.”

*Victoria, Caymanian, 51:*

“Can we please do something about jobs for Caymanians?”

*Michael, Caymanian, 62:*

“Right now, the only thing that matters is finding out a way get our people em-



*Larry, Caymanian, 58:*

“We need to do something about the cost of living. Groceries and CUC bills are ridiculous.”


*Laura, Caymanian, 49:*

“They have to address the cost of living in Cayman.”

*Jessica, Caymanian, 54:*

“We need to do something about what is going on in our schools.”

ployed so that they can provide for their families.”



## Caymanian Times

Issue # 663

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Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky



# MORE COVID RESTRICTIONS RELAXED

By Staff Writer

Significant changes have been announced to the current regime of strict COVID-19 protocols in Cayman.

The changes, which will be in effect until July 15th in the first instance, relax particular restrictions currently in place on travelling, as well as preparations for the hurricane season and carnival events.

Among the changes is the removal of pre-flight PCR testing for returning resi-

dents who are travelling back to the Cayman Islands and were vaccinated by the Health Services Authority (HSA).

A government release says this applies only if the traveller has completed a full course of vaccination by the HSA against the COVID-19 disease at least two weeks before boarding.

In a development seen as linked to the onset of the hurricane seasons, emergency shelters can accommodate over 500 persons indoors but only in circumstances where the premises are being used as

an emergency shelter in the event of a threat of a disaster or the aftermath of a disaster.

With planning underway for what will be a scaled-down 2021 summer carnival season, parties, stage shows, concerts and other social activities related to parades are now permitted.

However, parades, including carnival parades, are still prohibited, regardless of location and the number of persons participating, and require the express approval of the Cabinet via regulation to occur.

The government statement says however that Cabinet will continue to determine what public health measures are necessary, including after July 15th and may continue to amend the regulations and/or extend these restrictions as long as required.

Easing these restrictions is seen as a first major decision by the PACT coalition administration in line with the drive to increase the vaccination rate and positioning Cayman to return to normality.

**GRAND CAYMAN LAUNCH OF  
Census 2021**

Join us for the official launch  
of Grand Cayman's  
2021 Population and Housing Census

**Wednesday, 26 May 2021**  
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Be seated by 9:45 a.m.  
**Marriott Beach Resort**

**Guest Speakers:**  
His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, OBE  
The Hon. Premier, Mr. Wayne Panton, JP, MP  
Hon. Deputy Premier, Mr. Christopher Saunders, MP

**Event Features:**  
•Release of the 2021 Census Song  
•Sing-along with school children  
•Sign up to become a Census 2021 worker

*Free and open to the public!*  
*Light refreshments to be served*

**Be Counted 10 / 10 / 21**

**REIMAGINED  
FUTURES**

**2<sup>ND</sup> CAYMAN ISLANDS BIENNIAL**  
Contemporary Caymanian art that explores our collective future

**2021  
23 APR - 27 AUG**

NATIONAL GALLERY OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS  
Additional art installations or special events  
at the following locations:  
Mission House | Owen Roberts International Airport  
QEII Botanic Park | Little Cayman Museum

[www.nationalgallery.org.ky/exhibitions](http://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/exhibitions) | f @

Generously supported by:  
**BUTTERFIELD** **Susan A. Olde OBE** **NATIONAL GALLERY**



► John Gray High School won first place in the Junior section



► Cayman Prep and their first place trophy for the Seniors Section

# Amazing steel bands at 16th Amin Mohammed Steelband Festival

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Myles who came second, Kezzian King who came third, and Jahlenie Rodney deserve a mention not just for their places, but just for being so brave and professional. Joshua McLean won the Seniors' section with a wonderful rendering of From the Heart, with Ruby Pileta coming second, with her rendering of Ah trying ah Ting, and Hasani Hunt receiving the

third-place trophy for his interpretation of Jerusalem.

Prospect Primary excelled in the Primary Band section. They actually has two bands, Band A which won first place with their rendering of One Love and Raga Raga – truly a delight. But their Band B won second place, too, with Triple C gaining third-place trophy. John Gray High School won the Juniors' section, with their renditions of Imagine (one of the standards everyone

in the section had to play) and We are the World. Triple C came Second, and UCCI came third.

Then there was the Seniors' section, and our ears were all in for a real glorious treat It was as if the gates of heaven were opened and we could hear a thousand angels all playing their harps at once in perfect harmony - the sound of the tiniest silver raindrops mixed with thunder. It must have been hard for the

judges to decide on the best one, but in the end it was Cayman Prep who won with 'I Music' (the standard) and their choice, the Prayer. UCCI Pandemix gained Second place, playing the standard and Eine Kleine Nachtmuzik, a real treat too with its contrasts of loud and soft, and the sheer joy of their performance. Triple C's Steel Breeze band came third.

SEE STEEL PAN, Page 5



► UCCI's Pandemix band received the First Prize trophy in the Open section



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[www.CoxLumberLtd.com](http://www.CoxLumberLtd.com)

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FREE DELIVERY!**



► Prospect Primary's A band won first place in the Primary section



► Cayman Prep won first place in the Seniors section

# Amazing steel bands at 16th Amin Mohammed Steelband Festival

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

In the Open category, amazingly JGHS, who are just around 11 and 12 years old and had won the Juniors section, were brave enough to try their hands alongside the experts: UCCI Pandemix, who gained First prize with a truly amazing rendering of Savannah Grass. Triple C came second, with Trouble in the Morning. In the end JGHS came third, but it was a great try and everyone was very proud of them.



► Micah Leon gained first place in the Junior Solo section



► Pandemix in action for Savannah Grass

## COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule

# MAY 2021

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	11 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	12 CAMANA BAY 5-9pm	13 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	14 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	15 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
17 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Clinic Closed	18 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	19 BODDEN TOWN PUBLIC BEACH 5 – 9pm	20 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	21 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	22 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
24 WEST BAY - SIR JOHN A. CUMBER PRIMARY HALL 5-9pm	25 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	26 EAST END 4 – 9pm	27 ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	28 CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	29 ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
31 WEST BAY - SIR JOHN A. CUMBER PRIMARY HALL 5-9pm					

### COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC LOCATIONS

- ORIA - OWEN ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- CAMANA BAY (FORMER CAYMAN MAC LOCATION)
- DISTRICTS – AS NOTED ON THE SCHEDULE

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 – Please bring your own.

Most up to date schedule will be on [www.hsa.ky](http://www.hsa.ky)

V1



# Young Caymanian nets job at Apple TV+

By Lindsey Turnbull

Possessing an artistic flair that has shone from an early age, 22-year-old Jazz Pitcairn is currently putting her creative talents to exciting use, having recently landed a job at Apple TV+, working as the assistant to Executive Producing Director, Silas Howard. This makes Jazz the only

Caymanian since Frankie Flowers and the only Caymanian female to have achieved such success at the level she has in the industry at such a young age.

As a youngster Jazz loved to dance, travelling to perform with the Barnes Dance Academy and winning several NCA awards for dance and piano during her early school years. A multi-talented musician, Jazz plays the piano, saxophone, clarinet, flute and violin. An early leader, Jazz participated in Model United Nations (MUN), travelling to Yale University and Budapest for MUN conferences. Her participation in the Global Young Leaders Conference in 2014 took her to Washington and New York.

A member of the Cayman Drama Society since 2009, Jazz acted in Annie, and worked

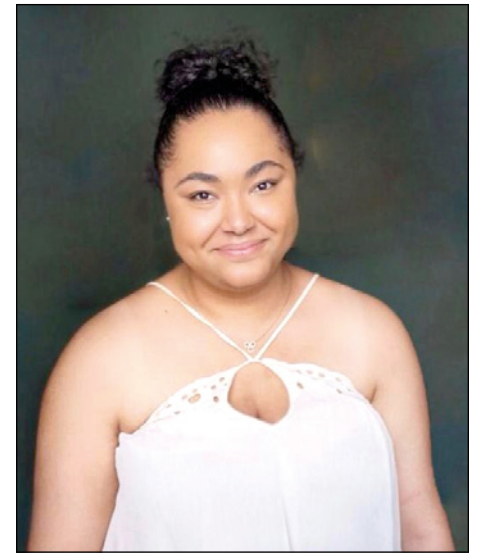
as backstage crew on several productions. Graduating from Cayman Prep and High School and then Trinity College School in Canada, Jazz began her film career early on, having been nominated for Best Local Filmmaker in 2016 for her first film, Missing at the Cayman International Film Festival, and then working on Luna's Ring (dir. Badir Awe, 2018), Tocsin (dir. Frank Flowers, 2018), and In This Moment (dir. Frank Flowers, 2020).

"From a young age, I have been in love with storytelling. Whether through dance, theatre or art and music," she said. "I remember watching Leroy Holness in Rundown at a young age at the Harquail Theatre. He is hilarious. So talented. I was inspired to bring that same level of entertainment to mass audiences around the world. I started writing plays, which quickly turned into screenplays about life in Cayman. We live in such a vibrant, diverse, and unique community...I wanted to tell our stories."

From 2017-2018 Jazz attended Northeastern University, and studied abroad in Rome, Italy. Attending Northeastern gave her a different perspective of filmmaking, and the ways in which movies shape culture, and vice versa. Her efforts there creating a short film, Pinion saw it being selected for the Northeastern University Campus Movie Fest. From 2018 to 2021 Jazz attended New York University (NYU), eventually earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts Film and Television Degree and a minor in Entertainment Business. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a 3.95/4 GPA. While attending NYU she completed internships at a host of studios including CNBC, CBS, Bravo, HBO and A24, learning the ropes of her profession. During her time at NYU (one of the best film-making schools in the world), Jazz wrote/directed/produced five short films, directed two episodes of student television shows and produced nine short films, many of which were selected for student film exhibitions and awards.

"To assist my parents with the costs, I worked full time at NYU in Residence as a Resident Assistant. This experience inspired my first television pilot. It got great feedback and exposed me to producers and agents. I also interned every semester I was eligible in order to make some money and gain experience to best position me for life post-graduation," she confirmed.

Currently, Jazz works as the assistant to Silas Howard, an executive producer, and



director of the Apple TV+ show, Dickinson (starring Hailee Steinfeld and Jane Krakowski).

"This opportunity came through the recommendation of a professor who was impressed with my work," she advised.

Silas Howard started in filmmaking with his first feature By Hook or By Crook (Sundance 2002), made with Harry Dodge. His credits include Pose, Dickinson, Transparent, This is Us, High Maintenance, and his most recent feature A Kid Like Jake. Last week, Variety predicted that Howard would be nominated for an Emmy in the Outstanding Director for a Comedy Series category this year.

"Jazz has been instrumental to my success this season on Dickinson. She's quick, witty, smart, and talented. I rely on her to help me prep and conceptualize my vision for the show. It won't be long before she has a television series of her own," Silas said.

"Cayman is such an incredible community of artists and filmmakers," Jazz said. "Frankie Flowers for example has been an incredible inspiration of mine. He left Cayman to pursue his dreams, and succeeded. He has since made it a priority to give back to the Cayman filmmaking community and has been a great mentor of mine. Other Caymanian writers and producers like Brittany Suzanne Kelly and Badir Awe have been instrumental in my development in the local filmmaking world. I can't wait to mentor other Caymanians who are interested in filmmaking."

Jazz said her experience as a producer's assistant on the Apple TV+ show, Dickinson, has showed her that she has a knack for producing, as well as writing and directing.

"I have some exciting opportunities lined up for myself in the producing world over the next few months. I can't divulge what they are at the moment, but once I can, I will be incredibly excited to share that with Cayman," she stated. "Like Frankie Flowers and Grace Gealey, my dream is to build a brand that we celebrate as Caymanian and see how this can be used to continue to grow our islands globally."

Jazz said she was so fortunate to have her parents John and Theresa Pitcairn behind her all the way.

"I couldn't be more grateful for such kind, supportive, and hard-working parents. Their 'no foolishness' attitude to parenting only inspires me to work harder every day. My siblings Jade, David and I have been fortunate to have them," she confirmed.



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO FINALISE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ISWMS) ALSO KNOWN AS REGEN

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Environmental Assessment Board (EAB) is providing Notice to the Public of the publication of the Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy (ISWMS) also known as the ReGen project at the George Town Landfill. The public is invited to review and comment on the ToR which has been developed in collaboration with the EAB, which includes representatives from the Department of Environment, Department of Environmental Health, Department of Planning, National Roads Authority, and Water Authority Cayman.

The project proponent, Dart, is undertaking an EIA for its proposed energy recovery and recycling facilities at the George Town Landfill. The result of the EIA will be an Environmental Statement (ES) which will help to inform the decision-making process.

Your input will be considered in the finalisation of the ToR document which is available online at [www.doe.ky](http://www.doe.ky) or hard copies can be reviewed at the following locations:

1. Government Administration Building, 133 Elgin Avenue, George Town
2. George Town Public Library, 68 Edward Street
3. Teacher Redley Powery Library, 182 Reverend Blackman Rd, West Bay
4. Bodden Town Library, 69 Bodden Town Road
5. District Administration, Government Administration Building, Cayman Brac
6. National Trust House, Little Cayman

Comments on the draft ToR may be submitted: 1) in writing during the public meeting, 2) electronically via e-mail to [emu.doe@gov.ky](mailto:emu.doe@gov.ky), 3) mailed to Department of Environment, P.O. Box 10202, Grand Cayman KY1-1002, or 4) hand delivered, in writing, to Department of Environment, Environmental Centre, 580 North Sound Road, George Town, Grand Cayman.

Public meetings will be held on:

- 8 June 2021 at the John Gray Memorial Hall between 7 pm and 9 pm
- 9 June 2021 at the Harquail Theatre between 7 pm and 9 pm
- 10 June 2021 at the Breakers Civic Centre between 7 pm and 9 pm

The public meetings will provide an opportunity for Dart, the Cayman Islands Government and the EIA Consultants to outline the project and to invite comments and questions from the public on the draft ToR. Representatives from the Cayman Islands Government, Dart, the EIA Consultants and the EAB will be available to provide information and receive comments concerning the ToR. The period for written comments on the draft ToR opens on Monday, 31 May 2021 and will run for 21 days. The period for written comments officially closes at midnight on Monday, 21 June 2021.



# INTERVIEW FAIR: JUNE 2021



Caymanian and status holders are invited to participate in an exciting interview fair at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman, as part of a comprehensive recruitment initiative. Positions range from entry-level to highly-skilled in stewarding, housekeeping, food & beverage, front desk and more.

**Tuesday, June 1st from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 5th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**The Cayman Islands Royal Ballroom**

*\*Interviews are by appointment only.*

### Event and application details:

- Must be Caymanian or status holder through permanent residency with employment rights.
  - Applications must be submitted at the link below by **May 26th, 2021.**
    - An active email address is required to apply.
    - Interview will be scheduled through Human Resources.

VISIT [RITZCARLTONJOBS.KY](https://www.ritzcarlton.com/jobs/ky) TO APPLY TODAY



**THE RITZ - CARLTON**

GRAND CAYMAN



► District Administration Acting Facilities Manager Mr. Delroy Bodden (l) provides a guided tour of the new District Administration buildings. Also included in the photograph are: (In front) Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho (l), Hon. Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly (r), (back l-r) Lyea Rivers, District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts, Deputy Chief Officer Wilbur Welcome, PWD Works Manager Mr. Justin Bodden and Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith



► From left - Deputy Chief Officer Mr. Wilbur Welcome, Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Hon. Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly and Sister Islands Sports Coordinator Mr. Harold Sanford listen as Swim Coach Mr. Bryce Gunning (not photographed) updates them on the ongoing swim programme

# Ministry of Education, District Administration and Lands (MEDAL) Officials Tour District Administration

Minister of Education, District Administration and Lands (EDAL) The Honorable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly led a team of Ministry officials on a familiarisation tour of the District Administration Department last Thursday (6 May).

Accompanied by District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts, the team, including MEDAL Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho and Deputy Chief Officers Ms. Lyneth Monteith and Mr. Wilbur Welcome, met with the section heads for District Administration, Water Authority Cayman and the Public Works Department and Sister Islands Sports to get an overview of their key functions, to ascertain their immediate concerns and apprise the team of some of the Ministry's goals.



► The team from the Ministry of EDAL tour the Planning Section of the Lands and Survey Department. Included in the photograph are Honourable Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly (c), from left: Ms. Lyea Rivers, Planning Officer Ms. Andrea Stevens, Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Deputy Chief Officer Mr. Wilbur Welcome, Ms. Greta Tatum, Back: Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith and District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts

During the meeting with the various section heads,

Minister O'Connor-Connolly expressed her delight at the opportunity to work with each of the units/sections."

"I am honored that I have been asked to lead this team, and look forward to working with you all in this new Ministry. The combination of Education, District Administration and Lands is quite exciting as it provides us with a wide scope within which to work, allowing us to propel and maximise our [The Ministry's] full potential."

The team also toured the Planning Unit, The Cayman Brac Museum, Public Works Department, The Asphalt Plant, Heritage House, and several facilities, including the new multipurpose hall and Sports Complex.

To learn more about the Department of District Administration, visit <http://www.districtadmin.gov.ky>.



► From right - Heritage House Programme Manager Ms. Saskia Edwards guides (District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts, Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Hon. Minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Lyea Rivers, Deputy Chief Officers Mr. Wilbur Welcome and Ms. Lyneth Monteith (partially hidden) during a facility tour



► (L-R) MEDAL's Ms. Lyea Rivers, Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith, Hon. Minister Juliana O'Connor Connolly, PWD Assistant Works Manager Mr. Joey DaCosta, Mr. Graham Martin PWD, District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts, Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Deputy Chief Officer Mr. Wilbur Welcome, Mr. Jeffrey Parchman PWD, PWD Works Manager Mr. Justin Bodden and Mr. Kristopher Ebanks PWD during a tour of the Asphalt plant in Cayman Brac. PWD's Mr. Lyndon Martin is seated in the grader while Mr. Daniel Kirkwood (PWD) stands nearby



► District Commissioner Mr. Mark Tibbetts (r), Minister for EDAL, The Honorable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly (2nd r), Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith and Ms. Lyea Rivers listen intently as section heads provide an overview about their respective sections



► Section Heads for District Administration, Water Authority Cayman and Sister Islands Sports meet with Ministry of EDAL's Chief Officer and two deputies



# THE PACT CHALLENGE: A PERFECT STORM OR SEA OF OPPORTUNITIES

June not only marks the start of the hurricane season.

For the new PACT coalition of independents, it's also a starting point to embark on realising the worthy ideals encompassed in its acronym (People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent).

It sets the stage for a veritable sink or swim scenario; a perfect storm or the opportunity to set Cayman on a new course in a sea of opportunities.

A confident display by the PACT government during its recent inaugural press conference, though short on detail, points to the very real challenges facing the new administration...and by extension, Cayman.

Understandably, the new government was not expected to be brimming with detail on policy priorities and execution plans - although that would have been welcome. It has newly moved into office (the emphasis being on 'new') and is still getting to grips with the civil service landscape.

As a government formed of independents, negotiating individual portfolios after the political acrobatics of the coalition formation must be seen as an early accomplishment in itself.

But the really big decisions on which the government will be judged and rated are pending...and looming.

Chief among these are the pandemic, accelerating the vaccination drive, avoiding discarding vaccines, reopening the borders, restarting tourism, re-aligning the economy, safeguarding the environment and securing the long-term future of the vital financial services sector.

That's just the start of a long and demanding 'to-do' list.

Notwithstanding the eagle-eyed scrutiny promised by the Official Opposition - the Progressives Alliance which formed the last government - it's an encouraging sign to see the new ministers setting about getting a grasp of what their portfolios really entail.

Quite noticeable and laudable is the mentoring, chaperoning and general handholding of the freshman ministers, not just by Cayman's cadre of capable senior civil servants, but by their more experienced coalition colleagues.

Those with prior ministerial and parliamentary experience stand out, notably Premier (and former minister) Wayne Panton, Speaker (and former chief minister) McKeeva Bush and former Progressives cabinet minister Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, along with Finance Minister Chris Saunders and Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan who bring their parliamentary experience from the opposition benches.

Min. Saunders seemed well on top of his brief straight off the mark with a detailed recap of how well the government's finances - albeit inherited - have been performing, despite the impact of the pandemic.

More importantly, his realistic outlook of the hurdles that lie ahead, though sobering, is reassuring. The same goes for Min. Bryan who has demonstrated a pragmatic grasp of the challenges and opportunities in the tourism sector.

But it's in Mr Saunders' portfolio - and on his shoulders mainly - that the burden and responsibility of the first real policy delivery of the new administration falls.

Budget Day looms in June and translating platform pronouncements into policy while at the same time reflecting the



promises of his fellow independent coalition members, will require acrobatic fiscal planning and political agility in equal measure.

In the absence of a defined mission statement by the new PACT coalition of independents, the crafting of the budget could be the real pact that glues the coalition together.

The pressure on PACT is that it's faced with a perfect storm of pressing priorities, the likes of which none of its predecessors has had to confront.

How well it navigates this perfect storm of challenges and sails Cayman into a sea of opportunities will define its period in government.

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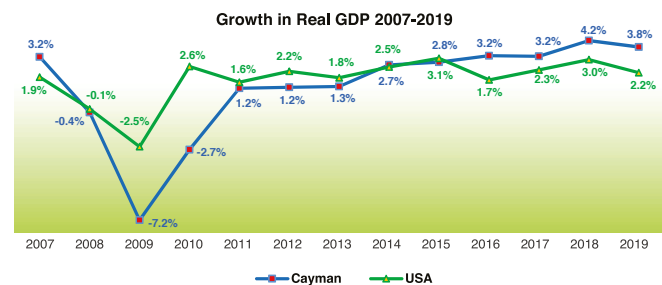
Can be seen at Cayman Island Sailing club Red Bay

Contact Polly at 526 0697



## Business Survey 2021 Your Response Matters!

In 2019, Cayman's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew faster than the GDP for the USA.



### 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.

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# The Chamber of Commerce encourages the community to get vaccinated before 9 June

The Chamber of Commerce strongly encourages its members and the wider public to fully support the Government's effort to safely reopen our borders by getting vaccinated.

Mike Gibbs, President of the Chamber of Commerce said, "It is imperative for the whole community that we are able to safely open our borders as soon as possible and restart the sectors of our economy that have been stagnant since our borders first closed."

With the initial vaccine delivery due to expire early next month, and no new stock confirmed, time is running out to receive the first installment of the vaccine.

"The Cayman Islands has been very fortunate in that all residents have had easy and free access to the Pfizer vaccine. This is an opportunity that has not been available to many around the world and an opportunity we should not squander," President Gibbs added.

Several other member firms and private sector associations support the Chamber's position for the community to meet or exceed the government's 70% vaccination target, as quickly as possible:

## **Cayman Society of Architects, Surveyors and Engineers (CASE) Board**

"The COVID-19 pandemic has been very disruptive to the economy of the Cayman Islands, with many businesses and persons impacted. Our government has



► Mike Gibbs, President of the Chamber of Commerce

done an outstanding job of dealing with this crisis by instituting an island-wide vaccination program. CASE supports our government's efforts to open our borders, revitalizing the service and tourism industries."

## **Cayman Contractors Association (CCA) Board**

"The Cayman Islands Government have and continue to act in the best interest of the people of these beautiful islands. The countrywide vaccination program has been properly administered, and continued diligence is required to safeguard all residents. The Cayman Contractors Association (CCA) supports our government's plan to safely reopen the border, ensuring the survival of our local economy.

## **Marc Langevin, CITA President, General Manager at The Ritz-Carlton, Chamber of Commerce Council Member**

"The Tourism Industry fully supports the proactive approach to vaccination efforts in our country as we understand how critical it is to finally put the pandemic behind us. We are very fortunate that almost our entire population has access to the vaccines and to have a government that has had such a cautious and safe approach to the re-opening of our borders. Now, it is in the hands of the population to take responsibility and reach those vaccination goals to reopen our destination and bring back to life the Tourism related industry that supports so many families in our islands. From the hospitality perspective, we are confident we have the appropriate tools and resources to continue to keep our islands safe and continue to support our government's efforts in ensuring that our community's health and safety is always a top priority"

## **Shomari Scott, Chief Business Officer, Health City Cayman Islands and Chamber of Commerce President-Elect**

"At Health City Cayman Islands, we care about our community's health and we encourage you to be vaccinated to help protect yourself, your



family and friends and the wider community. The vaccines are the only way to help end the Covid-19 pandemic, not only in Cayman but globally. The vaccines have gone through rigorous screening processes by independent bodies before being approved. They are safe and highly effective in preventing Covid-19, and are the quickest way for us to reopen our borders and for life to return to normal."

## **Nelson Dilbert, Owner of Cayman Spirits Company and Chamber of Commerce Vice President**

"As Chamber of Commerce Vice President- I would like to thank everyone that has chosen to get vaccinated. This not only protects you but the most vulnerable in our community. The vaccine is our way out of this pandemic and reopening our borders. As I am sure you know that the Cayman Islands have 2 major sources of income one being the financial industry and the other being tourism. Show your support to the business suffering in the tourism sector by getting vaccinated today and kick start our economy back into full gear.

As a business, Cayman Spirits Co. would like to thank everyone who has decided to get the vaccine. To show our support for the people who have and will get the vaccine a FREE THIRD SHOT (of rum) at the distillery."

## **RBC Royal Bank**

"As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to dominate headlines, there is positive news emerging about the progress of

vaccines. The government's vaccination efforts are proving to be the cornerstone of what will get the Cayman Islands back to normal and open for business. RBC Royal Bank congratulates the Government of the Cayman Islands on the strength of their vaccine rollout, which - combined with preventative measures and good practices - will be essential to open our beautiful islands back to tourism."

## **Dart**

"Throughout the pandemic, we have had many occasions to be thankful we live in the Cayman Islands. One reason is having an early, sufficient and freely available supply of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine which has been safely administered to millions around the world. At Dart, we encourage people to take the opportunity to be vaccinated for their own health and safety and for the sake of the wider community. When our borders reopen, it is inevitable that COVID-19 will re-enter the community. Vaccination provides us with the greatest protection and is the best chance for us to learn to live with this virus in the future."

The Chamber reminds the public that doses 1 & 2 remain available to all persons over the age of 16, regardless of surname. Photo ID's are still required, however proof that persons are ordinarily and legally a resident are no longer needed. The deadline for receiving dose 1 is June 9th.

The vaccine schedule now includes more evening hours and additional locations in the districts - as well as Camana Bay and Owen Roberts Airport. For further information, visit [www.hsa.ky](http://www.hsa.ky)

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# Cayman Islands to host Real Estate Forum

The local real estate market has been on a steady incline. But how long will this last?

The 2021 RICS Cayman Real Estate Forum which is to be held on Friday 28th May 2021 at the Grand Cayman Marriott Beach Resort, is an interactive and informative event which brings together leading figures within the Cayman Islands Real Estate market to share and discuss the market trends over the last 2 years including the Impact of COVID. Also, they will be providing insight of the future.

The session will be moderated by Mr Jeremy Hurst, Broker/Owner, IRG with presentations by Mr. James Bovell, Broker/Owner, REMAX Cayman Mr Lou Dimitrov, Real Estate Economist, Dart Enterprises Mr Matthew O'keeffe, Lead GIS Developer, Dart Enterprises and Mr Simon Watson, Partner, Charterland.

Following the presentations, Mrs Fleur Peck, Managing Director, Blue Point Consultants and Mr Uche Obi, Chair, RICS Cayman Chapter, will join the question and answer session and there will be a networking reception at the end of the event.

Uche Obi, Chair of the RICS Cayman Chapter comments, "Recently, the Cayman Islands has experienced an unprecedented increase in activity in the real estate/construction sector that has had a positive impact on the economy. It is uncertain how long the boom will last. We are delighted to provide an opportunity for real estate/construction professionals to discuss internal and external factors that have influenced the boom and explore the future."

For more information or to register for the conference, please visit <https://academy.rics.org/real-estate/2021-rics-cayman-real-estate-market-forum> or email Uche Obi at [ucheobi1969@yahoo.com](mailto:ucheobi1969@yahoo.com).



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Youth Game Night for Bodden Town and Savannah

**21 May** - As part of Child Month, there will be a Youth Game Night for Bodden Town and Savannah on Friday, May 21st at 7:30pm for kids 12 to 17.

### Yoga at the Gallery with Janine Martins

**22 May** - Enjoy free yoga classes twice per month at the National Gallery with Janine Martins from 8:30 to 9:30am. Bring your yoga mat and reusable water bottle.

Registration is required so register by emailing [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky). For more information, call 945 - 8111 or email [info@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:info@nationalgallery.org.ky)

### Community Pottery Workshop - Cayman Brac

**22 May** - The Community Pottery Workshop is 22 May from

10am to 12pm at Cayman Brac Heritage House. Register by emailing [cbheritagehouse@can-dw.ky](mailto:cbheritagehouse@can-dw.ky)

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

**23 May** - On Sunday May 23rd there will be a Service of Holy Communion for Pentecost/Whit Sunday beginning at 9:30am. The Right Reverend Dr. PJ Lawrence, Bishop is the guest celebrant.

### Plastic Free Cayman Mangrove Cleanup

**23 May** - Plastic Free Cayman is hosting a Cayman Mangrove Clean Up on 23 May at 8am opposite the North Sound Golf Club. Bring kayaks, paddle boards if you have them. Don't forget sunscreen, hat, reusable water bottle and gloves.

### CISDA Children's Family Fun Day

**23 May** - As part of Child Month, CISDA Children's Family Fun Day will be held at the Agriculture Pavilion on Sunday, May 23rd from 10am to 4pm

### National Trust - Speaker Series: Bats: Our Mysterious Neighbors in the Sky

**25 May** - Join us for a fun night learning more about bats with our special guest speaker Ben Stading on Tuesday 25th May 2021 at the NTCI Clubhouse, located at Dart Park, just behind the office. Starting time is 5:30pm and tickets are \$25 with NTCI members receiving a 10% discount. Go to [national-trust.org.ky/events/](http://national-trust.org.ky/events/) to purchase tickets online.

### Kids Night Out at the Pavilion

**28 May** - Kids Night Out at the Pavilion at the Agriculture Show Grounds in Lower Valley is Friday on 28 May from 6 to 10pm for ages 6 through 12. The cost is \$15 and includes a food ticket, a drink ticket and a popcorn ticket. There will be games, activities, treats and a movie on the lawn. For more information, call 917 - 2008 or email [345agriculture@gmail.com](mailto:345agriculture@gmail.com)

### Art & Wellness Teen Art Drop In at The National Gallery

**29 May** - Participate in the hour-long drop-in art sessions for those aged 14 to 18 at the National Gallery. Take part in collaborative art projects, socialise with peers, and enjoy meditative art time. Register at [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky) or call 945 - 8111 for more information.

### "Step Right Up!" hosted by Rotary Central Cayman Islands

**29 May** - On the 29th of May 2021, at the Marriott Ballroom, Rotary Central will be hosting their 2nd annual gala, in support of the Alex Panton Foundation. Come one, come all, Step Right Up and join us as the Circus comes to town and enjoy a fun filled evening with cotton candy, kissing booths (socially distant of course!) and all the fixings of those fairs we love so much! Tickets for sale online. You can also contact [ally.speirs@outlook.com](mailto:ally.speirs@outlook.com) for tickets and more information. Tickets can be purchased at [eventpro.ky](http://eventpro.ky)

Send your community events to [wendy@caymaniantimes.ky](mailto:wendy@caymaniantimes.ky)



► Kids Night Out at the Pavilion at the Agriculture Show Grounds

# This might be holding you back

There is one simple reason why most people haven't yet reached their goals. It just may be the one thing that's holding you back from your big breakthrough.

That one thing is **consistency**.

Think about it. The difference that separates a fitness star from a couch potato is the consistency with which the former applies to their diet and exercise routine. That's it!

Look, I know you can exercise and eat right. You've done it before! But a fitness plan only works when you consistently stay with it. You start, stop, start again, take a few days off, then get back on track. This haphazard effort will never lead to a dramatic body transformation!

What if I told you that you're 5 feet from gold? That if you simply dug in a little deeper, and stuck with the program with consistency, you'd finally achieve the big results that you've been hoping for all along.

You are 5 feet from gold; don't stop now! The fact is that anyone can stick with a fitness and diet plan for a little while. Any-

one can complete a challenge. Anyone can finish a 30-day program. Anyone can put in 2 weeks of solid effort.

It's those who click into consistency that see the big changes and experience the joy and triumph of real accomplishment. I want this for you.

I know that you see how valuable consistency is, and you want to do it, BUT you get off track time and time again. How do you tap into the consistency you need to make a real improvement in your life? Use these three steps...

See it: Define exactly what it is you want to be consistent on. For example, instead of saying that "I'll start exercising," say, "I'll do the 5am session on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays." And instead of, "I'll start eating healthy," say that, "I'll eat XX number of calories per day divided into 5 small meals." The more specific the better!

Keep in mind that you are defining your actions - not your outcome. Don't use this step to determine what size jeans you



► Ernest Ebanks

want to fit into. That outcome is a byproduct of you consistently doing the actions. Just clearly define the actions that you need to be consistent on.

Feel it: Now that you've determined the actions needed, let's think about that

outcome and clearly define it. Be specific! What will you look like? What will that new body feel like? How will your friends and family respond to the new you?

It's time to get your emotions all tied up in your quest. Daydream about getting to that outcome, feel it, emotionally take ownership of the idea of owning it.

Do it: You're clear about what you want. You feel invested in getting the results. Now go about the business of taking consistent action toward your goal.

Yes, this sounds simple, and it is simple. Be consistent and you'll soon strike gold.

Want accountability? I'd love to help you! Give me a call at Body Shapers Fitness Studio 325-8696 or shoot me an email [bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com](mailto:bodyshaperscayman@gmail.com) and let's get you on track to shed some major fat before summer!

Let's do this together.

**PS: Who do you know that would like to lose 3-7lbs of belly fat over a one week period? Call to know how.**

## Helping hand towards better mental health

By Lindsey Turnbull

Mindful of the rise in anxiety and depression the pandemic, lock downs, economic hardship and quarantines have had on people over the past 14 months, two entities have put the community's mental health at the forefront, with some excellent programmes aimed at helping people to feel a good deal better about life.

### Meditation at Pedro

The Tourism Attraction Board has teamed up with a meditation guru to bring to the community a meditation event at Pedro St James, introducing a series of meditation classes in the beautiful outdoor setting at Cayman's beloved national attraction. The three-part series is set for 15th, 22nd and 29th May and will be held on the Steadman Bodden Lawn. Classes begin at 9:00 am and registration is only CI\$15 per person and includes entry to the attraction itself as well.

Mona Meade, Marketing Coordinator with the Tourism Attraction Board, said that they decided to partner with Annikki Hill, owner of Blue Island Oracle to bring people the classes because of the rise in cases of anxiety and depression the world over and even right here in the Cayman Islands. Meditation on the Lawn is an initiative held in conjunction with [www.BlueIslandOracle.com](http://www.BlueIslandOracle.com) to teach people how to harness the power of their minds, she advised, stating that the aim was to build



a community within Cayman which seeks the benefits of meditation and spiritual wellness.

"Together, we aim to offer up tools to encourage self-care practices, at a low cost, as well as offer a peaceful outdoor forum for the classes," she said.

Ms Hill explained: "We believe that meditation is a tool available to every human being with a mind. This tool has been used throughout the history of mankind in different ways and in different parts of the world to different ends."

The event is geared toward both genders, age 35 and over and there are just limited spaces so people are encour-

aged to book spots via [blueislandoracle@gmail.com](mailto:blueislandoracle@gmail.com). Three different types of meditation are offered and participants must wear comfortable clothing and can bring along a journal, yoga mat or cushion.

### Art and wellness

At the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands, they are looking at ways in which they can also be responsive to community needs and present programmes that can help the entire community work through this current crisis, so they have launched NGCI Wellness which encompasses a series of great wellness classes, as well as some useful ideas for ways in which people can enjoy the Gallery and its indoor and outdoor spaces, in a bid to help people work through these difficult times. People will be glad to know that each class and programme is free to participants.

Mindful Mondays began in March, giving people the chance to come and contemplate artwork at an earlier than usual opening time from 9am for an hour in peace and quiet, helped by a mindfulness sheet which gives visitors the opportunity to properly engage with the artwork, either through journaling or sketching. Flexible seating allows visitors to sit and ponder the artwork for longer periods of time in quiet reflection.

### Tranquil time

The Gallery's Siebens Labyrinth is a great place in which to walk and unwind,










following the winding path that it takes and at the same time calm and focus the mind, while its nature trail is a treasure trove of interesting and exotic plants interspersed with interesting sculptures. Visitors can pick up a trail map at reception and learn more about what they are viewing on their self-guided tour. They are also welcome to use the garden for picnics or simply to read a book, a great location for some tranquil time.

The Gallery has also teamed up with local practitioners to bring weekly yoga, meditation and mindfulness classes to their lawns and are developing virtual yoga sessions for those who are in quarantine or are otherwise unable to attend. Then on 29th May there is an hour-long drop-in art session beginning at midday especially for teens aged 14 to 18, where the youngsters can work on collaborative art projects, enjoy quality time with peers and work on meditative art projects. A series of nutritional advice aimed at providing information for parents was another important component of the Gallery's Wellness programme.




WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
						
86° / 78°	85° / 79°	85° / 79°	86° / 80°	82° / 80°	84° / 80°	83° / 81°
A shower and thunderstorm	A couple of showers	Breezy with showers around	Winds gradually subsiding	Breezy; an a.m. shower or two	Clouds and sunshine	Partly sunny

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS


The family of the late **Veda Juanita Walton** regret to announce her passing, on 13 May 2021.



A funeral service will be held 3:00 p.m. Saturday, 22 May, 2021 at Bethel Baptist Church, Cayman Brac.

Interment will follow in Spot Bay Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservice.com](http://boddenfuneralservice.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



*"A source of comfort in a troubled time"*

**Churchill's** Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Suzette "Sally" Carola Smith, who passed away on Sunday, March 21, 2021. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Savannah Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1631 Shamrock Road, Savannah, Grand Cayman on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Viewing: 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Interment at: New Pease Bay Cemetery



Condolences can be registered at [churchillsfuneralhome.com](http://churchillsfuneralhome.com)

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION

THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE - JOHN 4:11

Juan Ponce d Leon, Puerto Rico's first governor was in search of the ever elusive fountain of youth and landed in Florida instead. Surely he must have found beautiful beaches, but we surely do know that he never found the fountain of life. Ever since the fall of Adam and Eve in the garden, the quest for water that would bring us eternal life has been an eternal search.

When our Lord met the Samaritan woman at the well He made a claim about Himself that stunned her. It sounded too good to be true. Believing what He said was difficult. But when He laid bare her life she believed and declared, "give me that water to drink." She found that true fountain of life. Have you?

The family of the late **Shemaiah Tafari Kaya Grant** regret to announce his passing, on 2 May 2021.



A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, 22 May 2021 at Shirley Kidd Memorial Hall at the John A Cumber Primary School.

Interment will follow in St. Mary's Garden of Reflection, West Bay.

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservice.com](http://boddenfuneralservice.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



*"A source of comfort in a troubled time"*

The Family of the late **Marguerita Elaine Thompson (nee Stern)** sadly announces her passing on **Friday April 23, 2021 in Jamaica.**



A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at, **Calvary Baptist Church, Walkers Rd. on Sunday May 23, 2021 at 2:30 pm.**

Interment to follow at the Pease Bay Cemetery, in Bodden Town

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The family of the late **Ricky Scott** regret to announce his passing, on 9 April 2021.



A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, 22 May 2021 at Bodden Funeral Service, 117 Walkers Rd.

Interment will follow in Prospect Cemetery.

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservice.com](http://boddenfuneralservice.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



*"A source of comfort in a troubled time"*

The family of the late **Mevin Jackson** regret to announce her passing, on 9 May 2021.



A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, 23 May 2021 at United Church of the Kingdom of God.

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservice.com](http://boddenfuneralservice.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



*"A source of comfort in a troubled time"*

The family of the late **James Curwood Miller** regret to announce his passing, on 8 May 2021.



A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, 23 May 2021 at Bodden Funeral Service, 117 Walkers Rd.

Interment will follow in Prospect Cemetery

Condolences can be registered at [boddenfuneralservice.com](http://boddenfuneralservice.com) & Bodden Funeral Service Facebook page



*"A source of comfort in a troubled time"*

## UK TERRITORIES CONNECTION

# BERMUDA MULLS MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

The Bermuda government is reviewing recommendations for a minimum wage averaging between \$13.20 and \$17.30 with a median range of \$15.75 per hour.

The territory's Wage Commission chairman, Cordell Riley, reported that they reviewed a sample of countries to understand the range of minimum wages applied.

"I must note that Switzerland has the highest minimum wage at \$24.76 while Turks and Caicos have the lowest at \$6.25."

However, he said when comparing the cost of living of those countries to Bermuda's, all had a lower cost of living.

In its report, the Wage Commission said most modern, developed countries have a minimum/living wage regime.

Mr Riley said, "Among the more developed nations of the world, Bermuda is among the few that does not



have a minimum wage, and the goal is to remove us from that list."

The Bermuda Wage Commission chairman said their research outlined the many benefits realised by employ-

ers and employees in countries where a minimum and/or living wage has been instituted.

"With the establishment of a minimum and liveable wage, Bermuda can benefit from the lessons learned in these countries," Mr Riley said.

The report is to be presented to the Bermuda House of Assembly this month.

The Bermuda Chamber of Commerce, while welcoming the report, has pointed out the potential impact on the cost of living, especially with higher prices for some goods and services.

It has also raised the prospect of some businesses not being able to function with the added costs.

The Commission began its work in earnest last February looking into establishing levels for minimum wage and a liveable wage in Bermuda.

## BVI WORK FROM PARADISE

The Government of the Virgin Islands is introducing its version of the increasingly popular remote worker/digital nomad scheme.

Promoted as the Work In Paradise programme, it allows persons to work remotely from the BVI by acquiring an extended stay.

Premier and Minister of Finance Andrew A. Fahie said that the initiative is one of the many which his government

plans to introduce "to acquire additional streams of revenue to strengthen the economy in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic."

Explaining the structure of the initiative, Premier Fahie said persons who visit for the Work in Paradise programme will not be allowed to work for a company operating in the BVI.

Meanwhile, Minister for Labour and Immigration, Vincent Wheatley said he is confident that the programme will prove



to be a sustainable stream of income for the people of the Virgin Islands.

"The introduction of new revenue streams are needed to propel the BVI into new arenas, thus resulting in more financial flexibility. Similar to other island nations across the Caribbean, the BVI has realised lower tourist arrivals as a result of COVID-19, and as such the introduction of a remote workers programme will encourage more arrivals to our shores."

## ANGUILLA'S VACCINATION INCENTIVES

Anguilla has launched a COVID-19 daily prize draw that's running until the end of this month as part of initiatives to meet its COVID-19 vaccination target

The incentive which also includes a grand prize of a three-night stay to the neighbouring island Nevis is open to everyone who has been vaccinated.

It's called the VAXAXA challenge - VAX for vaccine and AXA being the international aviation abbreviation for Anguilla.

A joint statement by Anguilla's Governor, Premier and Chief Medical Officer, said the initiative followed a recent spike in cases.

Anguilla is also under pressure to use up vaccines donated by the British government which now approaching their expiry date.



Stressing that the island is still in an emergency, the Anguilla officials say in order to return to normalcy it is vital that the adult population is vaccinated.

## LORD AHMAD IN DIRECT VACCINE PLEA TO MONTSERRAT

Lord Tariq Ahmad, the British Minister responsible for Commonwealth relations, has made a direct appeal to the people of Montserrat to take the COVID-19 vaccine.

In an interview on the government-owned Radio Montserrat, the UK official said he was "really concerned when I heard about the reticence we've seen from some of the people in Montserrat."

He appeared in the video call alongside Montserrat's Governor, Andrew Pearce, Premier Easton Taylor-Farrell and UK NHS advisor Professor Tim Cummings.

Vaccine hesitancy in Montserrat has meant that the island (population, 4,500 appx) has had the lowest vaccination rate

in the overseas territories - around 30% - compared to other OTs averaging well over 60%.

The reluctance stems from concerns over incidents of blood clots associated with the UK Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine which is being used in Montserrat. British and other global health officials have pointed out that this anomaly has only been observed in a small minority of cases globally.

The Oxford-AstraZeneca drug is also administered in the UK.

"I totally understand that there are some people who have been concerned about not being vaccinated, but I assure you that vaccines are safe," Lord Ahmad assured.

"We've rolled out over 53 million vaccines, right here in the United Kingdom, and why I wanted to come on today is to express, not only our solidarity with the people of Montserrat but also assure you that they are safe, and you should go out and be vaccinated."

An important issue is the expiration date of the current batch of vaccines donated to Montserrat by the British government.

"Now these vaccines need to be used up," Lord Ahmad stated. "There are expiry dates on them and we need to make sure,



for every vaccine that is wasted, that's one other person who has been denied the right together."

# 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

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

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### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★

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Difficulty Level ★★

2/11

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Capital of Italy
  - 5 Lily of "Grace and Frankie"
  - 11 Captain of fiction
  - 12 Galahad's mother
  - 13 Wee bites
  - 14 Number in a sum
  - 15 Issue a statement
  - 17 History section
  - 18 Accept without question
  - 22 Lingerie item
  - 24 Extra
  - 25 Earth-friendly prefix
  - 26 Contrived
  - 27 Closes
  - 30 Plentiful
  - 32 Sum
  - 33 Diner dessert
  - 34 Scheduling aid
  - 38 Entirely
  - 41 2017 Pixar film
  - 42 Judged
  - 43 Continental coin
- DOWN**
- 44 Not nervous
  - 45 Goblet part
  - 1 Chimed
  - 2 River from Pittsburgh
  - 3 Planned in detail
  - 4 Ridiculous
  - 5 Blue hue
  - 6 Nostalgic songs
  - 7 Zany
  - 8 Whopper, e.g.
  - 9 Road-house
  - 10 Composer
  - 16 Cove
  - 19 Broke
  - 20 River of Russia
  - 21 Singer
  - 22 Final, for one
  - 23 Bounce back
  - 28 Puget
  - 29 Lists of candidates
  - 30 Clumsy
  - 31 Chops up
  - 35 Bonanza find
  - 36 Lot unit
  - 37 Hotel unit
  - 38 Writer
  - 39 Pay stub
  - 40 Driving site

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

### Yesterday's answer

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

4-30

## Word Search

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

- Bagpipes
- Bonnet
- Border
- Bothy
- Brae
- Caber
- Cattle
- Claymore
- Croft
- Dirk
- Firth
- Gaelic
- Glen
- Haggis
- Heather
- Highlands
- Hogmanay
- Isles
- Kilt
- Kirk
- Kyle
- Laird
- Loch
- Mist
- Oatmeal
- Pibroch
- Plaid
- Porridge
- Reel
- Sassenach
- Sporran
- Tartan
- Whisky

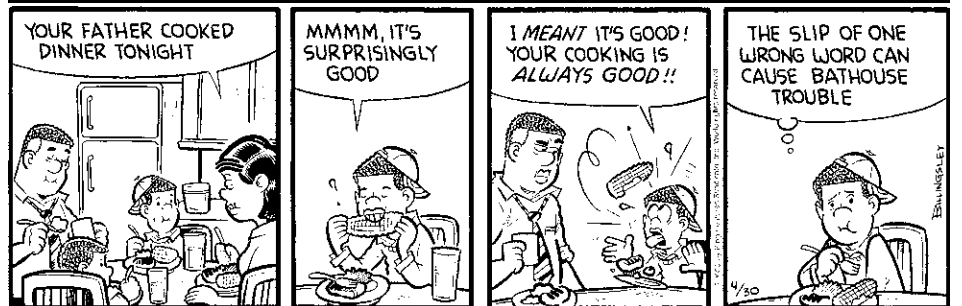
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, back, up, down and diagonally.



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**CAYMANIAN  
TIMES**

## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



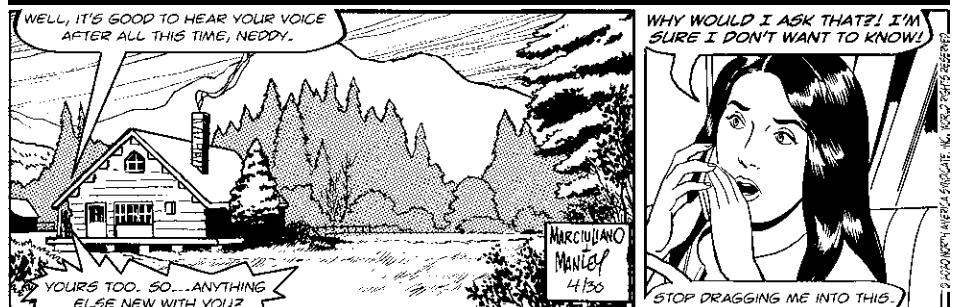
## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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