

# Caymanian 11111CS



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# COVID WAVE DECLINING BUT VACCINATIONS STALLING

Recent trends are suggesting that what could be regarded as the first major wave of COVID-19 in Cayman might be receding.

In the past two weeks, a slow but gradual decline has been observed in the number of positive cases reported in the weekly updates.

According to the latest update from the Cayman Islands Government(CIG) via the Health Service Agency(HSA), as at 8 a.m. on Monday, 6 December Chief Medical Officer Dr John Lee reported that of the 1,777 PCR tests had been conducted since 8 a.m. on Friday, 3 December, the Public Health Department reported 127 positive results from these tests, with two in travellers and 125 coming from the community

That averages around 42 new cases per day, far less than the previous average of over 150 per day with cases topping over 300 on some days in October.

The Public Health department current reports mainly on weekly trends in the ongoing community spread of COVID-19

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EDITORIAL

# COVID WAVE DECLINING BUT VACCINATIONS STALLING

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

in Cayman which is dominated by the Deta strain

To date, there are no reports yet of the new Omicron variant in Cayman which is now said to be more contagious than the Delta variant although studies are yet to determine if it causes more severe illness.

The results published on Monday which span the period from Friday, December 3rd put the total number of cases recorded since the pandemic showed up in Cayman last year at 7,663.

Caymanian Times tracking shows that the rate of increase has actually slowed, going from 7324 on December 1st, to 7444 on December 2nd, 7529 on December 3rd, and the 7663 total on Monday.

Total active cases in the jurisdiction are 3,656 which still puts Cayman among countries with the highest number of cases in the region and compounded by the fact that the large majority are community spread.

For the Sister Islands, Faith Hospital confirmed there were 11 active cases down from the recent spurt in the islands which are considered to be particularly vulnerable.

Official figures show that to date a total of 120 cases have been in the Sister Islands, with 109 having recovered. Out of the total number of cases in the Sister Islands, 62 were fully vaccinated, six were partially vaccinated, and 52 were unvaccinated

Currently, 15 people are hospitalised due to COVID-19, a figure which also reflects a continuing downward trend in the number of patients requiring medical attention. It peaked at 29 late last month.

The number of people not requiring hospitalisation has been increasing with the latest tracking going from 3848 at the beginning of December to 3641 by this past Monday.

In all, 3998 people have recovered from their bout with COVID-19 showing an increase of 704 recoveries from the 3294 recorded between December 1st and December 6th.

This downward trend is also noted in the number of people in isolation. That number has dropped from 4500 at the start of this month to 3852, a reduction of 648.

However, there's a concern about the repercussions on the re-opened economy with workers being off the job as a precaution if they have been in contact with someone who tested positive.

On a sad note, the number of deaths has increased, although still among the lowest in the region.

Nine people have succumbed to causes linked to the virus - seven more than in all of 2020 and all of them occurring within the past three months of the current wave.

The number which stood at six on December 1st had increased to nine by last weekend.

But while infections decrease overall, there's one aspect of the slowing pace of COVID-19 in Cayman that's of concern.

The vaccination rate shows signs of stalling from a peak where Cayman was a world leader both with the testing rate in the past year and following that an aggressive and responsive vaccination campaign.



There have been suggestions of what some describe as 'pandemic fatigue' combined with the reluctance of vaccine-hesitant persons.

For the past three months, the vaccination rate has been hovering at around 80 per cent average for first and second doses, with booster shots picking up slowly.

The official report shows that up to 8 a.m. on Monday, 6 December there had been 126,662 COVID-19 vaccinations given in total. Of these, 58,273 people (82% of 71,106) had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Meanwhile, 56,311 individ-

uals (79%) had completed the two-dose course.

Additionally, 12,522 people (representing 18% of the total population) had received a third or booster dose up to that point.

With the borders now open and the highly transmissible Omicron variant sweeping through an increasing number of countries, health experts and governments globally are re-emphasising the necessity and urgency of being vaccinated.

That's a call that should resonate here in Cayman.









# Caymanian Times

Issue # 723

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# Overwater bungalows should be prohibited in marine protected areas

By staff writer

The National Conservation Council of the Cayman Islands (NCC) met last Wednesday, 24 November to discuss implementing successful planning approval policies that prioritise the national conservation of the Cayman Islands. Due to public uncertainty surrounding potential damages to marine protected areas with the introduction of overwater habitable bungalows, the Council reviewed their original draft policy, and a few amendments were made. The Department of Environment (DOE) also proposed two changes: that there be more importance placed on the National Tourism Policy and the Marine Park Regulations.

The appropriateness of overwater habitable structures has not yet been proven for the Cayman Islands – an issue that came to light following a private developer enquiring if an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) would be necessary to approve planning for a structure consisting of 19 overwater bungalows on Little Cayman. Council considered waiving the EIAs, however, decided to reconsider the drafted Guidelines for Overwater Structures due to "uncertainty as to what can and will be developed in these destinations", despite offering "a possible area of further diversification" in Cayman's tourism investments and, more specifically, luxury hotels.

Ways of compensating for lack of a development plan which were revisited from the NCC's March 2021 meeting included one-off royalty payments for Crown land use, countered by the regulations of other jurisdictions such as Jamaica, where overwater bungalows in marine protected areas are strictly forbidden. A topic of particular interest was the call to action via The National Conservation Act (2013) for stakeholders to formulate a structured management plan when faced with requests for the building of overwater developments. Section 3 (9)(j) of the Act was especially recognised to remind the NCC of their overarching agenda of "promoting the adoption of guidelines by entities for the integration of conservation issues into their decision-making processes".

In the interim, until a wider legislative framework has been agreed upon and management plans have been secured, The Ministry of Planning, Environment and Lands, the Department of Lands and Survey, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Planning and the DOE have agreed that first "the country needs to develop a policy/guidelines for this type of infrastructure to ensure that it is appropriately sited and regulated, minimises the impacts on the environment and delivers a positive visitor experience."

The meeting concluded by ratifying the decision that, until the DOE have ful-



▶ Overwater bungalows should be prohibited in marine protection areas

filled the urgent need to prepare clear guidelines, and consult with the public and stakeholders, no overwater habitable structures are to be built in marine protected areas of the Cayman Islands. Policies regarding overwater bungalows are expected to involve a much more diligent review of planning applications. with focus put on remaining climate-resilient (aligned with the drafted Climate Change Policy, 2011), and honouring the National Planning Framework (2019) that calls for crucial "Master Plans", so that Government know precisely how to handle these types of dwelling requests going forward.



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#### **Prize Draws!**

Friday Dec 10th	US\$5,000
Friday Dec 17th	US\$5,000
Friday Dec 24th	US\$5,000

**\$1,000** each day Wednesday Dec 15th, Thursday Dec 16th, Monday Dec 20th, Tuesday Dec 21st, Wednesday Dec 22nd.



Rolex giveaway is on January 4th, 2022.

RULES AND REGULATIONS: Minimum US\$100 purchase to enter. One entry per purchase. Receipts can be combined to reach US\$100 requirement. Winner must claim prize at Kirk Freeport on Cardinall Avenue within 7 days of announcement. Non-winning valid entries from Kirk Freeport Christmas Sweepstakes will be included in the Rolex Drawing. Kirk Freeport employees and immediate family members are not eligible to enter.

# First weekend of RCIPS Holiday Safety Campaign Demonstrates Start of Festive Season

Last weekend was the first of the RCIPS Holiday Safety Campaign, which launched last week Wednesday 1 December. 'Road safety', delivered through a continuation of Operation Quaker, is a key component of the campaign which aims to reduce traffic collisions and increase road safety by cracking down on drunk driving, distracted driving, and speeding.

"Unfortunately, the number of road incidents and offences this weekend was a telling sign we have entered the festive season, where we traditionally see increased activity on the roads which inevitably leads to more incidents", says Chief Inspector Malcolm Kay.

The Traffic and Roads Policing Unit attended 20 motor vehicle incidents, including one fatality, made six arrests for suspected DUI, issued 83 speeding tickets, and 46 tickets for offences including; tint, mobile phone usage and expired registration. "Sunday nights fatality on Cay-

man Thanksgiving Day raises total roading fatalities to nine so far this year. "This is the same number we were at this time last year, which is disappointing and indicates that there is still much more work to do in normalising safe driving behaviours".

"The police alongside emergency services are often the first on the scene at road incidents, and have the solemn task of informing and supporting the families after these tragic events, and I can tell you it's the hardest part of the job, to tell families that their loved ones are not coming home", says Inspector Dwayne Jones, Head of the Traffic and Road Policing Unit. "We implore motorists to please be careful on the roads this holiday season, make sure your vehicles are road worthy, slow down, increase your following distance, and don't drink and drive". "Let's work together to make sure everyone gets home safely to their families this Christmas".



# FLOW Fibre build continues in Cayman Brac

In May of 2021, Flow announced their commitment to ensure that every home in the Cayman Islands has access to fiber connection. This access to fibre will allow every home, to be a high-speed home; receiving broadband speeds that are 100 times faster than what is currently available. Since

this announcement, the team has increased the number of technicians and resources, to achieve their goal.

As the customer demand for higher speeds increases, FLOW has chosen the smartest and fastest solution, which is the roll out of fibre to the home and business.



▶ Wardley Connolly, Service Delivery Coordinator with Apprentice Technicians, Joseph McElhannon, Alejandro Paz, Alfredo Cardoza

FLOW had an existing fibre footprint in Cayman Brac, allowing for fibre speeds to be available in all schools including UCCI, Government Administration Building, Public Works, Credit Union, CNB, Charles Kirkconnell Airport, Golden Sun and Faith Hospital, with the Alexander Hotel being the newest member of the fibre network.

In preparation for the borders reopening, FLOW was also able to complete the installation of fibre to Brac Caribbean and Carib Sands. "I just wanted to thank you and your crew for all the help with the recent installations at Brac Caribbean and Carib Sands. The new fiber broadband and TV is amazing and is a great upgrade on the old service. We are experiencing very fast speeds and crystal-clear TV," says Jeff, Manager at Brac Caribbean and Carib Sands.

"As Flow's Network Engineer for the Sister Islands, but more so, as a Cayman Bracker, I am very excited that we are building out our fiber network, allowing us the ability to offer fibre services directly to our customers' homes and business," says Twayne Foster. "This is a huge step forward in reliability, speed and performance!"

FLOW is now continuing their work of expanding the fibre footprint, with the southwest side of Cayman Brac being built. This new build will convert homes and businesses in this area to the fibre network, allowing for customers to increase their broadband speeds and improve their connectivity.

Residential customer Rodney Dixon expresses his excitement, "Flow fibre has completely changed my ability to consume digital media. No more video buffering or dropped connections. The Flow fibre upgrades allow for fast speed, along with relatively low pricing, and customer-friendly service, making Flow the best Cayman internet service provider."

Last year, Flow spent over \$5 million on network enhancements and will continue to invest in improvements that will benefit current and future customers. The current fibre footprint will initially be expanded to include all of Grand Cayman and provide significant increase in fibre coverage in the sister islands.

# Caymanian Appointed to Deputy District Commissioner

The Ministry for District Administration and Lands (DAL) announces the appointment of Chelsea K. Whittaker to the role of Deputy District Commissioner for the Department of District Administration (DA). In her new capacity, Mrs. Whittaker will be responsible for providing managerial, leadership and strategic policy support to the District Commissioner. This support includes the implementation and management of the policies,

strategies and business plans for Government administration in the Sister Islands.

District Commissioner, Mr. B. L. (Mark) Tibbetts Jr., JP expressed, "Chelsea K. Whittaker's appointment epitomizes effective leadership development within our civil service. In addition, her accomplishments, familiarity with the Sister Islands and our department, plus her demonstrated senior management experience across a variety of Government portfolios, proves promising for achieving our team goals. I look forward to working with Mrs. Whittaker."

Prior to joining the civil service, Chelsea K. Whittaker gained substantial HR and operations management experience within global private-sector firms. Chelsea K. Whittaker first joined the civil service as a HR and Information Manager for the Ministry of District Administration, Tourism and Transport. Since her initial on-boarding, she has ascended to senior, HR related roles within civil service. She moved on to become the Senior HR Manager for the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands, and acted as Acting HR Director for a six-month period. Following the 2021 General Elections, Mrs. Whittaker was transferred to the Ministry of District Administration and Lands where she now serves as Senior HR Manager. She will begin her new role on 1 January 2022.

Acting Chief Officer of MDAL, Wilbur Welcome added, "The wealth of knowledge and experience Chelsea will bring to the Deputy Commissioner role is exhaustive.

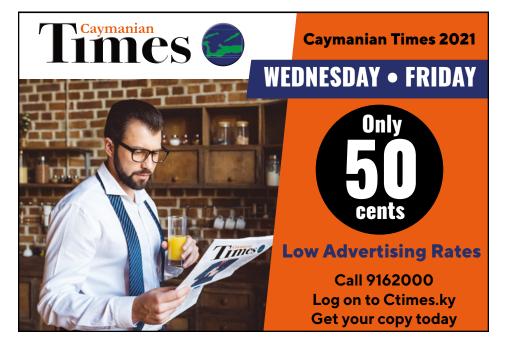


► Chelsea K. Whittaker's

She has demonstrated strong capabilities in HR functions, management planning, systems, training, and development. Notably, her contributions to the continuity of our organisation during most challenging times, have been indispensable. Chelsea is a wonderful and valuable addition to any team and she will surely be missed by our Ministry."

Chelsea K. Whittaker holds a Bachelor of Arts in Management from the University of Tampa, a Professional Certificate in Human Resources Practice from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) and a Certificate in Human Resources Management from the Cayman Islands Society of Human Resource Management (CISHRP). She has over seven years of senior management and three years' middle management experience.

Commenting on her appointment, Chelsea K. Whittaker expressed, "Commenting on her appointment, Chelsea K. Whittaker expressed, "I am truly honored and most excited to have been granted the opportunity to serve the people of the Sister Islands in the capacity of Deputy District Commissioner. I look forward to supporting the District Commissioner in the development of the District Administration Department, by building upon its strengths and seeking out avenues to improve its functions, as we strive to become a worldclass Civil Service. I am happy to remain part of the Ministry of DAL family and extend sincere gratitude to my colleagues for their kind support."



## Government Signs Contract with CIAS to Import Livestock

The Government, through the Ministry of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure, has signed a contract with the Cayman Islands Agriculture Society (CAIS) to fund the importation of livestock to the Cayman Islands.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure, Hon. Jay Ebanks and President of CAIS, George Smith at a meeting of the agriculture society at Constitu-

tion Hall in George Town recently.

The Ministry will provide \$350,000 in funding for the importation of approximately 180 heads of livestock animals to include 150 heads of cattle and 30 heads of goats.

In speaking to the farmers at the meeting, Minister Ebanks pledged the support of the Government to the farming community noting that "the Ministry will work with its stakeholders to enhance the growth of the agricultural sector to bolster the overall food and nutrition security of the Cayman Islands".

He further stated, "this strategy to import new animals to our Islands aligns well with our livestock development



Agriculture Minister Hon. Jay Ebanks and President, CAIS George Smith sign contract for the importation of livestock to the Cayman Islands

plan which includes reintroduction of embryo transplant, natural insemination and an upgrade of the artificial insemination programme. This will improve herd and beef quality, increase production as well as enhance the local genetics of the livestock sector. All of this will be supported by our establishment of the National Livestock Identification Tracking System".

Mr. Smith thanked the Ministry and the Government for all the support being provided to the agricultural sector.

The first batch of animals, being imported from the United States, is expected to be on Island during the first quarter of the new year.

FirstCaribbean International Bank Limited

# NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

2021 Annual Report

December 13, 2021, Barbados. The 2021 annual report of FirstCaribbean International Bank Limited is available for viewing and download on our website, cibcfcib.com.

Brian Clarke QC General Counsel & Group Corporate Secretary



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#### WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
-	-		-)-		-	
<b>84°</b> / 78°	<b>83</b> °/ 78°	85°/77°	<b>84°</b> / 78°	<b>82°</b> / 79°	<b>82°</b> / 79°	<b>81°</b> / 78°
Lots of sun; winds subsiding	Mostly sunny and nice	Some sun, a shower; breezy	Mostly sunny and windy	Partly sunny and windy	Mostly sunny, a shower; windy	Windy with a shower or two

# **UCCI** names interim president

The University College of the Cayman Islands, in midst of a five-year development plan, is seeking a new president to lead the institution.

While the search is launched, the board of the university has appointed Dr J.D. Mosley-Matchett to be Interim Acting President and CEO until a new substantive post-holder is selected.

Dr Mosley-Matchett who joined UCCI in 2009 currently serves as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Her new appointment follows the sudden resignation towards the end of November of Dr Stacy McAfee whose contract was due to expire at the end of this year.

She had taken over the UCCI top job in 2018 on a three-year contract.

A press release from the UCCI Board of Governors did not give any specific reason for her departure, only stating that she had "decided and given notice that she will no longer continue as President and CEO of the University College of the Cayman Islands."

This past Sunday, December 5th, the UCCI board issued another press release informing that in the interim Dr J.D. Mosley-Matchett will be running the affairs of the university "until such time as a new President and CEO has been appointed".

She had previously served as UCCI's interim provost and vice president of academic affairs from May 2020 before being permanently appointed in May this year.

A bio of the new Interim President and CEO included in the press release said Dr Mosley-Matchett considers her most notable administrative accomplishments during her term at the University College are the pursuit and achievement of discipline-level accreditation for UCCI's Business Studies Department in 2017 from the International Accreditation Council for Business Education.

She also lists the first-time institutional accreditation in 2015 from the British-based Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges & Universities (ASIC).



▶ Dr Mosley-Matchett

It said Dr Mosley-Matchett led UCCI's effort to gain accreditation from both organizations and is currently spearheading UCCI's institutional preparations to achieve US-based regional accreditation.

The Board of Governors said they look forward to further academic achievements during Dr MosleyMatchett's term in office and look forward to working with her.



▶ Dr Stacy McAfee

Dr Mosley-Matchett's educational credentials include a PhD in Business Administration and an MBA from the University of Texas at Arlington; a Juris Doctor (law degree) from the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas; and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineer Technology from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

# Easing of means testing for scholarship seekers

#### **By Lindsey Turnbull**

Although only introduced a few years ago to try and ensure a fairer distribution of scholarship funding, the means testing for parents of Caymanian students seeking scholarships has now been amended, the Education Minister Juliana O' Connor Connolly advised during her presentation to Parliament on Thursday 2 December. The Minister said the government was increasing the means thresholds for annual income of parents and would be removing the net worth requirement.

"Basically, the government sought fit to remove another hurdle, that is the financial means test which we found was one of the unintended consequences of providing a block for some of our Caymanian students. In fact, they were almost being penalised because their parents had been successful although they

performed well in their academic studies, they were not able to access these funds, so we removed those hindrances."

The Minister also advised government would be removing the requirement for dual entry A-level applications for greater ease of transition for students into the A-level providing schools of Cayman Prep and High School and St Ignatius School.

More funds would be available for students pursuing undergraduate and post graduate students. More money would be made available for scholarships for those pursing undergraduate studies in education-related fields, and government was also establishing the Cayman scholar award to provide funding for the top two students per year - male and female - to allow them to study at an ivy league or gold tier university.

"This increase funding aims to strengthen post-secondary development pathways among our Caymanian students by easing the financial burden of the many local families that are in financial need to pursue tertiary education and as they seek to pursue a better educational future for their offsprings," she said.

More funds available for those in studies in education-related fields would help to encourage tertiary studies in this sector, crucial to the nation's development, she said. Such students would receive \$30K per annum from 1st September 2022. Post graduate students would also see a rise, receiving a maximum of \$35K beginning 1st September 2022 onwards.

The recent widening of post-secondary funding in the first year studying for qualifications, such as the IB, AP Advanced Placement and the Caribbean advanced proficiency examination, would also provide greater assistance for Caymanian students across the system.



► Education Minister Juliana O' Connor Connolly

Other enhancements included the provision of funding to support the award of a single payment of \$1,500 to Caymanian scholarship recipients to go towards the cost of student visas at the embassies of the US and Canada so that the recipients could attend the educational institutions in those countries.

They would also implement the temporary waiver of the SAT test requirement for students who have initiated studies in the US this fall and the broadening of the scholarship award to include full tuition funding for all Caymanian pursuing A Levels in St Ignatius and Cayman Prep for both years of study.



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# COVID-19 Clinic expands hours for PCR & LFT testing

With new travel requirements announced the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Services Authority's COVID-19 Testing Clinic will increase its hours of operations to expedite the processing of COVID-19 test results for international travelers.

Starting Sunday December 5, 2021, the COVID-19 Testing Clinic at the Cayman Islands Hospital will increase its hours of operation to 7 days a week.

### COVID-19 Testing Clinic Hours (Grand Cayman)

- Monday Friday 7:30am 12pm
- Saturday 10am 12pm
- Sunday 10am 2pm

Walk-ins are accepted for both Certified Lateral Flow tests (LFTs) and PCR. PCR appointments are encouraged and can be made online at https://www.hsa.ky/appointment/. Certified Lateral Flow tests are CI\$25 per test and results are emailed in approximately one hour. PCR tests are

resulted in approximately 4 hours for travellers. The Clinic is located to the left of A&E, parking is available in the Seventh Day Adventist Church parking lot.

#### Sister Islands Testing Locations

Cayman Brac Flu Clinic - Aston Rutty Centre

- Lateral Flow Testing Monday Friday 9am-1pm, 2pm-3pm
- PCR testing Monday Friday 9am12nm
- Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays
   call for appointment 345-244-7620
   Little Cayman Clinic call for appointment 345-948-0072 or 916-5395

As of Monday December 6, 2021, the United States now requires that all arriving passengers, 2 years or older, must have a negative COVID-19 viral test (regardless of vaccination status or citizenship) no more than 1 day before boarding a flight to the United States.

# COVID-19 Booster Gap Reduced to Three Months

The Public Health Department has announced that all persons aged 18 and over are now eligible to receive booster shots three months after their second COVID-19 vaccination.

The decision comes as a precaution in light of the recent development of the Omicron COVID-19 variant. While research is still being conducted on the new variant, preliminary findings claim Omicron is highly transmissible and has the potential to re-infect those who have previously recovered from COVID-19.

Vaccines continue to be the best proven defence against COVID-19 and should be sought as a protective measure, until more data on Omicron becomes available comments Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Samuel Williams-Rodriguez.

The Omicron variant has not been found in the Cayman Islands to date.

Dr Williams-Rodriguez adds, "The reduction in time between second and third doses is aligned with the UK Health Security Agency's current guidance on COVID-19 management. The people of the Cayman Islands are encouraged to get any vaccine dose that they are eligible for as a safety measure, especially as we enter the holiday season. In addition to seeking vaccination, we urge the public to remain vigilant by practicing hand hygiene, wearing masks while in enclosed spaces and making conscious decisions about social gathering."

Vaccination clinics also remain open for first and second doses for all persons aged 12 and over. The latest COV-ID-19 vaccination schedule can be found at https://www.hsa.ky/public-health/coronavirus/.



▶ HE Governor Martyn Roper receives booster shot

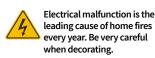


Never tap into your home's breaker panel or feeder line (to your weatherhead) or hang decorations on this feeder line to power your outdoor Christmas lights. It is extremely dangerous.













### Holiday Shopping Tips

- Shop individually
- Choose stores with safety measures
- Wear your face mask
- Keep your distance
- Shop online
- Ditch the crowds
- Limit your trips
- Wash your hands regularly
- Give virtual gifts
- Support local businesses
- Check the restrictions
- DON'T shop if you have symptoms

→ gov.ky/coronavirus

# Cathy Church's

**Photo Centre** 

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- SeaLife SportDiver
   Starting at CI\$287.00
- FujiFilm, Nikon, Olympus
   & Much More
   (all models & accessories)







**Ukuleles from CI\$65.60** 

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Water Authority 2021 Holiday Hours

Water Authority – Cayman wishes to advise its valued customers of the following holiday hours at both its Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac offices:

- Friday 24 December 2021
- Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
- Cashier will close at 11:00 a.m.
- Office will re-open *Wednesday, 29 December 2021* 
  - Friday 31 December 2021
- Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
- Cashiers will close at 11:00 a.m.



- Office will re-open *Tuesday, 4 January 2022* 

The Board, Management and Staff of the Water Authority wishes its customers and the public a safe and healthy holiday season.

# 'Switch a Plate' at DVDL – Saturday, December 11

The Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing (DVDL) advises members of the public that its Crewe Road location will be opened for vehicle owners with temporary plates to switch them on **Saturday, December 11, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** 

The temporary plates, which are paper laminated, will be exchanged for permanent ones.



The Department of Vehicle and Drivers' Licensing

Safe driving is everyone's responsibility

Customers are reminded that failure to replace temporary plates is a criminal offence, with a fine of \$2,500 or up to six months imprisonment, or both.

## DEH urges Safe Disposal of Batteries

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is encouraging the public to safely dispose of used batteries in the light of the recent fire at the George Town landfill on Sunday night (5/12/21).

"All batteries should be handled with care. Batteries that have been improperly disposed of can damage the environment, harm people and cause fires. We all have a role to play in preserving our environment and our health

today for a better future for all. The careless act of disposing batteries as ordinary waste could have a very negative impact on our lives," said DEH Director, Mr. Richard Simms.

Batteries used in cellphones, cameras, pagers, two-way radios, calculators, small cordless tools, and other personal digital devices can be recycled by placing them into the Blue Battery Recycling Collection Tubes located at all supermarkets and other locations.

Meanwhile, lead acid batteries such as those used in automobiles, boats, motorcycles and outdoor power equipment, and batteries used in hybrid and fully electronic vehicles should be taken to landfills, garages or any retailer that sells them.



Proper disposal of batteries will not only reduce the numbers of fires at the landfill but it will have a positive impact on the environment as many batteries contain corrosive materials and heavy metals threaten human health and the environment.

Batteries should also be separated from derelict vehicles and disposed of at the landfills.

Additional information is available from the DEH at 949-6696. Individuals may also send an email to dehcustomerservice@gov.ky, 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.

## Christmas Meat Inspections 2021

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH) reminds slaughtermen, butchers and livestock farmers of the procedure regarding arrangements for the inspection of locally slaughtered animals in the Cayman Islands during the upcoming Christmas Season.

Post-mortem inspections are the responsibility of the DEH and are undertaken by Meat/Food Safety Officers immediately after slaughter to determine if the meat is fit for human consumption. To book post-mortem inspections, please call the DEH on 949-6696 between

8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or email dehcustomerservice@gov.ky. Residents on Grand Cayman may also contact Environmental Health Officer (EHO), Gideon Simms on 925-4582, while those in the Sister Islands may contact EHO, Patience Eke on 916-4201 regarding arrangements for meat inspections.

The examination of food animals prior to slaughter (ante-mortem inspection) is also required. This inspection is conducted by the Veterinary Section of the Department of Agriculture (DOA). Slaughtermen are advised to contact the DOA on 947-3090 to make arrangements to have same done.

The demand for meat inspection is usually at its highest during the Christmas season. As such, both departments must be notified at least 48 hours before



▶ DEH Environmental Health Officers performing a post-mortem inspection to determine if the meat is fit for human consumption

slaughter to ensure timely meat inspec-

Additionally, meat from carcasses, whether whole or in part of locally slaughtered animals should not be offered for sale unless inspected and approved by the DEH.

The DEH also reminds consumers that the carcasses of locally slaughtered animals that have been inspected by its officers and found suitable for human consumption usually bear the DEH Stamp indicating that the meat has been passed /certified.

Consumers should avoid purchasing or consuming any meat of carcasses that have not been passed 'fit for consumption' by the DEH. Instances where local meat is sold without certification should be immediately reported to the DEH.



#### **CHRISTMAS MEAT INSPECTIONS 2021**



**FOOD HYGIENE & SAFETY** 



▶ Minister for Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, Hon. Bernie Bush and MYSCH Chief Officer Ms Teresa Echenique view the "My Art is My Life" travelling show at the Government Administration Building recently

## GAB's Cayman Gallery Hosts Miss Lassie Touring Exhibition

Staff and visitors to the Government Administration Building in George Town are in for a rare treat from now until the first week of the New Year. Nineteen paintings of national significance are on display by visionary artist Miss Lassie, on the ground floor's Cayman Gallery opposite Treasury, from 9a.m.- 5p.m, weekdays to Tuesday, 4 January 2022.

The paintings form part of the larger "My Life is My Art" exhibition, which opened at the Mind's Eye Education Centre on Miss Lassie's property in early November, and was the first major retrospective of her work in nearly two decades.

This smaller show, also curated by Cayman National Cultural Foundation (CNCF) and similarly sponsored by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, features reproductions rather than originals.

Miss Gladwyn "Lassie" Bush took up painting in her sixties. By the time of her death in 2003 the George Town native had become a prolific chronicler of Caymanian and religious themes.



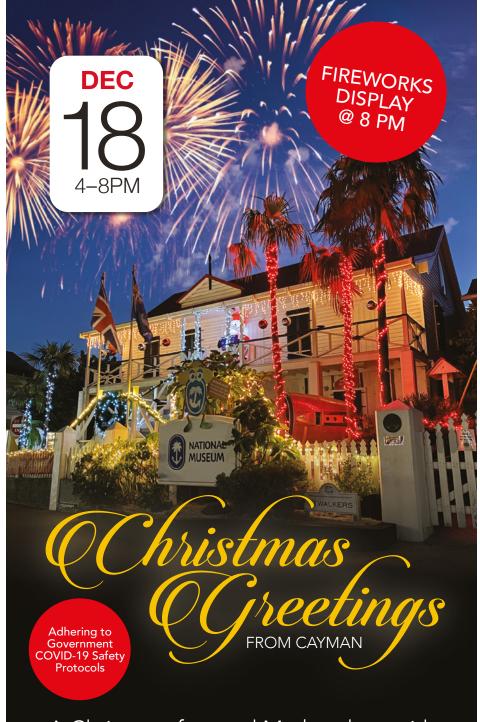
► Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service, Hon. Franz Manderson views the "My Art is My Life" travelling show at the Government Administration Building's Cayman Gallery recently

The travelling exhibition's latest venue is another chance to view so many of Miss Lassie's work in a single venue. Previously, the show had been displayed at:

- Craddock Ebanks Civic Centre, North Side;
  - East End Civic Centre;
- Pedro St. James Lawn and
- Aston Rutty Civic Centre, Cayman Brac.



▶ Minister for Tourism & Transport, Hon. Kenneth Bryan views the "My Art is My Life" travelling show at the Government Administration Building's Cayman Gallery recently



A Christmas-focused Marketplace with local vendors, local food and desserts, small businesses selling their wares, musicians, dance entertainment, interactive stations and more!

Waterfront – Seafarers Way from Shedden Road to Hard Rock Café

A family-friendly event brought to you by the



Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage

Cayman Islands Government

#### THIS DAY IN TIME

# Foster's Food Fair opened

10 December 1980

Foster's is an extremely familiar name to everyone on island, a group of supermarkets which has grown along with the population of the Cayman Islands, since it first opened its doors on this day in 1980. Back when Foster's first opened to the Cayman public, there was only one supermarket, located at its airport location, a modest 6,000 sq. ft store with 25 employees. The

supermarket was the brain child of David, Alta, and Steve's Foster, their idea coming to fruition with the opening of the Foster's Food Fair Airport Store. Since those early days, the group has grown in leaps and bounds, adding more stores across the islands, the most recent addition being the Foster's Camana Bay store, their largest to date, which opened in October 2019.



▶ Fosters Food Fair opened on 10 December 1980



► Christmas candle holders under CI\$30



► Christmas candles CI\$27

### 15 Sleeps 'til Christmas!

# For all your Bed, Bath and Beyond needs

Christmas is just around the corner, so each week until the big day we bring you a sample of great gifts you can buy on island that won't break the bank!

Bed, Bath and Beyond is one of those stores that residents flock to when shopping in the States, for fabulous smelling bath and beauty products, as well as lovely scented candles. Thankfully, we have the amazing D. Marie store in George Town that stocks these products, as well as a great selection of on-brand handbags and

clothing as well. Christmas came early at D. Marie's and Miss Donna has a great selection of Christmas scented candles, such as Christmas Cider, Frosted Cranberry, 'Tis the Season, Fresh Balsam and Frosted Coconut Snowball. A great little find for well-priced Christmas goodies.

If you are a local business owner and your goods or service would make great Christmas presents that are CI\$30 or under then please email us at lindsey@caymaniantimes.ky and we will try and feature them.



▶ Japanese Cherry Blossom is a favourite. Body Cream and Fragrance Mist combo is CI\$30



# New affordable residential land lot programme announced

By Lindsey Turnbull

In Parliament on Thursday, 2 December, Lands Minister Juliana O'Connor Connolly announced the roll out in 2022 of a new affordable residential land lot programme, created in response to major concerns raised by Caymanians across all three islands.

An affordable residential land lot programme was one that was in addition to the building of 100 affordable homes per year that had already been announced by Housing Minister, Johany Ebanks, the Minister stated. Instead, this was a programme to allow Caymanians to purchase their own parcel of land on which they wish to build their own home.

She anticipated the new programme would fill a gap which they could see to-day where there were Caymanians who did not qualify for the affordable homes programme due to their income being too high for the programme, but their income

was not high enough to purchase a home in today's market.

"We have Caymanians who wish to have the input on the design and build of their own homes, if they could only afford a piece of land," Minister O'Connor Connolly said.

In order to make this happen, government would acquire and utilise existing Crown land where they would create residential land lot sub divisions which would include necessary road and utilities infrastructure. The government would then allow Caymanians to purchase residential land at an affordable price. The lots would be available for sale at cost and with certain restrictions and conditions to facilitate Caymanian land ownership.

"We anticipate it will allow Caymanians to afford an affordable piece of the Cayman Islands in order to construct a future family home and create communities which build our country," she advised, adding that more information would be forthcoming in 2022.

The government was already launching a pilot of the programme at East End where they anticipated having over 40 house lots for sale. They had already purchased the property and preference would be given to the residents of East End. The plans for the sub-division have been drawn and were currently being reviewed and revised. It would have plots for sale on which the Ministry of Investment, Innovation and Social Development could build much-needed housing for indigent people and there would also be lots for affordable homes and lots for commercial use as well as lots for community space and parking, with its location opposite a brand-new public beach.

"Community builds country and we are affording the middle-income Caymanians with an opportunity for a well-planned out urban community," she said.

The programme will be launched in 2022.

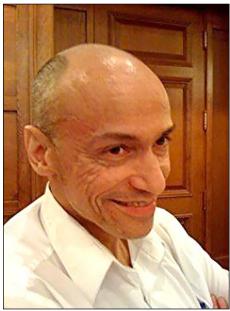


► Education Minister Juliana O' Connor Connolly

# We Lost a Truly Great Philosopher - Part One

Let us face it, the human life-span is a poetry of brevity and at the end of it, death smiles at us, to quote Marcus Aurelius, as it stands waiting with open arms and with a cold certainty. Irrespective of how much power, material possession, education, prestige, or education one has, as all flesh and blood, we await a hole in the ground.

In the Greek mythology, Sisyphus, a deceitful king who tricked the god of death and stayed alive longer than he should have, is punished by Hades. To use the words of James Fieser in his **Great Issues** 



► Professor Charles Mills

in Philosophy, Sisyphus has the endless task of raising his gigantic stone with both his hands. With hands and feet, he tried to roll it up to the top of the hill, but always, just before he could roll it over onto the other side, its weight would be too much for him, and, without pity, the stone would come thundering down again onto the plain below. Then he would begin trying to push it up hill again, and the sweat ran off him and steam rose from his head.

The story of Sisyphus is meant to demonstrate the view that the sum of a person's life efforts is pointless in the face death, and that life itself is absurd, that we strive to be happy, but instead are trapped in a life of futile efforts. As much as we try to make sense of it and solve the problem, we can't, and the sober reality of things simply does not live up to our optimistic expectations. So, Sisyphus represents the overwhelming struggle that we each have in overcoming a pointless life.

In William Shakespeare's play "Macbeth" in Act 5, Scene 5, in shock, Macbeth, his life coming to an end, declares that life is ... "a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing" (Act V, Scene V, 25–27).

Famous philosopher Camus, says that we should revolt against the apparent pointlessness of life, accept our condition as limited as it is, and in that find happiness.

Noted atheist Richard Dawkins, describing the fact the universe is expand-

ing farther and farther, and getting colder while doing so, explains how, in time, all the stars will be burnt up and all left will be dead stars and blackholes, no light, no heat, corpses of dead stars and galaxies, ever expanding into endless darkness into the cold recesses of the earth. In this context therefore, for him, there is no purpose to life, no evil, no good, just pitiless existence, and we, machines for propagating

As a Christian, while I do not share Dawkins's rather dreadful view of point-lessness, it seems to me that in addition to the pursuit of a knowledge of God as ultimate reality, that defining and realizing a ground project is a cornerstone of a meaningful life.

And this brings me to the main point of this article, the recent passing of prominent philosopher Professor Charles Mills, who, coming out of the Caribbean, became a presence in philosophy, a feat not easily achieved in a discipline which has historically been bereft of racial diversity.

It was the life work, the ground project of Charles Mills, to dismantle the racial project using the tool of the intellect in exposing it for what it was and is, making us rethink it and hopefully change it.

Mills is the author of such books as: The Racial Contract, Black Rights/ White Wrongs: The Critique of Racial Liberalism (Transgressing Boundaries: Studies in Black Politics and Black Communities), Black Visible: Essays on Philosophy and



▶ Dr. Livingston Smith is a Professor at the University College of the Cayman Islands. He is also Director of the CXC Education Volunteer programme

Race; Radical Theory, Caribbean Reality: Race, Class and Social Domination; The Contract and Domination; From Class to Race: Essays in White Marxism and Black Radicalism (New Critical Theory).

In subsequent articles, I will explore Mill's analysis of the complex subject of race and some of the conclusions he arrived at.

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# Authentic You Retreats Donates to Project Further

Authentic You Retreats, a quarterly event held by Free Spirit Connections raised \$425 for Project Further, an initiative to raise \$1 million for the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre to build a new purpose-built safe shelter for survivors of domestic violence.

Denise Powers, founder of Project Further, has committed to thru-hiking the 2,650 mile Pacific Crest Trail from March – September 2022 to raise both the necessary funds and public awareness of the blight domestic violence and gender-based inequities creates for our communities.

Kim Wallace, founder of Free Spirit Connections and Authentic You Retreats said this: "the donation reflects not only a portion of the proceeds from the retreat but also a personal matched donation because I believe this is such a worthy and needed goal for our community. I'm happy to be part of the solution that supports any person needing help to navigate the unfortunate trauma of domestic violence. We can all do our part to make a difference."



► Kim Wallace and Denise Powers

Denise Powers thanked Ms Wallace for making Project Further and the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre her selected beneficiary. "The statistics tell us that approximately one in three women experiences violence by an intimate partner during their lifetimes. That means you know someone who has lived through it. The

Cayman Islands Crisis Centre provides the vital service of safe shelter to those people who are in danger from physical and emotional abuse from their partners. Let's help them help these people lead lives free from intimidation and violence."

The funds were generated from the 5th Authentic You Retreat, held October 21 – 24, 2021 at The Cottages, East End, where fifteen women and men journeyed together in self-discovery, collectively learning from each other. The next retreat is scheduled for February 17 – 20, 2022. For more information email authenticyouretreats@gmail.com.

Ms Powers will start hiking the Pacific Crest Trail at the California-Mexico border, near Campo, California on March 6, 2022, and will hike through the backcountry of the Californian desert, the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Cascade mountain ranges of Oregon and Washington, culminating at the Canadian border sometime in September 2022. Follow her trek at www.projectfurther.ky.

# The Enterprise Cayman 2022 Summer Internship Programme Opens for Applications

The non-for-profit workforce development initiative, Enterprise Cayman is now accepting applications to the annual summer Internship Programme. The programme offers students and recent graduates the opportunity to intern with global businesses established within the Cayman Enterprise City (CEC) special economic zones (SEZ).

The Enterprise Cayman Summer Internship programme provides a variety of work placement opportunities for students and recent graduates ages 18-25. These include: Software Programming, Digital Marketing, Project Management, Support Engineering and much more. The three-month programme offers undergraduate and graduate students in the Cayman Islands the opportunity to think critically, join global teams, and work in real-world corporate environments. All applicants can apply for openings in Cayman Enterprise City's three offshore special economic zones (SEZs) which include: Technology City, Cayman Commodities & Derivatives City, and Cayman Maritime & Aviation City. Internship positions will be assigned based on academic backgrounds and areas of interest.

Charlie Kirkconnell, the Chief Executive Officer at CEC and Director of Enterprise Cayman spoke of the programme. "The vibrant Cayman Enterprise City community offers Caymanian interns the opportunity to connect with leading industry professionals and to gain some of the skills and experience they will need to pursue careers within our growing SEZs. Whether they apply for a summer internship or a



▶ Bianca Rego Ramos, Tavia Turner and Sandra Castelo at the Annual Internship Networking Event.

co-op during the academic year, they will have the opportunity to work on live projects and to participate in exclusive networking events within the SEZs."

2019 Enterprise Cayman intern Adam Clarke spoke about how his internship

has provided him with career experience. "It's really helped bridge the gap between graduation and launching my professional career. The internship allowed me to take a step back and look at what it takes to make a real-life project. It also helped me look at

my career path as a software developer and game programmer and meet so many talented and interesting people. Not only that, but through my Enterprise Cayman internship experience I acquired the skills to help me land a job at Infinity Ward – They're the developers of the original "Call of Duty" and the "Call of Duty Modern Warfare" franchise based in Los Angeles. I'm now employed as their Associate Engineer."

"Rhetus International SEZ decided to take on an intern as we were inspired by the talent available here in Cayman. We are on a mission to help foster a MedTech community in the Cayman Islands and look forward to receiving this year's applications," said Dr. Frank Koentgen, Chairman and CEO at Rhetus International SEZ.

The Enterprise Cayman Summer Internship programme is open to Caymanians and residents of the Cayman Islands aged between 18 and 25 and placements run for two to three months. The deadline to apply to the 2022 Enterprise Cayman Internship Programme is 31 March 2022. For more information and queries, please contact innovate@enterprisecayman.ky To Apply directly visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YNNBRMG.



▶ Recipients of the Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Disaster Mitigation Medals. Backrow (I-r): Captain Marlon Richards, Lieutenant Michael Savage, Lieutenant Dennis Williams, Lieutenant Commander Robert Sutherland, Captain Barrington Griffiths, Major Marlon Levy, Sub Lieutenant Davor Bonilla, Lieutenant Romaine Edman, Second Lieutenant Antanika Ebanks, Sub Lieutenant Leanni Tibbetts; Sergeant Selena Sookoonsingh and HMCI Director Danielle Coleman. Front row (I-r): Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service, Franz Manderson, Acting Commandant (CICC) and Lt. Col. Errol Brathwaite, Governor Roper, Mrs Lissie Roper, Minister for Home Affairs, and Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage; and Minister for Home Affairs Acting Chief Officer Michael Ebanks.



CICC Disaster Mitigation recipients: Sergeant Selena Sookoonsingh, Lieutenant Colonel Errol Brathwaite, Lieutenant Romaine Edman, Second Lieutenant Antanika Ebanks, Sub Lieutenant Leanni Tibbetts, Lieutenant Michael Savage, Captain Barrington Griffiths, Lieutenant Dennis Williams, Captain Marlon Richards, Sub Lieutenant Davor Bonilla and Major Marlon Levy (absent awardees: Lieutenant Colonel Bobeth O'Garro, Lieutenant Anneka Whyte, Petty Officer Joseph Burey and Crystal Trusty).

## Medals for CI Cadets' outstanding contributions

The Cayman Islands Cadet Corps (CICC) was recently honoured for its work during Covid-19 and recent tropical storms at a medal presentation ceremony at Government House.

The evening presentation and reception was hosted by the Governor Martyn Roper. In all, 16 recipients were awarded Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Disaster Mitigation Medals and Certificates of Commendation.

Recipients, who included officers, instructors and cadets in the CICC and its Marine Detachment were recognised for exemplary disaster mitigation work during Covid-19 and Tropical Storms Eta, Grace and Ida.

During these periods of crisis, their duties included:

• assisting Hazard Management Cayman Islands in the Na-

tional Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)

- undertaking call centre operations during and after the Covid-19 lockdown
- helping manage quarantine facilities in East End and George Town, and for
- performing various duties in support of the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service and other emergency entities.

CICC's Acting Commandant, Lt. Col Errol Brathwaite, ED, CCM; former Commandant, Lt. Col. Bobeth O'Garro, Cert. Hon. CCM (absent) and Major Marlon Levy, CCM were the most senior recipients.

The Governor and his wife Lissie were joined at the ceremony by Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service, Franz Manderson; Minister for Home Affairs,

Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, Bernie Bush; Acting Chief Officer for Home Affairs, Michael Ebanks; Acting Deputy Chief Officer Julian Lewis and Director of Hazard Management Cayman Islands Danielle Coleman.

In his welcoming remarks, Governor Roper thanked corps staff and cadets for their exceptional auxiliary work safeguarding the Cayman Islands over the past year and a half.

The Governor also recognised Minister Bush's commitment to pursuing a vision for the enhanced role of CI Cadet Corps that displayed the Minister's confidence in the corps' abilities and robust leadership. Minister Bush's remarks expressed gratitude and pride in the work of the corps in a defining period in its history and that of the nation.



► Governor Martyn Roper presents Captain Barrington Griffiths with a Cayman Islands Cadet Corps Disaster Mitigation Medal

# Maples Group Expands London Funds Practice with Experienced Partner

Maples and Calder, the Maples Group's law firm, is pleased to announce the relocation of one of its experienced Funds & Investment Management Partners from its Cayman Islands office to London. Dan Beckett who has been with the firm for over 14 years relocated to the firm's London office on 1 December 2021.

Notably, the firm's London Funds & Investment Management team is the largest UK-based offshore funds group in London and Dan's addition to the team further consolidates the firm's market-leading position. With extensive experience in Cayman Islands law, Dan will work closely with Harjit Kaur who leads the London Funds & Investment Management practice, and will also collaborate with the firm's other London practice groups which include Corporate, Dispute Resolution & Insolvency, Finance and Trusts.

Dan advises on the formation of both open-ended and private equity funds as well as the on-going legal and regulatory compliance and general maintenance of all

kinds of alternative investment funds. Dan has a particular specialism in unit trusts, and advises trustees, administrators, managers and investors on all aspects of unit trust work, particularly with respect to the Japanese market. His relocation to London will support with providing time zone sensitive advice to clients and contacts in London, Europe and Asia.

Commenting on Dan's addition to the team, Harjit Kaur said, "I have had the privilege of working alongside Dan for many years and I am delighted to welcome him to the London team. Dan's expertise and experience will further enhance our market-leading Cayman Islands Funds & Investment practice in London and help us to cater to our clients' growing needs."

Dan adds, "Being based in the same time zone as our UK clients and in a compatible time zone with our Asian clients and colleagues is a real advantage. I look forward to working alongside Harjit and all of the London team."



► Dan Beckett

The Maples Group provides clients with a comprehensive range of legal, fiduciary, fund, regulatory and compliance, and entity formation and management services from its 16 offices worldwide and has been operating in London for nearly 25 years. Notably, the London firm won 'Best Off-



► Harjit Kaur

shore Law Firm' at the HFM Week European Services Awards and were also voted by the readers of HedgeWeek as 'Best Offshore Law Firm' at the HedgeWeek European Awards. The firm's London based BVI and Cayman Islands team is also ranked by both Chambers and Legal 500 2022 editions.

# **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Overseas Scholarships for the 2022/2023 academic year

Ongoing until 31 January 2022

- Ministry of Education (MOE) invites all eligible Caymanians to submit applications for Overseas Scholarships for the 2022/2023 academic year. The period of application closes at 11:59 pm on Monday, 31 January 2022. Successful applicants will be able to access funding from September (Fall) 2022 onwards. For additional information on MOE government overseas scholarships, visit www.gov.ky/education/scholarships.

## First Baptist Church - Celebrate Christ! Celebrate Christmas!

10 & 12 December - Celebrate the Christmas Season with the outstanding First Baptist Choir and Soloists! Enjoy the sights and sounds of the season at the First Baptist Church of Grand Cayman as they present their annual Festival of Christmas Praise - a spectacular evening of Christmas worship! Friday, December 10th and Sunday December 12th at 7pm at the First Baptist Church of Grand Cayman- across from the Lions Centre. Call 929-0692 or go to fbc.org. ky for more information.

#### Mission House Holiday Caboose Breakfast Cookout

11 December - Enjoy a fantastic traditional Caymanian styled breakfast including porridge, fritters, local eggs, sweet plantain, cassava cake, swanky, coffee and fever grass tea at the Mission House, Bodden Town on 11 December from 8:30am to 10:30am. After breakfast, watch a demo on how to make your own 'Smoke Pan' traditionally used to help keep mosquitoes away and a complimentary tour of the Mission House. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children. NTCI members receive a 10% discount. Go to https://nationaltrust.org.ky/ events/ for more information.

#### Visual Arts Society - Arts and Crafts Sale

11 December - Shop local for wonderful Christmas items at the Visual Arts Society Arts and Craft sale on Saturday 11 December from 10am to 5pm at Camana Bay

#### Jingle Bell Walk/Run

**12 December –** All are welcomed to participate in the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre's 5k/10k event on Sunday 12 December at the Holiday Inn beginning at 7am.

Festive outfits are encouraged! A delicious breakfast is served to all runners and spot prizes are awarded. Well behaved dogs can also join in the fun. Please bring your own water bottle. For information or to register, please call 949 – 0366 or email fundraising@cicc.

Humane Society Pub Quiz 16 December - Get a team of six and join in the monthly pub quiz at Fidel Murphy's from 7pm in aid of the Cayman Islands Humane Society. Prizes are awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and there is a raffle at the mid-point with lots of prizes up for grabs. All proceeds go directly to the Humane Society. Call 949 – 5189 for more information

#### Decorate a Gingerbread House - Cayman Heart Fund

18 December – Cayman Heart Fund is hosting a gingerbread house decorating party on Saturday 18 December at the Marriott Beach Resort from 10am to 12:30pm. Enjoy this family bonding and holiday fun event and take home your own tasty creation. For additional information, contact Allison Olarou of Cayman Heart Fund at 915 6324 or at info@ caymanheartfund.com. A limited number of tickets are available online at eventpro.ky. Proceeds from this event will go towards



▶ Plastic Free Cayman

the Cayman Heart Fund's many Community programs including free health screenings.

#### Plastic Free Cayman -Beach Clean Up

19 December – Plastic Free Cayman is having its holiday beach clean up on Sunday 19 December and this is your chance to get your favourite spot cleaned up by sending them a DM with your suggestion. As usual, take along a reusable water bottle, hat, and gloves if you have them. As always, bring a friend to help join the cause, and keep in mind social distancing!

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

19 December - December Services will be held on Sunday December 19th as well as on Christmas Day on Sunday December 25th. All Services begin at 9:30am. The Rt. Rev. Dr. PJ Lawrence, Bishop is the celebrant at all Services of Holy Communion.

Send your community events to wendy@ caymaniantimes.ky

# Let Me Be Brutal Honesty...

But have you been overeating this month?

Most people have. Holiday indulgences are in full swing...between rich party food, dinners and piles of seasonal comfort foods.

Today I'd like to be brutally honest with you...for your own good.

Sure, I could write you a 'feel good' article about cutting back a few calories and exercising a few more minutes each day, but I'd rather write something that's truly helpful and will make a difference in your life

Here's the real deal: You abuse food.

That's right. You're overweight because you eat too much, and you eat too much because it brings immediate pleasure.

It's time to admit that this pleasure comes at a high price...

You've heard dishes being referred to as 'comfort food'—some restaurants even have an entire section of their menu designated as comfort food. But comfort food is more than just a hearty dish...

- It's those extra calories that you eat to feed an emotional need rather than a nutritional need.
- It's excessively big portions that leave you stuffed.
  - It's high calorie snacks.
  - It's sugary treats.
  - It's fried, cheese-smothered appetizrs.
- It's whatever you indulge in with mindless munching.

Could you relate to any of the above? Most of us tend to gravitate toward a particular form of comfort food. For many women it's chocolate or other sugary treats. For men it often takes a saltier form.

Think of the last time you ate for pleasure rather than nourishment. Why'd you do it?

**Out of Habit:** Your body loves routine. If you always snack while watching television then you'd probably find it hard to relax without going through that munching motion. The good news is that once you break the cycle your body will quickly adapt to a healthier routine.

To Change Your Mood: Does the thought of a cupcake bring a smile to your lips? How about a large pizza to lift your mood? Pay attention to the emotions that trigger you to overeat—you may be surprised how often you use food to feel better.

Because Everyone's Doing It: Who can resist comfort food when it's offered among friends? Peer pressure doesn't just apply to teenagers—it's another reason to overeat. Remember that true friends will support your decision to refrain.

Can you remember how you felt after you last filled up on comfort food? If you're honest, you'll admit that the stuffed and bloated feeling was downright awful. So why do it?

Come on, where have your eating habits gotten you?

- Into clothes that are a few sizes larger.
- Drained and with less energy than ever before.
- Plagued with health concerns and prescriptions.
- Embarrassed and frustrated with your body.

Most people don't realize it, but the battle to overcome your eating habits is decided by a single body part—and it's not your mouth. (Your mouth is simply a puppet.)

It's your brain. Once you've made up your mind, for better or for worse, you can bet that your body will obey your decision to the letter. You've proven it time and time again.

So make the decision to give up your unhealthy dependence on comfort food.

There is no better time than now.



► Ernest Ebanks

Making a change is hard—that's why I'm committed to being with you every step of the way. Call Ernest at Body Shapers Personal Training Fitness Studio 325-8696 today to schedule a consultation.

You can end your dependence on comfort food, once and for all.



#### POLICE NEWS

### Police Investigate Fatal Collision on Shamrock Road

Shortly before 10:00PM on Sunday, 5 December, police, fire officers, and EMS responded to a report of a serious two-vehicle collision on Shamrock Road in the vicinity of the Red Bay Primary School, involving a silver Honda Inspire and a black Honda StepWGN.

As a result of the collision, the StepW-GN overturned and

the Inspire collided with a concrete sign post. Two occupants were trapped in the StepWGN and were subsequently extricated by fire officers. They were transported to hospital by ambulance, along with a third occupant of the StepWGN, and the two occupants of the Inspire. The passenger of the Honda Inspire was subsequently pronounced dead.

The deceased in the collision is 29-year-old Alden Emelo Ohero Irons, a Jamaican National residing in the Cayman Islands.



The other four passengers remain in hospital in stable condition.

A portion of Shamrock Road was closed overnight as traffic officers conducted investigations. The road has now been reopened to traffic. The matter remains under investigation by the Traffic & Roads Policing Unit. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the TRPU at 649-6254 or the George Town Police Station at 949-4222.

The RCIPS expresses condolences to the family of the deceased.

# Man Found Unresponsive in George Town

At about 6:40AM on Tuesday 7 December, police responded to a report of a man found unresponsive at an address on Omega Drive in George Town. Emergency Services attended the location and the man was subsequently pronounced dead.

The matter is under investigation, however the death is not believed to be suspicious at this time.





# Police appeal for information regarding High-Powered weapons in the community

On Friday 3 December, a member of the public found four live rounds of ammunition, in the Barkers area of West Bay, which they brought to the attention of Customs and Border Control (CBC) officers who then informed the police.

RCIPS officers together with CBC officers attended the location and conducted an extensive search of the area during which time, a further

live round was recovered and a number of spent shell casings.

The recovered ammunition has been examined and identified as two different calibres and used in high powered assault weapons, the ten recovered shell casings were also of the same high calibre ammunition.

"The RCIPS would like to thank the member of the public and the CBC Officers who brought this matter to our attention and collaborated with us in this investigation," say the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Derek Byrne, "The rounds recovered are used in

7.62x54mmR
5.56x45mm
.223
.300 BLK
.223
.30 Carbine 7.62x39mm 7.62x51mm
.30-06
.308

extremely dangerous and high-powered rifles. I am encouraging anyone with information about these weapons to provide us with information that may assist us in recovering them and getting them safely out of our communities."

An investigation has been launched by the police to recover these weapons and detectives are encouraging anyone with information regarding these or any other firearms to call the RCIPS Confidential Tip Line at 949-7777 or submit tips through the RCIPS Mobile App or website https://www.rcips.ky/submit-a-tip.

# Five Persons Arrested Following West Bay Operation

On Friday morning, 3 December, RCIPS officers in West Bay conducted searches at two addresses in the vicinity of West Church Street, under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Upon the arrival of officers at the first address, two men attempted to evade police and flee from the premises. One of the men was stopped and detained by officers, while the other made good his escape.

Officers conducted a search of the detained man, along with oth-

ers at the location, and a search of the property. A quantity of suspected ganja was found on another man at the location. 31 small packages and 2 clear packages of suspected ganja were found at the premises, along with lottery ticket books.

One man, age 24 of West Bay, was arrested for resisting arrest, and on suspicion of consumption of ganja. A second man, age 43 of West Bay was arrested on suspicion of possession and consumption of ganja.

Officers attended the second address and conducted searches of the persons present at the location, as well as the premises. One man was found to be in



possession of a lottery ticket, and another man was found with records of lottery transactions as well as a quantity of cash. A quantity of suspected ganja was also found at the premises.

Two men ages 50 and 59 of West Bay were arrested on suspicion of illegal gambling. Another man, age 51 of George Town was also arrested on suspicion of threats to kill in relation to a previous incident.

The matter is currently under investigation. The arrested persons were transported to the Cayman Islands Detention Centre and have subsequently been granted bail as investigations continue.

#### CARIBBEAN BRIEFS

# Jamaica's medical ganja income lights up

The Jamaican government has launched a publicity campaign to promote medical cannabis use including a song about how "ganja can boost lives". The Ministry of Health and Wellness health ministry has launched the 'Good Ganja Sense' campaign to legitimise and promote its growing medical weed industry.

The campaign's jingle includes lyrics about how ganja can contribute to the economy through entrepreneurship, farming and scientific research. The publicity campaign also features adverts on buses saying "Burn ganja myths: not everything you hear about ganja is true" and "Go with the science: our scientists are learning more about ganja".

The campaign's website debunks myths that cannabis makes people lazy, lowers sperm count, cannot cause fatal overdoses and is a gateway drug to more dangerous drugs. It notes the drug cannot cause fatal overdoses, quoting a US Drug Enforcement Agency factsheet stating no deaths have been caused by weed alone. "Thanks DEA. The experts have spoken," the site says.



 Jamaica is heavily marketing its medical gania

"Ganja will no longer be underpinned by what has been passed down through oral traditions and old tales, but fact-based information that is now available at the fingertips," said head of the ministry, Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn.

"We know very well too, the ills and thrills associated with the internet – much false health information has been spread far and wide." She added that "with science and technology combined, Jamaica has in its arsenal a resource that puts into context".

### **Cuba opens Fidel Castro museum**

One of Havana's grandest mansions has been restored to its shimmering beauty as a shrine to Cuba's most contentious statesman.

The Centro Fidel Castro Ruz opened last month in grounds filled with 10,000 plants from more than 1,300 species, three years after work was begun and five years to the day after the Cuban leader died.

At a ceremony attended by Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on 25 November, Fidel's brother Raul, 90, welcomed the new museum, calling it "the most exciting thing I've seen in my life". The opening comes at a time when Cuba is struggling financially even more than usual amid a pandemic and as economic woes are growing under government mismanagement and the 60-year-old US embargo.

It also comes as the government is celebrating stifling much-heralded



▶ The Centro Fidel Castro Ruz is dedicated to the late leader

protests that were planned last month. Yet, two blocks from the museum, a queue forms every day for people buying food.

The grounds of the centre contain a 190-seat theatre and an exhibition space in the leafy barrio of Vedado. In the garden, a fountain pours onto rocks brought from Rio La Plata, a river whose source was in the mountains where Fidel had his first command post in 1958 as head of the rebel army.

### Now Antigua is keen for republic status

Antigua and Barbuda could be the next Caribbean country to ditch the Queen as head of state as political analysts and politicians start debating the process in earnest.

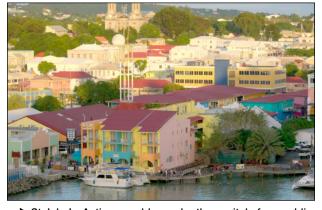
Following the historic scenes in Barbados last week, it's become a catalyst for constitution experts in Antigua and Barbado. Barbados became the world's newest republic by cutting ties with the British monarchy's 396-year reign over the island.

But Antigua's leading political and social commentator Carlon Knight stated on TV the twin-island nation should focus on structural issues before making the leap to become a republic.

"We tend to get caught up a lot in gesture politics because the more complex issues of nation building that really speak to structural issues that affect the poor and disenfranchised are far more difficult to do," Knight said. "After we fete and dance and have all this hoorah about becoming a republic, the lives of people remain the same."

However, lawyer Beverly Benjamin George, who was another contributor to the show, said that Antigua and Barbuda becoming a republic is long overdue. Those in the education sector are also pushing for the change.

Dr George Braithwaite who is a psychology lecturer at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, said breaking away from the colonial past is the only way Antigua and Barbuda can be truly free.



▶ St John's, Antigua could soon be the capital of a republic

### Barbados plans its Heritage District

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley has announced the creation of the Barbados Heritage District – an area that will include a memorial, a major global research institute, and a museum located in Newton Plantation, on the outskirts of Bridgetown.

Mottley said that this will be dedicated to accurately recounting the historic and contemporary impact of slavery on Barbados and on the lives of individuals, cultures, and nations of the Western hemisphere. She added that the district's research institute will document Barbados' pivotal role as the harrowing portal through which millions of enslaved Africans were forced to the Americas.

She said: "In the wake of Barbados' transition to the Parliamentary Republic, the Barbados Heritage District will also serve as a cornerstone and catalyst for the ongoing development of Barbados' independent identity, culture, and place on the world stage."



► The Barbados Heritage District will be on the outskirts of Bridgetown

The ground-breaking is slated for 30 November 2022, on the first anniversary of Barbados' status as the Parliamentary Republic. The development of the Barbados Heritage District will support significant job growth in new industries, technologies, and construction sectors.

# Dominica greets first flight from America

Dominica welcomed its first direct flight from the United States on Wednesday when American Airlines landed at Douglas Charles airport on the island's north-east coast, four hours after taking off from Miami.

In the past, air access to the remote 'Nature Island' was limited to neighbouring islands on small planes or from Puerto Rico on turboprops operated by American Eagle and later by Envoy Air, Seaborne and Silver Airways.

The Embraer aircraft carried 62 passengers in coach and seven in business class, in "an almost sold out flight," according to Colin Piper, the island's director of tourism. The turnaround flight, departing an hour later for Miami, also had few empty seats. The year-round service will expand from twice-weekly to three times a week on 10 January.

"This is a very big deal for us. We already have dive groups booked on flights



► American Airlines expects pretty full flights to Dominica

from Miami in January and February and we're expecting that the huge diaspora market in the US will generate a lot of traffic as well," Piper said, adding that many island residents had booked flights to Miami for shopping trips prior to the Christmas holidays.

"December looks like it will have 90 percent load factors in both directions," he said.

### **MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION**



### THE **FRAGRANCE** OF PRAYER **Hebrews 13:15**

The spirit of praise and true prayer go hand in hand. Both are entirely driven away by the thoughtless singing in out congregations. A lot of the singing lacks serious thought and is devoid of a devotional

Giving thanks is the very life of prayer. It is fragrance, and music, poetry and its crown. Prayer, bringing the desired answer breaks out into praise and thanksgiving. In the Old Testament, Hannah prayed so fervently that only her lips were seen to be moving. When God blesses her with the son, she broke out into praise. When was the last time you praised God for what you have in your life? Why not take a moment now and do so?

#### **DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Christopher Glasgow, who passed away on Friday, December 3, 2021 Details of a Thanksgiving Service to be announced at later.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

ve been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Lloyd Roy Charlton, who passed away on Sunday, November 28th 2021. A Service of Thanksgiving will take place at the Lions Community Center, 905 Crewe Rd, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Note: Masks are mandatory to wear during the servi In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Lions Eve Clinic & the Youth Development Projection

Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

# Viewing: Closed Casket Interment: New Pease Bay Cemetery

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Carol May McDonald, who passed away Friday, November 20, 2021. A Service of Thanksgiving will be announced at a later date.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Sherwin Rolston Ebanks, who passed away on Friday, December 3, 2021. Details of a Thanksgiving Service to be announced at later.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Mr. Alvel McFarlane, who passed away on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Details of a Thanksgiving Service to be announced at later.



Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

#### Churchill's

Funeral Home

We have been asked to announce the passing of Ms. Carol May McDonald, who passed away Friday, November 20, 2021. A Service of Thanksgiving will be announced at a later date.



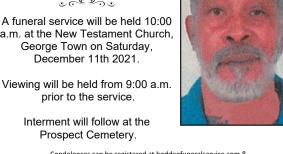
Condolences can be registered at churchillsfuneralhome.com

The family of the late **Robert Hugh Anniford** a.k.a **Bob** regret to announce his passing on Tuesday, November 23rd, 2021.

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A funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. at the New Testament Church, George Town on Saturday,

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



#### The family of the late **Betty-Sue Jackson** regret to announce her passing on Wednesday, December 1 2021.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at the Cayman Islands Baptist Church, Pedro Castle Road, Savannah.

Masks are mandatory in the church.

Please wear bright colors.

Condolences can be registered at boddenfuneralservice.com &



The family of the late Doney Elbort Wood Tatum regret to announce his passing on November 4, 2021.

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A funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. at John Gray Memorial Church, 24 West Church Street, West Bay on Saturday, 11th December 2021

Viewing will be held from 1 p.m. prior to the service.

Interment will follow at the Boatswain Bay Cemetery.

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



The family of the late Darwin Harmon Bush, also known as Buddy Bush, regret to announce his passing on Sunday, 21st November 2021.

A private family funeral service will be held. At 2:00 p.m. Sunday, 12 December 2021.

A live stream of the service can be viewed on Bodden Funeral Service Facebook Page

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



The family of the late Jamar R. Timothy regret to announce his passing on Saturday, October 2, 2021.

. e 200

A Celebration of Life service will be held 2:00 p.m. At Wesleyan Holiness Church, West Bay on Saturday, December 11th 2021.

> Interment will follow at the Boatswain Bay Cemetery.



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



The family of the late Ethel Marie Farrington regret to announce her passing on 30 November, 2021.

Last respects can be paid at the Bodden Funeral Home on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> of December between 5-7 p.m., with strict Covid protocols in place

Her funeral service will be held at the Monday the 13th of December, 2021 at 3 p.m., with strict Covid protocols in place.

With the current church capacity restrictions the service can be viewed online by searching for "Cayman in Memoriam" and then selecting your choice of viewing service

Interment will follow at the West Bay Cemetery

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Jasmine, formerly known as HospiceCare, in the name of the deceased.



45 Monument

Valley

sights

46 Clarinet

parts

1 "Now

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we've got

a competi-

3 Anne Tyler

#### 21

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.

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#### Answer to previous puzzle

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Grieg

Handel

Haydn

Holst

Liszt

Mahler

Mozart

Orff

Ravel

Satie

Verdi

Find the listed words in the diagram.

They run in all directions - forward,

back, up, down and diagonally

Rossini

Wagner

Bach

Barber

Bartok

**Bizet** 

**Brahms** 

Chopin

Copland

Delius

Dukas

Dvorak

Elgar

Gluck

Beethoven

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

#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Strong winds
- 6 Can't stand
- 11 Banded

#### rock **DOWN**

- 12 Patriot Allen
- 13 Sorceress of myth
- 14 Mislead 2 To-do list
- 15 Wrap up
- 16 Cheep **18** Lyric
- poem **19** Easy
- victim 20 Steamed
- state **21** DEA
- agent 23 "Grease" greaser
- 25 Tolkien baddie
- 27 Clinic
- nickname 28 Underway, to Holmes
- 30 Music's Lady —
- 33 Devious
- 34 Try out 36 Dijon
- denial 37 Acquitted
- 39 Gentle
- pull **40** Brings up
- 41 Ravine
- 43 Be of one mind
- 44 Staggering

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#### Yesterday's answer

- 9 Canteen 29 Part or of
- café 10 Sleep
- sound 17 Bankroll
- **5** Theater 22 Magnon units lead-in
- 6 Rooftop **24** Eggy landing site
- **7** Fighting
- 8 Anne Tyler
- novel
- drink 26 Meal
- 28 State without

proof

- Mao's name
- **31** Overcharged
- 32 Little dears
- 33 "Beat it!"
- 35 Painter Degas 38 Neighbor-
- makeup hood
  - 42 Galena, e.g.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
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Difficulty Level ★★★★

## Have fun with Caymanian TIMES

Word Search

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#### **CURTIS** By Ray Billingsley













# LATINGS VS CAYMAN

\$10 RAFFLE TICKETS

## MONDAY, 16 MAY 2022 6PM - ED BUSH STADIUM

MAEDAC

#### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS







Cayman is home to many people with substance abuse. As a community we can all make a difference in the lives of those individuals.