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Centenarian is Honoured on her Milestone Birthday

A 100-year-old lady received special birthday greetings on Tuesday, 12 October from Government officials.

Centenarian Mrs. Mandy Bernard, interestingly was born as the world was recovering from another pandemic (the 1918 Spanish Flu) and has seen and experience many things in her lifetime. Yet another new and happy experience for her was to watch a congratulatory video from Deputy Premier, Hon. Chris Saunders and Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage, Hon. Bernie Bush. Posted on the Government's YouTube channel, the clip was played to Mrs. Bernard and featured a montage of pictures of her through the years.

While practicing social distancing, the matriarch, who has three surviving children, 11 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren, was able to enjoy the company of two relatives on her special day, along with a birthday cake, flowers and balloons.

Proud granddaughter Nicole Bernard says her grandmother is in great health and puts her long life down to her amazing attitude: "She's the matriarch of the family and is always ready with a story or two about her life on Cayman Brac and what things were like back then."



▶ Centenarian Mrs. Mandy Bernard celebrated her milestone birthday Tuesday, 12 October

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THE PANEL DISCUSSION

THE PANEL REVIEW: REOPEN TO STAY OPEN

By Staff Writer

"If we can't open up in the coming weeks, no one can."

That affirmation of confidence by HE Governor Martyn Roper may have set the stage for Cayman to move beyond the current 'paused Phase 3' of the government's reopening timeline.

The much-anticipated Phase 4 of the reopening schedule was due to take effect last Thursday, October 14th with a significant relaxation of quarantine requirements and underpinned by the highest vaccination rate in the region - and one of the highest globally.

But that plan was thwarted by the outbreak of community spread of COVID-19 cases mainly among school children which pushed the number of cases from single digits to well over a hundred currently in less than a month.

Now Cayman finds itself at a critical crossroad in taking the next and most crucial step in restarting the vital tourism economy.

The government is also being pressed by the new private sector-led initiative, Reopen Cayman, to fully open the jurisdiction to international travel and business - except cruise tourism.

An imminent announcement this week of the reopening of the borders to stayover tourism promised by Premier Panton has also raised several questions about Cayman's state of readiness.

Premier Panton himself is adamant that Cayman should not follow the path of other countries which have rushed to reopen



only to be forced back into lockdown due to rising COVID-19 cases.

In many instances inadequate preventive and control measures have been blamed for such situations.

Speculation is that when the date is announced it's quite likely to be in line with the date being flagged by the Reopen Cayman lobby as the Premier's one month lead time from this week would fall close to their preferred date of November 22nd.

Faced with pressure on losing another season with the consequential effect on turnover and jobs, and warning of further business closures, 'the November 22nd reopening lobby' has also launched a public information campaign to drive home the urgency of extensively relaxing the current restrictions.

But how ready is Cayman to reopen and stay open...or is it a calculated gamble?

The matter was taken up by the Caymanian Times weekly discussion programme, The Panel.

The programme's host (Caymanian Times publisher and editor), Ralph Lewis advanced the view that an effective plan is required to ensure that once Cayman reopens, it stays open.

"We need to make sure in all our interests that when we open the borders we stay open. We have been hurting too long and the economy needs to get going. Even businessmen who have done well over the years are now suffering, and the whole country is suffering."

Commenting on the November 22nd date being advocated by the Reopen Cayman consortium, he said: "I think that the consortium is getting the message across that we need to open, and somebody needs to stand up and stick to their guns... and with 80% of the people supposed to be vaccinated by next week, which is what the target was. With everything's in place the hotel beds, and the vaccinations the lateral flow test kits are here a number of elements have come into play."

Mr Lewis is anticipating that Phase 4 will now be activated around the third week of November, in line with the call of Reopen Cayman.

Panel analyst Roy Bodden broadly concurs saying that Cayman cannot continue to live in a bubble.

"It's good that the government can work in tandem with the private sector. If the government feels comfortable with that, then

that's the way it should be. It's clear that you cannot continue to live in a bubble, because I respect the fact that business has to go on."

However, Dr Bodden added the proviso that "While I resent the idea of business trying to push the government, or trying to make the government look bad, it should be a cooperative effort and at the same time, we should ensure that the citizens are protected to the best level they can be because when we open up COVID will continue and perhaps there will be a time when we'll see an increase and spread. So we have to be prepared."

With the focus now on reopening analyst, Mario E Ebanks says a detailed plan covering the health, commercial and administrative aspects is crucial if Cayman is going to open and stay open.

"I'm hoping that that kind of project planning is what is going to make us different from other jurisdictions that have opened, and have didn't have all their ducks lined up as they say, and then within six weeks to eight weeks there's a crisis and they're shutting back down."

Mr Ebanks also said that it was necessary that all the key stakeholders in business, the community, and politics have an input in devising such a plan and making it work.

"Look, this is no time for politics. There's no time for us versus them. Let's get together and put our heads together and have commitments...All these things need to come up in a frank, honest discussion if you're going to be successful."

(The current and previous editions of The Panel can be viewed on the Caymanian Times Facebook page and website)

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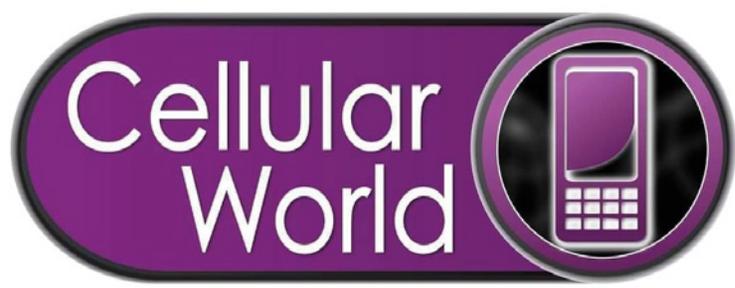
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Conyers Welcomes New Caymanian Litigation Attorney

Conyers continues the growth of its Cayman Islands office with the appointment of Tonicia Williams as an Associate Attorney in the Litigation & Restructuring practice.

An experienced Caymanian litigator, Tonicia's practice covers the spectrum of commercial litigation, asset recovery, and insolvency work, and she also has experience of public and regulatory law.

"We are very pleased to welcome Tonicia to our litigation, insolvency, and restructuring team," said Alex Potts QC, Partner & Head of Cayman Islands Litigation & Restructuring. "Tonicia has an excellent reputation, and an impressive track record. We are absolutely delighted that she has chosen to join Conyers for the next stage of her career, and we look forward to introducing her to the firm's clients".



Prior to joining Conyers, Tonicia spent time as an associate at another international law firm in the Cayman Islands, and she has also served as Crown Counsel at the Cayman Islands Attorney General's Chambers.

BUTTERFIELD BANKING CENTRE HOURS CHANGED

Butterfield Bank (Cayman) Limited ("Butterfield") today announced that beginning Monday, 18 October 2021, and until further notice, Butterfield Banking Centres will operate at reduced hours.

Butterfield's Banking Centres will now be open 9:00a.m. – 3:00p.m., Monday to Friday. To protect members of the public and our employees, capacity remains reduced, and clients must continue to wear a mask and follow all other COVID-19 guidance when visiting Butterfield. To reduce wait times, clients should utilise Butterfield's alternate banking channels, using any Butterfield ATM, Butterfield Online, or the Mobile Banking app where possible. In addition, clients wishing to make deposits continue to have the option of using any of our Butterfield Banking Centre ATMs or commercial drop boxes at Butterfield Place, Camana Bay, Governors Square or Midtown Plaza.

Our Personal Lending, Corporate Banking, Private Banking, Asset Man-



agement and Trust Services teams continue to be available to assist clients as normal.



THE PANEL

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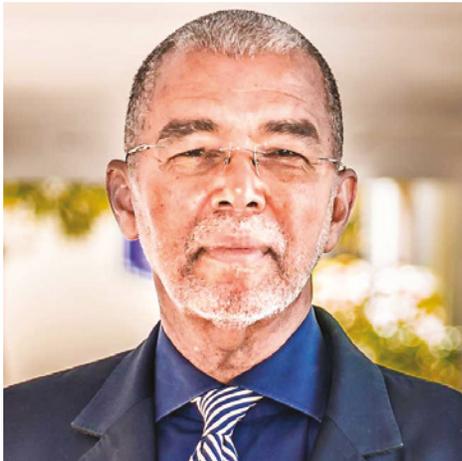
Mario E Ebanks



Ralph Lewis



Roy Bodden






Independent, candid and honest discussions on various topics affecting our Community

New vaccine mandates take effect

New laws are now in effect for work permit holders and permanent residents that stipulate they must be doubly vaccinated against Covid-19 in order to get or renew a work permit or residency certificate. Approved vaccines are AstraZeneca, Janssen (Johnson and Johnson), Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Border Control and Labour, Chris Saunders, said the legislation aimed to offer as much protection as possible to the diverse Cayman Islands community, while COVID-19 global pandemic continued.

"The revised legislation endeavours to make the new requirements as reasonable and humane as possible. We have removed the mandate for persons with existing close, long term personal connections to the Islands. In addition, we have built in grace periods where appropriate, and allowed medical exemptions where called for. We believe these changes have helped to improve what is otherwise a necessary piece of legislation," Mr Saunders said.

As of 15th October, applicants and their accompanying dependants must be fully vaccinated and provide proof of the Covid-19 vaccinations to WORC and CBC respectively when applying for or renewing the below categories of residence or employment facilities.

Under the new WORC – Immigration (Transition)(Amendment) Act, 2021, people affected include the following:

- Persons applying for work permit grants (WP) or renewing work permits, this includes temporary work permits (TWP) new applications and renewals;

- Amendments to a work permit to add dependents;

- Certificate for Specialist Caregivers;
- Permanent Residence; (applicants must have been legally and ordinarily resident in the Islands for at least eight years);
- Residence certificates for persons of independent means;

- Surviving or former spouses, civil partners and adult dependents of holders of residency certificates for persons of independent means or holders of certificates of permanent residence for persons of independent means, who are applying for such certificates in their own right;

- Persons applying for certificates of direct investment;

- Surviving/former spouse or civil partner of a certificate of direct investment holder applying for such a certificate in their own right;

- Holders of residency certificates (Substantial Business Presence);

- Spouses, civil partners and dependents of people holding residency certificates for persons of independent means and certificates of Direct Investment;

- Persons exempted from the gainful occupation requirements of non-Caymanians.

WORC officials noted that the changes meant that temporary work permit ap-



on-island when submitting their application can also declare their intent to complete an approved vaccine course, and provide a vaccination certificate to within 40 days of approval. Failure to provide WORC or CBC will result in revocation of any grant and having to leave the Islands.

Exemption

Anyone seeking exemption from the Acts on medical

grounds must obtain a letter/certificate from a physician in the Cayman Islands, if applying locally, or from a physician from the country of origin, if applying overseas. This document must be sent to the Health Services Authority for review and approval by the Medical Officer of Health, after which it should be submitted along with the application.

Under the CBC – Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Act, 2021, the following are now affected:

- Student visas;
- Persons renewing student visas;
- Persons arriving under the Global Citizen Concierge programme; and
- Those receiving entry permits approved by Cabinet.

Government has built in a short grace period for people overseas who might not be able to access the vaccine, so they can submit, along with their application, a declaration of their intent to complete an approved vaccine course within 40 days of arrival on-island. Failure to provide WORC or CBC a vaccination certificate confirming that the applicant has completed the full course will result in revocation of the approved application. People already

aplicants must submit an additional form along with the other required documents, although previously no medical form was required.

Additionally, WORC and CBC officials stress that if a vaccination certificate, declaration, or medical exemption is not included at the time of the application submission, this may cause a deferral or delay in processing. The declaration form can be found on both CBC and WORC websites.

To facilitate COVID-19 social distancing protocols, WORC and CBC encourages customers with queries to email: WORC@gov.ky or call 1-345-945-9672 or toll free 1 (800) 534 9672 or Customs & Border Control, email visa.queries@gov.ky or call the Customer Support Centre 1-345-649-4579.

Cayman Islands Regiment starts 2021 Recruitment

The Cayman Islands Regiment (CIR) aims to recruit new volunteers for its third cohort of recruitment. The CIR is looking for physically able individuals between the ages of 18- 50 years old who are Caymanian and Permanent Residents of the Cayman Islands to join.

Candidates are expected to complete the four-phase recruitment process. Phase one consists of physical assessment, phase two is an interview with Regiment personnel. Phase three comprises the medical and drug test and phase four is the 14-day non-residential training camp scheduled for 2022.

Once candidates successfully complete all phases of recruitment, they will be invited to the Passing Out Parade and officially become members of the Cayman Islands Regiment.

Lt Col Watson, the Commanding Officer of the CIR, encourages the men and women of the Cayman Islands to make an impactful contribution to the community by joining the regiment.

"The Cayman Islands Regiment is proud to serve Cayman in times of emergency. Since it was created last year, men and women of the Regiment have deployed during three tropical storms to carry out evacuations, route & debris clearance and



emergency food distribution; more recently teams have distributed emergency aid to 120 quarantining families across Grand Cayman. If you want to serve your community and be part of a dedicated team that supports Cayman then apply to join us."

Potential candidates are asked to complete the application on the CIR website www.explore.gov.ky/ciregiment. **The deadline for applications will be November 15th, 2021.**

If potential candidates have any questions or concerns, they can contact the Regimental Headquarters at 640-3889.



DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The Cayman Islands Regiment is currently accepting applications. We are looking for fit, healthy, enthusiastic team-players with a positive attitude and personal drive who want to make a difference in the Cayman Islands.



For further information and to apply go to www.gov.ky/ciregiment

Application deadline November 15, 2021

 Cayman Islands Regiment
  Cayman Islands Regiment

Health City Cayman Islands acquires Rapid Lateral Flow Test Kits

Self-administered tests provide results within 15 minutes. Will soon be made available to the public.

With the Cayman Islands Government indicating that rapid antigen (lateral flow) tests will be approved as part of its strategy for adapting and responding to living with COVID-19 in the community, Health City Cayman Islands has become the first private healthcare facility on island to acquire these tests.

Although PCR tests remain the highest standard for accuracy and confidence, the Chief Medical Officer has stated that lateral flow tests can successfully assist in quickly identifying potential positives in the community and safely resume many activities that are impacted by the current regulations the government has in place to stem the spread of COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands.

"As was the case in April 2020 when Health City was strategically positioned to help organise the delivery of a shipment of 30,000 personal protective equipment (PPE) kits, we are proud to

be the first private facility to have these test kits and will soon be able to offer these at an affordable price to the people of the Cayman Islands to help with the early detection of COVID-19 and, in turn, helping keep the community safe," said Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil, Clinical Director at Health City Cayman Islands.

"Once the government indicated that lateral flow tests will be part of their COVID-19 management strategy, it was important for us to be in a position to initially have these available to regularly test our employees and to also make them available to the public. It is important for our patients and the public to know that Health City is prioritising the wellbeing of those we serve," Dr. Binoy added.

Rapid lateral flow tests help to find cases in people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can pass on the virus to others. The test usually involves taking a sample from your throat and nose, or from your nose only, using a swab. It is easy to use, very affordable and accurately delivers results within 15 minutes using a device similar to a pregnancy test.



► Dr. Binoy Chattuparambil, Clinical Director at Health City Cayman Islands

Being able to provide these rapid tests is part of a toolkit to deal with COVID-19 in the community, noted Chief Business Officer at Health City, Shomari Scott.

"This is another tool that we are able to deploy, as we better adjust to living with COVID-19. These tests help with detecting positives and ruling out negatives. The

more knowledge we have about the extent of any spread in our community, the better we are able to keep each other safe," said Mr Scott.

"Thankfully, the Cayman Islands did not have to suffer the pain of the loss of life due to the virus. Tools like the rapid lateral flow tests help to minimise risk while moving forward, especially with the anticipated re-opening of the country's borders in the weeks and months ahead," he added.

Health City's lateral flow tests will be available once the government introduces its regulations regarding the use and administering of these tests, which is expected in the near future. Further details, including cost, will be announced subsequently.



Stage 2 of the Cayman Islands Hospital A&E renovations underway

The Health Services Authority (HSA) has embarked on stage 2 of its planned multi-phased project to expand the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department and improve patient experience at the Cayman Islands Hospital. Renovations include facility upgrades to the ceilings, lightings, flooring and walls of patient examination and treatment rooms.



► The new A&E waiting room was renovated in stage 1

Due to these upgrades, walk-in patients may experience a delay in service and are reminded to use the A&E services in cases of emergency only to prevent congestion and reduce wait times. An emergency is a critical or life-threatening situation that needs urgent medical attention which may include:

- Loss of consciousness
- Persistent, severe chest pain
- Breathing difficulties
- Severe bleeding that cannot be stopped
- Severe allergic reactions
- Severe burns or scalds
- Unexplained, acute drowsiness or disorientation

Less severe injuries and conditions can be treated at the Acute Care Clinic in the General Practice Building on the Cayman Islands Hospital campus. The clinic's hours of operation are Mondays – Fridays 7:30am – 8pm and Saturday 8:30am – 12pm.

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your patience and understanding as we improve our facilities to better serve you.



Thank you Cayman

The CIBC FirstCaribbean Walk for the Cure Campaign thanks our generous sponsors and all those who have helped with the successful fundraising efforts so far this year.

Although we were disappointed not to be able to hold the walk itself we wish to recognise all those that contributed to this initiative and helped us to reach our fundraising target and then some! It was lovely to see and hear of so many who wore their walk t-shirts and got out and walked in their neighborhoods.



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Premier Issues Condolence Statement

Sir David Amess, United Kingdom Member of Parliament and member of the Conservative Party, was stabbed several times in an incident at his constituency clinic in east London and died at the scene earlier today. A 25-year old man has been arrested by Essex police.

Sir David was a member of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Cayman Islands. In that role he extended to the Cayman Islands Government the op-

portunity to engage him in discussions on UK policy matters related to the Cayman Islands.

Premier, Hon. Wayne Panton stated, "This horrific tragedy is an affront to democracy and leaves us all shocked and very much saddened. Sir David cared deeply about the Cayman Islands and the other Overseas Territories. On behalf of the Government and people of the Cayman Islands, I wish to extend sincere con-

dolences to Sir David's family, friends and those who knew him."

Sir David served as a Member of Parliament for 33 years and focused his efforts from the back benches of the House of Commons where he sponsored many parliamentary bills - many of which were focused on his keen interest in animal welfare and his ambition to eliminate fuel poverty. He received his knighthood in 2015 for political and public service.



► Sir David Amess, United Kingdom Member of Parliament and member of the Conservative Party

Premier and Governor help launch Poppy Appeal Governor

By Christopher Tobutt

His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, the Premier, Hon Mr. Wayne Panton, and Deputy Governor, Hon. Franz Manderson all came to the Wharf Restaurant where Cayman Islands Veterans Association (CIVA) were launching their annual Poppy Appeal. There, they greeted some of the 40 members of the Association, before being ceremonially 'pinned' with their poppies, signifying the official beginning of the appeal, which runs for a month until Remembrance Day on Sunday 14 November. Then they joined Veterans in a luncheon.

The poppy appeal raises funds for the veterans by selling the blood-red poppies that commemorate all those who have sacrificed so much, including their own lives, for the freedom we enjoy today.

The Veteran's Association usually raises a lot of funds by its annual Gala, but this year it had to be cancelled because of safety considerations in the face of Covid, leaving the poppy appeal as one of the main fundraisers. During the lunch, several main sponsors who have faithfully stepped up to the plate year after year to support the Veterans. Sponsors included CIBC FCIB's Managing Director of Wealth Management Dan Wright, C/G Britcay's Lester Purvis, Stuarts' Head of Local Business Buck Grizzel and Island Heritage's Group Chief Underwriting Officer Caroline Mills-White.



► His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper, and Premier, Hon Wayne Panton (centre of photo) stand with members of the Veterans Association and uniformed service personnel at the launch of the Poppy Appeal

"Many veterans depend on us," Mr. McLaughlin said, "They need help with daily expenses, including food, and utilities. Many of them served at a time when

there was not proper provision for pensions, and they have sometimes found it hard to plan for their retirement."

Giving a recent example of where the CIVA had stepped in to help, Mr. McLaughlin told about a retired British Army officer who had a heart attack when he visited the Cayman Islands and quickly run up a hospital bill of half-a-million dollars at the Shetty Hospital. The fact of airport delays because of Covid had meant that his health insurance had run out, but the Association was able to vouch for the funds until the man was able to get safely home.

The Association also steps in to look after spouses of veterans who have, "Gone to their last post," Mr. McLaughlin said. Sometimes funds are available, but there is delay or complications involved with filling in the paperwork, so that CIVA is again able to step in to help, "They know somebody's got their back," Mr. McLaughlin said, "They know we're here to look out for them."

Premier, the Hon. Wayne Panton, said, "Let me say, it doesn't matter what the circumstances are, the opportunity to come and spend time with the members of the Veterans Association is a very distinct pleasure. I certainly recognize the contributions they have made, to our country and to the world.

His Excellency the Governor, Martyn Roper said, "This is the part of the year when we remember all those who have lost their lives in wars and battles over many centuries, particularly over the last century, and I know that the veterans association Cayman always do a fantastic job looking after all the veterans and their families and the poppy appeal is one of their main ways of raising funds. I'd really encourage everyone to look out for their poppies and purchase them so we can all wear them and remember those who have made sacrifices so that we, today can live the lives that we live."



► His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper gets pinned by CIVA's only female member, Mrs. Shadden McLaughlin, formerly of the US Marine Corps

Lateral flow pilot to release quarantined families

By Lindsey Turnbull

A pilot project to see if lateral flows can help reduce the time people have to isolate for people caught up in the local community Covid-19 outbreaks is to take place this weekend, when all households having to isolate who don't have positive cases will take these speedier tests.

"We recognise that we will soon have the ability to make a very profound impact with the use and application of these tests on the community, especially when the larger orders arrive," Premier Wayne Panton said at a press conference held on Thursday.

The Government would be fine-tuning the national lateral flow policy in the coming days, and their use would be a game changer, he said.

The pilot would help release some of the families who had been very significantly impacted by quarantine requirements.

A medical team will set up the pilot for families who were having to isolate because of exposure risk at school but who do not have positives in their households. They will be allowed to come into a testing centre where lateral flow tests will be conducted. They will be given a demonstration on how to use them and if they are negative they would be free to leave quarantine.



They will be given sufficient numbers of tests to conduct daily lateral flow tests until the end of their intended quarantine period and will be required to report those test results to Public Health.

"This is a pilot which will allow us to evaluate how these lateral flow tests are being utilised, how they are being reported on, and more importantly, provide much needed relief for some of our families or students who have been impacted," the Premier said.

This was a demonstration of the potential benefits of lateral flows and how they will make a difference.

"I want this those who are not participating to have some hope that this approach will be a significant game changer for how we manage this going forward and how we reduce the significant levels of inconvenience to families that we have been experiencing," Premier Panton said.

In addition, the Government was also changing the regulations next week so there would be no requirement to present a securely verifiable vaccination certificate for Caymanians and returning residents who have been vaccinated overseas with an approved vaccine course. This meant they would be able to return home and be eligible for the seven day quarantine period.

HSA beefed up further for Covid

The recent outbreaks of Covid-19 among the community following over a year of no community spread have highlighted key areas of Cayman's healthcare service provision that needed strengthening in order to cope with the eventual reopening of the country, stated Health Minister Sabrina Turner, who was speaking at a press conference held on Thursday.

"We have learnt that there are areas of our public health response that definitely need more support, in fact, the public healthcare system is ramping up in several ways to ensure we will be ready to meet the challenges that may land on our doorstep in the coming months," she advised.

She said they had just increased the recruitment of additional staff and that had been going well and, in particular, she was pleased to hear of the new job placements of the many Caymanians that would help to enhance Cayman's Covid response.

"We also continue to provide additional services to Public Health and HSA to ensure full readiness of the healthcare sys-

tem in anticipation of any surge in our population," she said.

Cayman had a total capacity across the healthcare sectors in the Cayman Islands of a bed capacity of 246. HSA had an additional capacity of seven beds with the activation of the respiratory care unit as part of the Covid-19 response plan, she stated. Care of seriously ill patients who needed ventilator support would be coordinated between the Cayman Islands Hospital and Health City, with current combined capacity of 42 ventilators. There were also two ventilators at Faith Hospital for patients in the Sister Islands, but the seriously ill there would be cared for on Grand Cayman. In terms of health sector workforce, at the end of August there were approximately 321 actively practicing physicians and 515 nurses. The HSA had an adequate stock of FDA approved medications and more were on order, she added.

Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee said Cayman's bed capacity per capita far exceeded other places in the world, such as the UK and Australia, and that Cayman



► Health Minister Sabrina Turner

residents were well provided in terms of hospital cover, but as an island nation, Cayman needed to ensure it was as ready as possible so that, should Covid

cases ramp up significantly, they did not dominate hospitals and that other healthcare issues could still be adequately addressed.



Centenarian is Honoured on her Milestone Birthday

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Originally from Spot Bay, Ms Mandy, or Mama, as she is commonly known, spent most of her childhood and teenage years living with extended family in Jamaica. Known locally as a gifted mandolin player, she married seaman James Lucas Bernard in 1947 and settled into family life raising five children. She especially enjoyed her time working with Mrs. Marguerite Wight at Sand Dollar.

Following the Deputy Premier's congratulations, the Minister for Culture and Heritage said: "As well as being a personal milestone, becoming a centenarian clearly singles you out as a national treasure and as a precious part of our Caymanian heritage."

Key events in the years directly before or after 1921:

- birth of the automobile industry
- women got the vote in the USA, and
- Insulin was discovered.



► Mrs. Mandy Bernard as a young mother

3D Printing and Virtual Reality Workshop for Teens this October

Students between the ages of 11 and 15 years are invited to take part in a two-day technical printing workshop and learn about Computer Aided Design (CAD) to make a 3D printed and Virtual Reality (VR) object

Designed for students between the ages of 11 and 15 years old, Enterprise Cayman in partnership with the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI), have announced that they will be hosting a two-day 3D Printing and Virtual Reality (VR) workshop for teens this October.

Applications are now being accepted for the immersive learning experience that will encourage interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects and offer a fun and engaging learning environment for young adults. During the workshop, participants will design and print their very own 3D object, learn about Computer Aided Design (CAD), and take part in an immersive VR session where participants will interact with their 3D design in Cayman Enterprise City's state-of-the-art VR room, "The Green Room".

"VR and 3D Printing are two very exciting, emergent technologies that promise to be very important tools for future designers, developers and engineers," said Peter Reilly, VP of Public Engagement and Technology at Enterprise Cayman. "We want to be able to offer young Caymanians and residents the ability to stay abreast of these technologies and learn the relevant skills that will give them a competitive edge in tomorrow's job market. The sure way to predict the future is to invent it."

The 3D Printing Workshop has been developed in partnership with UCCI who will be providing teaching support and access to UCCI's 3D printers. "With the increase in technology use around the world, we need to ensure that our young Caymanians are equipped to compete globally," says Antoinette Gayle, Assistant Professor at UCCI.



► Game Design Workshop Participants (L-R) Evan Sathasivam, Jeton Bennett, Kyle Hislop

"These hands-on workshops will give students the skills and knowledge they need to stay relevant in the technology field. 3-D printing and virtual reality are fun, exciting technologies that our students can enjoy. More importantly, they are technologies that can be used to assist in learning new skills and their application in various fields will allow our students to expand on their creative possibilities."

Attendees will be required to bring their own laptop and download free CAD software in advance of the workshop. The two-day workshop takes place at Cayman Enterprise City's Strathvale House, 90 North

Church Street and runs Thursday and Friday, 21 and 22 October 2021. Applications are now being accepted and the registration fee is CI \$50 per student, which includes lunch, snacks and workshop tools, printing equipment, and printing supplies.

The expected workshop agenda is as follows:

**Please note the agenda below is subject to change.*

Thursday & Friday, 21 & 22 October 2021

- 9:00 am – 9:30 am Parent Drop Off

- 9:30 am – 12:00 pm 3D Printing Activities & Workshops
- 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm Lunch Break
- 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm Printing Activities & Workshops
- 3:00 pm – Parent Pick Up

Final 3D printed objects will be created on Saturday, 23 October and parents will be notified as soon as they are ready to be collected.

For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.caymanenterprise-city.com/3d-printing-workshop> or email innovate@enterprisecayman.ky.

CAL jet flights to Honduras on hold

Having suddenly downgraded their Goloson International Airport in La Ceiba, officials in Honduras have issued a notification to Cayman Airways advising them that they can no longer operate their Boeing 737-8 plane, effectively cutting jet air links between Cayman and Honduras.

The Honduras airport has had its operational capabilities downgraded to a level 6, which means jet engines of the type flown by Cayman Airways are now not able to land there.

Cayman Airways VP of Flight Operations, Captain Dave Scott explained: "The International Civil Aviation Organisation defines the requirements for aerodrome rescue and fire fighting Service in several categories. Cayman Airways' jet operations require category 7 or higher, which means we cannot currently fly our B737-8 into La Ceiba."

Captain Scott said that the other available Honduras airport at Roatan was also not an option because it has also been downgraded until 7th December of this year.

Paul Tibbetts, Executive VP of Finance and Commercial Affairs at CAL, said that, as a result, Thursday's La Ceiba flight which should have taken off at 10am would operate across multiple flights using the airline's Saab 340B+ aircraft, which they would contemplate using the following day also. He advised they were advising affected passengers, who would also be told about possible impacts to cargo and baggage.

Cayman Airways said it was currently reviewing its options for the ongoing operations of its Grand Cayman/La Ceiba route and would provide updates.



Securing our Garbage is Important

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is encouraging residents to examine their garbage enclosures and ensure they are maintained in a clean and sanitary manner to prevent animals from accessing them.

"One man's trash can be an animal's treasure! It has been brought to our attention that inadequate garbage enclosures are attracting some of our local animals like chickens and dogs. This situation is also contributing to unsanitary conditions. We all need to remember that it's our responsibility as individuals to secure our garbage. Always keep in mind that doing the right thing goes a long way in improving our own neighbourhoods," says Mr. Richard Simms, Director of the Department of Environmental Health.

Here are some tips to avoid any garbage exposure:

1. Ensure adequate number of garbage bins: choose the right amount of bins and do not over filled
2. Safeguard proper bin covers and secure them: If your lid doesn't lock in place, or you want to add some extra layers of security, consider tying down the trash can lid with a bungee cord.
3. Ensure suitable enclosure of garbage bins.

All residents are reminded that garbage containers must be placed in front of premises or on the street, immediately beside the property. Most be located at ground level or above and must not block traffic.

Ultimately it is the property owner's responsibilities, under the Public Health Act 2002 revision, to ensure that garbage enclosures are kept in a clean and sanitary manner and that adequate and appropriate bins are used. Residents should strive to keep the enclosure and surroundings clean, and to ensure that garbage bags (avoid using supermarket plastic bags) are placed in a bin for collection. Garbage enclosures should be built according to DEH guidelines and bins can be purchased from local vendors or hardware stores on the islands.

The department appreciates and thanks residents who have been doing their part in assisting the department's efforts to keep the Islands clean.



► Inappropriate garbage enclosure vs. appropriate garbage enclosure

Additional information is available from the DEH at 949-6696. Individuals may also send an email to dehcus-

tomerservice@gov.ky, or visit the DEH's website at www.deh.gov.ky or message its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Department-of-Environmental-Health-Cayman-Islands-Government-335107266641072>

Caymanian Times

Advertising Rates

Wednesday
Friday

Description	CI\$	Size (inches) W x H	Maximum # of words
Newspaper Advertisement Full page	750	10 x 13.5	1200
Newspaper Advertisement 2/3 page	650	10 x 8.37 or 6.6 x 13.5	900
Newspaper Advertisement 1/2 page (horizontal)	450	10 x 6.67	700
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Newspaper Advertisement 1/4 page	250	4.9 x 6.67	350
Newspaper Advertisement 1/5 page	150	4.9 x 4.96	250
Newspaper Advertisement 1/8 page	75	4.9 x 3.25 or 3.22 x 4.96	200
Newspaper Advertisement 1/16 page (Mini)	50	4.9 x 1.55 or 2.38 x 3.25	100
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Inserts	300		
Advertorial 1/2 Page	500		
Graphic Design	50		

Advertising Deadlines (48 Hours prior Publication Day)

Publication Day	Deadline (12pm (noon))
Wednesday	Monday
Friday	Wednesday

2 days notice for ads

For further information or to book an advert call 916 2000 or email: sales@caymaniantimes.ky

Ombudsman Issues Data Protection Guidance to Employers on Covid Vaccination Requirements

The Office of the Ombudsman has issued general guidance on data protection issues Cayman employers must consider before recording employees' COVID-19 vaccination status. The guidance is issued in light of the recently approved vaccination requirements regarding work permit applications and renewals in the Cayman Islands.

The guidance will also be useful for companies that are considering requesting vaccination information from Caymanian and non-Caymanian permanent resident employees, beyond what is required by the recent amendments to the Immigration (Transition) Act.

"Although the government is now requiring vaccination information to be submitted prior to the grant or renewal of a work permit, the collection of an employee's vaccination status by a government agency or a private sector employer must comply with the requirements of the DPA," Ombudsman Sandy Hermiston said.

The Ombudsman advises businesses to produce a written policy stating how employees' vaccination checks will be done, and for what purpose. Companies cannot use this information for "incompatible purposes" – meaning purposes other than those for which it was collected. Any processing of personal data must be justified under the DPA, particularly if its use may have negative consequences for employees.

"If you cannot specify your use for this information and are recording it 'just in case', or if you can achieve your goal without collecting this data, it is unlikely that you will be able to justify it under the Act," Ms. Hermiston added.

The DPA requires employers to have a legal basis to collect and process personal data, including information on their employees' vaccination status. An individual's vaccination status is classified as 'sensitive personal data', given that it is medical data. This means that additional measures must be taken to protect the use of this data.



► Ms. Sandy Hermiston, Cayman Islands Ombudsman

for further information. Data protection complaints can be made to the Ombudsman's office at 946-6283 or via email at info@ombudsman.ky.

GraceKennedy celebrates new WU location at Eastern Avenue

By Christopher Tobutt

GraceKennedy Money Services (GKMS), opened their eighth branch of Western Union in the Cayman Islands, at the Convenience Shop Y Mas at 171 Eastern Avenue, George town recently, amid much celebration and fanfare. Its great news for all the people from other countries living in the middle of George Town because now they have one more convenient location which they can use to send money home to take care of their families and loved-ones.

GraceKennedy Money Services (GKMS) Regional Manager for Cayman, Annalise Harewood, said that its newest location "Is part of the Company's strategic push to grow its footprint across the region,

and GraceKennedy Money Services has the largest network of Western Union locations in Jamaica, and we plan to replicate that wherever we operate the franchise." She added, "With Western Union found in more than 200 countries across the world, we want to make sure we give options to our customers in Cayman, so they will always be able to find a location close to them to send money back home to Jamaica, The Philippines, Honduras or wherever in the world their receiver is located."

Business Network Officer, Diandra Shand-Ogbe said, "It's a good location, because Jamaicans will be able to take care of their families back home, which is especially important for them right now during the Covid period. But it is also for people

receiving money, and we have seen an increase in people sending money here, especially from Canada and the US."

GraceKennedy Money Services always aims to put customer needs first, and Ms. Shand-Ogbe explained that there are now various services customers can choose for added safety and convenience: "Our 'Money-in-Minutes' service enables people to send money in literally minutes, and many people are choosing Money-in-minutes, especially if the need is urgent, because there is only a small extra charge over the (regular) 'Next Day' service." Another very popular service is able to send cash direct to a bank account so that people can send money either to their own bank account or someone else's bank account in another country.

"This service is very useful in Covid times, because it means that people do not have to wait in line to pick up their money in another country, and it is a service which fits right in line with Grace Kennedy's aim to not only by being efficient and reliable and safe, too."

The store on Eastern Avenue is also the first of the company's locations to open on a Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. as well as the normal Monday-Saturday opening hours of 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. "Our rates are very competitive," Ms Shand-Ogbe added.

Alex Gordon, the Company's Compliance Officer, said, "The new facility offers added convenience for customers to send and receive money, and all our requirements for compliance are in-line with Cayman government regulations."



► Grand Opening of GraceKennedy's newest Western Union location, at the Y Mas Convenience Store on Eastern Avenue. Picture shows Elaine Harris, Honorary Vice Consul, Jamaica, DJ Preston, Hot 104.1 FM; Matthew Tibbetts Owner, Convenience Shop Y Mas, Diandra Shand-Ogbe, Business Network Officer, Alex Gordon, Compliance Officer, Arturo Ursua, Honorary Consul Philippines, and George Beltran Office Clerk GKMS



► Matthew Tibbetts (Owner, Convenience Shop Y Mas) with some of his GKMS WU customers

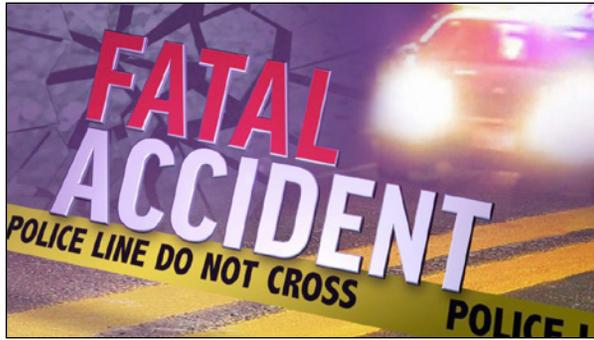
POLICE NEWS

Fatal Collision on South Church Street, George Town

Just before 8PM on Saturday night, 16 October, police and other emergency services were dispatched to a report of a two-vehicle collision on South Church Street in George Town. One vehicle had two occupants while the other had three.

The Cayman Islands Fire Service officers who attended the scene extricated the occupants of the vehicles and all parties involved were transported to the hospital by ambulance. So far one man involved in the collision was pronounced dead by the attending doctor.

Four persons remain in hospital being treated for what appears to be serious but



non-life-threatening injuries. They are considered to be stable at this time.

The investigation is ongoing and investigators are asking for anyone with information to call the Traffic and Roads Policing Unit at 649-6254 or the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

Man Arrested for DUI Following Collision at Residence

At about 11:20PM yesterday, 14 October, officers responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision with injuries at a residence on Elizabeth Street in West Bay. It was reported that a Honda CR-V which had been at the location, had collided with two men who were seated outside the residence. The structure of the residence was also damaged in the collision.

Emergency Services attended the location and the two men were transported to the Cayman Islands Hospital to be treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

Officers attended the scene and spoke to the driver of the vehicle, who ap-



peared to be intoxicated. The man, age 26 of West Bay, was arrested on suspicion of DUI with a reading of 0.263%. He has been granted bail as investigations continue.

West Bay Man Charged in Relation to Shooting Incidents and Drug Related Offenses

A 29-year-old-man of West Bay has been charged with two counts of Possession of an Imitation Firearm with Intent to Commit an Offence, contrary to the Firearms Act (2008 Revision).

The charges relate to the Shedden Road and Canal Point Drive shooting incidents which took place early in the morning of Monday, 11 October. He was initially arrested by police on Wednesday, 13 October in relation to these shooting incidents.

The same West Bay man was also charged with several drug related of-

fences contrary to the Misuse of Drugs Act (2017 Revision), which includes two count of Possession of Ganja with Intent to Supply, Possession of Utensils used in the Consumption of Ganja, Possession of Ganja and Consumption of Ganja. These charges were following an investigation that began on 17 July, 2021.

The man appeared in court earlier today, 15 October, where he was remanded in custody, and is scheduled to make a further appearance on Thursday, 21 October, 2021.

West Bay Police Station Returns to West Church Street

The RCIPS is informing the public that the West Bay Police Station has now returned to 242 West Church Street.

The Station had been operating out of a temporary location at Governors Square

from 3 September, while its West Church Street facility underwent repair work.

The RCIPS thanks the West Bay Community for their cooperation and apologises for any inconvenience caused.



Search for Missing Man Concluded and Body Recovered

The Cayman Islands Coast Guard confirmed on Wednesday, 13 October, that the search for the man who went missing from a vessel in the North Sound on Monday evening, 11 October, was concluded.

On Thursday, they confirmed the identity of the man as Kasun Tharuka Madushanka Fernando, 32 years old, a Sri Lankan national, residing in Cayman.

His body was detected at 11.30am, SW

of Barkers Cay, and was recovered from the ocean shortly after 11.45am.

The CICG and RCIPS express condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.

His body was detected at 11.30am, SW of Barkers Cay, and was recovered from the ocean shortly after 11.45am.

The CICG and RCIPS would like to thank the members of the public that supported the search and rescue efforts.



COVID-19 vaccine boosters now available to 60+ persons & Healthcare Workers

The COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic has opened its next phase of booster shots for those aged 60 and over and healthcare workers effective immediately. The clinically vulnerable remain eligible to receive boosters throughout all phases of the programme.



Persons wishing to receive their first or second dose are free to attend during scheduled clinic times.

The primary vaccination clinic is located at the Lions Centre Tuesday – Friday, with additional district locations on Thursdays. Upcoming district vaccination clinics include:

- Thursday 21 October, 5-7pm - Prospect #33 Marina Drive
- Thursday 28 October, 5-7pm – West Bay Health Centre
- Saturday vaccine clinics will resume 23 October at a new Camana Bay loca-

tion. The new location is upstairs Canella Court, adjacent observation tower. Elevator access and directional signage will be available for the new clinic location.

The 3rd dose of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine must be administered at least 6 months after the 2nd dose. Persons eligible to receive their booster should bring along their vaccination card or digital certificate showing proof of their 2nd dose and a government issued photo ID.

SEE **BOOSTERS AVAILABLE**, Page 13

Cayman Airways celebrates relaunch of Tampa commercial flights

Saturday October 16th 2021 was an exciting day for the Cayman Islands and for Cayman Airways Limited (CAL), as nonstop commercial flights between Grand Cayman and Tampa resumed for the first time since the Cayman Islands' borders closed to international flights in March 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.



"We are thrilled to be able to relaunch our nonstop commercial service between Grand Cayman and Tampa, Florida, as it's an important route for Cayman residents and visitors alike," said Paul Tibbetts, Executive Vice President of Finance and Commercial Affairs, adding that Cayman Airways has been serving this route for the past 35 years, since 1986.

The Cayman Islands' Minister for Tourism and Transport, the Hon. Kenneth

Bryan, said: "The addition of Tampa to Cayman Airways' flight schedule is encouraging news and offers travellers the choice and convenience of two gateways in Florida from which to visit our Islands. This is a further positive step in government's reopening plans and serves as an indication that the Cayman Islands is poised to welcome visitors from the Unit-

SEE **TAMPA FLIGHTS**, Page 13

COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule – OCT 2021 (v3)

The COVID-19 vaccine is available to ALL persons 12 years and over
 First and second doses are currently available to all persons.
 Boosters are being administered in phases (see below)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR OWN FACE MASK



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					16
			Boosters (3 rd Dose) available to healthcare workers, 60+ years old and clinically extremely vulnerable (see criteria below)*		
					NO CLINIC
18	19	20	21	22	23
1 st & 2 nd Dose available to all persons 12 years and older					
Boosters (3 rd Dose) available to healthcare workers, 60+ years old and clinically extremely vulnerable (see criteria below)*					
NO CLINIC	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm PROSPECT COMMUNITY OFFICE 5pm -7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm	CAMANA BAY** NEW LOCATION 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm (Canella Court, 2 nd Floor, adjacent
24	25	26	27	28	29
1 st & 2 nd Dose available to all persons 12 years and older					
Boosters (3 rd Dose) available to healthcare workers, 60+ years old & clinically extremely vulnerable (see criteria below)*					
NO CLINIC	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 11am – 3pm 4:30 – 7pm SISTER ISLANDS Aston Ruffy Centre 9am – 12pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm WEST BAY HEALTH CENTRE 5pm – 7pm	LIONS CENTRE 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm	CAMANA BAY** NEW LOCATION 9am – 12:30pm 2 – 5pm (Canella Court, 2 nd Floor, adjacent observation tower)

Former Inspirational National Player Laid to Rest

By Flynn Bush

On Saturday, a young Caymanian was laid to rest; a kind, passionate soul whose flame burned out too soon. Cayman is a small country and, as such, has a finite amount of talent. Now, due to a tragic traffic accident on September 24th, the pool is diluted even more.

Jessus Ebanks was the kind of person who made all of his coaches proud to say they coached him. He was talented, coachable, humble, and enthusiastic and these attributes were infectious as he seemed to lift the level of those around him. He was also an entertainer and was a joyful person. Greg Ebanks, Elite Sports Club founder and coach said, "I will most miss his humor and his friendship and lively nature that he shared with us." Whomever is asked what they will miss about Jessus, the reply would be similar. If that person knew Jessus, they would say they liked

him and that he was a one-of-a-kind individual.

Jessus started his football playing days as a young boy in primary school. He moved through the different levels, shining and improving at each one. As he moved through the football scene in Cayman, he ended up playing for such clubs as Future, Elite, Scholars, Sunset, and Boca. Before his athletic career was complete, he managed to achieve heights that few others across the world get to. Due to his hard work and determination, he was able to play internationally for the Cayman Islands National Team; for a semi-professional team in California; and for the King University team as well. Undoubtedly, wherever he played, he left an indelible mark on others.

It is an irony of sorts that, not more than a few weeks prior to his death, Jessus had approached Greg Ebanks about his desire to come back as a coach for the younger



players. He told Greg that he wanted to give back to his community, and to help others the way that he had been helped. Sadly, it was not to be.

One of his former coaches, Roy "Huta" Ebanks, always says, "We are in the business of developing good people and citizens; not just football players." Well, Jessus Ebanks was the epitome of that aspiration. He was an outstanding person, a talented player, a model citizen, a great friend and family member, and an inspiration to others. Today, we as individuals mourn Jessus Ebanks, alongside his fam-

ily and friends, because of the person he was and how he will be missed. Today, we as a country also mourn Jessus Ebanks because the Cayman Islands has lost a bright and shining star and our community is that much darker, because of his absence. May your soul rest in peace, Jessus. You have made your mark, and will be remembered forever.

COVID-19 vaccine boosters now available to 60+ persons & Healthcare Workers

CONTINUED FROM Page 12

If you are home bound and unable to attend one of the vaccination clinics, please contact the Flu Hotline 947-3077, 1-800-534-8600, flu@hsa.ky or your local HSA District Health Centre and arrangements will be made with a Public Health nurse to provide your vaccine in the comfort of your home.

AstraZeneca

Persons interested in receiving the AstraZeneca vaccine are asked to contact the Flu Hotline by phone (1-800-534-8600 or 947-3077) or by email at flu@hsa.ky.

GENERAL VACCINE INFO

- Vaccines are available to persons 12 years and older
- Parental consent required for children 12-17 years old
- When receiving your 2nd or 3rd dose, you MUST also bring along your vaccination card or present

your digital vaccination certificate reflecting your previous doses

- 3rd dose must be administered at least six (6) months after your 2nd dose
- 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.
- Do NOT laminate your vaccination card

For the most up to date vaccination schedule visit <https://hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus/>

After receiving a vaccine persons can sign up up for the MyHSA Patient Portal which provides access to your digital COVID vaccine certificate. For more information on the Portal or to sign up online, please visit <https://www.hsa.ky/our-services/patient-portal-info>

Cayman Airways celebrates relaunch of Tampa commercial flights

CONTINUED FROM Page 12

ed States. The resumption of Cayman Airways' Tampa service will facilitate an increase in air arrivals, which in turn will provide a welcomed boost to our tourism industry."

Echoing those sentiments, the Cayman Islands Director of Tourism, Rosa Harris, said: "The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism (CIDOT) is delighted for our National Flag Carrier, Cayman Airways, to resume its regularly scheduled flights to Tampa, Florida. This South Florida route provides our visitors more opportunities to return to the Cayman Islands and Make their Dreams Come True. Cayman Airways plays an integral role in the development of our tourism product and is a change catalyst partner as we navigate the next phase of our border reopening plan. Our strong strategic partnership will transform the new COVID-19 landscape in the Cayman Islands tourism industry and support increased economic activity for the benefit of the country."

Tampa Flight KX200 departed Grand Cayman with a customary Water Cannon Salute by the Cayman Islands Fire Service, to mark this special occasion.



The resumption of the National Airline's Tampa route will see weekly nonstop flights between Owen Roberts International Airport and Tampa International Airport, on Saturdays, with the addition of Mondays in December. This schedule is confirmed through December 31st, but additional flights may be added subject to demand and the Cayman Government's border reopening plans.

For Tampa flight details and to book, visit caymanairways.com, or call Cayman Airways Reservations on 345-949-2311, or 1-800-422-9626 (toll free in the USA).

CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

St Kitts loved by rich Indians

St Kitts and Nevis is becoming so popular with wealthy Indians seeking a second passport through their Citizen by Investment (CIB) programme that fraudsters are misrepresenting themselves to unsuspecting applicants.

Launched in 1984, the St Kitts and Nevis' citizenship by investment programme is the oldest of its kind in the world.

For Indian investors, particularly those that want to conduct business overseas efficiently, citizenship can be a challenge to seizing opportunities in a time-effective manner. An Indian passport only affords its holders visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 58 countries and territories. This lack of mobility has left many Indians wasting time, money and opportunities due to bureaucratic hassle. Indians have assimilated into St Kitts culture and many join with the annual carnival celebrations.



► St Kitts carnival attracts many Indian residents

A powerful second passport offers many benefits but potential investors and high-net worth individuals are falling prey to fake agents, said Justin Hawley, the ambassador of St Kitts and Nevis to the United Arab Emirates.

Successful applicants are provided with visa-free access to 157 countries around the world, including important business hubs in European Union member states, the United Kingdom and Asia. An applicant has to invest at least US\$150,000 to qualify. Hawley said the interested investors must do diligent research to check for valid agents.

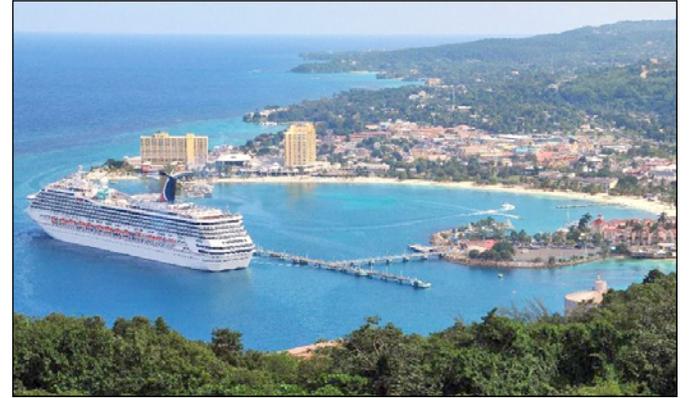
Jamaica's tourism generates \$1.7bn

Jamaica's tourism continues to rebound strongly despite the coronavirus pandemic, reflected by the US\$1.7 billion in earnings since the reopening of the country's borders in June 2020.

Over 1,285,000 visitors — including 8,400 cruise passengers — have visited Jamaica.

Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett announced that the forecast for 2021 is a total of 1,578,700 visitors and more than US\$2 billion in earnings. He said the return of cruise signals the second critical phase of the reopening of the tourism industry and will help bring back much-needed jobs.

Bartlett said the projection is for just under 300,000 cruise passengers to visit Jamaica by the end of the year. He said by



► Cruises ships at Ocho Rios are more regular

that time, the Montego Bay and Falmouth ports should be reactivated with hopes of having calls at Port Royal and Port Antonio, too.

Bartlett reiterated that the return of cruise is being managed in accordance with strict health and safety COVID-19 protocols, which are guided by global standards and best practices to ensure the safety and protection of citizens as well as visitors.

Cuba blocks new protest date

Cuba has again denied government opponents permission to stage a peaceful march for civil liberties in the capital Havana and a few other provinces on grounds it was part of efforts to overthrow the government.

Protests rocked the communist-run country for two days in July, with the biggest anti-government demonstrations in decades resulting in hundreds of arrests, one death and calls for US intervention by some Cuban Americans.

Government critics, organised by a Facebook group called Archipelago, initially

planned protests across the country for Nov. 20, but switched the date to Nov. 15 after authorities declared the 20th a 'National Defence Day' during which citizens practice preparedness for a US invasion.

The alternative date of the 15th, however, falls on the same day Cuba plans to reopen to tourism after nearly two years in which the vital industry was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Protests in Cuba have always been forbidden with few exceptions on grounds the United States was behind them, but the

country's new constitution, approved three years ago, opened a new space for "legitimate" protest.

Archipelago, which says it has some 20,000 members, many of whom live outside the country, said they planned to rally for civil liberties including the right to peaceful protest and an amnesty for imprisoned government opponents.

Well-known government opponents are among those who remain behind bars following the July 11-12 unrest, some facing long sentences.



► Cuban protestors want another date soon

Honduras may have first woman prez

Honduras is preparing for its presidential elections next month and a favourite to become leader, Xiomara Castro, who would become the first female leader.

The top Honduran opposition parties have united behind Castro as their candidate for the Nov. 28 presidential election. She is the wife of a leftist former president who was ousted in a coup a stronger chance of ousting the ruling party.

The National Opposition Union (UNO) party backed Castro, 62, wife of former president Manuel Zelaya and candidate for the Liberty and Refoundation (Libre) party.

If she wins, Castro says she will establish diplomatic relations with China and legalise abortion in some situations. The alliance shakes up the presidential race and presents a serious challenge to President Juan Orlando Hernandez's National Party, in power since elections after Zelaya was ousted in a bloodless military coup in 2009. Until now, the National Party has been leading in polls.



► Xiomara Castro wants to lead Honduras

"If we don't come together today, the country will lose. Together, nobody can beat us," UNO's previous candidate, television presenter Salvador Nasralla, 68, told a news conference. "We're going to rescue Honduras from dictatorship with Xiomara Castro as presidential candidate."

Castro said she aims to better manage Honduras' external and internal debt that stands at over \$13 billion.

St Lucia lifts state of emergency

St Lucia's Prime Minister Phillip J Pierre ended on Saturday the state of emergency put in place by the last administration to curb the spread of the coronavirus but said that some of the existing protocols would remain until the end of the month.

Pierre said while the science validates the restriction of movement of people has led to a decline in the number of COVID-19 positive cases, however "these restrictions come with great personal challenges".

"As we strive to find the right balance between securing some level of normality in our daily lives and fighting the pandemic ...the COVID-19 virus looks like it will be with us for the foreseeable future and we must therefore



► St Lucian residents can move more freely

commence the process of living with that reality while taking the necessary measures to avoid a dysfunctional society," Pierre said in a radio and television broadcast.

He said, however, the restrictions to the opening of business hours where citizens meet for socialising will be maintained to assist in reducing the opportunity for spreading the virus.

SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/27

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 "I have no idea"
 - 6 Writer Carr
 - 11 Earthy pigment
 - 12 Full of energy
 - 13 Because of
 - 14 Hotel fixtures
 - 15 Pole worker
 - 16 Opposing opinion
 - 18 Stirrup setting
 - 19 Quarter-back Manning
 - 20 Ave. crossers
 - 21 Prudish
 - 23 Over-whelming desires
 - 25 Put away
 - 27 — Paulo
 - 28 Hog nose
 - 30 Fling
 - 33 Blue
 - 34 "Far out, dude!"
 - 36 Relaxing resort
 - 37 Lima's founder
 - 39 Hem and —
 - 40 Skip the ceremony
- DOWN**
- 41 Renown
 - 43 Trio tripled
 - 44 Code name
 - 45 Lock of hair
 - 46 Showy flower
 - 1 Prepare for a long pass
 - 2 Eye-related
 - 3 Abby Jimenez book
 - 4 Got together
 - 5 Eat away
 - 6 Shake-spearean conspirator
 - 7 Woeful cry
 - 8 Abby Jimenez book
 - 9 Occurrences
 - 10 Defeats
 - 17 Suffering
 - 22 Chinese chairman
 - 24 Plopped down
 - 26 Tank tops
 - 28 Mariner
 - 29 Road gunk
 - 31 Thinly scattered
 - 32 Finn's friend
 - 33 Used up
 - 35 Church tenet
 - 38 Galoots
 - 42 —
 - 43 Gatos

C	A	M	P			Q	U	O	T	E			
L	E	E	R			A	U	R	O	R	A		
U	R	G	E			D	I	A	P	E	R		
B	O	O	T	H	I	L	L						
				Z	O	O	T	S	U	I	T		
S	T	E	E	L	S				M	B	A		
P	O	L	L	Y		H	O	P	E	D			
A	T	M				R	O	U	S	T	S		
T	O	O	T	T	O	O	T						
						R	O	O	T	B	E	E	R
R	A	D	I	U	M				I	D	L	E	
A	P	I	A	R	Y				D	I	L	L	
P	E	E	L	S					S	T	A	Y	

Yesterday's answer

- 1 Prepare for a long pass
- 2 Eye-related
- 3 Abby Jimenez book
- 4 Got together
- 5 Eat away
- 6 Shake-spearean conspirator
- 7 Woeful cry
- 8 Abby Jimenez book
- 9 Occurrences
- 10 Defeats
- 17 Suffering
- 22 Chinese chairman
- 24 Plopped down
- 26 Tank tops
- 28 Mariner
- 29 Road gunk
- 31 Thinly scattered
- 32 Finn's friend
- 33 Used up
- 35 Church tenet
- 38 Galoots
- 42 —
- 43 Gatos

Word Search

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

- Downcast
- Downfall
- Download
- Downpour
- Downsize
- Downstream
- Downtown
- Downwind
- Upbeat
- Update
- Upgrade
- Upkeep
- Uplift
- Upright
- Uproar
- Upset
- Upstart
- Upsurge
- Uptight

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



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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

By Stan Lee

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