



# Caymanian Times

## Business & Finance

85° / 78°  
An afternoon thunderstorm

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## GLOBAL CORPORATION TAX TARGETS OFFSHORE CENTRES

By Michael Jarvis, London UK

When G7 finance ministers meet in London the focus of their deliberations will be of huge interest to Cayman's financial services sector.

At issue is a proposal by the US Biden administration for a global corporation tax initially floated at a "floor rate" of 15 per cent but which could go higher according to US Treasury officials.



► U.S. Department of the Treasury

President Biden had initially indicated a minimum global rate of 21%.

But that's at odds with the British government's own approach to the matter.

UK Chancellor of the Exchequer (Minister of Finance) Rishi Sunak is pursuing a policy to increase the British corporation tax rate from 19% to 25% for large companies by 2023.

SEE GLOBAL CORPORATION TAX, Page 4

# \$1.2 million spent on 2021 Candidates Campaign

The public are now able to see how much money candidates raised to fund their 2021 election campaign and how much each candidate spent campaigning, as the Elections Office published candidates' expenses and revenue last Saturday.

Twelve Alliance members - Joey Hew, David Wight, Frank Cornwall, Barbara Conolly, Moses Kirkconnell, Julianna O'Connor Connolly, Roy McTaggart, Alden McLaughlin, Austin Harris, Alva Suckoo, Vincent Frederick and Dwayne Seymour -

had a combined revenue of \$201,060.00 to help fund their election campaigns, while spending more than twice that amount, at \$479,781.16 over the 45 day election period, roughly averaging just under \$40,000 spent per candidate.

For the election period, which started on 1st March 2021 and ended on 14th April 2021, the returns submitted by the 50 candidates and parties detailed that

SEE 2021 ELECTION CAMPAIGN COST, Page 8



► Mr. Wesley Howell, Chief Officer of Employment and Border Control

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## COMMUNITY NOTICE

# Hon. W. McKeever Bush offers condolences

On behalf of myself and the Parliament of the Cayman Islands, I write expressing my deep felt sadness to hear of the passing of former Chief Minister Hubert Benjamin Hughes.

It's understandable that the citizens and people of Anguilla are mourning the death of a stalwart and giant in the political arena. Also considering he has served stints as Chief Minister which spanned over four decades of his political life, since 1976.

He was an affable and an effective representative to the people of Anguilla and his tenacity and involvement impacted positively on other overseas territories. He has influenced socio-economical growth and brought political maturity to the political landscape with his leadership attributes. He always stood adamantly for the interest of Anguilla as he made his representation at the Joint Ministerial Council meetings in London.

We extend our deep and heartfelt sympathies as your island has lost an outstanding patriot and nation builder.



► Chief Minister Hubert Benjamin Hughes

We wish the people of Anguilla all the strength and comfort during this difficult time. Please accept on behalf of members of Parliament our sincere condolences for your loss.



► Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

## Special Cayman celebration for HM The Queen's 95th birthday

The traditional birthday celebrations held each June to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday will have a new venue for 2021.

The Queen's Birthday Parade, which usually takes place in front of the House of Parliament (formerly called the Legislative Assembly Building), has been moved to the West Bay Road outside Government House.

On the Public Holiday Monday, 14 June, the Cayman Islands' uniformed services will be on parade on the roadway in front of Government House.

For the first time, the Cayman Islands Regiment and Cayman Islands Coast Guard will march amongst the approximately 200 senior uniformed services and youth organisations for the annual parade.

Organisations taking part include the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service, the Fire Service and the Prison Service, as well as members of the Girls' Brigade, the Scouts and the Cadet Corps.

They will be joined by musicians from the Royal Cayman Islands Police Band.

The parade will commence at 4p.m. and will be followed by a Garden Party Reception hosted by His Excellency The Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper on the grounds of Government House beginning at 5pm and continuing through 7p.m.

During a ceremony directly after the parade, honours and awards are bestowed to deserving individuals who were recognised at either the previous year's parade or announced in the Queen's New Year's Honours.

This year's recipients include Mr. Charles E. Clifford, MBE, JP, Director of Customs & Border Control and Pastor

Randall L. Von Kanel, MCI, Member of the Order the Cayman Islands.

Mr. Clifford's award will be presented by The Governor. Mr. Von Kanel's award will be presented by Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton, JP, MP.

The general public is invited to attend the procession and awards, and to stay on to enjoy the reception afterward.

His Excellency The Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper said, "I hope members of the public will come out and enjoy the celebrations as we express our collective wishes for Her Majesty's continued good health and longevity on her official birthday."

Chief of Protocol Meloney Syms said, "Although HM The Queen was born on 21 April, it has long been the tradition to celebrate the Sovereign's official birthday in the summer."

She also reminded members of the public that COVID-19 suppression measures regarding public gatherings remain in effect in the Cayman Islands. Therefore, the Garden Party Reception is limited to 500 people and the Parade is limited to 1,000 people including participants.

These restrictions are in place under the Prevention, Control and Suppression of COVID-19 (No. 2) Regulations, 2021. These Regulations came into effect on Friday, 14 May 2021.

The Queen's Birthday events will be broadcast live by Radio Cayman, and filmed by Government Information Services (GIS) for future airing on CIG TV.

In the event of inclement weather, the awards ceremony will take place under a tent at Government House.

(Via GIS)

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**Caymanian  
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# Bacaro donates over \$20,000 to the Alex Panton Foundation

On Friday May 14th, Bacaro brought the community together for a fundraiser that raised \$20,376.00 for the Alex Panton Foundation (APF). Continuing their commitment to supporting mental health and the Cayman community, this was the second fundraiser held by management for the APF. The first, a pajama party was held in July 2019, raised over \$19,000 for the foundation's programs.

Friday's 'Off With His Locks' fundraiser was the brainchild of Fede, a waiter at Bacaro, who had been growing his dreadlocks for over 10 years. Looking for a change in hairstyle, he was also looking for a way to support the Cayman community. "This past year has really been a trying one for all of us - specially those of us in the hospitality industry. There has been so much uncertainty and I have seen people near and far who have struggled with the ups and downs of the year. In talking with Barney and Fede, we all agreed that we wanted to take the opportunity to rally the community together to support a cause we all stand behind, mental health" said Fede.

Live music from Vibe Tribe set the tone for a fun night, while Woody Dacosta took



the mic to auction the chance to chop off each of Fede's 60+ locks. Competition was rife as guests outbid each other opening their wallets and hearts - with the largest set coming in at a bid of \$1000. With winning bidders being offered a chance to take scissors to his locks, celebrity hairstylist Pasquale Caselle volunteered his time and expertise to ensure a pleasant overall outcome for Fede's head of hair.

"When Fede approached us with this idea, we didn't hesitate. Unfortunately in 2020, we had to skip our fundraiser for the APF, but this was the perfect opportunity to get our patrons, community and friends together to support education and program efforts that have truly been making a difference in decreasing barriers to access to help", offered Restaurant Manager and owner, Barney.

Funds were also raised via the sale of specialty cocktails, and through the sale of raffle tickets for a half-day boat charter on luxury charter 'Miss Beautiful' (a value of \$1850) which was generously donated by Family Time Watersports.

Not only did the management team support the initiative, they promised to match, **without limit**, every dollar that

was raised. "Knowing that all of the funds we raised would go directly to paying for support services for those seeking mental health help, but are unable to afford it, we didn't think twice. The work that the team at the APF do is desperately needed in our community and we are proud to be committed supporters", stated Head Chef and owner, Federico Destro.

Upon receiving the cheque, Board Member and APF programme facilitator Shane Purcell had this to say: "In a time when many hospitality establishments are themselves struggling, we cannot thank the staff and management at Bacaro enough for putting their community first in not only hosting and organizing a fundraiser of this scale, but also using their own funds to match what was raised. Events like this not only financially support the foundation but help to eradicate the stigma around mental illness through education, awareness and advocacy".

## About Bacaro Cayman

Founded in 2017, Bacaro is the dream of Federico Destro and Barney Bako - Two friends, passionate about creating good memories for good friends sharing good food. Unlike traditional Venetian bacaro, most of which don't even have tables, Bacaro offers full seating and service in a number of different environments all within the same venue. Whether you're looking for a view of the West Bay Yacht Club, waterfront dining, or a cosy contemporary-rustic lounge vibe, Bacaro has it all. While the service focuses on relaxed, elegant excellence, menus have a variety



of sharing tapas plates for indulgence for one or in a group. Get to know more about the Bacaro by heading over to [www.bacaro.ky](http://www.bacaro.ky).

## About the Alex Panton Foundation

Established in memory of Alex Panton, who succumbed to the effects of severe depression at the age of 16 in October 2010, the APF is a not-for-profit foundation company. Its primary objective is raising awareness of mental illnesses affecting children and young adults in the Cayman Islands, with a particular focus on anxiety and depression. In July 2017, a group of Alex's friends and family came together with the common goal of educating the public about mental illness in children and young people and reducing the stigma toward mental illness in the Cayman Islands. On 20 February 2018, Walkers Global incorporated the APF as a foundation company, with Alex's parents as founders and directors. The APF was registered as a non-profit organisation ("NPO") on 12 June 2018. Alex's parents are supported by Alex's friends and additional volunteers who have collectively formed an Executive Committee that runs the APF.



# Border Closure may harm Property Market

By Staff Writer

Cayman's continued closure of its borders could detrimentally affect its real estate prices as possible purchasers turn to competitor jurisdictions for investment, a roomful of property professionals heard last week at the 2021 RICS Cayman Chapter Real Estate Forum.

The Forum, organised by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), was supposed to have taken place last year but was postponed due to Covid. It attracted a large contingent of those working in real estate and development, who heard from professionals in the industry who gave presentations that analysed the movement of real estate in Cayman over the past two decades, through the pandemic and then attempted to predict future movements in the industry.

At the event, speaker James Bovell, a Top 10 RE/MAX producer internationally and inductee to RE/MAX's Circle of Leg-

ends, spoke about the activity that Cayman's market saw after the hurricanes that swept through the Eastern Caribbean in 2017.

"During the later part of that year it really started coming because obviously people had to go somewhere on holiday and there were limited places, so they started looking around the Caribbean and Cayman ended up being a choice, so we ended up with quite a lot of activity which really stimulated our market from there," Mr Bovell advised.

Mr Bovell said the trend in transaction sales from January 2017 to December 2019 saw an upward trend; however, once the borders were closed in Cayman in March 2020, transactions "hit a wall" and a lot of inventory "fell by the wayside". Once lockdown had been lifted, he said that there was a lot of activity by the industry to try and get investors to come to Cayman to let them peruse the real estate on offer, but he worried that Cayman's continued

border closure would detrimentally impact the industry.

"Although there are no tourists, there are investors who are able to come into Cayman and buy property and also to get permanent residency as well," he advised, but said that as time goes on and Cayman stays in this period of "transition" with no tourists able to come and get a flavour of what the Cayman Islands was all about, it would give competitors the edge over Cayman.

"As Cayman stays still, it gives the globe the opportunity to go to those places and visit them and to choose whether or not they return to Cayman, just like what happened in 2017 with the hurricanes. Same sort of principle, so I just want you to be aware of that," he advised.

Mr Bovell underscored the value of Cayman's real estate and construction industry to Cayman's economy as a whole when he said: "The impact of the construction industry and the real estate and development industry as a whole to the economy



► James Bovell

is two and a half times its value; that is the largest impact of any industry in the economy."

# GLOBAL CORPORATION TAX TARGETS OFFSHORE CENTRES

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Some other countries, especially those which rely on major global corporations offshoring to lower tax jurisdictions, oppose the plan.

The Biden strategy for a 21 per cent rate is favoured by France and Germany, considerably lower than the preferred 12.5 per cent that the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development(OECD) is pushing for.

President Biden has made reforming the global corporate tax system a policy priority vowing to challenge large corporations which he claims circumvent their country's tax systems by shifting their profits to low-tax jurisdictions.

Despite their differences over the structure of the

proposed tax, the US and UK along with other G7 nations share a common focus. They want to target multinational companies, especially those in the tech industry, to pay "a fairer share of tax" in the countries where they generate most of their sales and have their head offices.

A report in the UK's Guardian newspaper quoted officials in the UK's finance ministry as saying that "reaching an international agreement on how large digital companies are taxed "is a priority" and that "we welcome the re-

SEE GLOBAL CORPORATION TAX, Page 5



► UK Chancellor of the Exchequer (Minister of Finance) Rishi Sunak



## COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule

## JUNE 2021

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5
	ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	CAMANA BAY 5-9pm	ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	Barcam Service Station (East-West Arterial, near Lantern Pt) 7:30-8:30am  ORIA 10am – 12pm 1:30 – 4pm
7	8	9	10	11	12
2nd DOSE ONLY			2nd DOSE ONLY		2nd DOSE ONLY
ORIA 1pm – 4:30pm	ORIA 8am – 12pm 1:30 – 4pm	ORIA 10am- 1pm	BT PUBLIC BEACH 5 – 9pm	ORIA 8am – 12pm 1:30 – 4pm	CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm
14	15	16	17	18	19
2nd DOSE ONLY			2nd DOSE ONLY		2nd DOSE ONLY
Clinic Closed PUBLIC HOLIDAY	ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	EAST END PUBLIC BEACH 5 – 9pm	ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
21	22	23	24	25	26
2nd DOSE ONLY			2nd DOSE ONLY		2nd DOSE ONLY
WEST BAY SIR JOHN A. CUMBER PRIMARY HALL 5-9pm	ORIA 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	CAMANA BAY 5-9pm	ORIA 9am – 12pm 1:30 – 4pm	CAMANA BAY 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	ORIA 8am – 11am 12:30 – 4pm
28	29	30			
2nd DOSE ONLY			2nd DOSE ONLY		
ORIA 12pm – 4pm	ORIA 8am – 12pm 1:30 – 4pm	ORIA 9am- 12pm	BT PUBLIC BEACH 5 – 9pm		V1.1

### COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC LOCATIONS

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

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)

June V1



# Virtual Sonics, a Cayman Islands Tech Company, Makes 'Big Sound' Waves in the Hollywood Music Industry



Virtual Sonics Inc., a TechCayman-sponsored enterprise professional audio technology start-up, is making big waves on the global music stage with technology innovation that has already led to a joint partnership with world renowned Sony Home Entertainment and Sound Products Inc., under the brand Audio Futures Inc, itself also a TechCayman-sponsored enterprise.

Audio Futures, under a close working partnership with Sony, has been developing 3D spatial audio technology for Sony's game-changing 360 Reality Audio technology. The release of the 360 Reality Audio Creative Suite represents an important milestone that now enables musicians and creators to produce music easily and accurately in an immersive spherical sound field by using their familiar platform and workflows in 360 Reality Audio music format within a studio environment or even

on the go utilising only a laptop and headphones. The benefits this brings are profound for producers, musicians and music lovers, representing one of the most significant milestones in recent music history.

360 Reality Audio uses Sony's 3D spatial sound technologies to deliver a music experience at a whole new level. Individual sounds such as vocals, chorus, piano, guitar, bass and even sounds of a live audience can be placed in a 360 spherical sound field, giving artists and creators a new way to express their creativity and listeners to be literally immersed in a field of sound exactly as intended by artists and creators. What's more, this can be enjoyed through compatible music streaming services or smartphone apps using regular existing headphones, bringing a new level of immersive music experience to the listener that previously could only be enjoyed in live concert-like venues, and setting the future standard for music producers globally.

If the magnitude of this milestone isn't obvious enough, it was named one of the top 20 products at the prestigious NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Show in January 2021, the premier global music platform and event for products in music.

As impressive as the technology and step change in music creativity being unleashed, is the team behind Audio Futures Inc. and Virtual Sonics Inc. itself. Besides having a cutting-edge team of music composers, sound & software engineers, Virtual Sonics is led by veteran Hollywood music industry leaders such as Phil Quartararo, himself the former CEO of Warner Bros Music, Virgin Records and EMI Records. Phil is credited with bringing to market an impressive list of famous musicians, including U2, Spice girls, Josh Groban, Coldplay, Green Day and Linkin Park, to mention a few.

**Commenting on the significance of these developments, Phil Quartararo, President, Virtual Sonics, Inc., said:** "I've been in the music industry for decades and over that time I've seen a few innovations that have dramatically moved the industry forward. 360 Reality Audio appears to be one of those innovations. We are hon-

oured that a pioneer and household name in sound technology like Sony partnered with us to produce the 360 Reality Audio Creative Suite to enable a true next level in music experience. I am also excited to be further developing this technology out of the beautiful Cayman Islands with my team and Sony. It's a perfect location for tech companies with global aspirations and a place that naturally stimulates the creativity necessary to do great things."

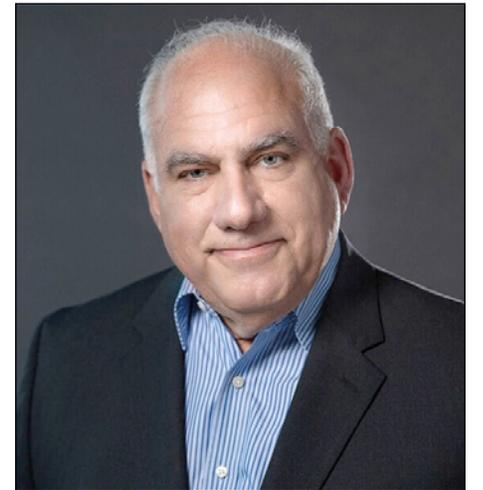
**Director of TechCayman, Mr Samir Mitra, commented:** "I couldn't be more delighted to see the emerging realisation of our vision for TechCayman as a vector for establishing the Cayman Islands on the world map for developing cutting-edge technology companies together with world renowned brand-name technology companies like Sony. It is genuinely stunning to be part of the latest technologies changing how music will be experienced daily by millions of people worldwide and working with the stewards of Hollywood music industry, all from our small yet influential Cayman Islands. I want to thank the entire Virtual Sonics team and their partners Sony for having trust and confidence in TechCayman as partners. What's more, I also can't wait to hear some of our talented young Caymanian musicians mix in 360 Reality Audio using Virtual Sonic's technology too!"

**Chairman of TechCayman, Mr Gene Thompson, added:** "We knew that the Cayman Islands excellent modern infrastructure, tax neutral environment, and ability to already attract worldwide tech talent, provides a perfect combination for tech innovation to be conducted right here. If we can now combine that with an education system that supports Caymanians developing the types of capabilities these companies will be seeking, we have the opportunity to build both a new pillar of the economy and an industry in which Caymanians can actively participate to build highly desirable and well-paid careers. I want to congratulate the Virtual Sonics team and I am proud to be a part influencing Hollywood and its music scene in such a positive way from the Cayman Islands, rather than Hollywood influencing us!"

To discover more about the difference between typical existing music experiences and what can be achieved with the new technology, visit <https://www.sony.com/electronics/360-reality-audio>

For more information on the 360 Reality Audio Creative Suite developed by Audio Futures Inc. in partnership with Sony, visit <https://360ra.com/>

For more information on TechCayman and how it supports tech enterprises in



► Phil Quartararo, President, Virtual Sonics, Inc.

the Cayman Islands, please visit <https://www.techcayman.com/>

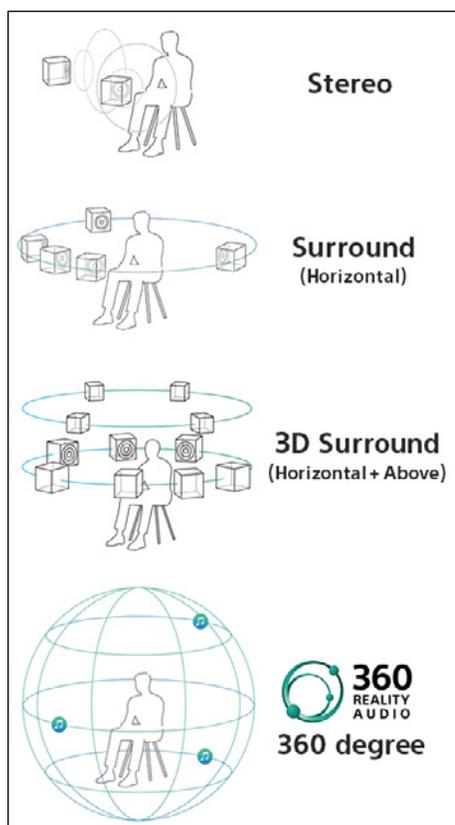
## About Virtual Sonics, Inc.

Virtual Sonics, Inc. develops the next-generation audio and music creative origination and platform tools, as well as distribution technologies, in partnership with the world's leading technology and music companies, aiming to bring audio and visual experiences to life at a level never before accomplished through software at scale.

Virtual Sonic's 360 Reality Audio Creative Suite (360RACS) is an innovation developed and released in collaboration with Sony Music Entertainment. 360RACS enables musicians and creators to produce music easily and accurately in an immersive spherical sound field by using their familiar platform and workflows in 360 Reality Audio music format within a studio environment or even on the go utilising only a laptop and headphones.

The development of 360RACS has been conducted through Audio Futures, Inc., a Tech Cayman-sponsored enterprise – a Cayman Islands-based subsidiary of Virtual Sonics, Inc. that is the exclusive developer of creator tools for 360 Reality Audio, of which the 360 Reality Audio Creative Suite marks the first release.

Virtual Sonics, Inc. is privately held and led by a team of industry and technology veterans with decades of experience, including Phil Quartararo who serves as their President. With his extensive background in the audio entertainment industry, including as the CEO of Warner Bros Virgin Records, Virtual Sonics is set to become a major player and influence in the development of latest generation audio, music, film, television and gaming software tools, from conception to release.



► History of Sound Infographic

## GLOBAL CORPORATION TAX TARGETS OFFSHORE CENTRES

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

newed commitment by the US to tackling the issue and agree that minimum taxes might help to ensure businesses pay tax".

"However, it also matters where the tax is paid and any agreement must ensure

digital businesses pay tax in the UK that reflects their economic activities," a finance ministry official stated.

Considered as the biggest reform to the global taxation system in a century, the G7

finance ministers are said to be close to reaching agreement on a minimum global corporate tax rate.

G7 Finance Ministers will meet in London on the 4th and 5th of June ahead of the summit of G7 leaders from June 11th to 13th in Cornwall, UK.

The UK currently holds the rotating presidency of the G7 and has listed working to reach a global solution to the tax challenges created by the digitalisation of

the economy as one of the four priorities that it is pursuing.

The others are; protecting jobs and supporting the global economic recovery, helping our global economies reach their net-zero targets, and providing necessary support for the world's most vulnerable countries.

The G7 nations are the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

# Ex-Infrastructure Minister hops on last shuttle bus

By Christopher Tobutt

It was meant to be part of the big, long term George Town Revitalization Plan aimed at freeing up the congested town centre while helping people, particularly the elderly, to move about from one place to another when they had lots of errands to run. But now, with less than two months in office, the new PACT government has shelved the free hop-on-hop-off shuttle bus service that was attracting about 1000 passengers a week. Former Infrastructure minister, Joey Hew, took the very last bus on Friday



► Joey Hew gets ready to take that last shuttle bus from Parliament

28 May from outside the Parliament building.

"I am going to take a last ride on the hop on hop off service around George Town that was implemented by my ministry previously. I understand that it was announced that today would be the last day for that service, the new government have decided to not renew the contract," he said. "I just wanted to come out and take a last right on it. It has been very useful and helpful, and it just began to pick up its momentum with a thousand people per week using it.

"Even though I was Minister of Works I continuously said that we can't build roads and build our way out of our traffic problem; it has to be a holistic approach. We formed a committee on how to reduce traffic, with public transport being a part of that. A lot of seniors told me that they enjoy taking public transport into George Town, but as they got into George Town, it was very difficult for them to move around." It was, he explained, therefore also an incentive for people to take

the regular bus service from the other districts into George Town, and leave their cars at home, because they would be confident of getting around easily when they are in town.

"If they get into town and then they have to go to Elgin Avenue to the Government building or to the bank or to Credit union, or have to come back into town to the court house or the Needs Assessment Unit, or wherever they had to go it was quite a journey in that heat," he said. The idea in the long term was that persons could actually drive to a parking lot, park their vehicles there on the outskirts of town and use the shuttle service around town, and a help to remove some of the congestion we saw with traffic in George Town.

On board the bus, Mr. Hew asked the driver about how people were feeling now that the service was ending, and the driver said that people were very disappointed. The service was improved with feedback from the users. "We evolved the route over a period of a couple of months to suit the main traffic routes, and I would like to encourage the government to ensure that there's another step to this. If they are going to terminate this service and then not invest and use the information gathered during the last few months to put in place a permanent hop on hop off ser-



► Hopping off the last Shuttle



► Mr Hew shows the App that had been developed in conjunction with the service

vice around the town, it would be a shame, I think it would be a step backwards," Mr. Hew said. Mr. Hew also added that he felt it

would be a source of revenue for tour bus operators who were effectively out of business since the covid shutdown.

# Beverley and Tom Simpson Establish Scholarship Fund

Beverley and Tom Simpson want to shore up a gap they see by giving more students the chance to attend college in Cayman.

The couple, long involved with education, have provided the seed money to establish the Community Engagement Programme at the University College of the Cayman Islands. The programme will initially provide need-based scholarships for up to 20 students annually.

At UCCI's commencement last month, President and CEO Stacy McAfee presented the Simpsons with the school's annual Community Partner Award for their efforts. The annual award recognizes companies and individuals who have provided support to the university.

Currently, government and most private scholarships in Cayman are based upon academic performance. Students must achieve a certain grade point average to be eligible. The Simpsons believe there are students who, while not meeting those standards, are still motivated to learn. Tom, who served on the UCCI Board of Governors for several years, said academia is not always a level playing field.

"Merit-based criteria are about more than the kids just being bright," he said. "Those students often come from families that give them a leg up, either because the parents are successful or college-educated themselves. What about the kids that don't have that? You've got perfectly good students who could qualify for scholarships,

but they don't, and it may be because they didn't have some of those advantages growing up."

So, with the Simpson's son, Jack, graduating from college this year, the couple decided to take the US\$50,000 they'd been spending on his tuition and other costs of education each year and give that amount annually to UCCI to help local students.

McAfee said the initial funding will allow the university college to be more inclusive in its admissions. It is hoped that additional donors will come on board and boost the programme's resources, she said.

"The goal of education should be to cast a wide net," McAfee said. "The ultimate goal is that anyone who wants to learn, and shows a willingness to work hard, shouldn't be held back for financial reasons."

The Simpsons said they also hope the programme will encourage more students to study in Cayman. The government invests millions of dollars to send its best and brightest students overseas to study. The Community Engagement Programme, they said, is a way to nurture young minds here at home and promote nation building.

With enrolment at UCCI growing – the student population grew approximately 25 percent last year – such support is needed more than ever.

"I still feel we've barely scratched the surface," McAfee said. "If we could make higher education more accessible on every level, we could tap into so much potential."



► Beverley & Tom Simpson and Dr. Stacy McAfee

Applications for the new scholarships will be taken from June 1 through July 16. Students need to meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated potential for civic leadership and service to Cayman;
- First-generation college student (parents did not complete a college degree);
- Cayman resident for at least one year;
- New student or in the first year of study at UCCI; and
- Committed to using education to improve the Cayman community.

Recipients will receive up to \$2,500 per year for tuition, books, fees and other related educational needs.

The award can be renewed annually. The programme includes a co-curricular experience with an emphasis on leadership development and community service.

Interested students should apply online at <https://www.ucci.edu.ky/cep> or contact the Student Life Department by calling 345-623-8224 or emailing [studentlife@ucci.edu.ky](mailto:studentlife@ucci.edu.ky).

# Ministry of Tourism Requests More British Airways Flights

Due to the level of demand over the summer period, the Ministry of Tourism and Transport has reached out to British Airways (BA) to request for two additional flights to be added to the schedule in July and August.

Earlier this week the Ministry released the proposed British Airways fortnightly schedule consisting of eight flights over the next three months, from June to September. These flights have now been confirmed.

Responding to concerns from Cayman Islands residents, the Ministry approached BA to request additional flights departing London Heathrow on 7 July and 18 August. Once a response has been received from BA the public will be updated.

Minister for Tourism and Transport, Hon. Kenneth Bryan, said, "Following the release of the new BA schedule we received a high number of requests from the public for additional flights to repatriate students, and persons needing to travel to and from the UK. The Ministry has responded to the needs of the community by



► British Airways Boeing 767

requesting two additional BA flights. I continue to sympathise with families who are separated during this pandemic. Let me reassure you that we are listening and are working hard to facilitate as many repa-

triation flights as possible during this difficult period while global travel remains impacted by COVID-19."

The Ministry of Tourism once again takes this opportunity to remind the pub-

lic that while the Cayman Islands borders are closed, the only two airlines permitted to offer repatriation flights to and from the Cayman Islands are British Airways (BA) and Cayman Airways.

The dates of approved flights, along with the latest official travel information, are published via Government channels. Additionally, the Cayman Islands Government website [www.explore.gov.ky/travel](http://www.explore.gov.ky/travel) and the Travel Cayman portal are regularly updated with the latest travel information, including confirmed British Airways flight dates once approved.

Travellers who make reservations for unconfirmed flights (ghost flights) directly with airlines are doing so at their own risk. Furthermore, the vouchers issued by airlines, often in lieu of a cash refund when unconfirmed flights are cancelled, are not transferrable to British Airways or Cayman Airways.

Details of the confirmed British Airways repatriation schedule can be found at [www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-inbound-travel](http://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-inbound-travel)

## Changes to COVID Funding Programme for Farmers

The Ministry of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure (PAHI) has announced that there will be changes to the Cayman Islands Farmers' Assistance and Relief Measures (CI FARM) programme, effective, Friday, May 28.

Members of the farming community are advised of the following:

- No new applications will be accepted after May 28;
- Persons who submitted applications prior to May 28 and pending approval will receive further assistance for one (1) month only;
- Individuals who have been receiving grants will no longer receive additional credit on their voucher cards, with the exception of farmers registered with the Department of Agriculture prior to December 1, 2020. However, those with residual value on their cards will be able

to purchase seeds, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs from the Department of Agriculture up until November 30, 2021.

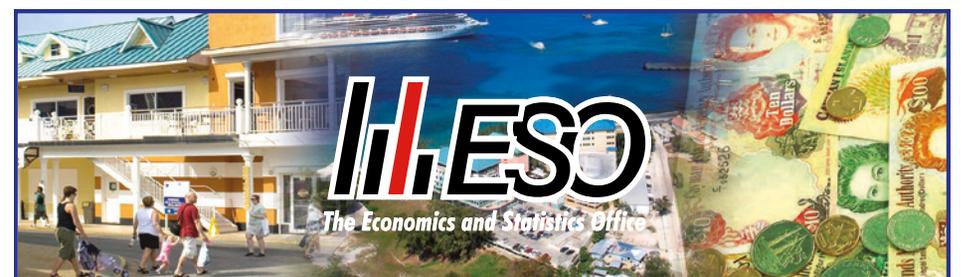
Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure, Hon. Jay Ebanks has stated that he is actively reviewing the agriculture sector and the resources that are needed for the modernisation of the sector to enhance food and nutrition security.

"The Ministry will be adjusting the level of assistance to will deliver more benefits to the various sub-sectors to stimulate agricultural growth, strengthen and improve productivity, storage, and other capacities," he emphasised.

CI FARM was launched in December 2020 to provide economic support to the local farming community negatively affected by the COVID-19.

Since its inception, over 1200 farmers have benefitted from the relief measures. The initiative is being implemented by

the Department of Agriculture with funding and oversight provided by Ministry of PAHI.



### 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.

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

For assistance or enquiries, please check [www.eso.ky](http://www.eso.ky) or call 244-4676/244-4608.

# \$1.2million spent on 2021 Candidates Campaign

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

their combined expenditures totaled \$1,228,657.09, with third-party revenues of \$548,016.27 having been generated. Expenditures per candidate reported during the period ranged from a low of \$2,940 to a high of \$39,981.76. The latter figure represented the average spending across the 12 members of the Alliance. Most candidates spent more than they received in revenue, with just Independent candidate André Ebanks managing to receive more revenue, at \$47,103.70, when compared

to his expenditure at \$34,130.61. Some candidates, namely Alric Lindsay, Heather Bodden, and Osbourne Bodden, all spent exactly the same amount as they received in revenue. Some candidates - Capt. Eugene Ebanks, Renard Johann Moxam, Ellio Solomon, Kenneth Bryan, Maxine Moore, Sabrina Turner, Jeanna Williams, Raul Gonzalez, Wayne Panton, Jay Ebanks, Justin Ebanks and McLeary Frederick - did not receive any revenue to campaign.

Declarations of third-party revenue, inclusive of monetary contributions and contributions of goods and services,

ranged from \$0 to \$47,103.70 during the reporting period.

Three independent candidates Richard Bernard, Frank McField, and Elvis McKeever, have yet to file their returns with the Elections Office.

Thanking the 2021 General Election candidates and parties for submitting their returns, Elections Supervisor Wesley Howell noted that the current legislation had no provisions for penalties for non-submission of returns from candidates who are not sitting members of the Cayman Islands Parliament.

"Nonetheless, I urge the remaining three 2021 candidates to file their returns of revenue and expenditure," he said.

He added that he looked forward to working with the Cabinet and Parliament to progress the modernisation of elections legislation, particularly in the area of Election Campaign finance reporting.

In keeping with the Elections Act, the candidate expense returns are available for inspection at the Elections Office, Bay Town Office Suites, 68 West Bay Road in George Town between 9 am to 4 pm on weekdays.

## Global Economist Reports on Cayman Enterprise City's Half Billion Dollar Impact

*Cayman Enterprise City publishes Economic Impact Assessment by Marla Dukharan*

An Economic Impact Assessment of the Cayman Enterprise City (CEC) special economic zones (SEZs) development project has been publicly released. Written by Marla Dukharan, global economist and leading advisor on Caribbean region economic performance initiatives, the report assesses the economic and socio-economic impact of the CEC development project and demonstrates the project's substantial impact on the Cayman Islands economy.

"It was important for us to reach out to Dukharan, someone who could provide an impartial assessment of the project," explained Charlie Kirkconnell, CEC's Chief Executive Officer. "Dukharan's comprehensive report reaffirms the immense value CEC has brought and will continue to bring to the local and global marketplace."

The independent assessment outlines why and how the CEC development project impacts the Cayman Islands economy and key findings include:

- In CEC's first 10 years of operations the development project had an estimated economic impact of USD \$502 million on the Cayman Islands economy.
- Construction of the CEC main campus has resulted in a substantial increase in construction sector jobs and a total economic impact of USD \$24.1 million. A further USD \$437.5 million will be directly invested in coming years.
- 108 local vendors provide services and supplies to CEC's SEZs, creating notable economic activity and employment in adjacent and complementary local industries.
- CEC has facilitated significant knowledge transfer within the local community. Networking opportunities, mentorships, workshops, special lectures, and approximately 87 internship placements have



► Marla Dukharan, global economist and leading advisor on Caribbean region economic performance initiatives

provided unique career opportunities for Cayman's young professionals and career changers.

• Importantly, CEC has publicly reported annually since 2013 on how the concessions it receives are deployed and how the financial contribution of its activities impacts the wider economy.

"The level of transparency demonstrates CEC's commitment to proper Governance and the socioeconomic progress of the Cayman Islands," the report by Dukharan reads. "This clearly demonstrates your capacity as Caymanians to in-

novate and diversify your economic base, create resilience, and continue to distinguish your jurisdiction as world-class. As a Cayman-bred project, this is a remarkable affirmation of the immense value you have to offer in the global marketplace and your unlimited capacity as Caymanians to put your own ingenuity in service to creating a better future."

The report concludes with recommendations for policy reform and emphasises a need for further job creation for Caymanians in a post-COVID environment. "CEC is committed to actively promoting

inward investment and economic diversification in a manner that is sustainable for the environment and the Caymanian way of life," said Kirkconnell. "Our mission is to further drive the creation of a high-growth knowledge-based economy by bringing diversity to Cayman's industry mix, fostering knowledge-transfer, and keeping the Cayman Islands a highly competitive jurisdiction."

**For more information about CEC visit [www.caymanenterprisecity.com](http://www.caymanenterprisecity.com) and to download a copy of the Economic Impact Assessment**

## POLICE NEWS

## Cayman Islands Coast Guard Officers Complete Junior Leadership & Transition Course (JLTC)

Wednesday the 26th of May 2021 saw the culmination of six weeks of intensive training designed to introduce existing members of the RCIPS Joint Marine Unit (RCIPS JMU) as well as four young Coast Guard Recruits to the standards of leadership, discipline and operating procedures which are followed by the Cayman Islands Coast Guard (CICG).

The course was designed to develop and enhance the technical aptitude and abilities of its participants while ensuring that their personal and professional attitude was in keeping with the mission, vision, ethos of the CICG.

"By ensuring from early on, that our Junior and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) possess both the right personal & professional attitude and aptitude, we ensure that we are building a "World Class" Coast Guard of which the Cayman Islands will be proud" says Commander Scotland.

Over the past six weeks under the guidance and instructions of Petty Officer Dwight Hunter and PC Adrian Clarke,

course participants covered topics including but not limited to: Bridge watch keeping & management, vessel contact reporting, marine search and rescue, radio voice procedure, international laws of the sea, international regulations relation to the prevention of collision of vessels while at sea, various method of instructions, incident command systems and impromptu speaking. All of which are vital when leading a team of officers on a nearshore or offshore patrol.

As a Uniformed & Disciplined entity, that will be closely aligned to both local and regional law enforcement departments, as well as Coast Guard and Naval entities, participants also received instructions in: naval terminology, naval etiquette and traditions, naval drill, and command tasking's.

"Throughout this course each of these graduates repeatedly demonstrated the ability to work together as a cohesive unit, both by leading and by following. Each of these officers had to learn to

personally adapt, improvise, and overcome innate individualism traits in order to successfully complete any tasking assigned them, not as individuals but as a team" Said Lieutenant Commander Anglin.

Guest speaker at the graduation ceremony Lt Col. E. Brathwaite, Deputy Commandant of the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps, noted that having completed the training course, the graduates had reached a significant milestone in their careers. Their success, he indicated, was timely for the development of the CICG, and he further commended the graduates on their assertiveness, commitment to duty, and hard work during the training. Similarly, he opined that the positive qualities exhibited by the participants during their training should and must be emulated by all those who seek to be leaders in the CICG. Such characteristics, in his view, are most desirable and should be adopted by all young people of the Cayman Islands, whether members of the Coast Guard,



► Lt Col. E. Brathwaite, Deputy Commandant of the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps

RCIPS, or ordinary individuals within the society.

Lt. Col. Brathwaite encouraged the graduates to seize every opportunity to utilise their new skills and to lead by example. He reminded them that their responsibilities were critical in protecting the territorial waters of the Cayman Islands.

In conclusion, Lt. Col. Brathwaite challenged the graduates to effectively and efficiently apply the knowledge and skills gained while discharging their duties. "Remembering always that leadership is a dynamic function, which can make or break individuals and organisations" he pointed out that they are also "ambassadors of the CICG and, by extension, the Cayman Islands Government and that whatever you do, whether on or off duty, must always reflect the highest standards."



► (L-R) PC G. Dixon, CGR C. Seymour, CGR C. McTaggart, S/PC H. Bush, CGR A. Clark, CGR T. Crawford & PC D. Rivers

## Police Seek Public's Assistance in Locating Wanted Man Conway Whittaker

The RCIPS is seeking the public's assistance in locating 41-year-old Conway Clive Whittaker who was last known to be living in North Side. Mr. Whittaker is wanted by the police for several violent crimes and is known to be aggressive. He is considered to be dangerous and police advise that Mr. Whittaker should not be approached by members of the public.



► Conway Clive Whittaker

Investigators are encouraging anyone with information about the whereabouts of Mr. Whittaker to call the George Town Police Station at 949-4222 or dial 9-1-1. Additionally, Mr. Whittaker is encouraged to turn himself into the Cayman Islands Detention Centre, or the nearest active police station, at any time, day or night.

The public is being reminded that according to the Police Law (2017 Revision), it is an offense to obstruct, mislead or act in such a way as to prevent the apprehension of a person who has committed an offense. If prosecuted under this section, you may be liable on conviction to a fine of \$5000 or imprisonment for two years or both.

Anonymous tips can be provided directly to the RCIPS via our Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777, or via our website [www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip](http://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip).

## RCIPS Launches Traffic Enforcement Campaign, Operation Quakers

Beginning last weekend, 28-30 May, the RCIPS began conducting a targeted road safety and enforcement campaign. Operation Quakers, will focus on curbing reckless and dangerous driving

behaviours over the weekends when the worst incidents have been occurring.

Operation Quakers will consist of increased police presence and traffic enforcement during

key hours, including speeding enforcement at various locations, vehicle checkpoints, and high-visibility patrols. The public should be aware that police officers will be prosecuting all traffic offenses, particularly DUI and speeding, throughout the weekends.

"Our most recent fatal collisions have all taken place during weekend hours and have involved persons speeding, driving under the influence, or both," says Acting Superintendent Brad Ebanks, head of Uniform Operations. "This has made it clear that a more targeted approach to our traffic offences is needed, in order to reinforce the message that drunk driving and excessive speeding are unacceptable on



# FLAG Football Update

Recently the Burger King COED League playoffs saw teams battling for their spots in the first round of the semi-finals was due to take place last week May 28th. First game of last week Friday featured Tribe vs Deloitte who with no surprise bounced back from last week's loss. Deloitte opened the scoreboard with a touchdown from Taj Hays after obtaining great field position when Tribe was not able to complete on 4th down during their first drive. Tribe made some attempts to even the scoreboard on their next drive, but Deloitte's Christopher Bennett denies them that satisfaction with a nicely intercepted pick to run it back for a touchdown, adding to Deloitte's lead. Tribe manages to collect themselves and find Ed Pellet-Rosa for a touch-down, however they failed to convert the extra point. It is Second half and Deloitte's Quarterback James Stephen

continues to sail smoothly down the field as he finds Taj Hays and Ercia Burke for more touchdowns; with Stephens himself running in for a touchdown to add to their incredible lead against Tribe. Tribe scores again with Matt Ellis but it was just not enough to secure their spot in the next Semi-Finals. **Final Score Deloitte (35) vs Tribe (12).**

Cayman Auto was due to face Burger King, but unfortunately Burger King forfeited their game due to lack of players making it a walk in the park to the next round of the Semi-Finals for Cayman Auto. **Score Cayman Auto (6) Burger King (0) by Forfeit.**

With the Season on the line, a gritty battle from beginning to end had spectators overwhelmed with excitement as Burger Shack takes on PD's. It was a tough first half as both teams stopped



at nothing to try and put points on the board. Great coverage can be seen from Cueme Parker of PDs on defense and some solid rush from the Burger Shack squad added some serious pressure to PD's game; however, neither team would allow the other to make it to the endzone. Second half found both teams still battling hard for points with wonders as to which team would score first. Fabio Gall would be the game changer as he manages to conduct an excellent run play which had Burger Shack desperately trying to stop his momentum. Gall with his swift feet evade tackles from Burger Shacks defense as he zips and zags his way straight into the endzone for the touchdown. A big play in the air had Burger Shack's veteran player Perry Levy gunning for a touchdown, but he was stopped just short of the endzone. In the end PDs would secure their spot at the next round of the semi-finals to face the mighty Popeyes in hopes to earn a spot in the finals. **Final score PD's (14) Burger Shack (6).**

The magnum chargers led by QB Tonia Ebanks were able to eliminate the talented Maples team to secure their spot in the 2nd semi-finals. Ebanks picked apart the maples defense all night connecting with receiver's Josh Whittaker and Cedric Gidarisingh on multiple occasions. Maples were able to move the ball and get into the endzone on more than one occasion; however, they were not able to capitalize on those achievements when needed. Once magnum took the lead, they never looked back or let up securing their win into the next round with the finals in their eyesight. **Final Score Magnum (19) Maples (0).**

**Players of the games from week 8 is as follow:**

**Game 1:** Deloitte's Ercia Burke and Christopher Bennett

**Game 2:** N/A

**Game 3:** PD's Fabio Gall and Keisha Solomon

**Game 4:** Magnum's Tonia Ebanks and Josh Whittaker

## RCIPS Launches Traffic Enforcement Campaign, Operation Quakers

CONTINUED FROM Page 9

Cayman's roads. Drunk driving is everyone's business, we encourage members of the public to immediately report any driver who they suspect to be driving under the influence by calling 9-1-1."

"When someone loses their life as a result of a fatal collision, speeding and/or driving under the influence are almost always a contributing factor," says Inspector Dwayne Jones, head of the Traffic & Roads Policing Unit. "Cracking down on these offenses is essential to making our roads safer, so that all road

users can return home safe to their families."

The public is reminded that the legal blood-alcohol limit in the Cayman Islands is 0.100%. If you are breath-tested and found to have a blood-alcohol content at or exceeding this amount you will be subject to arrest. Upon conviction you are liable to a fine of \$1,000, and will lose your driver's license for a minimum period of 12 months. The penalties increase if you have previous DUI convictions.

The penalty for speeding is a fine of \$20 for every mile

per hour over the speed limit you are found to be travelling. If the total fine exceeds \$500 dollars, you will have to attend court, and, on conviction you are liable to have your license suspended for a minimum of 12 months, along with the fine.

"Not only do these offenses risk your life and the lives of those around you, they also carry stiff penalties when you are caught," says Chief Inspector Malcolm Kay of Specialist Operations. "More importantly, if you are the cause of a fatal or serious collision, your life will be permanently affected from almost every perspective. We appeal to everyone to slow down and not to drink and drive - don't put yourself in a position where you have to face the consequences."



► Acting Superintendent Brad Ebanks

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# Olympics still on, despite fears

Japan has extended a state of emergency in Tokyo and other areas, as the COVID-19 pandemic shows no signs of easing with only seven weeks to go before the Olympics begin.

The move to continue restrictions - which were due to end on Monday - until June 20 comes as Japan saw a record number of coronavirus patients in a critical condition in recent days - putting a strain on hospitals, even as the number of new cases has slowed.

The extension covers nine areas in Japan, ranging from Hokkaido in the north to Fukuoka in the south. A 10th area, the southern island prefecture of Okinawa, is already under emergency status until June 20.

Olympic organisers must decide at around that time whether to allow any spectators to attend the Games, after overseas fans were banned months ago.

Concerns about COVID-19 variants and a slow vaccination roll-out have prompted urgent calls from doctors, business leaders and many members of the public to cancel the Games, due to start on July 23 after being postponed for a year due to the pandemic.

A leading medic in Japan has even warned this summer's event - still known as Tokyo 2020 - could lead to the emergence of an "Olympic" strain of the coronavirus.

Polls show a majority of Japanese want the tournament either cancelled or put off again. Only 2.3 percent of the population has been fully vaccinated, and the current phased targeting of older adults is not due to finish before the Olympics gets under way.

Japan has reported about 730,000 cases of infection and more than 12,700 deaths in total.

But Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and his government are de-

termined to host the Olympics. The PM said: "I am aware that many people are voicing concern about holding the Olympics and Paralympics. I take them seriously, and I will proceed with preparations for a safe and secure Games."

The International Olympic Committee has also said the event would go ahead even if the host city Tokyo was under emergency measures.

While international spectators will not be allowed, some 90,000 people including athletes and their delegations will be attending the event.

IOC president Thomas Bach has said 80 percent of the 10,500 competitors expected in Japan would be vaccinated and has urged Olympians to get their jabs if they can.

Delegates must also be tested before and after arrival.



► Japan is still determined to stage the Tokyo Olympics

Meanwhile, the president of the organising committee has hinted that even domestic supporters may be barred from attending venues.

Seiko Hashimoto said: "We would like to make a decision as soon as possible (on fans), but after the state of emergency is lifted we will assess. There are many people who are say-

ing that for the Olympic Games we have to run without spectators, although other sports are accepting spectators," she added.

"So we need to keep that in mind. We need to avoid that the local medical services are affected. We need to take those things into consideration before agreeing on the spectator count."

## Kante hailed as world's best

Chelsea captain Cesar Azpilicueta has hailed N'Golo Kante as the best midfielder in the world after his all-action display in their unexpected Champions League final win over Manchester City.

Kante, 30, scooped the Man of the Match award in Porto for another outstanding performance as he stopped City's midfield from building up any momentum with his relentless energy in breaking up play.

The France international has now added the Champions League to his glittering list of honours which include a World Cup, two Premier League titles, an FA Cup and Europa League. Kante is one of the game's most popular players, not just for his brilliance but because he is so humble and polite. The fact that he has always driven a modest Mini Cooper when he could afford a fleet of luxury cars is another source of admiration.

Azpilicueta is in no doubt that the west London club have the best of the best in Kante. "It's straightforward, yes



► N'Golo Kante had a perfect game against Manchester City

[he is the best in the world]," Azpilicueta said. "He does everything. The energy he brings, I don't know how many ball recoveries he had today. The way he drives the ball forward, he covers so much ground.

"It is special to have him. Of course, when we don't have him we miss him. After winning the World Cup and now Champions League, he is still so humble as a person. I am so happy for him, he is a massive part of this team and I am very happy to have him next to me for a few years."

## West Indies prepare in St Lucia

The West Indies men's squad has returned to full training in two groups at their training camp in St Lucia after all members of the squad returned negative PCR tests.

Cricket West Indies said that head coach Phil Simmons is fine tuning his squad's preparation in the build-up to the two-match Test Series against South Africa.

These matches are at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground for the Sir Vivian Richards Trophy from June 10-14 and June 18-22 and are the final matches in the current cycle of the ICC World Test Championship. The Proteas arrived on Tuesday.

Simmons has praised the facilities provided in St Lucia throughout the camp at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground, which is overseen by CWI head groundsman, Kent Crafton. The team started a four-day practice match on Monday.

West Indies have a busy summer schedule, which includes visits from South Africa, Australia and Pakistan before the Caribbean Premier League begins in late August.



► West Indies are preparing for a busy home schedule

Training squad: Jermaine Blackwood, Nkrumah Bonner, Darren Bravo, Shamarh Brooks, John Campbell, Roston Chase, Rahkeem Cornwall, Keron Cottoy, Joshua Da Silva, Shannon Gabriel, Keon Harding, Jahmar Hamilton, Kavem Hodge, Chemar Holder, Shai Hope, Kyle Mayers, Obed McCoy, Preston McSween, Marquino Mindley, Shayne Moseley, Paul Palmer Jr, Veerasammy Permaul, Anderson Phillip, Kieran Powell, Raymon Reifer, Jayden Seales, Nial Smith, Oshane Thomas, Hayden Walsh Jr, Jomel Warrican.

## Giannis extinguishes Heat's hopes

Giannis Antetokounmpo was in rampant form again as he scored his first career play-off triple-double to help the Milwaukee Bucks to a 120-103 victory over the Miami Heat.



► Joel Embiid is outstanding for the 76ers

It sealed a 4-0 series clean sweep against the Heat, who lost to the LA Lakers in last year's NBA finals. There are many Heat fans in the Cayman Islands so they will have to wait till next season at least for another bid for glory.

The Bucks will now face either the Boston Celtics or the Brooklyn Nets in the Eastern Conference semi-finals.

"I'm blessed I can do a lot of things to contribute to our team," said Antetokounmpo. "Whoever we get in the next round, we're going to be ready."

Antetokounmpo starred with 20 points, 12 rebounds and 15

assists, while Brook Lopez, Bryn Forbes and Khris Middleton all scored 20 point or more.

The Bucks look most likely to meet the Philadelphia 76ers next thanks to the brilliance of Joel Embiid, a finalist for NBA Most Valuable Player who played arguably his best game yet Saturday. The centre with the swagger tormented the Washington Wizards regardless of their defensive tactics to take them into a 3-0 lead before Tuesday's fourth playoff game.

Embiid scored a career play-off-high 36 points, making 14 of his 18 shots in the process. He did it from all over the offensive end, sinking three of his four



► Giannis Antetokounmpo is in brilliant form again

3-point attempts, yet punishing Washington in the paint with

dunks, post ups and even a slick driving reverse layup.

## CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

## Grenada starts \$67m Chinese project

The Grenada government has started to utilise a US\$67 million loan from China Export and Import company to upgrade the Maurice Bishop International Airport, according to a statement posted on the website of the Ministry of Finance.

Work to be done at the airport includes resurfacing of the existing runway and pavement of runway shoulders, construction of an aircraft turning bay, apron and taxiway expansion.

The project was announced by Chinese officials at the sod-turning ceremony in October 2020, as another milestone for the bilateral cooperation under the 'Belt and Road' initiative.

The Belt and Road initiative is a strategy initiated by China that connects Asia with



► The Maurice Bishop International Airport is getting upgraded

Africa and Europe via land and maritime networks by improving regional integration, increasing trade and stimulating economic growth.

China has contributed to many infrastructure projects in the Caribbean and this is the latest.

## St Vincent volcano calms

St Vincent's La Soufriere volcano is still very active but has calmed in recent weeks.

Over 16,000 people - roughly 40 percent of the total population - were evacuated off the island, and many more were displaced towards the southern portion of St Vincent.

Six weeks since the last eruption, the volcano continues at seismic unrest.

A volcanologist, Dr Adam Stinton from the Belmont Observatory, said: "Since Friday 21 May, there have been a handful of earthquakes, just around 20-25. None of the earthquakes are large enough to be felt at the moment; the average per day is about 10-15 since the last explosion on April 22."



► St Vincent's La Soufriere has calmed down but is still active

A near-constant gas and steam venting continues from the summit crater. Satellite-based images confirmed that no actively growing lava dome appears within the summit crater and there is no indication that the volcano will return to a dome growing phase again.

## Fugitive captured in Dominica

An Indian businessman who is wanted in his homeland for alleged fraud, is imprisoned in a Dominican prison since disappearing from Antigua where he has lived as a citizen by investment for the last three years.

Mehul Choksi, who was held in Roseau on May 26, is wanted on multiple charges for embezzling 135 billion rupees (KY\$1.5million) from the state-owned Punjab National Bank. Choksi, 62, a diamond trader by profession, fled from India in January 2018 and ended up in Antigua.

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne said: "We have asked the Dominican government to detain him for

entering their country illegally, to make him persona non grata and have him deported directly to India."

But opposition members insist Browne has not carried out the right procedures to seek extradition of Choksi under Antiguan laws despite a request pending from India. They say that India's request for extradition is in abeyance.

In the latest media photos of Choksi he is seen behind bars, his eyes swollen in one. In more photos, he shows bruises on his arm. Choksi's lawyers allege he was abducted from Antigua, and taken to Dominica by boat where he was arrested to facilitate his repatriation to India.



► Mehul Choksi allegedly embezzled \$1.5m

## Jamaica strengthens African ties

Jamaica Prime Minister Andrew Holness is continuing to strengthen relations with African countries.

Speaking during a webinar to mark Africa Day on May 25, Holness said there are notable opportunities for trade and investment between Africa and the Caribbean region. He also noted tourism links and connectivity will be vital going forward.

Holness highlighted some of the new agreements signed connecting nations, including one between South Africa and Jamaica. He also announced an acceptance of direct flights from Nigeria to Kingston. Other flight arrangements are being considered.

Holness said Jamaica is on its way to positioning itself as a focal point for investment arrangements between Africa, the Caribbean and the Americas.



► Andrew Holness wants stronger ties with Africa

"It is envisioned that this will create more powerful engagement, and exchange of a range of goods and services between the continent and its sixth region," he said and added it was essential for the African diaspora of the Caribbean and the Americas to consider itself as the sixth region of the African Union. The Jamaican government has also recently appointed its first ambassador for investment to Togo, Ghana, South Africa and Nigeria.

## Guyana resists expanding air services

The Guyanese government has ruled out the establishment for the time being of a state-owned national carrier and instead wants more international airlines to serve the country. That's despite the capital Georgetown anticipating a huge influx of visitors as Guyana's oil wealth grows exponentially.

Speaking at the Inaugural Virtual Diaspora Conference, Finance Minister Ashni Singh said: "It is not currently on the agenda to establish a state-owned airline."

He said establishing a state-owned airline was too risky, citing the example of cash-strapped regional airline LIAT, currently under administration, from which Barbados and St Vincent & the Grenadines have exited as shareholders because of the financial burden. He said COVID-19 had further hampered the operations of a number of state carriers.



► Georgetown, Guyana is becoming hugely attractive

Instead, Singh said, the government is successfully attracting private airlines to serve the Guyana route.

Singh said talks were continuing with Virgin Atlantic with a view to serving the Guyana-United Kingdom route.

Guyana currently has one home-based private carrier, Trans Guyana Airways which serves only three routes - Boa Vista (Brazil), Bridgetown (Barbados), and Lethem (Guyana).

# 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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/16

### Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Pants part

1 Storage spot

5 Cribbage markers

9 Stately home

11 Charged aid

13 Mumbai's nation

14 Singer Reed

15 Falling behind

17 Gaiter

19 Geese formation

20 Tear into tatters

21 Tie the knot

22 Singer Piaf

24 Cow chow

26 Monsoon weather

29 Team supporter

30 Timberland business

32 Schlepping

34 "East of Eden" son

35 Bold poker bet

36 Conjure up

38 Colander's kin

39 Valleys

41 Reduced amount

DOWN

1 T-shirt choice

2 Luminous rings

3 Sufficient head

4 Mafia head

5 Hunger reminder

6 Salad green

7 Made headway

8 Play place

10 Depended

11 Tony winner

11 Diana

16 Fireplace

18 Dreary shade

21 John Tyler, for one

23 Put a price on

24 Arrest

25 "Life of Pi" director

27 Kidman of film

28 Medusa's hair

29 Whiskey holder

30 Script bit

31 Sharon of "Cagney & Lacey"

33 Donate

37 Kilmer of "The Doors"

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

### Yesterday's answer

- 16 Fireplace
- 18 Dreary shade
- 21 John Tyler, for one
- 23 Put a price on
- 24 Arrest
- 25 "Life of Pi" director
- 27 Kidman of film
- 28 Medusa's hair
- 29 Whiskey holder
- 30 Script bit
- 31 Sharon of "Cagney & Lacey"
- 33 Donate
- 37 Kilmer of "The Doors"

## Word Search

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

- Bonnard
- Braque
- Cezanne
- Corot
- Courbet
- David
- Degas
- Delacroix
- Gauguin
- Greuze
- Ingres
- Manet
- Matisse
- Millet
- Monet
- Morisot
- Poussin
- Redon
- Renoir
- Rousseau
- Seurat
- Signac
- Sisley
- Vuillard
- Watteau

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		

5-6



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TIMES**

## CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee



## JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



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