

1
958931436521

Issue No 696
Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Caymanian Times

Local & Regional



By DJ Ralph

www.caymaniantimes.ky

50¢

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

• BUSINESS — page 3



Dart welcomes newest shop in Camana Bay

• COVID-19 — page 6



THE GREAT CAYMAN 'REOPENING' DEBATE

• GOVERNMENT — page 7



OfReg Board has a new Chairman

• POLICE NEWS — page 10



Police Warn Against Use of Mobile Phones while Driving

TOURISM 2021: THE REALITY



See story on page 2 >>

Government allocates extra \$3m for housing repairs

By Staff Writer

Finance Committee, held on Wednesday, confirmed the allocation of an extra \$3 million to help pay for homes damaged after Tropical Storm Grace.

Following questioning from the Leader of the Opposition Roy McTaggart, Minister for Social Development Andre Ebanks gave some background as to who would be receiving the funding.

The increase by \$3 million would be supplementary funding to the existing housing repair programme, he advised.

"There were individuals who have been waiting for over 18 months for housing repair service and unfortunately Grace has accelerated their need for repairs and



WHY PAY MORE?
ADVERTISE FOR LESS



Caymanian Times Newspaper
Fast & Affordable
Email sales@caymaniantimes.ky
or call 9162000 / 9458463

EDITORIAL

TOURISM 2021: THE REALITY

People in Cayman appear to be fixated on the 14th October border reopening (phase four in the Government's reopening plan), as the date when tourists will once again grace our shores. Some may believe that, at that point, our once thriving tourism industry - our hotels, tour and dive boat operators, tourist attractions, taxis, downtown retail stores, restaurants and bars - will get back to some kind of normality. But Cayman needs to take a long hard look at the reality of the situation, which suggests that tourism will not come back to these Islands in any meaningful way for a very long time.

Due to the emergence of the highly contagious Delta variant, Covid-19 is currently raging in the United States, our most important source location for visitors (more than 83 per cent of visitors in the last "normal" year of 2019 were from the US). This means that many will be either unable or at the very least reticent to travel and will be far more inclined to stay put for the foreseeable future until the crisis passes in that country. People generally book up their vacations months in advance, which means it is highly unlikely we will be seeing any kind of influx from US visitors any time soon.

In addition, Cayman's borders have been shut for such a long time that it is likely those who have ventured to the Caribbean for a vacation will have long ago discounted Cayman as a country shut off to them. This means they will have sought other sunny destinations in which to vacation, of course of which there are many in our region. Once those holiday-makers have had a taste of other destinations only too willing to have them come into their country, it will take a huge amount of effort on our part to woo them back. This phenomenon was seen after the 2017 hurricanes that hit places such as Antigua, Barbuda, the BVI and Anguilla, when Cayman's tourism industry really took off on the back of the closing off of those markets in the aftermath of the storms.

We should also note the words of Marc Langevin, GM at The Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman and President of the Cayman Islands Tourism Association, who has worried about the time it takes to get a huge organisation such as The Ritz-Carl-



ton properly staffed in order to welcome guests again. There have been huge efforts to get Caymanians into the industry, but there are only so many who are willing and able to work in tourism. Indeed, there is currently a global shortage of such workers.

We believe therefore that a proactive approach is necessary to ensure that displaced Caymanians are properly prepared for the next year or so, because the

tourism industry jobs that they are waiting to return to are simply not coming back any time soon. We need to retool and reequip our people and get them working again in industries that actually are doing well, such as construction, real estate, and so forth. Let's not kid ourselves that the glory days of a half a million stay over tourists (2019) and more than a quarter of a million cruise tourists (January 2019 alone) will be coming back any time soon.



The Mico University College

THE LEADER IN TEACHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE CARIBBEAN FOR OVER 185 YEARS.

ACCREDITED BY THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF JAMAICA.

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION:
MODE OF DELIVERY: FULLY ONLINE

Secondary(B.Ed. Secondary)
Major/Specialization in the following:

- Geography and Environmental Studies
- Mathematics Education

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMMES:
MODE OF DELIVERY: FULLY ONLINE

From the Graduate School of Education:
Executive Masters in Educational Management
Master of Education in Special Education
Master of Arts in Teaching
Master of Science in Counseling and Social Work.
Master of Science in Mathematics Education
Master of Arts in English

THE SCHOOL OF CONTINUING STUDIES:

Associates Business Process Outsourcing
Flexible Payment Options



APPLY TODAY!
www.themico.edu.jm/apply
1a Marescaux Road, Kingston 5
register@themico.edu.jm
876-413-5795 | 876-764-2824 or 25
LIVE YOUR PASSION FOR EDUCATION

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Department of Commerce and Investment reminds Liquor Licence holders of deadline to renew

Grand Cayman Liquor Licence holders, including those with music and dancing licences, are reminded of the upcoming Annual Liquor Licensing Meeting which will be held on 13 September, 2021.

Liquor licence holders that are seeking to renew their licence are reminded to submit the renewal application by 4pm on 9 September to be added to the meeting agenda.

Licence holders are also advised that licences expiring on 30 September 2021 **must** be renewed at this annual session to operate for the new licence period which begins on 1 October 2021.

Business owners may contact the relevant departments directly should they have any questions relating to inspections.

To arrange an inspection with the Department of Environmental Health, tele-



phone 949-6696 or email dehcustomer-service@gov.ky

Cayman Islands Fire Service inspections are booked using the online Planning System (OPS) at www.planning.ky/ops or alternatively by email to firesafetyinspections@gov.ky

Vessel inspection requests and fees should be made at the Port Authority location at 45A, Seafarers Drive, George Town. All queries can be directed by telephone to 949-2055 or by email to cjackson@caymanport.com or dpanton@caymanport.com

Sister Islands Annual Liquor Licensing Board Meeting on 24 September

Sister Islands Liquor Licence holders, including those with music and dancing licences, are reminded of the upcoming Annual Liquor Licensing Meeting on 24 September 2021.

For further details please send an email to info@dci.gov.ky or contact the Depart-



ment of Commerce and Investment's Cayman Brac Office on 948-2400.

Dart welcomes newest shop in Camana Bay, Flagship by Vertu

Local fashion retailer opens its third – and flagship – location in the Town Centre

Dart is pleased to introduce its newest shop to the Camana Bay Town Centre, fashion retailer Flagship by Vertu. Already a well-established brand on Grand Cayman, Vertu has locations on Cardinal Avenue in George Town and in Caribbean Plaza on West Bay Road. Flagship by Vertu is the shop's third, and flagship, location.

Owners Aldo and Ava Gianne have grown Vertu into a name synonymous in Cayman with high-quality yet affordable fashion since they opened their first location in Caribbean Plaza. Flagship by Vertu offers a variety of women's dresses, tops, bottoms and shoes for any occasion, and all items are priced under CI\$100.

"We actually started Vertu with couture and designer looks but found there was great demand for more affordable pieces," Mrs. Gianne explained. "In bringing the Vertu brand to Camana Bay with Flagship by Vertu, we wanted to bring something different to the town. We wanted to showcase Vertu and what it has to offer to the market that spends time in Camana Bay."

Convenient for those who work in, live in and visit Camana Bay, the shop offers an easy and relaxing shopping experience with clean, bright interiors, three changing rooms and stock updates done several times a week.

"We carry a lot of stock and typically put new items out on the floor three to four times a week," said Mrs. Gianne. "Because of our products' affordability we have a high turnover, and we want to offer fresh stock for our customers for all of their needs, including the many events that take place in the Cayman social calendar."

Situated in an ideal location in between Agua and The Brooklyn Pizza + Pasta on the Crescent, Flagship by Vertu is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. For more on Flagship by Vertu, visit camanabay.com and keep up on Facebook and follow us on Instagram.



► Flagship by Vertu is the local fashion retailer's third location



► The shop features the latest in women's fashions, with stock replenished several times a week



► The shop features women's tops, bottoms, dresses and shoes

September is fully booked at Camana Bay in celebration of Literacy Month

International Literacy Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, 8 September, but the calendar for the full month of September is "fully booked" at Camana Bay to mark the town's annual Literacy Month celebration. Literacy Month features a host of activities and opportunities designed to foster and encourage a love of reading for all.

Camana Bay is partnering with Next Chapter, 3 Girls & A Kiln, Mail Boxes Etc. and non-profit organisation Literacy is for Everyone (LIFE) to offer a host of activities, events and experiences centred around reading throughout September.

"We're thrilled to partner with Camana Bay on Literacy Month again this year," said Next Chapter Store Manager Patrick Swanick. "It's crucial that we constantly encourage young minds to read so that they engage with their imaginations, build foundational literacy skills and develop a love of books."

Month-long book drive

LIFE is a Cayman Islands non-profit organisation dedicated to raising the standard of literacy in the Cayman Islands. The organisation supports initiatives that target reading ability among school-aged children and adults.

Donate a new or pre-loved book, suitable for children aged birth to five years old, to LIFE's newest early childhood liter-

acy programmes to the drop box located at Mail Boxes Etc.

Story times

This Literacy Month, enjoy readings of various books, some of which have authors celebrating a milestone anniversary. Readings are weekly, at 10 a.m. on Sundays, and will be led by a member of the Next Chapter team in the bookstore. For a complete schedule of readings, follow Camana Bay on Facebook and Instagram.

Scavenger hunt

Starting 10 September, collect a complimentary activity sheet from Next Chapter and explore the Town Centre to find clues from Dr Seuss' books hidden at different locations at Camana Bay. Return completed activity sheets to Next Chapter for 10% off your next purchase!

Advent calendar competition

Tell us what your favourite book is and why to be entered to win the chance to open an advent calendar door at Next Chapter during the holiday season. To enter, visit Next Chapter on the Paseo in Camana Bay.

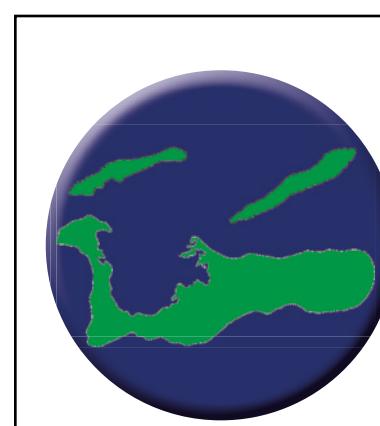
Literacy Month grand finale garden party

Celebrate a successful Literacy Month with a finale celebration! "This year,

in addition to our weekly Story Time events, we'll be hosting a grand finale garden party celebrating the magic of reading – with arts and crafts from 3 Girls & A Kiln, sweet treats from local vendors and photo opportunities with literary characters," said Swanick. "We cannot wait to see the community come out and join us as we celebrate our passion for books!"

Join Next Chapter and 3 Girls & A Kiln at the Literacy Month finale celebration on Sunday, 26 September from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in Gardenia Court where there will be cake, story readings, the chance to publish your very own book and win some prizes!

For more on Literacy Month, visit camanabay.com.



**Caymanian
Times**
Issue # 696

Publisher: Ralph Lewis
Company: Lewis Cayman Islands Ltd
#19 Walkers Road (next to Tomlinson Furniture)
Telephone: 345 916 2000
Email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky,
[or info@caymaniantimes.ky](mailto:info@caymaniantimes.ky)
Website: www.caymaniantimes.ky

Project A of the New John Gray High School Completed

Sectors 1, 5, 6 officially handed over to the Department of Education Services (DES)

Last Wednesday (25 August), the Minister for Education, the Honourable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, attended the formal handover of Sectors 1, 5 & 6 of the new John Gray High School from McAlpine Ltd to the Department of Education Services (DES).

Minister O'Connor-Connolly remarked, "I am proud of this undertaking and the impact that it will have on multiple generations of Caymanian children. It is demonstrative of the Cayman Islands Government's commitment to providing our children with necessary resources that will enable them to develop into productive members of our society."

The handover followed the completion of the first project incorporated in Phase 3 of the construction activities. It was also attended by the Parliamentary Secretary for Education, the Honourable Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, the Ministry of Education's (MoE) Chief Officer, Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Mr. Wilbur Welcome, Acting Chief Officer in the Ministry of District Administration & Lands, MoE Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith, DES Director Mr. Mark Ray, MoE Facilities Manager Mr. Clive Baker, DES Facilities Manager Mr. Alan Robinson, Mr. Wayne Riley, Public Works Department Senior Project Officer



► (Seated l-r) Ministry of Education (MoE) Deputy Chief Officer Ms. Lyneth Monteith, MoE Chief Officer Ms. Cetonya Cacho, Department of Education Services (DES) Director Mr. Mark Ray, Education Minister Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Parliamentary Secretary Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, (standing l-r) DES Facilities Manager Mr. Alan Robinson, Ministry of District Administration & Lands Acting Chief Officer Mr. Wilbur Welcome, Public Works Department Senior Project Officer Mr. Wayne Riley, MoE Facilities Manager Mr. Clive Baker and JGHS Principal Mr. Jon Clark are photographed together after the signing of the Completion and Handover Certificate for Building Sectors 1,5& 6 of the new John Gray High School

and John Gray High School Principal Mr. Jon Clark.

The DES Director also expressed his satisfaction at the handover. "This is indeed a momentous occasion. We are looking forward to the utilisation of these sectors

as comprehensive teaching and learning spaces to the benefit of all John Gray High School students regardless of their learning styles."

The construction project was initiated in 2008 as part of the Cayman Islands

Government's efforts to provide a purpose-built institution that will enable teachers to effectively deliver their subject areas and provide students with the necessary learning resources.

Phase 3, Project A of the construction works, comprises of the following:

a. Sector 1 -The main/entrance, administration offices, a health centre, kitchen, dining area, and a counselling/nurturing area with a secure space for students and staff as they arrive.

b. Sector 5 - Technology workshop areas, technical class areas on the ground floor and home economics classes on the second floor. There will be robotics, clothing, textiles, food, design, building/construction technology labs, and an automotive shop containing vehicle hoists, equipment, and machinery for training and development in vehicle maintenance.

c. Sector 6 - A new performing arts centre complete with a dance and drama studio, a music room, a steelpan room, and a double-purpose performance theatre/assembly hall with retractable seating.

Work continues on Sectors 2, 3 & 4, which are scheduled to be handed over in 2022.

To learn more about Cayman Islands Government schools, visit www.schools.edu.ky.

Inaugural Cayman Bogue Swim Receives Local and International Support

Local swimmers will traverse the channel from Cayman Brac to Little Cayman on 18th September

Local real estate agency, Williams2, has come forward as the headline sponsor of The Cayman Bogue Swim 2021, an inaugural event where participating swimmers will travel the five-mile stretch from West End Point on Cayman Brac to Point of Sand on Little Cayman. The organisers of The Cayman Bogue Swim wanted to not only have a challenging event for swimmers in the Cayman Islands, but, and perhaps more importantly, have committed to support the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) by selecting them as the beneficiary of all funds raised during the swim.

"Having such a high-profile sponsor in Williams2 sign up so quickly and enthusiastically to support the CCMI through sponsorship of the event is amazing. We're really looking forward to connecting swimmers, CCMI, and Williams2 through this event in a way that will truly and positively impact the precious marine environment we all enjoy, the Sister Islands and everybody involved in the event," said Wolraad Euvrard, a swimmer and organiser.

"The team at Williams2 has always valued the Sister Islands and their stunning, unique contribution to the Cayman Islands, so we were excited to support the Bogue Swim. Not only does this exciting event help raise the profile of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman but this inaugural

swim combines so many amazing qualities of wellness, health, fitness, positivity, fearlessness and teamwork. On top of the hard work and training involved, this event stands apart for us because it's in support of ocean conservation and the work taking place at CCMI, to help us understand how to protect the marine environment for the future. Little Cayman is close to our hearts and the ocean is integral to all our lives in Cayman, and indeed globally," said Cathy Williams.

Rawlinson & Hunter and African Impact have also come in as sponsors of the event, boosting the fundraising impact for CCMI. 50% of all donations will be dedicated to scholarships.

"As a group of people that spend hours and hours swimming the sea, CCMI was really the only option! The research they do has use on a global stage beyond just the close waters of the Caribbean. We also love that so much of the focus of CCMI is on education of children through digital channels and the amazing on site programmes at the Little Cayman Research Centre on the shores of Little Cayman," said Euvrard.

The swim will begin at 8am on Saturday, 18th September 2021. It is not a race; instead, organisers envision it to be a personal challenge for each participant to test their swimming abilities. Approximately 16 local swimmers have spent



the summer months training for this inaugural event. In the five weeks before the end, the swimmers estimate they will swim more than 1000 km as a group for their training. Anyone wishing to support the participants and their efforts to swim across the Bogue are welcome to donate to the online fundraising page: <https://tinyurl.com/bogueswim2021>.

All donations support CCMI and their work to protect and restore coral reefs in the Cayman Islands, including offering scholarships for local students to participate in marine science experiences with CCMI. For more information about the swim, please visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/caymanbogue/>.

CABINET OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS – POST MEETING SUMMARY

His Excellency the Governor Mr. Martin Roper, OBE, chaired the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 17th August, 2021 in the Cabinet Conference Room, Government Administration Building.

All Ministers and Members of Cabinet were present with the exception of the following person who was absent with permission:

- Hon Franz Manderson, MBE, Cert Hon, JP, Deputy Governor. The Acting Deputy Governor, Mrs. Gloria McField-Nixon attended on his behalf;

At this meeting Cabinet:

- approved the issuance of a coastal works license for a private dock above crown property offshore Block 80A Parcel 57;
- approved the issuance of drafting instructions to be prepared for the development of Regulations pursuant to Section 50 of the National Conservation Act to provide for the waiver of fees in certain circumstances;
- approved the HM Queen Elizabeth II 95th Birthday and HRH Prince Phillip stamp issues as a part of the 2021 stamp programme;
- approved the acceptance of Cuba's recent offer to resume negotiations on maritime delimitation;
- approved the following appointments to the Water Authority Board: Darrel Rankine as Chairperson; Nickolas DaCosta as Member; Ingrid Simms as Member;



Glenwood Ebanks as Member; and Dwight Ebanks as Member;

- approved the submission of the Cayman Airways Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2019 to the House of Parliament;
- approved an increase in appropriation for the Ministry of Health & Wellness for the health insurance Premium Payment Assistance Programme;
- approved the Control of Covid-19 (Vaccination) Regulations, 2021, regarding importation and use of vaccines for COVID-19 disease;
- approved increases in appropriations for the Ministry of District Administration

& Lands for various initiatives within the Ministry;

- approved the following appointments and/or re-appointments to the Port Authority Board: Mr. Cline Glidden as Chairperson; Mr. Richard Parchment as Deputy Chairperson, Ms. Irma Arch as Member; Mr. Edgar A. Bodden as Member; Mrs. Jacqueline Scott-Rankine as Member; Mr. Matthew Adam as Member; and Mrs. Carilee Giovani Bolen as Member;
- approved the following appointments and/or reappointments to the Board of Cayman Airways Ltd: Mr. Jude Scott as Chairperson; Mr. John Paul Clarke as Deputy Chairperson; Ms. Stefanie Ebanks as Director; Ms. Shanna Myles as Director;

Mr. Robert Hurlstone as Director; Mr. Marco Archer as Director; Mr. Kris Bergstrom as Director; and Mr. Tyrone Welds as Director;

- approved the following appointments and/or reappointments to the Education Council: Mr. Shomari Scott as Chairperson; Mr. Herbert Crawford as Member; Ms. Krishan Welcome as Member; Ms. Jacqueline Ebanks as Member; Ms. Bernice Scott as Member; Mr. Giovanni Bodden as Member; Ms. Claudette Lazzari as Member; Mr. Jonathon Tibbetts as Member; Mr. Stephen Tatum as Member; Mr. Darrel Rankine as Member; Ms. Cindy Scotland as Member; Ms. Tasha Porter as Member; and Ms. Latoya Francis as Member.

MISS CAYMAN ISLANDS UNIVERSE PAGEANT 2021

Moonlight in Paradise

SATURDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2021

THE WESTIN RESORT & SPA

6PM COCKTAILS

7PM SHOWTIME

SPONSORS

- The Cayman Islands Government
- Radio Cayman 100.9 FM
- Ministry of Tourism & Transport
- The Westin Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach Resort & Spa
- Cayman Airways
- Sand Angels
- compassmedia

THE GREAT CAYMAN 'REOPENING' DEBATE

By Staff Writer

A robust debate is taking place on the back of a Caymanian Times editorial that raised the question: "Can Cayman afford another lockdown?"

The views are deeply held and varied with serious thought being given to the pros and cons of the reopening as scheduled with the risks and benefits being weighed.

Opinions are divided reflecting the feeling amongst those, residents and others concerned about what the implications could be for Cayman.

A critical stage of the government's reopening schedule comes this week on September 9th with the start of Phase 3: Limited Introduction Of Tourism.

That is a key precursor to the main reopening of the borders on October 14th.

According to the government's official stance, this week's start of Phase 3 of the reopening schedule, is "subject to the achievement of an 80 per cent vaccination rate."

It says, "the limited introduction of tourism during slow season with some restrictions (including a flight slot management system) allows the CI Government to manage the number of persons arriving. This also allows CI Government and the tourism industry to develop capacity for dealing with larger volumes of travellers in preparation for high season."

With that 80 per cent double-vaccinated rate still some way off target, the government says that in time for the October 14th main reopening and restart of land-based/stayover tourism, "it is anticipated that the local vaccination rate will be adequate, allowing for the safe increase in tourism and further relaxation of restrictions."

That has led to a stream of reactions over the state of preparedness and the risk versus reward scenario.

These reflect the ongoing concerns in the community and the task of the government aiming to find the right balance

among the competing concerns revolving around the lives versus livelihoods debate.

A sample of the feedback is food for thought and highlight the real concerns as Cayman seeks to safely manoeuvre out of its Covid bubble - which has already had several breaches - to a situation where there's a high probability of increased cases.

An edited snapshot of some of the comments paints a picture of concerns in need of reassurance.

"Cayman can't afford another lockdown, but for sure we will be going back down that road because of lack of foresight and decision-making by the leaders that's being bullied by outsiders and investors and special interest groups," one person wrote.

Another commented, "Time to start living with Covid variants and open up borders! Countries can't stay closed down indefinitely!"

The urgency and necessity of vaccination is also emphasised. "Get your shots. The people who are getting seriously ill are not vaccinated."

Quarantine is questioned: "You can contract and spread Covid even with the vaccine. Without quarantine, community spread is inevitable. Procedures and regulations for managing that spread should be discussed and shared with hospitals, schools and other businesses that will be affected whether locked down or not, preparation is necessary, well in advance of opening. At this point, no plan exists. This is worrisome to many. Cart before the horse and dangerous on a small island with significant interaction between a wide variety of community members."

And doubts persist, especially regarding the Delta variant. "We are going to get the Delta variant. No doubt about it."

Social distancing and mask-mandates seem inevitable in this comment. "Wear your mask, wash your hands, keep away from crowded places. The only person caring about you is you. The want of mon-

ey and tourism will cause these islands some serious times."

But another person countered: "People talking about money-hungry but not thinking of the thousands of Caymanians who are without a job and hundreds more who are about to lose their businesses."

There are equally strong views calling for the economy to be opened up. "We have to reopen so many people are out of jobs and the government does not have a money tree."

And on the lockdown question, the views are also mixed: "Cayman has basically been locked down for the last 18 months," was one comment, while another felt "If we open we will eventually need to lockdown," another contributor felt that "the term "lockdown" is being used very loosely."

Another comment stated: "I have heard many persons who have big business here talking about closing their doors if there is another lockdown. If a proper protocol is in place to protect the population we will be fine."

This 'strategy' was also suggested: "To please everyone, we should have a virtual reopening. Stop wasting time, and invest in building a website for potential tours, that can log on for a fee, to view our beautiful Islands, in the safety of their living room."

These are just a reflection of the concerns as Cayman takes the next significant steps.

(Read the full reactions, follow the debate and add your own considered thoughts on <https://www.facebook.com/CaymanianTimes>)

Premier, Hon Wayne Panton, emphasises that the reopening plan, which is slowly rolling back requirements for inward travel over the remainder of 2021, is essential to safely restarting the economy, the GIS recently reported.



As restrictions are reduced, Mr Panton says the likelihood of the COVID-19 disease re-entering the Cayman Islands community will increase. He comments that the COVID-19 vaccine offers the best protection against the risk that the deadly disease poses to Caymanians and residents of all ages.

Practising COVID-19 prevention protocols, including handwashing, mask-wearing and social distancing, if vulnerable, are among the ways that members of the public can protect themselves, their loved ones and the wider community, the Premier says.

Mr Panton adds: "The Government, with the support of Public Health Officials and the Civil Service, has put a tremendous amount of planning and preparation into ensuring that we can successfully move through each phase of the plan, which is so important to the economic health of our country."

"Our goal, led by the science, is to guarantee minimal risk to the community and we are continuously reviewing and upgrading our processes with this in mind. My sincerest thanks to the board for everything that they have done to date," Mr Panton states.

COVID-19
gov.ky/coronavirus



Border reopening
A phased approach to tourism.



CAYMAN ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT

Government allocates extra \$3m for housing repairs

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

they have got exponentially worse, but, in addition to that, there were home owners who cannot afford repairs who weren't on the list who have damage as a result of Tropical Storm Grace, so it's incumbent upon the Government to assist as much as we can," the Minister advised.

Minister Ebanks acknowledged it was a difficult situation, because Cayman was still in hurricane season and therefore Government had to be prudent with repairs so that repairs weren't undertaken and then another storm comes along and knocks over the repairs they had already done.

"So, we have to take a prudent and cautious approach to drive folks in," he stated. "Some of the repairs range from roofing to electrical to flooring, all things are urgent as we sit here, as we speak."

MP for Bodden Town East Dwayne Seymour asked if there would be a cap attributed to each home for repairs. Minister Ebanks said under the existing programme the cap was \$25,000 but the Minister had the ability to waive that in a case by case basis at their discretion. Minister Ebanks said he would anticipate this happening because the programme did not run in 2020 or for the first part of 2021, so a lot of the cases had become increasingly urgent.

Mr Seymour asked how he could advise his constituents to becoming part of the programme to assist with housing repairs, as his constituency was one of the worst hit after Grace and he had a long list of people waiting.

Minister Ebanks said they were speeding things up because of the extreme necessity. He called the situation a "crisis" due to Grace and said the housing team had created a very simple checklist that could be submitted to the housing repair team and then they would go and assess the homes.

Mr Seymour asked if they were still going through the old programme of getting three bids for the housing repair projects.

Minister Ebanks said they were looking at the system but they had to be aware of managing public money and so might have to expand the pool of people who could bid to do the repairs.

People would be means tested for getting funds and the Government was also talking to the R3 organisation to see how they could work together on this project, including them matching funding provided by Government.

Minister Ebanks said: "I think this is a massive opportunity for the entire Government and this honourable house to assist and get our arms around what I believe is an urgent housing situation in this country."

New OfReg Board Chairman Appointed

Bringing over 35 years of telecommunications experience to the role, Rudy Ebanks has been appointed by Cabinet as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Utility Regulation and Competition (OfReg).

The appointment is in accordance with section 15 of the Utility Regulations and Competition Act (2021 Revision) and sections 9 and 10 of the Public Authorities Act (2020 Revision).

Mr. Ebanks formerly served on the OfReg Board as a non-Executive Director following a 36-year career in telecommunications with Cable & Wireless that spanned areas including engineering, sales, customer service, project and programme management, national and international carrier relations, regulatory and senior management.

He was responsible for leading a team of experts in the negotiations for liberalisation of the Cayman Islands telecommunications market and has had regulatory training at both Coventry University/UK and PURC (Public Utility Research Centre), University of Florida.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Border Control & Labour Hon. Chris Saunders said, "Mr. Ebanks possesses strategic planning, leadership skills and integrity acquired from his extensive experience in telecommunications, and has sound knowledge of the Utility Regulations and Competition Act as well as the Public Au-



► Rudy Ebanks - New OfReg Board Chairman (MBCL Photo)

thorities Act. My Cabinet colleagues and I are confident that his vast knowledge and experience will enable him to execute the duties of the Chair in a highly competent and politically neutral manner."

Deputy Premier Saunders, who as Minister for Border Control & Labour has oversight responsibility for OfReg, said he looked forward to working with Mr. Ebanks.

Mr. Ebanks' appointment is for a three-year term and is effective immediately. The position has been vacant since 21 May 2021 following the resignation of the former Chairman, Dr. Hon Linford A. Pierson, OBE, JP.

CUSTOM PHOTO PRINTING & FRAMING CANVAS AND FINE ART PAPERS



WORLD FAMOUS
CathyChurch's
Photo Centre

AT SUNSET HOUSE 949-7415

Copying
Mounting
Stretching
Restoration
& MORE



OPEN MON- SAT 10AM- 5PM
CATHY@CATHYCHURCH.COM

 **Puritan**
DRY CLEANERS & LAUNDRY

PURITAN LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING



FREE PICK UP AND DELIVERY SERVICES

DRAPE DRAPE DRAPE!

Puritan Cleaners now offering 12% OFF on Drapes pick-up and delivery. Unhang and rehang at \$9.65 per hour (optional). To our hospitality services, let us help you be ready. Before attempting to remove rubber back drapes please give us a call.

Puritan Cleaners – Eastern Avenue at 949-7104
Elgin Avenue at 949-2452
Savannah Countryside at 946-1884

We Can Make Your Rooms Look Good!

puritanc@candw.ky | www.puritan.ky



PHONES • ACCESSORIES • REPAIRS
BAYTOWN PLAZA, WEST BAY ROAD

JOURNALISM AND MEDIA SUMMER CAMP INSPIRES YOUNG REPORTERS

Industry-led summer camp introduces aspiring journalists to art of storytelling through technology

In partnership with seven local media houses, Dart's Minds Inspired facilitated the launch of a new summer camp to introduce high school students to the world of journalism and media.

Over the course of seven days in August, 14 students from a cross-section of local public and private high schools got hands-on-experience learning from seasoned journalists from Cayman Current, Cayman News Service, Cayman Marl Road, Loop Cayman, Caymanian Times, Radio Cayman, Compass Media and Camana Bay Times.

The free admission camp included field trips to the Cayman Islands Courts, Radio Cayman and Compass Media, and facilitated classroom sessions on news writing for print, radio and video; journalism ethics; court reporting; sports and weather coverage; careers in media; business models; the relevance of social media; and content discernment.

"The camp was amazing," said 14-year-old student Ethan Bodden. "I met new people and had some excellent experiences. I know others may think journalism is boring, but I now have a whole new understanding of news and entertainment."

The camp culminated with the students working in groups to submit a print or video storytelling assignment. On the final day, the students presented their assignments to their peers and a panel of industry experts and received certificates for successfully completing the camp. These news pieces can be viewed on the Cayman Current website at www.caymancurrent.org.

Inspiring the next generation of journalists

The Minds Inspired camp was made possible through the collaboration of seven local media houses – representing print, digital and broadcast media exper-



tise - the Dart Center for Journalism & Trauma based at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in New York City, and independent media experts.

"Modern journalists and media professionals rely on technology to gather and share the content they produce. We wanted to help high school students consider careers in media and journalism, and see how the work is enabled by technology," said Pilar Bush, Dart executive vice president of marketing with responsibility for community development. "I would like to thank all of the local media partners, Bruce Shapiro of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University and our local team at Dart; they helped the students distinguish between different types of media content, helped one teen who already runs his own digital news outlet and

inspired a few to consider a career in this expansive and exciting industry."

In addition to representatives from Cayman Current, Cayman News Service, Cayman Marl Road, Loop Cayman, Caymanian Times, Radio Cayman and Compass Media facilitating classroom sessions and media house tours, the camp also benefited from virtual and in-person sessions led by former veteran journalists Tammi Sulliman, Alan Markoff, Jay Ehrhart and Lennon Christian, as well as Cayman Sports Buzz journalist Ben Meade.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in the journalism and media summer camp, and to meet some of Cayman's bright and talented students," said Patrick Brendel of Cayman Current. "Even if they choose to follow career paths outside of journalism, I think the information provided to them during the camp will make them more discerning consumers of news media as adults. Many thanks to Minds Inspired and local media colleagues for coming together to make this camp happen."

Compass Media Editor-in-chief Kevin Morales said the level of participation from the next generation of reporters was inspiring.

"Compass Media believes journalism plays an integral role in a democracy and developing an interest in the industry among young Caymanians is of the utmost importance to us. We were happy to see the level of participation in this inaugural camp and hope to one day read these same students' names on the bylines and credits of the stories we read and watch every day," he said.

Ralph Lewis of Caymanian Times hopes the camp has sowed the seeds for more growth in the journalism and media industry. "As the Fourth Estate, media and the free press demand recognition not only from residents but also the youth who are choosing their desired careers.

The Journalism and Media Summer Camp facilitated by Minds Inspired is a step in the right direction and I hope that we will see more interest in this profession in the future."

Content Manager at Loop Cayman Daphne Ewing-Chow said, "It was extremely gratifying to be able to discuss the potential for journalism to create positive change on a local, regional and international level with these eager young minds." Speaking on behalf of Radio Cayman, Head of Department Norma McField said, "It was a privilege for Radio Cayman to be involved in this first initiative which, by all accounts, has exceeded expectations. The participants displayed a high level of curiosity and were very engaged when presented with the different aspects of radio, which included news, on air presentations and promotions. Congratulations to the Minds Inspired programme and we look forward to this becoming an annual offering for students who are interested in pursuing communications as a career."

Cayman Marl Road Manager Sandra Hill shared that the camp participants had technology on their side as the world of media continues to evolve. "The advantage is that technology will make the jobs of journalists more seamless in so many respects, making it accessible for them to forge new paths never before imagined," she said.

The 2021 Journalism and Media Camp is one of nine initiatives facilitated by Dart's Minds Inspired. With a focus on STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics – Minds Inspired hosts a variety of opportunities, events and programmes to inspire curiosity, critical thinking and collaboration in the next generation of community and business leaders, while opening their minds to the possibilities of new career paths.

For more information, visit mindsinspired.ky.



Nominations Open for Proud of Them Round 13

The Youth Services Unit (YSU) invites the public to submit nominations for round thirteen of the Proud of Them awards scheme.

Nominations for the programme to identify, appreciate and reward talent and excellence among youth in the Cayman Islands are now open. Nominations will close on 30 September 2021.

Youth Minister, Hon. Bernie Bush said, "I am pleased to announce the start of round thirteen of the Proud of Them programme."

"This annual government-run youth appreciation and recognition initiative is an exciting platform for us to acknowledge the exceptional accomplishments of 15 of our most able and talented young persons," he added.

The number of awardees will increase from 12 to 15 as three more billboards, including two on Cayman Brac, have been added to showcase each honouree. Persons ages 10 to 25 years with a proven track record of excellence and success, in the categories of academics, careers, busi-

ness, sports, culture or community service, are eligible for nomination.

Nominations forms can be completed online at www.youthservices.ky. The forms can also be accessed from the YSU website and submitted by email to info.ysu@gov.ky

Speaking about the move to paperless nominations, YSU's Head of Unit Designate, James Myles, said, "For the last round, we switched over to electronic nominations to reduce processing time and to increase overall efficiency. We are asking interested parties to visit the Youth Services Unit website www.youthservices.ky/pot-nominate to complete nominations or to access a nomination form," Mr. Myles stated.

A selection committee will review the nominations to select 15 honourees. The names of those chosen will be announced at an awards gala in the first quarter of 2022.

Each honouree will be awarded a \$1,000 cheque at the awards gala. They will also feature on roadside billboards across the Cayman Islands for twelve months.



► Guest speaker and Proud of Them honouree, Bradley McLaughlin speaking at a Proud of Them Gala

CTLT welcomes new students on a journey of bible discovery

Ever since its beginning in 2017, the Centre for Theological Leadership Training (CTLT) has provided local people who have an interest in learning more about the bible, along with those actively involved in church and mission work, with a solid foundation with theological principles along with practical leadership and outreach instruction.

The Centre is open to everyone, regardless of previous academic qualifications, and students can start off with the One-year Certificate course, moving through to a Diploma and Bachelors in Theology. Or, if they want to go even further, they can complete a fully accredited Masters or Doctorate degree. CCTLT is geared to

accommodate the needs of busy people with families and jobs, and now students can participate from the comfort of their own homes, via zoom, providing systematic and professional teaching on theological subjects like Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Counseling and many more. Weekend classes start from Saturday and Sunday 11 and 12 September 2021, while weekday classes take place in the evenings on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, beginning on 13, 14 and 15 September 2021. There are no exams, and all assessment is by assignments.

CTLT graduate Pauline Russell said, "I joined CCTLT from its beginning in Septem-

ber 2017, when I enrolled for the Certificate Course. To date, I have completed the Certificate, Diploma, Degree course, and recently I successfully completed the Masters course in Theology with CCTLT. I felt I would benefit from additional personal studies of the word of God, but within a group setting. I also felt that it would assist with the delivery of my chosen ministry area which is music and singing. CCTLT has more than met my expectations. I now feel better equipped with the right tools to help study the word of God from a broader and deeper perspective.

For anyone who wishes to develop their understanding of the Word of God, or even if you have no understanding at all, I

highly recommend enrolling in any of the courses or subjects offered by CCTLT as the result will surely be a positive life-changing experience."

Bishop Lawrence, who began CCTLT in 2017, welcomed new students as well as previous graduates, "If you would like to improve the quality of your life in terms of your relationship with God and relationship to one another and make a positive contribution to the transformation of society, come to CCTLT and learn more – that is how you can make a difference."

For more details and registration, please contact: Bro Winston Vernon, Administrator, at 1-(345) 324 8196. Website: www.ctlt.cayman.org. Email: info@ctlt.ky



► Graduates of the CCTLT at the Church of God of Prophecy on Eastern Avenue, earlier this year



► Graduates of the CCTLT at the Church of God of Prophecy on Eastern Avenue, earlier this year

POLICE NEWS

Police Warn Against Use of Mobile Phones while Driving

So far this year, approximately 225 reports of motor vehicle collisions have been received by the police per month. The vast majority of these collisions are reported as 'damage only' collisions, a large number of which, take place during peak traffic times, which further add to the congestion on the roadways.

It is widely believed that the main cause of these types of collision is distracted driving, with the main offence being, using a mobile phone while driving.

With schools now in session, and an increased number of children utilising the roadways, the RCIPS will be conducting traffic operations targeting motorists using their mobile phones while driving. Last week, officers issued just under 20 tickets to persons using their mobile phones whilst driving.

"We are encouraging all drivers to give 100% of their attention to driving, and particularly, not to use their mobile



phones during their commute," says Chief Inspector Malcolm Kay, "Not only is the use of mobile phones an offense in the Cayman Islands, carrying a fine of \$150, but in using your phone while driving you not only put your life at risk, but also the lives of other road users, including children going to and from school."

Let us all do our part to "Make the Cayman Islands Safer" by not using our mobile phones while driving, or any other forms of distracted driving.



Police Investigate Incident at Government High School

Shortly before 3:30PM on Thursday, 2 September, officers responded to a report of an incident at a government high school. It was reported that a school bus had returned to the school due to an altercation involving a student and a bus warden. When the bus arrived at the school a member of staff entered and attempted to speak to the student involved. The student assaulted the staff member, striking her multiple times and returning to the back of the bus.

While officers were at the location conducting inquiries, a family member of the student arrived and immediately began behaving in an aggressive and threatening manner, making serious threats towards the staff members and officers present. She then left the location with the student.

The member of staff who was assaulted attended the Cayman Islands Hospital for treatment for what appear to be minor injuries and was subsequently discharged.

In a release on Friday, The Department of Education Services (DES) expressed its

concern regarding the incident involving students and staff of the Clifton Hunter High School which occurred.

"The health and safety of our students and staff are at the forefront of our operations, and we are committed to maintaining a safe and harmonious school environment. Students, staff and other adults that interact with our students are all expected to relate to each other in a respectful manner," stated DES Director Mr. Mark Ray.

The school has launched an internal investigation into the incident and will implement the prescribed protocols for addressing the identified issues.

Mr. Ray continued, "We will provide the Clifton Hunter High School students and staff with the requisite support to appropriately address the allegations, and work to prevent a reoccurrence of any similar situation."

The matter is also under investigation by the RCIPS, and officers are supporting school staff and other relevant agencies in their response.

RCIPS responds to conviction of Jashawn Johnson for murder of Michael Bush

On Thursday 2 September, 21 year old Jashawn Johnson of George Town was convicted of the murder of 22 year old Michael Bush, which took place at the Strand on West Bay Road, 24 December 2020. Johnson will be sentenced November 2021.

"We thank the witnesses that came forward and gave evidence which played a vital role in achieving this outcome", says Superintendent Peter Lansdown. "Although the police are satisfied with the

court result, it doesn't take away from the fact that a young man has lost his life and yet another family from our community has lost their son, due to a few seconds of madness with a weapon".

Police remind the public that it is illegal to carry an offensive weapon. In the heat of the moment situations can escalate quickly and bad decisions can be made resulting in often life changing injuries or in the worst cases, fatalities, as is demonstrated in this case.

HOPE FOR TODAY FOUNDATION

5K WALK/RUN FOR RECOVERY

— 26th September 2021 —

Starting at Seven Mile Public Beach
Walk: 6am / Run: 6:15am

TICKETS: \$10

Prizes: Staycation at the Holiday Inn • Staycation at the Westin
Dinner for 2 at the Lobster Pot • Plus many other prizes!

Contact: Brent 928-9099 or Chris 326-6783 • www.caymanhopefoundation.com

All proceeds to benefit our halfway house programme

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

COLDWELL BANKER B junk J. MICHAEL OUTLET MCALPINE Calypso Grill DR. TOMLINSON MORGAN'S
Lobster Pot FRANK HALL HOMES Mango Tree ISLANDAIR PARASAILING PROFESSIONALS LTD MAEDAC FOSTERS SureBuilt CONSTRUCTION LTD

Cayman Night Life Surviving Covid-19

The entertainment scene in the Cayman Islands has been busy rebounding since the borders closed nearly 18 months ago and ahead of the reopening the entertainment product seems poised and ready for the influx of visitors.

Restaurants, bars and nightclubs have been coming up with innovative ways to entertain their guests, whilst competing for coveted dollars in the highly competitive environment that has emerged.

At venues across the world famous West Bay Road and in George Town - the Islands' Capital - bands of all genres of music can be found plying their trade; delivering the obligatory two to three hour 'sets' that audiences have become familiar with on the Island of Grand Cayman.

Bevvy at the Palmar Hotel; formally known as the Margarittaville, is one of the hotspots that has been a steadfast purveyor of live music each and every Friday night. The venue has been a great spot for locals and residents to congregate around the sounds of some of the Islands' best bands.

Backyard, which is also in the same complex and sits just adjacent to Bevvy, is also offering live music and their Wednesday night live jazz ensemble has been receiving great reviews.

Other venues offering LIVE Music include the Lodge, where acts have been delivering shows on Friday nights as well, in addition to a slew of jam nights and open mic events.

In George Town, establishments like Cabana and the Sandbar have been lighting

up the Harbour with some great acts and varying degrees of success.

There also several Karaoke nights that have been growing in popularity such as Mango Tree on a Thursday night, The Office Bar and Lounge on Saturdays and Fidel Murphy's on a Friday night.

A plethora of other activities including Boogie Nights at the Wharf on the last Friday of every month or the Full Moon Party at Tillies on the roof top; also on the last Friday of every month, have helped to keep residents entertained.

Supplementing these offerings are some relatively new bars such as the Back Room; a smoke lounge next door to Lonestar Bar and Grill and The Bird; a new sports bar in the Seven Mile Shops where food, drinks and a vibrant crowd come together to make for a great experience.

As the re-opening of our borders here in the Cayman Islands looms business owners say they are hoping we do not take two steps forward and two steps backward.

"We just hope that it's not gonna result in another lockdown, otherwise what's the purpose. If we are going to open up just to shut down even worse in the coming weeks and months ahead," noted one owner whom the Caymanians Times spoke with on condition of anonymity.

He explained that the plan being considered by government includes some social distancing, restaurants moving tables apart, persons having to wear masks again and the limiting of the number of people gathered in certain locations.



► Live Music at the Sandbar

The government has said that it intends to make the move to re-opening the borders as seamless as possible and has been courting public option on the matter, whilst encouraging the population to get vaccinated.

The current Minister for Tourism, the Honourable Kenneth Bryan has been on record stating, "We're shooting for a 75% to 80% vaccination rate for our citizens. That's been our target all along, but the closer we get to that target, the harder it seems to reach it," Bryan said.

"Some islands pulled the trigger too fast and had to backtrack," Bryan said.

"The Cayman Islands government and the department of tourism developed a five-phase plan to ensure a safe and healthy experience for those working in the industry and our visitors.

"We want to be the one country that does not have to close after full reopening," he added.

Airlines such as American Airlines have expressed interest in coming to the Cayman Islands but have also noted that there is not quite the demand from travellers yet.

Still, the airline is expected to resume some flight to the Cayman Islands in October.

Vistra and Citi support Food Securities Fund

Vistra and Citi support the start of the Food Securities Fund, allowing institutional investors to achieve environmental and social impact at attractive risk-adjusted returns

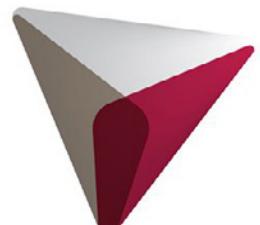
The Fund started operations and concluded its first investment in March 2021.

Citi acts as the Fund's Central Administration Agent and Depository. This work builds on Citi's longstanding leadership and innovation in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) activities. Since 2005, through a specialist team dedicated to social and inclusive finance, Citi has developed solutions that enable its clients and partners to expand access to financial services and advance economic progress in underserved market segments across the globe. Adding to this momentum, earlier this year Citi announced a USD\$1 trillion commitment to sustainable finance by 2030.

Jonas Bossau, Director, Citi, mentioned that "as a global bank with a mission to enable economic growth and progress, we are committed to driving inclusive, social and sustainable finance solutions. The Food Securities Fund is a fabulous opportunity to harness the power of prominent investors and targeted investments to build on our track record of catalyzing social and inclusive finance and to help drive food security in developing markets around the world".

Vistra Fund Management's AIFM ManCo services and proven track record of helping

VISTRA



funds across the world was key to enabling the regulated fund structure setup in Luxembourg. Vistra Group, a leading provider of expert advisory and specialized fund administration services to Alternative Funds, Corporate, Capital Markets and Private Wealth clients, was delighted to seal the partnership with Clarmondial and Citi. Vistra works with a number of the leading Private Equity and not-for-profit investment funds around the world. Vistra's capabilities enable investment organizations around the world to grow, manage, structure and transact their investment opportunities with a range of industry leading services.

Jan Vanhoutte, Managing Director & Conducting Officer of Vistra Fund Management, added that "combining our proven track record in managing alternative investment

funds and our expertise in interpretation and implementation of SFDR was key in helping Food Securities Fund deal with their regulatory requirements. We're delighted that Vistra has been able to provide these essential services so that Clarmondial can focus their efforts on originating and executing the best investments to foster sustainable agriculture supply chains and catalyse environmental and social impact".

Fred Werneck, co-founder of Clarmondial, commented that "agriculture supply chains urgently need working capital to support the uptake of sustainable practices, improve smallholder farmer livelihoods, and address climate change and biodiversity loss. With Citi and Vistra on board, the Food Securities Fund is well placed to channel institutional capital to unlock change at the required scale".

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

Grenada imposes new lockdowns

The Grenada government has imposed no movement days as well as a daily curfew until Sept. 20 as the island battles with an upsurge in cases of COVID-19 that has killed four people in as many days and infected many others.

Prime Minister Dr Keith Mitchell made the announcement in a radio and television broadcast on Friday. He said: "Tonight, I extend deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased. I pray that the Lord strengthens you in your time of grief." He urged people to behave responsibly and follow all protocols.

Mitchell said effective Saturday, the curfew was effective until Monday, Sept.



► Grenada shoppers line up to stock up

6 from 7pm-5am and that from Friday, Sept. 10 to Monday, Sept. 13 as well as Sept. 17 to Sept. 20.

Mitchell also announced that there would be no inter-island travel between Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique during the curfew period.

JA medics earn big from testing

Jamaica's COVID-19 testing has become a source of riches for many local private doctors, some of whom are charging thousands of local dollars for a single test, with some even operating without certification from the Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation (JANAAC).

A single antigen test costs upwards of J\$7,000 (KY\$38) and the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test is far more expensive. Jamaica has a huge problem with the virus spreading as well as scepticism over taking the vaccine. Affordability of testing exacerbates the problem.

One medical doctor conducting testing revealed that there is the prevailing practice of several approved labs selling tests to unapproved labs. In return, the unap-



► Jamaica's vaccine take up is comparatively low

proved labs state that they are affiliated with the approved lab and a percentage of each test is reportedly given to the approved labs as part of the deal.

The doctor went on to explain that labs purchase the kits for J\$47,000 (KY\$260) and resell to the unapproved labs for a huge mark-up. From there, additional mark-ups are applied to the cost of testing, which ultimately ends up with being passed on to customers.

Cuban vendors adapting to change

Cuban entrepreneurs, running businesses ranging from selling dried fruit to repairing bikes and developing software, are scrambling to understand the opportunities and challenges ahead after a landmark change in the rules governing the Communist-run economy.

The government introduced reforms last month lifting restrictions on small and medium-sized businesses and to access state financing, ending decades of classifying them as "self-employed". The measure is seen as one of the most important reforms undertaken since all businesses - down to shoe-shine boys - were nationalised in 1968 by late leader Fidel Castro.

The reforms are overwhelming received as positive, long-sought by many Cubans. There are restrictions though, such as people can own no more than one business and cannot contract foreign partners or carry out direct foreign trade.

"Given the economic situation and remaining restrictions, it will not mean a big economic improvement in the short term," said Omar Everleny, an academic and economist.

Cuba's economy contracted by 10.9 percent in 2020 and shrank another two percent this year through June, compared with the same period in 2020. It remains reliant on tourism and imports.



► Cuba's self-employed have fewer restrictions now

Trinidad churches partly re-open

Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Dr Keith Rowley allowed places of worship to re-open from Monday - but they can only operate at 25 percent capacity because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Rowley stated that church or other religious services are limited to only one hour, and people must exercise extreme caution. All attendees are required to wear face masks, maintain social distancing and sanitise their hands before entering the places of worship.



► Trinidad's churches are only allowed 25 percent capacity

The government had closed all places of worship after the country recorded a huge increase in daily virus cases. After the closure, people were mostly attending virtual church services.

The decision is being welcomed by all religious communities of the country. People have shown confidence in the government's decision and also promised to adhere to health protocols. But some people want the government to allow 50 percent occupancy at religious places.

Barbados chooses Queen's replacement

Barbados has named Dame Sandra Mason to replace Britain's Queen Elizabeth as its head of state. This is ground-breaking plus the fact that two black women are occupying the top positions there for the first time.

On Nov. 30, Independence Day, Barbados will switch from being simply an independent nation since 1966 to a full-fledged republic with its own head of state.

Dame Sandra moves up from Governor General (the Queen's representative in Barbados) to become the country's first ceremonial president. The governing Barbados Labour Party (BLP) announced that Dame Sandra, a former leading judge, has agreed to become the first titular head of state when the constitutional change is made, meaning that she would serve alongside the island's first woman Prime Minister in attorney Mia Mottley.



► Dame Sandra Mason will be president of Barbados soon

This development has spurred regional historians into researching whether this has ever happened even briefly in the 15-nation bloc of mostly former British colonies.

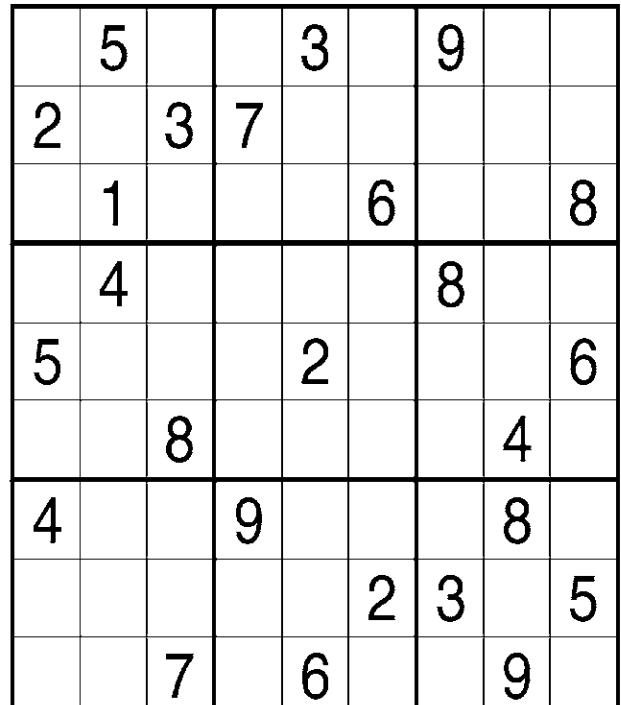
Mottley's BLP had in mid-2018 swept all 30 parliamentary seats in general elections, giving it the political clout to achieve an ambition that had long been held by both of the island's two major parties.

SUDOKU

Conceptis 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.

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

© 2020 Conceptis Puzzles. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
3/15

Answer to previous puzzle

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

© 2020 Conceptis Puzzles. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
3/14

Word Search



Babel	Judea
Bethel	Moab
Bethesda	Nazareth
Bethlehem	Sidon
Beulah	Sinai
Cana	Sodom
Damascus	
Eden	
Edom	
Egypt	
Endor	
Ephesus	
Gath	
Gaza	
Gilead	
Jericho	
Jerusalem	
Judah	

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



Have fun with
**CAYMANIAN
TIMES**

THE AMAZING SPIDER MAN



By Stan Lee

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Hospital worker

1 Goes for

6 Rho follower

11 Left, on liners

12 Flynn of film

13 Contradict

14 Zigzag

15 Complete

16 Serving feat

18 Pricing word

19 Wish undone

20 Ruin

21 Place

22 Benders

24 Heidi's home

25 Tel Aviv native

27 Jumbles of noise

29 Cattle marks

32 Easter quest

33 Pickle purchase

34 Opening

35 Numerical prefix

36 Can. neighbor

37 Suffix for hero

38 Pink shade

40 Hospital worker

42 Eat away follower

43 Dickens' Edwin

44 Transmits

45 Bright

DOWN

1 Scottish poles for tossing

2 Bare one's soul

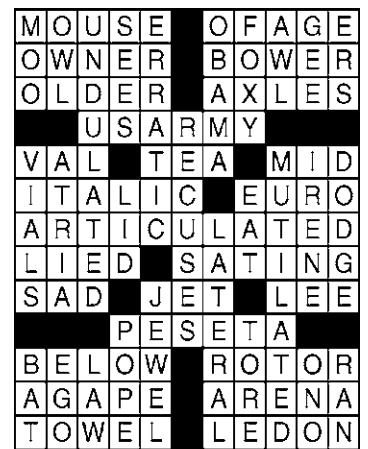
3 Tool for joining

4 Numerical prefix

5 Traveling trunk

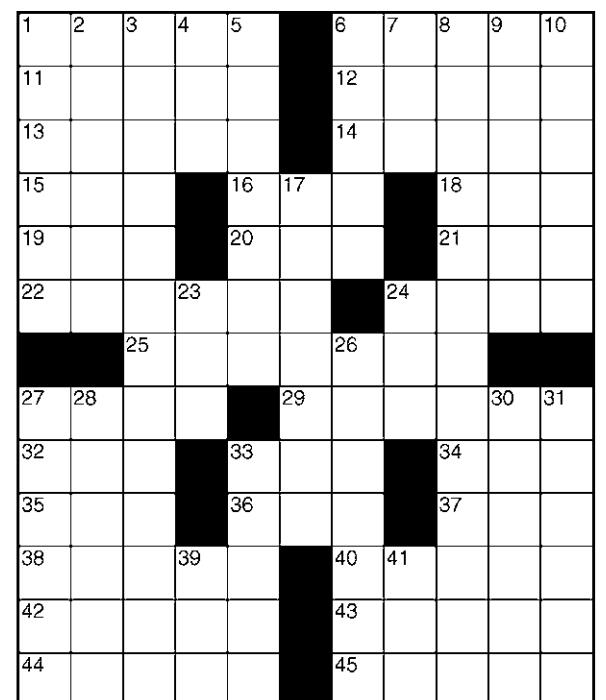
6 Rat's home work

7 Steamed state sometimes



Yesterday's answer

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 8 Tool for breaching | 28 Disregard |
| 9 Accelerate | 30 "The Good Place" |
| 10 Tips off | 17 Winter actor |
| 11 Rat's home | 31 Swift |
| 12 Steamed state | 27 Wild cards, 41 Braz. sometimes neighbor |



6-18

CURTIS

By Ray Billingsley



JUDGE PARKER

By Woody Wilson & Mike Manley



MARCELLINO + MANLEY 6/18

Caymanian Times



FREE WEBSITE BANNER

The screenshot shows the Caymanian Times website homepage. At the top, there's a weather forecast for Monday, Jun 14 2021, 05:33 PM, showing 88 F with clouds. Below the header, there's a banner for "OCEAN MED" with the tagline "MAKING WAVES IN WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE" and a "LEARN MORE" button. The main navigation menu includes links for Community Notices, Law Enforcement, Government, Community Voice, Election Center, COVID - 19, More, Subscribe, Smart Classifieds, Advertising, Online Poll, and a search bar. The "Latest News" section features several headlines with images: "ENGLAND'S LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS EXTENDED" (Boris Johnson), "Technology Is Positive for Both Financial and Social Services" (a man in a white shirt), and "Hurricane Exercise 'Neo' Tests Emergency Response Readiness" (two men in a meeting room). Below this, there's a "Census 2021" event photo and a "Potential Workers Learn About Census 2021" article thumbnail. The "Local News" and "Government" sections also have their own photo thumbnails.

This offer expires on August 31, 2021

Book a $\frac{1}{2}$ page
newspaper ad
get a Free
Online
Banner for
1 month



For more information contact
Ralph at **9162000** or email **sales@caymaniantimes.ky**
Visit **caymaniantimes.ky** for your Local and Regional News
NO SUBSCRIPTION REQUIRED